

## 2011 VAPDC Summer Conference Speaker Profiles

### **James A. Baldwin, Executive Director Cumberland Plateau Planning District Commission**

Jim Baldwin is the Executive Director of the Cumberland Plateau Planning District Commission (CPPDC) in Lebanon, Virginia. The CPPDC provides community and economic development planning and technical assistance and implementation services to the four counties of Buchanan, Dickenson, Russell and Tazewell in Virginia's Coalfields region. Jim has been with the CPPDC since 1972, serving as Director of Planning from 1982 to 2006 and as Executive Director since July, 2006.

Jim serves on many Boards of Directors and is currently serving as President of The Crooked Road: Virginia's Heritage Music Trail, Immediate Past President of Appalachia Sustainable Development, Inc., President of the Coalfield Water Development Fund, Vice-President of 'Round the Mountain: Southwest Virginia's Artisan Network, and is a member of the Southwest Virginia Cultural Heritage Commission and the Virginia Coalfield Economic Development Authority. He is also Second Vice-President of the Board of Directors of the Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions.

Jim graduated from the College of William and Mary in Virginia with a B.A. degree in Government and is married with two grown children and three grandsons.

### **Costa Canavos, Community Housing Officer Virginia Housing Development Authority**

Costa Canavos is a Community Housing Officer with VHDA's REACH team focusing on local government outreach and marketing VHDA's Mixed-Use/Mixed-Income Financing Loan Program. Prior to coming to VHDA in September, 2005, he worked four years for Henrico County administering the county's CDBG and Enterprise Zone programs and two years with HHHunt in Richmond in their community management department. Costa has a Masters Degree in Public Administration from Virginia Tech and a Bachelor of Arts in Government & Politics from George Mason University.

### **Clyde Cristman, Legislative Analyst Senate Finance Committee**

Clyde Cristman joined the Staff of the Senate Finance Committee in 2007. Prior to that, he was Deputy Secretary of Public Safety in the Office of Governor Tim Kaine. He served as Director of the Virginia Department of Charitable Gaming from 2003 to 2006. From 1998 to 2003, Clyde served on the House Appropriations Committee Staff. He was Director of the Hampton-Newport News Criminal Justice Agency from 1992 to 1998. He was a Virginia Probation and Parole Officer from 1986 to 1992, a supervisor for the Montgomery County (Maryland) Pre-Release Center from 1983 to 1986 and a counselor in a regional juvenile detention facility in southern Maryland from 1981 to 1983. Clyde received a B.A. in Behavioral and Social Sciences from the University of Maryland in 1982, has done post-graduate work at both Old Dominion and Virginia Commonwealth Universities and is a 2003 graduate of the Virginia Executive Institute.

### **The Honorable Charles J. Colgan, Senator 29<sup>th</sup> District Senate of Virginia**

Charles J. Colgan was born in Frostburg, Maryland September 25, 1926. When he was five, he lost both parents, he and three siblings were split among relatives. Chuck and his younger brother lived with their grandparents on a farm, and during the depression the banks foreclosed their home and the family lost nearly

everything they owned. The tough times taught him valuable lessons about the importance of family and hard work.

Upon graduation from High School during World War II, Chuck joined the U.S. Army Air Corps and later the Air Force Reserve. Before going into his own business, Chuck flew twelve years as a commercial pilot. In 1965, he established Colgan Airways Corporation and took over a bankrupt company at Manassas Municipal Airport. Colgan Airways became one of the largest Flight Schools in the country and in 1971 they established a commuter airline. In 1986, he sold Colgan Airways Corporation to Presidential Airways, Inc.

In 1991, five years later Presidential Airlines went out of business. Shortly thereafter, Chuck and his son Mike formed a new company called Colgan Air, Inc., and went back into the airline business with one airplane. Today, this company operates a Regional Airline which is affiliated with US Airways as a US Airways Express Carrier. Colgan Air employs 535 people, 200 of which are employed at the Manassas Regional Airport, and during 2003, the company expects to carry in excess of 500,000 passengers.

In 1971, Chuck was elected to the Prince William County Board of Supervisors, serving one year as Chairman. In 1975, he was elected to the Virginia State Senate. As a legislator Senator Colgan works hard earning the trust of his constituents and the confidence of his colleagues.

