

NETWORK



The Quarterly Newsletter of Virginia's Assessment Professionals

SUMMER 2014



Virginia Association
of Assessing Officers

Former VAAO Officers and Directors

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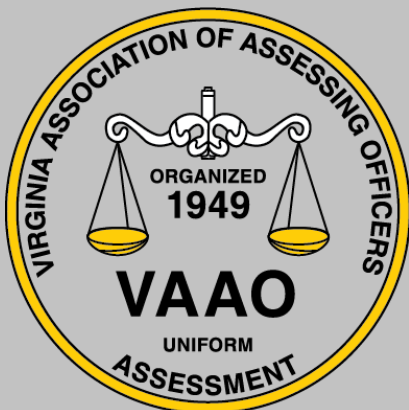
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A Message *from* The President



Summertime in Ole Virginia...

Ahh, the smell of salt air, suntan lotion, hot dogs and hamburgers (or sushi for Thomas Rice), and the chants of taxpayers: "My value is too high!".

Yes, summertime is full of joyful sounds and familiar smells ... I mean aromas.

Well, we have made it through half the year. The assessments are done and the hearings are nearing completion or complete - except for Virginia Beach, who has hearings all year long (lucky them).

The education seminar in Charlottesville was just completed under the direction of Chairman Mary Deas and her Education Committee. It was a big success: great speakers/presenters, and social changes - which included a sit down dinner, that allowed for networking and good conversation, vendors were present to share information about their products/services with the future decision makers, and a wonderful evening in Old Town Charlottesville.

Several of our members received designations at 'the seminar'. Under new guidelines adopted by the VAAO board, the designees were recognized with an appropriate memento, as well as a check for \$300.00. Congratulations to:

Patrizia Waggoner, AAS, RES - City of Hopewell

Kevin Prine, RES - City of Portsmouth

Charles Evers, RES - City of Richmond

Derek Dubbe, RES - Arlington County

Stuart Staples, AAS - Henrico County

Parrish Simmons, CMS - City of Richmond

Fall is just around the corner, and it's not too early to begin thinking about the Annual Conference in October. Arrangements Committee Chairman Don McKigney is planning an exceptional education program with entertaining social events. The venue will be held at "The Sheraton at Waterside" in Norfolk, from October 8th through the 10th. Please make plans to share your time and experiences with your fellow members from around the state.

You have seen changes in the newsletter. Under the leadership of our co-editors (Paul Bidanset from Norfolk & Woody Fincham, SRA from TAX), *Network* is continuing to evolve, so as to draw your interest and provide insight into matters of concern. They editors continue to need your assistance, so this publication can be an important part the assessor's network. If there is something you would like added or changed, let Paul and Woody know. This is your newsletter and with your continued help we will make it better.

I hope this greeting has found you all well and ready to take on new challenges with the knowledge and professionalism the VAAO is known for. I hope to see you in Norfolk.

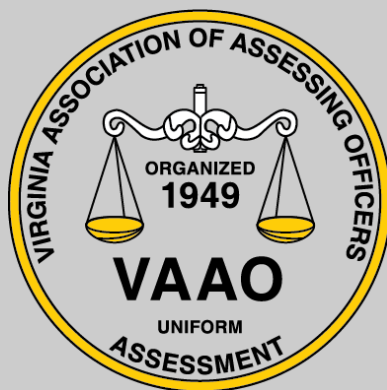
Enjoy the rest of the summer!

Sincerely,

Bill Marchand

VAAO President

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 in reaching their ultimate professional objective, the VAAO hereby institutes an award for successful completion and written confirmation of the granting of an 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, 2014. 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, amended, 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

Does your office have a new hire, retirement, new designee, or promotion? Let us know and we will feature them in our next issue! Please email: Paul.Bidanset@norfolk.gov

We find members in different stages of their assessment careers. Some are just beginning, others are moving to new jurisdictions or ascending to positions of increased responsibilities, and a lucky few are settling into retirement - hopefully swapping their field hats for golfing hats. We send our congratulations and wish them all the best of luck in this next stage of their lives!

