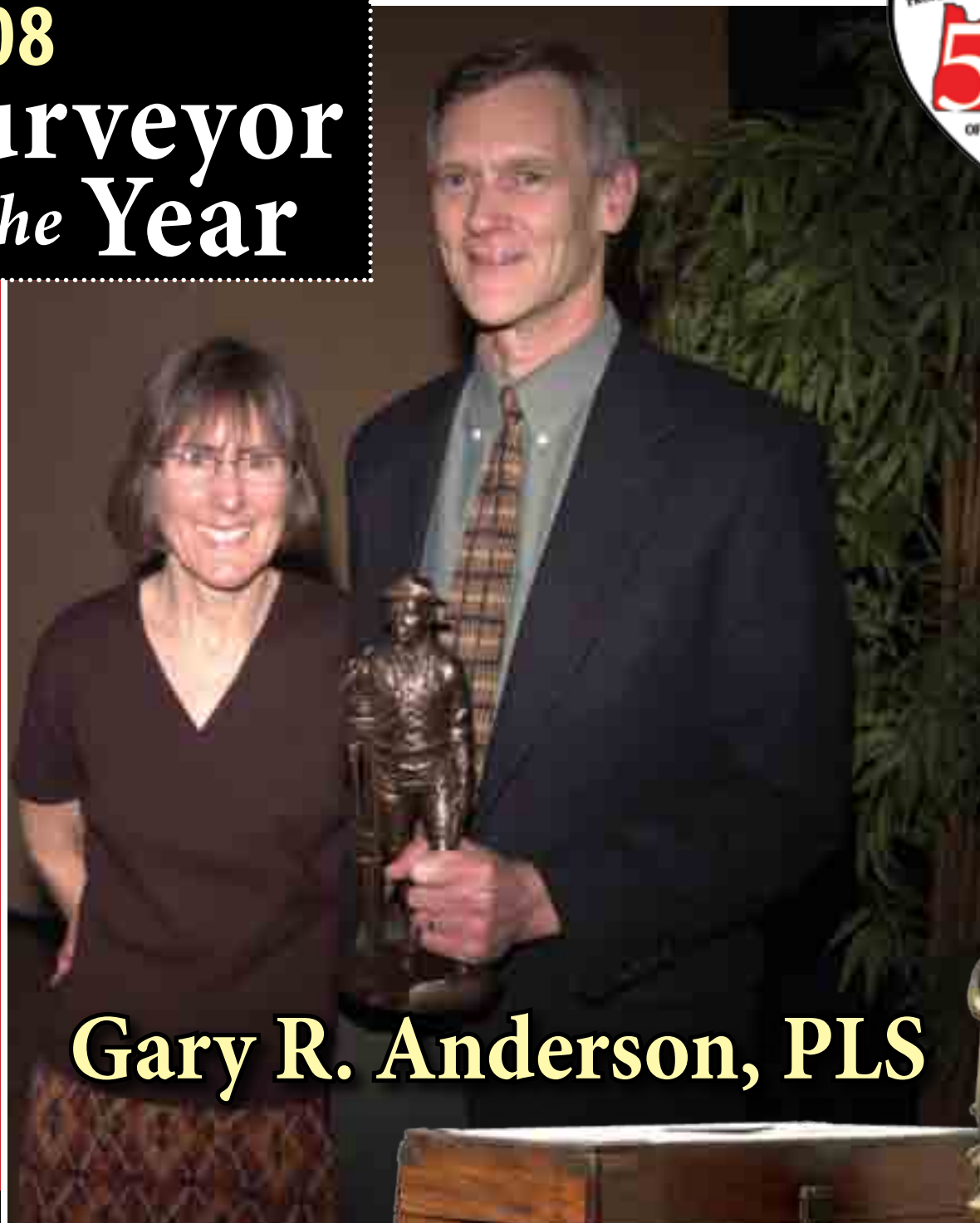


THE OREGON SURVEYOR

A PUBLICATION OF THE PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS OF OREGON



2008
Surveyor
of the Year



Gary R. Anderson, PLS



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THE OREGON SURVEYOR

Volume 32 No. 1
February/March 2009

Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon

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On-the-Cover

2008 Surveyor of the Year Gary Anderson and his wife, Karen.

Photo by Oran Abbott

Conference Photos

Photos in this issue were taken by Oran Abbott, Tim Kent and Lisa Switalla

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From Your Chair

■ By Gary Johnston, PLS, 2009 PLSO Chair

I am pleased and humbled to serve as your chair in 2009 during the PLSO's 50th year. It will be challenging to meet the high standards set by Ed Henricks, but in many ways it makes my job easier. He charted a course through last year that will serve as a guide through my year of service. I have been a member of PLSO for over 30 years, but still find there is much to learn about the organization and the individuals who make it all work. This year will provide many opportunities to get better acquainted with our new board and with many of you individually. I pledge my utmost to serve our membership and to work with the board during what will likely be a challenging economic year.

I want to first comment on our conference meeting in Portland. It was a great event, and there are articles and pictures covering the proceedings elsewhere in this issue. I commend our new (formed in 2008) Conference Committee, chaired by Tim Kent, for planning and presenting a great program combined with a comfortable facility, good food and great service. Initial feedback from registrants was very complimentary. The permanent committee, coupled with the local hosting chapter will strive to make the 2010 conference in Salem an even better event. We will be making improvements identified by conference evaluations as reviewed immediately following the Portland event.

The 50th Annual Meeting of PLSO heralded the opportunity to recognize charter members who had the vision and initiative to form our organization. It proved challenging to locate every charter member, but 13 living members were found out of a roster of 78. We were fortunate to have seven of those men join us for a special recognition luncheon during the first day of the conference. I will always treasure the memory of meeting and presenting each of them with special recognition and a gift from PLSO. I know the charter members were very appreciative for the chance to renew acquaintances with former associates and with current membership. The efforts of these senior members have evolved into a professional organization that still maintains the objectives laid out during the formative years. We owe those individuals a huge debt of gratitude for their vision and their perseverance to establish PLSO on such sound footing.

Other awards at the conference were presented to very deserving recipients including: Surveyor of the Year, Gary Anderson; and Associate of the Year, Guy Dent. Life Member status was conferred upon Tim Fassbender, Fred Gaylord, and Clair Pense. The award to Clair Pense was especially memorable as he was one of the charter members at their very first meeting and he was the first chair of PLSO. Congratulations to all.

What's in store for PLSO in 2009? What is our direction? Answers to those questions are part of ongoing strategic planning that was the focus of a special meeting convened during the annual conference. Results will help us allocate our energy and resources toward four key elements: Inspire membership; Foster Excellence; Conduct Outreach; and Advance Legislative Agenda. Details for implementing these elements are being developed into a draft document for our March board meeting.

Speaking of board meetings, we will attempt to convene those meetings in different locations around the state this year. The variety of locations will provide a chance to visit schools featuring coursework in surveying plus will be an attempt to equalize travel required by board members outside the Willamette Valley. If you ever wish to be a guest member at a board meeting, especially when it's in your area, let your Chapter President know.

In summary, our year began with a solid start. Much has already been planned to further PLSO objectives. Any successes this year will result through your board's efforts as supported by chapters and especially by you—the PLSO member. Yes, it will likely be an economically challenging year. Perhaps that ebb in work can provide an opportunity to enhance your career by reaching out and participating in one of PLSO's many endeavors. Stay connected through chapter meetings, through the PLSO website, and by being on the PLSO's mailing list so that you're current on developments. I wish you and your families the best in the year ahead and hope to personally have the opportunity to meet some of you at a future chapter meeting. ☉



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

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CONTRIBUTIONS OF MATERIAL

The Oregon Surveyor welcomes your articles, comments and photos for publication. PLSO assumes no responsibility for statements made or 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



There is a lot in this issue about our 50th Annual Conference, but I will still comment about it. I spent all three days of the convention taking photographs of the events and our attendees. I had a great camera and enough instructions—if nothing went wrong—to accomplish coverage of the convention events. (Technology is progressing so fast that I can hardly keep up with it.) The first two days I was not as familiar with the camera's advanced technology, but by the third day I was more pleased with the pictures I was able to take. I was in almost all of the classes, lunches, dinners, exhibits, etc., and was impressed with what I saw. There were several classes to choose from at each session time and hardly any duplicate programs. I hope you snuck a peek at David Evans & Associate's really impressive boat, *Theory*—it is specialized with over 12 computer screens for underwater surveying.



There were many high school and college students who participated in the conference and the "Survey Olympics." The students reminded me of a problem with our profession...where are the new professionals? We have been doing very well promoting surveying with Trig-Star, TwiST, scholarship funds, and exhibits regarding professional land surveying. I receive professional journals from all over the country and a recent article struck the same chord in regards to outreach. The article addressed the idea of "Distance Education". Instead of going to school to get a degree and then entering the profession, the student got a job working in surveying and decided to expand it with distance education through the Internet. It may take ten years to complete the program, but when the student earns their degree, they also have ten years of experience. They are also able to keep up with changing technology. The classes can be taught from anywhere in the U.S. This would be a big change in the way our profession is taught and received by the upcoming workforce.

An article in *The American Surveyor*, February 2009 addresses surveying education through Tim Kent's well-written article "Training recruiters: a new 'TwiST'" and includes photos. There is also an article on surveying in the Naica Caves; where there are crystals over 30 feet long and six feet wide. Has the world even been here long enough for crystals of that size to develop?

Be sure to check out the rest of this issue and enjoy the textual and visual review of the conference. ◊

Save the Date!
PLSO 51st Annual Conference
January 13–15, 2010
Salem Conference Center

View from the PLSO Office

■ By Mary Louise VanNatta, CAE; PLSO Executive Secretary

Conference Afterglow – Loving the Best Job in the World

After returning from half of a week with nearly 450 surveyors, I was amazed to see a group so enthusiastic about their profession. As the Executive Secretary for PLSO, my job at the conference was to meet the new board and talk with them about exciting subjects. These included: “The Value of Board Service,” and “How to Read your Association Budget.” I told them why I enjoyed working with Boards and planning events. A comment I made at the training stuck with one of our new leaders. He came up to me later and said, “*You said that working with Associations was the best job anyone could have. I don’t know how that could be, because surveying is the best job in the world.*” Point: It’s great to love what you do.

