

Cleveland Surveying News

April 2014



- April 3rd Social Dinner
- Cuyahoga County Engineer
- State Boundary Standards

Cleveland Chapter

Professional Land Surveyors of Ohio

PRESIDENT
(*vacant*)

PRESIDENT-ELECT
(*vacant*)

TREASURER
Timothy Feller, PS
timf@mcsteen.com

SECRETARY
Steven Metcalf, PS
secretaryclevelandplso@gmail.com

DELEGATE
(*vacant*)

PAST PRESIDENT
Robert Hoy, PS
robert.hoy7@hotmail.com

Cleveland Surveying News

Volume 13, Issue 2
Distribution: 410

Editor: (open if interested)
Publisher: [Robert Hoy](#)

Columnists:
[John Dailey, PS](#)
[Peter D. Zwick, PE, PS](#)

Cover Photographer:
Robert Hoy, PS

2014 Advertising Rates
Full page: 9.6"x7.3" \$400 yr
1/2 page: 4.8"x7.3" \$200 yr
1/4 page: 4.8"x3.6" \$100 yr
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Cleveland Chapter of PLSO
P. O. Box 81713
Cleveland, OH 44181-0713

Features

April 3 Social Dinner	3
New County Engineer	6
State Boundary Standards - Update	7

Meetings

April 3 Social Dinner	3
March Executive Highlights	4
May 1 Seminar Meeting	4
April Executive Meeting	6
Golf Outing	10

Articles

Random Lines by John Dailey, PS	7
Staying Modern by Robert Hoy, PS	10
Surveyor Spotlight	12

Reports

2014 Officers Needed	6
Delegate	9
2014 Annual Conference	15
Conference Photos	16
January Executive Meeting Minutes	17

Miscellaneous

Chapter Calendar	17
www.plso.info	19
James B. Root	19
Call for Volunteers - Mike Besch	19

Executive Committee Meeting Highlights

March 17, 2014 (St. Patrick's Day) – 6:00 p.m.

In attendance: Robert Hoy, John Dailey, George Hoffman, Tim Feller, Tom Snezek, Michael Ackerman, and Steve Metcalf.

Chapter Delegate:

Michael Ackerman attended the meeting in Columbus.

No new student members are located within the Cleveland Chapter area.

Spread the word about the profession!!



Steven Metcalf
Secretary

Cleveland Scanned Survey Databank:

John Dailey has come upon the possibility of obtaining the records of Wight-O'Rourke Co's.

John Dailey, Tom Snezek, and George Hofmann, and Robert Hoy were to make a field trip to visit the files and see if obtaining them were possible.

Hopes are to scan these document to the Cleveland Chapter's scanned databank.

Committees

New Seminar ideas:

Ideas were floated about new restaurants for the Social meeting as well as ideas for possible speakers.

A PLSO member is *needed* to head the Social committee.

Education/ Scholarship:

Cleveland Chapter has received (3) students applicants and a Committee was formed to review the applicants information in hopes to distribute the Cleveland Chapter PLSO scholarship.

Elections:

Still looking for officers to fill vacant positions. We have 2014 Officer openings at President, President-Elect, and Full-time Delegate.

Being an active participant in an officer or committee position earns you 2 PDHs of continuing education per year!

Have your voice heard.

New Business:

Surveyor Spotlight ideas of new names were spoken about. Some emails were send to these Chapter members to be interviewed. If you are interested in nominating the unsung hero to be in the "spotlight" Please contact Steve Metcalf – Chapter Secretary.

May 1 - Seminar Meeting

A seminar meeting is in the work for May. We will send an email out when the information is finalized. Final details will be in the May CSN.

Have ideas for seminar topics or know interested speakers? Our chapter is looking for a Seminar Program chairman. Come to the Hoof and Ladder for our April 3rd social dinner and find out what's involved. The more you get involved, the more you get out of it and all chapter members and Surveyors benefit!



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Chapter Executive Committee Meeting

When: **Monday April 14**

Time: 6:00 pm

Where: * new location* Neff & Associates at 6405 York Road, Parma Heights

Come find out we what do at these meetings to lead this chapter, and bring your fresh energy and ideas. We have 2014 Officer openings at President, President-Elect, and Delegate.

