

The OREGON Surveyor



A publication of the Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon

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Contents

Editor's Note, by <i>Greg Crites, PLS</i>	3
From the PLSO Chair, by <i>John Thatcher, PLS</i>	4
From the PLSO office, by <i>Aimee McAuliffe</i>	5
<i>Letter to the Editor</i>	
Can Experience Help?, by <i>Dick Bryant, PLS</i>	7
BLM Public Land Survey Plats, by <i>Mary J.M. Hartel, PLS</i>	8
NSPS Spring Business Meeting Summary, by <i>Bob Neathamer, PLS</i>	9
The Case for Carrying E & O Insurance, by <i>Greg Crites, PLS</i>	10
Layne Caswell Honored with "Final Point" Ceremony, by <i>Bob Taylor, PLS; Jim Elam, PLS; Al Hertel, PLS; Chuck Pearson, PLS;</i> <i>John Thatcher, PLS; and Greg Crites, PLS</i>	16
The Lost Surveyor Honors Susan E. Newstetter, by <i>Pat Gaylord, PLS</i>	18
Trig-Star 2015	20
Professional Listings	20

Cover photo

Fence Post in Fox, Oregon, by Pat Gaylord

Fox is about 20 miles north of Mt. Vernon, Oregon, on U.S. Route 395.

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Great Memories

■ Greg Crites, PLS

It wouldn't be a big stretch to say that this issue of *The Oregon Surveyor* is really a memorial to two surveyors who recently crossed the great river, leaving behind a great legacy. Both of them were career-long friends and contributing members of the surveying community. They wore big moccasins and made long strides on our behalf. I will miss them both.

Sue Newstetter, well, what can I say? There are very few of us within the PLSO who weren't touched by her, fell under her shadow and came to admire her drive, enthusiasm and yes passion for our profession. Passionate people are the ones who get things done and Sue was a shining example of accomplishment. I feel honored to have served on the Board with her and to have sharpened my skills through her acumen. Pat Gaylord has written a brief though highly informative article about Sue in his "Lost Surveyor" column, (see page 18), so I don't need to reiterate her accomplishments but I encourage you to read it, if for no other reason than to come to know her better. All I will say is this: I used to bowhunt around Mt. Vernon, Sue's home, for many years. I have many vivid memories of my experiences there while learning about Wapiti, but I noticed something had changed when I arrived in Mt. Vernon the morning of Sue's memorial service/celebration. I thought to myself, this is where Sue lived! The town took on a special meaning in

that context because Sue chose it for her home, and knowing Sue, that's saying something. The elk that populate the hills around there are now just a wee bit of frosting on the cake of that place.

Bob Taylor had much to say about the Final Point ceremony for Layne Caswell (see page 16). I was happy to see that both Bob and I share a long list of memories about Layne. I also greatly enjoyed the photographs of the event supplied by Al Hertel, Gene DiLoretto and John Thatcher. Recognizing all the folks I knew in them was a testament to how tightly intertwined many of our professional paths have been over the years, all owing to our "active" participation in the PLSO. If I have one regret, it's that both Sue's memorial gathering and Layne's Final Point ceremony fell on the same day, so I had to choose. I figured since Sue's potlatch was so far away, I needed to make the trip to be certain that the PLSO was well represented. That was a needless concern. I hadn't figured on how many lives Sue had positively affected, even clear over there in Mt. Vernon. Yes, Joel, the "frozen tundra" east of the Cascades.

I challenge every reader of this magazine to see the legacies left by Layne and Sue as your motivation for change. I've spent much of this year writing editorials in this magazine regarding the importance of mentoring, the value of membership and the satisfaction that comes with giving back to this profession we all love. Every one of you knows who Layne and Sue were because of their passion for land surveying. Do you want to be remembered? Their lives are a clear road map of how to accomplish that! Open the door, turn the key, start the engine and, if you haven't already done so, set your own course to leave your mark. There are few careers that offer such an incredible opportunity. ◦

The views expressed herein are mine and mine alone and in no way should be construed as representing ANY opinions shared by our membership or a stance on political issues by this organization.



Attendees at Layne Caswell's Final Point ceremony on June 27, 2015.

Summer 2015

■ John Thatcher, PLS; 2015 State Chair

As I write this, we are a few days away from the summer PLSO board meeting. Every surveyor I've talked to has been somewhere between busy and swamped. Here's hoping you are getting your share of the work out there, but that you are also taking time out to relax and decompress. If you are retired, you are going to have to move over a little as more of us "honored citizens" join your ranks.

An issue that is bound to generate some lengthy discussion during the upcoming board meeting is the proposed PLSO Foundation. Today our Executive Secretary Aimee McAuliffe and I met with an attorney who specializes in non-profits in order to try to get a handle on how to proceed with establishing the foundation, given the current state of things. The current state of things is that some of the legwork and paperwork has been completed, but a lot more needs to be done in order to get the foundation up and running and compliant with state and federal regulations. It is a little early to go into a lot of detail, but suffice it to say that the board will have some serious decisions to make regarding the foundation. You will be hearing more on that issue in the coming months.

We are still in the renewal season, and it is critical for chapter leaders to continue contacting members who haven't renewed. One side benefit of this effort is the chance to get the membership list updated with current information. A robust membership is the best tool PLSO has to fund our many activities and populate the committees that serve the

membership and further the profession. The Membership Committee provides the chapters regular updates on delinquent renewals. Let's reel them back in!

I was pleased to join a large group of colleagues for the Layne Caswell Final Point ceremony in Hillsboro on July 11. See the article and pictures on pages 16 and 17 in this issue. I have three more Final Points in the planning stages. At the April Pioneer Chapter meeting in Cascade Locks, I passed the hat to start a fund to purchase monuments. The chapter members responded very generously, so now with enough funds in hand for the disks, I look forward to completing two or three Final Points this Fall. If you have a reputation for being a GPS whiz, I may be pestering you later this year.

The TwiST Program was held again this year at Clark College. Look for Tim Kent's report in a future *Oregon Surveyor* issue. PLSO was able to sponsor three teachers. Not to be outdone, LSAW sponsored five teachers. So half of this year's class of 16 came from Oregon and Washington. We typically get good feedback from the participants about the program, and we ask them to provide testimonials to use as recruitment tools. PLSO traditionally provides a full ride sponsorship that includes registration, travel expenses, meals and lodging, if needed. For the past several years, NCEES has provided a matching grant to the state societies that sponsor teachers. That means half of the dollars that PLSO spends to sponsor teachers is returned, and that allows the sponsorship by PLSO to stay within a modest budget. The "business" of TwiST is facilitated by the Western Federation of Professional Surveyors (WFPS), which represents the professional societies of 13 western states.

Precious time is slippin' away (apologies to Van Morrison). The 2016 Annual Conference is coming in less than six months. I have been attending a few Conference Committee meetings, and I think 2016 will be a good one. The committee decided to shake things up a bit. As of next year, the conference will start moving up and down the I-5 corridor between Portland, Salem and Eugene. The committee has negotiated with venues in all three cities which will meet our needs. See you in Eugene in January.

