

THE

Vol 33 No 6
Dec 2010/Jan 2011

OREGON SURVEYOR

A publication of the Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon



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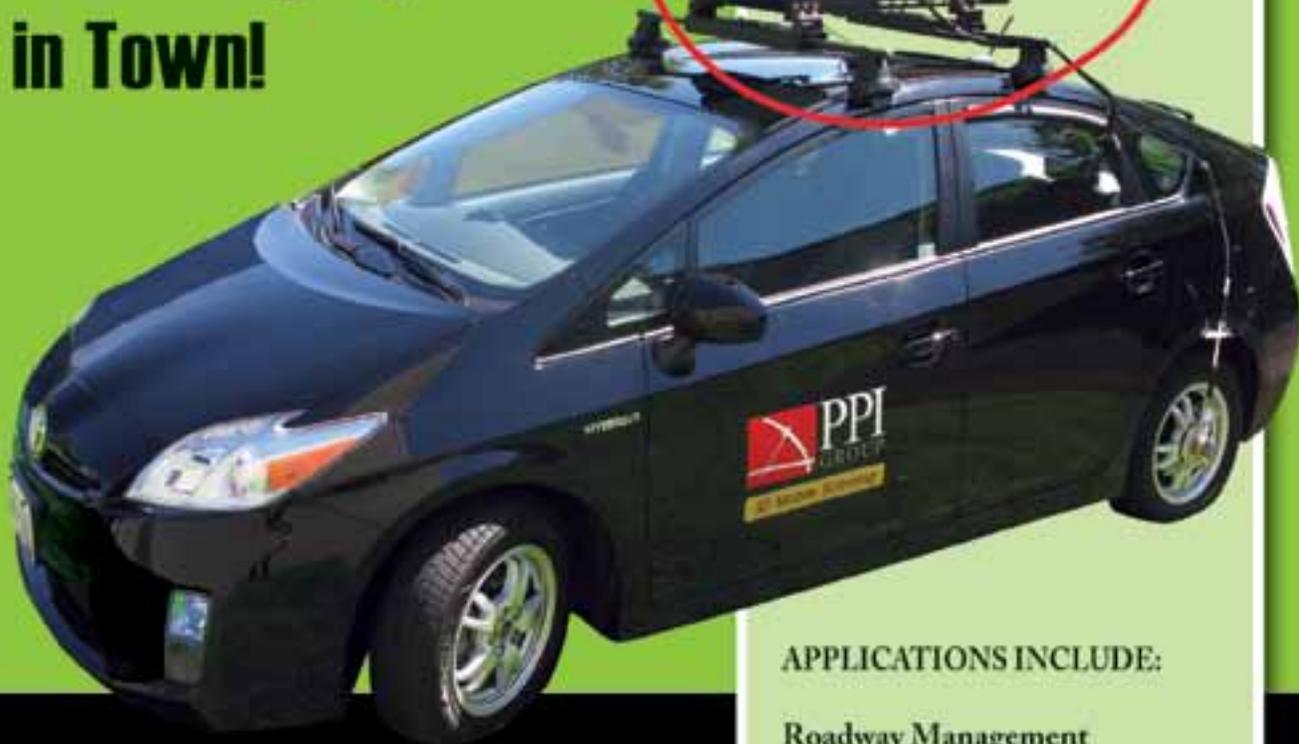
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THE OREGON SURVEYOR

Volume 33, No. 6
December 2010/January 2011

Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon

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LLM Publications, Inc.

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503-445-2220 • 800-647-1511
www.llm.com

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The Lost Surveyor *From the back cover*

LAT 44° 54' 36" N LONG 123° 19' 54" W

Question: Can you tell me who the Surveyors are? The picture was taken in May 2010 at Dallas Cemetery.

Answer: If you know who these surveyors are, please find Oran Abbott at the Annual Conference and tell him your answer. Or you can email him at oranabbott@gmail.com.

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From Your Chair

■ *Tim Fassbender, PLS*



My year as PLSO Chair has come to conclusion. As past chairs have said, “It went by so fast!”, and during that year PLSO has changed. We now have a Facebook page, Twitter account, and I’ve use Skype for holding video meetings this year. I’m excited in thinking, “where will PLSO be in another year?”, let alone 10 years from now.

I’ve said many times that the practice of surveying never changes just the technology of gathering and processing data does and will. It will still take a professional, surrounded by up and coming professionals to process and analyze the data to consult with their clients to produce a product that will stand the test of time. Surveying will change, mapping more ground in greater detail, scanning sites in 3D (using how large of a data file?). There are 23 PLSO members that went through OIT with me and remember our first class that freshmen year—learning how to run a slide rule and drooling over that HP35 that one of us owned. My first survey employer had his 50 year anniversary as a Land Surveyor this year. He says he did not meet the GLO folks at the Willamette Stone when they established it originally, but he did make sure they put it in the correct place. He talks about the changes we have gone through during his career and still is excited about what the future of surveying is bringing. I also look forward to the future in surveying. Where else does the tools of the trade change so fast and yet the basics of the industry stay the same?

We need to ask ourselves many questions each and every year. In the last *POB* magazine, Milton Denny, PLS, asked five questions that PLSO should ask itself every year.

1. *Where will we be in 10 years?* I hope larger in membership and providing even more services to our members. There is no limit to what we can provide to our members, just a limit on suggestions.
2. *Who will be the licensed surveyors of the future?* We are working on meeting young people and enlightening them to surveying as a career. This is always a difficult task. It seems that many surveyors are people who are shy and wish to sneak around (as some citizens have suggested) which makes it hard for young people to even know there are surveyors out there. Good public relations from all of us can help that issue and more.
3. *How do we keep non-licensed people from doing our work?* That is not the real issue, the issue is, how do we market our services that we can provide? It has become obvious that having a business without being diverse is a

bad business plan. I’ve been talking about this all year. To entice people to come into surveying we need to have a successful business to hold the current “up and coming” professionals, as well as attracting more. The ugly truth is “money”; without an attractive income, who wants to become a surveyor? The larger firms have the right idea within their business plans on this subject; however, there are many small firms with excellent opportunities for our young professionals to learn and grow that need to adopt this concept to stay in the profession. We are experiencing more surveyors moving out of the profession to start over in another. This is alarming and discouraging, this is where PLSO can take a look at the issue and make suggestions to help this erosion.

4. *What will we be surveying in the future?* Technology will provide us the ability to survey in locations we never thought of surveying before. With laser scanning technology, I see us indoors, providing information to design professionals for remodeling. Surveying all types of infrastructure that is requiring major repair and maintenance. More importantly, providing research on boundary issues that in the past were not an issue but now will be due to the increasing demand for developable land.
5. *How do we find the work and market our services?* I agree with Mr. Denny, we need to get out and market our services. We have the Internet and every firm will need to have a webpage. We will need “face time”, where we stand in front of civic groups and tell our story and demonstrate our services. We also need to go to the schools and “wow” the students.

Be proud that you are a Surveyor; it is a privilege to have the license or to be working towards obtaining one. It’s a career not suited for everyone but it seemed like everyone worked for a surveyor years ago. If we stay focused on our profession and continue to work on education of the public on our services, surveying will succeed.

Once again, I’m proud to have served as PLSO Chair and hopefully I didn’t “drop the ball” during my tenure. Gary Anderson will be an excellent PLSO Chair this coming year, give him your support and be willing to help where you can. ◉

THE OREGON SURVEYOR

The Oregon Surveyor is a publication of the Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon (PLSO). It is provided as a medium for the expression of individual opinions concerning topics relating to the Land Surveying profession.

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The Oregon Surveyor welcomes your articles, comments and photos for publication. PLSO assumes no responsibility for statements expressed in this publication. Send prospective materials to Lisa Switalla, lisa@llm.com.

EDITORIAL DEADLINE

All editorial copy must be submitted by the first of the month preceding publication.

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Editor's Note

■ Oran Abbott, PLS, oranabbott@gmail.com



It is great to be a surveyor. When you make an error everybody knows exactly who to go to—you cannot get away from it. The only nice thing about that is we don't make many errors. If you were a politician you would get blamed for the last 25 years of legislation and laws. As a physician there is blame and a car salesman usually gets blamed for everything. For an attorney it might take years and you still wouldn't know who to assign blame to. But a surveyor uses a documented stamp which indicates to other surveyors exactly who did the work. We almost never make errors (not mistakes) in boundary surveys because we have so many ways of catching them before filing.



Now, mistakes in construction surveying or topo. surveys are different. I can remember finding a mistake on a hub on an 18 percent grade to a cul-de-sac leaving a 25 foot piece of street that was at 20 percent—but you would need a level to tell that. Once I found an elevation that was taken off of a centerline monument from an aerial survey. The surveyor pulled the lid off the monument box to shoot the monument inside. Later, when the street was designed, it was four inches too low. The worst miscalculation I encountered was when an entire subdivision was staked and when the builders came to construct the houses, they discovered the water had been forgotten. The inspector had overlooked it. (This was an inspector *not* a surveyor.) It is still great to be a surveyor even with all the inspection.

The Pioneer Chapter December meeting was hosted with the Lower Columbia Chapter of the Land Surveyors Association of Washington at Portland Precision Instrument. The business meetings were very limited, but a fine dinner and great entertainment were enjoyed by all. A magician who was very funny and included the audience provided the entertainment. Additionally one of the rooms displayed old survey equipment that spanned several years and was considered state of the art technology at the time, and all of it came out after I started in the profession. It can make you feel old.

We have another statewide convention coming up in January. Most of us can not get lost getting to the location as we have been there before. You can always use your GPS. The place has been below zero degrees Fahrenheit in January in the past and now it is right next to a tornado belt (the first one around here). We might have a flood. But the weather does not usually stop surveyors, or the recession either. After all, it did not stop George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, or Abraham Lincoln.