Being an active participant in an officer or committee position earns you 2 PDHs of continuing education per year!

Officers

We are still in need to fill the following chapter office positions:

President:	_____	. PS
President-Elect:	_____	. PS
Delegate:	_____	. PS

Offices of President, President-Elect, and Delegate *must* be filled by a Chapter member of Professional, Life, or Retired categories.

New Cuyahoga County Engineer

Cuyahoga County has appointed a new County Engineer:

David E. Marquard, PE, PS

He was previously employed at the County of Summit Department of Environmental Services.



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Random Lines

by John Dailey, PS



We have lost one our own. Jack E. McFadden, P.S., P.E. died on February 7. There was a short notice in last month's CSN that did not really do him justice. Jack was one of the founders of PLSO and the Cleveland Chapter. He was the third Chairman/President of the Cleveland Chapter in 1976, Surveyor of the Year in

1985. He was Surveyor for the City of Cleveland for many years, Chief Surveyor of the Cuyahoga County Engineers Office and proprietor of McFadden and Associates. That's the boiler plate. Now let's talk about the man.

Jack and Kay were married for 62 years. They had six children, 8 grandchildren and 2 great grand children. Jack was involved in many volunteer activities. He loved to fly and for many years, he had and used his private plane pilot's license. When his health allowed, he liked to play golf, but like me, not very well.

In the early years of the Chapter and PLSO, Jack maintained a "can do" attitude. When something had to be done, he was there to help. With the late Ed Missig, he did an in depth study of the curriculum of every college in Ohio to determine the depth of surveying education in the state. This helped

form the basis of the original educational requirements now in place for Surveyors in Ohio. It helped form the PLSO educational requirements eventually adopted by the Board of Registration and the Ohio Administrative Code.

Jack had a good sense of humor and a really humane outlook on life. We not only lost a good family man, a good surveyor, a good engineer, and a good member. We lost a strong advocate for our profession and for our professional society. We have all lost a very good friend and he will be sorely missed.

Our thoughts and prayers go put to Kay and the McFadden family.

On to other pressing matters.

I had the opportunity to attend the Chapter Executive Committee the other night and was very disappointed to see that the Chapter still has so many spots on the ExCom unfilled. The members who are currently on the ExCom are doing a yeoman's job of managing our Chapter's business.

They deserve your support and assistance. Many hands make any project light work. Why not volunteer to take on one of the open offices. You may even find out that is enjoyable. Contact any of the current officers and volunteer.

John Dailey, P.S., Past
idaileye@sbcglobal.net

State Boundary Standards - Update

PLSO Standards committee chairman, Bradley Kramer, has requested suggestions and comments for the regular updating of Ohio Administrative Code 4733-37 which can be found here:

codes.ohio.gov/oac/4733-37

Should anything be more specific? Less specific? What about GNSS errors/accuracies? Take a read through the standards as they are now written. Then send Brad your comments at:

bradkramer@kramer2000.com

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Cleveland Chapter's Delegate Report

The report included herein is offered only as informational to the members of the Cleveland Chapter. The reader is deferred to the approved minutes of the P.L.S.O. for any clarifications

Friday March 14, 2014

Call to order at 6:07 pm

- Quorum established
- Secretary's Minutes for January 2014, accepted as amended

Treasure's Report

- The final report for the February Conference has not been completed. There are still outstanding accounts to close. At this time the profit from the conference is ahead of what was projected in the budget.
- The phone/ internet supplier was changed from AT&T to Time Warner. The upfront costs are higher now, but the overall costs in the long run will be lower. The PLSO staff computers were also upgraded at this time.
- Reviewed and accepted subject to the Finance Committee's review, as per the Charter guidelines.
- George Hofmann presented the annual Presidents Award to Don Pickenpaugh.
- New members: 3 affiliate, 3 associate, 9 professional, 16 student, and 3 life members from the Northwest Ohio Chapter.
- Don Pickenpaugh was released from the Constitution Review Committee.
- Tom Silva was approved for a new 5 year term to the Scholarship Fund Board.