Here is this issue's puzzler: What's another name for a gravity powered vertical indicator? ◊



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Happy Team, Happy Dream

Five ways to create a more productive workplace

■ Aimee McAuliffe, PLSO Exec. Secretary



As the saying goes, “there is no I in team,” but how many of us forget that during a big project or when a new employee arrives? Perhaps, you tell yourself that it’s just easier to do it yourself rather than taking the time to train someone to do it right (and/or as fast as you can). Sounds simple enough until you realize you’re stressed to the max and angry that everyone else is adding to your plate by asking for clarification on every little detail or spending their time talking about how unhappy they are. Meanwhile, nobody is being truly productive—including yourself. People may quit and the cycle starts all over again. Not only does this ultimately cost the company money, but it cultivates a poor working environment.

How did everything go so terribly wrong? You just wanted to be a surveyor.

Perhaps it’s time to take a look at what kind of leader you are. In the past, being the boss meant a change in rank and authority over how your team completed their job and spent their time, only now the workplace is changing. Younger generations entering the workforce have been managing a full schedule of activities and participating in collaborative work groups since kindergarten. It’s time the definition of leadership caught up with them.

Younger generations entering the workforce have been managing a full schedule of activities and participating in collaborative work groups since kindergarten. It’s time the definition of leadership caught up with them.

Today’s leadership needs to be about cultivating talent. A productive, happy, functional team not only lessens the work load, but also makes you look good. This just happens to be the new definition of success. If you build a team that is armed with the knowledge it needs to make decisions, the assurance that bringing new ideas to the table is encouraged and that they are empowered to follow through with action, your team will achieve great things, let alone meet/exceed company goals. Last, but not least—you have time to do your own job and get home in time for dinner.

5 IDEAS TO GET THE MOST OUT OF YOUR TEAM

1. Allow room for mistakes

Yes, they are a pain, but mistakes happen—even by you. If you don’t give your team a little room to make them on their own, they won’t learn from them. If they don’t learn from their experience, they are going to come knocking to learn from yours. There is nothing less creative than trying to think like someone else. Once they are empowered to do their job, you will have time for yours.

2. Give and encourage in-the-moment feedback

Many supervisors make the mistake of waiting until review time to give their employees feedback. The problem with this is that by the time reviews come around, details are forgotten and it feels like pure criticism or a reason why they aren’t getting a raise. Nobody has an open mind to learn when their feeling defensive. Instead, encourage in-the-moment feedback within your team. Be sure to set ground rules, such as being respectful and encouraging, but if you know what isn’t working in the moment, the team can work together to try another path. Once the team is able to discuss workflow issues openly, with the intention of helping each other reach intended goals, trust and collaboration will grow. Of course, don’t forget that communication includes compliments. If you see behavior you want to see emulated by their peers, reward them for it. The best way to manage feedback is to offer the positive with the negative. Start with a compliment, followed up with constructive criticism and wrap it up on a positive note again. Try to avoid words like “but” and “however.” Instead opt for “and” or “I would also like to see.” There is no point in offering a compliment if you are just going to take it away with a simple preposition.

3. Know your team and respect their boundaries

As much as we would all like to think we have our personal and professional life perfectly balanced, the truth is that we spend more time with our colleagues than we do with friends and family. You might as well create a happy place to work and get to know your team. Understand when they

» continues on page 6 »

are being serious and when they aren't. Let them see you as a whole person—not just the one that's looking over their shoulder. Getting to know them better will allow you to see their strengths and weaknesses. Knowing where these are will allow you to nurture their talent and find their "genius" threshold. It's also important to be cognizant of their boundaries.

While no one should be able to pick and choose their work activities, you do want to make sure you don't push them past the capabilities and duties of their position, thereby setting them up for failure. Just because you need an accountant, doesn't mean you suddenly make your Party Chief do it because he or she is good at math. Nobody will be happy in that scenario.

4. Be flexible

You're used to being in control. It's scary when you're not. How can you trust everything will get done the exact way you like it? Remember, you've just spent time getting to know your team, encouraging their strengths and trusting their abilities. Now you need to look at your workflow and see where you are comfortable with flexibility. Communicate with your team about expectations, parameters they have to get the project done and areas of flexibility, when you expect status updates and the ultimate deadline. Now stop babysitting and get your own job done. Nobody cares for, nor needs a micromanager.

5. Make sure everyone sees the Big Picture

Think back to before you were an executive manager. How many times did you wonder what your boss did all day? The truth is, it's easy to get lost in the details of procedure and process. It also takes growth and experience to be able to see the overall picture. Make sure to hold regular weekly or bi-monthly team meetings, communicating overall goals. This will require a certain level of transparency on your part. Every team member has their weight to pull. Communicating a certain amount of your contributions is important. They will then see that you are, in fact, pushing an entire cart uphill and respect you more for it.

In the end, your role should be about supporting the members of your team. Show them the ropes and nurture their talent. Without them, there is no team. As a leader, you need your team, so when you break out of the traditional definition of supervisor, you will find that you and your team are far more capable than any of you imagined. ◉



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A: Quality professional liability insurance to cover potential inaccuracy

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Letter to the Editor

Can Experience Help?

■ Dick Bryant, LS 920

Greg Crites' article in the last *Oregon Surveyor* [Vol.38, No. 3] hit home in many respects. I am one of those over 50 people that he mentioned. Actually, I'm way over 50 and that's all I'm going to say about that. I agree with his idea of the elders passing on some of their experiences to the youngers. With that thought in mind, I'd like to share a few things I have learned over the years that may be helpful to those now practicing, or hope to be in the future.

I started my surveying career nearly 50 years ago. At the time our field equipment was a 20" Gurley Hellgate transit, a 200 or 300 foot steel tape (chain) that had to be thrown (an old survey term for coiling the chain and we always carried matches and tape menders), plumb bobs with those little plastic targets, chaining clamps, etc. We worked our way into a 1" Zeiss and 1" (that's seconds, not inches) Kern theodolites.

Then came the Hewlett Packard (HP) 3800 electronic distance meter (EDM). With the EDM we thought we had died and gone to heaven. Also self-leveling levels were a Godsend. Office calculations were done using trigonometric tables and an old Monroe desk calculator. We thought we were breaking the bank when we bought our first electronic calculator, costing upwards of \$200. Now they will give them away if you open a new bank account.

In the 70s, HP started coming out with their hand held calculators that had all the functions hard wired in. Our first computer (if you could call it that) was an Olivetti P101. Weighed a ton and cost us \$2,500 after being discounted from \$3,500.

All drafting was performed by hand. A skilled drafts-person was coveted, especially if they knew how to use a Leroy set. It's obvious that the equipment used by surveyors today has made tremendous gains since the mid 60s. It's allowed projects to be completed more efficiently and accurately. The learning curve to master the new technology is a lot more challenging, but be thankful you have the equipment you have.

So what is it that I have learned over the years that might be of value to those working their way up in the profession? Here are some thoughts you might keep in mind. I am couching these remarks more for those working in the private sector, rather than the public, but some apply to all.