Senator Colgan ranks first in Senate Seniority. He is the first Senator from Prince William County, Manassas and Manassas Park to obtain this number one ranking. He is one of the most influential Senate Legislators in Virginia and uses his influence to benefit his constituents. Senator Colgan is in a position to insure that important local programs and projects receive state funding. He is known for his bi-partisanship, Senator Colgan has a reputation for hard work, honesty, and looking out for the "little guys."

In 1980, The Potomac News conducted an extensive poll amongst leaders in Prince William County, and Senator Colgan was ranked the most influential public official which was directly related to the people "Sense of Trust."

**Jerry W. Davis, AICP, Executive Director  
Northern Neck Planning District Commission**

Graduated with a B. A. in English from James Madison University in 1975  
Graduated with a M. S. in Public Administration from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville in 1981  
Have served 35 years in local government in Virginia, including 14 years as a City or Town Manager and the last 15 as the NNPDC Executive Director

**Bruce DeSimone, Community Housing Officer  
Virginia Housing Development Authority**

Bruce DeSimone joined the Virginia Housing Development Authority as a Community Housing Officer and REACH Team member specializing in seniors housing and now also assists with rural community development. Prior to joining VHDA, Bruce created and managed a housing department for a regional agency on aging in Virginia that did single-family home repairs, rehab and new construction; developed and managed supportive housing for the elderly apartments; and also served as project manager on a number of CDBG-funded projects for local governments.

He has been active in Virginia housing since 1980 when he accepted a Management Internship with HUD and worked in the Richmond Office doing multifamily housing development, single-family mortgage credit analysis and real estate appraising. He also managed single-family mortgage underwriting and origination departments for a Richmond lender.

Before HUD, Bruce worked as a planner and project manager for environmental planning and engineering firms in the greater Philadelphia area, and specialized in environmental impact assessment, land use planning and socio-economic analysis.

Bruce holds a Master of City and Regional Planning degree from Rutgers University, is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners, and is certified as a Housing Development Finance Professional by the National Development Council.

**Cindi Jones, Director  
Virginia Health Reform Initiative**

Cindi B. Jones is the Director of the Virginia Health Reform Initiative in the Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Resources. She has more than 20 years of public service experience with the Commonwealth of Virginia in various health care positions and has been appointed to positions by three Governors. Most recently, she served as the Interim Director and Chief Deputy Director of the Department of Medical Assistance Services. She also has worked for the Joint Legislative and Review Commission. The focus of her career has been on health policy and financing. One of her key achievements was the revamping of the Medicaid and FAMIS program, which led to health insurance for more than 200,000 additional eligible children.

Cindi received both her B.S. and M.S. in family and child services from Virginia Tech. She is a member of the Virginia Tech Center for Gerontology Futures Board.

**William H. Leighty, Principal  
Performance Leadership Group**

Prior to forming the Performance leadership Group in 2007, Bill Leighty previously served as Chief of Staff to Governors Kaine and Warner of Virginia.

As Chief of Staff, Bill served as the Chief Operating Officer of the Commonwealth. In 2005, *Governing* Magazine named Virginia the "Best Managed State in the Nation" and in 2007, *Governing* Magazine named him one of the nine "Public Officials of the Year."

For seven years, Bill was the Director of the Virginia Retirement System, where he led the agency to three consecutive US Senate Productivity Awards. Currently, Bill also serves on the faculty for the International Foundation for Employee Benefit Plans where he teaches pension system administrative strategies. In July of 2008, Bill completed a performance review of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, a \$52 billion pension system. Currently Bill is working with the National Association of State Retirement System Administrators (NASRA) assisting them with developing a strategic plan for the future. Recently, Bill also completed a three week engagement with the Scottish Executive; advising the government on how to implement a national performance management system.

During his service to the Commonwealth, Bill developed a reputation for handling emergency situations, including droughts, fires, the Sniper Incident, Hurricane Isabel and the Virginia Tech Incident. Bill was sent by Governor Warner to Louisiana in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina to assist Governor Blanco.

