

Cleveland Surveying News

January 2004



Why is the conference in early February?

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January 7, 2004

Once again, the holiday season has come and gone. I hope each and every one of you enjoyed your time off and time with your families. Personally, this was the first year in a long time that no one was sick in our household. I hope that the new tradition continues.

With the arrival of the New Year, I will soon be handing over the Presidency to President Elect, Mark Yeager. It was truly a pleasure to serve as your President over the past year and I wish Mark the best of luck. Over the past several years, our local organization has continued to flourish through our monthly meetings and programs such as our survey review course. Many challenges exist for all professional organizations with a continuing decline in membership. However, I believe the Cleveland Chapter of the PLSO is proceeding in the right direction.

At the Cuyahoga County Engineer's Office, 2003 witnessed many significant changes. After nearly 75 years, the Engineer's Office was successfully relocated to its present home at 2100 Superior Viaduct. In addition, a long awaited project, the reopening of Cedar Road in Hunting Valley was completed. Furthermore, 2004 promises to be just as exciting with the construction of Pleasant Valley Road in Parma and Rockside Road in Independence taking place.

Finally, I look forward to seeing many of you at the Annual Conference in February. A lot of work was put into making this event a success and the list of speakers should be both interesting and enlightening.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Klaiber, Jr., P.E., P.S.

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

by Trevor Bixler

The Cleveland Chapter did not have a General Membership Meeting in December.

2004 Executive Committee

President

Mark A. Yeager
(440) 365-4730 x330
yeager@ksassoc.com

President Elect

Sean A. Boland
(440) 835-5632

Past President

Robert C. Klaiber
(216) 348-3800
rklaiber@cuyctyengineers.org

Treasurer

Joseph F. O'Donnell, Jr.
(216) 529-6809
joe.o'donnell@lakewoodoh.net

Secretary

Neil M. Juhnke
(216) 348-3857
njuhnke@ameritech.net

Chapter Delegate

Louise A. Veverka
(440) 230-2565
Lvsurvey@aol.com

Communication

John G. Hoy
(216) 476-3600
hoy7419@cs.com

Education

John J. Bischof
(216) 398-6400
jbischof@wadetrim.com

Professional Development

Robert Hoy
(440) 835-9400
rhoy@rewarmer.com

Program

Jack Hoy
(440) 877-1434
jrhy4800@aol.com



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DATE: January 8, 2004 **CHAPTER:** Cleveland **CHAPTER AREA (COUNTIES):** Cuyahoga and Lorain

REGULAR MEETINGS: **Date:** 1st Thursday of the month. **Time:** 6:30 P.M. **LOCATION:** Various Restaurants in the area.

MEMBERSHIP: Total Members 133 **AVERAGE NUMBER ATTENDING MEETINGS:** 25

PAST YEAR'S OFFICERS:

Robert C. Klaiber, Jr., President
Mark A. Yeager, President Elect
Neil M. Juhnke, Past President

Thomas M. Snezek, Chapter Delegate
Sean A. Boland, Treasurer
Trevor A. Bixler, Secretary

John G. Hoy, Trustee
John J. Bischof, Trustee
Robert Hoy, Trustee
Jack Hoy, Trustee

BRIEF HISTORY OF CHAPTER ACTIVITIES: 2004 Convention Committee continuing to work on putting together the convention. Continuing surveying classes. Improving Cleveland Chapter Newsletter.

SUMMARY OF PAST YEAR'S ACTIVITIES: Old-timers Meeting (Retired Surveyors), Chapter Golf Outing.

MOST INTERESTING/INFORMATIVE/WELL-ATTENDED MEETING TOPICS IN THE PAST: Guest Speakers This Year on the Topic of Online County Records:: Andrew Scheneman, Lorain County Auditor's Office – Mitchell Ferguson, P.S. Chief Surveyor for Lake County – Fred Boreman, P.S., Chief Surveyor for Medina County – Jeff Mallison & Bob Warren from Summit County. Presentation & Tour of Facilities of Aerocon Photogrammetric Services, Inc. by Bill Faunce and Jim Liberty.