New Hires

Ruth Gordon - *Real Estate Appraiser* - Manassas

Julie Moon - *Real Estate Appraiser* - Manassas

Douglas Waldron - *Commissioner of Revenue* - Manassas

Mary Ann Davis - *Assessor* - Goochland

Nelson Pollard - *Appraiser II* - Goochland

Justin Stanley - *Appraiser II* - Hampton

Montrey DeLoatch - *Summer Intern* - Hampton

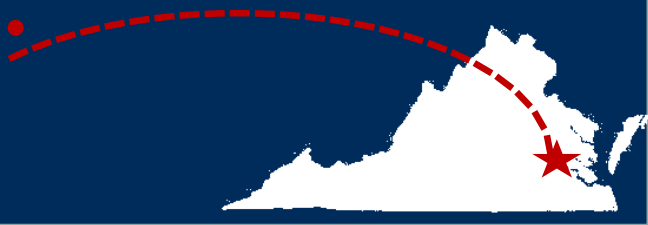
Woody Fincham, SRA - *Senior LPC Appraisal Consultant* - Virginia Department of Taxation

Promotions

Mel Bloomfield - *Deputy Assessor* - Richmond

Charles Evers, RES - *Supervising Appraiser* - Richmond

From VA to...



...Missouri!



Led by Chair Bill Marchand The IAAO Technical Standards Committee, recently convened in Kansas City, MO for their annual meeting. Among their action items, they decided to re-open the IAAO Standard on Automated Valuation Models (AVMs) for review.

The standard was first created in 2003 to provide guidance in promoting AVM accuracy with rigorous development and testing, and since its inception has been cited numerous times by reputable industry organizations and associations around the globe. Unlike other IAAO standards, the AVM standards exists to set the bar for both public sector and private sector AVMs. This umbrella covers not only the tax assessment purposes, but fraud detection, loan origination, portfolio valuation, and commercial investment analysis as well. Promoting accuracy and upholding the integrity of such statistical approaches continues to put the IAAO at the forefront of development. With such rapid technological developments – namely the increased access of data and great advancement of computational power and statistical methods – a more up-to-date evaluation of the state of AVMs is of great importance, and the opening of this standard is well-timed. To establish momentum on the subject of advancement, The IAAO publication *Fair & Equitable* has already published the first article in a series on AVMs, discussing their current state across industries and what the future has in store. The committee is looking forward to the ensuing community engagement that will give way to enhancements and advancements of this standard.

Nominatingcommittee

The recommendations made by the 2014 Nominating Committee Report are as follows:

President: Ron Agnor, *City of Virginia Beach*

President-Elect: Brian Gordineer, AAS, *City of Hampton*

First Vice President: Billy Driver, *County of Roanoke*

Second Vice President: David Sanford, CAE, *City of Chesapeake*

Treasurer: Ryan Davis, *City of Falls Church*

Secretary: Jason Hughes, *Virginia Department of Taxation*

Director – One Year Term:

Diedre Kelly, *County of Arlington*

Nick Morris, *Virginia Department of Taxation*

Steve Staker, *City of Roanoke*

Director – Two Year Term:

Mary Terry, *City of Charlottesville*

Lisa Freeman, *City of Falls Church*

Jonathan Garner, *City of Hampton*

Immediate Past President: Bill Marchand, *City of Norfolk*

Bylaw changes

The VAAO Executive Board adopted a change in bylaws to clarify site selection and contract negotiations for the organizations. As in accordance with the bylaws, the adopted changes must be published in *Network* for general members. The changes are as follows:

