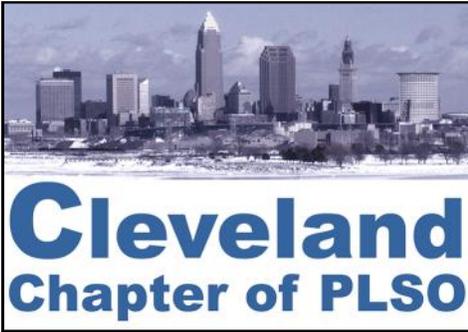
A detailed stained glass artwork featuring a dense arrangement of flowers and leaves. The design is composed of various shades of blue, green, and yellow, with black leaded glass lines defining the shapes. The flowers are stylized, resembling lilies or similar species, with multiple petals and long, slender stems. The overall effect is a vibrant, textured floral composition.

**Cleveland  
Surveying  
News**

August 2010



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Recalling the motivation for this chapter's existence and the response we've had to date, our motto should be -  
"United we stand, divided we perish."

- William J. Haas, 1974

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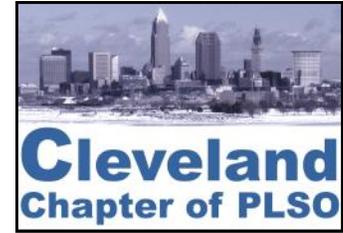
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## Cleveland Chapter PLSO 2010 Fall Seminar Series

[Cleveland Surveying News - August 2010](#)

*Proceeds from these seminars goes towards our Scholarship efforts.*

Location: Cuyahoga County Engineer's Test lab Facilities at 2433 Superior Viaduct, Cleveland free parking with security camera surveillance ([Map](#))



Schedule: 6:00 Registration & Pizza, 6:30-8:00 Program

### September 2

**Topic: Equipment Care and more - 1.5 PDH's**

Speaker: City Blueprint of Toledo

### October 14

**Topic: Railroad Valuation Maps from the CSU Special Collection Library - 1.5 PDH's**

Speaker: Bill Barrow, Special Collections Librarian of Cleveland State University

### November 4

**Topic: Panel Discussion of Ohio State minimum standards - 1.5 PDH's**

Speaker: Various Surveyors

## 2010 Fall Seminar Series - Subscription Form

Sponsored by the Cleveland Chapter of the Professional Land Surveyors of Ohio, Inc.

**Single Seminar: PLSO Members \$20.00 each Non-Members \$35.00**

September       October       November

**Subscription to all 3: PLSO Members Only \$30.00**

*Registration is required in advance*

Deadline for registration for the September meeting and the *Fall Subscription* is **Tuesday August 31.**

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ PLSO Member ?    Yes    No

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## President's Message

[Cleveland Surveying News - August 2010](#)

In my last message to you I commented that a caveat I learned when younger was "When in Rome, do as the Romans." Well, I think I'll be American instead, and I'm going to stay that way. If I may have your time, I'll relate a couple of stories to you.

First, earlier this summer, I received a call regarding a price for a boundary survey. As usual, I explained 4733-37 to the prospect and that it usually takes 8-12 hours to complete all those required tasks and then I gave them my price, based on my usual Professional Surveyor and Crew rates (which increased this year). You do the approximate math. The potential client was very grateful to me for explaining what comprises a boundary survey. And then he followed up with, "But the other price I received was (less than ½ of mine)." I said "That sounds like a bargain – must be some very slow (business-wise) surveyors out there". Perhaps I should have asked if they carry E&O insurance.



**Michael A. Straub**  
President

At the June Social at Panini's, I related this story to one of the attendees and he, who does a lot of residential work, affirmed that the going rates have gotten extremely low and that the price quoted by my prospect above was not unusual – at all. He was disgusted, but felt he needed to compete and was not quite sure how he was going to proceed with his pricing. My response was simple: "It will take years for the rate structures for residential boundaries to recover if fees stay this low for very long".

The other similar experience was regarding a "bowling alley" lot on Abbey Road in North Royalton. The rear adjoiner was another long, skinny lot fronting the perpendicular Albion Road. The lot was ½ wooded. "I'll need to survey both centerlines and the rear adjoiner's sideline. With monument search and traversing, and then returning to set pins, I'll probably spend close to two days in the field on this one", was my explanation over the phone. With research, review, and mapping, my price was well over

[\(Cont'd on Page 5\)](#)

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## President's Message [\(Cont'd from Page 4\)](#) [Cleveland Surveying News - August 2010](#)

\$2000. I didn't really expect to get the job, but I thought I would be in the ballpark. His previously quoted low price? Less than 25% of mine! And this lot was not in a subdivision (nor the lot described in my first story).

Surely, the low price was from someone who had just surveyed an adjoining lot and does not realize the value of his/her services. (Surely!) But if not, HOW DO YOU PROVIDE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE FOR THOSE FEES!? How do you do appropriate research, review of same, monument search, location of monuments and Evidence of Possession, calculations and analysis and show all that information on a map and return to set pins for such a pittance? Are you describing monuments you find and how they were used? Are you giving dimensions from the property lines to fences, shrub rows, mow lines, and other Evidence of Possession? A complete legend and list of references? I hope so. If you are, and your pricing is still as described above, you sure are exposing yourself to a lot of liability for little (itsy-bitsy? no?) reward. Besides, rewards are fun! I like being rewarded for my hard work!

Granted, today's technology allows us to do things faster, but my-goodness, charge for the VALUE of your services! Respect yourself and what you do – and your profession. And certainly don't moan when you hear about each realtor making 3.5% on a property sale and wonder why surveyors "don't make any money"!

Frankly, I'd rather do 1/2 the boundary surveys another surveyor may do, and at twice the price, and then spend the other time building my business – and I do. And business has grown every year for the last five years. I can sign and stamp a survey map knowing I've done my best, been complete, and provided a professional service and been paid for it. On one of my boundary projects this year the client told me I was the highest of four prices he received – and then proceeded to hire me as he liked my professionalism.

Think of it another way. When you lose a job to another surveyor, some of you surely ask potential clients "What was the low price?" How about asking them a similar question when you WIN a job: "What were the other quotes you received?" And then maybe you'll say to yourself "Gee, I left 50% on the table...."

Another thing I don't understand is that the number of professional surveyors is dwindling, yet prices are going down? Supply and demand – what happened? Let's just remember to charge for the value of our Professional Service, and not be dictated to by the public what we should charge. Think about it, even if you did the property next door two years ago – charge for the value, and walk away with a smile on your face! And, yes, I know, I'm preaching to the choir.

In closing, as I said to myself last year when the soothsayers said how terrible the economy was, "I refuse to participate!" No bargain-basement pricing! I guess I WILL be American rather than do as the Romans. After all, look at what happened to the Roman Empire.

As always, let's work hard (but not stupid) for a prosperous and healthy 2010! Optimism Rules!