Bill joined state government after serving in the United States Marine Corps. Bill graduated from Mary Washington College in 1978, and holds an MBA from Virginia Commonwealth University.

**Anthony Moore  
Assistant Secretary of Natural Resources for Chesapeake Bay Restoration**

Anthony Moore serves as Assistant Secretary of Natural Resources for Chesapeake Bay Restoration. Prior to his appointment in July 2010, Moore worked for the federal government at the Environmental Protection

Agency. Appointed in February 2003, he worked for the United States Environmental Protection Agency as a Senior Policy Advisor for the Office of Water. In this position he helped to develop innovative and sustainable market based programs to protect and restore our environmental resources and managed the legislative affairs for the Office.

Prior to serving at the Environmental Protection Agency, Moore served as the Director of Policy for the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality from 2000 to 2002, where he managed the legislative, regulatory, public affairs and constituent service activities for the department. From 1998-2000, he served as the Assistant Secretary of Natural Resources for the Commonwealth of Virginia where he worked with agencies to protect and restore our natural resources.

Moore worked as a chemist for Dominion Power for 15 years and is a graduate of the Virginia Military Institute. He is a native of Richmond, Virginia.

### **Anne Oman, Legislative Analyst House Appropriations Committee**

Since 2002 Anne Oman has served as the legislative fiscal analyst for transportation, commerce and trade and agriculture and forestry of the House Appropriations Committee of the Virginia House of Delegates. In that position Anne oversees policy and budgetary activities related to the state's funding of transportation and economic development activities. In addition, Anne is responsible for tracking state revenues and tax policy legislation for the Committee. She has held this position since 2002.

Prior to joining the Appropriations Committee Staff, Anne served as a principal research analyst for the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission. Other positions she has held during her almost 20 years in service to the Commonwealth of Virginia include positions with the Virginia Department of Transportation where she spent 8 years in the Divisions of Policy Analysis and later in Financial Planning and Debt Management.

Anne holds a Bachelor's degree in American Government from the University of Virginia and a Masters degree in political science from Kent State University and is a native of Northern Virginia.

### **James K. Spore - City Manager City of Virginia Beach**

James K. Spore became City Manager in November of 1991. He previously served as City Manager of Garland, Texas and Burnsville, Minnesota. He was Director of Community Development for Lakewood, Colorado and Elgin, Illinois and worked with the Department of Defense as a research analyst. He earned a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Colorado and both a Bachelor's and a Master's Degree in Urban Planning from the University of Illinois.

Since Spore became city manager in 1991, Virginia Beach has been recognized as the Best Place to Live in America, one of the top five Best Managed Cities in the Nation, the Most Livable Large City for Women, winner of the U.S. Senate Medallion of Excellence for Productivity and Quality, and the 8<sup>th</sup> Most Efficiently Run Large City in the Nation. He supports and encourages regionalism and serves on the Executive Boards of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission and the Hampton Roads Partnership.

Under Spore's leadership, economic development activities have soared and tourism has flourished, providing revenue that keeps the tax burden low for citizens. In addition, the City's Striving for Excellence program saves millions in tax dollars annually through quality and productivity efforts. As a result, Virginia Beach has the second lowest tax burden in Hampton Roads, the lowest unemployment rate of the 50 largest metro areas in the United States, and the ninth lowest spending per thousand residents among the 50 largest cities in the nation.

The Virginia Beach Rotary Club selected Jim Spore as the 2004 City Employee of the Year because of his leadership, commitment to excellence and dedication to public service.

In 2010, he received the International City Manager's Association **Award for Career Excellence in Honor of Mark E. Keane** which recognizes an outstanding chief local government administrator who has fostered representative democracy by enhancing the effectiveness of local elected officials and by consistently initiating creative and successful programs.

Jim is a member of the following organizations:

American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)

American Planning Association (APA)

American Society for Public Administration (ASPA)

Innovations Group (IG)

International City Management Association (ICMA)

For additional information, please reference the City Manager's Update weekly newsletter that provides members of City Council with up-to-date information and stories about departmental programs, services, and achievements. This information is also provided for the benefit of our citizens, to help them stay informed about City news and information on a weekly basis.