

# Cleveland Surveying News

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**March 2018  
Issue 18 Vol. 2**



**Newsletter Features**

**April Chapter Meeting**

**Tuesday, April 17, 2018**

Location: **T.B.A.**

This meeting is being worked on to provide an hour of CPD and a location will be announced. Keep an eye out in your email.

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March 19, 2018

I send greetings to those celebrating National Surveyors Week.

Across America, professional surveyors fulfill an important role in the growth of our economy, the development of our infrastructure, and the daily functions of life. As someone who spent a career working with many highly trained and dedicated surveyors in the construction industry, I have great respect for the crucial work they do each and every day.

This week, our Nation honors the contributions and accomplishments of professional surveyors throughout American history, and we thank these hardworking men and women for their vision and dedication to the future of American greatness.

Melania joins me in sending our best wishes for a memorable week.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Melania Trump".

# Cleveland Chapter

Professional Land Surveyors of Ohio

## PRESIDENTS LETTER

### Trends in 2018.

As we are now just midway in this month of March 2018, I'm seeing a new trend/ theme... February & March is the new May! What does that mean?

It means that even though snow and winter is still here in Northeast OHIO, clients are being aggressive in 2018 right away.

From all of my conversations with our members, other survey managers, and business owners – their workloads are robust and clients are requesting fast turnarounds.

Survey companies have told me their workloads are strong, slots are booking fast, and people are bidding the work for what they are worth.

Question: Is this all due to a strong economy, high stock market, low interest rates, a new White House, or overall perception of prosperity?

You all can debate this amongst yourselves. This leads me to my next topic...:

### Manpower:

As everyone's workloads increase, the need for manpower and new employees has grown.

Being a part-time instructor at the University of Akron, I get approached constantly from members and non-members looking for surveyor help.

And one of my goals within my classroom is to make sure all of my students get placed in the career field by end of the semester.

Well this year, in March – all but 2 students (from Wooster area) out of 18 are either signed up already for internships, or are working for family members whom are surveys.

### Our profession has a manpower problem, we know the following....

Average age of a Surveyor is 58 - Many surveyors are retiring – and colleges and universities have only limited amount of students enrolled for Surveying and Mapping.

So what as a profession are we to do? Well, the plan being implemented now is NOT working.

### My suggestions are as such..

1. Engage the public – talk to them while working and explain the profession. Sell the Sell of what we do.



**Steven Metcalf**  
President

PRESIDENTS LETTER

2. Look around – some answers are right in front of you.

Talk to the people at your church, your friends, acquaintances, other parents at soccer games, or a the outdoors store you frequent.

Take that person out with you on a job, let them shadow, run the prism pole, use a schonstedt, use your GPS with you, traipse thru the woods for property pins, buy them lunch.

Sometimes the exposure to surveying is all they need.

3. Talk to military recruiters – bring on a vet.

4. Take on a young Civil engineer or high school drafter as an intern. (aka allow them to grow from within your ranks).

Succession plan:

With the surveyors age being 58+..... What is your succession plan?

Hand over to another surveyor family member, sell to current employees, be bought out by a larger firm, sell your business outright to a young surveyor, or let your survey companies legacy just close shop or fade out/ disappear?

These are discussions I have heard in the past few years and many people are concerned about this.

Myself being 44 this year, I'm well under the average age. I am though, considered OLD to my students but YOUNG in the professions eyes and this is not a topic I have even thought about.

But, with not finding new people to take over the reigns, you will have less options when it's time to retire.

I feel the profession, (aka us as members), need to look beyond the project in front of us and plan for future months and years to come.

Look out to find that future surveyor, find that next generation that can handle the new tech., and will enjoy all of what we enjoy of the career.

If we keep only looking at our backsight, we can never move on to the next foresight!

So, take a sideshot and look for that new person to introduce into the profession.

Steve Metcalf, PS

2018 Chapter President

### **Spring Fever.**

With spring being here, all it takes is one 70 degree day for the phones to start ringing for those spring and summer projects. With that in mind, it's time to remind employees, and ourselves, of standards and safety, especially during these times of increased stress on productivity and timelines.

Take the time to reiterate safety with your crews and inspectors, emphasize the critical standards involved to insure you go home every night to your family. I fear the day that cones, safety lights and signs don't do their job as a texting driver is just simply focused on what is more important to them.

