

The

OREGON SURVEYOR

VOL. 32 NO. 3
JUNE/JULY 2009

Willamette Stone Heritage Site 50/150 Project



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THE OREGON SURVEYOR

Volume 32 No. 3
June/July 2009

Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon

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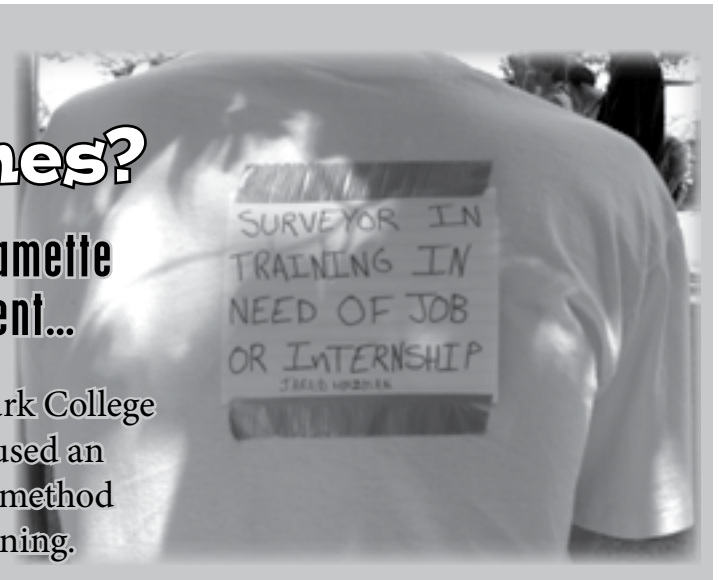
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Sign of the Times?

Seen at the Willamette Stone 50/150 Event...

Jared Hinzman, Clark College surveying student, used an age-old advertising method to find summer training.



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From Your Chair

■ By Gary Johnston, PLS, 2009 PLSO Chair

The first half of 2009 is history and I am sure you have mixed feelings about that. For some of you (perhaps most), it has been a challenging period as you experienced a decrease in business. Maybe you experienced shortened work weeks or were temporarily unemployed. For those more fortunate, business has been good and in some cases has improved significantly with the onset of the normal construction season.

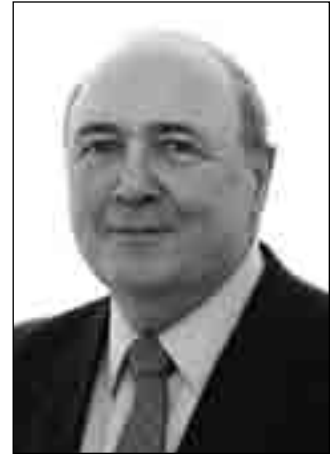
Regardless of your business' activity level, summer can be a good season to take a break from the routine and spend quality recreation time with family or friends. For those with children at home, summer vacations are even more treasured. I hope that each of you finds an opportunity to enjoy some personal time outside of your work schedule.

It's also time to reflect on what PLSO has achieved this year, and to support the continuation of our organization's activities by being personally involved with chapter meetings, committee activities or specific outreach efforts. Some PLSO members are committing themselves to additional duties even during the summer. The conference committee is holding meetings monthly to plan for the 2010 event in Salem. The legislative committee is resuming meetings to prepare possible draft legislation for the 2011 legislative session. Workshops are presently being planned for presentation at different chapters. New committee chairpersons and additional members have been enrolled and are serving PLSO in a variety of roles.

One result of committee and member participation is the current update to the Strategic Plan. The full text of the Strategic Plan can be found under the miscellaneous category of the member's section at the PLSO website. Please visit the site, review the document, and look for opportunities that fit your time and interests. Pay special attention to the appendix, as it lists details supporting specific initiatives for each of the four Strategic Directions. If some of the initiatives are of special interest or concern to you, please bring it to your chapter president's attention or to the attention of direction leaders.

I presented an overview of the Strategic Plan to the Blue Mountain and Southwest chapters in June. I pledge to visit each of the remaining chapters this summer when regular chapter meetings resume. The Strategic Plan will be a focus of each chapter visit, but these meetings will also be an opportunity for me to meet membership in different parts of the state.

The Strategic Plan helps us establish our priorities, identify efforts in support of those priorities, and monitor the success of those endeavors. I continue to be grateful for the commitment of so many individuals and committee members who bring life to these efforts. Thanks for your support of the survey profession and PLSO.



There is one last appeal I wish to bring to the attention of all members. Our scholarship chair, Stephen Haddock, has requested that each chapter pledge their support of the Scholarship Auction at the 2010 Conference by providing at least one unique item for the auction. In addition, individuals are encouraged to either provide or solicit other contributions in support of this event. The conference is still about six months away, but it is timely to begin collecting quality items for the auction. Reminders will continue to be circulated through meetings and media in the future. Scholarships are an obvious benefit for students studying toward a career in the survey profession, and your assistance is vital to the success of this effort.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you during the latter half of 2009. One of the benefits of being the PLSO chair is that I have additional incentives and opportunities to meet professionals involved in surveying throughout the state. It is a pleasure to get better acquainted with so many of you. ☉

Videoconference Board Meetings a Success!

At the May 2 Board of Directors meeting in Roseburg, PLSO successfully executed our first videoconference. Three individuals were able to participate via videoconference at Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton. Executive Director, Mary Louise VanNatta said, "We could hear each other well and the technology offered a convenience we hope to utilize at future meetings."



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.

ADDRESS CHANGES & BUSINESS

All notifications for changes of address, membership inquiries and general PLSO society business correspondence should be directed to Mary VanNatta, CAE, VanNatta Public Relations and Assn. Management, 503-585-4551, Fax: 503-585-8547, execdirector@plso.org.

Editorial matters should be directed to Oran Abbott, Editor, 503-253-3198; oranabbott@gmail.com

CONTRIBUTIONS OF MATERIAL

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

■ By Oran Abbott, oranabbott@gmail.com



It has been two months since I was in Florida. The summer weather in Oregon has been very nice. The hottest days of the summer in Portland so far have been 93 degrees, over four days around the 4th of July. I cannot complain about that.

For the folks who could not make it to the 50/150 Celebration, you missed a great event. I would tell you all about it but there are already a lot of articles and photos in this journal about the event. Gary Anderson and Sue Newstetter did a great job heading up the event along with assistance from Pat Gaylord, Tim Kent, Gary Johnston, and John Thatcher. Thank you to all participating members!



We all know that every piece of ground in Oregon and Washington is calculated by its relation to the Willamette Meridian (Stone). We also know that we rarely tie coordinates to the Willamette Stone anymore because our instruments can locate points down to a thousandth of a foot (without needing the Stone as a reference point). There were instruments at the 50/150 event that were over a hundred years old and could still do a great job of surveying. However, newer instruments are so much faster and more accurate than a solar compass.

When I graduated from the university, we used slide rules for calculations in the field. Now most of the information we gather comes from computers, the Internet, cell phones, outdoor instruments, digital cameras, etc. I read an article last month detailing how W&H Pacific used a mobile surveying instrument (Lidar and GPS) to map an area from the inside of a moving vehicle. That article made me wonder where technology will be 30 years down the road. What type of training will we need just to keep surveyors up-to-date? Some of the newest surveyors I've met experienced an entirely different education than what I had and learned completely different skills than I did. We have to keep up with computer technology; what's learned at the beginning of our education or training is obsolete by the time the course is completed. How will we merge the varied disciplines?

We have some of the best people in the surveying profession. Surveyors like the outdoors—even in bad weather. They are good with the latest technology. They are honest, forthright, dependable people with a good judge of character. They are solid as a rock and do not need anybody to explain the certain meanings of things to them. Maybe that is part of the reason we have three surveyors portrayed on Mt. Rushmore. We need more surveyors like these to run our country.

Please join me in welcoming Chuck Wiley to the PLSO Publications Committee. Chuck is a great addition to our small, but dedicated committee. I would like to have one more person (preferably from the Pioneer Chapter) to serve on the Publications Committee. Most of our communication is done over the phone and email. Our one face-to-face meeting occurs at the annual convention. Thus, those interested need a cell phone and an email address. Along with reviewing the pre-publication copy of *the Oregon Surveyor*, the person would be the contact point for anybody who wants to put something in *the Oregon Surveyor*. If you are interested, please give me a call at 503-253-3198 or email be at oranabbott@gmail.com. If you think of someone else who would be interested, please let me know. Thanks.

Read and enjoy the rest of this issue. Find something good in life, and do it. ◊

View from the PLSO Office

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

Wow! What a Little Volunteerism can Do!

I just returned from a great day at the Willamette Stone Heritage Site, where a dynamic group of PLSO volunteers saw their vision come to life. Nearly 100 people gathered to enjoy history, drama, a beautiful day and to celebrate the work it took to revitalize the place where Oregon's first survey occurred. Representative Mitch Greenlick came to see this historic part of his district, along with Yvonne Addington from the Tualatin Historical Museum and Oregon State Parks Manager, MG Devereux. Boy Scout Troop 259 showed their professionalism by presenting the flag to kick off the event. State Chair, Gary Johnston spoke about Trig-Star and other PLSO board activities, while Pat Gaylord announced the introduction of the PLSO Geocaching program. Three surveyors: Royce Hill, Denny DeMeyer and Tim Kent led the dedication of the benches at the site. Members have

heard so much about the event, but it is the behind the scenes and what we learn that is important.

What can a few people do? Obviously, a lot. Sue Newstetter, one of the PLSO Oregon 150 project leaders, admitted that it took a partnership between her and Gary Anderson (our PLSO Surveyor of the Year), to broaden the vision of cleaning up a park, to the addition of memorial benches, dedication ceremony and historical reenactment. Anderson will add that it was the sacrifice of our troops, the respect for history and his passion for his profession that drove him to make the project a priority; not missing a beat with the daily work he does for Westlake Consulting.

Who else was inspired by their leadership? Dozens of PLSO members and scouts who cleared the site and hauled away tons of trash and debris to make



the site appropriate for visitors. PLSO State Chair, Gary Johnston, shared his sense of pride that the members, during his Presidency, took on such a project that will leave a legacy for the organization throughout time. Oregon Parks Officials were thankful for the partnership of PLSO and honored the investment the surveyors made on behalf of citizens. Citizens themselves will be inspired and we can now welcome geocachers who can find a special Willamette Meridian memento with their discovery.