The January annual conference was full of people who love what they do. For many, work is slowing and even a few companies have downsized, but the professionals took this time to learn new techniques and trends and improve their skills and marketability. With over 40 programs, activities and meals, the group made interfacing with students a priority.

Listening to PLSO members, there was no doubt they love what they do. The PLSO members are doing what research has shown creates and sustains happiness. After meeting basic needs (food, shelter), those factors that increase happiness are:

- Doing a job you enjoy for fair pay (research shows that more pay doesn’t necessarily increase contentment or happiness).
- Working with people you like and respect.
- Being generous both financially and with your time.
- Having a positive connection with family and friends
- Feeling a connection with the community, a faith or belief system.

So, after one year with PLSO, it’s good to be able to say that I have enjoyed working with everyone. A special thanks to Past President Ed Henricks who is a consummate gentleman and was an excellent leader and teacher; to current President Gary Johnston who has been working tirelessly on behalf of the organization and keeps in continuous contact with us; to Tyler Parsons who patiently brought us along and supports us in the world of technology, to Sue Newstetter who worked so hard on keeping on top of the budget; to Surveyor of the Year Gary Anderson and Pioneer Chapter President-elect Joe Ferguson who kept me company many hours in a trade show booth, to Shaun Fidler for his enthusiasm and to Lloyd Tolbert and the rest of the education committee who have put so much into getting information to schools. It is people like this and so many others I didn’t mention, in PLSO, that makes my job fun and the best job in the world. ◉



Gary Anderson and Mary Louise VanNatta staff the PLSO booth at the Conference



How much work did you
pass up this morning?



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PLSO Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

January 28, 2009

DRAFT MINUTES
(To be approved at the March 14, 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)

Scott Freshwaters, President-Elect
Kevin Samuel, Secretary/Treasurer

MIDWEST (2)

Kent Baker, President
Renee Clough, President-Elect

PIONEER (3)

Paul Galli, Past President
Shaun Fidler, President & Membership Chair
Joe Ferguson, President-Elect

ROGUE RIVER (4)

Herb Farber, President
Craig Claassen, President-Elect
Stephan Barott, Secretary/Treasurer

SOUTH CENTRAL (5)

Evelyn Kalb, President
Mason Marker, President-Elect
Jill Fritz, Secretary/Treasurer

SOUTHWEST (6)

Edith Forkner, President
Walter White, President-Elect

UMPQUA (7)

Ron Quimby, Past President
Brent Knapp, Secretary/Treasurer

WILLAMETTE (8)

David Malone, President
John Wise, Secretary/ Treasurer

BLUE MOUNTAIN (9)

Tim Simons, President
Bob Butler, President-Elect

Committee Chairs

John Nemecek, Budget/Finance
Lloyd Tolbert, ACSM/NSPS
Gary Anderson, Education Goals & Actions/OSBEELS Liaison
Tyler Parsons, Internet/Webpage
Greg Crites, WESTFED
Tim Fassbender, Government Affairs/Legislation
Brent Bacon, By-Laws
Dan Linscheid, Past Chair
Sue Newstetter, Outgoing Budget Chair
John Minor, GPS Users Group

Guests

Ed Graham, Past Executive Secretary
Patrick Beehler, NSPS President
Wendell Harness, Willamette Chapter

CALL TO ORDER

Johnston called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. at the Timberline Room –Red Lion on the River, Portland. Introductions followed.

Minutes of the November 22, 2008 Board Meeting were provided:

Kalb requested that Brian Reeves be removed from the attendee list as South Central President. He attended as President-Elect of Central Chapter

MOTION: Ferguson moved and Quimby seconded that the minutes be approved as amended.

Motion passed.

Board Meeting Schedule

Johnston provided the Board Meeting schedule for 2009. The group had a chance to vote electronically for preferences on available dates on the “Doodle” polling program provided by the PLSO office. Meetings were set for:

January 28—Portland
March 14—Albany
May 2—Roseburg
June 27—Central Oregon
September 12—Klamath Falls
November 14—Salem

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY’S REPORT

January 28, 2009

One year ago (Jan. 1, 2008), the PLSO accounts stood as follows:

New Checking	\$ 29,886.02
Checking	\$ 15,394.14
Conference	\$ 4,953.72
Money Fund	\$117,002.91
(Nov 07=\$116,059.45)	

Total Assets \$167,236.79*

*Conference was not held until March last year.

The PLSO accounts stand as of 1/16/09:

Checking	\$ 211,367.30
balance as of 1/16, not from last statement)	
Checking	closed
Conference	closed
Money Fund	\$ 104,895.78
(up from 103,037.10 on 11/08)	

Total Assets \$316,263.08

*Will move \$15,000 from Money Fund to general checking by next week, dues notices have gone out.

Membership by class

	2005	2006	2007	2008
Corporate	609	592	574	583
Associate	107	120	131	108
Special	32	34	31	34
Student	19	31	50	83
Life	19	29	28	30
Totals	786	806	814	838

Membership Recruitment

New member brochures were created and produced, a fillable PDF. Is done for the website so they can be filled in, printed, mailed and faxed.

Membership Renewals

PLSO 2009 renewals have been mailed out with computer generated letters with data for current members (and those from 07 who are in the database) along with a conference flyer.

Also, all registered surveyors in the OSBEELS database, who are not currently members, will receive a new member brochure, conference flyer and recruitment letter.

Finances

After a great deal of work, we finally achieved centralized accounting! The conference and chapter accounts were closed and now records are being kept in one file. The Chapters were given a choice of using a limited use credit card

Continues on page 8

and were given a deposit 'kit' for workshops and other events.

The US Bank Credit Card merchant account was closed and a new system was brought online that will allow for swiping cards, internet processing and best yet, will be going from a rate of 5.03% to under 3%.

Working with Sue Newstetter on the budget.

Conference

A conference flyer was produced. The office produced and distributed exhibitor registrations and is working with Paul Rydell to contract with decorator for exhibitor area as required by the hotel. Office participated in conference calls to monitor conference progress, consulted on food and "give away" items.

Education

A new trade show booth is being ordered. The office is sending out career packets when requested. Scholarship funds were disbursed.

PLSO 150 Oregon

Logo was produced for Oregon 150 to be consistent with the state.

Johnston reviewed the budget as presented by Nemecek. It is a balanced budget.

Anderson asked about the Board of Director's Budget. Where does the TwiST program come in? Johnson noted that there was room in the budget for TwiST.

Freshwaters said there would be no workshops for the Central Chapter.

Rogue River Chapter requested a transaction detail report from last year.

Fidler requested the Pioneer Chapter budget be increased. Funds were moved from the Central Chapter to the pioneer chapter.

MOTION: Farber moved, Fidler seconded that the budget be accepted as amended.

Motion passed.

Henricks provided a report from the Chair as to the activities that occurred last year.

Johnston reported on the activities that had occurred and would be planned for the upcoming year.

BOARD ORIENTATION

Mission Statement: Johnston reviewed the expectations and mission of PLSO.

VanNatta reviewed the Board Operations Manual and provided information on where to find tools for board service including laws relating to board service.

Nemecek and VanNatta provided a brief review of financial protocols for chapters and board members. Checks or reimbursements should be requested through a check request form. The office can arrange for establishments to bill PLSO directly, they can reimburse people for out-of-pocket costs on behalf of PLSO or can provide checks in advance for expected expenses.

When chapters put on workshops they should deposit monies directly into a local US Bank using deposit slips provided by PLSO. Then they should mail the deposit slip and the names of the people who paid and their method of payment to the office.

The PLSO office is pursuing online registration for chapter workshops.

Nemecek's role will be to oversee budget, to monitor funds and to provide financial recommendations to the board and office.

Johnston reported that he wanted each board member to be on a committee.

If members cannot be at board meetings, they should appoint an alternate.

OLD BUSINESS

Boundary Law Casebook

Kalb reported that she has talked with Lucas and that she wanted to see the Alabama book. The draft book is estimated to be another six months in the works.



The gavel is passed. 2009 PLSO Chair Gary Johnson thanks 2008 Chair Ed Henricks.

Legislative Ethics Report

Henricks reported on the Legislative Ethics Report issue, in which PLSO could have received a fine for reporting issues. There was only a letter of education provided by the Ethics Commission.

He reminded people that they should copy the PLSO office in on any important documents.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Conference

Kent reported that the conference is going well, good attendance, about 450.

Education Goals & Actions

Anderson reported that there is a high school student program during the conference (Friday). He encouraged the board to talk with students.

Strategic Plan

Farber reported that the Strategic Planning Meeting would be held on Friday at 1:00 p.m.

Membership

Fidler reported that he will be calling the Chapter members to make sure they have called their delinquent members.

MOTION: Being no further business, Farber moved, Quimby seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

Motion passed. ©

2009 Surveyor of the Year

Gary R. Anderson, PLS

Gary Anderson has been an active PLSO member for several years, serving as Pioneer Chapter President, Liaison to OSBEELS, Liaison to OACES, and currently as the chair of the Education and Goals Committee. Gary has been instrumental in putting forth PLSO goals by encouraging student involvement and community outreach, and is constantly volunteering to take on PLSO outreach events. Because of his constant involvement and can do attitude, we wholeheartedly nominate Gary Anderson for Surveyor of the Year.

—Nominated by PLSO Members:
Paul Galli, John Putnam, Doyle Anderson,
Joe Ferguson, Ben Stacy, and Ryan Godsey



Gary Anderson, PLS displays his contribution on the Willamette Stone in the book "Lasting Impressions"

About Gary Anderson

Associate, Senior Project Manager
Westlake Consultants, Inc.
Oregon PLS 2434 / California PLS 5648

Gary Anderson, PLS, has over 30 years of experience and an enduring passion for the art and science of surveying. He started out at California State Polytechnic University in Pomona before he turned to a life of surveying. Gary was mentored by James Nelson, a sole proprietor, and then later worked for Los Angeles County until acquiring his California Land Surveyor license in 1987. He has since worked for three large multi-disciplinary consulting firms tackling projects from San Diego, California to Astoria, Oregon.

