The Permit Tech Committee has had some changes.

The co-chair, Gwen Hanock has stepped down and Paula Fristoe has volunteered to become the new co-chair.

The Committee provided the VBCOA Permit Technician training class in January in Region IV. From that class I am aware of three individuals who went ahead and took the ICC Permit Tech Certification test and received their certification.

I would like to share a portion of a thank you that I received from one of those individuals.
I wanted to let you know that I took my ICC Permit Tech test on the 17th and I passed!!

Finding time to study was a struggle with my ridiculous schedule, but I managed to familiarize myself with my books for an hour here and there over several weeks and was a little nervous about taking it due to my lack of study time. But, thanks to your advice, I passed.

First thing I did was go through the entire test answering every question. Those I felt 100% sure about, I did not flag. Those I had any doubt about, I flagged. I then had almost an hour of time for the review of the flagged questions. While looking up some questions, I would run across the answer to others I had flagged. I went through all I had flagged and got to go through some more difficult flagged question for a third round.

I would say for me the most difficult or confusing questions, was the plat of a subdivision that asked setback questions etc from the Zoning book. It took me a few minutes to understand my plat and how it corresponded to the Zoning books different districts. But, I managed to get it on my second go around.

To say the least I am very proud. I will now have to go to the Permit Tech Class and the Core because my classes from 10 years ago are not sufficient. I plan to do that and get my Virginia Certification.

Thank you so much for the class you and your encouragement.
Proposed Code Addition to define Permit Technicians duties and require the certification.

Please see the below wording:

Previous proposed code change: DRAFT

Definitions-Section 202

TECHNICAL ASSISTANT. Any person employed by or under an extended contract to a local building department or local enforcing agency for enforcing the USBC, including but not limited to inspectors, plan reviewers and individuals who review, process and issue building or trade permits. For the purpose of this definition, an extended contract shall be a contract with an aggregate term of 18 months or longer.

105.2.1 Qualifications of technical assistants.

A technical assistant shall have at least three years of experience and general knowledge in at least one of the following areas: building construction or building construction conceptual processes, building, fire or housing inspections; plumbing, electrical or mechanical trades; or fire protection, elevator or property maintenance work. Any combination of education and experience that would confer equivalent knowledge and ability shall be deemed to satisfy this requirement. The locality may establish additional qualification requirements.
Highlights:

Jada Black is now the Web Master for VBCOA.

Welcome Paula Fristoe.

Upcoming:

VBCOA Mid-year Conference April 30-May 1, 2017

We are looking for ideas for upcoming training supporting permit technicians.

Looking for a venue for a meet and greet of all interested in the Permit Tech Committee to meet and brainstorm ideas!

Your VBCOA Permit Tech Committee Co-Chairs,
Debby McMahon and Paula Fristoe