What can a few volunteers do? A lot. Thanks to all who participated in this worthwhile, historical project. ◉

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PLSO Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

May 2, 2009 — Umpqua Community College

APPROVED MINUTES
(Approved at the June
2009 board meeting)

ATTENDEES

Officers

Chair	Gary Johnston
Chair-Elect	Tim Fassbender
Past Chair	Ed Henricks
Executive Secretary	Mary Louise VanNatta

Board Members

CENTRAL (1)

Brian Reeves, President
Scott Freshwaters, President-Elect

MIDWEST (2)

Kent Baker, President
Renee Clough, President-Elect

PIONEER (3)

Joe Ferguson, President-Elect

ROGUE RIVER (4)

Herb Farber, President
Craig Claassen, President-Elect

SOUTH CENTRAL (5)

Evelyn Kalb, President

SOUTHWEST (6)

Edith Forkner, President
Walter White, President-Elect

UMPQUA (7)

David Beedle, President
Randy Smith, President-Elect

WILLAMETTE (8)

Tyler Parsons (proxy for Dave Malone, Pres.)
Jack Burrell, President-Elect

BLUE MOUNTAIN (9)

Tim Simons, President
Bob Butler, President-Elect
(via videoconference in Pendleton)

Committee Chairs

Bob Neathamer, Professional Practices
Tyler Parsons, Website
Greg Crites, WESTFED
Steve Haddock, Scholarship
(via videoconference in Pendleton)

Guests

Clay Baumgartner; Brent Knapp, Umpqua
Community College; technical staff; Jean
Ferguson; Dave Krumbein (via video
conference in Pendleton)

Absent

J. Edward Henricks, Past Chair; Lloyd Tolbert,
ACSM/NSPS; Brent Bacon, Bylaws; Logan
Miles, Awards; Dave Malone, Willamette
President; Tim Kent, Conference; Mason
Marker, South Central Pres-Elect; Bert Mason,
Historian; Oran Abbott, Oregon Surveyor;
Roger Galles, Archives; Shaun Fidler, Pioneer
President; John Nemecek, Finance; Gary
Anderson, EGAC/OSBEELS Liaison

Teleconference with Pendleton at Blue
Mountain Community College

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 10:01 am
by Gary Johnston.

Introductions were conducted. Simons,
Haddock and Butler by Teleconference
were welcomed.

Umpqua Community College Presentation

Representatives from Umpqua Com-
munity College reported on the set up
of the teleconference and to provide
an update on the Community College
improvements. Clay Baumgartner
reported they received some stimulus
money for the College. Brent Knapp
reported that at the end of January, they
met with Chemeketa and found that
they had a good number of (the same)
classes (7). They have developed a draft-
ing pathways certificate. They encour-
aged people to promote Umpqua for
students who want to get into surveying.
The PLSO Board gave Clay and Brent
and their student volunteers a round of
applause for their presentation and for
hosting this meeting.

Review and Approve of Agenda

Agenda was presented by Johnston and
approved.

Minutes of the March 14, 2009

Minutes were distributed. It was noted
that Bob Butler is President-Elect, not
the President of the Blue Mountain
Chapter.

MOTION: Farber moved and
Ferguson seconded that the
Minutes be approved as amended.

MOTION PASSED.

REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Membership Summary and 2009 Directory

There are 727 members. Membership
recruitment has been completed and
Membership Directory is completed and

available online in the member's only
section. We are working with Lori from
Action Registration to develop an online
membership renewal process for 2010,
which would work in conjunction with
registration for the annual conference

Financial

The combined PLSO accounts as of
4/29/09 have total assets of \$176,183.47.
At the same time last year, the organiza-
tion had \$193,296.69. Bank signers are
in transition of being updated to cur-
rent officers. Chapter presidents have
been provided updated chapter financial
reports to review.

Other Items

- Visa gift cards were purchased to provide for TrigStar winners. Contact the office if you would like to request cards for prizes as the office cannot make reimbursement for cash payments.
- The tradeshow booth has been a successful addition to our outreach efforts.
- The tradeshow booth is available by reservation on the Google calendar or through contacting the office. A "Legislative Updates" link has been added to the member's only section of the website to keep members informed of pertinent legislative issues.
- We are in the process of updating the "Consider a Career in Surveying/Geomatics" brochure to reflect changes made in the Oregon education programs. Education Brochure will be going to print. The group discussed whether to include out-of-state schools in the brochure.
- Tales of a stolen check. Stolen checks from the former chapter checking account have been reported to the Salem Police Department who will

Continues on page 8

continue their investigation. The US Bank branch manager in Salem is writing a report and applying an alert to the closed account to help avoid future instances. VanNatta reported on the check theft issue from the old account. Ferguson reminded the group to destroy any old checks or copies of checks that might be still be in files.

- 2008 taxes have been submitted to the accountant.

MOTION: Farber moved that we limit the education brochure to Oregon universities and community colleges offering surveying programs as well as links to regional organizations that can direct people to other surveying programs, Freshwaters seconded.

MOTION PASSED.

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Johnston reviewed the calendar of events. The 50/150 group is working on the Willamette Stone today.

June 27, Bend is the next board meeting. MidWest is tentatively setting up a workshop for June 8.

Trade show booth was discussed. Crites noted that at the Chemeketa show, the booth was never set up, but was on site. PLSO members who volunteered to assist did not show up. Follow through is important.

CLSA Event: Fewer members attended the California conference than the Oregon one. Johnston has shared some of his observations with the conference committee.

Chapter Visits: Johnston visited Mid-West Chapter during the last quarter.

Johnston has the brass caps and will experiment with putting them on wood bases.

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR-ELECT

Fassbender reported that there is a lot of stimulus money out there. Crites reported they have been awarded some

projects and there will be a lot of construction this summer.

CHAPTER ACTIVITY REPORTS

Central (1): All is well. A chapter meeting was held last week.

MidWest (2): Baker invited people to their meeting on 2nd Tuesday in May to hear about underground locates.

Pioneer (3): Ferguson reported that the Camp 18 meeting is coming up next month. There is a career fair next week.

Rogue River (4): Farber reported on their meeting that will be on water boundaries. Claassen said Grants Pass High School has a career day scheduled this month.

South Central (5): Kalb said the group is doing well. They are placing concrete for monuments on the baseline.

Southwest (6): Next meeting is the second Wednesday of May

Umpqua (7): Smith reported on plans to participate in "Explore Engineering and Surveying Night" at UCC May 14, and the Harold Stockhoff Memorial Golf Tournament underway May 2.

Willamette (8): Burrell said they have the Oregon State Meeting coming up where the chapter will host a number of students and faculty. Crites added that there will be a presentation on mobile scanning. Many of the members are serving on the conference committee.

Blue Mountain (9): Simons reported May 28 there is a meeting in LaGrande. They usually do an all-day workshop on December 5. There was a technical student conference in which they sponsored students.

OLD BUSINESS

Common Charity efforts for PLSO in 2009. Ferguson mentioned finding a charity that PLSO could get behind and support statewide. Food bank and Habitat for Humanity were mentioned. Farber said it was an idea worth exploring. He recommended a statewide organization. Simons said they didn't bring it

up at their meeting. Baker said his group considered Red Cross or Big Brother, Big Sister, Salvation Army. Ferguson will make some recommendations to the chapters and bring it up at the next board meeting. Claassen suggested a poll of the members. Johnston urged all chapters to discuss a possibility prior to the next board meeting.

Lodging costs. Fassbender presented a suggested travel policy. He asked the board to be frugal. This was presented as a board policy. How to calculate mileage and hotel rates was discussed. Whether to use state charts or MapQuest was considered. Using the rates that are available at a conference was mentioned. The draft policy will be revisited at the next board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Tradeshaw Booth: Johnston asked if the association needs another trade show booth. Fassbender suggested the old one go on Craig's List. Farber suggested that the old one be stored in Southern Oregon to be more available in that region. Johnston will look at the booth and consider its condition.

Machine Control: Ferguson asked the Board if PLSO wants to take a stand on machine control and does that apply as surveying based on ORS 672. A discussion about "what is surveying" needs to be held. This is being dealt with all over the country. Neathamer suggested the issue is contractors doing their own surfacing layout. Larger firms are doing it all the time. Crites will draft a letter to the OSBEELS board for the Chair's signature requesting the board's interpretation of when professional surveying is practiced in the conduct of machine control.

Strategic Planning Session

Farber reported on the status of the strategic plan and updated the group on its history. He noted that there were too many strategic directions and we reevaluated our directions and reduced the number. Claassen said we need to

educate the members on the contents of the plan.

The PLSO Board divided into four work groups aligned with the four Strategic Directions to develop a list of initiatives. Following is a summary of results:

1. **Inspire Members**—Johnston reported that they will work to inspire members by polling members at Chapter Meetings and study successes of other chapters. Person-to-person with businesses and agencies and get their help. Get the OSBEELS roster to get the list of non-members. Mary Louise can request a current listing of licensed surveyors from OSBEELS. We want to encourage the support of associates.
2. **Conduct Outreach**—Clough said the group wanted to see how effective TrigStar is as an outreach activity. Ferguson will do a presentation at the next conference to promote the professionalism of the TrigStar presenters. Need new ways to contact students in related majors. Better communication with title companies and GIS groups should occur.
3. **Legislative Agenda**—Fassbender said that we can create a legislative 101 and how we can communicate what is happening in Salem with the members. A legislative day or website page was suggested.
4. **Foster Excellence**—How do we develop a library or syllabus to share information about workshops and chapter presentations and put it on the website to share? Tricks of the trades, etc. Videotaping presentations. Haddock added that we could produce a uniform system to share knowledge. Topic of the month might be included and featured on the website. Greg Crites will prepare an action outline of this direction.

Farber asked each group to send him a report of their action plan developed in

private session and give a report at the next board meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance

Nemecek was not present, but he is looking at reallocating some funds to a CD. He is monitoring the checkbook and transactions for proper coding. Some chapters did not receive a detailed transaction report.

In the future, reports will be furnished to the President and Vice President of each chapter.

Conference

Kent was not present. Burrell reported that the committee plans to meet monthly. The auction was an issue and the conference committee is asking each chapter to put together a major gift. Use your imagination. The committee will also bring an auction item. The conference netted about \$52k. Kent put together a conference process guide. Burrell said the location looks great.

Scholarship

Haddock reported that he attended the Idaho conference and got some great ideas on making the auction livelier. Idaho raised \$11k at their live auction. Individual surveyors contributed a lot of good items. Haddock talked to OSAC and he has received the information on the students who qualify.