In 1989 Gary moved to Oregon, earning his Oregon Land Surveyor license in 1990. In 1996 he joined Westlake Consultants Inc. and ten years later, in December 2006, Westlake recognized Gary's contributions by naming him one of only four Associate Principals at the firm.

Gary Anderson served as President of the Pioneer Chapter of PLSO in 2005 and, since then, has served enthusiastically in various capacities, helping PLSO meet education goals and as PLSO's liaison with OSBEELS. For the Portland Community College Cement Masons Apprenticeship and civil engineering



Gary Anderson accepts the 2008 Surveyor of the Year Award from Ed Henricks

Continues on page 10

2009 Surveyor of the Year

Continued from page 9

technology programs, he has served as an Adjunct Instructor, introducing students to survey objectives and techniques. In addition, Gary has been a committed supporter of the Trig-Star program that provides high school students with the opportunity to learn about the survey profession. Gary's commitment to the discipline of surveying is evident at work as he leads Westlake's "brown bag" education efforts for survey staff identifying hot topics and arranging presentations.

At Westlake Consultants, Inc., Gary is a Senior Project Surveyor and in this role works closely with clients, design teams, and sub-consultants; leading surveying efforts for multi-disciplinary teams working on multi-jurisdictional projects. In addition, as



2008 Surveyor of the Year
Gary Anderson and his wife, Karen.

Westlake's liaison with on-call clients Gary provides a consistent presence and a very high level of consulting surveying service.

Gary has completed a wide range of surveying assignments working on residential, commercial, institutional, transportation, and major infrastructure projects. As you look around the City of Portland, you will see many landmark projects that Gary worked on—projects that have changed Portland's skyline and helped create new neighborhoods. He is also a member of the Oregon Society of Artists.

Ultimately, Gary takes great satisfaction in applying the concepts and rules of surveying while working with his clients to make their projects happen. ◊

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2009 Associate Member of the Year

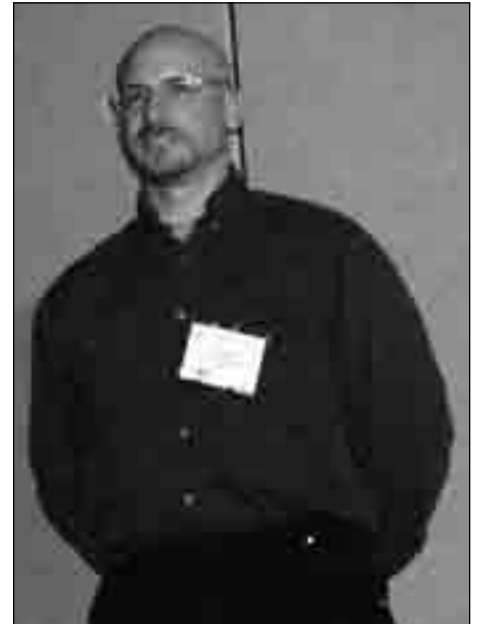
Guy Dent

Over the last few years Guy Dent has become a fixture at our chapter meetings and oversees the Trig-Star program at both Springfield and Thurston High Schools. He also assisted Clell Goodwin with the high school program at the 2008 conference. Guy's involvement has been broader and more frequent than many of the full members in our chapter.

Guy's position at the City of Springfield includes establishing new city control points, field checking plats and staking city construction projects. He performs his tasks with a positive, professional attitude and does his best to meet the current and future needs of the city, area surveyors and the public. An example is the new city benchmarks. Instead of just determining new elevations for the existing benchmarks, he is adding benchmarks to areas that do not have reasonably accessible benchmarks and areas whose benchmarks are difficult to find, unstable or often damaged.

We feel that his dedication to both the organization and the profession should be acknowledged by being awarded the title of "Associate Member of the Year".

—Nominated by PLSO Members: Rex Betz, PLS; Dennis Ernst, PLS; Renee Clough, PE, PLS; Dan Nelson, LSI; Clell Goodwin, PLS



2009 Associate Member of the Year
Guy Dent

About Guy Dent

Guy grew up in Springfield, Oregon. He earned a technology degree in drafting and worked in a variety of engineering fields, but none seemed quite right. Eventually, Dave Brown hired Guy to work in the Survey Department at Balzhiser & Hubbard Engineers. At the time he thought, "Sure. I'll give surveying a shot." Since then, he hasn't looked back. He says that his favorite part of surveying is, "I can make it what I want it to be—from fieldwork to office work. Using my talents and strengths in so many varying ways; every job is a new puzzle."

Guy earned his LSI in 2001 and has the goal of earning his Oregon PLS as soon as he meets the OSBEELS requirements. He has administered the TrigStar program at both Thurston and Springfield High Schools for approximately 4 years and is involved with the Oregon GPS Users Group. ◉

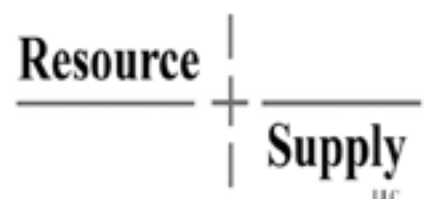
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PLSO 50th Annual Meeting

Presented by the Pioneer Chapter in honor of our founding members



PLSO Celebrates 50 Years

■ *By Mary Louise VanNatta,
Executive Director PLSO*

Gary Anderson Chosen as 2008 Surveyor of the Year

On January 28–30 over 400 surveyors met in Portland to celebrate the association that has supported and encouraged the profession in Oregon. The group took this opportunity to honor its living charter members as well as recognize excellence in the profession.

At the Founder's Luncheon, eleven Charter Members were lauded; James W. Chase, George L. Cook, Charles A. Denison, Eugene P. DiLoreto, Bert Mason Jr., Verle C. Moore, Clair E. Pense, Harlan G. Scott, B. Osburn Shaw, Howard W. Johnstone and John M. Phillips.

The 50th Anniversary Dinner honored outstanding leaders in the organization, including:

- Surveyor of the Year, Gary Anderson Anderson works for Westlake Consultants as a Senior Project Surveyor and has over 30 years of experience and an enduring passion for the art of surveying. He has served the association as Pioneer Chapter President, liaison to OSBEELS and OACES and is currently the chair of the PLSO Education and Goals Committees. He has been instrumental in putting forth PLSO goals by encouraging student involvement

and community outreach, including involvement in TrigStar. He is actively working on the PLSO Willamette Stone project to celebrate Oregon's 150th birthday. PLSO is revitalizing the Willamette Stone State Heritage park site, located in the west hills of Portland. This site marks the starting-off point for all mapping surveys in Oregon and Washington, dating to the Donation Land Claim Act of 1850.

- Associate of the Year, Guy Dent Dent was recognized by the Association for his involvement at the Chapter level and as an advocate of the TrigStar program in both Springfield and Thurston High Schools. Dent is a Survey Party Chief for the City of Springfield and is actively involved in the community.
- Life Members: Tim Fassbender, Clair Pense and Fred Gaylord. The Association bestows Life Membership upon members who have made significant contributions to the organization. This honor was bestowed this year to Tim Fassbender, President Elect of PLSO, City of Eugene; Clair Pense, founding member of PLSO and Fred Gaylord, of Netarts.

PLSO continues its membership renewal process and encourages those interested to visit www.plso.org to learn about membership and educational opportunities and meetings. ◊





Honoring Our Founding Members

Founding members gather at the Wednesday luncheon.
 B. Osborne Shaw, Bert Mason Jr., Verle C. Moore, Clair Pense,
 James W. Chase, Eugene P. DiLoreto, Chuck Denison

In celebrating the 50th anniversary of the first meeting of the Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon, we saluted the charter members of our organization. The first meeting was held on June 30, 1959 at the PGE Auditorium in Portland.

The PLSO board decided that the 50th anniversary should be held in Portland, the birthplace of our professional organization. It is also home for a number of our charter members, many of whom were able to attend this momentous occasion.

A search of charter members was performed from old records and meeting minutes, and invitations were sent out to all that we could locate. Seven members were able to attend the festivities. At lunch on Wednesday, they were recognized by incoming chair Gary Johnston. The honorees and their spouses were treated to dinner Thursday, with more recognition and plaques honoring their service to the organization.

PLSO Charter Members:

Byron Abernathy ♦ Robert A. Balch ♦ Ralph G. Barnes ♦ Hal P. Barrows ♦ Russell B. Bass ♦ D. F. Bates ♦ John F. Bollinger ♦ James J. Bonner ♦ Harold C. Booth ♦ Victor A. Bringle ♦ Homer G. Bursell ♦ John L. Carlich ♦ Orris A. Carnegie ♦ W.L. Carson ♦ James D. Caufield ♦ Lee J. Caufield ♦ Grant Chandler ♦ Archie B. Chapman ♦ Andrew B. Chappell ♦ James W. Chase ♦ Vaughn W. Cochran ♦ George L. Cook ♦ Charles A. Denison ♦ Eugene P. DiLoreto ♦ Carl Essler ♦ Donald Ewing ♦ Robert T. Flynn ♦ Robert A. Francisco ♦ John B. Gearhart ♦ A.D. Graham ♦ John R. Gray ♦ Vernon W. Harmier ♦ Wayne O. Harris ♦ Herndon S. Hill ♦ William C. Holtbuer ♦ Milton H. Howe ♦ H.L., Jensen, Jr. ♦ Howard W. Johnstone ♦ Forrest E. Jones ♦ Ray L. Kindorf ♦ Donald Knowles ♦ Gene A. Leuthold ♦ Donald E. Marx ♦ Bertell Mason, Jr. ♦ George C. McAdams ♦ William L. McGeorge ♦ David R. McMinn ♦ Verle C. Moore ♦ Richard M.

