



NETWORK

Winter 2013

VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF ASSESSING OFFICERS
The Quarterly Newsletter of Virginia's Assessment Professionals

City of Galax



Galax, Virginia is the gateway to the Blue Ridge Mountains. The City is rich with tradition, shopping, recreation and scenic beauty.

A visit to Galax, Virginia offers everything from quaint downtown shops to exploring trails by foot, bike or horse.

Galax, Virginia is home to the largest Old Time Bluegrass Fiddler's Convention as well as the New River Trail.

Come, explore Galax!

VAAO Officers and Directors

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The Annual Conference, held October 9-12 at the Virginia Beach Hilton, was a great success. Janice Hudgins and Kim Smith did a fantastic job coordinating the event. The educational offerings were top-notch and well-attended. The event was a fitting capstone for Greg Daniels' presidency. Under Greg's leadership, we saw the advent of online registration and payment by credit card for the Seminar and the Conference. The response was overwhelmingly positive and we hope to find ways to make registration and payment even easier for our membership.

The VAAO also received special recognition at the IAAO Conference in Kansas City, where we were the recipients of the Outstanding Affiliate Award. In my mind, this award was overdue, as we have always been one of the most influential state affiliates within the IAAO. This is evidenced by the quality of our educational offerings, our work in Richmond evaluating key legislation affecting property taxation, not to mention the five past-presidents of IAAO who hail from Virginia. While we can all take pride in our past achievements, it is our vision for the future that is critical to our continued success. If you appreciate the service that VAAO provides and would like to serve in any capacity, please let me know.

Sincerely,
Larry Mackereth, CAE
VAAO President 2012-2013

News from Around the Commonwealth...

The City of Hampton is pleased to welcome Joseph Mahan as an Appraiser I and Patrick Dorris as an Appraiser II.

Congrats to Kim Smith for earning her AAS designation.



Virginia Association of Assessing Officers Professional Designation Award

- “The IAAO’s Professional Designation Program provides a mechanism to unify and standardize the designation process, it must be recognized that IAAO professional designations represent an ultimate professional objective.”
- In an effort to support the IAAO’s Professional Designation Program, and encourage, support, and help facilitate each VAAO member and reaching their ultimate professional objective. The VAAO hereby institutes an award, for successful completion and written confirmation of the granting of a IAAO Professional Designation. The award shall be administered as follows:
- Upon receiving a CAE designation; the sum of \$500.00 shall be the award.
- Upon receiving any IAAO designation other than CAE, the sum of \$300.00 shall be the award.
- A total lifetime award for completion of multiple designation programs shall not exceed \$800.00.
- Presentation shall be made, along with a memento from the VAAO at the annual Education Seminar or Annual Conference, by the Professional Designation Program Committee. The committee shall request from the VAAO Treasurer and the Treasurer shall have authority to issue the funds for these awards.
- The effective date for this award program is January 1, 2013. Any active member of the VAAO with a Designation Certificate date on or after this date shall be eligible for this monetary award.
- This award program may be cancelled, amendment, or replaced without notice to the VAAO membership, by the VAAO Board of Directors.
- In any event there is a dispute over the granting of any award, the VAAO Board of Directors shall be the final arbitrator.

- The following amendment to Section 11 of the by-laws is submitted for comment. The final product was submitted at the December 7 meeting and was passed with the required vote of two-thirds of the board members attending.

Previously:

- *Section 11. Professional Designation Program Advisory Committee:* The Professional Designation Program Advisory Committee shall maintain contact with all IAAO candidates in Virginia, to encourage regular candidate club meetings and to provide assistance to those candidates working towards a professional designation. The committee shall consist of the IAAO appointed regional Professional Designation Advisors, and any number of additional members entitled Candidate Club Coordinators, appointed each year as deemed necessary by the VAAO president. Of the above mentioned members, one (1) will be appointed by the president to serve as chairperson and must possess an IAAO designation.

As Amended:

- *Section 11. Professional Designation Program Advisory Committee:* The Professional Designation Program Advisory Committee shall maintain contact with all IAAO candidates in Virginia, to encourage regular candidate club meetings and to provide assistance to those candidates working towards a professional designation. The committee shall consist of the IAAO appointed regional Professional Designation Advisors, and any number of additional members entitled Candidate Club Coordinators, appointed each year as deemed necessary by the VAAO president. Of the above mentioned members, one (1) will be appointed by the president to serve as chairperson and must possess an IAAO designation. **The committee chair will be responsible for administering the VAAO Designation Award which shall include keeping records of all recipients and notifying the Officers and Board members when an IAAO designation has been earned.**



Great Opportunity!