GOALS FOR THE UPCOMMING YEAR AND FUTURE: Final preparations for the 2004 Convention. Continuing with the Survey Education Course. Recruiting new members. Working with the County Engineer's Office to resolve the high cost of obtaining record information from the Recorder's Office

SUBMITTED BY:

Robert C. Klaiber, Jr., P.E., P.S.
2003 President, Cleveland Chapter



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January, 2004

Here it is, the holidays are over, a new year has begun and it is time to start all over again. Last year's business is history and whether it was good or bad will not be fully known until the accountant presents you with the final numbers. You have a gut feeling about how it went, but nothing definitive yet.

It is the middle of winter when business is usually pretty slow anyway and the sluggish economy is not helping at all. If past history is any help, presidential election years normally bring an upswing in business. Why? Because it happens. No incumbent wants to face an electorate that is unhappy about their economic condition. Incumbents try for a economic spurt just before the elections in the hope that you have short memories about the recent past and that a short spurt of economic recovery will keep you satisfied. Herbert Hoover and Gerald Ford come to mind as two who faced that dilemma and could do nothing about it. We will see what happens between now and November.

During the slow periods, we have to work much harder to find work to keep our employees busy and to maintain some source of income. It is also a time to consider the way we are doing business. Now is the time to look at our overall operations and find ways to streamline them and make them more efficient. This does not mean to find ways to make people (yourself included) work harder, but how to work smarter and get more out of the hours you are putting in. This is part of time management.

This could mean more modern equipment? Would the purchase of new equipment mean an increase in productivity that would offset the cost of the equipment and the training that goes with it? What about software? Would the latest update help that much or is it just another expense. What about the way your office is configured? Would an office rearrangement increase efficiency? Just because this is the way you have been set up for years does not mean it is the most efficient.

What about personnel? Are they you best investment or your biggest headache? Or both? Can you not afford to lose them or would it be a blessing in disguise. Who can you NOT get along without and who is only holding you back? Very tough decisions but some that have to be considered.

What about clients? Are there clients on your books who keep you busy but cost you money? Do you have

some that are more of an aggravation than an asset? Now is the time to take a hard look at the "bottom line" of your clients and determine which should be dropped, which should be taken better care of and where should you expend your very valuable marketing time.

As a Surveyor, you normally spend a lot of time analyzing land data. Business data is not that much different and requires the same type of analysis. In the slow times, this is what you should be doing so that the busy times will be that much easier to handle.

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**Many Thanks for hosting the
Cleveland Chapter Data Bank**

John E. Dailey, Past

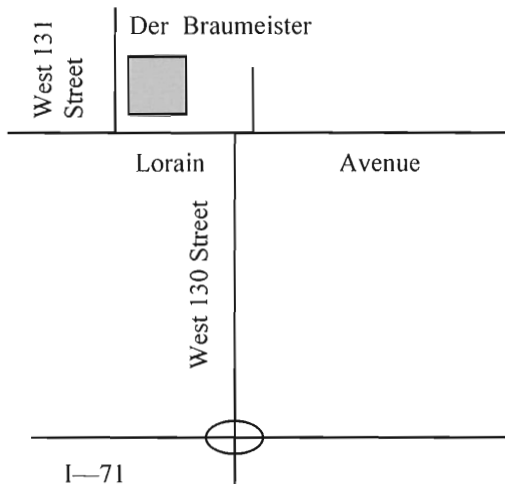
Cleveland Chapter PLSO

ANNUAL MEETING ~ "JANUFEST"

Thursday January 22, 2004

Location

Der Braumeister Restaurant
13046 Lorain Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio



Menu

Choice of :

Weiner Schnitzel (Breaded Veal Cutlet)
 with spatzel & red cabbage

Chicken Paprikash with spatzel

Broiled Scrod with home fried potatoes

Includes: Tossed salad
 Rolls & Butter
 Coffee, tea or iced tea
 Strudel

COST: \$23.00

\$45.00 PER COUPLE
 Includes tax & tip

Reservations:

Call John R. Hoy at (440) 877-1434 by Tuesday
 January 20, 2004. Please call on time. Thank you.

PROGRAM

The only program at this meeting is the installation of Chapter Officers for the year 2004 and the presentation of the "Surveyor of the Year" award to Tom Snezek.

Please plan on attending to show your support for those who have agreed to be your Chapter Officers for the coming year and to congratulate Tom on receiving the Surveyor of the Year!