Section 7. Annual Meeting Committee~~*Contracts & Site Review Committee.*~~ The Contracts & Site Review Committee shall be composed of a chairperson and three (3) other committee members, who shall be appointed to three (3) year terms. The three (3) year terms shall be staggered in such a way that continuity and knowledge is not disrupted. The president shall also appoint members to fill any unexpired terms which become vacant. The committee shall investigate those sites recommended by the President and Board of Directors for annual conferences and education seminars. The committee may consider two or more years in advance, in order to take advantage of favorable terms for suitable dates and facilities. The committee will provide detailed information, including budget review and recommendations to the President and Board of Directors in time for the board to meet, vote and report its' action to the membership at the annual business meeting. Only the President or his/her assignee may sign a contract on the behalf of the organization.~~The Annual Meeting Committee is responsible for recommending a site for the annual conference. The committee shall report its recommendation to the board of directors in time for the board to act on the recommendation and report its action to the membership at the annual business meeting as required by Article VIII of these bylaws. If directed by the president, the committee shall recommend the site for the annual conference a year or more in advance. The president may appoint two annual meeting committees.~~

Article VIII – Meetings

Section 1. Annual Business Meeting. The annual business meeting shall be held during the annual conference of the association. The annual ~~meeting and education seminar conference~~ shall be held each year at a time and place determined by the board of directors. The ~~date~~time and places ~~of future of the~~annual conferences ~~and education seminars~~ shall be announced at the ~~next preceding~~ annual business meeting, however, nothing in these bylaws shall preclude the board of directors from selecting ~~sites~~ the time and place of the annual conference two or more years in advance, ~~in order to take advantage of favorable terms for as may in its judgment be necessary to acquire~~ suitable dates and facilities.

Classification reminder

A friendly reminder: It's that time of year again to send sales data to the Virginia Department of Taxation, and all property data sent to Nicholas.Morris@tax.virginia.gov must follow these guidelines:

PROPERTY CLASS CODES:

The Tax Commissioner is responsible for developing the classification code of property now being utilized by all localities. All property listed in a county or city land book must be coded according to the Department's classification system. The seven property classification codes are numerical codes 1 through 7 and defined as follows:

Class 1 - Single-family Residential Urban -

All parcels devoted to or available for use primarily as place of abode for a single family housing in a developed or developing area. Residential to be classed as 1 should have public water and sewer. Condominium units and town house for sale are class 1.

Class 2 - Single-family Residential Suburban -

Any residential parcel up to 20 acres without public water, public sewer, or both.

Class 3 - Multi-family Residential-

All parcels on which there are one or more dwelling units designed for occupancy by more than one family. Generally apartments, duplex, triplex will be class 3.

Class 4 - Commercial and Industrial-

Any parcel vacant or developed, devoted to or zoned for business, retailing, mining, manufacturing, warehousing, etc.

Class 5 - Agricultural/Undeveloped (20 acres to 99.99 acres)-

Any tract, pieces, or parcels of land from 20 to 99.99 acres that does not qualify for any of the above classification (If a tract of land is zoned industrial with more than 20 acres, the class code should be class 4);

Class 6 - Agricultural/Undeveloped (more than 99.99 acres)-

Any tract, piece, or parcel of land over 99.99 acres that does not qualify for any of the above classifications;

Class 7 - Exempt Property - (Any property which is exempt from local property taxes)

Exempt property, government or private, should not be used in the study if the sample size is sufficient from classes 1 through 6. A conveyance of land from the trustees of a church to a private individual can not be found in the taxable section of the land book. The church property would be listed in the exempt section of the land book.

Code of Virginia, § 58.1-208. Classifications of real property.

The Tax Commissioner shall establish a classification system of real property appropriate for inclusion on local land books. Such classification shall be placed on the local land books or the land books shall be organized in a manner appropriate for identification of the classifications by the Tax Commissioner in conducting the annual sales ratio studies. The local assessing officer of any county, city, or town may subdivide such classifications into lesser included classifications should he deem such subclassification desirable.

The Tax Commissioner shall cooperate with and seek the counsel of local assessing officers in establishing such classification system. (Code 1950, § 58-33.3; 1975, c. 623; 1984, c. 675.)

Scholarships

The VAAO offers scholarships to members for educational advancement purposes. We are lucky enough to gain feedback from those who benefit from them. We congratulate them on their achievements!