Morris ♦ Robert L. Nordlander ♦ Edward A. Noyes ♦ Edward K. Oliver ♦ Andrew J. Paris, Jr. ♦ G.J.R. Paynter ♦ Clair E. Pense ♦ E.I. Pettijohn ♦ Norman W. Pettijohn ♦ Richard R. Pfeifer ♦ John M. Phillips ♦ George Pongracz-Bartha ♦ Charles Porterfield ♦ Norman D. Price ♦ Harlan G. Scott ♦ B. Osburn Shaw ♦ Floyd L. Siegmund ♦ Lyle C. Smith ♦ Albert B. Solberg ♦ Clifford A. Stephens ♦ Ralph P. Thompson ♦ Robert W. Veelman ♦ Robert M. Vincent ♦ James G. Voelz ♦ Francis E. Waggoner ♦ Clarence P. Westwood ♦ M. W. Whitfield ♦ Lloyd T. Williams ♦ Vern S. Williams ♦ George V. Wright

We hope that, wherever they are, they know what a great service they have done for land surveying in the State of Oregon, and for the surveying community as a whole. ◊



Orville Caswell and Bert Mason, Jr.



James W. Chase



PLSO 50th Annual Meeting

■ 2009 PLSO Conference Committee

Wow! Did you get a chance to see Shelby Griggs's tricked out survey chariot, or DEA's boat (that literally looks like a million dollars)? Such things were seen at this year's conference, which was held January 28–30 at the Red Lion Inn on the River at Jantzen Beach, in honor of our founding members. If you did not make, it you missed out.

Events included the resurrection of old favorites like the "Survey Olympics" and "Survey Truck Contest". We also held a "Survey Map Contest", where surveyors around the state could see what others have been working on. The winners of each contest took away prizes such as a free registration to the 2010 conference (Salem Conference

Center on January 13–15), a Garmin E-trex GPS unit, or some of the cool new PLSO hats and apparel (check them out on the PLSO website).

Speakers included Tony Cuomo from Pacific Land Seminars on legal descriptions and FLS exam preparation and Frank Hardt from the Alaska BLM Office on water boundaries, all of which were very well attended. Speaking of which, Jeff Lucas can sure fill a room, can't he? We also learned that he probably doesn't need a microphone next time, as many of you who were in the next classroom can attest to. Even if you don't always agree with him, you have to admire his enthusiasm.

Other speakers included specialists from the BLM, BPA, and NGS and a host of presenters from the private sector. We also received talks from Jon Aschenbach of Resource Supply regarding the latest ArcPAD software, and Ted Engle of The PPI Group regarding general equipment maintenance and care. Sue Newstetter and Renee Godwin spoke about contracting and

marketing, and OSBEELS members told us how the Board works, and how a claim gets processed.

The new three-day program was a hit because it gave the ability for attendees to obtain at least 15 PDHs, and allowed one-day attendees to choose their venue. This and many of the other program additions will be continued in the years to come.

Be on the lookout for an email confirmation letter of the classes that you attended. Remember that OSBEELS does not pre approve courses and it is your responsibility to report accurately what you earned. The list that will be provided is intended to help you identify the PDHs that you wish to claim.

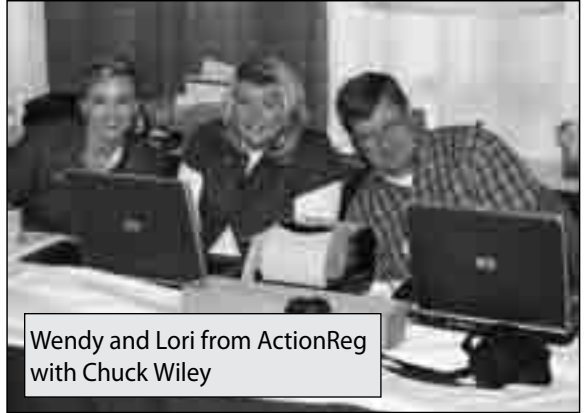
Several respondents to the evaluation survey said that this was the best conference that they had attended in years. We agree with them, and we certainly appreciate the compliment. We will endeavor to work out some bugs and make next year's conference even better. ☺



The PLSO Conference Committee and Pioneer Chapter volunteers



Survey Truck Contest Winner.
Entry by Shelby Griggs



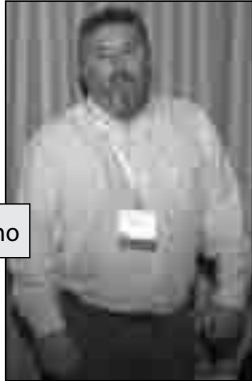
Wendy and Lori from ActionReg
with Chuck Wiley



Speaker Tony Cuomo



Ken Cochran, Paul Rydell, and
Ron Grace help with setup



2008 Pioneer Chapter
Secretary Joe Ferguson



2008 Chapter Presidents. Pictured are Ed Henricks, 2008 Chair; Ron
Quimby (Umpqua) ; Evelyn Kalb (South Central); and Paul Galli (Pioneer)



Sue Newstetter and
Cael Neathamer



PLSO 50th Annual Meeting

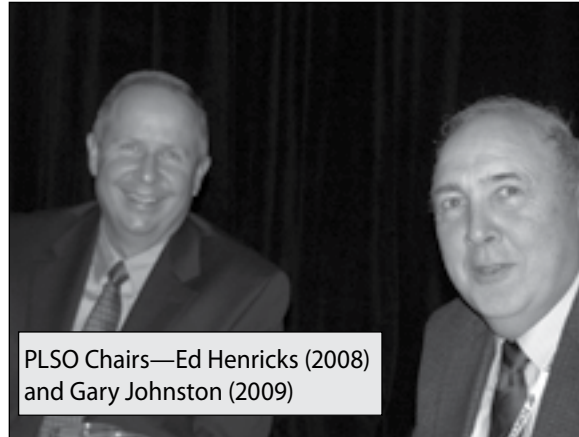


Richard Bryant



Dick Hofland and Steve Haddock

Joe Mannix, OIT student, at the OIT Booth



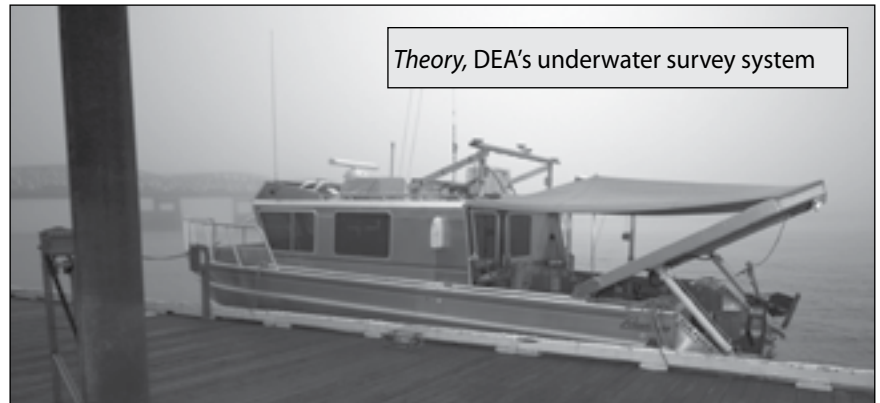
PLSO Chairs—Ed Henricks (2008) and Gary Johnston (2009)



Hofland Survey Monuments



Oran Abbott (left) chats with an exhibitor



Theory, DEA's underwater survey system



The Paul Galli Family



Clair Pense is applauded as a PLSO Founding Member



Gary Johnston presenting a thank you award to Tim Kent, Conference Chair



Bert and Ellen Mason with Linda Pope, LLM



Jeff Lucas



Lloyd Tolbert



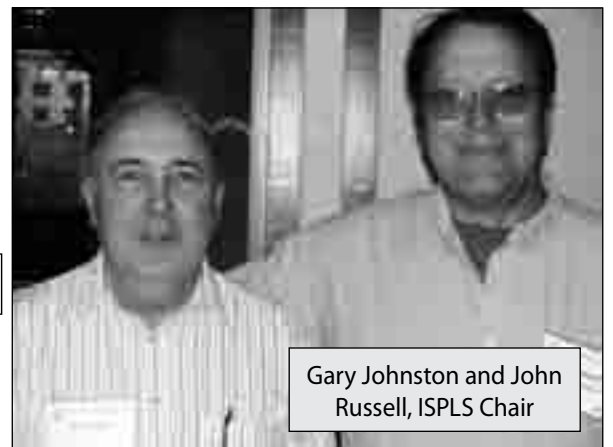
Ken Cochran



Sue Newstetter and Jack Burris



Paul Rydell



Gary Johnston and John Russell, ISPLS Chair



Greg Crites and Steve Haddock



PLSO Map Contest



PLSO 50th Annual Meeting

High School Student Program

In the months running up to our 50th Annual Conference we (Pioneer Chapter) realized that there was still room to provide a high school student program at the conference. After speaking with Clell Goodwin and Joel Smith, who shared their experiences from their 2008 PLSO conference high school student program, we (Ryan Godsey, Joe Ferguson and Gary Anderson) developed a schematic plan and solicited interest from our local high school contacts. After proposing we might have a group of 24 students, we gathered 33 registrants (29 students showed up for our Friday, January 30 program). The students came from Aloha, Beaverton, Clackamas, David Douglas, Madison, Milwaukie, Rex Putnam, Santiam Christian, Southridge, Sunset, West Linn and home school high school communities.

Our program began with an introduction and overview of the day's events. A gift bag of survey related materials was presented to each student and to the three attending instructors (Art Chase, Rob Waibel and Dale Merrell). Displays were available of professional magazines, conference Map Contest

submittals, student and PLS resumes, a photo collage of surveyors in action and many tools of the trade. Two guest speakers (Annette dePaz, City of Newberg and Doyle Anderson, Port of Portland) presented how they came to their careers in surveying. The "Choose Your Path Make Your Mark" DVD was also played.

Our main focus of interest was a series of hands-on opportunities. The students participated in our "Survey Olympics" where various measurement skills were tested. Total Station demonstrations were also provided by Jarrett Price of Geoline Inc. and Richard Hill with PPI Group. But, perhaps the most fun event was a compass and pace course through the conference hall facilitated by Ryan Godsey.

