The Old Dominion Surveyor

The Old Dominion Surveyor is the official publication of the Virginia Association of Surveyors. It is published monthly and sent to more than 400 members of the surveying profession in Virginia read The Old

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More than 400 members of the surveying profession in Virginia read The Old
Editor
Alison Hanson, LS

Committee
Khea Adams - Virginia Association of Surveyors

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Secretary/Treasurer............ Chris Jensen
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Dominion Newsletter. Advertising in the magazine is a great way to reach that audience! Our online publication allows us to link from your ad to your website.

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Submission Deadlines: First day of the month of the issue(s) selected

Preferred Formats: Ads may be provided in black/white or color; please send layout-ready copy (compatible electronic files include .eps or .pdf files with all fonts and graphics embedded). All ads must be digital. Please send ads via email to Khea Adams at Khea@vasurveyors.org

All advertisements are non-refundable

If purchasing an Annual ad, you can change your ad monthly.

Click Here to Purchase Your Ad
On Saturday, February 22, (fittingly, on George Washington’s Birthday and the last day of National Engineers Week), a delegation from VAS presented a certificate of Honorary Member to Dr. Gladys West, a mathematician and native Virginian known for her contributions to the mathematical modeling of the shape of the Earth, and her work on the development of the satellite geodesy models that were eventually incorporated into the Global Positioning System (GPS). Representing VAS was President Gary Faulhaber, Second Vice President Alison Hanson, Dave Doyle (Honorary Member of VAS and former Chief Geodetic Surveyor of the National Geodetic Survey), and Executive Director John Palatiello.
Hotel information

VAS has negotiated an incredible hotel room rate of just $124 per night (single or double occupancy) at the Wyndham Hotel in Virginia Beach. To make a reservation, call 1-800-365-3032. Based on hotel availability, this rate will be honored on days preceding and following the convention, so make it a mini-vacation. The world famous Virginia International Tattoo Festival in Norfolk coincides with the VAS Convention, so stay for the weekend and enjoy! Deadline for the convention rate is March 29.

Join fellow Virginia surveyors for continuing education, networking, exhibits of the latest surveying technology, social events, and information sharing ... all in the relaxing oceanfront atmosphere of Virginia Beach.

Registration is OPEN for the VAS 72nd Annual Convention & General Membership Meeting, to be held April 29 – May 2, 2020 at the Wyndham Hotel, Virginia Beach, VA.

The VAS convention is the best place to earn your APELSCIDLA required continuing education (CE) credits. Check out the great sessions. The most robust networking with your peers, learning, comparing notes, and teaming up with fellow professional surveyors from throughout the Commonwealth occurs at the VAS convention.

The VAS convention is not all work and no play. The program includes a golf outing Wednesday morning, bourbon tasting and cigar sampling sampling Wednesday evening, an off-property event at Beachside Social on Thursday evening, a “beach themed” banquet Friday evening, an outstanding spouse program, and more!!

The Annual VAS General Membership Meeting will be held on Saturday, May 2, 2020, during the convention.

This year’s convention will feature a new information and education opportunity -- special one hour Tech Sessions presentations by our exhibitors.

Also at the convention will be the induction of new officers, plat competition, awards, recognition of newly licensed Virginia surveyors, and other features in your profession.

For information, reservations, and registration, click here.

Please call the VAS office at 844-414-1466 if you need assistance with convention registration, hotel reservations, or if you have any questions.

Plat Competition Deadline -  


March 1

New this year: Plats are only being accepted electronically in PDF format. The deadline to submit your plats is March 1, 2020.

Submit your Plat

Become a Convention Sponsor Today

Why Should I Sponsor? Being a sponsor at the VAS convention not only demonstrates support for your state professional society, but it raises your firm's profile in the market, enhances your firm's reputation in the community to strengthen recruitment of new employees, builds your status as a valued partner and team members among other firms for prime and subcontractor relationships, and positions your firm as a valued entity for future growth through mergers and acquisitions. Click here to become a sponsor today.

Donate to the Silent Auction

This year we are changing how to submit silent auction items. Please submit your silent auction item form no later than April 20. This will help provide all the information the VAS staff needs ahead of time to create the bid sheets. You can bring your auction item with you to the convention one you have submitted the form.

Please help support the future of your profession by donating an item for the auction. Tax deductible donations can be made by individuals, firms, chapters, organizations, and others.

Use your imagination, and please participate in the auction during the Convention. Thank you in advance for your support.

Below are some ideas for the silent auction.
What is the Significance of April 1?

According to the VAS bylaws, "A member shall be dropped from membership in the Association for nonpayment of dues on April 1st of the year in which they become due."

All 2019 VAS members have been invoiced for 2020 dues. A membership year in VAS is from January 1 through December 31. All 2019 VAS memberships expire on December 31.