[Michael Straub, P.S.](#)  
Chapter President



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[\(Cont'd from Page 7\)](#)

be ready for the 7:00 a.m. start time on Thursday. Why not schedule the 3 CPD session Wednesday evening instead of Saturday morning? After all, time is more valuable today than ever before. This could work!

But we still had a problem. A big ticket item that keeps increasing the registration fee is the Friday evening banquet. For the last five years the price per person has been over \$65.00 just for the food. More when you count the cocktail reception. When you try to put 250 people in a room for dinner, even the best hotel chefs have a hard time ensuring that every meal is worthy of that cost. PLSO has never had every single person, who paid for the banquet, actually attend. In 2008, half the room got up and walked out after the meal. In 2009, the banquet was a separate fee and only sixty attended. In Cincinnati this year the cost was put back into the full registration. Although 225 attended Friday, there were about 125 at the banquet. That number included students with free tickets from attendees who did not participate. Obviously, the banquet is not popular with the membership but a traditional event for some of the business of PLSO. The plan for 2011 is to eliminate the banquet and incorporate the necessary events elsewhere in the conference schedule.

I hope this is a permanent change. One agenda item is the recognition of the recipients of PLSO Scholarships. That will be held during the Thursday evening Benefit Auction. This makes perfect sense since one of the benefits is the Scholarship Program. The Thursday and Friday luncheons will now be expanded. On Thursday, the Member of the Year and Surveyor of the Past awards will be presented. This allows families and friends to be invited to an event with a meal. Friday the 2011 Officers will be inducted during lunch when everyone is in attendance. The Annual Meeting will be a non-CPD afternoon session on Friday afternoon as usual. However, it will run as long as necessary to complete the remaining PLSO business.

Another cost in the registration fee is the seminar handouts. Once upon a time, we used to provide a 2.5" binder loaded with what felt like a ream of paper. Recently we've tried to get away from killing so many trees by providing the information on CD. The next step, which our Executive Director has ready for the fall seminar, will be to post the session handouts on the PLSO website for download as a PDF file. If you are still interested in the pound of paper it will be available for an extra fee of about \$25.00 and will be waiting for you at the registration desk. Speakers that don't participate will have to supply their own handouts.

[Cleveland Surveying News - August 2010](#)

PLSO has always provided a spouse program at the conference. In the last few years attendance rarely reached twenty. Although it has its own registration fee, the actual cost is substantially more and subsidized by the rest of the conference. The 2011 conference will cut the "program events" from spouse registration. The spouse registration fee will include meals, access to the hospitality suite and entry to the Thursday evening Benefit Auction and reflect the actual cost. We do not plan to abandon spouses during seminar sessions. The registration form will include an area to select items of interest from a list of nearby attractions like the Art Museum, Botanical Gardens, Cleveland Playhouse and Little Italy Art District. Each morning, interested spouses will meet in a gathering room to arrange their day. Two spouses of Cleveland Chapter members have volunteered to assist in coordinating schedules and offering personal insight to the Cleveland area.

The remaining factors driving cost were hotel and meal costs. In 2009 we visited hotels that had the capacity to hold our event. There aren't as many as you would think. The fact that we need both exhibit space and serve lunch keeps us from many venues. I remember a PLSO event not long ago where we had to find a place to sit in an atrium and eat lunch off our laps. That was unacceptably inconvenient. This time around, providence was on our side. The economic recession made it the perfect time to be talking to hotels. They were bending over backwards to book an event in 2011.

Our visits included the Renaissance Hotel (2008), the Crown Point (2004), the International Exposition Center and the InterContinental Hotel. Offering unbeatable room rates (\$119 per night) and all day meal plans, the InterContinental Hotel at the Cleveland Clinic quickly became our first choice. They even offered to provide a cocktail party Wednesday evening to kick off the conference at their expense! This new hotel was specifically built for educational seminars by the Cleveland Clinic and has every amenity. The hotel guaranteed the room rate for two days before and after our event for anyone interested in extending their stay. We were so impressed with the facility that PLSO booked the hotel for the 2014 Conference.

One last item, we're planning an entirely optional Friday evening event. Something along the lines of the theater district or a Cavs game. Watch the state website for details. Will the 2011 Conference be everything we hope? Come and find out. I'll see you there.

John G. Hoy

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## IS THIS 1975?

First, I write this article not as Cleveland Chapter President, nor even as a PLSO member, but as a concerned Professional Surveyor.

After I was nearly complete with my President's Message for this edition, I received a call from one of our Chapter Members who wanted to chat about some of his recent experiences with regard to boundary surveys. What a timely topic! I told him about my Message for the month and that I was glad to hear that others have the same concern. What he suggested was a meeting of Cleveland area surveyors to discuss the topics:

- Why are survey fees reverting to 1970's pricing?
- Who can do surveys for such low fees and still put out a professional product?
- If a professional product is not being produced, what can we do about this disservice to the Public and our profession?

If a professional product is produced, what can we learn from "those guys"?

It sounded great to me! He contacted a number of surveyors – all PLSO Cleveland Chapter members, organized the meeting, and six of us met one recent evening. I was honored to be included in this group.

As we discussed the topics above, it became apparent that we all use similar hours estimates for boundary surveys – as dictated by 4733-37. We all have business expenses – trucks, equipment, INSURANCE, office expenses, etc. We are all in business to be profitable. So how do we all get creamed (remember that term?!) on some of our estimates when prices come in at \$400, we wondered? (When you do the math, a \$400 survey turns into \$25 - \$100/hr. And that's \$100/hr if you do the research, research review, drive to site, pin search, monument locations, calcs, analysis, location of evidence of possession, set capped pins, drive home, and mapping -showing all 10 items or so required by law - ALL in 4 hours – whew!) And we all had heard of numerous fees of

[\(Cont'd on Page 11\)](#)

LESS than \$400! Personally, I think that is working cheap and stupid or not performing to standards. Just my opinion, folks.

One of the items discussed was a public project put out to bid by the City of Parma. The City was looking for bids to perform boundary surveys for foreclosed/bank-owned lots that would be given to an adjoiner OR for said lot to be split and given to the adjoiners on each side, all for property maintenance purposes. Being public record, our meeting organizer produced a copy of the bid results ([see Page 20](#)) It was interesting to see the range of prices, though none as low as some of the residential quotes we'd heard about. (Hmmm....no county review for the residential work....) And, also, how do you do a split for less than a survey? Is the split fee in addition to the boundary survey? I didn't compete on this project, so I haven't thought the particulars through – perhaps there is a way....)

We went on to talk about the following items:

- Sub-standard survey maps we have seen,
  - Not being able to find pins called for on recent ALTA surveys,
  - Being ignored by survey companies when we contact them to find out if pins actually have been set during their surveys because we could not find them in the field,
  - Discovering that survey prices are as low as 1/4 to 1/2 of what we typically quote,
  - Being outbid on construction projects by similar numbers/percentages,
  - Moonlighters, either private or public employees, with little overhead, and
- The effect of national brokers on the local work product.