Happy New Year to you and your families. ◉

Salem Links

www.SalemConferenceCenter.org
www.GrandHotelSalem.com
www.TravelSalem.com



View from the PLSO Office

■ *Mary Louise VanNatta, CAE;*
PLSO Executive Secretary



Trade Shows Valuable for Attendees and Exhibitors

When PLSO members descend upon Salem for our annual conference, January 19–21 there will be great educational opportunities as well as our popular trade and exhibitor show. Members look forward to learning more about new technology, services and products that are available to help in the survey profession.

As an attendee, sometimes it may seem overwhelming to enter a hall full of trade show booths. However your participation in the PLSO trade show as an attendee can be a great opportunity for you, your business and your organization. This is true whether you work for a public entity, are in business for yourself or are looking to make a change; connections you make at a trade show can help you grow in your profession.

If you are a vendor or exhibitor, you have a unique opportunity to engage PLSO members who deeply care about their industry. You have the opportunity to dine and socialize with state and local leadership. As a vendor, you can build connections with others exhibitors and find new ways to partner your services. Your reputation will be enhanced because of your support of the organization.

For attendees, here are some tips to make your experience great:

- Review the list of exhibitors in advance and note of who you want to see. Visit websites and schedule appointments if you want extra time to review products or services. Choose a time to visit the booth when you don't see any other people there. Vendors bring materials and promotional items to help you learn about their products and to remember them. They love it when you take their items, but take only the materials and items you find interesting or useful. If you enjoyed meeting them, connect with them using social media (Facebook, LinkedIn) or by sending a follow-up email. While you might not need their product or service today, you might later!
- Make sure to thank all of our sponsors and vendors who take the time to support PLSO. Their investment in the organization helps us put on a great conference. Also remember, when you are purchasing or using services, first contact those who support PLSO. ◉

Conference Exhibitors

(as of December 15, 2010)

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PLSO Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

October 23, 2010—Mookies, Springfield, OR

Attendees

Officers

Chair	Tim Fassbender
Chair-Elect	John Mathews
Past Chair	Gary Johnston
Executive Secretary	Mary Louise VanNatta

Board Members

CENTRAL (1)

Scott Freshwaters, President

MIDWEST (2)

Renee Clough, President
Jeremy Sherer, President-Elect

PIONEER (3)

Joe Ferguson, President
Gary Anderson (alt for Lee Spurgeon)

ROGUE RIVER (4)

Craig Claassen, President
Stephan Barott, President-Elect

SOUTH CENTRAL (5)

Alan Hart, President-Elect

SOUTHWEST (6)

Walter White, President

UMPQUA (7)

Ron Quimby, President-Elect

WILLAMETTE (8)

Lee MacDonald, President-Elect
Jack Burrell

BLUE MOUNTAIN (9)

Bob Butler, President
Michael Posada, President-Elect

Committee Chairs

Legislative: Scott Freshwaters
Conference: Tim Kent
Bylaws: Brent Bacon

Guests

Chuck Wiley, Publications Committee

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 am by Chair Tim Fassbender. Welcome and introductions were made.

Review and Approve Agenda

The agenda was reviewed and approved.

Approval of Minutes

The September minutes of the PLSO board meeting were reviewed.

MOTION: Quimby moved minutes be approved as submitted, Clough seconded. Motion passed.

Report FROM THE Executive Secretary

VanNatta reported that the association has \$86,136.67 in the account. PLSO has 742 members, of which 634 are dues-paying. Staff is beginning to work with Lori at Action Registration to get the information for membership renewals. Tricia Milburn from NSPS is working on the rates for membership in Oregon. Lisa Switalla at LLM will put information from the member survey into *the Oregon Surveyor*. Student memberships are coming in a little at a time. The office has been working with the PLSO Committees.

- Conference—The office has been monitoring the activities of the Conference Committee and helping with program solicitation as needed.
- Strategic Planning—Updates to the Strategic Plan are being made.
- Bylaws—The bylaws were reviewed in their entirety to suggest updates and changes.
- A second order of BLM manuals was completed and mailings were arranged.
- VanNatta completed a review of the PLSO tax structure and fundraising options.
- Fundraising: The chapter presidents were asked to go back to the chapters

and discuss fundraising ideas to create funds to subsidize the conference. VanNatta reminded the group that their primary purpose is to promote the profession of surveying and whatever they do that meets that goal is what matters. PLSO is a 501(c)6 and contributions are a business expense, not a tax credit.

- Having a PLSO speaker's bureau was discussed. Fassbender said we need to diversify. Johnston noted that PLSO dues are some of the lowest in the country. Income sources for PLSO only include dues and the conference. A list of alternate lodging for the conference was proposed. Staff would put that together.
- Fassbender asked how we will communicate the conference relief to the members. Surveyor-L was suggested. The conference committee would do the calculations and let people know.

Report FROM THE Chair

Fassbender is working on an article about boundary lines. He had conversations with "Oregon Field Guide." He encouraged the board to review the article and make suggestions.

Report FROM THE Chair-Elect

Mathews reported that given the current state of his health, he cannot dedicate his time to the chairmanship of the organization. He formally resigned as Chair-Elect. Fassbender stated that this creates a vacancy and by the bylaws, the board could fill his position at any time. Bacon concurred with this interpretation of the Bylaws.

Nominations Committee Chair, Johnston reported on the status of upcoming leadership. They will be looking at outgoing chapter presidents

Continues on page 8

and other leaders to fill the chair and chair-elect position. Fassbender solicited nominations from the floor.

Chapter Activities

Central—(Freshwaters) The chapter had a meeting last month and Jay Conant, a representative of Bonneville Power came. He will also be speaking at the conference.

Blue Mountain—(Butler) The chapter has been inactive since last May, but are working to assist the David Thompson canoe trip as it passes through the Tri-Cities.

MidWest—(Clough) A chapter meeting was held on the coast to involve the members in that area. Only a few people attended. The issue of writing deeds was discussed. The annual Utility and Construction Career Day was held. Nine high schools attended with 400 students. Fassbender had a survey exhibit which he believes 150 students visited.

Pioneer—(Ferguson) The chapter hosted a seminar on research with 43 attendees. Anderson was a presenter at the seminar. They will be having elections next month and then a co-op meeting at PPI with LSAW for their December Holiday Social.

Rogue River—(Claassen) The chapter held their September meeting in Grants Pass. About 13 members attended. HB 3082 came up—a tax issue where your license is revoked if you don't pay your income taxes. Local datum planes and ORGN was discussed. Claassen likes ORGN and uses it every day. Darren Cone will be nominated for Chapter President-Elect in 2011.

South Central—(Hart) They also had a program about the ORGN. OIT students also attended. A “bring an associate” meeting was held in October.

Willamette Chapter—(Burrell) The chapter had a meeting last week with good attendance. They emphasize the socializing and feel fortunate that

their members are close together. There was a great turnout for the student recognition dinner at OSU. He was impressed by how many OSU students came. Members are giving presentations at chapter meetings. A discussion about the status of the Chemeketa surveying program was conducted. More information will be obtained for the next board meeting.

Umpqua Chapter—(Quimby) Legislators spoke at their recent meeting. Quimby contacted the legislative committee to inform them about the interest of the legislators. Students from Umpqua CC also attend the meetings regularly.

VanNatta reiterated the importance of inviting legislators to their Chapter meetings.

Southwest—(White) The chapter met on October 10 and discussed the annual conference program. They are pleased with the program offerings. They chose Michael Erickson to be president-elect. Next month there will be a joint meeting with PEO where they will discuss GPS.

A question about Certified Water Rights Examiners needing professional development hours was discussed. This is an idea that may be promoted by the Water Resources Department. Using Skype or conference calls for meeting was discussed.

Old Business

• Fundraising—(VanNatta) In her fundraising report, VanNatta distinguished the differences between PLSO as a 503(c)6 organization, which is a non-profit trade association and a 501(c)3, which is a charity. Donations to PLSO are not a charitable deduction, but do qualify as a business deduction. The role of a foundation was also discussed.

- Fassbender reported that his Rotary Club's geocaching event raised \$50k.
- Fassbender reminded the board to review the property line article.

New Business

- Nominations for Surveyor of the Year, Life Membership and Associate of the Year were discussed. Bacon reported on the rules for submitting the Surveyor of the Year. A private nomination for Surveyor of the Year was made in writing. There were six members nominated for Life Membership and one member nominated for Associate of the Year.

- “Survey in Mexico”, written by Jim Hibbs, was nominated for Article of the Year by Renee Clough.

- Proposed Bylaw Edits: Bacon reviewed possible changes to the bylaws that had been discussed. They included some housekeeping measures, removing the requirement for full-time students to be involved in a surveying program. The rules for the filling of vacancies were discussed as well as the requirements for chapters to present budgets and leadership before January. Ferguson said we should change when we pay our dues. A discussion ensued about changing the bylaws to collect the dues in summer.

MOTION: Anderson moved that Bacon prepare draft bylaws changes, as discussed at the board meeting, for the board to review at the next meeting. Quimby seconded.

Motion passed.

- Budget—(Johnston) Financial records are available for the membership to review. Chapter officers and committee members were requested to provide their proposed 2011 budget prior to the December board meeting. The topic was raised to consider reducing *The Oregon Surveyor* to four times a year to save costs.

MOTION: Quimby moved to stay with six issues a year. White seconded.

Discussion: Burrell asked if we had

the money to spend \$8k. Johnston said, "Yes." VanNatta reminded the Board that we all need to participate in the development of the magazine.

Motion passed. Clough and Sherer no.

Fassbender appointed a task force, led by Chuck Wiley, to solicit articles for the magazine. The board was asked to solicit articles from students.

- Five copies of the *BLM Manual* are still available. Johnston said they are available for purchase at \$95 for members and \$100 for nonmembers.

Committee Reports

Strategic Planning—No discussion.

Conference—(Kent) The program is 98% done and the preliminary program will be on the website. Our major speaker is Tony Cuomo with "Land Survey Exam Review" and "Fundamentals Exam Review." Friday will be a technical student day. While there will still be some topics for the professional, the emphasis is on students. Wednesday night will be the awards banquet. The program will be a presentation by Helen Thayer who will detail her solo trip to the North Pole. Cost will be \$20 per attendee. Thursday will be the final day for exhibitors. Thursday evening will be the scholarship auction. We will use the same oral auctioneer as last year.