1. **Always do the best that you can.** Never cut corners even if it means you might not make the profit you expected on a particular job. I heard of a local surveyor that lost his license because he fudged the rules.
2. **Never stop learning** whether it be in the profession or other endeavors that might be of interest. Now that I am a person of leisure, I read at least a book a week. Most are no-brainer mysteries, but occasionally I actually read something that expands my base of knowledge. History and old engineering/construction projects are a passion.
3. **Be involved**, whether in the surveying profession through PLSO, or community activities. Never forget the opportunities that this country has offered you. Give back some of your time and talent.
4. **Make your voice heard.** Stay abreast of what is happening politically in local, country, and world events.
5. **Strike a balance.** Don't get so involved in professional or other activities that it effects your family life.
6. **Treat clients with respect.** If they don't reciprocate then discard them. It will pay off in repeat business from clients that you enjoy working with, and trying to work with bad ones won't keep you awake at night.
7. **Always treat other surveyors with respect.** Don't be afraid to share information. What goes around comes around. In the past I have contacted surveyors asking for information and they wouldn't give me the time of day (do I detect some insecurity here?). Others were so helpful that they would almost come out and do the job for you.
8. **Accept responsibility for any mistakes you may make.** Suck up and make whatever corrections are necessary, learn from them and then move on.
9. **Share your knowledge.** There are people in associated fields we deal with that need to be better educated about our profession. Realtors, title companies, and lending institutions come to mind.

Greg shared an attorney story so I will do likewise. Lawyers always seem to be put upon, but in my case I dealt with one who was really a nice person, just a little naive as to the ways of surveyors and their duties. The attorney said he needed an ingress and egress easement description prepared. His client (Mr. A) had unknowingly lived for

» continues on page 8 »

BLM Public Land Survey Plats

■ *Mary J.M. Hartel, BLM, Chief, Branch of Geographic Sciences*

The following public land survey plats for Oregon were approved and/or filed during the period of Oct. 2014–March 2015. This list is also available electronically by contacting the BLM, Oregon State Office at khensley@blm.gov.

Oregon, Willamette Meridian

T. 28 S., R. 11 W.	Dependent Resurvey	T. 20 S., R. 7 W.	Dependent Resurvey & Subdivision of Sect. 20
T. 20 S., R. 9 W.	Retracement	T. 19 S., R. 5 W.	Subdivision
T. 37 S., R. 2 E.	Dependent Resurvey	T. 23 S., R. 10 E.	Dependent Resurvey & Subdivision of Sections
T. 31 S., R. 4 W.	Dependent Resurvey	T. 22 S., R. 10 E.	Dependent Resurvey, Subdivision of Sections & Survey
T. 41 S., R. 43 E.	Remonumentation	T. 25 S., R. 4 W.	Dependent Resurvey
T. 38 S., R. 42 E.	Remonumentation	T. 21 S., R. 9 W.	Dependent Resurvey
T. 38 S., R. 41 E.	Remonumentation	T. 28 S., R. 12 W.	Retracement & Dependent Resurvey
T. 37 S., R. 42 E.	Remonumentation	T. 29 S., R. 11 W.	Dependent Resurvey & Subdivision of Sect. 3 & 22
T. 36 S., R. 43 E.	Remonumentation	T. 38 S., R. 3 E.	Dependent Resurvey & Subdivision of Sections
T. 36 S., R. 42 E.	Remonumentation	T. 31 S., R. 13 W.	Dependent Resurvey
T. 36 S., R. 41 E.	Remonumentation	T. 32 S., R. 1 W.	Retracement
T. 36 S., R. 40 E.	Remonumentation	T. 19 S., R. 4 W.	Retracement
T. 35 S., R. 42 E.	Remonumentation	T. 18 S., R. 6 W.	Dependent Resurvey & Subdivision of Sect. 27
T. 35 S., R. 41 E.	Remonumentation	T. 31 S., R. 7 W.	Retracement
T. 29 S., R. 46 E.	Remonumentation	T. 29 S., R. 4 W.	Dependent Resurvey & Subdivision of Sect. 15
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T. 4 N., R. 3 W.	Dependent Resurvey		
T. 5 N., R. 3 W.	Dependent Resurvey & Subdivision of Sect. 31		
T. 21 S., R. 8 W.	Dependent Resurvey & Subdivision of Sect. 12		
T. 30 S., R. 8 W.	Dependent Resurvey		

» CAN EXPERIENCE HELP?, from page 7

many years on property that had no deeded access. His rather lengthy drive crossed his neighbor's (Mr. B's) property. Mr. B (an attorney?) had recently purchased his property, and when he found that Mr. A didn't have a recorded easement, he proceeded to block Mr. A from using the driveway. The attorney asked that I go out and locate the drive and prepare a metes and bounds description that could be included in an easement document and taken before a judge, so a ruling could be given favorable to Mr. A.

I told the attorney that the sequence I wanted to follow was for him to make a case to a judge that Mr. A was entitled to an easement over the existing drive. A favorable ruling from the judge would provide cover to go on Mr. B's

property and do the work needed. It was obvious the neighbors had an adversarial relationship and I didn't want to be caught in the middle. As it turned out, this course of action was followed and Mr. A got his easement.

Once in the past, before the right of entry, one of our crew was run off a hostile owners property at gun point. Not likely to have happened in my case but you never know.

I challenge you 50 and over folks to take Greg's advice and use whatever means possible to mentor the upcoming generation of surveyors and anyone else that interfaces with our line of work.

I'm sure there are other things I could expound upon, but space is limited, and it's time for my nap. ◊

NSPS Spring Business Meeting Summary

April 13–16, 2015, Washington, D.C.

■ *Bob Neathamer, NSPS Oregon Director*

The NSPS/MAPPS Geospatial Summit and NSPS Spring Business Meeting held during the week of April 13–16, 2015, in Washington, D.C., was a very successful and productive meeting.

The ALTA/ACSM Land Title Survey Committee has reviewed and considered many suggestions for revising the current standards over the past few years. The NSPS committee members held a meeting at the conference, reviewed proposed changes, amended others and developed an edited version that is near completion for adoption in 2016. The proposed February 2016 Standards will be a great improvement over the current edition. The new standards will be known as the Minimum Standard Detail Requirements for ALTA/NSPS Land Title Surveys.

The Geospatial Summit Sessions by NGS were very enlightening, particular the new datums proposed for 2022. The proposed datums are a few years from implementation; however, the resources provided by NGS in the NAD83 and NAVD88 datums will no longer be available. NSPS and AAGS are teaming up to do their part in helping revise the model law in order to incorporate the new datums into state statute. Now, with a better understanding of the significant changes brought on by these new datums, the proposed Geodetic Certification program that has been proposed and is now under development makes even more sense to be offered to the membership.

By all accounts, Capitol Hill Day (formerly known as Lobby Day) was a success. Teaming up with MAPPS allowed us to send over 100 people to Capitol Hill where they visited over 80 Senators or Congressman.

NSPS Executive Director Curt Sumner installed the new NSPS officers: Past President Pat Smith, President Jon Warren, President-Elect Tony Cavell, Vice-President Jan Fokens, Secretary Tim Burch and Treasurer Robert Miller. Given the size of NSPS with the 100% membership, (nearly 17,000 members) the secretary/treasurer position has been separated.

In attendance and participating in the meeting were 11 past presidents. What dedication! Some real stalwarts in the organization are stepping down and allowing others to take the reins. John Matonich (Past President, Chair Joint Government Affairs), John Fenn (Past President, Treasurer) and Malcolm Shaw (Governor, Director of many years for New York) have served NSPS with distinction. Also, several individuals who completed their terms as area directors.

As a result of our 100% state membership program, the NSPS bylaws are being updated to reflect initiatives generated. As part of the 100% membership, at this meeting the board of governors and area directors ceased to exist. An At-Large Director will be elected by the general membership to represent those members who do not have representation on the board through the 100% program.