These all seemed like true problems facing our businesses the last couple of years, not just a fluke on a job or two. Many ideas were bandied about. "Call the State Board" was an early offer during this debate. However, the Board has but one investigator for the entire state. It became apparent that that was not necessarily the best solution.

"Can the County be The Enforcer?" We agreed that they are – as far as they can. That applies to splits and consolidations, and other surveys that must be recorded. But then again, that is only for map preparation. Our friends working for the County Engineer cannot enforce whether pins called for are actually set.

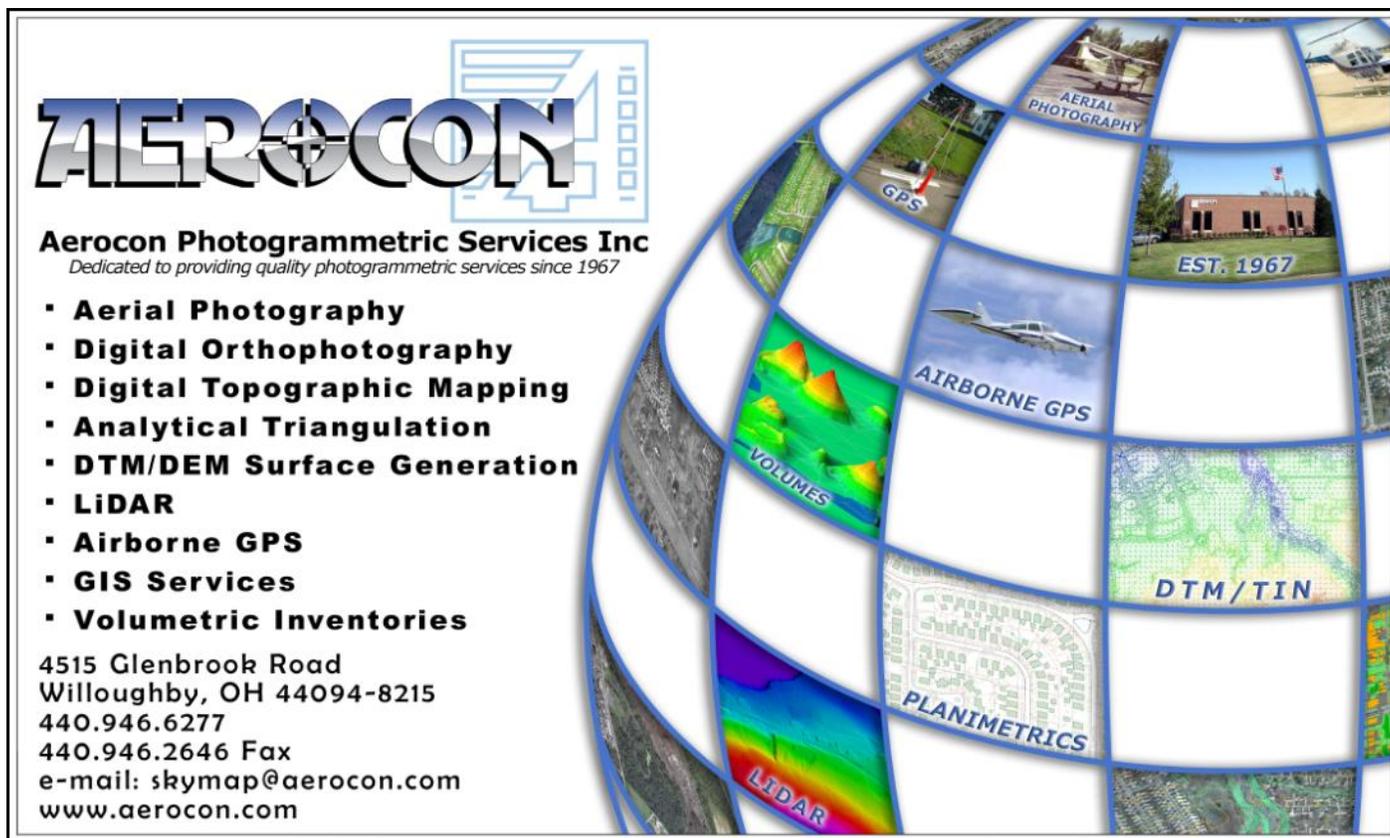
"Why not approach the problem ourselves?" was thrown on the table. "Hmmm – good possibility there – many problems are overcome simply through good communication" seemed to be the agreed-upon response. Possible ways of handling this challenge of approaching those surveyors seemingly performing substandard work included:

- Calling old prospects to follow-up with how happy they were the service, and the quality of maps received,
- Forming a PLSO Cleveland Chapter Ethics/Standards Committee to talk with "violators",
- Free (?) Educational (small business/ethics/standards) seminars for surveyors,
- Making sure that national brokers have a Certificate of Authorization, and finally
- Reporting violations to the Board upon collection of evidence.

Perhaps some of the incredibly low fees we hear about are simply out of work professionals looking to put bread on the table anyway they can. This is somewhat understandable, so long as a professional product is being developed for the client. Just because someone has less overhead, does not make them wrong. However, I do strongly believe in the VALUE of our product, as did the others at the meeting.

Everyone in attendance felt good that at least some conversation was taking place. We're not sure where it will end up, or how we will get there, but a step has been taken.

[\(Cont'd on Page 12\)](#)



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The globe graphic features the following labels: AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY, GPS, AIRBORNE GPS, VOLUMES, DTM/TIN, PLANIMETRICS, and LIDAR. A building with 'EST. 1967' is also visible.

## IS THIS 1975? [\(Cont'd from Page 11\)](#)

Please understand, those in attendance were/are not trying to fix or control pricing! We ARE concerned that ALL are following 4733-37 when comes to quoting prices for surveys. In other words, "Is the playing field level?" We know that we are not all perfect and have not performed perfect boundaries, but we try to do the best we can. I'm sure we all have surveys out there that we wish could be a "do-over". I know I do.

If you have a comment, a story, or would like to get involved, contact me. Email is the best, but phone calls are also welcome.

Finally, shifting gears here - there is one other thing this recent experience reminded me of - if I have a question or am concerned about a subject, most likely other surveyors do too. Remember that! One step in improving ourselves is to communicate our concerns and take some action that will help the situation! Don't keep problems and concerns to yourself.

OK, enough rambling for this issue. I'm sure we'll talk about it more in coming editions of the Cleveland Surveying News!

Michael A. Straub, P.S.

## Ashtabula County Easements

The Ashtabula County Auditors will begin reviewing easement (through the Engineers Department) for taxation purposes, not all easement will be subject for this review please contact the Ashtabula County Auditor prior to submittal.

## Random Lines

by John E. Dailey, P.S.

There is a lot to talk about this month and I don't really know where to start. Let's start with the 2011 Minimum Standard Detail Requirements For ALTA/ACSM Land Title Surveys. A little history of the document may help.