Are you hungry yet? Lunch was served and some very impressive presentations were made about surveying education programs by students and leaders of Chemeketa CC, Clark CC, OIT, and Blue Mountain CC. Some swag and prizes were distributed to students for the various morning contests.

We got everyone outdoors, in the cold and wind, to view the Survey Vehicle contestants. Some students sat-in on a conference workshop session and a few

of us had opportunity to get on board the *Theory*—DEA's fully outfitted hydrographic surveying vessel which was docked on the Columbia River for conference tours.

Attendee feedback, thus far, has been both gracious and constructive:

"I enjoyed it greatly. I learned many new things about surveying that I did not know before and probably would have never learned if I had not attended the convention."

"...it would have been interesting to have been able to have more time to talk to the college students to learn more about what their degrees are in and about the college that they attend. I enjoyed the college presentations, although it would have been nice to have had a representative from Oregon State University, because it seems that they have a great survey educational program. It would have been nice to have a time when the surveyors who are still working in their field, could talk to us and then had a question and answer time"

"Thank you for a great and knowledgeable time that I spent at the convention and the time that you invested into all of the students."

Thanks to everyone who supports the education of our future geometricians and surveyors! ◊



Doyle Anderson teaching at the Survey Olympics



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ELECTION RESULTS

The ACSM Tellers Committee recently counted member organization election ballots. Here are the results:

AAGS President Elect – Barbara Littell
Director – Ed Carlson

CaGIS Vice President – Kari J. Craun

GLIS President – Robert L. Young
Vice President – J. Peter Borbus
Treasurer – Stacey Duane Lyle
Secretary – William M. Coleman
Directors (3) – Francis W. Derby
Coleen M. Johnson
Joshua Greenfeld

NSPS Pres. Elect – William R. Coleman
Sec./Treas. – John Fenn Sr.
Area 2 Director – Lewis Conley
Area 6 Director – Charles Kutz
Area 8 Director – Henry Kuehlem

2009 ACSM/NSPS CONTEST AND AWARD RESULTS

The American Congress on Surveying & Mapping (ACSM) and the National Society of Professional Surveyors (NSPS) is happy to announce the 2009 winners of the following awards:

2009 EXCELLENCE IN PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISM AWARDS

Best of Show

California Surveyor, a publication of the California Land Surveyors Association

Best Professional Publication

Minnesota Surveyor, a publication of the Minnesota Society of Professional Surveyors

Best Newsletter

The TBM, newsletter of the New Hampshire Land Surveyors Association

Honorable Mention

Tennessee Surveyor, a publication of the Tennessee Association of Professional Surveyors

The Benchmark, a publication of the New Hampshire Land Surveyors Association

2009 MAP/PLAT AWARDS

ALTA/ACSM Survey Maps

First—Ivan G. Moody, Greenhorne & O'Mara Inc., Chantilly, VA
Second—John B. Guyton, Flatirons Surveys Inc., Boulder, CO
Third—Robert W. Telschow Jr., Taylor, Wiseman & Taylor, Cherry Hill, NJ

Boundary/Cadastral Maps

First—Marshall W. Robinson, Allegheny Surveys Inc., Birch River, WV
Second—Andrew David Whitley, Whitley Land Surveying, Madison, GA
Third—John B. Guyton, Flatirons Surveys Inc., Boulder, CO

Miscellaneous Maps

First—John B. Guyton, Flatirons Surveys Inc., Boulder, CO
Second—Skylar Wilson, Wilson Land Surveying, Pinedale, WY
Third—Randy Schrank, USDA Forest Service, Anchorage, AK

Subdivision Plats

First—Roger E. Grimsley, AE2S, Grand Forks, North Dakota
Second—Marshall W. Robinson, Allegheny Surveys Inc., Birch River, WV
Third—Henry Dingle, Jr., B.P. Barber, Columbia, SC

Topographic Maps

First—Randy Schrank, USDA Forest Service, Anchorage, AK
Second—Marshall W. Robinson, Allegheny Surveys Inc., Birch River, WV
Third—Randall E. Cook, H&C Surveyors Inc., Martinez, GA

Earle J. Fennell Award

Prof. Kenneth Wong, St. Cloud State University

Surveying Excellence Award

Prof. Roy Frank, Southern Illinois University

Affiliate of the Year Award

Land Surveyors' Association of Washington (large state)

Student Project of the Year Award

Joseph Gabor, Pennsylvania State University – Wilkes Barre

Award Recipients!

The PPI Fund for Survey Instruction is proud to support the schools that educate tomorrow's surveyors.

**Congratulations
to this year's award recipients!**

Oregon Institute for Technology—Klamath Falls *Award Amount \$1,056*

Bates Technical College—Tacoma *Award Amount \$1,118*

Clark College—Vancouver *Award Amount \$1,126*

For questions about the PPI fund contact Paul Rydell @ 503.231.1576



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Save the Date!

Spring Workshop for Land Surveyors

Presented by the Umpqua Chapter of PLSO and Umpqua Community College

Saturday, April 4, 2009 • 8:30 AM—4:00 PM

Umpqua Community College, Campus Center, 1140 Umpqua College Rd, Roseburg (Exit 129)

SECTION SUBDIVISION (8:30–12 NOON)

This workshop will cover the process of subdividing sections of the PLSS. Session will include review and discussion subdividing regular sections, closing sections and fractional sections.

Instructor: Tim Moore, PLS Tim is a Supervisory Land Surveyor for the BLM Oregon State Office. He has worked as a cadastral Surveyor in a number of states for the BLM since 1980. He attended the Oregon Institute of Technology and has instructed at numerous technical workshops.

OREGON CASE LAW REVIEW (1–4 PM)

A panel review of precedent setting case law from the Oregon Appellate and Oregon Supreme Courts will be presented. Topics will include water boundaries, including acts of nature (accretions, erosion, and relictions), boundary by agreement, adverse possession, use of evidence, monuments and monument reliance, easements and prescriptive rights, practical location, and other notable cases.

Instructor: Brent Knapp, LSIT Brent is currently an instructor of Civil Engineering and Land Surveying at Umpqua Community College. He has worked for the federal government as well as for several private surveying and engineering firms in the Portland and Roseburg areas.

Cost: Early Bird Rate \$75 per person (through March 25) Lunch and refreshments included.

* Participants will receive a continuing education certificate of attendance and notebook with handouts.

Registration: visit www.umpqua.edu/commed "Upcoming Events" or call 541-440-4601.

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Right of Entry, Or Not?

■ Romey Ware, Douglas Co. Surveyor

The Right of Entry issue has become quite the topic of interest lately. This has arisen because the Law Enforcement Committee (LEC) for the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineers and Land Surveyors (OSBEELS) has taken on the duty of issuing penalties based on complaints by supposed victims damaged by surveyors accused of violating ORS 672.047. This paragraph is titled “672.047 Right of entry by land surveyor; compensation for damages caused; notice; removal of survey markers” and details the required method of notice to enter private property and what conditions follow. It allows a surveyor, employee or agent, to enter private property after giving notice in person (note: mailing letter does not meet statute), or posting notice (door hangers, etc.) in a conspicuous place most likely to be seen.

Right-of-entry complaints increased as property owners and their representatives are now aware that OSBEELS is reprimanding and penalizing professional land surveyors. As a side note, professional engineers, photogrammetrists, and geologists are not subject to the right of entry statute and thus never burdened LEC with complaints. It would seem preferable that OSBEELS not get involved in right of entry issues with land surveyors, so why do they? It appears because of strict interpretation of ORS 672.325, and ignoring the wording between 672.002 and 672.325.

ORS 672.325 deals specifically with Civil Penalties and states:

“(1) In addition to any other penalty provided by law, any person who violates any provision of ORS 672.002 to 672.325 or any rule adopted thereunder shall forfeit and pay to the State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying a civil penalty in an amount determined by the board of not more than \$1,000 for each offense.”

Apparently the Board’s position is that this language gives it the right to impose

penalty on every issue they deem falls within 672.002 to 672.325. However, the real intent of this paragraph is to establish a limit on the amount of penalty imposed, not to determine if a violation has occurred. To determine a violation, the Board is bound and limited by the language outlined between the parameters of 672.002 to 672.325 as it is stated and intended.

Studying the language between 672.002 to 672.325 we find the following:

“672.200 Grounds for suspension or revocation of certificate or permit or refusal to issue, restore or renew certificate or permit; grounds for reprimand. The State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying may refuse to issue, restore or renew, or may suspend or revoke any person enrolled as an intern or holding a certificate or permit:

For violation of any provision of ORS 672.045; (deals with fraud)

For gross negligence, negligence or incompetence in the practice of engineering or land surveying;

For violation of a felony, or of a misdemeanor involving the practice of engineering or the practice of land surveying; or

For any violation of the rules of professional conduct prescribed by the board.”

This part of the statute is most important as it establishes the parameters for the Board’s LEC in determining violations. The intent is clear that the Board is limited in determining violation when dealing with suspension, revocation, or reprimand of registrants as outlined per ORS 672.200. In considering a reprimand most would agree that it could be imposed without penalty. However, can a penalty be imposed without it being the result of reprimand, revocation or suspension? Probably not! Therefore, a civil penalty imposed per 672.325 is subject to the intent of 672.200. For LEC to

ignore the intent of this language would be as much of a violation upon itself, as that which it imposes on an individual. Also note that a violation of ORS 672.047 (Right of Entry) was not included as one of the four items in considering grounds for suspension, revocation, or reprimand under ORS 672.200. That leaves the court to determine a right of entry violation, which is where the jurisdiction should lie.

It is indisputable that OSBEELS has no authority to determine the ownership of land or a violation of trespass. Ownership of property and the boundaries thereof can only be determined by agreement of the adjacent parties or the court. A board member has stated that ORS 672.047 deals with right of entry and not trespass. But how can a violation of right of entry be determined without first determining a trespass has been made? ORS 672.047 does not state that all property owners within a given radius of the subject property must be notified, but only notification if entry is made on foot for the purpose of survey. Only a court of law has the right to determine if unlawful entry has been made, and if so would be a trespass and classified a misdemeanor. It would seem that once the court has so declared, the Board could thereafter reprimand and penalize the registrant guilty of the misdemeanor per ORS 672.200.