- The **VAAO** is sponsoring the:
- **Team Consulting – AAS Case Study Workshop**
- This is the same workshop that has been advertised in Fair & Equitable, and the only AAS Case Study Exam course available today.
- Robert (Bob) Graham, AAS, is Instructor for this multiday preparation workshop; which concludes with the IAAO, Case Study Exam being given (complete bio attached).
- Date: April 8th – 10th Location: TBA
- Are you ready to receive the AAS designation? If you answered YES!
- **Please indicate your interest in this workshop by ASAP**
- Reply to: gbarham@vbgov.com with your name, jurisdiction, email, and phone number.

Keeping Current with Changes in Legislation Affecting Property Assessments

A Resource Guide for Virginia Property Assessors

The majority of the legislation passed by the Virginia General Assembly during a legislative session or calendar year becomes effective July 1 of that year, unless vetoed by the Governor or some other technicality befalls it. Modern property assessment practices require that assessors keep up to date with current legislative proposals, laws, and court decisions. The following are suggested resources to help you keep up to date with these changes. Several statewide resources will provide a review of legislative changes that will need to be considered for upcoming assessments. Suggested examples (shown in italics) are also listed so that you can add local city and county resources to customize your own list.

This resource guide was prepared when the author was serving as the city assessor for the City of Manassas Park, Virginia. Therefore the suggested examples listed are for that jurisdiction but you are encouraged to revise this list to include your own resources.

Legislation

Pending legislation (January – March each year with most laws effective July 1 of year)

Virginia General Assembly, Legislative Services
<http://leg1.state.va.us/>

Adopted Legislation

Virginia Municipal League, Legislative Activities, VML Legislative Report (summary of General Assembly activities for current year, available each May)
<http://www.vml.org/Legact.html>

Virginia Association of Counties VACo's Legislative Summary (summary of General Assembly activities for current year, available each May)
<http://www.vaco.org/LegPublications.html>

Historical Records of Adopted Legislation

Virginia Tax Policy Library, Legislative Summaries (from 1973 to within one year of current)
<http://www.policylibrary.tax.virginia.gov/OTP/Policy.nsf> (click on Legislative Summaries)

Reports Related to Legislative Process

Reports to the General Assembly (published, pending, and overdue reports from 1897 to present)
<http://leg2.state.va.us/dls/h&sdocs.nsf/Published+by+Year?OpenForm>

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Laws

Constitution of Virginia
<http://constitution.legis.virginia.gov/>

Code of Virginia
<http://leg1.state.va.us/000/src.htm>

Code of Ordinances City of Manassas Park (Municode.com)
<http://library.municode.com/index.aspx?clientId=11198>

Virginia Attorney General Opinions (1963 to present)
<http://www.policylibrary.tax.virginia.gov/OTP/Policy.nsf> (click on Attorney General Opinions)

Virginia Administrative Code (Regulations)
<http://www.policylibrary.tax.virginia.gov/OTP/Policy.nsf> (click on Virginia Administrative Code)

Rulings of the Tax Commissioner (1981 to present)
<http://www.policylibrary.tax.virginia.gov/OTP/Policy.nsf> (click on Rulings of the Tax Commissioner)

Virginia Department of Taxation Tax Bulletins (1979 to current)
<http://www.policylibrary.tax.virginia.gov/OTP/Policy.nsf> (click on Tax Bulletins)

Court Decisions

Supreme Court of Virginia
<http://www.courts.state.va.us/courts/scv/home.html>

--- Opinions Search <http://www.courts.state.va.us/search/textopinions.html> (search also include opinions from the Virginia Court of Appeals)

Virginia Court of Appeals
<http://www.courts.state.va.us/courts/cav/about.html>

--- Opinions Search <http://www.courts.state.va.us/search/textopinions.html> (search also include opinions from the Supreme Court of Virginia)

Prince William County Circuit Court
http://www.courts.state.va.us/courts/circuit/prince_william/home.html

--- *Court Case Information* <http://wasdmz2.courts.state.va.us/CJISWeb/circuit.html>
(select appropriate county from drop-down menu)

Other Sources

City Attorney
Dean Crowhurst
One Park Center Court
Manassas Park, VA 20111-2395
Telephone: 703-335-0052
Fax: 703-335-0053

Prince William County Attorney's Office

Angela Lemmon Horan

One County complex Court

Prince William, VA 22192-9201

Telephone: 703-792-6620

Fax: 703-792-6633

Website: <http://www.pwccgov.org/government/courts/countyattorney/Pages/default.aspx>