In 1946, The American Congress on Surveying and Mapping (at that time the respected national voice for the surveying profession) published "Technical Standards For Property Surveys" as a clear and concise set of standards for boundary surveys in the United States. By 1962, it was recognized that members of the American Title Association had specific problems peculiar to the title insurance industry. In recognizing those facts, ACSM and ATA (now ALTA) joined forces to provide a set of survey standards that would be acceptable in the expanding financial market that was at that time going nation-wide. Banking and title questions were no longer going to be local. Together they devised a three page document that would (should?) work anywhere in the United States.

As the banking and title insurance industries changed from local to national, then to international, the standard requirements were modified to keep up with the changing world. Revisions were made at irregular intervals as needed until 1988 when an agreement was reached to revisit the standards every five years. Revisions were made in 1992, 1997, 1999, 2005 and now in 2011. The older revisions are available on line at [www.acsm.net](http://www.acsm.net) under the heading of "Standards" and the current version is available at [www.ohiosurveyor.org](http://www.ohiosurveyor.org) in the **Members** section. You have to log in to gain access.

The 2011 revision is still in the talking stage and are not yet on line. The current version is available in the Summer 2010 issue of Ohio Surveying News. In that issue is a request from both A. J. Myers and Gary Kent for input from the surveying community. Please read the suggested revision carefully and make your thoughts known.

As for me, now a retired Professional Surveyor (that means I no longer provide survey services as a means of income), I have consumed a bottle of TUMS already. I am not sure who this committee is trying to placate, but it is not the working surveyor in private practice.

## Cleveland Surveying News - August 2010



John E. Dailey

The "Measurement Standards" were not written by a Surveyor. I have been in the surveying business since 1953 and have never heard a surveyor use these terms in conjunction with their business, only in seminars. I would suggest that you read the guest editorial by Stephen Estopinal (one of my favorite writers) in the June, 2010 issue of Professional Surveyor Magazine. On some day when you have nothing better to do, you can run all these tests on all your instruments and all of your operators to develop a data base to use in your analysis. As Stephen puts it: "I can never say that the published value (plat) of the distance between two boundary monuments will be within that maximum allowable variance from the true value for that distance *because the true value cannot be known.*"

This angular and measurement uncertainty is the reason we sometimes find "pin forests" around property corners: The feeling is "Because I can measure and analyze so much better than the other surveyors, so I am going to put my pin where I think it should be and ignore the other pins already there"

According to the Standards, the Title Company is supposed to furnish all documents and research work. (This gets more interesting since there is a clause that states that title work may not be necessary to perform and ALTA/ACSM Survey.) I believe that this is contrary to 4733-37 of the OAC. On a personal basis, I always felt that since it is my name, license and liability insurance going into every survey, I would trust me or one of my staff to perform the research. I trust the Title Company to do good work, but I do not trust them enough to accept what they provide without verification. It is my reputation and assets hanging out there, so I trust ME.

Table A has been expanded again, which is not all bad. Item 15 took another half bottle of TUMS to get my stomach to settle down. Just remember that anything on Table A is **optional** and could/should be a cause for higher fees and the acceptance of higher liability for you, the Surveyor. Negotiate these items in advance of signing the contract and make them part of the contract.

[\(Cont'd on Page 14\)](#)

## Random Lines [\(Cont'd from Page 13\)](#)

There are a lot more items of interest in this 2011 revision, more than I can put into this column at this time. I may revisit these standards with additional comments in the future.

Remember, this ALTA/ACSM Land Title Survey still has to meet Ohio and local specifications, regardless of what these standards say. Be true to yourself and to your Profession. Do a good, honest and accurate survey, no matter who it is for or which standards you should follow. Charge an honest fee for your very valuable services. That is not only a good business practice, it is the ethical thing to do.

If you would care to comment on this column or any other column, my contact information is shown below.

John E. Dailey, P.S., Past  
[jdailey@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jdailey@sbcglobal.net)

## [Cleveland Surveying News - August 2010](#)

### Your "Help Wanted" Ad Here (free)

Help Wanted ads in this newsletter will now be provided free of charge for businesses that employ a PLSO member.

If the advertisement request comes in well before the next newsletter, I will email the "position available" information to Cleveland Chapter members as well as include it in the next newsletter.

Contact CSN Editor:

Robert Hoy  
[k666@cox.net](mailto:k666@cox.net)  
 216-389-7677

### The Ohio State University Engineers Without Borders Chapter Invites You to *Save the Date*

October 20, 2010

The Ohio State chapter of Engineers Without Borders will be hosting the first annual fundraising banquet at the Faculty Club on the Ohio State Campus. Ohio State President Gordon Gee will be the keynote speaker, along with student members of EWB-OSU. Please join OSU-EWB and other professionals for the evening of October 20th.

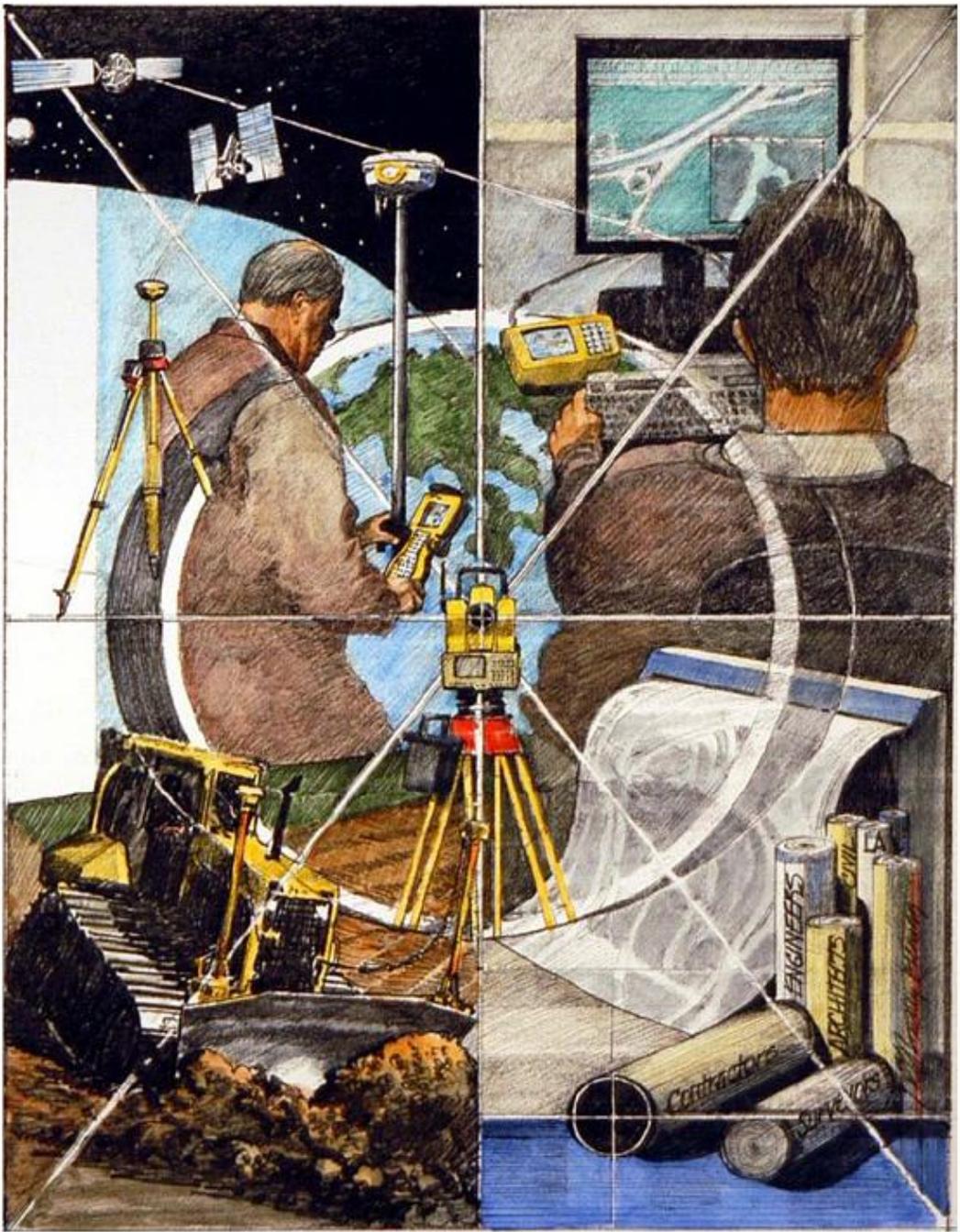
**Formal Invitation will be forthcoming, tickets will go on sale in early September.**