A number of motions were considered and approved by the directors that were of a general housekeeping nature. The approved motions included the following:

- Every director is required to serve on at least one committee;
- Webinars will be set up for committee meetings;
- The revision and production of a new director's manual;
- Producing progress reports from each committee;
- Developing or enhancing the nomination process;
- Removing references to ACSM in all handouts and documentation.

The NSPS Foundation has an intriguing fundraiser in place for a 1 in 300 chance at \$100 each to win a cruise for two to Alaska, The Danube River, or Mediterranean. It will raise funds for the foundation to use for disaster relief and scholarships.

The student competition was another success, won by Puerto Rico, (a four-year surveying program) and New Mexico Community College (a two-year surveying program). I was disappointed that Oregon Tech was not present for the competition.

The fall business meeting will be held October 8–9, 2015 at the Kalahari Resort and Conference Center in Sandusky, Ohio. The Professional Land Surveyors of Ohio extended a warm welcome to all the directors to join them in the "Buckeye State."

With the 100% membership program and nearly 17000 members, NSPS is now a strong voice for Land Surveyors, both nationally and locally. I encourage everyone in this profession to promote membership in NSPS and PLSO to further expand our influence. With so many folks within the geospatial community infringing on the Land Surveying profession, we need all the support we can muster. ◉



www.nspis.us.com

NSPS Radio Hour every Monday, 11 a.m. EDT
www.americaswebradio.com/showpages/ACSM.php

The Case for Carrying E & O Insurance

■ Greg Crites, PLS

Going without Errors and Omissions insurance (commonly known as professional liability) is much like playing Russian roulette. The consequences of having to ante up a ton of money to remedy a mistake may not result in your own demise, but almost certainly may end in the demise of your sole proprietorship. You know, that business you labored so hard to build for so many years, sacrificing time with your children, grandchildren, your significant other and probably many social connections that required your physical presence to nurture.

I have to insert some disclaimers before I paint this picture. First, I have no affiliation with any insurance carrier so don't expect any information regarding the costs of this type of coverage or who the providers might be. Second, the decision to carry E & O insurance is yours and yours alone, made from an informed position shared with the carrier of your choice. Finally, the case I'm about to make is mostly fictitious, but does represent a collection of my perspectives based on more than 40 years of land surveying experience.

The call

It's about 3:00 pm on a Friday afternoon. The phone rings and of course you're looking for more work to pay for that orthodontia your nearly teenage daughter simply must have. You pick up the receiver (sorry, now it's more likely your cell phone but I did mention how long I've been in practice) and offer your usual business greeting, shortly discovering that this distraught female caller has waited about three months beyond the limits of her patience before making the call. She has endured months of harassment at the hands of her neighbor over a disagreement regarding the location of their common boundary. What you don't know at this early phase of negotiations is that this woman is a transplanted Californian and her hostile neighbor, who looks upon Californians as aliens, bought his property nearly 40 years ago.

The property she purchased last year is in a rural, unincorporated area of the county; she has lots of money and is willing to pay someone well if the results of their work meet her high (though perhaps unreasonable) expectations. This woman is used to getting her way after many years as a successful actress in Hollywood and therefore possesses a sense of entitlement that you are unprepared for. She has decided to raise a very exotic type of farm animal, an animal whose fur is highly regarded by boutique clothing manufacturers (who of course will pay a premium for this fur) and is so well connected and such a

natural salesperson that her farm output is contractually backlogged for more than five years. Almost immediately after closing on the sale of the property, she needed to build some extremely sturdy fences to contain her animals (fences that wouldn't really blend with the forest environment within which they'd be built), so she hired a local surveyor to set stakes along her boundaries in advance of the fencing contractor whom she'd retained for their construction. The hostile neighbor waited until the fence-building project was completed and land clearing was well under way before voicing his disagreement over the location of the fences. Due to the wishes of his client, the local surveyor that did the layout for the fences never talked with this seemingly unfriendly neighbor.

The research

After getting the distraught woman to calm down, you find out that she obtained your name from her attorney (do you hear any warning bells yet?) and that you were highly recommended for the work. Of course, she wants to know how much she'll have to pay for your services, but you've made it a standard practice to do your research before preparing an "informed" estimate. Giving her assurances that you will call her back, you make it clear that you must do some research first. To expedite your research, you ask her if she has a copy of the deed (she does), whether she has a copy of her title report (assuming she paid for one) and if she has done research of her own in the public records to see if any surveys have been performed in the vicinity of her property (she has not). You request that she mail you a copy of the deed and the title report. Almost as an afterthought, you ask her to include a copy of the recorded survey prepared for the fencing contractor. A brief silence ensues, after which she remarks that the fencing surveyor did not record a survey as no permanent monuments were set (obviously his words, he merely set wooden form stakes for the fencing contractor to follow). She could, however, provide a copy of his work map. You tell her that once you receive the information you've requested and have had time to conduct a little research within the public record, you will call her back with your decision whether to take on the job and, if so, how much it will cost. Of course, she wants to know how long *that* will take.

A copy of the deed shows up in the following week and things appear simple (do you hear another warning bell?). The property is a metes and bounds description of a ten-acre tract (the section, township and range don't matter at this point) with one exception; the point of beginning

(POB) is defined as the NE 1/16 section corner! Interestingly, the bearings of the out bounds of the 10-acre tract are recorded to the nearest second and the distances along each course are shown to the nearest one-hundredth of a foot (there are those warning bells again)!

The local surveyor performed a legitimate subdivision of the section to arrive at the location of the POB and computed the location of the fence lines to be built based on aliquot parts (as there was no reference in the deed to the basis of bearing), relying on previous work he'd done in the area to help reduce his price. On the face of it, things look uncluttered. There was one oddity on the copy of the work map; the map showed found iron pipes near each of the fence corner stakes and they varied in distance from the to-be-staked fence corners by anywhere from three to fifteen feet away. However, all were galvanized iron and sizes ranged from 1/2 inch to a full one inch inside diameter. Now that was at least one more red flag! Where did they come from and, once you started thinking about it, a flood of other questions popped into your head when confronted with found monuments in the vicinity of the computed locations of the corners of the aliquot parcel? Now the surveyor in you and all your experience kicks in. It's called a puzzle, a geospatial and historical research puzzle, but one that just naturally starts you thinking of how to solve this mystery.

Using the work map as a basis, you compute the exterior dimensions of the parcel as if the found monuments defined it. Coincidentally or not, the area defined by the found iron pipes is nearly 10 acres! The angular relationships between these same exteriors, though not entirely conforming to the deed record relationships, seem to indicate that those iron pipes were established by someone with a knowledge of surveying. They could be construed to accurately depict the boundaries of the 10-acre parcel if the, as yet unknown, surveyor had performed a boundary survey over 40 years ago using the tools then available and prior to the purchase of the adjoining parcel by the hostile neighbor! The concept of standards of practice in effect at the time of a survey done 40 years ago (or more) can't help but make you wonder.