I'm not sure what the solution will be, nor do I see the focus being more on safety while texting and driving that than what the next iPhone will be. Take a look around you at the next stop light and tell me what you see. How many heads turning to glance at their phones, send a text, read a message? I know I do it. What will be distraction that takes away the effectiveness of your safety equipment? It is up to us to control what we can to maintain safety when working along roadways or in them. The other factors, I'm not sure if there is a good solution to them.

There have been several times when I have pulled off the road to tell surveyors to put on safety equipment. It was only a few weeks ago when I stopped to eat lunch in one of our local suburbs and watched a 2-man field crew work in and out of traffic on a major road, each with a GPS rover wearing nothing but old, dirty green t-shirts. There was no safety equipment in sight. It's hard to watch for traffic as we enter topo codes as fast as we can. It's a heavy decision to place timeliness and efficiency over safety. It's one I am faced with every day. Is it worth putting out the signs for just a couple of shots? Is it just unsafe for a one-man crew to operate the way I do? The advancement of instrument technology has increased productivity and at the same time eliminated the ability for a crew to watch each other's back.

All aspects of surveying grow with experience, the same goes for safety. With age comes the ability to recognize unsafe situations and environments. Construction sites have moving equipment, open trenches, etc. It is imperative that your crew chief initiate both new employees and experienced field crew with the standards in which you expect them to operate within, not only to protect them, but yourself as well. Do you trust your crew chief to convey this message? Or do you have a written safety manual for all to work within? Having these things in a written format may help what at first is an overwhelming task more manageable. A manual listing confined space restrictions and procedures for opening manholes, emergency procedures, and a list of local hospitals should all be in the van next to the first aid kit.

My message here is simple, spend the time to talk to your field crews, emphasize that safety is a concern for you and it must be for them as well. When going over a new job with crew members, discussing potential safety concerns can alleviate problems. I know, as a male dominated profession, the macho "we don't need a safety vest for this" is a common attitude that has a tendency to trickle down from the top. There is always work that needs to be done, do it proudly and safely.

Submitted by Scott Casey



(Submit your Members Moments to [veverka.ps7513@yahoo.com](mailto:veverka.ps7513@yahoo.com))





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Delegates Report  
March 9, 2018  
State Executive Committee Meeting

There was no meeting in December 2017 and the January meeting was canceled due to weather conditions across the state .

Tom Silva President Elect. Opened the meeting at about 6:00 PM.  
Tom noted that President Diebel recently had shoulder surgery and was recuperating

Executive Director Melinda Gilpin served as secretary for the meeting.  
She determined that there was a quorum present.



**George Hofmann**  
Delegate

The secretary's minutes for both September, 2017 and November, 2017 were accepted by motion.

Josh Mehelcic Treasurer gave a report on the treasurer report that was dated July. 2017 thru Feb. 2018. Josh noted that there was a discrepancy of 15.00 between the totals shown for income verses expense. Melinda Gilpin said she would look into this discrepancy. Report was accepted for financial review.

**New Business ,** 5.4 was added to the agenda , Ohio Standard Base line

5.2 New members; Bob Akins made a motion to accept 18 Professional Members ( 5 were reinstatement's), 3 Associate Members, 10 Affiliate Members, 11 Student Members, and 1 Sustaining member. Motion Passed.

2 of the Affiliate's are members of the Cleveland Chapter Matt Sarver and Benjamin Stafford)

Student Members from the Cleveland Area were.

Ethan Straub Univ. of Akron

Craig Zacharyasz Univ. of Akron

Ryan Hudson The Ohio State University

A motion was made to accept three members that were Requesting Retired Membership Status

Larry Conn (Wayne County), Don Pickenpugh (Belmont County) and Steven Hill (Ohio Valley Chapter)

5.3 William Edwards was appointed to the Scholarship Fund Board (term 2018-2023)

5.4 Ohio Standard Base Line. This base line was built in 1965-1966 by OSU and the Finnish Geodetic Institute. This baseline has not been used or maintained in years and have fallen into disrepair. There are four remaining monuments, three of which are within the an area of a proposed new roadway into OSU Mansfield Campus. The remaining monument will be restored and designated as a Historic Monument.