**About EWB-OSU:** Currently, our student engineers are working on a latrine project in the neighborhood of Las Pilitas in San Pedro Puxtla, El Salvador, which will provide each household with access to a latrine. This project will improve the health and quality life of the entire community. The OSU chapter project is part of larger municipal services headed by the Central Ohio Professionals Chapter (EWB-COH). For more information, please go to our website at [www.ewb.osu.edu](http://www.ewb.osu.edu)

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## Delegate Report

[Cleveland Surveying News - August 2010](#)

### MEETING AGENDA Friday July 9, 2010



**George Hofmann**  
Delegate

#### 4.0 Unfinished Business

- 4.1 Surveyor of the Past Plaques - Barb Jones
- 4.2 Website Proposal - Melinda Gilpin
- 4.3 Soil Scientists Issues - Dean Frederick
- 4.4 Statute of Limitations – Rose Coors

#### 5.0 New Business

- 5.1 New Members (See Attached List) - Bob Akins

#### 6.0 Inter-Association Delegates

- 6.1 CEO - Dean Ringle
- 6.2 ODOT - Jim Kenyon
- 6.3 State Board of Registration - Melinda Gilpin
- 6.4 OGRIP - Stu Davis

#### 7.0 Committee Reports

- 7.1 Special Committees
  - 7.11 Political Action - Dean Frederick
  - 7.12 Standards - Brad Kramer
    - 7.121 Monumentation of Railroads
    - 7.122 Minimum Standards for Plat Revision
    - 7.123 GPS Standards - Jim Kenyon
    - 7.124 FEMA Flood Mapping
    - 7.125 Definition of Surveying
  - 7.13 State Line - Dean Ringle
  - 7.14 Historic Review - Mike Besch
- 7.2 Newsletter Editor - PLSO Staff
- 7.3 NSPS Governor - Robert Akins
  - 7.31 Trig Star - Pat Leonhardt
  - 7.32 CST Coordinator - Pat Leonhardt
  - 7.33 Geocaching Coordinator - Robert Akins
- 7.4 Standing Committees
  - 7.41 Program - Dean Frederick
    - 7.411 Annual Conference Updates
      - 2011 - Cleveland - John Hoy
      - 2012 - Central Ohio - Kevin Stacy
      - 2013 - Cincinnati and Southwestern - Rose Coors
    - 7.412 Fall Seminar Updates
      - 2010 - Firelands - Phil Rosebeck
      - 2011 - Tuscarawas Valley - Bob Akins

- 2012 – Toledo – Pat Leonhardt
- 7.42 Membership - Bob Akins
- 7.43 Interprofessional Affairs - A. J. Myers
- 7.44 Education - Dean Frederick
- 7.45 Legislation - A.J. Myers
- 7.46 Finance - Paul Dinan
- 7.47 Past Presidents Council - Dean Frederick, et al.
- 7.48 Scholarship - Rocky Lomano
- 7.49 Scholarship Fund Board - Frank Snyder
- 7.50 Management Review - Rion Myers

#### 8.0 Chapter Delegate Reports

- 8.1 Askega Chapter - Jim Donathan
- 8.2 Central Ohio Chapter - Brian Bingham
- 8.3 Cincinnati Chapter - Bob Heidkamp
- 8.4 Cleveland Chapter - George Hofmann
- 8.5 Congress Lands Chapter - Isaac King
- 8.6 Firelands Chapter - Tim Riley
- 8.7 Miami Valley Chapter - Harry Herbst
- 8.8 Mohican-Killbuck Valley Chapter - Jim Kenyon
- 8.9 Muskingum Valley Chapter - Rob Lowe
- 8.10 Northwest Ohio Chapter -
- 8.11 Ohio State University Student Chapter - Domonic Brigano
- 8.12 Ohio Valley Chapter - Al Smith
- 8.13 Scioto Valley Chapter - George Seymour
- 8.14 Southwestern Chapter - Rose Coors
- 8.15 The Thomas Hutchins Chapter - John Francis
- 8.16 The Univ. of Akron Student Chapter - Luke Walker
- 8.17 Toledo Chapter - Bryan Ellis
- 8.18 Treaty Lands Chapter - John Jauert
- 8.19 Tuscarawas Valley Chapter - Dave Bodo
- 8.20 Western Reserve Chapter - Rick Hunsicker

#### 9.0 President-Elect's Report - Brett Tieben

#### 10.0 PLSO Staff Report - Melinda Gilpin

#### 11.0 President's Report - Rion Myers

### Executive Committee Meeting - Friday July 9, 2010 Meeting call to order 6:00 P.M.

1.4 Quorum was present

2.0 Minutes for May 2010 were approved. Minutes for Sept., 2008 and January 2009 are still outstanding.

3.0 Treasurers report for May and June 2010 were submitted and accepted for audit.

6.2 Special presentation by ODOT, Jeff Waggamon and Brett Shearer gave a presentation on the ODOT/State Board Memorandum of Understanding. A brief history of the MOU was given along with 3 changes that ODOT was asking PLSO to approve.

1 - ODOT Right Of Way Monuments that are to be reset by a surveyor other than the ODOT consultant surveyor shall bear the Surveyor's Ohio Registration number and /or name or company name and be stamped with the word RESET

2 - Caps on the Centerline Monuments and Centerline Reference Monuments are to be stamped "ODOT C/L or ODOT c/l REF." or (the name of the LPA) C/L or (name of the LPA) C/L REF." With NO Surveyor's Ohio Registration number and/or name or company name.

