

# Cleveland Surveying News

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*July 2019*

*Issue 19 Vol. 5*



**Newsletter Features**

**NEXT MEETING September 12<sup>th</sup>**

**CPD meeting. 2Hrs. Location TBD**

**Reports -**

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# Cleveland Chapter

## Professional Land Surveyors of Ohio

### Presidents Letter – PLSO Cleveland

This month I have a story to tell you. A story of high crimes in the field of surveying. A story of suspense and deceit. I'll let you be the judge and jury & tell me what the outcome might be.

Back in the spring of 2015, I was contacted by a young woman who was settling her parents' estate which included a now vacant lot on West 7<sup>th</sup> Street in the Tremont neighborhood of Cleveland. There were a number of encroachments on the lot that she wanted to clear up hoping to get a better sale price and we were asked to do the survey.

Well, it wasn't an easy survey. If you've ever worked in Tremont, you might know that there are a lot of monuments out of position. So with much ado, we established the block from Jefferson to Starkweather & South St., and West 7<sup>th</sup> to Thurman St. We then calculated the lot position, set the corners and located the encroachments. To set the rear corners, as the front half of the lot was a steep slope & they couldn't be seen from our control point on the street, we set a traverse point at the top of the slope. We also used this to locate the rear adjacent house corner and a rear fence encroachment. Unfortunately, in setting the northwesterly corner, the pin dropped into a void and had to be set 2' down the sideline in a stable area. Since the rear pins were both behind the encroaching fence, we set hubs & tacks 7' down each sideline that were intervisible with the front corners.

So our client is happy, shows the neighbors our stamped & signed plat, and has them remove 2 encroaching fences and an air conditioning unit. The lot is then sold to a Mr. Hickey who happens to live in Boston, though his son lives down the street on West 7<sup>th</sup>.

Fast forward to June, 2019 and Mr. Hickey calls me from Boston. He's having a fence put up on the rear line because the neighbor is bringing his dog on the lot to poop there. (??? Who cares, it's still a vacant lot & you're in Boston!) He said his son went over & could only find one of the rear pins. Could I go out, find the other & mark the rear line for the fence company? Ok, so I agreed to go out there, find the rear pins, mark the rear line, & try to set something right at the void at the northwesterly corner for the fence guys (I took an old broom handle...I don't have 4 or 5 foot pins & there's an offset pin) as requested, for a hundred bucks. Little did I know!

Beginning of July I found all the pins, staked them & marked the 2 rear pins: one "P/L" & the other "P/L- 2' off". As the rear neighbors had their camping trailer parked right over the northwesterly corner (@ the void), I left my broom handle in the truck. Hmm, something doesn't look right here. One's a 2' offset yet they look like they're both on the same line. And why are they both at the edge of the gravel parking area that ran right up to the fence that encroached 5'? I remember when I set these thinking "this guy's not gonna be happy when he finds out he's losing 5' of his gravel parking area". Well, the pin caps don't look beat up. I guess they're right. It's getting dark, I gotta get outa here.

That was on a Thursday. Over the weekend, I thought about it more & more. Something's not right out there. Maybe we screwed up the survey. S--t, I better go back out there and check the distance from the front to rear pins...it should be 146'.

Monday I went back out. With a steel tape & plumb bob, southerly line measures 141.72' pin to pin. Northerly line measures 141.00 pin to pin. Damn, how the hell could we screw up that bad? We shot the adjacent house corners, one from out on West 7<sup>th</sup>, & one from the traverse point on top of the hill. If what we shot doesn't match what I measure with the tape, we screwed up the traverse point. I'm getting 24.28'. I'll call & see what the point file says.

So I called. The point file said the house was 24.26'. Ok, so our traverse point was good. I'll look again for those offset hubs & any evidence where the pins should be: one at 146' and the other at 144'. Maybe I can find those offset hubs. Hey, wait a minute.