CEAO : Dean Ringle reported that the board has been meeting with candidates for Governor to inform them about the importance of maintaining our infrastructure and of the importance of licensure.

ODOT: Ray Foos reported that they are trying to get new observations on all the Bench Marks in their system. They are also reviewing their specifications for Mapping, and looking at getting improvement plans into their GIS system for those who need to access them.

State Board: Next meeting March 20, 2018. John Greenhalge will host Ethics seminar on April 13 from 2 to 4 PM in the conference room at the State office. The state excom. meeting will be held at 6:00 for those who would like to stay and see the proceedings.

PAC: \$200.00 was collected during the annual conference for this fund. Donations can be made at the state office at any time.

Delegates Report—Con't.  
March 9, 2018

Standards: Brad Kramer said that the seminar on standards at the annual conference was well attended and a lot of ideas were presented.

State line: Dean Ringle hopes to get working on all state lines this year. Contact him if your able to participate.

Survey Datum: Ray Foos reported that there is still discussion going on whether to switch to the Low Distortion Zones or to continue with the State wide Zones.

NSPS: Bob Akins reported on the winter meetings held in Las Vegas. (See attachment)  
A motion was made to raise the NSPS dues \$10.00.( from \$40 to \$50) . There was no vote and the motion was tabled till the fall seminar. Bob agreed to get a budget report out to the chapters.

Trig Star: Tests should be given in April.

Annual Conference was successful. 350 registrants- 15 spouses. Final financial were not yet available.

Education : Looking for committee chair, New programs at a number of colleges are being looked into.

Legislation: Charles Harkness agreed to chair this committee , he would like to get the right of entry bill back on track.

Finance: George Hofmann reported that he agreed with Josh on his findings in the Treasurer report. George also asked that Melinda provide a monthly breakdown. The 2018/2019 budget was ratified at the annual conference.

Fund Raising : the raffle at the annual conference raise just shy of \$3,000 for the scholarship fund.

Annual Conferences  
2019-2021 Hilton Easton , Columbus, contracts completed

Fall Seminar  
2018 Toledo  
2019 Mason  
2020 Cleveland Marriott Airport

Chapter Delegates gave written and verbal report .

The national student competition that the University of Akron competes in and have won on numerous occasions was renamed in honor of Mike and Ann Besch.

Respectfully submitted  
George A. Hofmann ,2018 Cleveland Chapter Delegate





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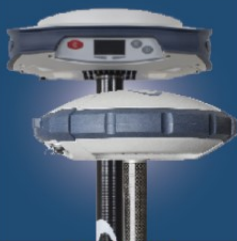
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**Thomas P. Gilles**, age 86, of Concord Twp., passed away Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at Mapleview Country Villa, Chardon.

Tom was born on June 8, 1931 in Cleveland, OH to the late Ralph and Mary Gilles. He was a longtime Lake County resident.

Tom was a U.S. Marine who served in the [Korean Conflict](#). He retired from Lake County Engineer after 31 years of service.

Tom was a member of the Marine Corp. League, Col Justice M. Chambers Detachment, Mentor, the Painesville Elks, and The Amputee Golf Association. He was instrumental in the building of the St Bede the Venerable Church, Mentor. He is survived by his beloved Nancy Crook, his daughter, Tracy Jacobs (Aaron DVM) Horch, granddaughters, Kelly & Brooke Jacobs. Special granddaughter, Stevie Crook.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Bonnie; son, Scott; and brothers, Laurence "Bud" and Richard Gilles.

Services will be held 11 a.m. Saturday, March 3, 2018 at Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor Ave., Mentor, OH 44060 where the family will receive friends 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, March 2, 2018.

Entombment will be in All Souls Cemetery, Chardon, OH .



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## Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – March 13, 2018 at 5:30 PM

Neff & Associates: 6405 York Road, Parma Heights, OH 44130

Meeting called to order at 5:56 p.m.

In attendance: Steve Metcalf, George Hofmann, Tim Feller, Dino Lustri, Michael Kral, Louise Veverka, Ken Hedjuk, Dave Bruckner and Tom Snezak.



**Mike Kral**

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

Minutes accepted as presented. Request to add Dave Bruckner's name as President-Elect on station-ary.

