

Cleveland Surveying News

January 2013



Surveyor of the Year: Peter D. Zwick, P.S., P.E.

- **Annual Meeting - January 24th**
- **Surveyor of the Year**
- **2013 Chapter Officers**
- **By-Law Change**

Cleveland Chapter

Professional Land Surveyors of Ohio

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President's Message



Robert Hoy
President

Mid-January is here once again as is the end of our Chapter year. My thanks goes out to those that helped our Chapter along this year. Michael Ackerman who is stepping down this year from being our Secretary for a few years now; Timothy Feller our Treasurer and source of brevity at executive meetings; Thomas Snezek for driving to Columbus for PLSO executive meetings and representing our Chapter; George Hofmann who is soon to be PLSO President, the first of a chapter member in a very long time; Peter D. Zwick for picking up the banner and waiving it about with his efforts in Trig*Star and at the Architects Convention; Ken Hejduk for picking up the reigns of the 2014 conference; Rick Ziegman for continuing to lead our golf outing; and John Dailey for sharing his thoughts in his continuing articles in this newsletter.

This list should have been longer. With all our chapter does, we need more involvement. Being involved in our chapter does not require coming to one or two meetings a month. Peter Zwick, Ken Hejduk, and John Dailey are prime examples of helping out on their own schedule, when they have time for it. None of them are officers but their contributions were significant.

Come to our Annual Meeting on Thursday the 24th (see Page 4 for details), and talk to me, Tim, or Tom to find out how you can contribute to our chapter. We have a couple of interested members, but as I write this we still have no President-Elect for 2012, nor do we have a President-Elect or Secretary for 2013. If you are a chapter Past-President, you are more than welcome to come be President once again! Onto my last message of my presidency.

Land Surveying and PLSO Membership

Our chapter membership is now down under 110, the lowest it's been in probably decades. I've heard hearsay of those that think PLSO is too expensive and they don't get anything for membership. If you think the cost of membership is too high, your professional services rates might be too low, and the are low compared to other professions. It should be a business cost, budgeted for. If you are a Professional Surveyor in Ohio and not a PLSO member, you *are* benefiting from PLSO's efforts. This past year PLSO help defend GPS signal frequencies from a cell phone company that wanted to greatly disrupt the quality of signal reception, and prevented Ohio laws from being passed in such a state that they infringed on or damaged Professional Surveying. Say "thank you" to PLSO. Consider membership in PLSO like having preventative maintenance performed on your car. Sure you *could* just drive a new car for 30,000 miles and only putting gas in the tank and air in the tires, but sooner or later you're going to have a major breakdown on your car. Same goes with your *profession*.

Now a little on Professional Surveying. Recently I heard of a college graduated surveyor who was on his way to obtaining his surveying license, but has left surveying. Why? He didn't like being a "button pusher" in the field and felt he had no room for growth or advancement at his place of employment. Wow! I was fortunate enough to work under a Surveyor, after I graduated from college, that understood that in order for workers to be fulfilled, happy, and be productive they need a path of learning, growth, and advancement. And at the 2012 PLSO Annual Conference, a session included results of a survey that employers and employees took about what was important to the employee. Basically what was important to the employee was the opposite that the employer *thought* was important to the employee. Employees want to be informed and "in on things" and feel that their efforts and opinions matter. And remember from Jim Smith "the happiness coach" a happy worker is a productive worker and is also a safer worker! So consider finding new things that your field technician can do beyond entering topo point codes into the data collector.

I wish all PLSO members and non-members reading this a happy new year and prosperous New Year!

Robert Hoy, P.S.
robert.hoy7@hotmail.com
216-389-7677

P.S. I would love to find a member to take over publishing this newsletter so I could write for this newsletter, the OSN, and possibly even national surveying magazines. Talk to me at the Annual Meeting if interested!

Annual Meeting

Thursday January 24

Creekside Restaurant

8803 Brecksville Road, Brecksville
creeksiderestaurant.com

Alcoholic Beverages
 available: Cash Bar

Dinner choices:

- Chicken Marsala Saute
- Breaded Pork chop
- Lemon Pepper Flounder

Schedule

6:00 Happy Hour
 7:00 Dinner

Followed by Awards and
 member recognition



Cost: \$25

Send your **reservation** names with main course
 selection to **Michael Ackerman** by **Friday the 18th**
secretaryclevelandplso@gmail.com or
 216-536-4622 (leave a message)

If you've been wanting to attend a chapter
 meeting, this is the one to attend. Come see
 what our chapter is about and we hope you'll
 keep coming to our meetings and events
 throughout the year.