Applications should be received by the end of May.

Legislative

Freshwaters said he calls Gallagher at least once a week. Beedle wanted to discuss timely communications with the lobbyist. Smith expressed frustration about the direction of some legislative measures. The corner preservation fund proposal appears dead for this session. SB 344, the bill to appoint rather than elect surveyors, was discussed. It appears headed for the house. PLSO will monitor closely and attempt to retain the election of surveyors. HB 2339 was brought to the board's attention. It

is concerned with publicly disclosing personal information of public board or committee members. It was decided this is not an issue for PLSO's legislative committee.

Education Goals and Actions

The 2009 Twist enrollment application is out for distribution. May 9 is the state TrigStar exam. Memorial benches at the Willamette Stone will be installed on May 13. May 30 at the Willamette Stone will be the public event commemorating improvements.

Concerns about contacting Kent for scheduling the students for the state test for TrigStar was noted.

Ferguson said they just need to show up in Vancouver. If the state test can be offered at another location was discussed. Members who need to schedule testing for the state exam should contact Tim Kent.

Oregon 50/150

Today is the clean-up of the site.

PLSO to OSBEELS No report.

Geocache

Linscheid provided a written report. First PLSO geocache site was set up in Lincoln County and they had their first visitor in a day.

Membership No report.

Professional Practices

Neathamer reported that three inquiries had been received alleging unlicensed practice of surveying, but only one was likely to be presented to the OSBEELS Law Enforcement committee.

There were 23 candidates who took the surveying exam on April 25. Preliminary test scores indicate 30–40% passed, results should be available by late this summer. OIT Geomatics Industrial Advisory Committee is meeting next Friday, May 8 on campus in Klamath Falls.

OSBEELS to PLSO

Linscheid provided a written report
Continues on page 10

that the Law Enforcement committee is investigating a new complaint out of Washington County. They also received an 8-page opinion from its AAG which states that simply mailing a written notice of entry will not comply with law. Johnston will send a letter from PLSO to OSBEELS requesting a copy of the opinion.

WFPS

Crites reported that there may be legislation enacted at the federal level regarding railroad monumentation. He is asking members to share stories of how railroad monumentation was removed. He asked that members write either to Curt Sumner or to Trish Milburn at ACSM. Send emails to trisha.milburn@acsm.net.

NSPS No report.

PLSO Liaison to OACES No report.

Oregon GPS Users group

Meeting and free BBQ at Hollingshead Barn in Bend on June 19.

Constitution and bylaws No report.

Publications

Abbott was absent. More articles are still needed from membership for *The Oregon Surveyor*.

Awards

Miles was absent. No report.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Johnston expressed appreciation for the board's efforts on the Strategic Plan.

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:07 pm. ◉

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Louise VanNatta
Executive Secretary, PLSO

A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT

Surveying Riparian & Littoral Water Boundaries

A Primer for Land Surveyors

SPONSORED BY

Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon, Rogue River Chapter

Friday, September 11, 2009

City of Grants Pass, City Hall • 101 NW "A" St. , Grants Pass, Oregon

Riparian Water Boundaries are "dynamic", and unlike fixed Land Boundaries, are a continuously moving target. This workshop is a primer to help understand the basic principles, complexities and nuances that combine "art" with the "science" that we use in conducting typical land surveys, and what procedures are necessary to determine the line of Ordinary High Water. Discussion will also include the many pitfalls that commonly result from underestimating the nature of the complexities that are often involved in these determinations. An overview on Littoral Water Boundaries will also be given which is less complicated than Riparian Boundaries because of the predictable nature of tidal action, with the exception of the transition area at the mouth of rivers that are within the zone of tidal influence.

RIPARIAN BOUNDARIES

- Navigability—Who Owns the Submersible Land?
- Necessary Research and Analysis of Historic Evidence
- Principles of Accretion, Erosion, Avulsion & Reliction
- Determining the Ordinary High Water Line
- Meander Lines: Fact and Fiction
- The Vegetative Method
- Hydrology & Geomorphology
- Legal Principles and Case Law
- Tips and Tricks

LITTORAL BOUNDARIES

- Understanding Tidal Datums
- Establishing Tidal Benchmarks
- Time & Height Corrections
- Tidal Calculators
- GPS derived height issues
- The Oregon Beach Act
- Tips and Tricks

PRESENTERS

Shawn Kampmann, PLS is a professional land surveyor licensed in Oregon & Alaska and is the owner/manager of Polaris Land Surveying LLC in Ashland, Ore., with experience performing Ordinary High Water surveys for Oregon Dept. of State Lands and for private landowners on the Rogue River and Chetco River in southwest Oregon.

Jeff Kroft is the Senior Policy Specialist for the Land Management Division at the Oregon Department of State Lands in Salem, Ore. where he has worked for 22 years. Jeff received a Ph.D. in Mineral Economics-Applied Earth Sciences from Stanford University, and both a M.S. in Economic Geology, and B.A. in Geology and Political Science from the University of Washington.

PRE-REGISTRATION CUT-OFF DATE: SEPTEMBER 4, 2009

For information, contact Cael E. Neathamer: 541-732-2869 or cael@neathamer.com

Willamette Stone State Heritage Site 50/150 Project



50/150 Event — May 30, 2009

Opening Keynote by Gary Anderson

This is a reprint of the transcript used by Anderson at the 50/150 Event. Pauses are noted in ().



Welcome!

The PLSO welcomes each of you to the Willamette Stone State Heritage Site. This is a nearly perfect day!

We are gathering here today to celebrate Oregon's Sesquicentennial and PLSO's 50th Anniversary.

This morning in the course of the next hour you will be hearing from dignitaries in the fields of Government, Surveying and History.

We are dedicating three new memorial benches. This is also our public unveiling for a series of Geocaches, which PLSO has and will continue to establish around the State

for you, other Oregonian's and our visitors.

Along the way I will be offering thanks to many others who have helped. The program lists our key participants. Unnamed are the 50 or so folks who helped with our Park Cleanup Oregon Day on May 2; our thanks to them! Certainly thanks to today's exhibitors of field equipment—new and historical; Pat Bergen of PPI Group and PPI Fund which provides assistance to college surveying programs in the Northwest, and Bill and Jeanne Glenn, with their solar compass and chain and in period dress.

In a moment I will introduce Scout Troop 259's Color guard. But first, earlier I had said this day is "nearly perfect"—because—today thousands of our neighbors and mates are away; having taken up arms to protect and defend us. As a way of remembering them, please, let us join in a few moments of silence... *(Crowd pauses for reflection.)*

Now please give your attention to Scout Troop 259's Color guard and their leader Doug Bender... *(Color guard raises flags.)*

Let's give our thanks to Mike Weinberg and Gary DeJarnatt for their help getting us all parked safely and slowing traffic.

Now, we would like to acknowledge a few State officials with us today.

- Mitch Greenlick, State Representative District 33, and Chair of the House Health Care Committee
- James Parr; Congressional District 1, State Parks & Recreation Chair

We have a handful of Oregon County Surveyors here as well: Jim Elam, Washington County; Randy Johnston, Hood River; Bob Hovden, Multnomah; and Gary DeJarnatt, Jefferson County. Thanks to you all for being here.

And our utmost thanks go to both our Park Ranger, Ryan Houston and Parks Manager, MG Devereux.

Most of the following speakers are, like me, Professional Land Surveyors. We are all State licensed to be dedicated to serve the public's welfare. To become licensed we trained and were tested on the principals of the profession: the legal, technical aspects; standards of professional conduct. This includes; learning boundary and subdivision surveying, about adverse possession; the United States Public Land Survey System (of which this initial point is a foundational piece); the laws and rules for Oregon; how to prepare property descriptions; and about horizontal and vertical datums. I have found the life of surveying to be a blend of history, math, engineering, science, technology, education, art, communication & puzzle solution. It is fun!

Before I introduce the next three surveyors who will tell us about the Public Land Survey System and those three individuals who are memorialized on our benches, please help me thank those who designed, built, donated and helped to install them: Mark Farley and Chris Davis of the Cement Mason's Local 555 Joint Apprenticeship Training Center; Dick Hofland of Hofland Survey Monuments (who provided the lettering embedded into the benches) and "supporting" these benches (from below) you'll also see the creative craftwork of the Pacific Northwest Ironworkers and Employers Local 29 Apprenticeship Training Center. Mark Lautenschlager,

Continues on page 12

Willamette Stone State Heritage Site 50/150 Project

Opening Keynote, cont.

instructor, held a design contest and the three best designs—by 3rd year apprentices Nik Pries, Charles Ryan Lee and Randy Guiliany—were used. Mark did a fantastic job creating these benches.

The three important individuals named on our benches are John B. Preston, William Ives and C. Albert White. To tell you about each of them, here are Royce Hill with BLM; Denny DeMeyer from LSAW; and Professor Tim Kent... *(Hill, DeMeyer and Kent speak.)*

I would like to thank all instructors and teachers—be they a professor, high school teacher, home school instructor, Troop or Pack Leader—we all owe a great deal of debt to these very hard working people. I have huge admiration for those with the capability to share knowledge with others.

Today you have met, and heard from, some important surveyors. This year I learned (from my wife, Karen) of yet another important person in history who was a Surveyor. Of course there are the three out of four presidents carved into Mt. Rushmore (Washington, Lincoln and Jefferson), there was Lewis & Clark, and way back was Leonardo da Vinci. But in the early 1800s along with Henry David Thoreau and Daniel Boone there was Fredrich Froebel a surveyor from Germany who it is claimed was the creator of “kindergarten” which he envisioned as a place where children would learn through *play*. How great is that idea?

Speaking of learning through play, let me now introduce to you my colleague, Pat Gaylord, who will share with us all about Surveying, Scouts and our PLSO Geocache program... *(Gaylord speaks.)*

As Pat noted there is another Meridian Monument which is in Tualatin. PLSO was delighted last year to hear of the Tualatin Historical Society’s effort with the City to design and place that marker

which serves to educate the public about the significance of land surveying in our world both today and in history. Let me introduce Yvonne Addington of the Tualatin Historical Society... *(Addington speaks.)*

Finally, please thank PLSO Executive Secretary Mary Louise VanNatta and her assistant Tierney Dutcher who help with our organization, often behind the scenes. Today Mary Louise is here with Greg Crites sharing information about PLSO and as PLSO also offers scholarships to surveying students we have a number of items available here for a donation to our scholarship fund.