To VAAO,

I am writing today to express my sincere gratitude for the scholarship I received from the VAAO. The classroom teaching was very thorough and challenging and I enjoyed the discussion we were able to have as the class proceeded. The facilities and especially the hospitality was top notch and allowed me to have interaction with assessment professionals from across the state. Meeting and getting to know some of those who attended was the highlight of the week. I would not have been able to attend this very productive week were it not for the scholarship. Again, thank you so much for making this opportunity possible.

Sincerely,

Barry Taylor



Dear VAAO,

Thank you so much for the opportunity for the scholarship that was awarded to me. The class was filled with useful information that will help me expand my career. With the opportunity I was able to get a better understanding in many aspects of the real estate appraisal process. I was able to meet many different people from all over the state, and many contacts to help advance my future in the field. Thank you again so much for the opportunity.

Sincerely,

Douglas Banagan



Professionaldevelopment

We extend congratulations to the most recent designees on their accomplishments and hard work. They were recognized at this past month's education seminar in Charlottesville and included:

Patrizia Waggoner, AAS, RES - City of Hopewell

Kevin Prine, RES - City of Portsmouth

Charles Evers, RES - City of Richmond

Derek Dubbe, RES - Arlington County

Stuart Staples, AAS - Henrico County

Parrish Simmons, CMS - City of Richmond





William Walter Whitley, MAI, SRA
Appraiser Supervisor
City of Newport News Real Estate Assessor's Office



William Walter Whitley, Appraiser Supervisor in the City of Newport News Real Estate Assessor's Office was awarded the prestigious MAI designation from the Appraisal Institute on May 13, 2014. He previously received the SRA designation from the Appraisal Institute in 2010.

The MAI designation is held by appraisers who are experienced in the valuation and evaluation of commercial, industrial, residential, and other types of properties. To become a MAI member of the Appraisal Institute, an individual must have good moral character, meet standards and ethics requirements, pass rigorous education requirements, pass a final comprehensive exam, submit specialized experience which must meet strict criteria, and receive credit for the demonstration of knowledge requirement. The MAI designation has long been recognized by courts of law, government agencies, financial institutions, and investors as a mark of excellence in the field of real estate valuation and analysis.

...Free Breakfast!

A huge thank you from the Personnel Committee to all those who have participated in the *2014 VAAO Personnel Survey*. The survey is valuable information to the membership.

We received 77 surveys with 57% of jurisdictions participating. New this year, eight lucky jurisdictions drawn at random received a free breakfast treat from VAAO. Stafford County is featured here enjoying their morning coffee and sugar!



Pictured from left to right: Terrence Murray, Mike Sienkowski, Bart Stevenson.



Left to right: Mike Sienkowski, Gene Thomas, Debra McNeil, Terrence Murray

Other winning jurisdictions included: City of Chesapeake, City of Roanoke, James City County, King & Queen County, City of Lynchburg, Madison County, and Powhatan County. We appreciate all the time you invested in completing the data and a copy of the survey in its entirety can be found on the VAAO website under the *Membership/ Member's Only* tab.

Annual Conference
October 8-10
Sheraton Waterside Hotel
Norfolk, VA



IAAO membership

Dear VAAO Members,

It is our pleasure to serve the VAAO as your IAAO representatives. If you are not yet an IAAO member, we encourage you to join your colleagues from around the globe as part of this “internationally recognized leader in property appraisal, assessment administration and property tax policy”!

IAAO members qualify for a wide array of valuable benefits designed to enhance professional knowledge and career opportunities. IAAO member benefits include:

- registration discounts on IAAO webinars, seminars, and annual conference
- discounted member prices on IAAO books and multimedia in the IAAO Marketplace
- full access to the IAAO library with physical and/or electronic access to thousands of books, articles, and government documents, as well as linked databases and other resources
- electronic access to download the latest USPAP guide
- 10% discount on the McKISSOCK online USPAP course
- the opportunity to earn an IAAO professional designation or become accredited
- scholarship opportunities for those needing help with membership dues and education costs
- the ability to connect and share information with colleagues from around the world in the AssessorNET online community
- subscriptions to the monthly magazine *Fair & Equitable* and quarterly academic journal *Journal of Property Tax Assessment and Administration*
- access to Member Look Up - an online membership directory with a variety of search options
- leadership opportunities through service as an IAAO representative, committee volunteer, or executive board member
- international recognition in the Awards Program
- retired and lifetime status for those who are long-time members and meet qualifications

A more detailed listing of member benefits can be found in the Member Resource Guide. One of the most important member benefits is complete access to all of the information found within IAAO's website. Join now (for half price) and start receiving benefits today!

