



RECORD

May
2021

The newsletter of the Virginia Association of Government Archives & Records Administrators

President’s Letter

Greetings VAGARA Colleagues,

As I put fingers to the keyboard, this year is 1/3 over and, it seems, there’s light at the end of this pandemic tunnel. I hope that, in this portion of the tunnel, you are not merely chugging along, but finding ways to thrive, both personally and professionally.

A word of appreciation for renewing your membership. Our ranks have been trimmed by a little more than thirty, but that is normal, and we typically experience an uptick nearing conference time. As covered herein, we are planning the virtual conference in the fall. Please know your board is working to resume in-person conferences beginning in 2022. We’re negotiating hotel contracts for the next two years, specifically addressing the effective management of potential “unplanned events” like what we’ve been through the past year. There should be an update on that in the next letter.

Speaking of membership and conferences, without last year’s conference there was no 2020 meeting of the members. To rectify that, VAGARA held its first virtual annual business meeting on March 4 to cover the 2020 business. Twenty-four members participated, exceeding the quorum requirement. Normal business items were dispatched; there was a conference update; and Dianna Catron, VAGARA’s immediate past president, was recognized for her service—all in twenty-seven minutes! The 2021 business meeting will be a part of the fall’s virtual conference.

In this newsletter, and by separate message, is a survey in which your participation is requested.

President’s Letter continued...

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VAGARA EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT

Glenn Smith
804-692-3604

Glenn.smith@lva.virginia.gov

VICE PRESIDENT

Margie C. Tacci
703-435-6800 x. 2082

margie.tacci@herndon-va.gov

SECRETARY

Jessie Graham
434-297-6318
Jrg8h@virginia.edu

TREASURER

Jonathan Tillman
757-727-6686

Jonathan.Tillman@hampton.gov

HISTORIAN

Matthew Logie
703-658-3380

Matthew.logie@fairfaxcounty.gov

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Noble Payne
804-717-6973
paynen@chesterfield.gov

Rachael Brinson

540-351-2861
rbrinson@remington-va.gov

Nicki Taylor

540-727-3444 x. 125
ntaylor@culpepercounty.gov

Benjamin Smith

804-239-5586
ben_smith@verizon.net

We would like to learn what topics/issues/concerns are of the most interest to you, so that our program chair, Jessie Graham, may have a place to start in recruiting presenters. Please participate, but only once. Thank you in advance.

Following up from February, board members Nicki Taylor and Rachael Brinson stepped up as auditors for the 2020 fiscal review. They did a great job, and our association was well served by their efforts. VAGARA is strong financially, and the few findings they made have all been addressed.

One thing that working during a pandemic has taught most, if not all, of us is that virtual meetings, though toll-taking on the personal-connection level, do offer a great benefit of accomplishing business without the need for travel. While not officially addressed, there has been a growing consensus of keeping at least most of the board meetings virtual, after the arrival of whatever will be the new normal. With that in mind, this is the year that a nominating committee will form to fill a slate of officers and members for the following two years. Would you begin to consider how you might serve? Any questions on that, please reach out to me or any other board member.

All the best for an enjoyable spring, pollen suffering notwithstanding.

Warmest regards,
Glenn Smith
President

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR
Nicki Taylor
540-727-3444 x. 125
ntaylor@culpepercounty.gov

WEBMASTER
Jessica Burgess
804-692-3795
Jessica.burgess@lva.virginia.gov

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Jessie Graham
434-297-6318
Jrg8h@virginia.edu

Membership Update

Our membership currently stands at 135 members/vendors. If you did not pay your 2021 dues by April 1, your account was suspended. The good news is that you can request that your account be reactivated, and pay for 2021, by sending your request to ntaylor@culpepercounty.gov

Any of the Executive Board members will be glad to assist you with questions or concerns. Thank you for your continuing participation and support of VAGARA.

JOIN OR RENEW NOW ►

We Care Program



As part of our We Care program you are encouraged to review and update your membership details. Be sure to add your birthday month, so VAGARA can send you a birthday email during the month of your birthday.

Also, do you know of a member that could use a “pat on the back,” a “thinking of you,” a “get well,” or another spirit-lifter? If so, please email Nicki Taylor at ntaylor@culpepercounty.gov and she will send a card on behalf of VAGARA.

Fall Virtual Conference Update

The VAGARA Fall 2021 Annual Conference will be a single-day virtual event on **Thursday, October 28th**.

For those with budget constraints – don't worry! The 2021 conference will be **FREE** to VAGARA members. Registration will be open to all, but non-members will be required to pay the \$20.00 membership fee to attend.

Please email executiveboard@vagara.org with questions and suggestions!



Audit Update

An internal audit of the 2020 financial records was conducted on February 25, 2021. The audit is designed to provide an overview of VAGARA's financial status and to show the Board's accountability for the money it receives. The records were found to be in good order with clear accountability for funds received and expended.

Audit Committee:
Rachael Brinson and Nicki Taylor

Job Announcement



Blacksburg Town Clerk

Duties include the management of public records. Review of applications begins on May 24, 2021.

Link to apply: <https://www.blacksburg.gov/departments/departments-a-k/human-resources/employment-opportunities/town-clerk>

calling all
Vendors

Did you know?

Vendor members of VAGARA are eligible for **FREE** advertising in the Newsletter! Paid vendor members may contact the Newsletter Editor for more details.



ANNOUNCEMENT CORNER



Do you have a job posting you'd like to announce? A retirement or promotion you'd like to celebrate? Please consider emailing announcements@vagara.org to have it included in a future newsletter and/or on the website!

Welcome New Members!



VAGARA welcomes those that have become members since our last newsletter. We are thrilled to have you and cannot wait to get to know you. Should you need any assistance, please feel free to contact any VAGARA member.

*Scotty Bryan, Chesterfield County
Kristen Freeman, Amherst County*



VAGARA Trivia

The first to respond with the correct answer(s) wins a gift card!

Send responses to:
announcements@vagara.org

Question:

At the Library of Virginia, the _____ allows you to search print, manuscripts, and archives. While _____ is the new home of their digital collection.



Do you have photos?

If you have photos taken at VAGARA Annual Conferences, 2012-2019, please email announcements@vagara.org. We would love to have them as we compile the organizational history for this time period.

Thank You VAGARA Vendor Members!



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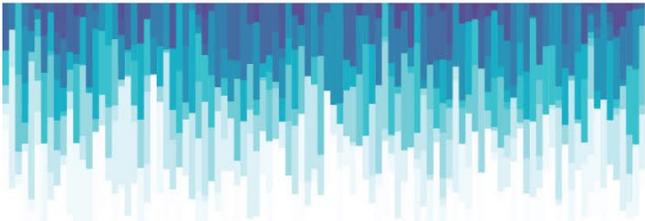


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