AGENDA

RELAXATION HOUR (CASH BAR)	5:30
DINNER	6:30
MEETING	7:30
INSTALLATIONS & S.O.T.Y. AWARD	8:00

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION INCLUDE:

PLSO Conference 2004 Update
 2004 Summer Social Event ?

THOSE NOT INTERESTED IN JOINING US FOR DINNER ARE ALWAYS WELCOME FOR THE PROGRAM AND MEETING

Tom Snezek
Chapter Delegate

The PLSO State Executive Committee met on January 9th, 2004 in Columbus, Ohio.

I submitted a written report to the Cleveland Chapter Executive Committee. Here are the highlights:

- Don Friemoth, Newsletter Editor notified the committee that due to the change to bi-monthly issues, the chapters holding summer golf outings should submit their notices by March 1, 2004 the next deadline. He also reported that membership numbers have dropped slightly to 1,110.
- PLSO made a donation to the Museum of Surveying in Michigan in the amount of \$1.00 per member and challenged the chapters to match the donation or reimburse the PLSO treasury.
- It was announced that Mike Butner was awarded the **"Member of the Year"**.
- President Steve Hyde approved the list of nominees for **"Surveyor of the Past"** to be honored at the 2004 Annual Conference in Cleveland this included Charles J. Neff.
- C.E.A.O. delegate Jim Henry asked that if the counties in your chapter area are updating their conveyance standards to please ask them to submit a draft to the PLSO review committee for comments. This may help standardize the requirements.
- Rose Coors, Public Relations Committee Chair, announced that the new Surveying Flyer would be displayed at the 2004 Annual Conference in Cleveland.
- Tim Schram, Standards Committee Chair, distributed the proposed *"Definition of Professional Surveying"* and requested each chapter to review and return comments by the March meeting. *The March chapter newsletter will carry the full text of the proposal and chapter members comments will be received at the March Membership Meeting.*
- The official theme for the 2004 Annual Conference is ***"Mapping the North Coast"***.
- CST Coordinator, Pat Leonhardt, has established the guidelines for the CST testing during the conference. The application deadline has been extended to Jan. 21, 2004 for persons interested in taking the Certified Survey Technician test on Saturday of the conference.
- Mike Cameron, Legislation Chair, reported that HB 322 & SB 150 regarding Continuing Professional Development are moving through the process quickly but can still use our support. Contact your legislative representative.

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES for 2004

one sixth page	3" high by 3.6" wide	\$ 80.00 yearly
one half page	4.5" high by 7.5" wide	\$ 200.00 yearly
full page 8-1/2 by 11 insert printed both sides (Limit of two per issue)		\$ 100.00 each issue
Help Wanted or Position Wanted, up to one-half page		\$30.00 per issue

A continuing article for three different styles of field work.

Traditional: Transit, steel tape, and level.

Total Station: Most common method of surveying today.

Robotic: Remote control instruments - 1 person crew advice.

Traditional

When observing grades on stakes with a level, have the instrument person report the rod reading to the rodman. The rodman then points his finger to the reading on the rod for the instrument operator to check. This can help avoid busts by recording a reading off by an even foot or two.

Total Station

Most total stations, not dealing with onboard functions or programs, have coordinate readout. These coordinates are based upon 0° set in the instrument being a north azimuth of 0°. This is helpful when setting nails in a footer of a new building, or when sighting down centerline of a new roadway and trees are on line. Just move the rod to where the instrument can sight your prism, and the easting readout will be the rod's offset from centerline. Measure over with a tape to place the stake on your centerline.

Robotic

Think like a robot. If your instrument loses lock on your prism because of trees while you are walking down a hill, it will not know how much further down the slope you ended up walking. The simple solution is to slowly walk so that your instrument can follow you to your next shot. Special prisms are available which may cost more and are cumbersome. Another alternative is to carry a clinometer. A clinometer is similar in appearance and size to a pocket compass, yet it allows the user to look at the instrument and reference the zenith angle to help the robot in its search. A clinometer is also useful for a traditional 2 man crew in the woods, when the rodman can see the instrument but the instrument operator cannot find the rod.