Bring your spouse or significant other too!



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2013 Surveyor of the Year

Peter D. Zwick, P.S., P.E.

Mr. Zwick will be honored at our Annual Meeting on January 24th. Come congratulate him and swap surveying stories with him!



Peter first learned about the land surveying profession from his father, Peter C. Zwick, P.E., P.S., who originally hired him as an assistant chainman. About twenty-five years ago, the younger Peter joined the PLSO and enrolled in the Cleveland Chapter's Survey Education Course.

Now president of Zwick Engineering, Peter often surveys land in connection with new construction projects, both public and private. "I like to visit the site before construction, take in the lay of the land, and then visualize what will be constructed (like using a time-travel machine)." He also testifies in legal disputes as an expert witness in regard to engineering and land surveying issues, striving to articulate technical information in an easily understandable manner. Peter's business and professional philosophy is that, "It really pays to be thorough in the first place, because this heads off having to go back later to rework something."

Peter and his wife, Anne, reside in the wilds of Columbia Station. Lately, they are busy with preparing to send their youngest of four sons off to engineering school next year. Anne observes that sometimes Peter can be found laying-out railroads in miniature at the Cuyahoga Valley & West Shore Model Railroad Club in Olmsted Falls.

Peter served as Cleveland PLSO Chapter President in 2008. These days, he contributes articles and editorials to our on-line magazine Cleveland Surveying News. In 2012 he facilitated a successful Trig*Star competition at St. Edward High School in Lakewood, and he also represented PLSO at the American Institute of Architects' State Convention.

Always an advocate for our profession, Peter recommends that we all "proclaim the great value of our profession to anyone who will listen -- and remind them frequently!"

www.plso.info

Are you using, www.plso.info yet? There are a lot of surveys in it, a gold mine of old survey information. We want feedback from chapter members on the website and its information. George Hofmann is close to securing more records from another retired surveyor which may end up, over time, in this survey database.

Email Dino Lustri with questions and comments at dino@dlengineeringllc.com

OUPS

PLSO is asking for poor experiences dealing with the Ohio Utilities Protection Service (OUPS).

Share comments you've received when calling in marking requests or when following up with individual utility companies after telling them it is for Surveying.

If you have been told derogatory remarks because the markings are for Surveying, let PLSO know so we can help make sure the OUPS law is being followed.

Email PLSO: info@ohiosurveyor.org

Random Lines

by John Dailey, P.S.

Our Profession

I know, I know. Every year you hear the same lead in: "Here it is the beginning of a new society year." Well, you are going to hear it again, so please read the line above.

Many thanks to President Bob Hoy and the Chapter Officers for their dedication to OUR society and profession. They have served us well and should be commended for guiding us through a pretty tough year.

We are still in need of dedicated people to serve OUR society and OUR profession. There are challenges facing this Society, this Chapter and our Profession that must be addressed effectively and intelligently.

We are still mired in the depths of the deepest recession since the "Great Depression" of the 1930's but we may have turned a corner. We still have a long way to go to come back to financial stability.

We, as a nation, did not get to this point overnight and we will not recover from this downturn overnight either.

The best we Surveyors can do right now is hang in there and to prepare for the future. That is tough to do while treading water and trying to keep from drowning but we have to prepare now for what is coming.

Learn something new, expand your business capabilities, learn a new skill. Add a new service to your list of services. Get out there and do your marketing. Do not sit in your office (home) and wait for something to happen. Work at it.

The Chapter Annual Meeting is approaching and this would be a good time to show up and show our appreciation for those who have served you. I don't care who you are, you can spare one evening for your professional society. We will be honoring the outgoing officers and swearing in the new ones and honoring our Surveyor of the Year. Come on out. You may even enjoy yourself.

We as a Chapter should really (Cont'd on Page 9)



John Dailey, P.S.

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Random Lines (from Page 7)

be pleased that our own George Hofmann is ascending to the Presidency of PLSO, Inc., the state organization. This step by George takes a major commitment of time and talent. The State President does get a lot of support, believe it or not. George will be the first State President from the Cleveland Chapter since Jack Hoy in 1988. That is a gap of a quarter of a century.

I am constantly amazed that a Chapter as large as ours has had so few people willing to climb the leadership ladder at the state level. It does take dedication and time but it is worth it. The "satisfaction" factor cannot be expressed in financial terms. I know that when I was State President back in the dark ages, I was able to make a lot of

contacts all over the state. Many of those carried over from the Society to the business world. That is just a side benefit to the life long friendships that developed.