Inter-Association



Michael Ackerman
Alternate Delegate

(Cont'd on Page 18)

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Staying Modern

by Robert Hoy, PS

Clevelanders should have heard the news that Positively Cleveland (formerly the Cleveland Traveler's Bureau) changed how they promote Cleveland. *This is Cleveland* has replaced *Cleveland Rocks*. Why? They want to attract a younger demographic to Cleveland: the Millennials.

Images in Positively Cleveland's new video promotion shows what is happening in Cleveland **now**. But why is the "now" important for them? The younger generation they want to attract lives in the here and now. Instant news on their phone - through Twitter (not TV news apps), instant text messages. So how does this relate to Land Surveying? In fact it mirrors it.

Several times I've heard someone say "lots of gray hair in the room" - or bald heads for that matter when commenting on PLSO meetings or the PLSO Annual Conference. Recently I heard a figure for the either the average age of surveyors or PLSO members, not sure which, but the age was 58. That's nearing retirement age. I believe that statistic, but it's alarming.

I've been an officer of the Cleveland Chapter of PLSO for 10 of the past 11 years, yet I'm still over 15 years *under* that average age I mentioned. In that time I recall only two officers younger than me. Almost all the other officers I served with are still members, just older. The Cleveland Chapter has had quite a problem the past couple of years finding members to fill our officer positions. Why? A lack of younger surveyors being involved in PLSO. Many of our chapter members have already served several years as officers.

A couple of years ago I brought up the idea of re-viewing the PLSO logo with the thought to modernize it. Why? A student or young surveyor cannot

connect with the transit and plumb bob logo because they are not representative of element of Surveying today. The response was resounding to keep the current logo, but I believe the reasoning was incorrectly perceived. Our public image needs to communicate to bring people into our organization and promote surveying. As with the average age of members I can surely see how many really like seeing an old transit with a plumb bob on the logo. But that's a recipe for continuing meeting rooms filled with gray and bald heads.

The *Cleveland Rocks* is a good slogan, Cleveland has the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum and that song, *Cleveland Rocks*, was featured in the opening of the Drew Carey TV show. But that show went off the air 10 years ago, so few people under the age of 18 can connect with that slogan. You have to stay current.

Staying current isn't just having a new logo that promotes PLSO, not surveying equipment, it's about promoting land surveying to students - and not showing them plumb bobs and Wild T1s! I recently read an article why young children should be using handheld devices such as tablets and phones. That's along the same lines how students will find land surveying attractive - high tech devices. Once you've gotten their attention, they can be told about the detective work to find old monuments and deeds that weren't referenced correctly.

It's the survey tech gadgets that will attract them, not ancient survey equipment. If you present a high school student with "here's surveying equipment that George Washington used" or "look at what this device can do - tell you where you are accurately on the earth within seconds, ties into a data stream over the internet via your smart phone, and it fits in your hand", which is going to spark more interest? I know, do you?

Robert Hoy, PS
robert.hoy@arcadis-us.com

Golf Outing

The Cleveland Chapter golf outing will be held June 27th at Pleasant Hill golf course in Chardon, mark it on your calendars.

Want to volunteer, donate prizes, sponsor a hole?

Contact Tom Snezek: dadsurv@hotmail.com, 216-701-5025

Outing registration and hole sponsor form will be in the May issue of the Cleveland Surveying News.



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Surveyor Spotlight - Michael J. Kral – SI

by Steven Metcalf, PS

What year did you become a surveyor?

I graduated from the University of Akron in 2011.

What company do you work for, how long?

I currently work for Neff & Associates in Parma Heights since graduation.

What lead you into the surveying profession? Why?

I owned a Landscaping company for over 20 years and got bored with it. I studied Civil engineering at the University of Cincinnati and took a few surveying courses and really enjoyed it. So I decided it was time for a change.



Michael J. Kral, SI

Where you ever an intern or where did you start?

I interned during my Cincinnati days for Western Pacific Railroad and then later within the University of Akron years for the Cuyahoga County Engineers office.