Registration costs were an issue. \$325 is the conference cost for PLSO members—a \$75 reduction from last year.

In an effort to "go green" no conference proceedings will be printed. All materials will be available online with password access provided to registrants.

Chapters are asked to begin gathering auction items.

2012 Conference—(Kent) Oregon will be having a joint meeting with GIS in Action. The meeting will be held at the Portland Red Lion Hotel on the River. The dates have not been determined, but will be sometime in February or early March.

Fassbender thanked the conference committee for all their work. Kent thanked Johnston for his assistance.

Scholarship—Haddock was absent.

Trig-Star—(Ferguson) Trig-Star is moving along and packets have gone out. Folks just need to follow through and make those early contacts.

Clough showed Anderson a flyer from OPB that promotes a geocache program based on the children's program "Dinosaur Train." PLSO can stock the Dinosaur Train geocaches with compasses or other PLSO items. Ryan Godsey is the PLSO lead for Geocaching.

Education Goals and Actions—

(Anderson) PLSO did not have an ad in the current *Building Futures* issue. He would like to see that return. The board was provided a list of the EGAC committee accomplishments; which included supporting work with the Boy Scouts and charitable activities.

Kent reported on TWiT. He hopes to get it into a bigger format where it would be held in Reno.

Legislative—(Freshwaters) There are three bills that are in the hands of legislative council—boundary agreement; changing notification rules for right-of-entry; and increase the maximum allowable fee to be assessed on deed recordation for corner restoration funds.

White asked a question about the "subject to dispute" line in the boundary line agreement. Burrell asked about the process. The legislation would be sent out to the committees.

PLSO Liaison to OACES—

(Freshwaters) Boundary line agreement legislation was an issue with OACES. The proposed bill has been revised to remedy OACES' concerns.

Webmaster—Parsons was absent.

Membership Report—Fassbender summarized the work of the membership committee which included a survey and member calls.

Professional Practice—Neathamer was absent.

NSPS—Tolbert was absent. Crites sent documents to the board to review what is important about NSPS. Kent emphasized that there was a proposal to remove NSPS from ACSM due to lack of awareness and lack of perceived value. In three weeks the decision will be made as to what the group will be called. He asked for feedback.

OSBEELS—(Anderson) Right-of-entry complaints have decreased. There is an OSBEELS subcommittee pursuing standards and practices for the profession. Johnston is attending those meetings. Anderson is no longer the OSBEELS liaison; it is now Mark Meyer. Anderson was disappointed that we were not able to influence Chemeketa to keep its survey program. Anderson brought the membership brochure to the attention of the membership. NSPS rates are no longer viable.

GPS Users Group—(Minor) The next meeting will be Nov. 5 in Newberg.

Oregon Surveyor—(Wiley) Wiley is looking for articles and encouraged members to send in materials.

For the Good of the Order

Kent asked about a shooting incident between two landowners in Riddle. Statistics show that there has been one shooting a year over property line issues.

Anderson said the new American Land and Title Association (ALTA) standards are available on the ACSM website.

Quote: *The most important thing a map shows...is all the things we still do not know.*

Adjourn PLSO Board Motion

Quimby moved that the meeting be adjourned. Motion seconded.

Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm. ◉

2011 PLSO Annual Conference

Salem Conference Center • 200 Commercial St SE, Salem, OR 97301

Building a Foundation Today for Success Tomorrow

Price Reductions!

The PLSO Board of Directors and the conference committee, recognizing the prolonged economic challenges facing many surveyors, have reduced conference registration fees by nearly 20% from last year's event. This has been done without diminishing the quality or content of the conference. Reduced registration income will likely provide less revenue for 2011 PLSO business, but the PLSO Board supports offsetting any shortfalls by utilizing reserve funds. In addition to regular registration, options are offered for an extended payment plan and a hardship discount.

Highlights!

Awards and Entertainment Banquet

Wednesday evening, January 19

This event recognizes outgoing board members, and bestows the PLSO Surveyor of the Year award, Associate Member of the Year awards, and other PLSO awards.

Dinner tickets are \$20 per person

Great door prizes

Entertainment: Helen Thayer, National Geographic explorer, gifted storyteller and inspirational speaker. She will be presenting "Polar Dream", a fascinating program about her solo expedition to the magnetic North Pole.

Scholarship Auction

Thursday evening, January 20

Silent auction items will be available for bid throughout the day, and a number of unique items will be sold at the oral auction following dinner. Attendees will also be eligible to win one of two large raffle prizes—but must be present to win. Event is included with registration

Featured speakers & topics

Dennis Mouland—BLM

- PLSS in the 21st Century
- Surveyor Ethics
- Thinking Beyond Technology

Tony Cuomo—PLSO

- Land Surveyor Exam Review
- Fundamentals Exam Review

Jim Coan

- Random Error Theory
- Survey Math

Mary Hartel & John Farnsworth

- BLM Case Studies
- Extending Survey Applications into New Fields of Work
- Business Practices and Financial Management Presentations

Alternate Program Conference for Guests

Wednesday, January 19 9:45 am–2 pm

Take a free tour and learn new handmade projects Greenbaum's Quilted Forest. Then relax at McGrath's Fish House for a delicious

no host lunch. After lunch participants may continue shopping or walk back to the Conference Center to prepare for the Awards Banquet.

Contests!

Survey Truck/Vehicle and Survey Maps

Do you or your company have a special or unique survey truck or vehicle? Why not showcase it at this year's Annual Conference for all to see. Entries must be received by January 5, 2011 for consideration.

Any record of survey map, plat/condominium, ALTA or topographic survey map. Please submit one paper copy (24" x 36") maximum (without your stamp and firm name). Limit 3 maps (4 sheet max) per firm. Maps must be submitted by 5 pm Monday, January 13, 2011.

Prizes awarded to the top three (3) entries in each contest.

First prize: 2011 Annual PLSO Conference fee paid (for 1 person)

(Last year's winner not eligible)

Second prize: \$100

Third prize: \$75

For entry forms please see the PLSO website at www.plso.org. Or contact Kenneth Cochran, ken.cochran@hotmail.com, 503-256-6877.

PLSO Scholarship Auction



Procurement Form

Donor/Business Name
Contact Name
Street Address
City, State, Zip
Phone
Email
Donation Item
Description
Fair Market Value
Bidding Restrictions (if any)



Please return this form and send items (if not attending conference) to:

PLSO
PO Box 2646 (or drop off at 3340 Commercial St SE #210)
Salem, OR 97308
503-585-4551 • office@plso.org

PLSO Educational Goals and Actions Committee (EGAC) 2010 Report

■ Gary Anderson

Notably, over this past year PLSO members have:

- Contributed to a video on Oregon Field Guide (www.opb.org/programs/ofg/segments/view/1740)
- Continued implementation of Trig-Star (this year at 10 schools ~230 students)
- Supported programs which feature or promote surveying, by teaching and/or advising at (OIT, OSU, PCC-Rock Creek, Clark College (WA), Umpqua CC, Mt. Hood CC, Beaverton Health and Science HS, Yamhill-Carlton HS, et. al.)
- Presented surveying at various career/Job Fairs (SWOOC, Chemeketa CC, Yamhill Co., & NW Youth Expo) and a Home Owners Fair in Portland
- Provided summer internship opportunities and job shadow days
- Supported dollars for surveying scholarships (PLSO scholarships and PPI program)
- Taught map and compass skills to both Boy Scout leaders and Boy Scouts
- Helped Boy Scouts with their Survey Scouting Merit Badge (35+ Scouts)
- Made surveying presentation to a Beaverton Webelos group

- Pat Gaylord attended the Boy Scout National Jamboree this past summer and ran the Surveying Merit Badge Booth with other NSPS volunteers
Data facts from 2010 National Jamboree Surveying Merit Badge:
 - 144 scouts worked on Surveying Merit Badge over an 8 day period
 - 109 scouts completed the merit badge
 - 75.7 % of the scouts who worked on the merit badge, completed it
 - 98% of scouts that completed the drafting requirement, finished the badge
 - 50% of the scouts that completed the merit badge, did so in one visit
 - 39% of the scouts that completed the merit badge, did so in two visits
 - The most visits made by a scout to complete the merit badge was four
- Pioneer chapter completed a topographic survey for the Blue Star Mothers' Gold Star Memorial project (to be constructed at Willamette National Cemetery).

The EGAC committee has (aside from Trig-Star, membership and chapter support)

- Run surveying advertisements in *Building Futures* magazine (Spring only)
- Promoted/supported OIT TWiST program (unfortunately canceled this year)
- Distributed video "Choose Your Path, Make Your Mark" promoting careers in surveying, which was produced by and purchased from CLSA
- Attended many OSBEELS board meetings to represent PLSO's interests

OIT Geomatics outreach activities included:

- MATHCOUNTS presentation and buy lunch for students
- During spring term the GME 468 Senior Practicum students completed/continued a number of community service projects.
- Attended Chemeketa and SWOCC "Surveyors & Engineers" presentations for high school students. ◉

Renew your PLSO membership online at www.plso.org

- Pay by credit card or print your completed form and send with a check.
- Renew now to get the member rate for the 2011 PLSO Conference and receive the updated password to access the member's section of the website.



ACSM Government Affairs Committee Update—October 2010

Digital Mapping Act

Legislation was recently introduced that would authorize the Secretary of Commerce to establish a program to develop a coordinated and comprehensive Federal coastal mapping effort for the Nation's coastal zone to include all coastal State and territorial waters of the United States, and for other purposes. The name of the bill is the Digital Coast Act of 2010 (H.R. 6215) and was introduced by Rep. Dutch Ruppersberger (D-MD). (The relevant sections of the bill can be viewed online at www.acsm.net/_data/global/images/ACSM/documents/Oct%202010%20govt%20update.pdf)

Although it is unlikely this bill will make any headway this year, we will reintroduce the bill next year.