More next month — Robert G. Hoy

2004 PLSO Conference Committee News

The committee met at the hotel Tuesday, January 6, 2004 with members of the hotel staff and ironed out any final scheduling questions. A complete schedule of events is included in this newsletter. Ten exhibit booths are still available for rent. If you know of anyone that may want to be included in this event please contact John or Robert Hoy. We also sent letters out to area surveying firms for donations to the hospitality suite, if you have not your donation in please do so soon.

I hope that everyone has registered for the conference. We have some very interesting guest speakers this year. I am looking forward to the Key Note speaker we have lined up for the banquet. Ron Oberlander of Topcon Corporation who will discuss the role he and members of his company played in the September 11, 2001 rescue efforts. The spouse program will be a lot of fun with massages, manicures, shopping at "Legacy Village" and spiritual readings from Rev. Bonnie Naftzger, Cleveland's equivalent to John Edwards. The Saturday morning round table discussion will be on "Planning for Continuing Education" and I'm sure many of you have your own opinions about this subject, so please attend and voice your ideas.

VOLUNTEERS will be needed on Wednesday evening to help stuff the "goodie bags" and Thursday Morning to help hand out the registration packages. If you can help at either one of these times please call me at 440-230-2565 or Neil Juhnke at 216-348-3857. I would like to have 15 to 20 people there on both occasions. If you can't help at those times but still wish to help please call me with your schedule and we will work you into whatever is available.

Get Registered!!!! And I'll see you all soon.

Louise A. Veverka, Chairperson

2004 PLSO Conference Committee Members

Chairperson
Louise A. Veverka
(440) 230-2565
Fax: 230-2566
lvurvey@aol.com

Past Chairperson
George A. Hofmann
(440) 234-7350
george_hm@ameritech.net

Registration
Neil M. Juhnke
(216) 348-3857
njuhnke@ameritech.net

Finance
Mark A. Yeager
(440) 365-4730 ext. 330
yeager@ksassoc.com

Hospitality
Joseph F. O'Donnell, Jr.
(216) 529-6809
joe.o'donnell@lakewoodoh.net

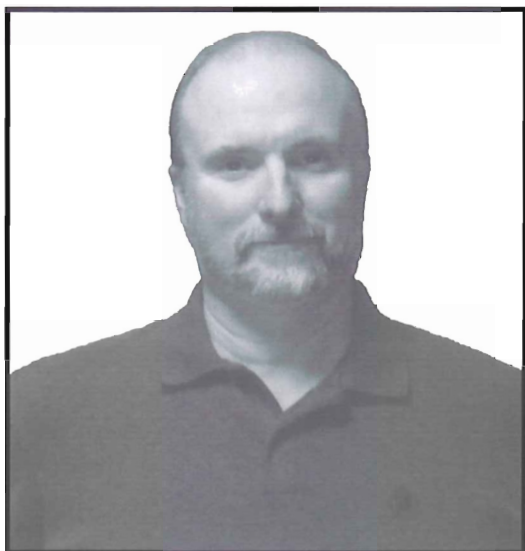
Exhibits
John G. Hoy
(216) 476-3600
hoy7419@cs.com

Exhibits
Robert G. Hoy
(440) 835-9400
rhoy@rewarner.com

Meals
Timothy J. Feller
(216) 831-1112
tim@mcsteen.com

Program
Tom M. Snezek
(216) 348-3846
tmsnezek@cuyctyengineers.org

Spouse Program
Char Snezek
(216) 671-4902

Thomas M. Snezek, P.S. 7051

Tom was born in Lorain, Ohio and has spent most of his life in this area. He and his wife Charmaine have been married twenty three years and now reside at 3496 Colletta Lane in the West Park district of Cleveland. He graduated from Admiral King High School and attended Lorain Community College.

Three of their four children live at home. His sons Sean and Ryan are in their third and fourth years, respectively, at the University of Akron. They are both pursuing a degree in Surveying. His daughter Brittany is a junior at Holy Name High School. Their eldest son Tod, and their daughter-in-law, Jennifer live in Missouri and have blessed them with two grandchildren, Braden 2 and Nyah 8 months.