# Cleveland Chapter

## Professional Land Surveyors of Ohio

### Presidents Letter – PLSO Cleveland

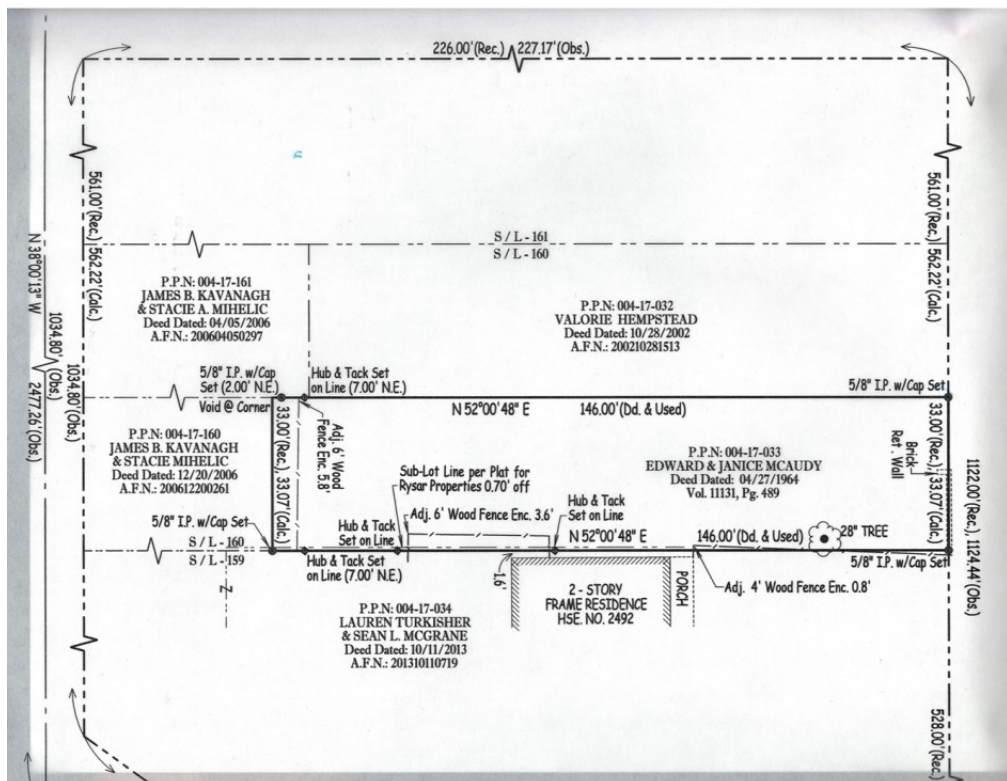
I know I always, always set my pin caps with the inscription facing the street we're working from. How did they get spun around? One faces Thurman (backwards) & the other faces north. Neither faces West 7<sup>th</sup>! Now I know I didn't do that!

Well folks, the rest is documented in the photos below. I did find our offset hub on the southerly line, and the base of the broken off stake next to where I had set the 2' offset pin on the northerly line. Apparently the neighbor was more than unhappy about losing his parking area and decided to just take back what he thought should be his. Funny thing is, he apparently carefully removed my caps (I saw no plier marks or damage to the surface), pulled the pins & moved them to the edge of his gravel, then re-set the caps. He just didn't know how anal I was to face the inscription toward West 7<sup>th</sup> St.! As a check, I measured his lot from back of walk on Thurman St. and found an old pipe on his southerly line @ just about 80', the depth of his lot. (Not a common corner as the block is 1' wider than record, lots used to run straight through from W. 7<sup>th</sup> to Thurman & a gap was created when split.)

I don't know about any of you, but I've never had this happen before in my 40 years of surveying...that I know of. Was this a case of theft or was it vandalism? Can the adjoining owner be charged & what's the penalty? If anyone knows, let me know at [dbruckner@roadrunner.com](mailto:dbruckner@roadrunner.com). Of course I advised Mr. Hickey to contact his attorney & have the lot re-surveyed to reset the rear corners correctly.

Moral of the story: Add "if corners are disturbed, an additional charge for recovery or re-survey will apply" to your estimate for finding previously set pins. This was worth more than a hundred bucks for the detective work, evidence collection, & new offset determination.