Lobby Day Visits

As you know, we lobbied Members of Congress on three issues: our Preservation of Railroad Monumentation issue, the 3% Withholding on Government Contracts issue, and our Funding for Trig-Star issue. Overall, the reports we received indicate that the issues were well received and supported. Our biggest hurdle still is educating Members of Congress about our Preservation of Railroad Monumentation issue. However, once Members of Congress understand the issue, most of them agree it makes sense and they often support it.

NRCS Brooks Act Violation

We recently heard from a member in Missouri who came across a NRCS violation. We are trying to find out if there are similar cases like this in other states. In Missouri, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) sent a Scope of Services document to landowners involved in Wetlands Reserve Program Boundary Surveys. Under the Scope of Services, and at the request of the NRCS, landowners must submit a statement of survey cost (a quote) to the NRCS Agency Liaison.

NRCS will review the quote and, if it is acceptable; it will be incorporated into the Survey Cooperative Agreement. If the quote is not acceptable, NRCS will ask the landowner to obtain two additional quotes. The NRCS must approve the survey cost for the landowner to be eligible for reimbursement.

ACSM is concerned that this procedure violates the Brooks Act, which requires that surveying services (as well as other A & E services) be procured by the federal government using Qualifications Based Selection procedures. In this case, it appears NRCS is circumventing the Brooks Act process. It is the landowner who is hiring the surveyor; but the NRCS must approve the surveyor—and that approval is based on the price for the surveyor's services.

We are trying to determine if this is an issue in other states. If you experienced this kind of price requirement from a federal agency for your surveying or mapping services, let us know about it.

FEMA RiskMAP Update

Recently, we met with FEMA to discuss the progress of its RiskMAP program. After the meeting, FEMA distributed the following information and links for distribution to our membership. We previously sent FEMA links containing information from the FEMA meeting, but we learned that the links are not working. The links below reference the same information and they should work.

The "Risk MAP FY10 Report to Congress", "Risk MAP Digital Elevation Plan", and "FY10 Flood Mapping Progress Report and Production Plan" are available at: www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/rm_main.shtm

Further information regarding FEMA's NFIP Reform efforts is available at: www.fema.gov/business/nfip/nfipreform.shtm

Both of these links should answer any questions you may have about the progress of FEMA's RiskMAP program. ☉

Mark Pritchard, PLS 1960–2010

■ *Mark A. Hawkins, PLS*

Yes, the rumors are true, Mark Pritchard (PLS 50613, I believe) passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, December 12. Portland Bureau of Transportation Surveying Supervisor, mentor and true friend! Mark was passionate about our work, always willing to help and able to make things work out on short notice.

More importantly, Mark was all about family. You need only look at his work area to see a sampling from his pride and joy. Family pictures, artistic drawings and art work adorn his area.

Friday, December 10, Mark left work early for home, as he promised he would, and had a wonderful evening with his family. We wished each other a great weekend and away he went with a big smile and the "black bag" (information for our Survey Field Office). I carried that "black bag" as Surveying Supervisor for four years and today I carried it again....I don't ever remember it feeling so heavy.

Mark was born in Santa Rosa, CA. He is survived by his wife, Annette; sons, Jonathan and David; and mother, Donna. There was a memorial service on December 18, 2010, in St. Philip Neri Catholic Church.

Remember to count your blessings...because you never know!

2011 Minimum Standard Detail Requirements for ALTA/ACSM Land Title Surveys

(Effective February 23, 2011)

UPDATE

■ *Gary Trent*

Good news! The NSPS Board of Directors approved the new 2011 Minimum Standard Detail Requirements for ALTA/ACSM Land Title Surveys earlier this morning. We now have fully adopted document (ALTA on 10/13/2010 and NSPS on 11/15/2010).

ALTA will be finalizing the document with logos and adoption dates and it will be available on both the ALTA and ACSM websites (ALTA.org and ACSM.net).

Thanks to everyone for their comments, suggestions and review through this two year long process. I'm very proud of our work. I've already presented three seminars on the new standards in the last month and everyone seems very pleased with the new standards.

Remember, the effective date will be February 23, 2011. ◦

1. PURPOSE — Members of the American Land Title Association (ALTA) have specific needs, unique to title insurance matters, when asked to insure title to land without exception as to the many matters which might be discoverable from survey and inspection, and which are not evidenced by the public records.

For a survey of real property, and the plat, map or record of such survey, to be acceptable to a title insurance company for the purpose of insuring title to said real property free and clear of survey matters (except those matters disclosed by the survey and indicated on the plat or map), certain specific and pertinent information must be presented for the distinct and clear understanding between the insured, the client (if different from the insured), the title insurance company (insurer), the lender, and the surveyor professionally responsible for the survey.

In order to meet such needs, clients, insurers, insureds, and lenders are entitled to rely on surveyors to conduct surveys and prepare associated plats or maps that are of a professional quality and appropriately uniform, complete and accurate. To that end, and in the interests of the general public, the surveying profession, title insurers and abstracters, the ALTA and the National Society of Professional Surveyors, Inc. (NSPS) jointly promulgate the within details and criteria setting forth a minimum standard of performance for ALTA/ACSM Land Title Surveys. A complete 2011 ALTA/ACSM Land Title Survey includes the on-site fieldwork required under Section 5 herein, the preparation of a plat or map showing the results of the fieldwork and its relationship to record documents as required under Section 6 herein, any information in Table A herein that may have been negotiated with the client, and the certification outlined in Section 7 herein.

2. REQUEST FOR SURVEY — The client shall request the survey or arrange for the survey to be requested, and shall provide a written authorization to proceed from the person or entity responsible for paying for the survey. Unless specifically authorized in writing by the insurer, the insurer shall not be responsible for any costs associated with the preparation of the survey. The request shall specify that an “ALTA/ACSM LAND TITLE SURVEY” is required and which of the optional items listed in Table A herein, if any, are to be incorporated. Certain properties, including, but not limited to, marinas, campgrounds, trailer parks and leased areas, may present issues outside those normally encountered on an ALTA/ACSM Land Title Survey. The scope of work related to such properties should be discussed with the client, lender and insurer, and agreed upon in writing prior to requesting the survey. The client may need to secure permission for the surveyor to enter upon the property to be surveyed, adjoining properties, or offsite easements.

3. SURVEYING STANDARDS AND STANDARDS OF CARE

A. Effective Date — The 2011 Minimum Standard Detail Requirements for ALTA/ACSM Land Title Surveys are effective February 23, 2011. As of that date, all previous versions of the Minimum Standard Detail Requirements for ALTA/ACSM Land Title Surveys are superseded by these standards

B. Other Requirements and Standards of Practice — Some Federal agencies, many states and some local jurisdictions have adopted statutes, administrative rules and/or ordinances that set out standards regulating the practice of surveying within their jurisdictions. In addition to the standards set forth herein, surveyors shall also conduct their surveys in accordance with all applicable jurisdictional requirements and standards of practice. Where conflicts between the standards set forth herein and any such jurisdictional requirements and standards of practice occur, the more stringent shall apply.

C. The Normal Standard of Care — Surveyors should recognize that there may be unwritten local, state, and/or regional standards of care defined by the practice of the “prudent surveyor” in those locales.

D. Boundary Resolution — The boundary lines and corners of any property being surveyed as part of an ALTA/ACSM Land Title Survey shall be established and/or retraced in accordance with appropriate boundary law principles governed by the set of facts and evidence found in the course of performing the research and survey.

E. Measurement Standards — The following measurement standards address Relative Positional Precision for the monuments or witnesses marking the corners of the surveyed property.

- i. “Relative Positional Precision” means the length of the semi-major axis, expressed in feet or meters, of the error ellipse representing the uncertainty due to random errors in measurements in the location of the monument, or witness, marking any corner of the surveyed property relative to the monument, or witness, marking any other corner of the surveyed property at the 95 percent confidence level (two standard deviations). Relative Positional Precision is estimated by the results of a correctly weighted least squares adjustment of the survey.
- ii. Any boundary lines and corners established or retraced may have uncertainties in location resulting from (1) the availability, condition, history and integrity of reference or controlling monuments, (2) ambiguities in the record descriptions or plats of the surveyed property or its adjoiners, (3) occupation or possession lines as they may differ from the written title lines, and (4) Relative Positional Precision. Of these four sources of uncertainty, only Relative Positional Precision is controllable, although due to the inherent errors in any measurement, it cannot be eliminated. The magnitude of the first three

uncertainties can be projected based on evidence; Relative Positional Precision is estimated using statistical means (see Section 3.E.i. above and Section 3.E.v. below).

- iii. The first three of these sources of uncertainty must be weighed as part of the evidence in the determination of where, in the surveyor’s opinion, the boundary lines and corners of the surveyed property should be located (see Section 3.D. above). Relative Positional Precision is a measure of how precisely the surveyor is able to monument and report those positions; it is not a substitute for the application of proper boundary law principles. A boundary corner or line may have a small Relative Positional Precision because the survey measurements were precise, yet still be in the wrong position (i.e. inaccurate) if it was established or retraced using faulty or improper application of boundary law principles.
- iv. For any measurement technology or procedure used on an ALTA/ACSM Land Title Survey, the surveyor shall (1) use appropriately trained personnel, (2) compensate for systematic errors, including those associated with instrument calibration, and (3) use appropriate error propagation and measurement design theory (selecting the proper instruments, geometric layouts, and field and computational procedures) to control random errors such that the maximum allowable Relative Positional Precision outlined in Section 3.E.v. below is not exceeded.
- v. The maximum allowable Relative Positional Precision for an ALTA/ACSM Land Title Survey is 2 cm (0.07 feet) plus 50 parts per million (based on the direct distance between the two corners being tested). It is recognized that in certain circumstances, the size or configuration of the surveyed property, or the relief, vegetation or improvements on the surveyed property will result in survey measurements for which the maximum allowable Relative Positional Precision may be exceeded. If the maximum allowable Relative Positional Precision is exceeded, the surveyor shall note the reason as explained in Section 6.B.ix below.