We also give special thanks to Governor Kulongoski, Mary Oberst and the OR-150 Committee. We appreciate their efforts and support in encouraging events like this to occur across the state all year long.

We should all stay more involved with our communities. One person who does that is Sue Newstetter, and I’ll let her tell you more... *(Newstetter speaks.)* ©



Willamette Stone State Heritage Site 50/150 Project



The New Benches



C. Albert White
GLO/BLM Cadastral Surveyor



Al White's daughters and granddaughters visit the new memorial benches.



John B. Preston
First Surveyor General of Oregon, 1851



William Ives
GLO Surveyor

Then and Now...

Various surveying instruments were on hand at the 50/150 event.



My Journey—The 50/150 Event

■ By Greg Crites

Waking about 5:30 am, I rushed to my front door and stuck my head outside, just to assure myself that the weather was still gorgeous. The sharp yellow contrasts of that early morning light against the verdant green and russet hues of the evergreens surrounding my home beckoned me to my motorcycle. The cool morning air and clear skies meant perfect riding weather. Choking down breakfast, I rolled out the bike, painted on my leathers, donned my boots and hopped on, allowing myself enough time to get to the Willamette Stone via River Road from Salem to Newberg and then up over Chehalem Mountain for some “twisties” before descending into the Sunset Highway corridor.

Arriving shortly after 9:00 am, I parked (knowing space would be limited, I’d opted for the “skinny” footprint), grabbed my bags and headed for the trailhead. Dutifully, Gary Anderson was standing nearby, looking a little nervous, probably due to the fact that he was, as yet, our sole representative for the event. I sensed his sigh of relief upon spying me walking up to greet him. Exchanging the usual PLSO pleasantries, I quickly determined that no one else was around, so I marched down the trail to the Willamette Stone for a solitary peek at the handiwork of so many volunteers three or more weeks before.

(Note: Oran Abbott arrived even before Gary Anderson to snap photos and capture the atmosphere.)

Oregon State Parks had come through with flying colors, completing last minute details even as I walked down the trail. One of their employees approached me holding a leaf blower, having just completed a quick “dusting” of the trail



Greg Crites (seated) visits with colleagues and observers at the 50/150 event.

surface and a final inspection of the site in advance of the anticipated assemblage of visitors.

I’d never been to the site before, so I had no preconceptions regarding what I might witness. Descending the paved trail through the grove of Douglas Fir, all of which must have been over 100 years old, my eyes were drawn skyward to gaze at their loftiness. I immediately recognized this “spiritual” element of the park and thought to myself how fitting for such a significant spot. Reaching the small opening in the trees around the monument, I was struck immediately by the strategically located benches commemorating John Preston, William Ives and C. Albert White. Flagstones had been placed around the concrete slab supporting the bronze

tablet and the stainless steel monument, thereby lending a rustic air of authenticity to this rather substantial installation. I was reminded of another monument I’d visited some years before at the Four Corners.

Of course, the surveyor in me couldn’t help but imagine John Preston standing here so many years ago, and I wondered what he thought upon reaching this spot. After all, I half expected the monument to fall on some lofty precipice with clear views in all directions. Preston had picked this specific location such that the Willamette Baseline wouldn’t cross the Columbia River. In retrospect, the specific geographical knowledge that led to this decision seems rather amazing. Now, once

Continues on page 16

Willamette Stone State Heritage Site 50/150 Project

50/150 Event, cont.

you reach the east side of the Willamette River in Portland, you can get on SE Stark Street and drive easterly along the baseline for many miles. Just like the dessert served at the end of this event, “a piece of cake.”

Nevertheless, the exact location of the Willamette Stone was a surprise. It’s nestled in what can only be described as a hole, some 500 feet below the crest of the ridge currently occupied by Skyline Blvd. in West Portland. While standing at the monument, I couldn’t help but look around for the telltale scars of bearing trees, but I only recognized one. Frankly, I’m a little surprised at my absence of strategic thinking. In preparation for visiting this significant spot, I should have called up Preston’s original notes from the BLM’s website, looked at a quadrangle map to get the lay of the land, and checked to see if NGS had a published position for the monument. Most assuredly, the site is of little value for GPS observations, though the current NGS Datasheet (PID RD3152) states “the site location was reported as suitable for satellite observations—October 27, 2005.” I’m wondering what the individual who supplied such a comment was smoking? The tree cover around the monument is so dense; it surely serves as an effective “force field” for satellite signals arriving from space. Even the few geocachers scattered among the trees upon my arrival must have realized that their hand-held GPS units would only yield accuracies around 30 feet or so.

So, I’m standing there with my little digital camera, snapping pictures happily, and who should come clomping down the trail but Richard Hofland (yes, of Hofland Monuments fame). Dick’s father manufactured the monument that currently serves as the Willamette Stone. How fitting to have this generational continuity present on this day.



PLSO Chair Gary Johnston, Sue Newstetter and Gary Anderson cut the celebration cakes.

Okay, so, I’ve got to let the cat out of the bag. All of you surveyors out there must be wondering, “Come on Greg, just exactly where is the Willamette Stone?”

Latitude 45°31’10.23551” North, Longitude 122°44’37.89866” West. The elevation is only published to the nearest foot, so that should settle the positional reliability issue, at least vertically, for all of you “least squares” jar heads.

Well, Richard and I reminisced a bit about how many times our paths had

crossed over the years, and frankly, I couldn’t help thinking how our profession has been intertwined with the Hofland family, but I’m wandering. I needed to get back up to Skyline Blvd. to complete my appointed task for the day of staffing the PLSO booth during and after the commemorative ceremonies, so I huffed and puffed my way back up the trail to search out other PLSO folks.

Sue Newstetter and her husband John arrived, soon followed by Pat Gaylord, fully bedecked in his Troop 259 Scouting uniform. Sue and John unloaded a van load of supplies, including tables as well as coffee (I needed that!). Of course, Sue played a pivotal role in the entire event. I’ve known Sue for a very long time but this was my first opportunity to meet her husband John, the “invisible” wind beneath Sue’s wings. Almost immediately there were Boy Scouts from Pat’s troop all over the place, geocachers, tourists, curious bystanders, and more folks from PLSO. I caught site of Gary Johnston and Mary Louise VanNatta.



Willamette Stone State Heritage Site 50/150 Project

They brought PLSO trinkets for sale along with three commemorative CAKES! The two of them, along with Tyler Parsons and me, fumbled our way through the assembly of the booth. I have to admit, outsourcing the publishing of assembly instructions to someone from South Korea doesn't quite help me understand their logic, but after several fits and starts, we surmounted the beast and achieved a suitable outcome.

While Gary Anderson served as master of ceremonies and all-around good guy, we labored away to complete preparations. Oran Abbott and Lisa Switalla (from LLM Publications, Inc.) were busy snapping pictures, so while trying to avoid being photographed I searched out familiar faces. Joe Ferguson and his wife, Paul Galli and family, Randy Johnston, Bob Hovden, Gary DeJarnatt, Jim Elam, Tim Kent, Royce Hill, Charles Wiley (go to www.plso.org to view pictures and see who

else you recognize), families, friends, local dignitaries Mitch Greenlick (State Representative, Congressional District 33), James Parr (State Representative, Congressional District 1), and Yvonne Addington (former Mayor of Tualatin and now representing the Tualatin Historical Society). Even a couple of passing bicyclists added to the near capacity crowd who dutifully listened to brief historical accounts of John Preston (by Royce Hill), William Ives (by Denny DeMeyer from LSAW) and C. Albert White (by Tim Kent).

This event proved to be a great success and we are indebted to the many folks who provided assistance. Notably, the PPI Group (Pat Bergen), Bill and Jeanne Glenn, Mike Weinberg, the OR-150 Committee, Mark Farley and Chris Davis of the Cement Mason's Local 555 Joint Apprenticeship Training Center, the Pacific Northwest Ironworkers and the Employers Local 29 Apprenticeship



Training Center. Mark Lautenschlager, instructor, held a design contest for the benches. The three benches represent the best designs, developed by 3rd year apprentices Nik Pries, Charles Ryan Lee and Randy Guiliany. Marvelous, though considering the location of the site, and the litany of vandalism, Dick Hofland and I were wondering how long it would take the “legally challenged” elements of our society to knock corners off benches and pilfer metal to sustain their chemical induced stupefaction. Did I hear someone mention pillories?

All in all, the event was pulled off without a glitch. Come to think of it, the only frown I saw leaving the event was on the face of that baby who was late for its nap! It sure made me smile to see someone's mother working so hard to keep a certain little boy from sticking his finger in the cake. ◉



Willamette Stone State Heritage Site 50/150 Project

Willamette Stone—The NGS Data Sheet

DATABASE = , PROGRAM = datasheet, VERSION = 7.67

1 National Geodetic Survey, Retrieval Date = MAY 30, 2009

RD3152 *****

RD3152 DESIGNATION - MONUMENT
 RD3152 PID - RD3152
 RD3152 STATE/COUNTY - OR/MULTNOMAH
 RD3152 USGS QUAD - PORTLAND (1990)

RD3152 *CURRENT SURVEY CONTROL

RD3152* NAD 83(1991) - 45 31 10.23551(N) 122 44 37.89866(W) ADJUSTED
 RD3152* NAVD 88 - 290.77 (+/-2cm) 954.0 (feet) VERTCON

RD3152 LAPLACE CORR - 2.38 (seconds) DEFLEC99
 RD3152 GEOID HEIGHT - -22.84 (meters) GEOID03
 RD3152 HORZ ORDER - SECOND
 RD3152 VERT ORDER - THIRD ? (See Below)

RD3152. The horizontal coordinates were established by classical geodetic methods and adjusted by the National Geodetic Survey in October 1991.

RD3152. The NAVD 88 height was computed by applying the VERTCON shift value to the NGVD 29 height displayed under SUPERSEDED SURVEY CONTROL.)

RD3152. The vertical order pertains to the NGVD 29 superseded value.

RD3152. Photographs are available for this station.

RD3152. The Laplace correction was computed from DEFLEC99 derived deflections.

RD3152. The geoid height was determined by GEOID03.