Does ORS 672.047 need to be eliminated, changed or altered? Probably not; as there are benefits in having a process that allows entry on private property when necessary. Past experience has proved that tweaking the statutes has occasionally resulted in making larger problems than intended. What the profession really needs is for OSBEELS to stop making strict interpretation of statute and stay within the intent of ORS Chapter 672. When professional land surveyors fear greater reprisal from an oppressive State Board rather than the adjacent owner of a client’s property, our great American values are certainly challenged. ◊

A response to Right of Entry, Or Not?

■ *Dan Linscheid, OSBEELS Law Enforcement Committee Chair*

Mr. Ware's article appears to have two main arguments:

1. OSBEELS should not enforce the right of entry statute, only the courts should do so; and
2. OSBEELS can only impose a civil penalty under ORS 672.325 when there is a violation of ORS 672.200.

As a preliminary matter, ORS 672.047 performs two functions. First, it grants land surveyors (and their employees and agents) a privilege, under certain circumstances, to enter property on foot where otherwise they would be committing a trespass. Engineers, photogrammetrists and geologists are not granted this privilege. Second, it imposes a "shall not" duty by the legislature as a clear directive that if a land surveyor (or employee or agent) enters upon or establishes a permanent surveyor monument on any land without attempting to notify the owner/occupant in person or posting written notice, they are in violation of this statute. "Shall not" is mandatory language, not discretionary.

The statute covers both entering on land and establishing permanent surveying markers on land.

As to OSBEELS jurisdiction, and the argument that this can only be enforced in the courts, there are at least three problems with his claim. First, the legislature made this law part of chapter 672, and squarely placed it within OSBEELS' jurisdiction. Second, the statute itself discusses OSBEELS' authority over this topic:

(1) Subject to subsection (4) of this section, a registered professional land surveyor, or any employee or agent of the surveyor, may enter on foot, where practicable, upon any land for the purpose of surveying or performing any survey work and may establish permanent survey monuments as allowed by rule of the State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying. (emphasis added)

Even within the statute itself, OSBEELS' authority to promulgate rules over this area is explicitly granted by the legislature. **"Third, and this brings us to his other main argument, that OSBEELS only has the authority to impose civil penalties for violations of ORS 672.047 when the civil penalty is attached to a sanction authorized by ORS 672.200"**

ORS 672.325(1) provides: **"In addition to any other penalty provided by law, any person who violates any provision of ORS 672.002 to 672.325 or any rule adopted thereunder shall forfeit and pay to the State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying a civil penalty in an amount determined by the board of not more than \$1,000 for each offense."**

This statute provides OSBEELS the authority to assess a civil penalty for any violation of the laws found between ORS 672.002 and 672.325. ORS 672.047 clearly lies within this range. The article appears to argue that the "[i]n addition to any other penalty provided by law" language limits OSBEELS to only providing a civil penalty where a violation of ORS 672.200 (which authorizes sanctions against the registrant's license) are imposed. This argument has several problems. First, while ORS 672.200 provides a limited list of four reasons for which OSBEELS may take action against a registrant's license (i.e., negligence, incompetence, certain criminal convictions, violations of OSBEELS' rules of professional conduct) ORS 672.325 provides a much more expansive authority: "any provision of ORS 672.002 to 672.325 or any rule adopted thereunder." (emphasis added). The article's argument, that OSBEELS may only impose a civil penalty where there is a violation of ORS 672.200 would render this expansive language superfluous as the article would limit civil penalties to only those four items discussed in ORS 672.200. As a general

rule of law, we do not interpret statutes in a way that makes language superfluous. Also, to follow the article's argument to its natural conclusion, if OSBEELS' ability to impose civil penalties is solely limited to its authority in ORS 672.200, OSBEELS could never impose a civil penalty against unlicensed persons since ORS 672.200 only addresses sanctions involving registrants (suspension, revocation, refusal to renew). This seems clearly at odds with what was intended by the legislature in making unlicensed activity unlawful. I do not think PLSO would want to take the position that OSBEELS can no longer sanction the unlicensed, as well—which would be the slippery slope of the article's argument that civil penalties may only be imposed where a sanction in ORS 672.200 is also imposed.

I take exception to an assertion that we have an oppressive State Board. OSBEELS board members each take an oath to uphold the Constitution and laws of this State, in attempting to protect the life, health and property of our public, and the laws and rules promulgated cannot simply be ignored with a wink and a nod. Property owners should take whatever steps they deem necessary to protect their interests also, and the board strives to be fair to all parties in determining whether or not violations of our rules and statutes have occurred. ◉

This response has not been reviewed by the OSBEELS board: it merely reflects the opinions of Dan Linscheid, based on his experience as OSBEELS Chair of the Law Enforcement Committee over the past several years.

How Can My Surveying Business Survive a Declining Economy?

■ *By Alicia Glassford*

Declining profit margins are on the minds of most business owners, including surveyors. Surveying publications are full of articles and advertisements on competitive advantages and improved performance available through advancements in surveying equipment and software. As the economy continues to decline, a surveyor may feel even greater pressure to pursue these technological solutions for improving their profit margin. But is there another solution? Could the solution be as simple as attention to customer service?

The bottom line for a successful survey is that pins are placed in the right location, proper documentation is filed, and the client is satisfied, all at a reasonable cost. So, when faced with increasing operating costs and a shrinking pool of clients, the surveyor needs to ask, which investment will get me to the bottom line at a reasonable cost—improved technology or improved customer service? To frame the comparison, think of today's high-tech bow hunter, outfitted with sophisticated compound bows made from the latest materials. Next, think of early American hunters who used simple bows and arrows crafted from native materials. Both kinds of hunters have been successful at bagging game, but they use different approaches to achieve the bottom line.

Surveyors can borrow from the example of primitive hunters in breaking down a successful approach to customer service. Primitive hunters were successful through their local knowledge,

understanding of animal behavior, and survival skills, all of which were intensified by the threat of pending hunger.

Local Knowledge

Surveyors have always understood the edge available to them when they return to an area where they previously surveyed. While past work may have unearthed a can of worms, at least it's a familiar can of worms. Further advantages may be available by cultivating opportunities for additional jobs in the same area you are already working. What is your current approach to right-of-entry notification to neighboring landowners? Does your crew hang door knob notices when landowners are at work on a Monday morning? What if you obtained telephone numbers for neighboring landowners and called them on a Sunday evening when they are likely to be home? This personal approach not only completes the necessary notice for crossing property, but also cultivates relationships that might result in future work in this same neighborhood. If only a few of these calls result in future business, you have made a positive contribution to your profit margin.

Animal Behavior

Primitive hunters needed to understand animal behavior to be successful, which translates to the surveyor's need to understand human behavior. A major component of human behavior is based on communication. Informed clients are usually satisfied clients, and satisfied clients communicate with family,

friends, and neighbors about their satisfaction with your work. Conversely, uninformed clients usually results in negative communication about your work. You can influence this communication chain in your favor by recognizing some key behaviors of your client.

Recognize if your client is feeling disoriented by the new experiences that arise while a survey of their land is completed. During the survey, the client may need to interact with planning office employees, title examiners, attorneys, realtors, and angry neighbors. To add to it, different professions use different vocabulary, which can be confusing. If you recognize this potential for your client's confusion, you can bridge the gap for your client and tie together the pieces. Regular communication with your client not only allows you to convey information to your client, it gives you an opportunity to gauge their comfort with the amount of information they are receiving. By influencing human behavior and communication chains in your favor, the ultimate result could be potential clients hearing good things about your work and approaching you for your services.

Survival Skills

Surveyors may want to refine their customer service survival skills with respect to components such as workforce, equipment, flexibility, and instinct.

A workforce that extends your sense of customer service is important. You will want to discuss with employees

any changes you decide to make in your customer service approach, and you will want to listen to their ideas on how to make it happen.

An investment in customer service might mean that investments in technology upgrades to equipment are postponed. A downside to aging equipment is finding available parts and qualified technicians who are familiar with servicing older models. However, the internet and communication with other surveyors can help overcome these obstacles.

Business survival skills should include flexibility. Your clients and the team of professionals working on a project might be subject to unexpected circumstances at any time due to the declining economy. Difficulty in securing financing might cause a project to quickly terminate or change. Discuss options with your client at all phases of the project, and be prepared to arrange for interim payments so that you stay current with reimbursement for the work you have completed. If the client can't come up with funding to pursue a subdivision, be prepared to discuss the cost of a partition that might not require the bonding and development requirements of a subdivision. Also, you might be prepared to discuss the cost of recording a record of survey for the parent parcel so that the subdivision can continue later with fewer steps to be completed.

Respecting your gut instincts might be your key to survival in a period of economic difficulty. Be ready to decline work from a prospective client if your instincts tell you that the situation is wrong for you. Customer service also means being selective on whom you engage as a customer. Surveyors encounter risky situations during good economic times, so it stands to reason that those same risky situations arise during economic downturns. In some situations, turning away risky work is more economically viable than accepting the work and its associated risks.

Pending Hunger

Today's economy is honing the surveyor's skills much like the primitive hunter who would not have survived without successful hunts. However, the declining economy is also affecting potential clients and their interest in spending money. If a client is not interested in investing in the cost of a full survey, perhaps they would consider a smaller investment to achieve a portion of their goals. For example, pursuing boundary line agreements with cooperative neighbors to at least fix the location of a portion of the property boundary might be a viable project. While the client would not have a full survey of their property, the partial survey based on boundary line agreements could be completed at a lower cost. Since partitioned parcels larger than 10 acres in size do not require a survey of the parcels, a partition of parcels larger than 10 acres in size might meet the client's budget. If your client understands

A thorough review of your customer service approach could improve your profit margin and help your business survive a declining economy.

the statutes, they may opt to partition property to a different configuration. As previously described, a subdivision could be reconfigured as a partition or as a record of survey for the parent property. You might better serve your client by providing suggestions to scale down the size of the project and the cash outlay. In your situation, a small project might be better than no project at all.