4. RECORDS RESEARCH — It is recognized that for the performance of an ALTA/ACSM Land Title Survey, the surveyor will be provided with appropriate data which can be relied upon in the preparation of the survey. The request for an ALTA/ACSM Land Title Survey shall set forth the current record description of the property to be surveyed or, in the case of an original survey, the current record description of the parent parcel that contains the property to be surveyed. Complete copies of the most

Continues on page 16

recent title commitment, the current record description of the property to be surveyed (or, in the case of an original survey, the parent parcel), the current record descriptions of adjoining, any record easements benefiting the property, the record easements or servitudes and covenants burdening the property (all hereinafter referred to collectively as “Record Documents”), documents of record referred to in the Record Documents, documents necessary to ascertain, if possible, the junior/senior relationship pursuant to Section 6.B.vii. below, and any other documents containing desired appropriate information affecting the property being surveyed, and to which the ALTA/ACSM Land Title Survey shall make reference, shall be provided to the surveyor for use in conducting the survey. Reference is made to Section 3.B. above.

5. FIELD WORK — The Survey shall be performed on the ground (except as otherwise negotiated pursuant to Table A, Item 15 below, if selected by the client), and the field work shall include the following:

A. Monuments

- i. The location and description of any monuments or lines that control the boundaries of the surveyed property.
- ii. The location, size and type of any monuments found (or set, if Table A, Item 1 is requested by the client, or if otherwise required – see Section 3.B. above) on the boundary of the surveyed property.

B. Rights of Way and Access

- i. The distance from the appropriate corner or corners of the surveyed property to the nearest right of way line, if the surveyed property does not abut a right of way.
- ii. The name of any street, highway or other public or private way abutting the surveyed property, and the width and location of the travelled way relative to the nearest boundary line of the surveyed property.
- iii. Visible evidence of physical access (such as, but not limited to, curb cuts and driveways) to any abutting streets, highways or other public ways.
- iv. The location and character of vehicular, pedestrian or other forms of access by other than the apparent occupants of the surveyed property to or across the surveyed property, including, but not limited to driveways, alleys, private roads, sidewalks and footpaths observed in the process of conducting the survey.
- v. Without expressing a legal opinion as to ownership or nature, the location and extent of any potentially encroaching driveways, alleys, and other ways of access from adjoining properties onto the surveyed property observed in the process of conducting the survey.

- vi. Where documentation of the width or location of any abutting street, road or highway right of way was not disclosed in Record Documents provided to the surveyor or was not otherwise available from the controlling jurisdiction (see Section 6.C.iv. below), the evidence and location of parcel corners recovered which might indicate the width or location of such right of way lines.
- vii. Evidence of access to and from waters adjoining the surveyed property, such as paths, boat slips, launches, piers and docks observed in the process of conducting the survey.

C. Lines of Possession, and Improvements along the Boundaries

- i. The character and location of evidence of possession or occupation along the perimeter of the surveyed property, both by the occupants of the surveyed property and by adjoining, observed in the process of conducting the survey.
- ii. The character and location of all walls, buildings, fences, and other improvements within five feet of each side of the boundary lines, observed in the process of conducting the survey.
- iii. Without expressing a legal opinion as to the ownership or nature of the potential encroachment, the evidence, location and extent of potentially encroaching structural appurtenances and projections observed in the process of conducting the survey, such as fire escapes, bay windows, windows and doors that open out, flue pipes, stoops, eaves, cornices, areaways, steps, trim, etc., by or onto adjoining property, or onto rights of way, easements or setback lines disclosed in Record Documents provided to the surveyor.

D. Buildings

Based on the normal standard of care, the location of all buildings on the surveyed property shown perpendicular to the nearest perimeter boundary line(s) and expressed to the appropriate degree of precision.

E. Easements and Servitudes

- i. Evidence of any easements or servitudes burdening the surveyed property, disclosed in the Record Documents provided to the surveyor and observed in the process of conducting the survey.
- ii. Evidence of easements or servitudes not disclosed in the Record Documents provided to the surveyor, but observed in the process of conducting the survey, such as those created by roads; rights of way; water courses; ditches; drains; telephone, fiber optic lines, or electric lines; water, sewer, oil or gas pipelines on or across the surveyed property and on adjoining

properties if they appear to affect the surveyed property.

- iii. Surface indications of underground easements or servitudes on or across the surveyed property observed in the process of conducting the survey.
- iv. Evidence of use of the surveyed property by other than the apparent occupants observed in the process of conducting the survey.

F. Cemeteries

As accurately as the evidence permits, the location of cemeteries, gravesites, and burial grounds (i) disclosed in the Record Documents provided to the surveyor, or (ii) observed in the process of conducting the survey.

G. Water Features

- i. The location of springs, together with the location of ponds, lakes, streams, and rivers bordering on or running through the surveyed property, observed during the process of conducting the survey. See Table A, Item 19 for wetlands locations.
- ii. The location of any water boundary on the surveyed property. The attribute(s) of the water feature located (e.g. top of bank, edge of water, high water mark, etc.) should be congruent with the boundary as described in the record description or, in the case of an original survey, in the new description. (See Section 6.B.vi. below).

6. PLAT OR MAP — A plat or map of an ALTA/ACSM Land Title Survey shall show the following information. Where dimensioning is appropriate, dimensions shall be in accordance with the appropriate standard of care.

A. The evidence and locations gathered during the field work as outlined in Section 5 above.

B. Boundary, Descriptions, Dimensions and Closures

- i. The current record description of the surveyed property, and any new description of the surveyed property that was prepared in conjunction with the survey, including a statement explaining why the new description was prepared. Preparation of a new description should be avoided unless deemed necessary or appropriate by the surveyor and insurer. Preparation of a new description should also generally be avoided when the record description is a lot or block in a platted, recorded subdivision.
- ii. The location and description of any monuments, lines or other evidence that control the boundaries of the surveyed property or that were otherwise relied upon in establishing or retracing the boundaries of the surveyed property, and the relationship of that evidence to the surveyed boundary. In some cases, this will require notes on the plat or map.

- iii. All distances and directions identified in the record description of the surveyed property (and in the new description, if one was prepared). Where a measured or calculated dimension differs from the record by an amount deemed significant by the surveyor, such dimension shall be shown in addition to, and differentiated from, the corresponding record dimension.
- iv. The directional, distance and curve data necessary to compute a mathematical closure of the surveyed boundary. A note if the record description does not mathematically close. The basis of bearings and, when it differs from the record basis, the difference.
- v. The remainder of any recorded lot or existing parcel, when the surveyed property is composed of only a portion of such lot or parcel, shall be graphically depicted. Such remainder does not need to be included as part of the actual survey, except to the extent necessary to locate the lines and corners of the surveyed property, and it need not be fully dimensioned or drawn at the same scale as the surveyed property.
- vi. When the surveyed property includes a water boundary, a note on the face of the plat or map noting the date the boundary was measured, which attribute(s) of the water feature was/were located, and the caveat that the boundary is subject to change due to natural causes and that it may or may not represent the actual location of the limit of title. When the surveyor is aware of natural or artificial realignments or changes in such boundaries, the extent of those changes and facts shall be shown or explained.
- vii. The relationship of the boundaries of the surveyed property (i.e. contiguity, gaps, or overlaps) with its adjoiners, where ascertainable from Record Documents and/or from field evidence gathered during the process of conducting the survey of the property being surveyed. If the surveyed property is composed of multiple parcels, the extent of any gaps or overlaps between those parcels shall be identified. Where gaps or overlaps are identified, the surveyor shall, prior to preparation of the final plat or map, disclose this to the insurer and client for determination of a course of action concerning junior/senior rights.
- viii. When, in the opinion of the surveyor, the results of the survey differ significantly from the record, or if a fundamental decision related to the boundary resolution is not clearly reflected on the plat or map, the surveyor shall explain this information with notes on the face of the plat or map.

Continues on page 18

- ix. A note on the face of the plat or map explaining the site conditions that resulted in a Relative Positional Precision that exceeds the maximum allowed under Section 3.E.v. of these standards.
- x. A note on the face of the plat or map identifying the title commitment/policy number, effective date and name of the insurer for any title work provided to the surveyor.

C. Easements, Servitudes, Rights of Way, Access and Record Documents

- i. The width and recording information of all plottable rights of way, easements and servitudes burdening and benefitting the property surveyed, as evidenced by Record Documents which have been provided to the surveyor.
- ii. A note regarding any right of way, easement or servitude evidenced by a Record Document which has been provided to the surveyor (a) the location of which cannot be determined from the record document, or (b) of which there was no observed evidence at the time of the survey, or (c) that is a blanket easement, or (d) that is not on, or does not touch, the surveyed property, or (e) that limits access to an otherwise abutting right of way, or (f) in cases where the surveyed property is composed of multiple parcels, which of such parcels the various rights of way, easements, and servitudes cross.
- iii. A note if no physical access to a public way was observed in the process of conducting the survey.
- iv. The width of abutting rights of way and the source of such information (a) where available from the controlling jurisdiction or (b) where disclosed in Record Documents provided to the surveyor.
- v. The identifying titles of all recorded plats, filed maps, right of way maps, or similar documents which the survey represents, wholly or in part, with their recording or filing data.
- vi. For non-platted adjoining land, names and recording data identifying adjoining owners according to current public records. For platted adjoining land, the recording data of the subdivision plat.
- vii. Platted setback or building restriction lines which appear on recorded subdivision plats or which were disclosed in Record Documents provided to the surveyor.

D. Presentation

- i. The plat or map shall be drawn on a sheet of not less than 8 ½ by 11 inches in size at a legible, standard engineering scale, with that scale clearly indicated in

words or numbers and with a graphic scale. When recordation or filing of a plat or map is required by law, such plat or map shall be produced in recordable form. The boundary of the surveyed property drawn in a manner that distinguishes it from other lines on the plat or map. A north arrow (with north to the top of the drawing when practicable), a legend of symbols and abbreviations, and a vicinity map showing the property in reference to nearby highway(s) or major street intersection(s).