In addition to enjoying fishing, golf and reading, Tom loves entertaining with his wife, surprising his family with "adventures," attending his daughter's ballet recitals and dance competitions and playing with his dog, Gunner. He is on the Athletic Board of his Church and has coached baseball, basketball and football teams. Tom is employed by the Cuyahoga County Engineer's Office as Chief Surveyor. He has held that position since 1995. He has been responsible for the Tax Map Department for the last fifteen years. His duties involve work with the Geographic Information System and coordinating control monumentation with the State relating to the Global Positioning System. He has been actively involved with the Cuyahoga County Golf League, currently serving as President.

Tom is the Cleveland Chapter Delegate to the State Executive Committee of the Professional Land Surveyors of Ohio. He has co-chaired the Golf Outing Committee for the last several years. He has served in various other positions in the Cleveland Chapter including its President in 2001. He is currently serving as an advisor to the Surveying and Construction Department of the University of Akron.



KS ASSOCIATES
SURVEY GROUP

Mark A. Yeager, P.S. Survey Group Leader

Phone (440) 365-4730 Ext. 330

260 Burns Road, Suite 100
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Email: yeager@ksassoc.com
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Celebrating Thirty Years

SESSION: GIS/LIS SURVEY INFORMATION SYSTEM**SPEAKER:** Mike Weir

Mike Weir has worked in the fields of surveying and mapping for over thirty years as a surveyor and GIS professional. His surveying experience includes geodetic control surveys, astronomic observations, construction layout surveys, boundary location and topographic surveys where he has served as instrument operator and in a position of responsible charge as party chief, chief of field parties and chief of survey operations. As a GIS professional, Mike has served as a GIS consultant, GIS manager, and application developer and master instructor with considerable international experience in both surveying and GIS (including international teaching and conference presentations). Mike has worked for ESRI for over ten years and is now their National Mapping and Surveying Industry Manager.

Mike graduated with honors from National-Louis University with a Bachelor of Arts in Management. He also graduated with honors from Advanced Geodetic Officer Course, the Mapping, Charting and Geodesy Officer Course and Warrant Officer Terrain Analysis Course.

SESSION: CONTRACT LAW AND RISK MANAGEMENT**SPEAKER:** Paula M. Selvaggio

Paula M. Selvaggio is CEO and President of Selvaggio, Teska and Associates, a professional liability and risk management services firm. STA provides insurance program placements, in-house education programs, contract review services and loss prevention consultation to architects, engineers and environmental professionals and construction managers.

Ms. Selvaggio has over fifteen years experience in the professional liability insurance industry and is a professional affiliate member of AIA Cleveland and Columbus; a member of the Professional Liability Underwriting Society; A member of the Society of Design Administrators; a board member of the Professional Liability Agents Network (PLAN); a member of the National Association of Women Business Owners. Ms. Selvaggio has made numerous presentation to various professional associations and to university classes on risk management topics, including basics of professional liability, alternative dispute resolution, contract issues and risk allocation.

SESSION: ETHICS FOR THE SURVEYOR**SPEAKER:** Lynn A. Honeck, Ohio Ethics Commission

Lynn A. Honeck is the education Coordinator for the Ohio Ethics Commission. In that position, she is responsible for coordinating the Commission's educational and informational efforts, preparing publications and answering questions from the press and public. She also teaches classes and presents informational speeches.

Prior to joining the Commission in January 2001, Lynn served for eight years as a Management Analyst with the U.S. Office of Governmental Ethics. In that capacity, she evaluated Federal agencies' ethics programs for compliance with Federal ethics laws. In addition, she developed and taught classes and produced educational materials.

Lynn is a 1990 Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Miami University in Ohio.

**CLEVELAND CHAPTER PLSO
NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

John G. Hoy
4562 UP West 130 Street
Cleveland, OH. 44135-3538

Phone: 216-476-3600
Fax: 216-476-1665
Email: HOY7419@CS.COM

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Calendar

The remainder of the 2004 calendar has yet to be determined by our incoming President.

FEBRUARY

5, 6, 7 ANNUAL CONFERENCE · **CLEVELAND**

23 Executive Committee Meeting

MARCH

4 Membership Dinner Meeting

12 State Executive Committee Meeting

15 Executive Committee Meeting

This Month's Quote:

"There are no missed opportunities. The opportunities you let pass by are grabbed by someone else."