3 - Centerline Monument Assemblies will contain NO cap. only a 1" pin set inside the Monument Assembly box.

Motion was made and passed to give ODOT our support of these changes.

4.2 Web site is running, but there are still items being tweaked. If anyone is experiencing problems they should report them to Melinda Gilpin or Barb Jones so they can be addressed.

4.3 Soil Scientist Issues: John Greenhalge sent a letter from the State Board to the Department of Health, He has not had any response to date.

5.1 New members: Bob Akins made a motion to accept 2 professionals, and a second

[\(Cont'd on Page 17\)](#)

**Delegate Report**

*(Cont'd from Page 16)*

motion to accept 1 reinstatement. Both Motions passed.

6.1 Dean Ringle will meet with the Cleveland Chapter to discuss the new Cuyahoga Charter Government, Monday July 13, 2010

6.3 State Board of Registration: Franklin D. Synder, P.S., Ashtabula County thanked PLSO for their recommendation to the State Board of Registration. The consolidation of State Boards that is being considered by Ohio will not affect PLSO. On-line annual renewals are being considered, also the possibility of bi-annual renewals are being discussed

7.11 Political Action: PAC Fund balance \$3,857.85.

7.121 Jim Donathan (Chapter Delegate Askega Chapter) reported a problem in their area where the lids of survey monuments are being removed and not replaced. He urges all surveyors to take the extra few minutes to make sure the monuments are properly replaced . When the County repaves the roads the box is filled with asphalt which is very time consuming for the next surveyor that needs to use that box.

7.13 State Line: Dean Ringle reported that dates for future work on the State lines will be forthcoming.

7.2 Newsletter Editor: Melinda Gilpin reported that the next issue of the OSN will go to print this week.

7.3 NSPS Governor: Bob Akins met with Mike Besch (former Governor) to discuss duties and upcoming events.

7.31 Trig Star: Pat Leonhardt urges all chapters to start planning now for next years Trig Star program.

7.32 CST Coordinator Pat Leonhardt reported that holding the CST testing at the Fall and Annual Conferences has not need very successful lately and he is going to look into having Chapters host test.

7.43 Interprofessional Affairs: A.J. Myers reported that the changes to the ASCM/ALTA Surveys are scheduled to go into effect Feb. 1, 2011. There is an article published in the ACSM bulletin and there will be an article in the upcoming OSN.

7.48 Scholarship: Rocky Lomano reported that the scholarship committee meet and reviewed the applications for the scholarships. All scholarships applications received were for the 4 year program. There were no applications received for the 2 year associate. The committee recommended giving three, \$2,000.00 scholarships. The recommendations will be forwarded to the Columbus Foundation.

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## Executive Committee Meeting Highlights

August 9, 2010

[Cleveland Surveying News - August 2010](#)

Parma City Hall

In attendance: John Dailey, Melinda Gilpin, John Hoy, Robert Klaiber, Fred Pausch, Dean Ringle, Fred Vierow and all officers except John Bischof and Dino Lustri.

**Treasury:** Extra security features for accessing the account were proposed.

**Communication:** It was suggested to drop the fee to list help wanted ads in the newsletter for current members. The new issue of The Cleveland Land Surveyor has been sent.

### **Education:**

- Discussed scholarship applicants. Chris Tomko has contacted Ruth Flannery concerning her request for surveying history.
- The review committee suggested removing the qualification stating that one of the 2 references needed in the scholarship application had to be a Cleveland chapter member. This should increase the number of out of region applications.

### **Program:**

Fall seminars and locations were discussed.

### **Conference Update:**

John Hoy reported most of the program content is finalized.

**Old Business:** The chapter is still working on details about acquiring records from companies that have gone out of business. Dino Lustri has been researching pricing and companies for creating the new database.

