

Cleveland Surveying News

November 2012



- 2012 Chapter Elections
- November Seminar
- AIA Ohio Convention Report

Cleveland Chapter

Professional Land Surveyors of Ohio

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Seminar Meeting, 1.0 PDH

Thursday November 1

Speaker: Raymond Foos, P.S.
Firelands Chapter of PLSO

Topic: Calibration Baseline construction in New London, Ohio

Location: Cuyahoga County Engineer's
Test lab Facilities,
2433 Superior Viaduct, Cleveland
Free parking ([Map](#))

Cost: \$15 PLSO Members, \$35 non-members

Schedule

6:00 Socializing, Pizza, Sign-in
6:30 Speaker
7:30 Adjourn

Come find out how this new baseline was constructed and what we can learn if the Cleveland Chapter wants to construct a baseline in the future. Bring your Halloween candy to share!

* Pizza and non-alcoholic refreshments will be provided *

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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

Thursday October 11, 2012

Note: This was a shorten meeting held at the Fall Seminar in Perrysburg, Ohio.

Summary comments:

- Meeting called to order at 6:01 PM and a Quorum was established.
- Minutes from the September meeting were tabled until the next meeting.
- Treasurer's report was accepted subject to audit.
- **Unfinished Business:** Motion passed to use electronic balloting if there is a contested vote for new officers. ***To date there aren't even enough candidates to fill the needed slots.***
- **New Business:** Motions passed to accept new members- 6 students, 6 professional, 1 sustaining, (none from the Cleveland Chapter).

Committees:

- P.A.C. \$2,610.55 balance
- After much discussion and a short report from Mike and Ann Besch on their involvement with the National Museum in Springfield and their participation at the Fort Stuben Historical Site, a motion was raised to offer a one-time \$1,000 donation to the museum with future comments dependent on the museum's business plan and ability to remain solvent. (13 ayes, 3 nays) motion passed.
- The new O.S.N. due out the week of October 15th.
- Director Gilpin and N.S.P.S. Governor Akins are working on an M.O.U. to support the N.S.P.S.
- The new Trig*Star year has begun.
- All annual and fall conference/seminars are on schedule and venues have been booked.
- Finance- The proposed 2012/2013 budget was submitted. Each chapter delegate was asked to have their chapter review same and come ready to vote at the next meeting.

Adjourned: 8:00 PM

Thomas M. Snezek, P.S.



Thomas Snezek
Delegate

2012 Chapter Elections

It's autumn again, which is election time. Here is our officers and who is slated to run for each:

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

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. Be a *leader* of the future of our chapter!

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President's Message

We still need a President-Elect for *this* year, and for 2013 for our four elected positions, Tim Feller is running for Treasurer again, Tom Snezek is running for Delegate again, with President-Elect and Secretary open. You can run for any of those 4 offices that you wish. Interested? Please contact me.

Continuing Education is certainly in the minds of surveyors and engineers these days since around 2006. Should it always be about new things? Sometimes is needs to be on a subject or tool you use all the time.

I recently received a day of training on the popular software Civil 3D. To my surprise it was led by our Past President Dino Lustrì. This training was on a very focused element of the program, and was very eye opening. For those of you who think it's just the newest version of the same old software that was Land Development Desktop, and before that Softdesk DCA, it's not. I came out of that session excited to know how it works and how best to use it on projects.

Companies I've previously worked for were light on training on the technology they used in and out of the office, relying on everyday experience to figure things out and knowledge you brought in when hired. One of my most memorable observations was the owner of the company and a cad technician, without Civil 3D experience, trying to figure out how to flip the label orientation of alignment text. And I've also heard that our conference exhibitors, that offer CAD software training, are hesitant to donate a software training package for our benefit/auction at the annual conference because it doesn't get bid on well which illustrates the sentiment that surveyors have towards training.

I've had sessions that were a "What's New" as well as a general "Surveying and Mapping" for CAD software and both have provided very little useful information.

(Cont'd on Page 9)



Robert Hoy
President



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President's Message (from [Page 7](#))

Why? Because it wasn't focused on specific tasks, tools, and elements of the software. This is why at the 2011 PLSO Conference in Cleveland we had a 90 minute session that focused on surface modeling, contouring. I ran the Program Committee for that conference, choosing that topic because I had worked with individuals in the past that came into survey mapping with only AutoCAD education and did not understand what surface modeling was actually doing. The element that concerned me the most about that was letting the software calculate the surface model with one "click" and calling it done without modifying its calculations or even understanding where or why to make corrections.