	North	East	Units	Scale	Factor	Converg.
RD3152;SPC OR N	- 208,326.704	2,324,722.504	MT	0.99991330	-1 35	28.7
RD3152;SPC OR N	- 683,486.56	7,627,042.34	iFT	0.99991330	-1 35	28.7
RD3152;SPC WA S	- 23,187.810	324,693.361	MT	1.00008587	-1 37	47.8
RD3152;SPC WA S	- 76,075.34	1,065,264.80	sFT	1.00008587	-1 37	47.8
RD3152;UTM 10	- 5,040,695.901	520,004.427	MT	0.99960492	+0 10	57.9

RD3152! - Elev Factor x Scale Factor = Combined Factor
 RD3152!SPC OR N - 0.99995800 x 0.99991330 = 0.99987130
 RD3152!SPC WA S - 0.99995800 x 1.00008587 = 1.00004386
 RD3152!UTM 10 - 0.99995800 x 0.99960492 = 0.99956293

	Primary Azimuth Mark	Grid Az
RD3152:SPC OR N	- HILL	205 33 57.7
RD3152:SPC WA S	- HILL	205 36 16.8
RD3152:UTM 10	- HILL	203 47 31.1

PID	Reference Object	Distance	Geod. Az
RD3152	RD3173 HILL	APPROX. 1.1 KM	2035829.0
RD3152	RD3165 FIR	423.598 METERS	3240913.1

RD3152 SUPERSEDED SURVEY CONTROL

RD3152 NAD 83(1986) - 45 31 10.25500(N) 122 44 37.90297(W) AD() 2
 RD3152 NAD 27 - 45 31 10.83100(N) 122 44 33.55100(W) AD() 2
 RD3152 NGVD 29 (07/19/86) 289.70 (m) 950.5 (f) LEVELING 3

RD3152. Superseded values are not recommended for survey control.
 RD3152. NGS no longer adjusts projects to the NAD 27 or NGVD 29 datums.
 RD3152. See file dsdata.txt to determine how the superseded data were derived.

RD3152 U.S. NATIONAL GRID SPATIAL ADDRESS: 10TER2000440696(NAD 83)

RD3152_MARKER: V = STONE MONUMENT

RD3152_SETTING: 0 = UNSPECIFIED SETTING

RD3152_SATELLITE: THE SITE LOCATION WAS REPORTED AS SUITABLE FOR

RD3152+SATELLITE: SATELLITE OBSERVATIONS - October 27, 2005

Willamette Stone State Heritage Site 50/150 Project

RD3152	HISTORY	- Date	Condition	Report By
RD3152	HISTORY	- 1903	MONUMENTED	USGLO
RD3152	HISTORY	- 1937	GOOD	CGS
RD3152	HISTORY	- 1952	GOOD	CGS
RD3152	HISTORY	- 1959	GOOD	CGS
RD3152	HISTORY	- 20040620	GOOD	USPSQD
RD3152	HISTORY	- 20051027	GOOD	USPSQD
RD3152	HISTORY	- 20060619	GOOD	GEOCAC

RD3152
RD3152
RD3152
RD3152

STATION DESCRIPTION

RD3152' DESCRIBED BY US GENERAL LAND OFFICE 1903 (OBF)
RD3152' EXACTLY ON THE COUNTY LINE, AT THE INITIAL INTERSECTION OF THE WILLAMETTE BASE AND THE WILLAMETTE MERIDIAN, A SHORT DISTANCE SE OF STATION BARNES. THE STATION IS IN A FENCE CORNER AND IS MARKED BY A STONE POST PROJECTING 1-1/2 FEET ABOVE GROUND.

RD3152
RD3152
RD3152

STATION RECOVERY (1937)

RD3152' RECOVERY NOTE BY COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY 1937 (LAM)
RD3152' IN EXTREME W PART OF PORTLAND, ON MULTNOMAH-WASHINGTON COUNTY LINE,
RD3152' AT INTERSECTION OF WILLAMETTE BASE LINE AND WILLAMETTE MERIDIAN.
RD3152'
RD3152' TO REACH FROM PORTLAND, PROCEED W ON WEST BURNSIDE STREET AND ITS CONTINUATION OF BARNES ROAD, TO INTERSECTION WITH NORTHWEST SKYLINE BOULEVARD, THENCE NW ALONG BOULEVARD ABOUT 0.85 MILE TO W END OF SHORT TANGENT AND E END OF GUARD FENCE ON S SIDE OF CURVE. FROM THIS POINT WALK S ALONG FENCE AT W EDGE OF TIMBER AND ON E EDGE OF FIELD WITH OLD FRUIT TREES, FOR ABOUT 650 FEET TO INTERSECTION WITH E-W FENCE. THIS IS DOWN SLOPE FROM BOULEVARD.

RD3152
RD3152' STATION IS AT FENCE INTERSECTION AND IS MARKED BY BRASS SCREW SET IN CENTER OF TOP OF CUT STONE POST ESTABLISHED BY U.S. GENERAL LAND OFFICE AND KNOWN AS WILLAMETTE STONE.

RD3152
RD3152
RD3152

STATION RECOVERY (1952)

RD3152' RECOVERY NOTE BY COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY 1952 (ANS)
RD3152' THE STATION WAS RECOVERED AND THE MARK WAS FOUND TO BE IN FAIR CONDITION. THE LOCATION OF THE STATION IS NOW A SMALL PARK, THE WILLAMETTE STONE STATE PARK.

RD3152'
RD3152' IN THE PAST THE MARK WAS BROKEN OFF AT THE TOP BY VANDALS, BUT ALL THE PIECES WERE RECOVERED AND HAVE BEEN CEMENTED IN PLACE.

RD3152'
RD3152' THE STATION IS ON THE W SIDE OF PORTLAND, 0.35 MILE W OF THE INTERSECTION OF BURNSIDE ROAD AND SKYLINE BOULEVARD, AND 650 FEET S OF SKYLINE BOULEVARD. IT IS ON THE MULTNOMAH-WASHINGTON COUNTY LINE AND AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE WILLAMETTE BASE LINE AND THE WILLAMETTE MERIDIAN.

RD3152'
RD3152' THE STATION MARK IS AN 8-INCH SQUARE STONE POST, BEVELED AT THE TOP, PROJECTING 16 INCHES ABOVE THE GROUND. BASE LINE IS ENGRAVED ON THE E AND W SIDES AND WIL MER ON THE N AND S SIDES. A SMALL HOLE WHERE THE BRASS SCREW HAD BEEN SET IS IN THE APEX OF THE STONE.

RD3152'
RD3152' TO REACH THE STATION FROM THE INTERSECTION OF BURNSIDE ROAD AND SKYLINE BOULEVARD, PROCEED W ON SKYLINE BOULEVARD FOR 0.4 MILE TO A SIGN ON THE LEFT COMMEMORATING THE STONE. THENCE PROCEED ON THE TRAIL S DOWN THE SLOPE FOR 200 METERS TO THE SMALL PARK AND THE STATION.

RD3152
RD3152
RD3152

STATION RECOVERY (1959)

RD3152' RECOVERY NOTE BY COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY 1959 (ANS)
RD3152' STATION WAS RECOVERED AS DESCRIBED.

RD3152'
RD3152' THE STATION MARK IS IN FAIR CONDITION.

RD3152' THIS STATION IS LOCATED ON THE SOUTH SLOPE OF A HILL AND WILL ONLY SEE OUT TO THE SOUTHWEST.

RD3152
RD3152
RD3152

STATION RECOVERY (2004)

RD3152' RECOVERY NOTE BY US POWER SQUADRON 2004 (RHC)
RD3152' RECOVERED IN GOOD CONDITION.

RD3152
RD3152
RD3152

STATION RECOVERY (2005)

RD3152' RECOVERY NOTE BY US POWER SQUADRON 2005 (CM)
RD3152' RECOVERED IN GOOD CONDITION.

RD3152
RD3152
RD3152

STATION RECOVERY (2006)

RD3152' RECOVERY NOTE BY GEOCACHING 2006 (CB)
RD3152' GEOCAC FIRST REPORT.

RD3152' DISK RECOVERED IN GOOD CONDITION.

The Future?

At the 50/150 Event, Tim Kent ran some surveying drills with Cub Scout Pack 417 to help them work on their OR-150 Challenge certification.





ACSM Government Affairs Update

May 2009

Preservation of Railroad Monumentation Update

We are in the process of working our proposed preservation of railroad monumentation legislation around Congress. Although it has not been introduced, we had many meetings and received good responses to the issue. The one point that has come out of every meeting has been the question of how the issue affects each Member of Congress' District or State. To answer that question more accurately, we need stories and letters of support from ACSM members. The legislation won't get introduced unless Congress sees a real need for it. Below, is a list of Members of Congress on the House Railroad Subcommittee. If your Representative is listed below, we especially need to hear from you:

Peter A. DeFazio (D), Oregon
Rick Larsen (D), Washington

COFPAES Delegate Meeting

COFPAES recently held its Spring Meeting for all delegates and staff. In the morning session, along with federal agency representatives, we heard from Bruce Ware, USACE who spoke of the USACE Prospect Training program. We also heard from James Harper, Jr. FTA Office of Federal Procurement. He spoke about the FTA grant program, which issues grants to state and local governments for transportation projects. Harper noted that the FTA received quite a bit of stimulus funding from the federal government and that there is now a competition for that money. We also heard from Dean Smith of GSA who spoke of the ways the GSA is using its share of the stimulus funding. Finally, we heard from Major Clark, Office of Advocacy for the SBA. He spoke about the recently released Federal Register Notice relating to the 10% retainage on A/E contracts.

In the afternoon delegate session, we discussed a number of important issues. We heard about several bills in Congress that contain Qualification Based Selection language relating to the procurement of A/E services, including: HR 1262, the Water Quality Financing Act, HR 1770/S. 732, the Dam Rehabilitation and Repair Act, HR 1520, the Federal Land Asset

Inventory Reform Act and HR 915 FAA Reauthorization. COFPAES supports the QBS language in all of these bills.

We also discussed the Federal Register Notice and proposed FAR rule on retainage on A/E contract and the proposed Freedom from Government Competition Act. At a previous COFPAES meeting, AIA raised a concern about a standard clause provision in part 52 of the FAR that authorizes contracting officers to impose retainage of fees on A/E contracts. Not only is this burdensome to A/E firms, but there appears to be no statutory or regulatory authorization for the clause. In 2007, the SBA solicited troublesome regulations under its "Regulatory Review and Reform" (3R) Program. COFPAES submitted the retainage issue and it made the SBA top 10 list. The Federal Register Notice was initiated because of COFPAES' action on this issue. The Delegates discussed language that will be used in COFPAES' comments on the Notice.