Dave Bruckner, P.S. / Private Eye  
2019 Chapter President





# Cleveland Chapter

Professional Land Surveyors of Ohio

## Presidents Letter – PLSO Cleveland

### NORTHERLY LINE



Base of stake formerly set next to original pin position 2' off rear p/l  
(Under rear adjoiners' camper)



Current position of pin now 3' from where we set it



Hub & tack set 7' off corner

### SOUTHERLY LINE



Corner pin now 2.72 feet off original hub & tack





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## Precision Laser & Instrument, Inc. acquires City Blueprint of Toledo and announces new store in Maumee, Ohio

MAUMEE, OH – Precision Laser & Instrument, Inc. is thrilled to announce the opening of a 7th store location to better serve its Northwest Ohio customers through the acquisition of City Blueprint of Toledo/Midwest Survey Supply. Located at 3637 Briarfield Boulevard, Maumee, OH 43537, it sits just outside of Toledo. As of Monday, May 13th, the store is open as the newest branch of Precision Laser & Instrument, Inc., offering the Sales, Service, Rentals, Training and Support that has made them a renowned and trusted partner for the Construction, Surveying and GIS/Mapping industries across Western Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia for nearly 30 years.



"We're very excited to have a more direct means of supporting our clients in Northwest Ohio," said Rob Barth, Partner & Manager of the Geospatial Division with Precision Laser & Instrument, Inc. "We are also excited to have the CBOT team join the PLI team with over 125 years of industry knowledge and experience. I think the strong reputation City Blueprint of Toledo/Midwest Survey Supply already has in the area will translate well into our own commitment to excellence in providing the best possible solutions for our clients, start to finish."

City Blueprint of Toledo also supported the acquisition. "I'm confident that our clients will be in good hands and well taken care of with Precision Laser & Instrument," said City Blueprint of Toledo/Midwest Survey Supply owner, Jim Driftmeyer.

Precision Laser & Instrument, Inc. is bringing with it a support network of over 50 employees and 6 additional offices conveniently located near major cities in Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia. They're an Authorized Distribution Partner, Preferred Service Provider and Certified Warranty Service Center for Trimble, Spectra Precision and Nikon, and are also partnered with a vast array of other industry-leading names as well.



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**Delegates Report  
July 12, 2019  
State Executive Committee Meeting**

**President Silva called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.**

**Secretary Rich Fredrickson determined that there was a quorum present.**

**Motion to accept the minutes for the May 2019 meeting .  
Motion Passed**



**George Hofmann  
Delegate**

**Josh Mehelcic Treasurer reported on the May and June 2019 financial report.  
Report was accepted for Financial review**

**Complaint was made to the State Board regarding possible malpractice of surveying by Chicago Title. This remains an active case and is currently being investigated by the State Board**

**New members; Motion was made and passed to accept 3 professional members, 1 Associate, 2 Affiliate , 2 student and 1 retired member.**

**State Board : Survey Task Force divided into three categories, 1) License? Education, 2) Public Outreach, 3) Definition of surveying. Charlie Harkness reported on the definition of surveying and has asked for input of the membership. Does it need to be changed? Or is the issue just individual interpretation?. With the new technology will it continue to need adjustment in coming years?**

**NGS appear to be read to adopt the International foot as our standard for measurement.**

**Historic Review: Fort Steuben, Numerous member volunteered to greet and inform the general public who visited our Surveyors Block House about the History of the Fort and the importance of surveyors**

**NSPS Governor : Bob Akins presented Proposed legislation regarding vacation of railroad right of ways.  
(See attached document). This was presented as a preliminary thought to get input from the society, it was well discussed by the members of the executive committee and many modifications were suggested.  
Bob is currently seeking more input from the membership, anyone with suggestions are urged to contact Bob.**

**Delegates Report  
July 12, 2019  
State Executive Committee Meeting**

**Trig star: 7 Schools participated , 3 Chapters hosted,  
Winners were**

**FIRST PLACE (\$250.00)**

**Rohit Dasanoor attending Revere High School in the  
Western Reserve Chapter**

**SECOND PLACE (\$125.00)**

**Corrin Hoover attending Hopewell-Loudon High School in the Toledo Chapter**

**THIRD PLACE (\$75.00)**

**Heath Perry attending Kirtland High School in the Askega Chapter**

**FOURTH PLACE (\$50.00)**

**Jake Grdadolnik attending Kirtland High School in the Askega Chapter.**

**There were four other students that had scores of 94%.**

**Chapters looking to host next year are urged to start now. It is a lengthy pro-  
cessed to get vested in these school. Contact Pat Leonhardt for info.**

**Education: President Elect. Terry Wright committee chairman is longing for vol-  
unteers to serve on this committee.**