Who was your mentor?

Gary Schuller, my University of Akron instructor really made an impression on me. Taught me how to be a professional, he understood the laws, practices and procedures that I use today.

Have you always surveyed in Ohio? Other states? Or Parts of Ohio?

With Western Pacific – I was able to work in California from San Francisco to Reno. With Neff mostly North-east Ohio

Do you prefer the field or the office better? Why?

(Cont'd on [Page 13](#))

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Surveyor Spotlight, Michael J. Kral – SI (from [Page 12](#))

I love the field, the outdoors, the freedom, and the search for pins and monuments. It's like a full time Geo-cache every day!

What type of field vehicles do you use?

Western Pacific – we used large Econoline Vans

Neff – Ford Transits

What surveying instrument do you use? Did you have a favorite over the years?

I'm a Topcon guy.

Is there a type of surveying you would be interested in getting into that you're currently not in?

Laser scanning has always interested me.

What item/ classes/ topic would you like added to the Annual PLSO conference classes?

Dendrology – I'm a plant guy, enjoy the outdoors, but the tree classification/identification would always be helpful.

Do you have a good funny surveying war story?

At Western Pacific we got a survey and view a train derailment site and a car carrier turned over. There were Ford cars strewn all over the place. The destruction was immense. Also there was a legendary Hobo named "Herbie" that would mark all the rail cars he would ride with a "Herbie the Hobo" painted symbol.

What was the coldest/ hottest place or time your surveyed?

Two weeks ago in January. Wow! It just hurt.

NON-Surveying Questions:

If you weren't a surveyor what would you be?

National Park Ranger in Yellow Stone – it's just beautiful.

What is your best trait that helps you in your profession?

I really enjoy maps and the hunt for the elusive property corner.

What is your surveying motto or approach?

Deuteronomy 19:14 "You shall not move your neighbor's boundary mark, which the ancestors have set, in your inheritance which you will inherit in the land that the Lord your God gives you to possess."

What is your greatest extravagance?

Vacationing in Europe and Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

What talent would you like to have?

Rhythm and musical ability.

What do you consider your greatest achievement?

My successful 20 years landscaping company with 4 employees.

Where would you like to live?

In the Northwest – Washington State , it's amazing up there.

What hobbies or other interests do you enjoy?

I love target shooting and camping with family.

Family, (kids), wife, etc.

Brothers, Niece, and Nephews.



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2014 Annual Conference

The PLSO 2014 Annual Conference was recently held at the spacious Kalahari Resort and Convention Center in Sandusky, Ohio. The event was well attended with over 400 individuals on property for the conference; this included more than 300 full registrations. The programs and exhibits were held in close proximity to each other making it a plus for easy maneuverability between sessions and exhibitors; however there were a few comments about some of the guest rooms being far from the conference area.

This year lunches were again held in the Exhibit Hall and were served at the table allowing for attendees to sit and enjoy Thursday's Awards Luncheon and Friday's Officer Induction Luncheon. At the Award's Luncheon Edward P. Gibbons, P.S. and John C. Metzger, P.E., P.S. were honored as Surveyor's of the Past, and John Sibilia, P.S. was honored as Member of the Year. This year for the first time the Legislator of the Year Award was presented to Senator David Burke.

Exhibitors were ample, occupying most of the perimeter of the Exhibit Hall offering information on equipment, technology, education and professional societies.

Program sessions included local, state and national speakers, with a wide range of subjects, all providing useful information to be taken home.

On Thursday evening the Annual Benefit Social and Benefit Raffle was held raising more than \$2800 towards the PLSO Scholarship Fund.

The Hospitality Suite was located near the conference area and was a little crowded at times, that may be attributed to the great job done by Tom Snezek in prepping and supplying the room. There was a generous selection of beverages and snacks, which also included cookies made by Charmaine Snezek with the PLSO logo on them.