The puzzle

Your first thought after analyzing the deed and dissecting the work map was that talking to the hostile neighbor was necessary, just to find out what he knows. Of course, you couldn't let the prospective client know what you were up

to, but since you don't have a signed contract as yet, you're under no "loyalty" agreement to an unknown woman who hasn't paid you a dime. Contacting a friend who just happened to live a few miles from the property, you ask him if he knows the hostile neighbor and if so, whether he could dredge up a telephone number in hopes of setting up a meeting to discuss the issues. Interestingly, he does and, as a courtesy, he'll arrange it for you, as his rapport with this particular gentleman may save you from a confrontation that might not help over the course of doing the work.

It still wasn't too late to contact the neighbor and it wasn't around dinner time, so you take a chance and call. His wife answers the phone and after a brief "cold call" introduction to gain an audience, she yells through the house to her husband (so you can hear every word) that he has a call

The consequences of having to ante up a ton of money to remedy a mistake may not result in your own demise, but almost certainly may end in the demise of your sole proprietorship.

from some surveyor and please pick up the phone. So much for telephone manners and so much for having to start the conversation in a courteous and respectful manner because based upon the relationship this person has not developed with his California neighbor, you are perceived as an enemy before you get a chance to open your mouth!

After the expected hostile greeting, you steer the conversation away from the emotions surrounding the issue and state very clearly and forcefully that you are *not* under contract with this woman. Now, you are merely trying to discern some additional background and would it be possible to come by their home to sit down man-to-man and discuss the issues, talk about the history of their ownership and any other salient information that may help you understand this apparent dispute. Reluctantly, the neighbor agrees and you set up a time to meet a couple of days hence. Meanwhile, you take some time the following morning to do further research of the deed and survey records, focusing on the descriptions of the adjoining parcels. The thought occurs to you that all the descriptions were prepared by the same scrivener, as all bearing calls are to the nearest second and distances to the hundredth of a foot. Not surprisingly, adjoining lines all show the same bearings and equal distances, so at the very least, someone

» continues on page 12

had made sure to pay attention to previously recorded instruments, or maybe there was something else, such as an unrecorded rural subdivision!

The most puzzling result of the research is a record of survey, filed some 30 years previously, just after the recording act passed in Oregon. It happens to fall in the southwest quarter of the same section and it too is a ten-acre tract though nearly one-half mile away from the parcel you're researching. You recognize the name of the land surveyor that recorded the map. His name leaves a sinking feeling in your stomach. From personal experience, you know this gentleman was a timber cruiser by trade and worked for a large industrial forestry company in the heyday of the Oregon logging industry. He had a reputed history of borrowing equipment from his employer, primarily consisting of a staff compass and chain! It's a scary thought, but hey, back in the day when this survey was done, logged over rural land was being auctioned to recover back taxes to the tune of \$1.50 per acre, so doing a "top notch" survey apparently wasn't warranted considering the value of the real estate.

...back in the day when this survey was done, logged over rural land was being auctioned to recover back taxes to the tune of \$1.50 per acre, so doing a "top notch" survey apparently wasn't warranted considering the value of the real estate.

As a courtesy, the following morning and armed with your research, you make a call to the fenceline surveyor to let him know what you're doing and to find out if he has any misgivings. He completely understands and seems a bit relieved to be shed (apparently) of the highly annoying client. You tell him that you still haven't accepted the job and ask if he would, as a courtesy, not disclose the fact that the two of you have talked about his former client and her situation.

The meeting with the hostile neighbor

You arrive a few minutes early, project folder tucked under your arm. The hostile neighbor is sitting in an old rocker on the porch waiting for your arrival, requisite hound lying comfortably at his feet. After the customary introductions, you notice this person also has a folder lying beside his rocker. You get right down to business and offer to show him

the research you've completed so far and to characterize the problem from the context of his neighbor who is trying to retain your services. His response is an odd smile and a gleam in his eye, one that you've seen before, that "I know something you don't" look, as if he's about to perform some feat of magic that will surely leave you speechless. He's very interested in the copy of the work map made by the fenceline surveyor (as he hasn't seen it), particularly with regard to the found iron pipes noted thereon.

"I told that surveyor that I had some information which might prove valuable to him, but he just looked at me like I was from another planet! Let me show you what I was perfectly willing to share." He bends over and extracts a yellowed sheet of paper from the folder lying on the porch. Unfolding it, you can see it's an old, blue-line reproduction of a survey map. Upon closer inspection, two things catch your eye. First, it is definitely a copy of a subdivision plat. Though primitive, it shows iron pipes set at the corners of each ten-acre tract within the section (type and size are omitted, but there is a symbol noted in the legend for set monuments, and that symbol is drawn in at every parcel

corner). Second, you immediately notice that the bearings and distances match those shown on the recorded deeds! The damning evidence is the surveyor's seal. It's the same surveyor whose stamp was on the old record of survey you'd already found, the old timber cruiser who has a historical reputation of not doing very high quality work!

Trying your best not to disclose your excitement at seeing this map, you ask the hostile neighbor if you can borrow it to make a copy for your records and for recording with the County Surveyor. Of

course, he's reluctant to do so, but you tell him that had this map been a part of the public record prior to the adjoining purchase by his new Californian neighbor, this whole situation may have been avoided. That seems to get his attention. You promise to get the map back to him the following afternoon, shake hands and leave, thinking that you may have gained yet another modicum of respect for your professional standing from an unexpected corner of the state!

After recording this map with the County Surveyor, you call the potential client from California and explain to her that your research has uncovered some interesting information that you feel compelled to share and could you meet to discuss the situation considering your results. Naturally, you've galvanized her interest and she wants to meet as soon as possible. You set up a meeting for the following afternoon.

The meeting

You shake hands and, to put you at ease, she graciously offers coffee and cookies before you sit down to discuss your findings. It's obvious this woman has a great deal of money as you can't help noticing the original artwork hanging on the walls, the tastefully appointed furnishings and the complete absence of disorder, likely indicating the services of housekeepers. Accepting the coffee but avoiding the cookies, you spread your research out on her expansive table. You begin by explaining your conclusions drawn from the deed records, your curiosity regarding the found iron pipes shown on the work map, and finally, unrolling the copy of the now recorded subdivision plat representing all the 10-acre tracts within her section. You specifically emphasize the abundance of iron pipes set to define the boundaries of each parcel. Interestingly, each one of the 10-acre tracts on the formerly unrecorded subdivision shows a lot number, something that has been conspicuously omitted from the deed records!

Clearly, the original intent was to monument the boundaries of each 10-acre tract and these monuments would serve to delineate the boundaries prior to sale. You tell the California lady that had the fenceline surveyor seen this survey plat prior to commencing his work, he would most likely have arrived at a different conclusion regarding the location of her boundaries and would have held the found iron pipes as the basis for marking the lines for the construction of her fences! Such a posture might have avoided any disputes with her neighbor. Considering her neighbor had been living on his property for more than four decades and knew of the existence of these iron pipes, he had accepted their existence as defining his boundaries. He had attempted to raise his concerns with her fenceline surveyor (who happened to be reluctant to talk with him due to the already evident tensions over the boundaries) without success. You remark that it would be unlikely if the outcome of any quiet title action would result in a decision in her favor. The cost of litigating a resolution would likely far exceed the cost of moving the fences to the more defensible location based upon the old plat record, and would result in virtually no change in the area she purchased.