**Annual Conferences**

**2019-2021 Hilton Easton , Columbus,**

**Fall Conferences**

**2019 Mason Melinda is looking into offering two separate sessions for Ethics  
2020 Cleveland Marriott Airport**

**Workshop scheduled for August 10, 2019 (See Attached)**

**Finance: George Hofmann was unable to review the financials before the meet-  
ing and will do so and report at the next executive meeting.**

**George asked Melinda to report on her search for a firm to audit our fin.**

**Melinda stated she has made a number of contacts and is waiting for replies.**

**Scholarship: Mike Nichols reported that they are currently reviewing 7 applicants  
for the State Scholarship**

**President Silva adjourned the meeting**

**Respectfully submitted**

**George A. Hofmann ,2019 Cleveland Chapter Delegate**



**George Hofmann  
Delegate**



## NSPS RAILROAD LEGISLATION

CONTENTS: UPON FILING THE NOTICE TO VACATE A RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY, THE RAILROAD MUST DOCUMENT THE LOCATION OF ANY AND ALL EXISTING RAIL CENTERLINES. THE LOCATION OF SAID RAILS MUST BE DOCUMENTED UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL SURVEYOR, LICENSED IN THE STATE WHERE SAID RAILROAD IS LOCATED.

THE METHODS AND ACCURACY OF SAID LOCATION SHALL MEET THE MINIMUM SURVEY STANDARDS IN PRACTICE IN THE AREA IN WHICH IT IS LOCATED.

THEN RAIL CENTERLINE MUST BE LOCATED AT A MAXIMUM OF 100' (ONE HUNDRED FOOT) INTERVALS. THE BEGINNING POINT, ENDING POINT AND INTERMEDIATE POINTS, NO MORE THAN ½ (ONE HALF) MILE APART, SHALL BE PHYSICALLY MONUMENTED, ACCORDING TO LOCAL SURVEYING STANDARDS AND TIED INTO THE LOCAL GEOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE SYSTEM.

LEGIBLE VALUATION MAPS AND HISTORICAL SURVEYS OF SAID RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY, ALONG WITH THE RAIL LOCATION INFORMATION MUST BE PLACED ON FILE WITH THE LOCAL COUNTY (OR EQUAL) OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR OVERSEEING THE PRESERVATION OF LAND SURVEY INFORMATION. A LETTER OF VERIFICATION OF RECEIPT OF SAID INFORMATION FROM SAID COUNTY OFFICIAL WILL BE REQUIRED PRIOR TO THE REMOVAL OF ANY RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE. IF THE RAIL LINE OVERLAPS GOVERNMENT JURISDICTIONAL LINE (I.E. COUNTY AND STATE LINES) THE SURVEY INFORMATION SHALL BE FILED WITH ALL SAID ENTITIES.



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## **"General William Lytle, Deputy Surveyor, Virginia Military District"**

**In conjunction with Harmony Hill Association  
Harmony Hill's Museum and Dairy House  
299 South Third Street, Williamsburg  
Saturday, August 10, 2019**

This seminar will cover the life of General William Lytle, his surveying exploits as both a Deputy Surveyor of the Virginia Military District, and the original proprietor of the Town of Williamsburg, as well as other topics of interest to the profession. Known as the "Father of Clermont County", General Lytle's portrait hangs in many of the County's public offices. He is credited with being at the forefront of developing Clermont County, serving in many capacities of government as well as his surveying duties. At Harmony Hill, he erected a fine home, dairy house, and a land office to conduct the business of his land holdings. The dairy house still stands, considered to be one of the oldest structures in Clermont County.

This seminar will provide a brief biography of his life, lectured by Board Members of the Harmony Hill Association. We will also explore in depth, the surveying history of his involvement in the original patents within the bounds of present day Clermont County. Included will be a study of his development of Williamsburg, begun in 1796. Harmony Hill's Museum and the Clermont County Historical Society Museum will be part of the agenda, as well as hands on exploration in search of the remains of his land office located just a few feet north of the dairy house.