Never be afraid to become involved. We, as Surveyors, by nature, by education and by personality are puzzle (problem) solvers. Use that talent to the betterment of us all. You will be amazed by where that involvement will take you.

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

By-Law Change

On 01/14/13 the Executive Committee approved a revision to chapter By-Law V - Definitions, to make our fiscal year coincide with State PLSO's fiscal year. This will make financial reports to PLSO easier. The new By-Laws V:

Fiscal Year shall be **July 1 through June 30**. Chapter year shall be from one Annual Meeting to the next Annual Meeting (January to January).



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www.geoshack.com (Continued on Page 12)

Cleveland Chapter's Delegate Report

Presented by Thomas Snezek, Chapter Delegate

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 January 11, 2013

- 5 Officers and 15 Delegates, Quorum Established.
- January Minutes reviewed, accepted with minor changes.
- Treasurer's Report – Reviewed November 2012 and December 2012 Treasurer's Reports. All were accepted subject to the Finance Committee's review, as per the Charter guidelines.
- New Members – Motion passed to accept 5 professional, 2 re-instatement, 1 associate and 2 Student members.

Inter-Association Reports

- C.E.A.O. - 11 of the returning 88 County Engineers are new.
- O.D.O.T. – New O.D.O.T. specification book is out. All surveying related issues from section 823 are now in Section 623.
- State Board of Registration – Bill to allow PS exams to be done on line by 2014 is moving through the House of Representatives.
- OGRIP – Dean Ringle reported on efforts to dispose of State owned lands and efforts to standardize parcel continuity across the state.

Committee Reports

- Political Action – Current Balance \$2604.35
- State line surveys – planning begun to perform monument repairs on all three lines this season.
- Historic Review – The Lincoln National Surveying Museum in Springfield, Ill., has officially closed. Jim Williams' new book on Ohio Surveying will be premiered on April 5 at a conference in Marietta.
- Ohio Surveying News is at the printer's and should be out the week of 1/14/13.
- N.S.P.S. Governor – Reported on efforts of Membership committee to review the M.O.U. received from the N.S.P.S. to offer full membership to any Professional Surveyor who is a member of a state organization for \$40.00 per year. Future reports will follow and an open discussion is suggested by each chapter and opinions and views on this issue are welcomed. At least four other state associations have already signed on.
- Trig Star is set up and ready for any chapter that may wish to sponsor a test. Contact Melinda Gilpin for more information.
- Annual Conferences –
 - 2013 is set and ready to go in Sharonsville, Ohio. By the way there is a water park available to bring the whole family.
 - 2014 right here in Cleveland's InterContinental Hotel is coming along fine. A Program Chair is still needed. Look for increased activity right after this year's conference.
- Legislation – SB 354, the "Call Before you Dig" bill is now law and has been signed by the Governor. It attempts to create a One-stop-shop for all calls and hopefully speed up the process and bring a little more respect to the request by surveyors. If you have any issues with OUPS calls, let Melinda know. She is monitoring the effort to hold them accountable.



Thomas Snezek
Delegate

(Cont'd on Page 12)



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Delegate's Report (from Page 10)

- Fundraising - Donations can be made to the P.A.C. fund or the Scholarship fund or both.
- Communications - At press release will be out soon for National Surveyor's week.

Adjourned at 8:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas M. Snezek, P.S.

2014 Annual Conference - Program

Ken Hejduk, Annual Conference chairman, would like your input on the Program: session topics and speakers. Let me know what you'd like to see next year. Ken is also looking for a conference Program chairman, talk to him at our Annual Meeting on the 24th if you're interested.

Offer him your suggestions for the upcoming event as well as any comments or observations from the 2011 conference since it is being held at the same venue.

Also forward him any companies that might be interested in advertising or exhibiting at the conference.