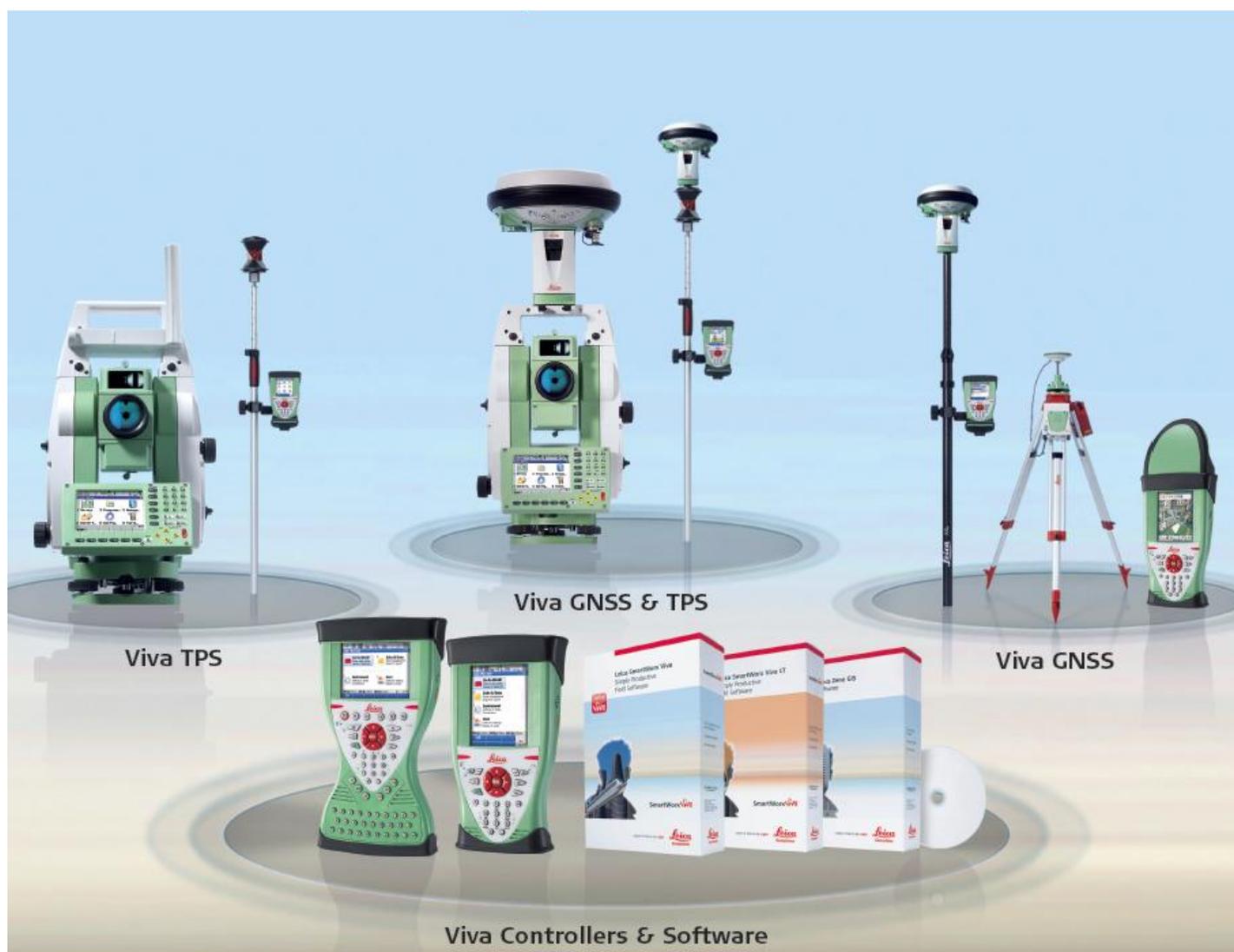
### **New Business:**

- Melinda Gilpin, Fred Pausch, Dean Ringle and Fred Vierow were in attendance to inform and discuss the new Cuyahoga County Charter Government and the effect it will have on our profession. The main issue involves transferring the duties of the County Engineer to offices that are not required to have a person with a PE/PS license in charge. Fred Vierow stated this is contrary to the State Constitution. Dean remarked we need to get changes made now before other counties follow Cuyahoga County's example. Otherwise we will lose some of the professionalism we have gained in the past years. Without the new government in place, we do not have anyone to voice our concerns to. A lawsuit is already being planned if it is needed.
- Officers have been asked to review the changes proposed to the Chapter Handbook.
- John Dailey was asked about Surveyor of the Past nominations.
- The formation of a chapter Ethics and Standards committee was proposed and discussion will continue.



**Michael Ackerman**  
Secretary





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PAPMA COMM DEV

001

## City of Parma, Ohio

DEAN DEPIERO  
MAYOR



5592 Broadview Road, Suite 101  
Parma, Ohio 44134

ERIK TOLLERUP  
COMMUNITY SERVICES  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
DIRECTOR

Phone: 216-661-7372  
Fax: 216-661-7407

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

### SURVEYING SERVICES

#### Bid Results and Award

| <u>Bidder Name</u>     | <u>Boundary</u> | <u>Split</u> |
|------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. Michael Benza*Award | \$500           | \$465        |
| 2. Neff & Associates   | \$675           | \$600        |
| 3. Ironpin             | \$850           | \$1,250      |
| 4. Elewski             | \$735           | \$1,295      |
| 5. URS                 | \$1,775         | \$1,975      |
| 6. GPD Group           | \$1,275         | \$1,400      |
| 7. KS Associates       | \$1,650         | \$1,100      |
| 8. TGC                 | \$785           | \$605        |
| 9. Dempsey             | \$750           | \$1,100      |
| 10. Euthenics          | \$850           | \$1,800      |
| 11. J.A.R.             | \$360           | \$840        |
| 12. R.M. Kole          | \$600           | \$1,000      |
| 13. Donald Bohning     | \$1,000         | \$1,250      |

Michael Benza & Associates has been awarded the Contract to perform Surveying Services for the City of Parma Neighborhood Stabilization Program (N.S.P.) Thank you all for your interest.

**IS THIS 1975 Attachment** (cont'd)[Cleveland Surveying News - August 2010](#)

08/14/2010 09:54 FAX 440 885 8888

PAPMA COMM DEV

001

*Neighborhood  
Proposals*

**City of Parma****Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP)  
Request for Proposals – Surveying Services****Purpose**

The City of Parma was awarded \$1,611,000 in Federal NSP funds by the State of Ohio and the Department of Housing & Urban Development. Part of Parma's NSP Plan is the acquisition and demolition of vacant, bank-owned foreclosed homes. To redevelop the lot and put it back into service, the City of Parma will be granting all or half of these newly created vacant lots to neighboring homeowners. As part of this plan, the City will also pay for the costs of surveying services to consolidate the vacant lots into the neighboring parcels.

**Scope of Work**

This RFP has been established to locate a qualified, reliable and expert surveyor or surveying firm that can best represent and consult the City of Parma, and its participating homeowners, for the lot split and consolidation process. The City of Parma anticipates at least ten (10) project sites requiring surveying services within the period of July 15 – August 31, 2010. To date, all acquired homes are not on irregular shaped lots. The City of Parma also anticipates that the selected Surveyor or Surveying Firm will be able to access and perform their work in groups of five – meaning you can anticipate being able to perform as many of the needed surveys without return trips to the or Parma.

**Proposal Submission**

In order for your proposal to be considered responsive, it must include:

- A. The Firm, Business or Individual's name, name of contact person, mailing address, e-mail address, phone and fax numbers.
- B. A detailed description of the services you will provide to survey and file on participating properties to include:
  1. Price per single boundary survey;
  2. Price per lot split/consolidation survey;
 \*\*Note that individual prices must include the costs of creating a new legal description, necessary filing fees and copies.
  3. Statement guaranteeing pricing for 120 days from date of City award of Contract.
- C. Evidence of experience in the field of surveying and any specific evidence and history of work in and/or with the City of Parma.

**Evaluation of Proposals**

The City of Parma will review proposals and will evaluate on price experience and past performance. Project will be awarded on June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

**IS THIS 1975 Attachment** (cont'd)[Cleveland Surveying News - August 2010](#)

08/14/2010 09:54 FAX 440 885 8888

PAPMA COMM DEV

002

**Terms and Conditions**

1. The City of Parma reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any informalities or irregularities in applications/proposals received.
2. The City reserves the right to determine the most qualified contractor based on the City's evaluation of the above selection criteria and any factors relevant thereto.
3. The City reserves the right to execute a contract with the next most qualified contractor, if the successful contractor does not execute a contract within 30 days after the award of the proposal.
4. The contract resulting from acceptance of an RFP by the City shall be in a form supplied by the City, and shall reflect the specifications in the RFP. The City reserves the right to reject any proposed agreement or contract that does not conform to the specifications contained in this RFP and which is not approved by the City of Parma Law Director
5. Payment by the City for the services provided will only be made after the services have been performed; an itemized billing statement is submitted in the form specified by the City and approved by the appropriate City representative. Payment will be made in accordance with the City's accounts payable payment cycles.

Please submit one (1) sealed copy of your proposal submission to:

City of Parma  
Community Services & Economic Development  
5592 Broadview Road, Suite #101  
Parma, OH 44134  
Attn: Erik Tollerup, Director

**Contact Information**

Community Services & Economic Development Department  
Erik Tollerup, Director  
5592 Broadview Road, Suite #101  
Parma, OH 44134  
(216) 661-7412 (phone)  
(216) 661-7407 (fax)

## Editor's Notes

[Cleveland Surveying News - August 2010](#)

*Where are the Surveying projects?* Well earlier this summer I passed what guessed to be three high school summer interns in lime green t-shirts along Ridgewood Drive in Parma. One had a shovel and one had a GPS Rover rod. My presumption is they were looking for gas or water connection shutoff valves, and locating them with the GPS rod. Has technology progressed to the point that three unskilled high school interns can be a substitute to hiring a Professional Land Surveying company? It is surely food for thought and discussion.