The VAS Board of Directors has approved the timing of invoicing for two reasons; (1) the dues year begins January 1, and (2) for tax purposes, it is advantageous for some members to pay their dues before December 31.

Don't delay and risk having your membership dropped for nonpayment. Please pay your dues promptly so you are a member in good standing throughout 2020.

Unmarked Family Graveyard in Catlett
Submitted by John Foster

Thomas Hansbrough of Elk Run Road in Catlett says he rushed across the road on Jan. 7 when he first heard, then saw trees being cleared from a small parcel containing the graves of his family members. “I told them to ‘stop, this is a family cemetery,’ ” Hansbrough said. “They stopped, then started back up after the sheriff’s deputy said there was nothing he could do.”

The approximately half acre of land is within a larger parcel of cleared land that was sold in 2017 to John H. Davis, a civil engineer in Haymarket. Davis said he plans to build a home on the open land near the cemetery.

Logs from the trees taken down were stacked next to the graveyard, which is overgrown with briars. Hansbrough pointed to a headstone marking a grave during a visit to the site on Jan. 17. Any writing that had once been on it had been worn off. “I’m trying to get ground penetration to determine where there are bodies. A lot of the headstones are gone,” Hansbrough said.

To read the full article click below
It is my privilege to announce the 2020/2021 ballot of officers for VAS. As the Immediate Past President one of my responsibilities is to prepare this ballot and meet with as many Past Presidents as I can for discussion of the ballot. The following is the slate of Executive officers who will serve a one year term:

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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Kevin Wood</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Alison Hanson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second Vice President</td>
<td>Christopher Jensen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary/Treasurer</td>
<td>Rob Mann</td>
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The next is Regional Directors:

- Region II Director: Stephen Letchford (incumbent - Re-elect)
- Region IV Director: Troy Williams

(Region I and Region III Directors are up for election in 2021)

It has been an honor to be involved in the selection of leaders that will take VAS into the coming year and beyond. The importance of this cannot be understated. I want to thank all the Past Presidents who responded to me via email, and a special thank you to Michael Starling, John Sehl, Will Nash, Gary Faulhaber and Steve Douty for meeting with me in person at the January quarterly meeting to discuss the ballot and several other topics of interest.

In April as I move off of the Board and Executive Committee this privilege and honor, along with many others, will never be forgotten. Serving this organization as a leader has been one the most gratifying experiences of my life.

Thank you to the membership for allowing me to be a part of this organization’s leadership!

Kevin Shreiner
VAS Immediate Past President

*Editor’s Note: Notice is hereby provided that pursuant to the VAS Bylaws, additional nominations may be made by petition of ten (10) regular members in good standing no later than 30 days after notification. Each such nomination petition shall certify the nominee’s willingness to serve in the event he should be elected. Such petition should be filed with Mr. Shreiner by February 26, 2020. Ballots will be provided to all Regular and Retired Members in good standing after February 26.
National Surveyors Week is always, “the week in March beginning with the 3rd Sunday”. VAS has requested a Surveyors Week proclamation from Governor Northam. All VAS members should begin planning activities in their firm, chapter, or community. To learn more, click here

CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

By virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution of Virginia in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, there is hereby officially recognized:

SURVEYORS WEEK

Read More
Be A Part of NSPS Day on the Hill

Surveyors from across the Nation will participate in the NSPS Day on the Hill on Wednesday, April 1, with an orientation session at the Hilton Arlington, in Arlington, VA on Tuesday, March 31.

MSS members are invited to join fellow MSS and NSPS members for visits on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. All Maryland members will meet as a delegation with Maryland’s Congressmen and Senators.

There is no cost to participate.

Click here for more information
"Crossover" has passed, meaning the Virginia House of Delegates has considered its bills and the Senate has considered its proposals. Now each body is considering those which passed the other. Any bills that survive both houses are presented to the Governor.

McGuire Woods Consulting (MWC), the new VAS lobbying firm, provides a weekly update on bills specifically and generally affecting surveyors and surveying firms. Each week, MWC provides VAS with an Excel of legislation of interest and holds a conference call with VAS President Gary Faulhaber, First Vice President Kevin Wood, Legislative Committee Chair Bruce Frederick, and Executive Director John Palatiello to review the legislation and plan a course of action to assure that the voice of VAS is heard in the General Assembly. Attached is a current list of pending bills.

VAS is pleased to work with Land's End to provide an opportunity to purchase quality clothing with the VAS logo embroidered on it. Go on, showcase your membership in VAS. To start shopping and place your order, click here.

Did you know that when you recruit a new member to VAS you will receive a 25% discount on your membership dues? Spread the word about the great work VAS is doing for the surveying profession and be sure to tell the new member to include your name on the recommended by portion of their application.