We learned about a proposed bill that will be introduced by Rep. Duncan of Tennessee and Sen. Thune of South Dakota called the "Freedom from Government Competition Act." Similar bills have been proposed in the past, which COFPAES endorsed. The bill does not mandate contracting out, but establishes a process by which agencies review in-house commercial activities for potential private sector performance. The bill, by definition, preserves QBS. ACSM Delegate Joe Dolan noted that ACSM would support this proposed bill.

The last issue of the day was a discussion about a concept that COFPAES would like to propose legislation that would benefit the A/E community. The concept for this legislation is for A/E professionals, including surveying and mapping professionals, to help America's cities and towns to transform into low carbon producing, reduced and renewable energy consuming and environmentally sensitive places to live and work while ensuring economic viability. A white paper was proposed and the COFPAES delegates and staff had a brainstorming session to develop a logical path to proceed with this issue.

Coastal Barrier Mapping

On April 7, 2009 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service released to the public its report to Congress: John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Digital Mapping Pilot Project and announced the start of a 90 day public comment period. The report, which was directed by the Coastal Barrier Resources Reauthorization Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-514), highlights the benefits of updating Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) maps with more accurate and precise digital maps to better protect people, coastal areas and natural resources.

This link directs you to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service website where you can review the Report to Congress and Draft Maps: www.fws.gov/habitatconservation/coastal_barrier.html

Federal Register Notice on Presidential Memorandum on Government Contracting.

On May 29, a Notice appeared in the Federal Register relating to the Presidential Memorandum on Government Contracting. The Presidential Memorandum on Government Contracting, issued on March 4, 2009, establishes a framework for improving critical components of the federal acquisition system and management of the Federal Government's "multi-sector" workforce of federal employees and private sector contractors. The Memorandum directs the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), in consultation with federal agency leadership, to improve and strengthen federal contracting practices and to seek input from the public on the most effective ways to achieve this goal. Section 321 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2009 further directs OMB to clarify the definition of an inherently governmental function and to develop criteria to be used by agency heads to identify other functions that should only be performed by Federal employees.

Presidential Memorandum:
www.whitehouse.gov/briefing_room/PresidentialActions/pg2
Section 321: www.rules.house.gov/110/text/110_hr5658.pdf

In furtherance of the President's Memorandum and section 321 of the FY 2009 NDAA, OMB invites interested parties from both the public and private sectors to provide comments on: (1) Maximizing the use

Continues on page 22

of competition; (2) improving practices for selecting contract types; (3) strengthening the acquisition workforce; and (4) clarifying when functions should be performed by federal employees and when contractors may be appropriately considered.

Federal Register Notice on the 10% Retainage on A/E Contracts

The Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 52.232-10, Payments under Fixed-Price Architecture-Engineer Contracts, currently requires the contracting officer to withhold 10% of the amounts due on each voucher; however, payment may be made in full during any month in which the contracting officer determines the performance to be satisfactory. The Government retains the withhold amount until the contracting officer determines that the work has been satisfactorily completed. The contracting officer may release excess withhold amounts to the contractor when it is determined

that work is substantially complete and when the contracting officer determines that the amount retained is in excess of the amount adequate for the protection of the Government's interests.

This rule proposes to revise FAR 52.232-10 to permit contracting officers to use their judgment regarding the amount of payment withhold to apply under fixed-price architecture-engineer contracts (based on an assessment of the contractor's performance under the contract) so that the withhold amount will be applied at the level necessary to protect the Government's interests. This is in contrast to the current requirement that contracting officers withhold 10 percent on all payments. Thus, the rule proposes to revise paragraphs (b) and (c) of the contract clause at FAR 52.232-10 to state that the contracting officer may (rather than shall) withhold up to 10 percent of the payment amount due and that

the amount of withhold shall be determined based upon the contractor's performance record. The rule also makes several related editorial changes including one that clarifies that the contractor will be paid any unpaid balance due to include withhold amounts at the successful completion of the design work.

This case originated from a recommendation in the Small Business Administration's Regulatory Review and Reform (r3) initiative. The current withholding provisions negatively impact the cash flow of architect-engineer contractors and may, in some instances, result in the withholding of amounts that exceed reasonable amounts to protect the Government's interests.

ACSM is currently reviewing the Notice and Proposed Rule and will make timely comments. ☉

Public Land Survey Plats

Oregon, Willamette Meridian—approved and/or filed August 2008–January 2009

T. 33 S., R. 2 E.	Corrective Dependent Resurvey, Dependent Resurvey & Subdivision of Sections
T. 33 S., R. 1 E.	Dependent Resurvey
T. 20 S., R. 6 W.	Dependent Resurvey & Retracement
T. 40 S., R. 7 W.	Dependent Resurvey
T. 12 S., R. 43 E.	Dependent Resurvey & Subdivision of Section 26
T. 36 S., R. 5 W.	Corrective Remonumentation, Dependent Resurvey & Subdivision of Sections
T. 32 S., R. 6 W.	Dependent Resurvey & Subdivision of Section 23
T. 37 S., R. 5 W.	Dependent Resurvey
T. 37 S., R. 4 W.	Corrective Dependent Resurvey, Dependent Resurvey & Subdivision of Section 4
T. 30 S., R. 3 W.	Retracement, Remonumentation & Rehabilitation
T. 25 S., R. 5 W.	Retracement & Rehabilitation
T. 28 S., R. 8 W.	Retracement & Rehabilitation
T. 26 S., R. 3 W.	Retracement
T. 29 S., R. 9 W.	Dependent Resurvey
T. 29 S., R. 8 W.	Dependent Resurvey
T. 3 S., R. 7 W.	Dependent Resurvey & Subdivision
T. 23 S., R. 4 W.	Dependent Resurvey & Subdivision of Section 7
T. 32 S., R. 10 W.	Metes-and-Bounds Survey of a Portion of the Wild Rogue Wilderness Boundary
T. 21 S., R. 4 W.	Corrective Dependent Resurvey, Dependent Resurvey & Subdivision of Section 27
T. 20 S., R. 6 W.	Dependent Resurvey & Subdivision of Section 35
T. 25 S., R. 7 W.	Dependent Resurvey & Subdivision of Section 2
Tps. 25 & 26 S., R. 4 W.	Dependent Resurvey & Metes-and-Bounds Survey
T. 28 S., R. 15 E.	Remonumentation
T. 32 S., R. 7 W.	Dependent Resurvey & Subdivision of Section
T. 32 S., R. 8 W.	Dependent Resurvey
T. 8 S., R. 7 W.	Dependent Resurvey
T. 31 S., R. 3 W.	Retracement, Rehabilitation, & Remonumentation
T. 11 S., R. 1 E.	Retracement
T. 3 S., R. 5 E.	Retracement
T. 28 S., R. 8 W.	Rehabilitation



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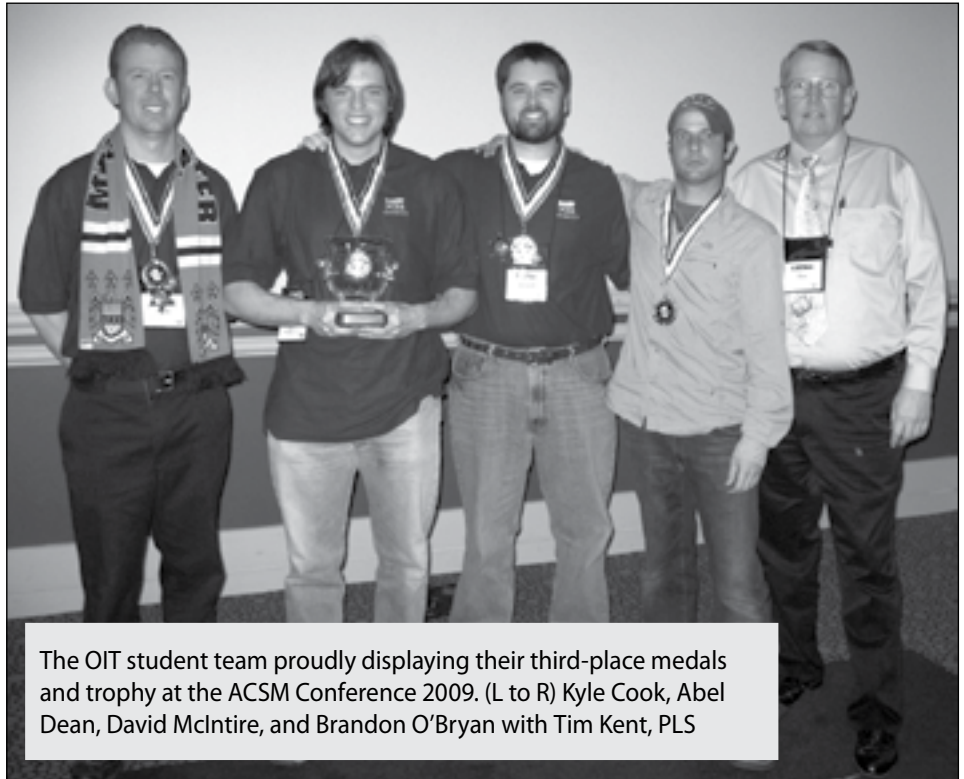
ACSM-MARLS-UCLS-WFPS Conference 2009

OIT Students Place Third in Competition

■ *By Kyle E. Cook, OIT Student*

The Oregon Institute of Technology (OIT) Geomatics Dept. PLSO Student Chapter participated in the annual ACSM-MARLS-UCLS-WFPS Conference student competition at the Salt Palace Convention Center in Salt Lake City, Utah on February 20–23, 2009. The theme of this year's student competition was "Calculating Devices and Methods for Surveyors—Past to Present." The OIT team was the only team from the continental Pacific states and exemplified the region and the school by taking home the third place trophy.

Preparations for the competition began in Fall 2008 with interested surveying students tackling the complex theme in earnest. As part of the competition, the OIT team, led by junior Abel Dean, drafted an academic research paper and created a laminated poster on the topic of logarithmic calculations and their use in land surveying. Local retired surveyor and former OIT Surveying professor, David Hull, was a great asset in the research and provided invaluable information on the use of slide rules and logarithmic tables. Additional assistance was provided by the faculty of the OIT Geomatics



The OIT student team proudly displaying their third-place medals and trophy at the ACSM Conference 2009. (L to R) Kyle Cook, Abel Dean, David McIntire, and Brandon O'Bryan with Tim Kent, PLS

Department, who dug out their dusty slide rules and supplied a Wild T-2 theodolite and subtense bar for competition training.