Without further thought, she says she wants you to perform the survey to rectify the situation and as far as she's concerned, the fenceline surveyor is terminated. You explain that this will require removing the new fences and placing them in their proper position. As a courtesy, you must contact the fenceline surveyor and explain what you've been contracted to do. She understands and states unequivocally that she doesn't like the situation but just wants to be done with the conflict so she can move on to the business of breeding and raising her animals.

Concluding your discussion, you tell her you'll draw up a contract and get back to her in a couple of days with the price. She thanks you and wants to know when you can start? You can't help but wonder whether she'd pay whatever price you quote, recognizing that this could represent an opportunity to recoup some of the losses you've incurred on other projects that suffered overruns, but that is only a fleeting thought. Better to take the high road, preparing an accurate and fair estimate. This woman seems like just the type who, if wronged, might come back to haunt you in

You can't help but wonder whether she'd pay whatever price you quote... but that is only a fleeting thought.

ways you never imagined. You set up another meeting and deliver the proposed contract together with your fee. The California lady wants a day to have her attorney review the contract but assures you that there's no problem with the fee! How often have you heard that? You wonder, "What did I miss?"

Strangely, the phone never rings the next day, or even the next. Instead, a certified letter arrives in the mail several days later, return receipt requested. You immediately recognize that it's from an attorney, apparently *her* attorney. After regurgitating the salient facts as you related them to this prospective client, you see your fee go up in smoke. The attorney has advised his client that the fenceline surveyor is responsible for rectifying his mistakes without additional cost (at least not to the California client). If he is unwilling to do so, then litigation will follow. Because you know this fenceline surveyor and can make some suppositions regarding how he runs his business, you imagine that it's unlikely he carries E & O insurance. You can't help but think the cost of resolving this mess could approach tens of thousands of dollars (if not more if a civil suit ensues that awards punitive damages for the emotional trauma along with all costs incurred to correct the "mistake"). Maybe this outcome wasn't so bad after all.

This wouldn't be the first time all your efforts at research go uncompensated, nor will it be the last! You actually breathe a big sigh of relief, thinking that this California lady would likely be the source of numerous headaches and unwarranted demands, not to mention further tension arising between the neighbors that would undoubtedly rub off as additional irritants.

» continues on page 14

From a professional liability perspective, where has the exposure occurred? Following a conversation with Laura Ledbetter, account manager for Hall and Company on the potential situation, we discussed the following:

- In this scenario, claims exposure may arise because the fenceline surveyor can be shown to have “exhibited a standard of care that is below what is usual and customary” for other surveyors practicing in the area. The law holds professionals to a distinct level of care. A standard of care provision in a contract has proven to decrease exposures that could lead to a claim. A well-written standard of care provision should conform to the prevailing definition for professional negligence in the jurisdiction of the project. For example a common standard of care provision might contain the following language:

The Surveyor shall perform its services consistent with the professional skill and care ordinarily provided by Surveyors practicing in the same or similar locality under the same or similar circumstances. The Surveyor shall perform its services as expeditiously as is consistent with such professional skill and care and the orderly progress of the Project.

- Further, in the absence of a written contract the likelihood for claims exposure increases as the contract would have spelled out the scope of services and could also include disclaimers regarding any unwarranted conclusions that the client might draw from the results. A well-written contract is the best first step a Surveyor can take to significantly manage the risk of a claim against their firm.
- As a general rule there are four broad issues that at a minimum should be expressly addressed in every contract:
 1. Description of the project
 2. Surveyor’s scope of services
 3. Surveyor’s professional fees
 4. “Legal” requirements such as indemnification and hold harmless, insurance requirements, copyright & document ownership, right of assignment, site safety, and dispute resolution, to name a few...
- In this scenario, an approximate corner was set so that the fencing contractor could do their portion of the job. The e.”

From my own perspective, attempting to avoid the statutory requirement for filing a record of survey by setting “non-permanent” marks and thereby reducing costs does a terrible disservice to the public and creates a ripple effect that radiates back through the public record by creating “color of title” that is unwarranted. This sort of

behavior is unprofessional and does nothing to create the kind of perceptions of our profession that we desire.

How many times have you encountered fences in the field that fall within close proximity to the boundary you’ve been asked to resolve? How many times have you wondered how they got there and under what circumstances? How many times have such fences been in existence for longer than the statutory period required to raise the specter of an adverse claim? The same is true for monuments established by long-absent surveyors who never recorded a survey or left behind their records after they were gone.

I can’t stress enough the importance of doing a *thorough* job of research. When faced with a particularly complicated boundary resolution where the intentions of parties is virtually lost through the passage of time, get creative in thinking about where land records might be found. From my own experience, there are several sources of information that you may not have considered:

- The offices of the City Engineer or City Surveyor in metropolitan areas.
- Living relatives of now deceased licensed land surveyors.
- Heirs, assignees or relatives of property owners who once lived in the area around the time that original conveyances were created! How many times have you watched “Antiques Roadshow” and seen firsthand some of the family memorabilia that has been saved over many generations?
- State or local historical societies.
- Local museums.
- The oldest living resident who has resided in the area the longest.

There may be other sources of information specific to a particularly difficult survey. These sources may best be discovered through networking within the local surveying community. As stated in one of my previous articles, doing a *thorough* job of research means you have “left no stone unturned.”

The devastating financial impact to your business resulting from an outcome similar to the “fictional” scenario just illustrated should send you on a direct path to your insurance carrier or at the very least to begin investigating coverages and rates. The NSPS website may be a great place to start. If you already carry general liability, vehicle and equipment insurance, it might also be worthwhile to check with your present carrier (assuming you haven’t already done so) to obtain more specific information. Just as title insurance is a hedge against the likelihood that any claims against your property may arise resulting in the loss of title to it, carrying E & O insurance is a far better “hedge” than playing roulette without it! ◉

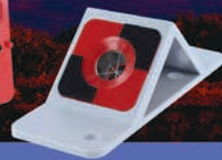
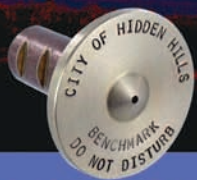
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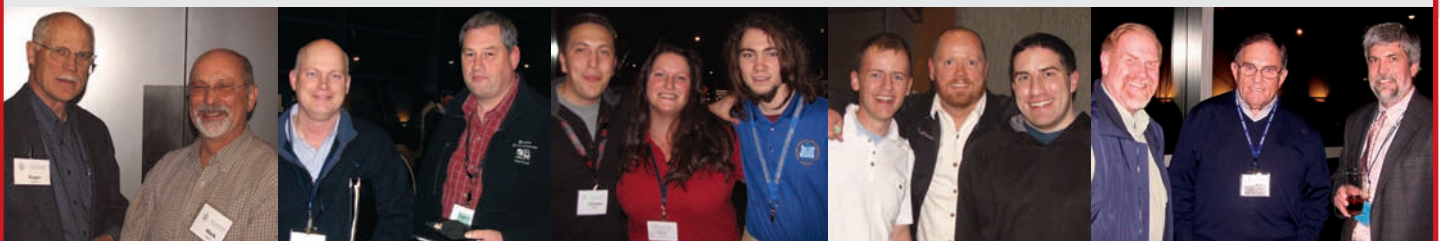
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Layne Caswell Honored with “Final Point” Ceremony

■ *Bob Taylor, PLS; Jim Elam, PLS; Al Hertel, PLS; Chuck Pearson, PLS; John Thatcher, PLS; and Greg Crites, PLS*

The “Final Point” ceremony for Walter Layne Caswell, late of Council, Idaho, was held on July 11, 2015 at the Walnut Street Center in Hillsboro, Ore. The marker is a 4 ½-inch diameter bronze disc which was engraved “Walter Layne Caswell.” Also included were Layne’s professional registration numbers for Oregon and Idaho. The date on the monument is July 8, 1966, representing when he received his first license number in Oregon, no. 737. A second group of numbers represented the geodetic location of the monument with longitude and latitude.