- ii. Supplementary or detail diagrams when necessary.
- iii. If there are no visible buildings on the surveyed property, a note stating “No buildings existing on the surveyed property” shall appear on the face on the survey.
- iv. The surveyor’s project number (if any), and the name, registration or license number, signature, seal, street address, telephone number, and email address of the surveyor who performed the survey. The date(s) of any revisions made by said surveyor.
- v. Sheet numbers where the plat or map is composed of more than one sheet.
- vi. The caption “ALTA/ACSM Land Title Survey.”

7. CERTIFICATION — The plat or map of an ALTA/ACSM Land Title Survey shall bear only the following certification, unaltered, except as may be required pursuant to Section 3.B. above:

To (name of insured, if known), (name of lender, if known), (name of insurer, if known), (names of others as negotiated with the client):

This is to certify that this map or plat and the survey on which it is based were made in accordance with the 2011 Minimum Standard Detail Requirements for ALTA/ACSM Land Title Surveys, jointly established and adopted by ALTA and NSPS, and includes Items of Table A thereof. The field work was completed on _____.

Date of Plat or Map: _____ (Surveyor’s signature, printed name and seal with Registration/License Number)

8. DELIVERABLES — The surveyor shall furnish copies of the plat or map of survey to the insurer and client, and as otherwise negotiated with the client. Hard copies shall be on durable and dimensionally stable material of a quality standard acceptable to the insurer. Digital copies of the plat or map may be provided in addition to, or in lieu of, hard copies in accordance with the terms of the contract. When required by law or requested by the client, the plat or map shall be produced in recordable form and recorded or filed in the appropriate office or with the appropriate agency.

TABLE A

OPTIONAL SURVEY RESPONSIBILITIES AND SPECIFICATIONS

NOTE: The items of Table A must be negotiated between the surveyor and client. It may be necessary for the surveyor to qualify or expand upon the description of these items (e.g., in reference to Item 6(b), there may be a need for an interpretation of a restriction). The surveyor cannot make a certification on the basis of an interpretation or opinion of another party. Notwithstanding Table A Items 5 and 11(b), if an engineering design survey is desired as part of an ALTA/ACSM Land Title Survey, such services should be negotiated under Table A, item 22.

If checked, the following optional items are to be included in the ALTA/ACSM LAND TITLE SURVEY, except as otherwise qualified (see note above):

1. ____ Monuments placed (or a reference monument or witness to the corner) at all major corners of the boundary of the property, unless already marked or referenced by existing monuments or witnesses.
2. ____ Address(es) if disclosed in Record Documents, or observed while conducting the survey.
3. ____ Flood zone classification (with proper annotation based on federal Flood Insurance Rate Maps or the state or local equivalent) depicted by scaled map location and graphic plotting only.
4. ____ Gross land area (and other areas if specified by the client).
5. ____ Vertical relief with the source of information (e.g. ground survey or aerial map), contour interval, datum, and originating benchmark identified.
6. ____ (a) Current zoning classification, as provided by the insurer.
____ (b) Current zoning classification and building setback requirements, height and floor space area restrictions as set forth in that classification, as provided by the insurer. If none, so state.
7. ____ (a) Exterior dimensions of all buildings at ground level.
____ (b) Square footage of:
____ (1) exterior footprint of all buildings at ground level.
____ (2) other areas as specified by the client.
____ (c) Measured height of all buildings above grade at a location specified by the client. If no location is specified, the point of measurement shall be identified.
8. ____ Substantial features observed in the process of conducting the survey (in addition to the improvements and features required under Section 5 above) such as parking lots, billboards, signs, swimming pools, landscaped areas, etc.
9. ____ Striping, number and type (e.g. handicapped, motorcycle, regular, etc.) of parking spaces in parking areas, lots and structures.
10. ____ (a) Determination of the relationship and location of certain division or party walls designated by the client with respect to adjoining properties (client to obtain necessary permissions).
____ (b) Determination of whether certain walls designated by the client are plumb (client to obtain necessary permissions).
11. Location of utilities (representative examples of which are listed below) existing on or serving the surveyed property as determined by:
____ (a) Observed evidence.
____ (b) Observed evidence together with evidence from plans obtained from utility companies or provided by client, and markings by utility companies and other appropriate sources (with reference as to the source of information).
 - Railroad tracks, spurs and sidings;

Continues on page 20

- Manholes, catch basins, valve vaults and other surface indications of subterranean uses;
- Wires and cables (including their function, if readily identifiable) crossing the surveyed property, and all poles on or within ten feet of the surveyed property. Without expressing a legal opinion as to the ownership or nature of the potential encroachment, the dimensions of all encroaching utility pole crossmembers or overhangs; and
- utility company installations on the surveyed property.

Note—With regard to Table A, item 11(b), source information from plans and markings will be combined with observed evidence of utilities to develop a view of those underground utilities. However, lacking excavation, the exact location of underground features cannot be accurately, completely and reliably depicted. Where additional or more detailed information is required, the client is advised that excavation may be necessary.

12. ___ Governmental Agency survey-related requirements as specified by the client, such as for HUD surveys, and surveys for leases on Bureau of Land Management managed lands.
13. ___ Names of adjoining owners of platted lands according to current public records.
14. ___ Distance to the nearest intersecting street as specified by the client.
15. ___ Rectified orthophotography, photogrammetric mapping, airborne/mobile laser scanning and other similar products, tools or technologies as the basis for the showing the location of certain features (excluding boundaries) where ground measurements are not otherwise necessary to locate those features to an appropriate and acceptable accuracy relative to a nearby boundary. The surveyor shall (a) discuss the ramifications of such methodologies (e.g. the potential precision and completeness of the data gathered thereby) with the insurer, lender and client prior to the performance of the survey and, (b) place a note on the face of the survey explaining the source, date, precision and other relevant qualifications of any such data.
16. ___ Observed evidence of current earth moving work, building construction or building additions.
17. ___ Proposed changes in street right of way lines, if information is available from the controlling jurisdiction.
Observed evidence of recent street or sidewalk construction or repairs.
18. ___ Observed evidence of site use as a solid waste dump, sump or sanitary landfill.
19. ___ Location of wetland areas as delineated by appropriate authorities.
20. ___ (a) Locate improvements within any offsite easements or servitudes benefitting the surveyed property that are disclosed in the Record Documents provided to the surveyor and that are observed in the process of conducting the survey (client to obtain necessary permissions).
___ (b) Monuments placed (or a reference monument or witness to the corner) at all major corners of any offsite easements or servitudes benefitting the surveyed property and disclosed in Record Documents provided to the surveyor (client to obtain necessary permissions).
21. ___ Professional Liability Insurance policy obtained by the surveyor in the minimum amount of \$_____ to be in effect throughout the contract term. Certificate of Insurance to be furnished upon request.
22. _____

*Adopted by the Board of Governors, American Land Title Association, on October 13, 2010.
American Land Title Association, 1828 L St., N.W., Suite 705, Washington, D.C. 20036.*

*Adopted by the Board of Directors, National Society of Professional Surveyors, on November 15, 2010.
National Society of Professional Surveyors, Inc., a member organization of the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping, 6 Montgomery Village Avenue, Suite 403, Gaithersburg, MD 20879*





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Survey Vacation in Belgium

■ John Minor



Getting started with the site survey for the new sewer line location. Jupiler is the name of a local beer. I didn't try that one but I did try a beer called Palm that was very good.



Boat ride on the Brugge canal system. The church steeple leans 18cm according to our guide. The average depth of the canal today is less than 10 feet.



Getting ready to take a topo shot within the area proposed for the storm drain detention pond. We were utilizing the free Belgian VRS called FLEPOS which has 38 base stations. I had to wear three extra pairs of socks to fit into Christof's rubber boots!

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be a surveyor in another country or even a different region in the USA? What kind of equipment and software do they use? How do they handle property disputes? Do they use anything similar to our public land survey system? In many cases, their system of land ownership stretches across a time period longer than the USA has been a country. How do they keep track of deeds over that period of time when oftentimes some areas have even become part of a different country?

Well, I certainly don't have all the answers to these or a bucketful of other questions you could come up with, but in my own way I'm working on getting at least some of the answers. I recently returned from spending a day with Christof Albrecht, a surveyor in Belgium. Christof works for ARCADIS which is an internationally recognized survey firm. I got to know Christof from his posts on the RPLS Board (www.rpls.com/home) where he periodically posts pictures of his various projects. My wife and I were already planning a trip to Europe to visit AFS exchange students we hosted in the past so adding a few days to spend with Christof was no problem. I emailed Christof asking if he would be interested in spending the day with me to talk about surveying and perhaps even do some field work together. He readily agreed, but I imagine he was thinking, "What on earth am I getting myself into and who is this guy from the USA anyway?"

The day of our meeting finally arrived and any apprehensions either of us felt quickly melted as we started making plans for the projects we would be working on for the day. Within the first few minutes, I felt like we were old friends with a common love of surveying. As it turned out, Christof used the same Trimble equipment I was familiar with. The project for the morning was a site

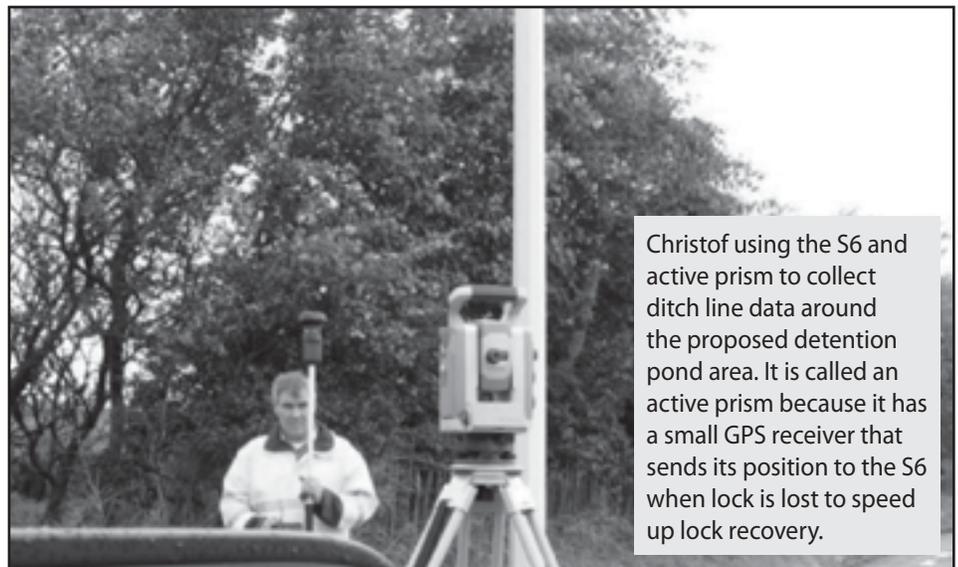
survey of an area that was to become a storm water detention pond. He suggested I use the GPS equipment to gather topo points while he used the S6 to gather detailed data on a ditch line. I said, "Wait a minute. I don't read or speak Belgian" thinking that would be the language in the data collector but to my welcome surprise it was in English. I asked why they used English and he replied that they were using the equipment before Trimble came out with a Belgian version and it was easier to stick with what they were familiar with. He explained that the Belgian words for some of the fields were longer than the English words so the screens looked considerably different.