In the **Members** section on the state PLSO website, [www.ohiosurveyor.org](http://www.ohiosurveyor.org), there are now a few archived issues of the Ohio Surveying News which are from before 2009.

On the cover: Cleveland has a historic cemetery, Lakeview Cemetery found on Euclid Avenue in the University Circle area. The cover photo is a small portion of the large stained glass mural entitled *The Flight of Souls* found inside the Wade Chapel. It is a wondrous building of which the entire interior was designed by Louis Comfort Tiffany. I suggest visiting on a sunny day for better stained glass viewing, and more information can be found at <http://www.lakeviewcemetery.com/wadechapel.php>

Robert Hoy, CSN Editor  
[k666@cox.net](mailto:k666@cox.net)

## Medina County GIS Update

The web-based GIS now provides the option of selecting a road by road number during an address search. Please note that the "Select Road" button has changed to "Rd Name" and the new road number button is labeled "Rd #". Additional information regarding the use of the search tools can be found at: [Medina County GIS](#) or can be accessed by clicking on the "Search/Meas" title bar.

## June Social Meeting



Turnout was low, but the food and conversation were very good. The lack of a speaker and no PDH's might have kept members away. Why didn't you attend? Let Program Trustee [Eric Short](#) know why, so we can plan future events that will get you to come!

## Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

[Cleveland Surveying News - August 2010](#)

May 17, 2010 Parma City Hall, 6:15 pm.

In attendance: Jack Hoy, Ken Hejduk, and all officers except Sean Snezek.

**Secretary's minutes:** Executive Committee meeting minutes from April accepted with revisions.

**Treasury:** John Bischof submitted a written report for April, accepted for review.

**Chapter Delegate:**

George Hofmann highlighted the May Executive Meeting from Columbus.

**Communication:**

Bob Hoy reported invoices to newsletter advertisers have been sent. Some have been returned with payment.

The golf outing will be displayed on the next newsletter.

The Central Ohio Chapter will be adding the opportunity to earn 1 CPD at upcoming meetings.

The next issue of The Cleveland Land Surveyor will be sent.

**Education:**

Chris Tomko reported we still have not received any applications for the 2010 scholarship.

The chapter has been contacted to sponsor/ contribute to the Summer of History.

**Membership:** No report.

**Program:**

Eric Short reviewed details from the last seminar. 29 people including speakers attended. The honorarium was donated back to the chapter.

The location of the June meeting has been chosen.

Fall seminars and locations were discussed.

**Conference Update:** The committee is working on program content

**Old Business:**

The chapter is still working on details about acquiring records from companies that have gone out of business.

Dino Lustri has been looking into creating a website to give access to these records. He suggested creating a site that will accommodate the addition of more surveys as they become available.

No report about the golf outing.

**New Business:**

The State chapter sent notice about upcoming dues. The Cleveland Chapter fees will not be changed for next year.

John Hoy proposed adding the opportunity for Cleveland Chapter members to earn an additional 3 CPD credit hours per year. Every year a PDF test form would be emailed to chapter members.

Questions would be based on the technical articles from Cleveland Surveying News publications from that year.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael A. Ackerman



**Michael Ackerman**  
Secretary

## Cleveland Chapter Committees

[Cleveland Surveying News - August 2010](#)

### 2011 Conference Committee

|                 |                |                                                                          |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Chairman        | John G. Hoy    | <a href="mailto:jhoy.7419@att.net">jhoy.7419@att.net</a>                 |
| Program         | Robert Hoy     | <a href="mailto:k666@cox.net">k666@cox.net</a>                           |
|                 | Peter D. Zwick |                                                                          |
|                 | John G. Hoy    |                                                                          |
| Exhibits        | John Bischof   | <a href="mailto:bischof@cvelimited.com">bischof@cvelimited.com</a>       |
| Facility        | Ken Hejduk     | <a href="mailto:kenh@hca-es.com">kenh@hca-es.com</a>                     |
| Benefit/Auction | Michael Straub | <a href="mailto:mikes@straubsurveying.com">mikes@straubsurveying.com</a> |
| Registration    | George Hofmann | <a href="mailto:george_hm@ameritech.net">george_hm@ameritech.net</a>     |
| Hospitality     | Timothy Feller | <a href="mailto:timf@mcsteen.com">timf@mcsteen.com</a>                   |

### Scholarship Committee

|                             |                                                              |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Christopher Tomko, Chairman | <a href="mailto:ctomko@rewarner.com">ctomko@rewarner.com</a> |
| Robert Hoy                  |                                                              |
| Ken Hejduk                  |                                                              |
| George Hofmann              |                                                              |
| Tim Feller                  |                                                              |

### Golf Out Committee

|              |                                                              |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Rick Ziegman | 216-228-6077                                                 |
| Tom Snezek   | <a href="mailto:survdad@hotmail.com">survdad@hotmail.com</a> |

### Communication Committee

|               |                                                |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Robert Hoy    | <a href="mailto:k666@cox.net">k666@cox.net</a> |
| Robert Krause |                                                |
| John G. Hoy   |                                                |

## 2010 Cleveland Chapter Calendar

|         |                                    |                                                 |
|---------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
|         | Dec 10                             | State Executive Committee Meeting (if needed)   |
|         | Dec 13                             | <b>Executive Committee Meeting</b> (if needed)  |
| Sept 2  | <b>Seminar Meeting</b>             |                                                 |
| Sept 10 | State Executive Committee Meeting  |                                                 |
| Sept 13 | <b>Executive Committee Meeting</b> |                                                 |
| Sept 15 | Cleveland Surveying News Deadline  |                                                 |
| Sept 29 | Cleveland Land Surveyor Deadline   |                                                 |
| Oct 7-9 | PLSO Fall Seminar, Sandusky        |                                                 |
| Oct 7   | State Executive Committee Meeting  |                                                 |
| Oct 14  | <b>Seminar Meeting</b>             |                                                 |
| Oct 18  | <b>Executive Committee Meeting</b> |                                                 |
| Oct 20  | Cleveland Surveying News Deadline  |                                                 |
| Oct 27  | Cleveland Land Surveyor Deadline   |                                                 |
|         | Jan 14                             | State Executive Committee Meeting               |
|         | Jan 17                             | <b>Executive Committee Meeting</b>              |
|         | Jan 19                             | Cleveland Surveying News Deadline               |
|         | Jan 27                             | <b>Annual Meeting</b>                           |
|         | Feb 7                              | <b>Executive Committee Meeting</b> (if needed)  |
|         | Feb 9-11                           | PLSO Annual Conference, held in Cleveland, Ohio |
| Nov 4   | <b>Seminar Meeting</b>             |                                                 |
| Nov 12  | State Executive Committee Meeting  |                                                 |
| Nov 15  | <b>Executive Committee Meeting</b> |                                                 |
| Nov 22  | Cleveland Land Surveyor Deadline   |                                                 |

**Executive Committee Meetings:**  
**Parma City Hall** at 6 p.m. and are open to all Chapter members who want to attend.