### **Treasury:**

Financial report was provided by Tim Feller. January expenses were bank fees, Santo's Restaurant for January PLSO meeting, salary for those scanning records stored at George Hofmann's office (records to be posted on PLSO Cleveland Chapter website) and interest earned. February expenses were bank fees, basket created by Margie Hofmann for the conference (Bill Vondra Jr. won this basket), Surveyor of the Year plaque, salary to compensate those scanning records to be posted on the web site and interest earned.

### **Chapter Delegate:**

State minutes were accepted. The financial report for July 2017 through February 2018 was discussed and corrections noted. George Hofmann requested the report be broken into monthly parts. The Ohio Standard Baseline that was established in 1965/1966 By OSU has four remaining monuments. The monuments have not been maintained over the years and construction will be removing three of these with the last one remaining to be restored and kept as a Historic Monument. Dean Ringle has been meeting with gubernatorial candidates to stress the importance of licensure in this business. The PAC committee raised \$200.00 at the annual conference for this fund. Brad Krammer is working on standards and has received many good ideas concerning this at the annual conference. Ray Foos reported discussions concerning the low density/low distortion zones are ongoing. Tri-Star testing will be held in April and The Cleveland Chapter is not prepared to be involved in this program this year. The annual conference drew in 350 registrants this year. Legislation about the right of entry bill needs to be kept active, Charles Harkness is chairing this committee. The National Student Competition has been re-named in honor of Mike and Ann Besch.

### **Committees:**

#### **Membership Committee:**

New Members are: Affiliate Members; Matt Sarver and Benjamin Stafford. Student Members; Ethan Straub University of Akron, Craig Zacharysz University of Akron and Ryan Hudson The Ohio State University.

#### **Newsletter Committee:**

Louise requested that any submissions to be published in the newsletter NOT be in the form of a PDF.

#### **Website Committee:**

There is still money remaining in the budget for the web site.

Submitted  
Mike Kral



**July 13, 2018**  
**45th William Haas**  
**Memorial Golf Outing**  
**at Springvale Golf**  
**Course**



AS WE STRUGGLE THROUGH THE WINTER MONTHS WE OFFER THIS FLASHBACK TO LAST JUNE AND THE PLSO GOLF OUTING.

THE 2017 OUTING WAS A GREAT SUCCESS AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO AN EVEN BETTER EVENT THIS JULY!

WE'VE LOCKED DOWN JULY, FRIDAY THE 13<sup>RD</sup> FOR THE OUTING RIGHT BACK AT SPRINGVALE GOLF COURSE. AGAIN THE TEE TIME WILL BE AT 8:00 AM WITH THE "PUTTING FOR THE P.A.C." EVENT TO FOLLOW.

THE 11<sup>TH</sup> HOLE PAR FIVE PICTURED ABOVE REMAINS "THE INTIMIDATOR" TO ALL!

PLEASE SET ASIDE THAT DAY FOR A BRAKE FROM YOUR LABORS. COME OUT AND ENJOY A DAY OF FRIENDLY COMPITION, A CHANCE TO WIN SOME GREAT PRIZES, GREAT FOOD AND THE PUTTING FOR THE PAC EVENT TO SUPPORT OUR LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING ALL OF YOU THIS SUMMER AND HOPE YOU'RE HAVING A SAFE AND PRODUCTIVE WINTER AND SPRING.