Regards,

Kim Smith, AAS

Rosie Barbour, RES

****Half-price Application on Following Page***

NETWORK

SUMMER 2014

Step up to IAAO and stand out in the crowd

The International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) is a nonprofit educational and research association of individuals in the assessment profession and others with an interest in property valuation.

Membership is open to anyone and includes individuals working in government, private industry and academia, as well as members of the general public.

IAAO Memberships

Regular Membership

is available to all officers, officials, and employees of a governmental authority or jurisdiction who have any or all of their duties related to property valuation, property tax administration, or property tax policy; all persons engaged as individuals, or employees of an organization, who exclusively spend their time to provide professional services to governmental officers, officials, or offices of a governmental authority or jurisdiction in support of the property valuation, property tax administration or property tax policy functions. Professional services do not include the providing of hardware, software, equipment; or the sale of either goods or services to governmental agencies.

Associate Membership

is available to all officers, officials or employees of governmental agencies who do not have any duties directly involved in property valuation, property tax administration, or property tax policy; all officers, administrators, employees and enrolled students of educational institutions; individuals involved in or interested in property valuation, property tax administration, or property tax policy; any member of any organization, group, or association, whether local, regional, national or international, interested in property valuation, property tax administration or property tax policy.

Affiliate Membership

is available to groups or associations of public officials, employees or citizens interested in property valuation for property tax purposes, property tax administration and property tax policy. For application and information please contact membership@iaao.org.



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ASSESSING OFFICERS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Half-price referral application

Name _____ Title _____

Jurisdiction/Firm _____

Office Street Address _____

Office City _____ Office State/Province/Country _____ Office Zip/Postal Code _____

Office Phone _____ Office Fax _____ Office Email _____

Home Street Address _____

Home City _____ Home State/Province/Country _____ Home Zip/Postal Code _____

Home Phone _____ Home Fax _____ Home Email _____

Send mail to: Office Home Check here if you do not wish to receive membership e-mails.
Email is a vital link between IAAO and its members. It is IAAO policy not to sell, rent, or distribute e-mail addresses.

Karen Smith, AAS
Person referring applicant (if applicable)

Check here if you are an elected official.

Please indicate if you have been convicted of a felony or crime of office which may reflect on your ability to abide by the IAAO Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Conduct.

Yes No

Councils and Sections Interest Areas

(You may join more than one at **no** additional charge. You must be an IAAO member to be eligible for membership in these groups.)

- Public Utility Mapping & GIS
 Tax Collection Personal Property
 Computer Assisted Appraisal

Office use only:

I hereby apply for membership in the International Association of Assessing Officers and agree to comply with the requirements of the IAAO Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Conduct. If accepted for membership, I will abide by the IAAO Constitution, pay the established dues, and comply with the Code and Standards.

Signature _____ Date _____

Dues are payable in advance. Please complete this application and return with payment of dues. If paying by credit card, please provide the information requested and fax to 816-701-8149.

Visa MasterCard AMEX

Cardholder Name (Print) _____

Total Membership Dues \$ _____

For information about an accredited membership designation, go to www.iaao.org.

Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

If paying by check, please make check payable to IAAO in US funds and mail to: IAAO, PO Box 29900, Dept. 929, Phoenix, AZ 85038-0900.

Proration Schedule

Date Received	Jan - Mar	Apr - June	July - Sept	Oct - Dec
Regular Member	\$87.50	\$65.63	\$43.75	\$87.50
Associate Member	\$90.00	\$67.50	\$45.00	\$90.00

**Join in the 4th quarter and don't pay again until Jan. 1, 2015.
Enjoy as much as 3 months free!**

Prices are quoted in US dollars and are subject to change. Prices are guaranteed through 12/31/14.