Cost of the **4 CPD seminar is \$80.00, and includes lunch.** Proceeds from this seminar will go to Williamsburg Harmony Hill Association, with funds earmarked for the goal of rebuilding the land office. The seminar will run from **8:00 a.m. to 12 noon**, with lunch to follow. Anyone wishing to **add a couple more CPD hours** can do so by joining us after lunch and getting your hands dirty as we excavate what we believe to be the west wall of the foundation of the land office. If you wish to participate, wear old clothes, and bring a small shovel or trowel, a small broom, and perhaps a small rod for probing.

The Board members will be feeding the group, so if you are planning to stay for lunch, please indicate so by checking the box below. **Attendance is limited to 25. Register by Aug 3, 2019.**

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## **Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – July 16, 2019 at 6:00 PM**

The Foundry Kitchen & Bar – 525 Broad Street - Elyria, OH

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

In attendance: Steve Metcalf, Dave Bruckner, George Hofmann, Tim Feller, Dino Lustri, Peter C Zwick, Peter D. Zwick, Richard Carlson, Scott Horan, Mark Yeager, Tom Snezek, Brett Spangler and wife.

### **Secretary's minutes:**

Executive Committee meeting minutes from May, 2019 conditionally accepted with revisions as submitted by Michael Akerman.

### **Treasury:**

Tim Feller submitted May 2019 treasury report; report was accepted as provided.

### **Chapter Delegate:**

George Hofmann, attended the meeting in State meeting in Columbus, and the topic of abandoned Railroad right of ways were discussed via Bob Akins. Where they are recorded and better suggestions for providing the rail companies to options for this? Datum 2020 changes was discussed, along with the switch over that will be implemented from the current U.S. Survey Feet to International Feet. NGS conversions via Ray Foose of ODOT.

### **Committees:**

#### **Membership Committee:**

No new Cleveland Chapter members.

#### **Newsletter Committee:**

Deadline for submission would be July 31, 2019.

William Vondra was approached to write some articles for the newsletter.

#### **Website / Records Archival Committee:**

Dino Lustri mentioned the he wants to get to Beta-testing the new website work, but his normal workload is preventing this. Hopes more can happen during the winter months.

#### **Program Committee:**

##### **Golf Outing:**

Tom Snezek has had some conversation that this was the final year for the Golf Outing, due to the low turnout for the last two years. He has put his hard efforts, time, and diligent focus on pulling getting the event compiled each year. Tom wants to express is appreciation for all of the donors, hole sponsors, and volunteers that have provided their time and attention to our Chapter and this Golf outing. Aeroconn has been a great sponsor – of which they get a special Thank you.

Putting with the PAC netted \$270.00 for the PAC fund at the event.

## **Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – July 16, 2019 at 6:00 PM**

### **OSHA Class:**

Turnout was about 18 to 20 people in attendance, the speaker was informative, of which he provided do's and don'ts and never dos! The attendees learned many old habits have to change to meet the Safety requirements of OSHA.

### **Future Programs being looked at:**

Dave is trying to get in contact with:

Jeffery Jalbrzikowski - Appalachian Regional Advisor at NOAA National Geodetic to speak about the new 2020 datum conversion. He is a former US Army Corp of Engineers, worked for the BLM, internship at Akron Public Utilities, Atwell-Hicks, a Grad of the University of Akron.

More info on date and location to come.

### **Education/ Scholarship Committee:**

This meeting was also a Student Recognition – Scholarship recipient dinner.

**Brett Spangler**, a part time student of the University of Akron in his 3<sup>rd</sup> year, and his wife attended.

He had a nice conversation with the members of “Why he wants to be a surveyor” and his non-traditional entry into Land Surveying – via a Human Resources Degree – then Title Company, Land Acquisition, and now field work. He is employed with Atwell Group in Independence.

**Ryan Kramer**, a part time student of the University of Akron in his 3<sup>rd</sup> year, could not attend.

He is employed with Polaris Engineering and Surveying in Willoughby Hills.

### **Finance:**

The 2020 Budget will be due for the fiscal year, the EXCOM will be working on the 2020 budget at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned 8:15

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Metcalf, PS

Secretary Cleveland Chapter PLSO

## Vondra's Visions

### (a few lines from an email Bill Vondra Sr. shared with Steve Metcalf)

Thank You! Steve! That FB pic brought back a dozen or more stories on that const. job! .... 1980.

I have to share this with some St. Ed's guys, as this was near our area during high school.

A remnant of the Original Detroit Ave. bridge remains visible at the left side of pic., behind pier.