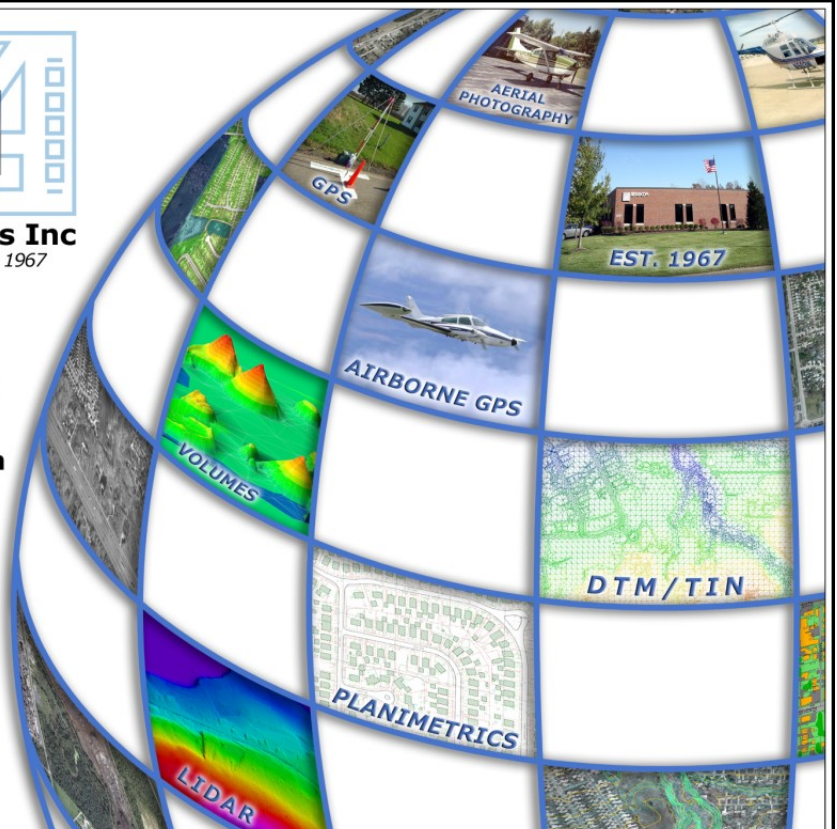
Tom Snezek, Committee Chair



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# Cleveland Chapter

Professional Land Surveyors of Ohio



WELCOME TO THE 45<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
WILLIAM J. HAAS MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING

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**Friday July 13, 2018**

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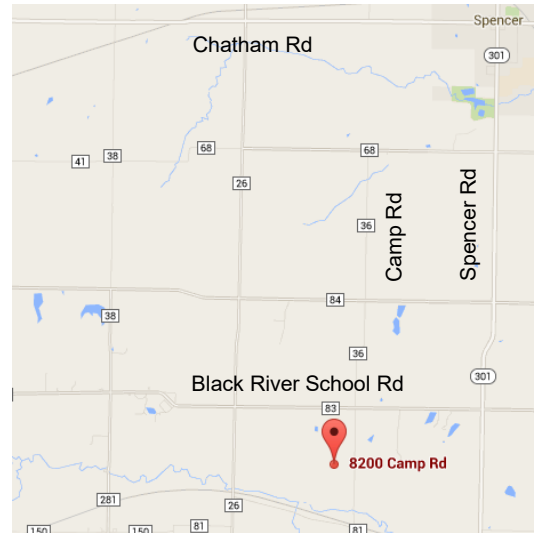
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# Cleveland Chapter

Professional Land Surveyors of Ohio



## **HOLE SPONSORSHIP FORM**

### **WELCOME TO THE 45<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WILLIAM J. HASS MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING**