During the competition—which took place in a large conference hall over a five-hour period—students were tested on five field exercises that were formerly standard procedures in surveying. These exercises included the use of slide rules for basic calculations, reading vernier scales, using logarithm and trigonometric tables to close traverses, and measuring a predetermined distance with a subtense bar and theodolite.

The third place trophy was presented to the OIT team at an Awards Banquet on the last day of the conference. Two Michigan schools, Ferris State University and Michigan Technological University took home first and second

place honors respectively. After the awards ceremony, the OIT team was heartily congratulated by leaders in the surveying industry with many OIT graduates complimenting them on a job well done.

OIT surveying students were bolstered by the strong placing and preparations for next year's competition that have already begun. Next year's ACSM student competition will focus on forensic surveying and team members are seeking out connections in local law enforcement to help them with their preparations. The local PLSO chapters were instrumental in the OIT team's success, and the team plans to thank them by placing higher in next year's competition and establishing themselves as the "powerhouse surveying school of the Western states". ◉



TrigStar 2009

Final Report and a Farewell



■ *By Timothy A. Kent, PLSO TrigStar Coordinator*

I am very pleased to report that we had another successful TrigStar competition this year. We tested at 15 high schools and exposed over 250 students to our profession. I have included a Chapter synopsis of schools tested at the end of this report.

I am also reporting that Rafael Castrejon from Phoenix High School in Phoenix is our state TrigStar champion. James Hibbs of L.J. Friar & Associates was the local PLSO Rogue River chapter sponsor. Many thanks to James for all of his efforts. Raphael received \$500 for winning the state competition and will be taking the national TrigStar test in June.

Please plan to discuss the TrigStar competition at your chapter meetings. We will acquire the 2010 test in November of this year and begin to plan for next year's competition at that time. There is always room to grow with this program.

Let our PLSO Chair Gary Johnston know if you have any questions or comments with the TrigStar program. It is a very worthwhile effort and a true investment in our profession of surveying.

A special thanks to all of the proctors and supporters of this year's program. You made a difference in a number of students' educational experience and hopefully also in their choice of a career. ◉

As you know, I am stepping aside from coordinating the state TrigStar program. After a run of 21 years with both LSAW and PLSO, it is time. I believe it is a great program to expose high school students to what the surveying profession is all about. Thanks for the opportunity to serve the profession.

*Tim Kent
taken@comcast.net*

TRIGSTAR 2009

Local High School Test				State Test
Chapter	High School	Total Tested	Winner	Place
Central (1)	na	—	na	—
Midwest (2)	Pleasant Hill	27	Jeff Brink	7
Midwest (2)	Springfield	23	Cody Pavdois	6
Pioneer (3)	Valley Catholic	12	Alex Chau	4
Pioneer (3)	Madison	4	Zoe Hsaio	3
Pioneer (3)	David Douglas	7	Vy Vu	2
Pioneer (3)	Cleveland	4	Yichen Cao	—
Pioneer (3)	Benson	2	William Cooper	—
Rogue River (4)	Phoenix	48	Rafael Castrejon	1
Rogue River (4)	Grants Pass	29	Emily Fuller	5
South Central (5)	Chiloquin	5	Hailey Bragg	10
South Central (5)	Mazama	5	Gage Beckman	8
South Central (5)	Klamath Union	25	Xian (Alice) Sun	—
South Central (5)	Bonanza	20	Clinton McGilvray	—
South Central (5)	Gilchrist	1	Benjamin Harris	—
Southwest (6)	na	—	na	—
Umpqua (7)	na	—	na	—
Willamette (8)	Central	45	Allan Miller	—
Blue Mountain (9)	na	—	na	na

The Life and Times of Bert Mason, Jr.

Part 32

1946–47, school year at Syracuse

The 1946/47 school year at Syracuse was a full year for me. I was carrying a full load of 18 credit hours, as well as doing the research work for K.B. Wood Engineers. For this latter, I was receiving the magnificent sum of \$20 per month. In addition, I was carrying on the heavy load of correspondence with Ellen, back in Oregon. I had little time for social life at Syracuse.

The research work involved obtaining ME specifications on all of the types of photogrammetric plotting equipment available in the United States at that time, and assessing their suitability in terms of costs, accuracy, labor required and availability.

The big European plotters, of course, were out of the running from the beginning; the costs were out of the question, running to the hundreds of thousands of dollars per unit. They also were unsuited to American use because they used the diapositive plates in the European format of 5" x 7" inches, whereas the American plates were 10" x 10"; and the European plotters would have to be modified to that. In addition the availability was in question because they could require from one-to-many years for delivery. From the standpoint of the labor, they required two persons to operate, one to operate the instrument, itself, and a second to operate the pantographic plotter, which was off to one side.

At that time, practically every industrialized country in Europe—Germany, Poland, Switzerland, France, Italy,



Bert Mason, Jr. and his wife, Ellen at the 2009 PLSO Conference

Spain, Russia, and others—had its own version of the basic plotter. The operator viewed the full-size glass-plate diapositives through an intricate train of lenses and prisms. This was driven by an equally intricate train of push rods, hand wheels and foot wheels. Europe was years ahead of the United States in its sophistication and use of both aerial and terrestrial photographs for engineering and mapping.

In the United States, the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey (USC&GS) used a gigantic plotter of its own design and manufacture for use with photographs from its huge five-lens camera, which yielded horizon-to-horizon coverage with every exposure. This outfit was great for planimetric mapping of shore detail and navigational aids for ships at sea, but was not used for contour mapping. Aero Service Corporation, of Florida, had an equally large and cumbersome plotter of its own design for single lens mapping. Fairchild Aerial Mapping Company, of Los Angeles, I believe, had a European-style plotter, adapted for U.S. cameras.

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) was using photos for plane-table sheets. A small scattering of firms were using war surplus Army

Multiplex plotters. Abrams Aerial Mapping Company, of Michigan, was primarily involved with flying of photography and production of planimetric mapping of lake country. It was the principal manufacturer of small stereoscopes and other small items for extracting detail from aerial photos.

During World War II, the Bausch & Lomb Company of Rochester, New York, began producing an American version of the Multiplex photogrammetric plotters which had been produced in Germany. During the war, these had been used by the 29th Engineers' Mapping Battalion. Some of the veterans who had been trained in the use of this equipment, had continued in civilian life, to pursue careers in photogrammetry, using war-surplus equipment.

Since this surplus equipment was the only truly topographic mapping equipment available to the civilian market, and since it was still incredibly inexpensive, my search was ended. In addition, there was a ready supply of trained operators looking for work.

Back in 1946, Spencer Gross was the first associate at Kendall B. Wood & Associates Forest Engineers of Portland. The principal business at

the time was in locating and engineering logging roads. On one occasion they had labored for two weeks in attempting to find a location for a road up the steep mountains in the coast range and had been thwarted at every attempt by downed timber, bluffs, waterfalls, slides and other obstacles. As they sat in the coastal rain, pondering their problem, Spence, a 29th veteran, exclaimed, "Why don't we get some photographs and map this sucker from the air. Then we could see all these obstacles and know where to put the road ahead of time."

He failed to elaborate on how they were going to see down through the 200-foot old-growth canopy of fir and Hemlock; but the seed had been planted. That is how Spence came to come back to Syracuse, and I came to work for K. B. Wood & Associates.

Now that my primary duties at Syracuse were finished, I apparently felt it necessary to search further for ways to take up my spare time. Although Dr. Lowe was my all-time favorite Professor, his course in Plant Physiology tied for first place with Entomology on my all-time list of courses in which I had no interest whatsoever. In the course, each student was issued seven or eight small flowerpots and a couple of seeds of some fast-growing plant. We were also given access to some sterilized soil and supplies of various plant nutrients. Our farms were started and had to be tended for several weeks. Then, each student was ordered to measure his plants and prepare a report on the results of each nutrient. Never being much of a report writer, I took my camera to the lab setups and made label cards for each pot with the nutrients. I photographed the setup, made an 8-½" by 11" glossy print, bound it in a report folder with a few puff-words, and handed it in.

To my surprise, no one had ever done that before. Dr. Lowe was so entranced with the idea that he

mandated that every student have the same thing in the report. That was apparently the start of my job as school photographer. The job kept me busy until late nights in the tiny photo lab high in the attic of Bray Hall. I also had to make the portraits of all of the graduating class and the faculty for the *Empire Forester*, the school annual. That also led to my appointment as photo editor of that publication.

That appointment brings to mind the famous line from Robert Burns' well-known poem, *To a Louse*—

*"O wad some Power the giftie gie us
To see oursels as ithers see us!"*

A young volunteer showed up one day to take photos of the following annual Foresters' Picnic & Competition. He requested a roll of film; I suggested that he take several rolls, just in case some shots turned out badly. He responded emphatically, "One's enough! I never took a bad picture in my life!"

He showed up the following Monday with a handful of the most awful photographic garbage I had ever encountered. I've known a couple of land surveyors who held opinions similar to his—of their own work. ◉

Editor's note:

In the April/May issue, we misquoted Bert Mason's description of Spencer Gross by using the word "different" instead of "diffident."

It was meant to read, "Spencer B. Gross arrived on time. He was a rather tall, well built young man with thinning blonde hair, a diffident manner and a ready smile."

We apologize for the error.

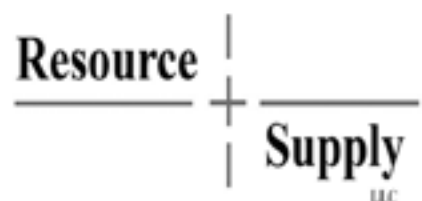
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Scholarship Auctions: A Fun and Exciting Way to Donate to your Cause

■ By Tierney Dutcher, PLSO Staff

Next January, at the 2010 PLSO Annual Conference in Salem, we will hold our Annual Scholarship Auction. Each year, a volunteer group of committee members puts together this charitable event. All money raised is put into the Oregon Community Foundation Scholarship Fund. Through the Foundation we are able to reach out to Oregon students in the various survey programs and help support continuing education efforts.

This year presents an extra challenge in reaching our scholarship goals. The downturn in the economy has placed additional financial pressures on companies and families trying to stay afloat. It is important to remember that these are the times when our philanthropic efforts can make the biggest difference. Surveying and mapping students are facing increased tuition at schools around the state, and even part-time jobs are hard to find.