So, is it time to pull the dusty transit from your shelf and ignore the advancing world of technology? Of course not, but a thorough review of your customer service approach could improve your profit margin and help your business survive a declining economy. ☉

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The Life and Times of Bert Mason, Jr.

Part 30

DURING THE SPRING TERM OF 1946 AT SYRACUSE, to insure summer employment, I had written to the Supervisor of the Umatilla National Forest requesting my old pre-war job back; and I had received word back that work would be awaiting me at the end of the term. I reveled in dreams of a long relaxing summer atop a 55-foot tower with a stack of books and music on the radio.

Alas! When I reached Heppner I found my dreams shattered. I would not be relaxing in a tower, but would be on my feet, on the ground, cruising timber. I was to partner with Ken Keeling a small wiry fellow, about my age, who had a wife and a couple of small, squirrely kids—just like their father.

Working for the Forest Service in 1941, he had missed Uncle Sam's invitation to join the Navy and see the world. He had worked the previous summer with Glen Parsons, the Assistant District Ranger in pioneering a then-new system of cruising Ponderosa Pine timber, utilizing aerial photographs. Ken's wife and children occupied the Tupper Guard Station, while he and I used a small trailer which was placed conveniently near to whatever area we were working.

Ken was a great guy to work with—he was cheerful, intelligent, hardworking and easy to get along with. He had but one phobia—he



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

was deathly scared of rattlesnakes. His previous co-workers, up on the Poomeroy District, had depicted the Heppner District as being carpeted with the slithery rascals, all vicious and ready to attack anything that moved. His problem was further exacerbated by the occasional patches of a member of the pea family, the pods of which, when dry and brushed by a pants leg or boot, emitted a sound exactly similar to that of an enraged buzztail. (During three months of cruising, Ken killed five of his nemeses, whereas I saw but one little fellow, which he had pointed out to me.)

Mondays were spent in the trailer laying out our proposed cruise lines for the week. The section lines had been marked on the aerial photos, based upon old cutting lines or other evidences of human culture, augmented by topography from the original field notes. We used simple stereoscopes and orange grease pencils to outline the boundaries of the various timber types. Lodgepole pine, mountain mahogany rock flats

and rock-rimmed canyons were ignored, as being of no value. With sharp pencils, we laid out lines to best represent the apparent timber. We made tick marks on the lines at every five chains, representing one-fifth-acre circular plots to be counted. The bearings and lengths of the lines were scaled from the photos.

In anticipation of working alone, we each made a carbon copy of the description of the starting point length and bearing of each line. If either failed to show up at quitting time, the other knew where and how to look for him.

In the field, each started off at his identified starting point and proceeded, by hand compass and pacing, to follow the plan. If conditions on the ground were found not to agree with the office determination, changes were made as appropriate. The boundary of each plot was estimated, as were the diameter and number of logs in each merchantable tree. True firs (*Abies grandis*) were considered as worthless and were ignored. Oval-

shaped or unusually large, pines were taped with diameter tapes. Doug firs showing any signs of conks, or, which sounded wrong when whapped with a light axe, were ignored. Volumes were calculated in the office, and were reduced by a breakage factor that Ken and Glen had deduced from observations during the previous year. They were further adjusted by a factor, which Ken had determined from his observations at the mill, to return the actual yield of a large tract of Ponderosa Pine timber.

The summer had been a profitable one for me; I had learned much beyond the classroom about cruising timber. I had learned that a truly thirsty man could drink without ill effect, from a tiny pool of tepid water in a trickle, making its way through the middle of a well-used sheep-bedding-ground. And that by working eight, ten hour days straight I could spend many weekends with Ellen; sometimes at her family ranch where she drove a bulk-wheat truck during harvest, or at her parents' home in Oak Grove, near Portland.

Those trips to Portland, usually at night over the Old Columbia River Highway, were adventures

in themselves. My Dad's Nash Ambassador, with one of those newfangled overdrive transmissions, could really fly. Twenty-nine miles from lone down the newly-oiled 16-foot-wide road to Willows Junction and the real highway. Then we sped 14 miles west to Alkali Canyon and down the Main Street of Arlington (pretty much its only street) past the old Vendome Hotel and its Pheasant Grill; then westward along the rapids-infested channels of the Columbia River, navigable only by skilled river men. After crossing the John Day and Deschutes rivers, we smelled the Celilo Falls—not really the falls, but the Celilo Indian village with its thousands of fly-blackened carcasses of salmon, drying on racks in the sun. At The Dalles, where the early pioneers made their fateful decision, whether to go South around Mt. Hood by the Barlow Trail or to dismantle their wagons and load their worldly possessions in scows or barges for the trip to Oregon City.

We passed The Dalles by its busy two-lane Main Street, with angle-parking on both sides; then northwest a couple of miles to the dangerous point where powerful

wind gusts often blew trucks, and even cars off the narrow road. Then, we cruised along the river to Rowena Loops, where we climbed to the top of the basalt bluffs until we dropped down to Hood River. There, we followed the usual narrow Main Street through the town. Now, we were in the true Gorge, twisting and turning around vertical basalt bluffs, squeezing through narrow niches blasted beside the railroad tracks, and climbing to the tunnels. Oh! Those tunnels! Blasted through the rocks high above the river, they had been designed for the passage of Model T Fords and similar other traffic. Now, they were accommodating Consolidated Freight trucks with trailers. At the approach to each tunnel there was a narrow shoulder on which a driver could park, stop the motor, and listen cautiously for oncoming traffic. If no blaring horn was heard, he could proceed, sounding his own horn as he went. (In later years, red and green traffic lights were installed at the entrances to the tunnels.) And then, the falls (which can no longer be appreciated from the new highway); Horsetail Falls, Oneonta Gorge, Multnomah Falls, Wahkeena Falls, Bridal Veil Falls, and Latourell Falls; followed by those tortuous loops up to Crown Point and the Vista House.

The rest was all downhill through Corbett, down to the old Sandy River bridge; through Troutdale to the Baseline Road (or Stark Street); and straight in to Portland through miles of orchards, gardens and berry fields, and their accompanying roadside fruit and produce stands. It was a long, wearying six-and-a-half-hour drive; but the weekend with Ellen made it all worthwhile. The drive back on Sunday evening was not nearly so much anticipated. ◉

The Columbia River Highway



Gorge of the Columbia from Crown Point on the Columbia River Highway, Ore. Photo postcard by Cross and Dimmitt. ca. 1916.



Mitchell's Point Tunnel on the Columbia River Highway, Oregon. Photo postcard by Cross and Dimmitt. ca. 1916.



News from the Chapters

Central #1

■ *Kevin Samuel, Secretary/Treasurer*

October 16, 2008

Chapter President: Daniel Wobbe
Location: Bend Brewing Company
Called to Order: 6:50 pm **Adjourn:** 7:45 pm
Attendance: 9 members

Meeting began with introductions.

PLSO Board Minutes

Briefs of the last PLSO State Board of Directors Meeting were distributed and discussed.

Special attention was brought to the existing proposal for Jeff Lucas to write an Oregon-specific surveying book. Shelby Griggs wondered if it would be possible to have the book published in an electronic format.

Discussion of the upcoming PLSO conference led to a suggestion from Dan Wobbe to have a seminar at the conference to outline any changes to ORS that affect land surveyors.

It was also stated by some present that early December is still the best time to hold the annual conference.

The latest OSBEELS report led to a suggestion from Gary Johnston that we have an OSBEELS representative speak at the next Central Chapter meeting regarding disciplinary actions by the board.

Old Business

Minutes from the May 14, 2008 meeting were approved.

Motions to elect Scott Freshwaters as Central Chapter President-Elect and Kevin Samuel as Central Chapter Secretary were passed.

New Business

Gary Johnston mentioned the new PLSO website, upcoming committee needs, and also updated on the TwiST and Trig-Star programs.

Scott Freshwaters is going to check with J.B. Stahl and see if he would be open to holding a seminar with the Central Chapter PLSO. Scott was also going to look into which topics J.B. would be interested in presenting. ◉

Midwest #2

■ *Dan Nelson, LSI, Secretary/Treasurer*

December 9, 2008

Chapter President: Jonathan A. Oakes
Called to Order: 7:20 pm **Adjourn:** 8:40 pm
Attendance: 19 members

Approval of the minutes: November minutes approved.

Subcommittee Reports

Legislation: Tim Fassbender

- Planners w/Oregon not having much effect (For more information, go to legislation at www.plso.org).

Seminar: Dave Wellman

- Discussed ideas and needs for possible seminar topics. Law Library speaker was thought to be a good idea.

PLSO Reports

PLSO Board Minutes:

- Tim Kent reviewed "TwiST" program
- Plans for 50/150 year bench dedication
- Jeffery Lucas proposed Oregon Case Law surveying book
- Possible joint conference with LSAW in Spokane for 2011
- New addition to BLM Manual with DVD

Education Goals Committee: Jack Burriss proposed OPB documentary ideas. Tim Fassbender suggested U of O School of Journalism.

Old Business

Jeremy Scherer offered archives for scanning. Possibly have the Tolbert girls or Tim Fassbender scan documents.

New Business

- Tim Fassbender is the new President-Elect for BOD.
- There is a push to increase government corners fees/fund.
- A letter or note to the County Surveyor is all that is required to allow an extension of the 45-day monument deadline.