Virginia Department of Taxation Laws, Rules & Decisions website

<http://www.policylibrary.tax.virginia.gov/OTP/Policy.nsf>

Virginia Legislative Information System <http://leg6.state.va.us/lis.htm>

--- Subject Index – Real Estate and Real Estate Taxes (1995 to present)

<http://leg6.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?000+sbj+091>

General Internet Resources

Appraisal Institute <http://www.appraisal institute.org/>

International Association of Assessing Officers <http://www.iaao.org/>

Lincoln Institute of Land Policy <http://www.lincolninst.edu/>

National Association of Realtors <http://www.realtor.org/>

University of Virginia Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service

<http://www.coopercenter.org/>

Urban Land Institute <http://www.uli.org/>

Virginia Association of Assessing Officers <http://vaao.org/>

Virginia Association of Counties <http://www.vaco.org/>

Virginia Association of Realtors <http://www.varealtor.com/>

Virginia Municipal League <http://www.vml.org/>

Common Sense Disclaimer: The author takes no responsibility for the absolute completeness of this list nor endorses any of the above links as being the sole source for such information.

VAAO BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Friday, December 7, 2012

Omni Hotel, Richmond, Virginia

Call to Order by VAAO President Larry Mackereth, CAE on December 7, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.

In Attendance:

Voting Members:

Past President	Greg Daniels, CAE	-Present
President	Larry Mackereth, CAE	-Present
President Elect	Bill Marchand	-Present
First Vice President	Ron Agnor	-Present
Second Vice President	Brian Gordineer, AAS	-Present
Treasurer	Billy Driver	-Present
Secretary	David Sanford, CAE	-Present
Director 1 Year	Jeff Davis	-Present
Director 1 Year	Ryan Davis	-Present
Director 1 Year	Pam Stepanick	-Present
Director 2 Years	Charles Vester	-Present
Director 2 Years	Richard Woodson	-Present
Director 2 Years	Tom Lander	-Present

Invocation: Bruce Woodzell, IAAO Past President, provided the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance: Bruce Lowe, Flag Bearer, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Oath of Office: President Larry Mackereth administered the Oath of Office to Ryan Davis, Director 1 Year.

Secretary's Report: David Sanford, CAE – Present

President Larry Mackereth, CAE asked the Secretary to read the minutes from the July 12, 2012 meeting. Ron Agnor, First Vice President made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Pam Stepanick. There was no discussion and all voted in favor. Ron Agnor, First Vice President made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Pam Stepanick. There was no discussion and all voted in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Billy Driver – Present

Treasurer Billy Driver presented the attached report and explained it in detail. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Ron Agnor, First Vice President. The motion was seconded by Second Vice President Brian Gordineer, AAS. There was no discussion and all voted in favor.

Reporting to the President Elect: William Marchand

Education Committee 2013: Jeff Davis and Elizabeth Craft – Present. President Elect Marchand commented upon the positive efforts to date and thanked the Co-Chairs. Co-Chair Jeff Davis provided details regarding the July Seminar. The host Hotel has changed this year and will be the Omni Hotel, Charlottesville. The room rate will be \$139 per night, with rates extended through the weekend for attendees wanting to stay a night or more beyond the Seminar dates. The Seminar dates are July 17th – July 19th. There will be no parking fees charged.

Audit and Finance Committee: Steve Esenbock – Present

Chairman Steve Esenbock – Present, commented regarding the importance of keeping accurate receipts.

Annual Meeting 2014: Don McKigney – Present. Chair mentioned that the Norfolk Sheraton Waterside will be the Conference Hotel. The Hotel is currently undergoing renovations. Conference date has yet to be determined.

Reporting to First Vice President: Ron Agnor

Arrangements Committee 2013: Catherine Brincefield – Absent. President Larry Mackereth gave the report for Arrangements (See Attached).

Membership Committee: Richard Paul, CAE, SRA - Present
Chairman reported 4 new members, bringing the total for the year to 42.

PDP Advisory Committee: George Barham, RES - Present.
Chairman George Barham, RES presented two items for consideration. The first was in reference to a survey and additional information (see attached flyer) regarding member interest in an AAS preparation class/workshop. Chairman indicated he would extend deadline on survey and is actively exploring venues central to the State. Chairman then presented the second item for consideration in the form of a recommendation for monetary Designation Awards (see attached recommendation). President Mackereth mentioned the necessity for a Bylaw change to accommodate the Award (see proposed Bylaw change attached). Parliamentarian Wendell Ingram noted that a motion was required to accept and approve the new Bylaw change. Director Ryan Davis made the motion to approve Bylaw change; Director Pam Stepanick made the second. There was no discussion and all voted in favor.

Personnel Committee: Jonathan Garner- Present
Chairman introduced himself and reported that the survey will be conducted in February/March 2013 and that we are collecting with the Excel/Access format this year because of the difficulty in compiling the data from the online survey last year.