The Spouse Program had 24 attendee's this year; these are numbers that have not been seen for a long time. On Thursday Tim Maurer of Mukha Spa provided an entertaining and informative day about healthy skin care and makeup products, followed by a skin treatment and lunch at Kalahari's Reserve Restaurant. Friday included a demonstration and talk by La La Lucy about sugar scrubs, with everyone having the opportunity to make their own to take home.

Overall the Kalihari Resort worked well, programs went smoothly, and exhibitor's indicated liking of the facility. The water park seemed to draw some younger families to the conference which was a nice thing to see. The committee members of John Bischof (Exhibits), John Hoy (Program), Dino Lustri (Raffle) Tom Snezek (Hospitality), and Charmaine Snezek and Nancy Bischof (Spouse Program) did a great job in seeing that the conference was a success. Many thanks to Melinda Gilpin, PLSO Executive Director, for all the time and effort she put into the conference.

Please e-mail any additional questions or comments about the conference to Ken Hejduk at kenh@hca-es.com.

Ken Hejduk, PS
2014 Annual Conference Chairman

2014 Annual Conference Photos



Above: 2014 PLSO Officers



Left: Alex Charchian of Leica Geosystems meets after the session he presented.



Above: PLSO Executive Director Melinda Gilpin and 2014 Annual Conference Chairman Ken Hejduk.



Left: Surveyor of the Past Plaques

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2014

Parma City Hall, 6611 Ridge Road, Parma, Ohio

Meeting called to order at 6:07 pm.

In attendance: Robert Hoy, Tom Snezek, Michael Ackerman, Tim Feller, and Steve Metcalf.



Michael Ackerman

Secretary's minutes: Executive Committee meeting minutes from December 2, 2013 accepted as submitted by Michael Ackerman.

Treasury: Tim Feller submitted the November and December reports. Acceptance of reports are subject to review.

Chapter Delegate:

- Tom Snezek read the January Delegates report.
- The State voted on the Surveyor of the Past and Surveyor of the Year.
- CEO reported that Summit County is looking to eliminate the requirement of the County Engineer being a Professional Surveyor.
- NSPS is looking into providing an ALTA certification class.

Committees

Communication:

Newsletter Committee:

- Robert Hoy announced the newsletter deadline will be January 14, 2014.
- Steve Metcalf gave a brief overview of a new article for the newsletter.

(Cont'd on [Page 18](#))

Cleveland Chapter of PLSO 2014 Calendar

Chapter Executive Meetings are held 6 p.m. at the office of Neff & Associates at 6405 York Road Parma Heights and are open to all PLSO members who want to attend.

Apr 3 Social Dinner
Apr 11 PLSO Executive Meeting
Apr 14 Chapter Executive Meeting
Apr 18 Cleveland Surveying News deadline

May 9 PLSO Executive Meeting
May 12 Chapter Executive Meeting
May 16 Cleveland Surveying News deadline

Jun 5 Education Appreciation Dinner
Jun 27 William J. Haas Memorial Golf Tournament

Jul 11 PLSO Executive Meeting

Aug 18 Chapter Executive Meeting
Aug 22 Cleveland Surveying News deadline

Sep 4 Seminar Meeting
Sep 12 PLSO Executive Meeting
Sep 15 Chapter Executive Meeting
Sep 19 Cleveland Surveying News deadline

Oct 2 Social Dinner
Oct 16 PLSO Executive Meeting at Fall Seminar
Oct 20 Chapter Executive Meeting
Oct 23 Cleveland Surveying News deadline

Nov 6 Seminar Meeting
Nov 14 PLSO Executive Meeting
Nov 17 Chapter Executive Meeting
Nov 21 Cleveland Surveying News deadline

Dec 8 Chapter Executive Meeting (if needed)

2015

Jan 10 PLSO Executive Meeting
Jan 12 Chapter Executive Meeting
Jan 13 Cleveland Surveying News deadline
Jan 22 Annual Meeting

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes (from Page 17)

Program:

- The January social dinner will be held at Carrie Cerino's.
- Seminar locations this year may be moved to restaurants to help raise attendance.

Education: Steve Metcalf has contacted The University of Akron about offering the 2014 Cleveland Chapter PLSO scholarship.