Our afternoon project was a site survey for a proposed sewer line in a town about an hour away from the first project. Along the way we stopped at a WWI cemetery that was the final resting place for soldiers of many Allied countries. Christof told me there were many of these cemeteries and all were very well maintained. People from all over the world come seeking lost loved ones. I found this to be a very sobering experience and made me very thankful to those that had made the ultimate sacrifice for future generations.

The first thing we did on the new project was set traverse control points. I occupied the traverse point with the GPS receiver while Christof moved ahead to pick the next traverse point. As it turned out, one of the points fell in front of another WWI cemetery. After we had all the traverse points set, Christof used the S6 to gather site data from each point. It was pretty detailed work involving a feature code library they had developed. Since I wasn't familiar with their codes I was mostly an observer and helped out occasionally when an offset needed to be measured. Later that evening, at his office, Christof downloaded the data collector and produced a quick map of our handiwork. All the field coding enabled him to produce a map with all the line work and symbology in a matter of minutes.

Christof was a very gracious host. The next day he and his wife and daughter took us sightseeing to the town of Brugge (Bruges). The town is very picturesque and has been maintained to look like it has for centuries. There are also many canals that formerly were the primary means of transportation, but today mostly transport tourists like me. I can never say thank you enough to Christof and his family for their hospitality and

Continues on page 24



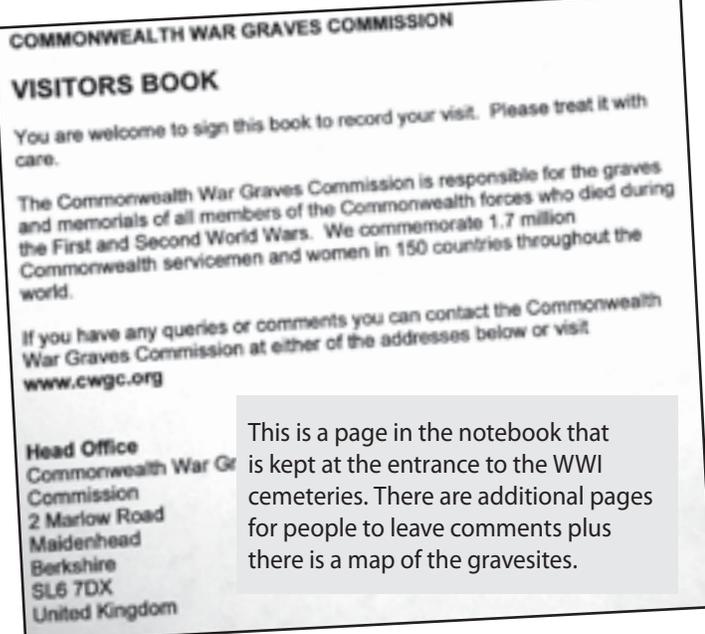
Christof using the S6 and active prism to collect ditch line data around the proposed detention pond area. It is called an active prism because it has a small GPS receiver that sends its position to the S6 when lock is lost to speed up lock recovery.

Survey Vacation in Belgium, cont.

hope that someday I can repay the favor by being their host and travel guide.

While my visit with Christof was the most extensive and involved and without a doubt the most rewarding, I have actually had a few other international survey encounters. The first was when my wife, Becky, and I went to England to visit our daughter, Renee, at the end of her senior year at Nottingham University. As we were sightseeing, I came across some surveyors in the London train station that were setting up some control points for a scanning of the ceiling of the station later that night. They invited me to come back around midnight to observe. I was sorely tempted because this was in the early days of scanning technology and was something I had only read about but never seen performed. Becky helped me remember that we were on vacation not working.

Several years later we went on a vacation to Romania. We hired a guide to show us around for a couple of weeks. One day we were driving across a low bridge and I happened to see some surveyors working. I asked Daniel, our guide, to turn around and go back so I could take some pictures. It turned out that they were getting ready to start a site survey which would be used to design a new bridge. Daniel explained to them that I was a surveyor from America and wanted to take their picture. At least that is what he told me he said as they started laughing.



This is a page in the notebook that is kept at the entrance to the WWI cemeteries. There are additional pages for people to leave comments plus there is a map of the gravesites.



These earlier encounters and particularly my visit with Christof got me thinking about some of the questions I mentioned at the beginning of this article. Wouldn't it be great fun to get a handful of surveyors together along with their spouses and take a survey vacation together? I would like to propose that you contact me if you are interested. It doesn't matter if you are able to go in the foreseeable future or not; I would simply like to build a list of like-minded surveyors so when one of us decides to take a trip we can let others know and can develop a group for at least part of the trip. Alternatively, we could also play host to surveyors desiring to come here. I have mentioned this idea to Christof and he is willing to get the word out to other surveyors he works with. Please send an email to jbminor@frontier.com if you are interested in being a part of this project. ☉



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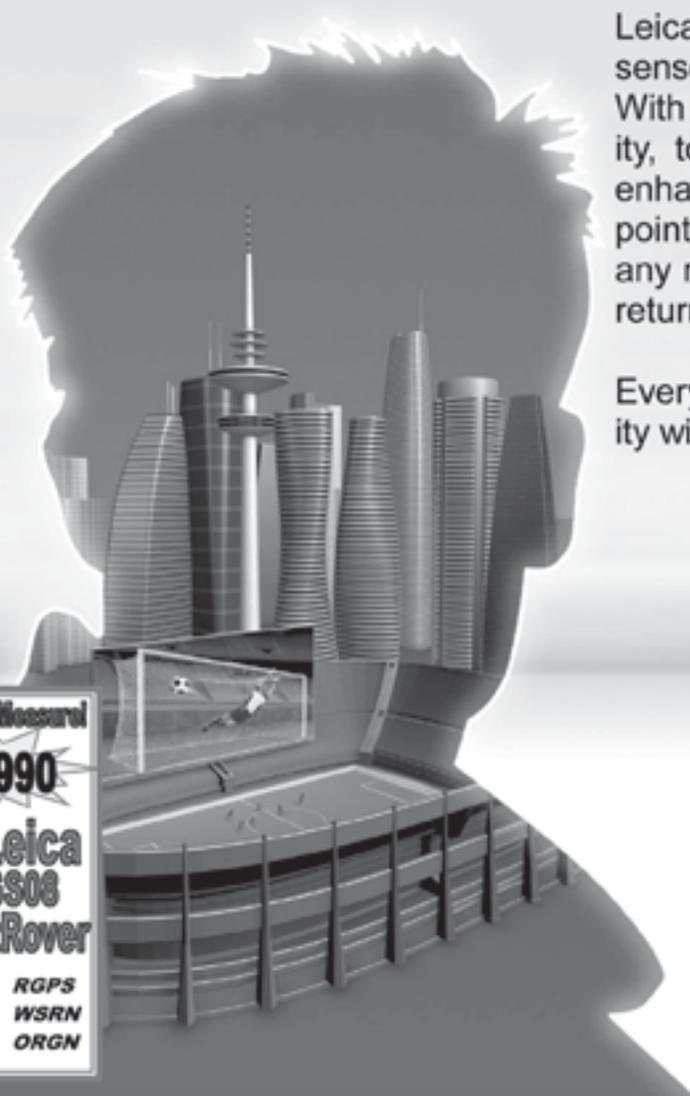


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Bert Mason, Jr., Honored at NCOA WWII Legacy Event

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Steve and Mitch Gaylord with Bert Mason, Jr.

At Homewoods on the Willamette, a combined Retirement Home, Assisted Living Center and Nursing Home, two NCOA (Non-Commissioned Officers Association) Chapters joined forces to host an NCOA World War II Legacy Award event. The event was put together by Jerry Zoebisch of the Air Academy Chapter and Barbara Weatherill of the Trails End Chapter. The respective chapters then combined their efforts to present Legacy Medallions to 19 World War II veterans who either reside at Homewoods or who were family members of Homewoods residents.

Due to health issues, only 14 of the recipients actually participated in the event, but all 19 veterans or surviving family members were presented with the Legacy Medallions.

Zoebisch presided as master of ceremonies for the event. Boy Scouts from Troop 259 posted the colors to start the proceedings. Later in the program, members of Troop 259 presented a Flag Folding Ceremony for the benefit of all in attendance. In addition, individual scouts presented medallions to those veterans or surviving family members who had no family members attending.

USMC Lance Corporal Daniel Thornton, a former member of Troop 259 and currently attending the University of Oregon on a Marine Corps scholarship, acted as Color Sergeant for the presentation of the colors.

Following the presentations of medallions to the veterans, all in attendance paused to pay tribute and toast service members who were either Prisoners of War or those who were Missing in Action and never recovered. This was particularly poignant to Mrs. Sybil Redwine, who received a medallion in memory of her brother, Wayne T. Shirey, a First Lieutenant in the Army Air Corps. Lt. Shirey was a member of an aircrew that went missing in the South Pacific in 1944.