The monument is part of a joint effort by NSPS and Berntsen International to form a foundation intent on building an endowment for surveying scholarships. The monument was purchased and provided by Danna Barnhart, PLS, who was a lifemate to Layne in Council, Idaho, for many years.

The location of the monument was first approved by Jim Elam, Washington County Surveyor, with assistance, efforts and suggestions by G. Robert (Bob) Taylor and R. Charles Pearson. As the County Surveyor, Jim needed a geodetic control monument for the field crews and this was something the county could support. Washington County

set the monument in concrete at a location which would be accessible to the public and professional surveyors.

The geodetic measurements were taken by Al and Maxine Hertel of Caswell/Hertel Surveyors, Inc. of Beaverton. A “Shared Solution” paper was prepared and is available at the NGS website: www.ngs.noaa.gov/OPUS/view.jsp. A search on the ZIP Code 97123 will bring up a list of sites.

Over 30 persons attended the field dedication and review of the monument and its significance to the memory of Walter Layne Caswell. Lunch followed at the Grand Lodge in Forest Grove. Many old friends and fellow surveyors as well as family members attended. The Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon was well represented, including current state chair John Thatcher, and five past state chairpersons. G. Robert (Bob) Taylor acted as the host for the lunch. Many stories were told of the life and times of Layne. Bob and Layne worked together as far back as 1968 when they were employed at Robert E. Meyers Engineers & Associates.

Layne started his own surveying company in 1971 and took on Albert (Al) Hertel as a partner in later years. Layne and Al became early pioneers in the use of GPS equipment



G. Robert (Bob) Taylor



Walter Layne Caswell's Final Point monument before placement



G. Robert (Bob) Taylor asked attendees to sign a 2" x 2" x 18" white wooden stake.

by starting a co-venture known as Eagle GPS. They partnered with Spencer B. Gross, Photogrammetry.

Near the end of the luncheon, Bob asked attendees to sign a 2" x 2" x 18" white wooden stake. Layne's fellow employees signed this same stake back in 1971, some 44 years earlier.

It should be noted that current PLSO Chair, John Thatcher, has planned to present this NSPS program to the state board to honor other surveyors in the same manner. ◉

Those present at the luncheon:

Paula and Oran Abbott, PLS
Sue Acuff

Gary Anderson, PLS

Danna Barnhart, PLS

Bonnie Berwick

Jeff Caswell

Jean Dalrymple, PLS

Gene DiLoreto, PLS

Patty and Jim Elam, PLS

Jon Feigion, PLS

Sandy and Fred Gaylord, PLS

Maxine and Al Hertel, PLS

Jean Kinzey

Karen McWilliams

Eric Osmond

Chuck Pearson, PLS

Julie and Ben Stacy, PLS

Marie and Bob Taylor, PLS

John Thatcher, PLS

Sandy and Brian Weigart, PLS

Shared Solution

PID: BBDW17
Designation: WALTER LAYNE CASWELL
Stamping: WALTER LAYNE CASWELL
Stability: May hold, commonly subject to ground movement
Setting: Set in top of concrete monument
Description: FINAL POINT BRASS DISK FOR WALTER LAYNE CASWELL SET IN THE GRASS ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF SW WALNUT STREET ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE DRIVEWAY TO THE WASHINGTON COUNTY ANNEX BUILDING
Observed: 2015-05-19T16:17:00Z
Source: OPUS - page5 1209.04



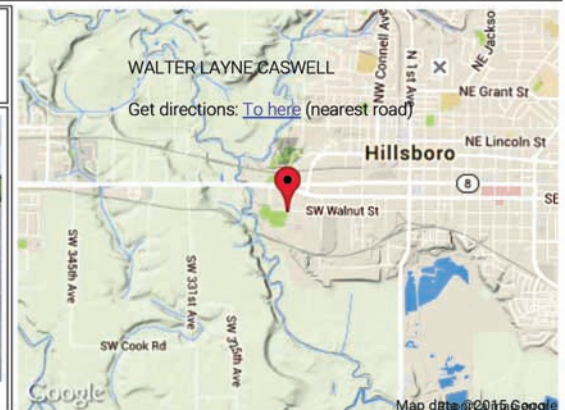
Close-up View

REF_FRAME:	EPOCH:	SOURCE:	UNITS:	SET	DETAILS
NAD_83 (2011)	2010.0000	NAVD88 (Computed using GEOID12B)	m	PROFILE	
LAT: 45° 31' 3.21203" ± 0.010 m LLN: -123° 0' 19.46704" ± 0.003 m ELL HT: 26.960 ± 0.002 m X: -2438569.282 ± 0.006 m Y: -3754291.636 ± 0.004 m Z: 4527856.070 ± 0.008 m ORTHO HT: 49.756 ± 0.015 m		UTM 10 SPC 3601(OR N) NORTHING: 5040447.264m 208710.485m EASTING: 499577.660m 2304291.460m CONVERGENCE: -0.00385807° -1.77679997° POINT SCALE: 0.99960000 0.99991309 COMBINED FACTOR: 0.99959578 0.99990886			

CONTRIBUTED BY
[info](#)
 Caswell/Hertel Surveyors Inc.



Horizon View



The numerical values for this position solution have satisfied the quality control criteria of the National Geodetic Survey. The contributor has verified that the information submitted is accurate and complete.

<http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/OPUS/getDatasheet.jsp?PID=BBDW17&style=modern>

The "Shared Solution" paper at the NGS website www.ngs.noaa.gov/OPUS/view.jsp

The Lost Surveyor



Susan Elizabeth Newstetter • July 21, 1954 – May 1, 2015

■ Pat Gaylord, PLS

This installment of the “Lost Surveyor” is about a member we recently lost. PLSO and the state of Oregon lost a true professional who dedicated thousands of hours to our profession when Susan E. Newstetter, PLS 2405 unexpectedly passed away at the age of 60. At the PLSO conference last January we shared a laugh about my sons, talked about good food and outdoor cooking, and parted ways thinking her illness was mostly behind her and life was in front of her. Unfortunately Sue passed away May 1, 2015 due to complications that developed.

Sue was one of the most dedicated professionals I have ever had the privilege to know.

—Pat Gaylord, PLS

Sue was one of the most dedicated professionals I have ever had the privilege to know. It was truly an honor to serve on many of PLSO’s Boards and Committees with her as well as numerous years on the Oregon Institute of Technology Industrial Advisory Committee for Geomatics. Her efforts and absence will be felt for many years throughout PLSO and the State of Oregon.

Susan Elizabeth Newstetter was born July 21, 1954 to Robert Leon (Bud) and Bonnie Jean (Jean) Newstetter in Van Nuys, California. She was a good student and had a love for the mountains of the Sierra Nevadas. Apparently Sue’s value in good grades was directly tied to her parents rule of “No good grades, no mountains.” Fishing and hiking

in the Sierras won out rather than to any desire to make honor roll or the like. In Sue’s youth she was a Mariner Scout (a group tied to the Girl Scouts), an athlete and loved anything related to the outdoors.