The Scholarship Auction is the primary fundraiser for student scholarships all year. The PLSO has averaged about \$5,000 annually with these auctions, and we look forward to your support in continuing that trend. You may be thinking that you would like to help, but aren't sure where to start. Here are a few ideas to get your local chapter thinking about things you can do to contribute to the future of the profession. (*see list to the right*)

Please start a discussion at your local chapter meeting and create a strategy to approach local businesses for donations. With a little effort on the part of our strong and involved membership, we can continue to support this worthy cause. ◉



2008 PLSO SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

AUCTION IDEAS

- Vacation packages donated/discounted from travel companies or donated by vacation home or timeshare owner. Ask local hotels to donate a weekend stay or a one-night stay with dinner
- Golf packages with lunch or a round of golf and a basket of golf accessories
- A wine tasting package or wine tour at local vineyards
- Ski package
- Tickets to local shows or attractions
- Restaurant gift certificates
- Movie tickets or movie-themed basket with DVDs, candy, popcorn, etc.
- Airplane or hot air balloon ride donated from a business
- Fishing or boating-themed trip or basket of goods
- Survey equipment and old survey instruments that are of value
- Pictures and paintings from local artists or galleries
- Electronic games or game-themed basket with a variety of goods
- Yard and office décor—ask local nurseries for trees or container plants, garden supplies, mulch and soils or landscape materials like patio stones, etc.
- Handmade goods and home-made gifts; try farmers markets or craft fairs
- Books or other survey-related materials
- Beach-themed package with attractions at the coast or various beach-themed goods
- Party packages with catering services
- Inquire with web-based vendors within the survey field for gift certificates or donations
- Anyone with whom you write a check gives you ideas for solicitation; house cleaners, pool services, gardeners, house painters, plumbing and roofer services, fireplace sweepers, bathtub reglazers, and electricians can donate services in hopes of creating a new client.
- Regift! Take a gift you have received (but have no use for) and pass it along. This is your chance to regift in an acceptable way, while helping others!

Short Buying

■ *By Wilhelm A. Schmidt (retired land surveyor, getting a “crash” course in economics by watching CNBC)
Reprinted with permission from the Missouri Surveyor, March 2009*

For starters, a disclaimer: I am not an economist. Yet, I dare say that if the notion of short buying does not get me a Nobel Prize in economics, given the current financial milieu—I was about to say millennium, which it is to some—nothing will.

The notion is best described as the opposite of short selling. This is the practice of selling something you don't own. If you are puzzled by this practice, you are obviously a long-term investor, not a trader of stocks. Traders routinely do not own a stock they wish to sell. Since owning it is referred to as a long position, not owning it is, logically, being short. Traders get those who are long to lend them the stock. The loan generally occurs without the owner's explicit knowledge. If his/her account is in a street name, ownership is registered in the name of the brokerage firm, and “ownership” is only an entry in his/her account.

Having acquired the stock by just asking for it, traders then sell the stock, wait for its price to drop, repurchase it at a lower price and return it to its rightful owner—who is none the wiser for it, or poorer. Well, not exactly! He/she still has the stock but it is worth less. The smarty that traded it made what it has lost. You see, the trade is really a bet that the price

of the stock will decline. The “owner” is probably too naive to anticipate the decline, or hopes that any decline will be small and temporary. Remember, he/she is not a speculator. Once in a while, the price of the stock does go up, the short seller loses money and the legitimate owner has at least a paper profit. Nothing ventured, nothing lost!

There is one more wrinkle to this practice. Short selling used to be allowed only on an up-tick (as it once upon a time appeared on the ticker tape). The sale prior to it had to be at a price higher than the one before. But this rule has been scrapped.

Since the prior sale was proverbially covered, the short sale of the stock after a down-tick is now naked. The result is that there is no check on the decline in the value of the stock. Its price can readily spiral downward. Lately, so-called hedge funds have taken advantage of this kind of trade, and made billions in the process of driving the market to the brink of disaster.

Now, what is short buying? It is the practice of buying something for which you don't have the money. (And you thought economics was difficult to understand!) You are short the cash, so what do you do? You can raise it by selling

something else you do own. The smarter thing to do is to ask someone to lend it to you—a friend for a small amount, to tide you over, a bank for a large amount, to buy a house, for instance. Smarter yet, at least for an intermediate amount, is to buy on credit. Banks and large stores are more than willing to extend it, usually for an exorbitant fee, unless you pay it off quickly. When a brokerage extends credit, it is called margin, meaning you only have to put up a small percentage of the cost of a stock or a commodity. Buying investments, especially on credit, is a bet that their value will not decrease.

Lending institutions usually want some collateral to offset the loan. It could be any property, but mostly it is whatever you buy with the loan. This property is legally the lenders. If it is a car, and you don't make your monthly

Continues on page 30



Short Buying, cont.

payments, it can be repossessed. If it is real estate, it can be foreclosed upon. In that case, you lose whatever you already paid down, and the bank ends up with the entire property. If it is stock, you can get a margin call whenever the value of the stock drops below a percentage proportional to the margin, and perhaps you have to sell it at a loss.

Needless to say, short buying is not without its dangers. But a bank doesn't want the property, nor does a brokerage house depreciated assets. They used to assure themselves the return of the capital by lending only to those who were credit-worthy. Usually, that meant having a sufficient income to make regular payments. Unfortunately, this rule has fallen by the wayside: borrowing has gone naked. In the late 90s, the federal government mandated the issuance of mortgages to anyone (call it equal opportunity indebtedness), at rates kept artificially low. Additionally, it allowed for the combination of the commercial and the investment functions of banks. The commercial divisions no longer kept mortgages, but sold them.

(No one knows who has them anymore.) They were then pooled and marketed as prime investments. The pooling spread—and masterfully hid—the risk inherent in these investments.

Worse yet, the government amplified the risk by requiring that the value of the properties be marked to the market. The rise in interest rates to stave off inflation and the resulting inability of a relative minority of borrowers to make the increased mortgage payments led to a drop in their value. The institutions that held these pools of mortgages, here and abroad, thereupon foundered, overnight it seems. To the chagrin of nearly everyone, fortunes dropped and lending froze to the point that an unexpected recession could turn into a depression.

“Neither a borrower nor a lender be” seems the sage advice in this circumstance. Of course, following it really would land us in a depression. The cure for this malady is, ironically, a walloping dose of the disease that brought it on. Therefore, the government is doing all it can to facilitate what I euphemistically—you might well think facetiously—call short buying. Call me unpatriotic, but I wouldn't be caught doing it naked. ☉



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News from the Chapters

Umpqua #7

■ *By Brent Knapp, Secretary/Treasurer*

April 13, 2009

Chapter President: David Beedle

Location: Elmer's Restaurant, Roseburg

Called to Order: 6:35 pm **Adjourn:** 8:40 pm

Attendance: 16 members, 8 guests, 2 students

Minutes from the March meeting were approved with noted corrections.

Ron Quimby began the meeting with a legislative report. The chapter discussed SB 344—Appointment of County Surveyor. Quimby explained that it now appeared that only county surveyors would be impacted by this bill. The question was raised as to what PLSO's lobbyist is doing with regards to this and other important topics. It was noted that the lobbyist does not just work on behalf of PLSO. The board has contracted with the lobbyist to keep PLSO informed and then work for issues concerning surveying. The chapter feels that information seems to be delayed and is somewhat inconsistent. With that the chapter feels that an inquiry should be made with regards to the timeliness of information that is received from PLSO's lobbyist.

Romey Ware asked for an update on the Harold Stockhoff Memorial Golf Tournament. Nancy Stockhoff gave a report that 18 teams were confirmed, but that sponsors were not coming in as fast as in years past. The chapter agreed to try and gather sponsorships when available.

Clay Baumgartner, Umpqua Community College (UCC) Engineering Instructor, introduced Dr. Ross Tomlin, Vice President of Instruction, and Sue Goff, Dean of Career and Technical Education. Dr. Tomlin addressed the chapter thanking them for the support of the UCC Engineering and Land Surveying programs. He noted that there was a 50% growth from last year's enrollment in the Engineering and Land Surveying programs.

The chapter discussed the spring workshop that was held at UCC. The topics, Subdivision of Sections and Boundary Case Law, were well received. Leonard Herzstein asked how many attended the workshop. Mark Smalley gave a report of the success of the workshop. He noted that 44 members and 4 students attended raising approximately \$400 for scholarships for the Engineering department.

Baumgartner gave a brief status report on the progress being made with the annual Discover Engineering and Land Surveying Evening to be held on May 14 at UCC. A proposal of drawing for a \$500 scholarship was discussed.

County Commissioner Susan Morgan gave a presentation on the "State of the County" and the options available for the future of the Douglas County Surveyor's Office. Commissioner Morgan began her presentation with a look at the current budget. She mentioned that the safety net cannot be counted on. The county is receiving 10% less every four years and that all property taxes go to the Sheriff's Department. The questions that are being posed are how to function with the loss of the safety net. If no changes to budgets are made the Surveyor's Office will be in a deficit.

Ware presented a hand-out with some proposed options for the future of the Surveyor's Office. The General Fund contributes approximately 23% of the annual budget for fiscal year 2009-10 at \$119,000. Without the general fund, revenue will be necessary to maintain normal operations. 32-48% of annual budget over the last 15 years have been supported by printing fees and the Corner Preservation Fund. Romey mentioned that he and Deputy County Surveyor Randy Smith will soon be retiring and that one could replace them both. Falling under the Public Works department as well as contracting field crews could reduce the need for extensive funding. The proposal that created the most discussion was a \$15 charge, per document, on all land transaction filings in the County Clerk's office. This would generate approximately \$200,000. The chapter discussed all of the options presented and praised Ware for his work as the County Surveyor. Commissioner Morgan was thanked for her time and also for her support of PLSO and the Surveyor's Office. ◉

The Lost Surveyor
From the back cover

Question: LAT 45°41'15"N LONG 121°42'04"W

Answer: This mound was located between the trail and I-84 before the trail turns south toward Hole-In-the-Wall Falls in Starvation Creek State Park; east of Cascade Locks in Wasco County, Ore. It's only about 100 feet to the edge of the freeway so you probably won't get lost.

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THE LOST SURVEYOR

Can you tell me how many ants built this mound?*

LAT 45°41'15" N
LONG 121°42'04" W

*You didn't expect all these photos to be easy? The longitude and latitude will get you within three feet of the mound. If you get lost, these little morsels will keep you going for a few days.