For the Good of the Order:

- There will be a Trimble Software Seminar this spring, contact Dave Wellman for more information.
- Lincoln County gave a seminar on Right-of-Entry
- Right-of-Entry door hangers must be placed on the front door or most reasonable entry point of residence/building
- Jeremy Scherer would like input on the value of specific Lane County Planning services, i.e. "M" plats, PLAs, etc.
- Thank you to John Oaks for serving as President and Jeremy Scherer for serving as Secretary/Treasurer. ◉

Pioneer #3

■ *Mark Mayer, Secretary/Treasurer*

February 11, 2009

Chapter President: Shaun Fidler

Location: Buster's BBQ, Tigard

Called to Order: 7:20 pm **Adjourn:** 8:30 pm

Attendance: 30

Presentation—Mindy Seibert of Mercy Corps
Mercy Corps has 3,500 staff worldwide with 170 in Portland. A new headquarters and "Action Center" near the Skidmore Fountain is due to open in Fall 2009.

Reports

Education Goals and Actions: Gary Anderson

- Feedback from the teachers that attended the high school presentation at the PLSO Conference was positive. A suggestion was made to cut down length of presentation.
- 50/150 events at Willamette Stone Park
May 2—Park Cleanup
May 30—dedication of park and benches, etc.
- TrigStar tests are in hand. Volunteers are needed.

Legislative Committee: Chuck Pearson spoke regarding SB 344 and LC 2505.

SB 344, if passed, would make the position of County Surveyor an appointed position. Currently individual counties have the option of either electing or appointing their surveyor. Chuck expressed concern that in some counties the commissioners may fail to appoint a surveyor and leave the position vacant. OACES has voted to oppose the measure. The driving force behind the bill is unknown (the bill is sponsored by Senator Larry George, of Sherwood). The text of the bill can be found at <http://landru.leg.state.or.us/09reg/measures/sb0300.dir/sb0344.intro.html>

Chuck Pearson moved that the PLSO Pioneer Chapter oppose SB 344. The motion was seconded by Jim Greenman. Pat Gaylord moved to amend the motion to allow the chapter Legislative Committee representative to exercise discretion in his opposition, to allow for negotiation. Jim Greenman seconded and the motion was passed unanimously by voice vote.

Chuck Pearson was appointed chapter Legislative Committee representative by Shaun Fidler, Chapter President.

LC 2505 proposes to remove the \$10 limit on the Public Land Preservation Fund fee that may be added to recording fees. Chuck urged support for the measure and suggested that he might ask Clackamas Co. to raise its fee to \$15. Linda

Rigutto of Washington Co. noted that although Washington Co. had recently reduced its fee to \$5, Jim Elam, Washington Co. Surveyor, supports this measure.

Chuck Pearson moved that the PLSO Pioneer Chapter support LC 2505, that it urge the PLSO Board to also support the measure by authorizing the PLSO lobbyist to act. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by voice vote.

Conference Committee: Paul Galli
Ideas for next year conference are needed.

Boy Scout Merit Badge University: Pat Gaylord
There are opportunities to teach Boy Scouts and their leaders map & compass skills. 50/150 Boy Scouts need to visit a heritage site for certain merit badges and the Willamette Stone qualifies.

Good of the Order

Gary Anderson expressed thanks for the Surveyor of the Year award.

Shaun Fidler suggested that all members of the chapter should look to give back by asking themselves why they are surveyors and what they can do to further the profession. ◉

Southwest #6

■ *Edith Forkner, Secretary/Treasurer*

December 10, 2008

Chapter President: Clyde Mulkins

Location: Puerto Vallarta, Coos Bay

Attendance: 8 members

Announcements

After a discussion, the following officers were elected:

- President: Gary Smither
- President-Elect: Walter White
- Secretary/Treasurer: Edith Forkner

Mulkins went over the minutes of the last State Board meeting. (Thanks to Aaron Graham, acting Secretary/Treasurer.)

Later Developments

The following events have occurred since the meeting:

- Gary Smither has chosen to step down from the office of President.
- Edith Forkner has agreed to accept the position of President. This needs to be ratified by the Chapter.
- A volunteer is needed to fill the position of Sec/Treas. ◉



News from the Chapters

Umpqua #7

■ Randy Smith, Secretary/Treasurer

November 10, 2008

Chapter President: Ron Quimby

Location: Elmer's Restaurant, Roseburg

Called to Order: 6:30 pm **Adjourn:** 8:30 pm

Attendance: 14 members, 5 guests, 2 students

Minutes from the October meeting were approved with additional wording requested by David Beedle that identified the content of a paragraph removed from the September meeting minutes.

Ken Hoffine gave an update on OSBEELS. Some complaints are surfacing concerning grammar grading on state exams by Dan Linscheid. Bob Neathamer felt that there should be some writing seminars offered. County Surveyors are also subject to right of entry (ROE) law and can be subjected to a \$100 fine. Some discussion ensued as to the inequity of the fine that would be given to a county surveyor when compared to the \$1,000 typically levied against private surveyors.

Umpqua chapter went on discussing the current Oregon ROE laws. Ken Hoffine felt that the wording "occupied and reasonable" needs to be added to the law concerning surveyors posting survey entry notice. David Beedle doesn't think that any notice should be required when looking for or using right of way monuments. Romey Ware stated that the setting of a property corner is an opinion of a surveyor as to where the boundary is. The concept that half of the surveyor's monument is over the line and subject to trespass is an ownership issue and should not be determined by OSBEELS. Kris Degroot is doing an investigation into ROE in other states and believes that Oregon's ROE laws are probably the most restrictive. Kris thinks that OSBEELS needs to be taken out of law enforcement and trespass should be subject to civil action. Kris explained his reasoning citing his concerns over investigative procedural, rules of evidence, cross examination and consistent interpretation and application of the law. Most members felt that the ROE needs to be tweaked. Members don't remember ROE being much of a problem before OSBEELS became involved; it now appears to take up a large portion of their time. Marc Britain a surveyor from Alaska said that Alaska has a line of sight easement that works well.

Election of Umpqua chapter officers was taken. Randy Smith is now the Chair-elect, Brent Knapp will take over

as Secretary/Treasurer and Kris Degroot is staying on as Umpqua chapter's Legislative liaison.

Umpqua chapter and Umpqua Community College will jointly put on a workshop on April 4 at UCC. The workshop will cover two subjects. Tim Moore (Roseburg BLM cadastral surveyor) will lead a morning study on section subdivision; after lunch Brent Knapp (UCC instructor) will discuss Oregon case law. Fees are not finalized, but are expected to run around \$75; for an extra \$10 UCC will give credit for taking the class.

Presentation

Guest speakers Phil Stenbeck and Pat Parson from the Douglas County Planning Department put on a presentation about the Douglas County Floodplain website. The website address is www.co.douglas.or.us/planning/floodplain. Phil and Pat gave a lot of historical information about the Army Corp., FEMA and elevation certificates. Phil and Pat went step-by-step through the website and stated that new flood plain certificates can be expected to show up on the website within 1-2 months. Douglas County gets a 10% discount on flood insurance. Kris Degroot asked about elevations within Zone A, and if they expect to establish 100 year flood elevations in these areas. Douglas County has asked the Army Corp. for a study in these areas, they seem to be more concerned with major disasters that have occurred recently in the U.S. and are spending their funds in more populated areas of the country. Pat thanked Romey Ware for the work that the County Surveyor's Office has done in adding elevation benchmarks along county water ways.

Phil and Pat were questioned about recent amendments resulting from a LUBA rulings that the Douglas County Planning Department is attempting to make into a County Ordinance. The Amendments deals with new restrictions for nonfarm divisions and dwellings. The effects of this new regulation would be to redefine dwelling as including the entire septic and water systems within land deemed unsuitable for farm crops, livestock or timber land. This new regulation if passed would in effect stop most non-resource dwellings. How often is it likely that poor quality, unproductive ground will be suitable for a well and sewer? It was also noted by Randy Smith that this recent LUBA restriction is under appeal. If the courts overturn LUBA, Douglas County would be stuck with this restrictive ordinance if passed. Phil and Pat said they would take the chapters concern to Keith Cubic head of the Douglas County Planning Department. Kris Degroot along with other surveyors told Phil and Pat that working with Douglas County Planning Department was way better than other counties in the state. ◊

Blue Mountain #9

■ *Stephen K. Haddock, Secretary/Treasurer*

December 6, 2008

Location: Blue Mountain Community College, Pendleton

Chapter President: Lee Myers

Called to Order: 6:45 pm **Adjourn:** 7:20 pm

Attendance: 9 corporate members, 9 guests
(the youngest being 4 months old)

Lee reported the following items:

- Travel expenses to the State Board meetings will still be an item on the Board's expense budget and not on the Chapter's budget.
- There are reports of a possible OPB presentation on "public expertise" focusing on Land Surveying.
- There has been conflict expressed about the conference fees.
- Lee will still serve on the Legislative Committee.

Chapter business

Secretary/Treasurer Steve Haddock reported that the Chapter had not overspent any budget items from the year before and suggested that the same budget would suffice for 2009.

Dave Krumbein made the motion to approve the 2009 Chapter budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Ron McKinnis. Motion passed unanimously.

Bob English made a motion that the \$1,000 for the 801 Chapter contribution be awarded to the Engineering Department at BMCC again this year. The motion was seconded by Ron McKinnis. Motion passed unanimously.

Lee retired as Chapter President and passed the "Blue Mountain Gavel" to President, Tim Simmons; who received an enthusiastic welcome from all of the past presidents.

Dave Krumbein announced that February 13 is the 8th Grade Career Day and requested volunteers to tell students about the surveying profession. He also announced that February 19 is Tech Day at BMCC. The Tech Day was to conclude with the TSA (Technical Students Association) dinner. Dave requested surveyors to volunteer to sponsor students to the dinner and present surveying to them that evening.

Sue Newsletter suggested that the Chapter should look into establishing a geocache program with a possible geocache event for the local area sponsored by the Blue Mountain Chapter as a means to introduce students to the profession. ◉

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The Lost Surveyor

From the back cover

Question: Can you tell me what city this County Court House is in?
Answer: The Polk County Courthouse, located in Dallas, Oregon. Dallas is named after Vice President George M. Dallas who served under President James Knox Polk (the same as Dallas, Texas). This courthouse was completed in 1900 and expanded in 1966.

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THE LOST SURVEYOR

In what city is this County Court House located?

Lat 44° 55' 11" N Long 123° 17' 15" W