**(18 hole four-man scramble format)  
(Tee off scheduled for 8:00 AM)**

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**Delegate**

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**Past President**

Louise Veverka  
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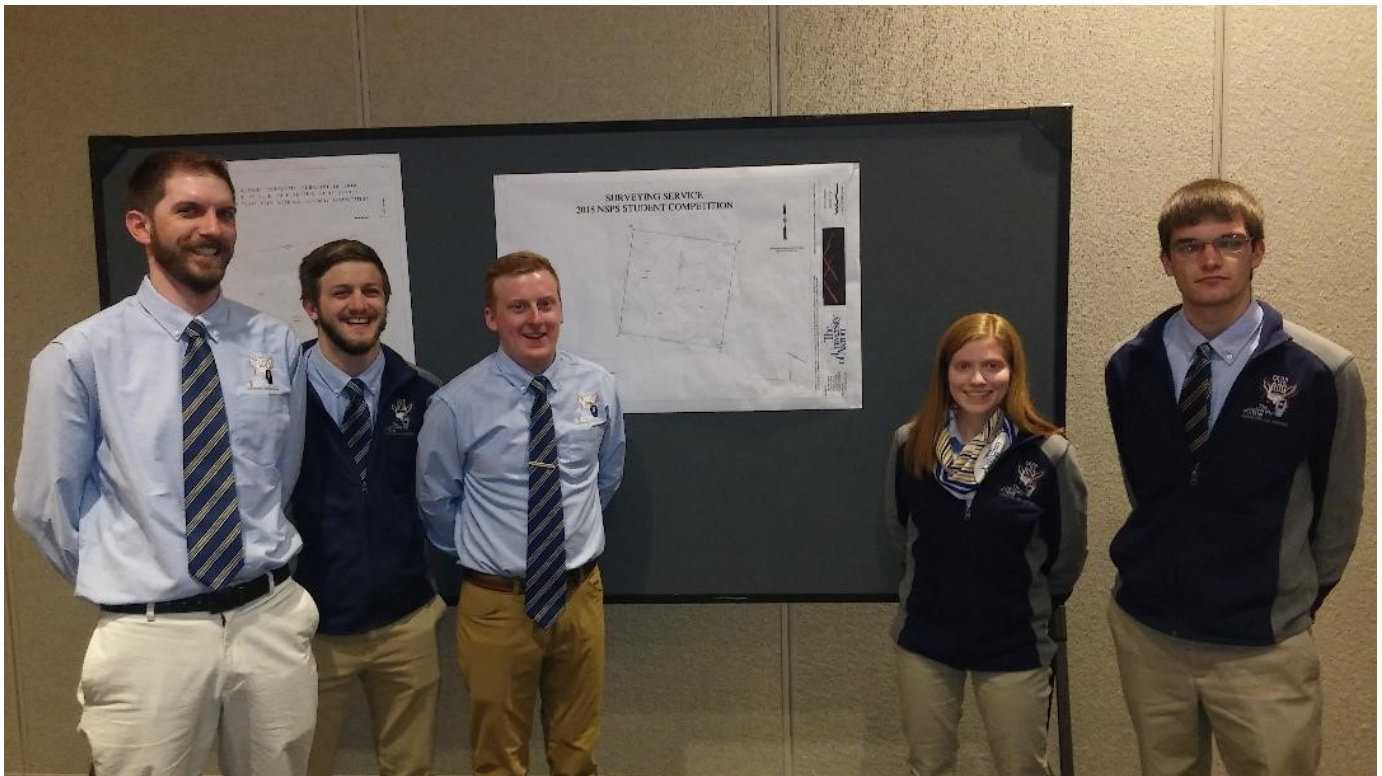
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# Akron University Happenings

Five University of Akron students competed in the NSPS Surveying Student Competition held in Las Vegas. It was designed as a “Service Learning” project as you might encounter in traveling to a third world location to help install a water system or build a bridge. The event took place from Feb. 17-21 at a field site 12 miles southwest of town on public lands and at the Luxor Hotel. The students established the boundary of a 1-acre square and performed a topographic survey of the desert site. Some big challenges came from the 40 mph winds that tried to keep the surveyors and their equipment off balance, plus the fact that only a hand compass, tapes, and a level could be used for the survey. That also meant old-fashioned field notes were recorded. At the hotel, students computed all of their field data and prepared a detailed topographic map with contours. On the third day they formally presented their results to the audience of NSPS judges, students from the 12 schools represented, faculty, and NSPS members. Although we did not win the competition this year, it was a great learning experience. As a bonus surprise, the 1<sup>st</sup> place trophy was officially named and engraved as the “Mike and Ann Besch Award.” Thank you to PLSO chapters and members who provided support for the competition.



James Gally, Chase Sommers, Jake Stayer, Aubrey Tobin, and Jacob LaRue with their finished map on display.







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## 2018 Engineering Excellence Award To KS Associates

KS Associates is an Elyria-based engineering firm that works hard to improve our region's economy through the design of critical transportation infrastructure. KS received an Honor Award in the 2018 Engineering Excellence Awards competition sponsored by the American Council of Engineering Companies of Ohio (ACEC Ohio). KS Associates' entry, the LOR-57-19.42 Corridor Improvement, a major \$22 million roadway reconfiguration, was recognized for its complexity, innovation, and benefit to the traveling public. KS Associates was the lead engineering consultant for the project, under contract with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) District 3.

### **Website Update**

Kevin Grigsby is assembling a proposal for all that will need to take place. Due to programming changes, our hosting service will not allow for the new programming. He is looking into Azure for the hosting.

I will keep everyone posted. The only way to upload now is one by one. I can mass upload the scans, however the database is one by one.