The veterans who received the Medallions ranged in age from 84 to 99. While most of those being honored had served in the Navy, there were also honorees that were Army or Army Air Corps veterans and one Marine Corps veteran. Four of the veterans honored were women: one was a Marine who served in California, one had served in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps in England, one served as a Navy Nurse on an Armed Transport moving troops to and from combat areas in both the Pacific and European War Theaters, while the fourth served in the Women's Army Corps staff attached to the Supreme Headquarters of Allied Forces in Europe.

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The honored Veterans after their introduction to the attendees.



Bert Mason, Jr. – US Navy, accepts his award from his daughter.



Boy Scout Troop 259 presented a Flag Folding Ceremony.

At the close of the event, Jennifer Peterson, representing the Homewoods staff, presented a celebration cake, honoring the recipients.

The event was conceived when Zoebisch was visiting Homewoods in October of 2009, helping his siblings celebrate their mother’s 90th birthday. Zoebisch, who serves as Chapter Secretary for the Air Academy Chapter in Colorado Springs, CO, met several WWII veterans at the birthday party thrown for his mother by Homewoods. He later contacted the staff of Homewoods and suggested putting on a recognition ceremony for the WWII veterans residing at Homewoods.

Since the inception of the NCOA Legacy Medallion Award, the Air Academy Chapter has conducted more than 25 Medallion presentation ceremonies. Members of the chapter have honored nearly 250 WWII veterans since their first effort at such a recognition program on the 7th of December, 2004. Events have been conducted in conjunction with military unit reunions, the Air Force Nurses’ National Convention in 2008, at regular meetings of organizations such as the Ex-POW’s and Korean War Veterans Association, a Jewish War Veterans group, at banquet venues and in a retirement home in Colorado Springs. ◉

The Non-Commissioned Officers Association (NCOA) was established in 1960 to enhance and maintain the quality of life for noncommissioned and petty officers in all branches of the Armed Forces, National Guard and Reserves. The NCOA offers its members a wide range of benefits and services designed especially for enlisted service members and their families. We invite you to browse our website at www.ncoausa.org to learn more about the NCOA and the many ways it can enhance the lives of you and your family members. We welcome you to join our organization and take advantage of our proud past...and our promising future!

The Surveying Merit Badge and the National Scout Jamboree

■ Pat Gaylord

Imagine spending two fun filled summer weeks in Virginia with 45,000 Boy Scouts and their leaders teaching the Surveying Merit Badge! Now, some of you may be groaning and saying “not a chance!”, but I have to tell you it was a fantastic experience. The National Scout Jamboree was an exciting place to meet people from around the country and across the globe. I had the privilege of teaching surveying with some great surveyors from around the country to over 140 scouts who attempted the merit badge at the camp. Of these, 109 scouts completed the Surveying Merit Badge at this Jamboree, which celebrated the 100th anniversary of scouting and the

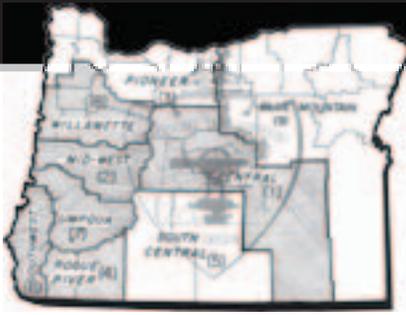
100th anniversary of the Surveying Merit badge, one of the original badges created by the Boy Scouts of America.

The surveying merit badge is a great opportunity to introduce youth to our profession. The requirements mirror our everyday job description and give a scout an opportunity to “walk in our footsteps.” NSPS and societies from around the country, including PLSO, supported the merit badge booth at the Jamboree, but we can do the same here at home through a number of opportunities to make contact with scouts in our local community.



I look forward to seeing you at the PLSO Conference to tell you more about my Jamboree experience, how to teach the Surveying Merit Badge and ways that we can expand opportunities for scouts here in Oregon and introduce them to our great profession. ◉





News from the Chapters

Pioneer #3

■ Ryan Godsey, Secretary/Treasurer

September 8, 2010

Chapter President: Joe Ferguson
Location: Buster's BBQ, Tigard, Oregon
Called to Order: 6:30 pm
Attendees: 37 members and guests

Call for additional agenda items

No items were presented.

Approval of Minutes

Approved as presented.

Surveyor Beginnings

Bob Johnson shared his story about getting started in Land Surveying.

Guest Presentation

Dick Foster with AECBA Business Advisors presented "Business Consultants – Who Needs Them?"

Committee Reports

None submitted.

Old Business

- Pioneer Chapter is hosting an informative panel discussion titled "Research—What is Enough?" at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, October 15, 8 am–12 pm
- PLSO Scholarship Fund—Send donations to PLSO office for Pioneer Chapter fund. Currently raised approximately \$1400.

New Business

- PLSO joint meeting with LSAW will be held in December at The PPI Group office. The meeting will be combined with a food drive so please bring a can of food.
- Chapter elections are coming up in November with nominations in October. The chapter secretary/treasurer and chapter President elect positions will be open for nomination.

Chapter Discussion

Changing ORS 209.250—Delete the word "monument" in 209.250(1)

After a lengthy and spirited discussion of the revision to ORS 209 (as presented), it was decided that removing the word "monument" was not the best way to address the problem and that a more in depth look at California and Washington Statutes would be a good place to start.

MOTION: Ken Cochran moved to oppose the PLSO Pioneer Chapter supporting the removal of the word "monument" from ORS 209.250. Motion seconded by Bob Johnson.

Chapter voted 15:5 in favor. Motion carried.

OSBEELS—Why is there an extensive delay between meetings and posting of minutes? Dan Linscheid will look into it.

209.250(3)(d)—Why are we required to tie our survey to a record "Basis of Bearing" or plat monument? Discussion regarding legislative action to revise ORS 209.250(3)(d).

For the Good of the Order

- Should we record attendees on the meeting minutes for proof of attendance? It is not required for PDH log.
- PLSO Scholarship Fund—Send donations to PLSO office for Pioneer Chapter fund.
- We are looking for volunteers to sit on the nominating committee to find candidates for president-elect and secretary/treasurer. ☺

October 13, 2010

Chapter President: Joe Ferguson
Location: Buster's BBQ, Tigard, Oregon
Called to Order: 6:30 pm | **Adjourn:** 8:13 pm
Attendees: 17 members and guests

Call for additional agenda items

No items were presented.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Lee Spurgeon motioned to approve the September. Seconded by Ryan Godsey.

Unanimously approved.

Surveyor Beginnings

Tony Brooks shared his story about getting started in Land Surveying.

Guest Presentation

Jon Aschenbach with Resource Supply presented a new resource grade GPS unit, the "Mobile Mapper 100".

Committee Reports

None submitted

Chapter Discussion

- 209.250(3)(d)—Why are we required to tie our survey to a record “Basis of Bearing” or plat monument?
- Monument perpetuation along roads and highways.
- Seminar subjects—Surviving in Tough Economies, Roadside Safety, OSHA requirements, Traffic Control Certification, Office Safety, Jobsite Safety.

OSBEELS—Law Enforcement: Be responsive to inquiries, maintain good records for PDHs.

New Business

- PLSO joint meeting with LSAW to be held in December at The PPI Group. The meeting will be combined with a food drive so please bring a can of food.
- Jered McGrath was nominated for chapter secretary/treasurer and John Thatcher was nominated for chapter president-elect. Elections will be in November.

For the Good of the Order

- PLSO Scholarship Fund—Send donations to PLSO office for Pioneer Chapter fund. Currently raised approximately \$1400.
- PLSO Geocaching program.
- Conference registration soon.

November 10, 2010

Chapter President: Joe Ferguson
Location: Buster's BBQ, Tigard, Oregon
Called to Order: 6:30 pm | **Adjourn:** 7:25 pm
Attendees: 31 members and guests

Call for additional agenda items

No items were presented.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Motion to approve by Lee Spurgeon. Seconded by John Putnam.

Unanimously approved.

Surveyor Beginnings

Chuck Pearson shared his story about getting started in Land Surveying.

Chapter Discussion

ORGN (Oregon Real Time GPS Network) and OCRS (Oregon Coordinate Reference System)

MOTION: Chuck Pearson moved to approve the concept of the OCRS as drafted November 1, 2010. Seconded by Ray Buckel.

Committee Reports

PLSO Board

- Changing date when dues are payable
- NSPS splitting from ACSM
- Articles for *the Oregon Surveyor*
- Looking for volunteers to assist with 2012 conference
- New ALTA standards to be released next year
- Conference registration is open with reduced registration fees

Seminar Ideas

- Looking for EGAC committee chair
- Looking for Board Chair replacement

New Business

- PLSO joint meeting with LSAW to be held December 8 at The PPI Group—meeting to be combined with a food drive so please bring a can of food.

- Upcoming outreach events for 2011.

MOTION: Al Hertell moved to keep current award structure for Trig-Star awards. Seconded.

Unanimously passed.

- What scholarships are available through PLSO?
- Pioneer Chapter Scholarship fundraiser.
- Discussion of Chapter budgets.

Elections

John Thatcher is the nominee for President elect and Jered McGrath is the nominee for chapter secretary/treasurer

MOTION: Chuck Pearson moved to waive the two person nominee rule. Seconded by Chuck Wiley

Unanimously approved.

MOTION: Chuck Pearson moved to dispense the secret ballot and cast a unanimous ballot for the two candidates. Seconded by Mark Mayer.

Unanimously approved.

Old Business

PLSO Scholarship Fund—Send donations to PLSO office for Pioneer Chapter fund. Currently raised approximately \$1400.

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THE LOST SURVEYOR

More on page 1



This time the Lost Surveyor knows where he is, he just doesn't know who he is with. Can you tell me who the surveyors are? The picture was taken in May 2010 at the Dallas Cemetery.

LAT 44° 54' 36" N
LONG 123° 19' 54" W