



Dr. Virginia Harper has spent 30 years educating boating professionals about the marine surveyor profession. As Co-Founder and Executive Director of Navtech US Surveyors she has guided the training school for almost three decades. Navtech US Surveyors is now the most recognized and referred name for boating professionals looking to add marine surveying, vessel inspection, accident and fraud investigation, and expert witness to their marine professional expertise.

A former sailor, boater, marine surveyor, and charter boat operator, she has dedicated her career to advancing professionalism, ethics and skill to advance not only the marine surveying profession but the entire boating business community. Her articles have been published in boating magazines and journals including Proceedings (USCG) She is the author and editor of all seven of the marine surveyor topical training volumes and provides personalized consulting to all enrolled students on a daily basis. She is a Florida Certified Teacher, and until retirement an adjunct professor at Florida Southwestern State College. A member of the United States Distance Learning Association.

Born in Charleston, SC while her father, a decorated US Navy captain was launching a destroyer, she has traveled since birth. As the “crumb of a cracker” she has called Florida her home for most of her life. She holds a BA from Florida State University, a Masters from Florida Atlantic University, and earned her Doctorate at the University of Central Florida.

Energetic, motivational and committed topics for presentations include

Making Your Boating Business Grow

Marine Surveying: Women—You Can Do This!

Marinas and the Marine Surveyor

The Marine Surveyor: Linchpin of the Safe Boating Industry

What Marine Surveyors Do

The Truth About Marine Surveyors and Their Organizations