Reporting to Second Vice President: Brian Gordineer, AAS

Awards Committee: Charles Vester - Present
Chairman Reported that the cost of Awards from the Conference would likely remain the same and therefore the budget line item for Awards will subsequently need to increase.

Resolutions Committee: John Nelms, RES, SRA - Present
Chairman John Nelms, RES, SRA had no report.

Manual Committee: John Kiger - Present
Chairman John Kiger had no report.

Publicity Committee: Ryan Davis - Present
Chairman Ryan Davis reported that another issue of the Network would be published in the next two weeks, although there was still time to make a submission prior to the following Friday. He also indicated his intent to acquire a laptop and new software.

Reporting to Past-President: Greg Daniels, CAE

Nominating Committee: Past President Greg Daniels, CAE – Present
Past President Daniels, CAE had no report.

Legislative Committee: Jim Hester, CAE – Absent
Nothing significant to report at this time.

Use Value Committee: Bruce Lowe – Present
Chairman Bruce Lowe reported that there have been significant new Use Values established and cautioned jurisdictions should make themselves aware of those new values.

Regional Seminar Committee: Tammy Carroll, CAE – Present
Chairwoman Tammy Carroll had no report.

Parliamentarian: Wendell Ingram – Present
No report was given.

Technology Committee: Greg Daniels, CAE– Present.
Past President Greg Daniels, CAE reported that Jonathan Garner has been drafted to take over the website. Furthermore, the website was a victim of a “pharmaceutical” attack and therefore some ads appeared for various products. The “hack” came through an IP address and has since been blocked. The site itself is clean. President Mackereth acknowledged that despite minor issues, Greg Daniels is to be commended for bringing the organization forward in the area of technology.

Historian: Steve Boyer – Absent
President Greg Daniels, CAE reported scanning all of the historic documents is almost 100% complete, and encouraged people to send any additional historic documents.

Commissioner of Revenue Liaison: Frankie Edmondson – Present
COR Liaison Frankie Edmondson reported that the COR’s would like to have more interaction and participation with VAAO in future. At the Annual CORVA Conference held recently in Bristol, Members discussed redefining goals, with an emphasis on not duplicating efforts with other industry organizations. Two primary concerns/issues relate to effective educational offerings that are cost efficient. Other goals include trying to increase memberships in VAAO and IAAO, in addition to promoting complimentary educational offerings. Liaison believes the partnership is worth supporting, as it benefits both organizations and disciplines. Frankie encourages VAAO to dialogue with their respective COR’s regarding dual participation that is economically sound and returns tangible worth to both Organizations.

IAAO Representatives: Wendell Ingram- Present
IAAO Representative Wendell Ingram reported that IAAO “Two for \$200” new member campaign promotion was still in effect. He remarked that the IAAO was in the process of rebranding and encouraged IAAO Webinars. The fees for multiple designations have been addressed and approved by the Executive Board. Beginning next year, the 1st Designation pays full dues; subsequent held designations pay one half dues per designation per Designee. Goal of accredited member is as a pathway to designations. Some discussion about good fiscal health of IAAO followed.

Unfinished Business:

Arrangements Committee 2012: Co-Chairwoman Janice Hudgins reported a profit was made at the Annual Conference held in Virginia Beach, the final amount to be determined upon completion of audit.

It was determined that a motion was not entertained to approve the Professional Designation Award recommendation presented by Chairman George Barham. Director Ryan Davis made motion to approve designation award, Director Jeff Davis seconded and all voted yes.

New Business:

1. Charlie Crowson agreement, Legislative Liason contract lower this year due to shorter session. Motion made to continue for \$6,000 (Ryan Davis), Pam Stepanick seconded. There was no discussion and all voted in favor.
2. 2013 Budget Adoption. Billy Driver, Treasurer presented the 2013 Budget. Budget adopted as amended (see attached). Bruce Lowe made the motion, President Elect, Bill Marchand seconded, all voted in favor.

President Larry Mackereth announced the next meeting will be held April 12, 2013 at the Williamsburg Hotel and Conference Center.

The meeting was adjourned by President Larry Mackereth, CAE at 12:00noon.

2013 VAAO Conference

Wednesday October 29th through Friday November 1st

Hilton McLean, Tyson's Corner
7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean, Va

Room Rate \$149 for Standard Room

Keynote Speaker: Lewis Shepherd, Director of Microsoft's Institute for Advanced Technology in Governments. Lewis is a graduate of the University of Virginia and received his Master's Degree from Stanford University. He resides in Essex County at the historic Mahockney Plantation.