Dino Lustri

The national NSPS  
competition has been  
renamed in honor of Mike  
and Ann Besch



## **PUBLISHER'S POINTS**

1. Data base scanning continues, approximately 1250 maps and records from Zwick and Krause have been scanned into computer files. The indexing continues with approximately 850 of those scans having been indexed. Volunteers are still being requested in either of these endeavors, just contact any board member.
2. 2018 begins a new CPD cycle and licensed professionals will be required to obtain 2 hours of ethics instructions.
3. Members are encouraged to submit "Members Moments" to YOUR newsletter, send articles in a WORD format to [veverla.ps7513@yahoo.com](mailto:veverla.ps7513@yahoo.com).
4. Look for future announcements for the April Chapter meeting, board members are working on a place to hold an hour of CPD's at a local place.
5. I would like to thank all our advertisers for their continued support in our newsletter making our chapter able to award the scholarships that keep the surveying business obtainable for students. Please support these companies whenever possible.
6. Welcome to the new members of the chapter; Affiliate members: Matt Sarver and Benjamin Stafford along with student members Ethan Straub and Craig Zacharyasz. I hope they can attend our April meeting and all members get a chance to welcome them personally.
7. Did you know we have a Facebook page? Search Cleveland Chapter PLSO and I will add you as a member.
8. Donations to P.A.C. (Political Action Committee) can be made anytime by sending your PERSONAL check to the state board.
9. Did you know March 18—24, 2018 was National Surveyors Week? I think we need to embrace this a little more next year and make our presents felt. Let's come up with some ideas between now and then to celebrate our profession.



**A big Thank You to Margie and George Hofmann for shopping, preparing and presenting the Cleveland Chapter gift basket at the annual conference, I hear Bill Vondra, Jr. was the lucky recipient.**

Get all the news from NSPS by clicking this link:

<http://www.nsps.us.com/>

## Cleveland Chapter & State 2018 Schedule

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

Friday, January 13 - State PLSO Executive Meeting

**Thursday - January 25, 2018 – Cleveland Chapter Annual General Meeting and installation of officers**

**February 21-24, 2018 PLSO State conference in Sharonville, Ohio**

Friday, March 9 – State PLSO Executive Meeting

**Tuesday, March 13 – 6 p.m. Cleveland Chapter Executive Meeting (newsletter deadline 3/20)**

Friday, April 14 – State PLSO Executive Meeting

**April 14, Prior to the state board meeting STATE CPD Workshop**

**Tuesday, April 17 – 6 p.m. Cleveland Chapter Executive Meeting (newsletter deadline 4/24)**

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

Friday, May 11 – State PLSO Executive Meeting

**Tuesday, May 15 – 6 p.m. Cleveland Chapter Executive Meeting (newsletter deadline 5/22)**

**May STATE CPD Workshop (date and location TBA)**

Friday, July 13 – State PLSO Executive Meeting

**July 13, 45th Annual William Haas Memorial Golf Outing at Springvale Golf Course**

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

Friday, September 14 – State PLSO Executive Meeting

**Tuesday, Sept. 11 – 6 p.m. Cleveland Chapter Executive Meeting (newsletter deadline 9/18)**

**October 11 & 12 - PLSO State Fall Seminar Perrysburg, Ohio**

**Tuesday, Oct. 16 – 6 p.m. Cleveland Chapter Executive Meeting (newsletter deadline 10/23)**

Friday, November 9 – State PLSO Executive Meeting

**Tuesday, Nov. 13 – 6 p.m. Cleveland Chapter Executive Meeting (newsletter deadline 11/20)**

**Tuesday, Dec. 12 (if needed) – 6 p.m. Cleveland Chapter Executive Meeting (newsletter deadline 12/15/17)**

**3rd Thursday in January 2019 – Cleveland Chapter General Meeting & Installation of officers**

### **2018 State PLSO Officers**

President—Charles R. Harkness, PS, Muskingum Chapter

Secretary—Brian Bingham, PS, Central Ohio Chapter

President –Elect—Curt Deibel, PS, Tuscarawas Valley Chapter

Treasurer—Josh Mehilcic, PS, Miami Valley Chapter

Imm. Past Pres.—Kenneth Taylor, PS, Toledo Chapter

NSPS Director—Robert L. Akins, PS, Tuscarawas Valley Chapter