Not long after her graduation from high school, her love of the outdoors led her to a career in the Forest Service where she spent the next 17 years. Sue worked her way up through the Forest Service from a seasonal Technician on the Inyo National Forest cleaning toilets and servicing campgrounds and then to a Clerk Typist on the Shasta Trinity National Forest where she quickly had to learn how to type upon receiving the position. Sue was soon promoted to Construction Inspector and thus began her interest in Land Surveying. Sue later moved on to the Kaibab National Forest for a short time and then to the Umatilla National Forest in Pendleton, Oregon. While a Construction Inspector, Sue would talk for hours with the land surveyors learning everything she could about the job.

In 1982, Sue began working in the engineering section and soon became a corner searcher at the request of Dave Haddock who had observed her impeccable attention to detail. He was further impressed by the fact that she read the entire *BLM Manual* in a week prior to applying for the job. The Forest Service sent Sue to many surveying classes early in her career and she always finished in the top of her class. She was mentored by Dave Haddock, Dennis Gaylord, and Doug Ferguson eventually becoming one of the first licensed women surveyors in the state of Oregon in 1989.

Sue had a true love for “The Manual” and for corner searching, often telling me that if we could just “haul the kids out in the woods and let them find a stone we would have all the surveyors we needed.” Sue’s career took an abrupt turn in 1990 when she found herself faced with

compromising her professional judgment with politics of the office. Not one to compromise her judgment or personal values, she left the Forest Service and joined Ferguson Surveying and Engineering in Mt. Vernon, Oregon. Sue eventually became mayor of Mt. Vernon and later opened Eastern Oregon Professional Services where she spent the next two decades consulting for many of the small towns and jurisdictions throughout Eastern Oregon.

Sue had many interests beyond her passion for surveying. Helping rural communities in Oregon successfully surmount obstacles preventing them from improving infrastructure and community resources was a perfect fit for her. Sue loved knitting, outdoor cooking with Dutch ovens and solar ovens, tear drop trailering, geocaching, gardening, lake fishing, crafting and above all her many friends and family and the relationships she built. Sue loved her corner of Oregon and her town of Mt. Vernon in Grant County. She often, when really wanting to make a point, began with “Well in my little town...”

Sue represented everything that a member of PLSO should be able to find in the organization; dedication, service, professionalism and friendship. When I first began serving on the PLSO Board in the mid 1990s Sue was one of the first ones to greet me and welcome me to “the Board.” Over the years, we became great friends and traveled many miles around the state meeting up at one meeting or another for PLSO, OSU, and OIT. Sue held so many positions and did so many things for PLSO they are too numerous to list here. She was recognized for those efforts as Surveyor of the Year in 2004.

Beyond PLSO, Sue was appointed to the OSBEELS Board in 2011 and was president of the Board at the time of her passing. On any committee, Sue was always prepared, knew the issues, and had great insights into those issues with ideas to back it up. She was never afraid to speak her mind and when she did, it was always with the best interest of the land surveying profession at the forefront.

A memorial was held on June 27 at Clyde Holliday State Park in Mt. Vernon with approximately 100 present to share stories and remember a great lady and one of the first women surveyors in Oregon. Contributions in remembrance can be made to the following: John Day Community Garden, Mt. Vernon Community Hall, Grant County Library Foundation and the Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon Scholarship Fund. If you enjoy Geocaching, a geocache in her honor has been created in Mt. Vernon. ◉



Sue's campsite—set up at her June 27 memorial—shows her love of Dutch ovens and solar ovens, and tear drop trailering.
Photo by Pat Gaylord



Sue's memorial survey marker. Custom-made by Richard Hofland, Hofland Survey Monuments. Compass design by Mike Springer.
Photo by John LaLiberte

Trig-Star 2015

■ Joe Ferguson, PLS

Thank you to everyone that participated in the Trig-Star program this year. Without the dedication of our volunteers, this program wouldn't exist. Not only do they visit schools and promote the program to the students, but they volunteer their time to proctor the exams. It is one of the only programs that gets PLSO into the high schools, where we can start students thinking about surveying as a possible career choice. It is an important aspect of outreach.

This year's state test was won by Zhongxu "Zac" Chen from Valley Catholic High School in Beaverton, Ore. His score was 100, completing the test in 53 minutes and 50 seconds. Congratulations Zhongxu!

Thank you to The PPI Group for hosting everyone at their office in Portland. ◉

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PLSO would also like to recognize the top three winners of each participating school. They are:

Midwest Chapter



Central High School

PROCTOR: John Nemecek

Nathan Knight, Gabriel Arreguin, William Bates

Springfield High School

PROCTOR: Jon Driscoll, City of Springfield

Kyra Touchstone, Caleb Ransdell, Sarabeth Slater

Pioneer Chapter



North Marion High School

PROCTOR: Tony Brooks,

Ag Geospatial NW

Triston Rostocil, Klayton Pippert, Laura Grigorieff

Valley Catholic School

PROCTOR: Al Hertel, Caswell/Hertel Surveyors, Inc.

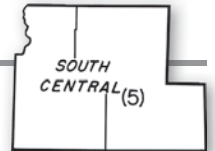
Zhongxu "Zac" Chen, Zach Creitz, Lee Henningsen

School of Science & Technology

PROCTOR: Al Hertel, Caswell/Hertel Surveyors, Inc.

Austin Wassenberg, Polina Verkhovodova,
Otakar Andrysek

South Central Chapter



Mazama High School

PROCTOR: Jack Walker,

Oregon Tech, Geomatics

Trevor Arino, Davin Nichols, Hannah Levesque

Willamette Chapter



Dallas High School

PROCTOR: Gary Johnston

Tylor Vandembroeke, Jessica Eikenberry, Melody Ballard

Sprague High School

PROCTOR: Daren Cone, Oregon Dept. of Forestry

Braden Gardner, Jonah Lowell, Geordan Lightburn

West Salem High School

PROCTOR: Gary Johnston

Andrew Reimer-Berg, Connor Suderman, Luke Goertzen

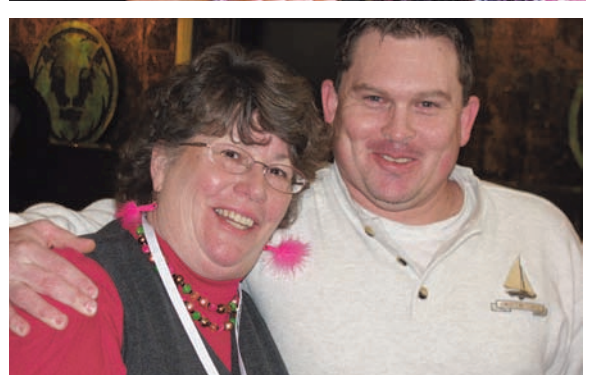
In Memoriam

Susan Elizabeth Newstetter • July 21, 1954 – May 1, 2015



“On any committee, Sue was always prepared, knew the issues, and had great insights into those issues with ideas to back it up. She was never afraid to speak her mind and when she did, it was always with the best interest of the land surveying profession at the forefront.”

—Pat Gaylord, PLS



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