Elections: Still looking for officers to fill vacant positions

Special Committees: The Cleveland Chapter will donate \$100 to the hospitality suit for the February Conference, \$100 to the Scholarship fund and \$200 for gift baskets for the conference raffle.

New Business:

The location of the 2014 executive committee meetings will be moved from the Parma City Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael A. Ackerman

Delegate's Report (from Page 9)

- State Board of Registration – Dean Ringle has been appointed to the State Board of Registration.

Committee Reports

- Standards - The process for revising the current ORC 4733 standards has begun. Brad Kramer has asked for input from all chapters concerning changes to the standards.
- Political Action- George Hofmann has asked for donations to build up the PLSO PAC fund.
- Constitution Review Committee – The committee has finished the Constitution Review.
- NSPS -National Surveyors week is March 16 to March 22. NGS has requested help in updating the GEOID 12A by asking for surveyors to use GPS to observe benchmarks during this week to add to the network.
- Geocaching- The closing of the committee was discussed as a result of little activity.
- Program –About 400 people attended the conference at Kalahari.
- Workshops- Refresher workshops are scheduled for April, May, and June.
- Education - The committee is not in place at this time. Steve Cahill is looking to have positions filled by the April meeting
- Legislation - There is the potential to add a surveyor's statute of limitations into the State of Ohio's mid budget review process. Now is one of the best chances we will have to get it submitted as an amendment and passed. One of the biggest benefits to our profession is the lowering of the cost of insurance. A motion was passed not to exceed \$10,000 for 2 months to spend on a lobbyist for submitting the statute of limitations. The money will come from the PLSO money market fund.
- Scholarship - Applications will be resent to colleges after spring break. They will be due back by May 1, 2014.
- Management Review – The Executive Director's review will be in September. This is Melinda's 5 year anniversary.

Staff Report - Melinda has been interviewing replacements for the PLSO staff.

President's Report – Brian Bingham has asked for meeting dates in order to attend the individual chapter executive committee meetings.

Adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michael A. Ackerman, PS

Call for Volunteers

TO: Cleveland Chapter Members
Professional Land Surveyors of Ohio Inc.

FROM: Thomas (Mike) Besch P.S.
Professor and Program Director of Surveying & Mapping
The University of Akron

SUBJECT: Request for Volunteers to Evaluate Student Presentations

Students in the Surveying & Mapping Program at the University of Akron are required to complete a course called "Surveying Project". This course provides an opportunity for them to research and develop a specific surveying project within a chosen area of surveying. A research paper is required to be developed over a period of one semester. Along with the research paper students must present their findings in a formal presentation at the end of the semester. This formal presentation is graded and satisfies an ABET requirement that students must be able to demonstrate their skills in oral and written communications.

A few years ago we started having them present to a professional surveyor audience in a formal setting. That worked very well so I am looking for volunteers again this year. I need someone who will ask questions and /or clarifications in the presentations. I can't pay you for this, but I can give you a parking permit, a cup of coffee, a cookie and my thanks for your help. I will need at least two volunteers for each session:

Session One: April 15 from 2:00 to 5:30 pm.
Session Two: April 22 from 2:00 to 5:30 pm.

Please respond to me at besch@uakron.edu or call me at (330) 714-2172 if you can help me out.

Thank You,
Mike Besch

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Chapter Members can visit our Online Survey Database to search and view about 10,000 surveys mostly within Cuyahoga County.

Forgot your log-in info?
Email Website Committee Chair
Dino Lustri: dino@dlengineeringllc.com

James B. Root

Surveyor and former PLSO member has passed away.

JAMES B. ROOT age 80 beloved husband of Linda dear father of Nikki, Ariane (Christophe) and the late Curt. Preceded in death by sisters Elizabeth, Marilyn & brother Warren Jr. Jim was the City Engineer for the City of Berea for 15 years, a tradition started by his grandfather Charles Root in 1890 and further by his father, Warren Sr. Jim had a passion for sailing, skiing and his family. Private services. Memorial contributions may be made to the Berea Animal Rescue P.O. Box 544 Berea, Ohio 44017