The story that I felt uncomfortable posting on a public forum (i.e. Facebook)..... As follows:



.. It seems that a couple was partaking in "lunchtime activities" on a beautiful summer morning on a boat docked in the area that the boats are pictured... One of the carpenter foremen had been bringing a tripod scope to Checkout the scenery, perched high on the new bridge as he ate lunch... and to his surprise, one noon.. he spotted a couple in the act ..below deck The whole crew got "scopetime" as things progressed. As the couple finished up, a rousing cheer and applause greeted the surprised couple.

**LOL**

Another week or so later, as a group of us were enjoying lunch, sitting on a 4' retaining wall just west of Wooster Rd, ( this had to be right behind Lyle Pauer's dad's business.) we heard sirens in the distance... getting closer and closer... till we saw a Buick make a hard left turn at 60 mph from " **closed off Wooster**" ... northbound, to "relocated westbound Detroit" ... however the pavement had not been installed ( a 12"drop) ...surprise when all four tires blew... slammed into a portable pottie and the first of a group of police cars... slammed into the rear of the Buick.... cops jumped out with guns , on the four perps ... chased from a bank job in Fairview Park . Wide eyed... we dove behind the wall for cover.. no shots fired.

Thank God no one was in the crapper. The cops got the loot, the bad guys, and the chrome plated 45 pistols...

Bill V.



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 (Cont'd on Page 8)

**2019 Scholarship recipients**

Ryan Kramer – works at Polaris

Brett Spangler – works at Atwell Group



Ryan Kramer

Congrats!



Brett Spangler

Cleveland Chapter & State 2018 Schedule

**Dates, times and locations subject to change, emails will be sent out with notification of any changes**

Friday, January 11 - State PLSO Executive Meeting

*Thursday - January 24 – Cleveland Chapter Annual General Meeting and installation of officers  
(newsletter 1 deadline 1/31)*

February 22 PLSO State conference

Friday, March 8 – State PLSO Executive Meeting

*Tuesday, March 12 – 5:30 p.m. Cleveland Chapter Executive Meeting (newsletter 2 deadline 3/20)*

Friday, April 12 – State PLSO Executive Meeting

**SATURDAY April 13, 7:30 a.m. Civil 3D (CE) Holiday Inn Rockside**

*Tuesday, April 16– 5:30 p.m. Cleveland Chapter Executive Meeting (newsletter 3 deadline 4/26)*

**April (TBA) – Cleveland Chapter General Meeting & CPD**

Friday, May 10 – State PLSO Executive Meeting

*Tuesday, May 14 – 5:30 p.m. Cleveland Chapter Executive Meeting (newsletter 4 deadline 5/22)*

Friday, July 12 – State PLSO Executive Meeting

**Fri. June 28, 46th Annual William Haas Memorial Golf Outing at Springvale Golf Course**

**July (TBA) - Clev. Chapter Education Recognition Meeting (newsletter deadline 5 7/26)**

Friday, September 13 – State PLSO Executive Meeting

**Jeff Jalbrzikowski, our NGS Regional Advisor, will be the speaker @ our next CPD meeting on Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup>.**

*Tuesday, Sept. 17 – 5:30 p.m. Cleveland Chapter Executive Meeting (newsletter 6 deadline 9/27)*

October 10 & 11 - PLSO State Fall Seminar Mason, Ohio

*Tuesday, Oct. 15 – 5:30 p.m. Cleveland Chapter Executive Meeting (newsletter 7 deadline 10/25)*

Friday, November 8 – State PLSO Executive Meeting

*Tuesday, Nov. 12 – 5:30 p.m. Cleveland Chapter Executive Meeting (newsletter 8 deadline 11/22)*

*Tuesday, Dec. 10 (if needed) – 5:30 p.m. Cleveland Chapter Executive Meeting (newsletter deadline 12/15/17)*

**4th Thursday in January 2020 – Cleveland Chapter General Meeting & Installation of officers**

**2018 State PLSO Officers**

President—Tom Silva, PS

Secretary—Richard Frederickson, PS

President –Elect—Terrence Wright, PS/PE

Treasurer—Josh Mehilcic, PS,

Imm. Past Pres.—Curtis Deibel, PS

NSPS Director—Robert L. Akins, PS,