Ken Hujduk: kenh@hca-es.com

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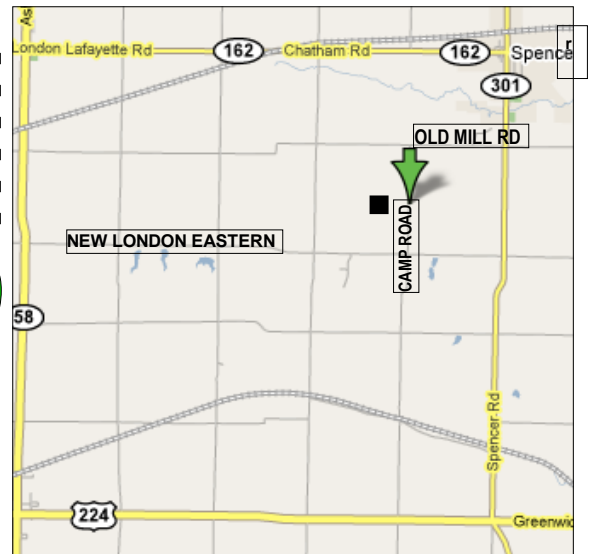
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Executive Committee Meeting Highlights

January 14, 2013



Michael Ackerman
Secretary

Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works – Test lab Facilities 2433 Superior Viaduct, Cleveland, Ohio

In attendance: Robert Hoy, Michael Ackerman, Tim Feller, Tom Snezek, Jack Hoy, Ken Hejduk, and Ted Spillman.

Chapter Delegate:

The State will be making sure everyone is up to date with CPD's by the end of the year.

Standing Committees

Membership:

Membership is down this year to 109 members.

Communication:

Newsletter Committee:

Web updates are needed for 2013.

Program:

The January Social Meeting will be held at Creekside in Brecksville.

Jack Hoy is looking at possible locations for the April social meeting.

Program speakers for upcoming seminars need to be finalized by the end of the month.

Education:

St. Edwards has shown interest again for the Trig*Star program.

Finance:

President Hoy and Treasurer Feller reviewed the 2013 budget. Budget was approved.

Special Committees:

Ken Hejduk updated the progress on the 2014 Annual Conference.

Old Business:

The December 1, 2012 non-member seminar in Strongsville was a success. There were 46 people who attended.

New Business:

By-Law V was amended to correspond to the State Chapter's fiscal year.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Ackerman

2013 Chapter Officers

At time of publication, these are our officers for this year:

- President: _____
- President-Elect: _____
- Treasurer: Timothy Feller
- Secretary: _____
- Delegate: Thomas Snezek
- Past President: Robert Hoy

We have gaps to fill, step forward and help lead our chapter! We have a couple of interested members, but no solid answers. Information on officer duties are available as under “downloads” at: cleveland.plso.com/contact.html Contact any officer listed on Page 2 if you're interested!

Past Presidents are very welcome to be an officer again... even President!



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Cleveland Chapter of PLSO 2012 Calendar

Chapter Executive Meetings are 6 p.m. at Cuyahoga County Engineer's Test lab classroom, 2433 Superior Viaduct, Cleveland and are open to all PLSO members who want to attend.

Jan 24 Annual Meeting

Feb 13-16 PLSO Annual Conference,
Cincinnati

Look for our calendar to be updated soon for 2013
on our website: cleveland.plso.com

December Seminar

Our free three hour seminar on December 1st was a big success with over 45 attendees with a good mix of non-PLSO members and PLSO members. We were able to in part to show what PLSO does and why membership in PLSO is important.

We had three great speakers who made putting this seminar together seem easy. Each one of them could have spoken for all three hours. Our thanks goes out to Melinda Gilpin, Executive Director of PLSO, David L. Harvey III, attorney - founder of Harvey, Abens, Iosue Co., LPA of Berea: harvlaw.com, and Dean Ringle, P.E., P.S. Franklin County Engineer for their eagerness to help with the message of this seminar.



David L. Harvey, III



Dean Ringle, P.E.,
P.S. with a full room

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

November 12, 2012



Michael Ackerman
Secretary

The Snezek residence, Cleveland, Ohio

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm.

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

Secretary's minutes: Executive Committee meeting minutes from October 22, 2012 accepted as submitted.

Treasury: Tim Feller submitted the October report. Acceptance of report is subject to review.

Chapter Delegate:

- Tom Snezek read the November Delegates report.
- The Trig*Star new season is going strong.
- The 2013 budget has been approved for ratification.

Standing Committees

Membership: We are currently looking for a new committee chair.

Communication:

Newsletter Committee:

Robert Hoy announced the newsletter deadline will be December 12, 2012.

Program: The January Social Meeting will be held at Creekside in Brecksville, reservations will need to be made by the Friday before the meeting.

Education: No report.

Finance: Inactive.

Elections: Still looking for officers to fill vacant positions

Special Committees: No new updates for the 2014 Conference.

Old Business: The December 1, 2012 non-member seminar will be held at the Holiday Inn in Strongsville. 90 invitations will be sent.

New Business: Proposal to change the Cleveland Chapter fiscal year to match that of the State Chapter.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Ackerman