My call to you is to get training focused on the tasks you do often so that you can really understand what the software of both office and field computers are doing. Dino would not be flying all around the country every week if Surveyors were not requesting to better understand what their software is doing for them.

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

Random Lines

by John Dailey, P.S.

Vanishing Act!

I was thinking about some things that were once very important to us that are now doing a disappearing act.

In the normal daily life, some of the things going away are home phones (the kind that need wires attached to the wall so you can find them), business cards, analog clocks, watches, phone books, and printed encyclopedias. Going quickly are incandescent light bulbs, film for cameras, Rolodex files and road maps. U.S. Mail and postage stamps are being threatened. Cursive writing is no longer being taught in many schools. (This could be a problem in the Surveying profession if no one can read any of the old hand written deeds or field notes.) Going away also is the art of conversation. It is easier to text than talk. Cash is becoming an object of curiosity. More and more transactions are now being done electronically. Today, about 25% of the World's circulating cash is used for illegal activities.

In the not too distant future, your Google controlled automobile will pull into an energy station, automatically plug in and recharge its batteries or refill its Hydrogen tank, all while you sit there reading the morning "newspaper" on your I-Pad. When it is done recharging, you will say "take me to lunch" and the auto will automatically take you to the nearest McDonald's.

Some futurists are saying that this is what we will face in the next 50 years. I think that a lot of this is here now. Google already has several thousand test miles on a GPS/computer driven automobile that has worked remarkably well. This comes as no surprise. In the 1950's, there were predictions that all highways would "soon" have imbedded control wires so that the automobile of the "future" could follow along and allow the passenger (no driver) to relax while the automated car did the work. You, the passenger, could nap, play a game, have lunch or read a book.

In our surveying lives, what has disappeared? How about the field book, the transit, the theodolite, the steel tape, the tension puller and the plumb bob. A drafting table? What is that? Oh yeah, I remember: it is something to stack things on. Trig tables and hand calculators that were the "cat's meow" just a few short years ago can now be found in museums and antique book stores. Book store? What is that? When is the last time you saw a set of railroad curves? Or a lettering guide? When is the last time you used a machete to clear a line?

My father, in the 1950's, said "there has been more technological advancement in the past fifty years than there has been since the beginning of time." In the past 60 years, that statement has been eclipsed by what has happened in our World. Technolo- (Cont'd on Page 12)



John Dailey, P.S.



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Report from inside the American Institute of Architects of Ohio State Convention held in Cleveland, September 2012

Cleveland PLSO sponsored Peter D. Zwick to facilitate the roundtable discussion "How Surveyors (and Civil Engineers) can make an Architect's Life Easier."

The conventioners received color copies of the cover of the September CSN newsletter (hot off the presses) which bears the cleveland.plso.com link at the lower right, along with the www.plso.com "Find a Surveyor" informational brochures.



Peter D. Zwick, PS, PE

I had planned to lead the discussion of topics such as:

- Why you need a Surveyor even though you have Google Earth
- What is a Flood Zone, and why you should involve your Surveyor early
- Helpful tips for more effective G601 requests for proposals
- What's new in storm water management and associated user fees

However, the attendees at this roundtable were already well versed in these topics. Half of the attendees were P.E.'s from AE or CM firms! All declared that they never shop around for a low price, and that they prefer to work with a trusted surveyor who is familiar with the property and has a reputation for high quality service.

So, instead of preaching to the choir, I adjusted the discourse to a rather lively discussion of topics of their own suggestion. The participants voiced diverse questions and comments such as:

"What exactly is an ALTA Survey?"

"My AE firm insists on performing all surveying in-house to save big money in the site engineering phase"

"Why can't you surveyors write your legal descriptions in more understandable language?"

"Do you want to hear all the gory details about how my client's Home Depot building encroached 4 feet onto Target's property next door?"

Nonetheless, the AIA participants departed with a richer appreciation for Surveyors and for Site Engineers, and how to better leverage the contributions of these professionals to the success of the next project.

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

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

Executive Committee Meeting Highlights

October 22, 2012



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, and Jack Hoy.

Treasury: To help accounting, it was proposed to change our fiscal year to match that of the State Chapter.
The donation to Trig*Star for 2012-2013 is due to be paid.

Chapter Delegate:

The proposed PLSO Budget for fiscal year 2013 was presented. The State Executive Committee asked for each chapter to review it and report comments at the next meeting.

Standing Committees

Elections:

Still looking for officers to fill vacant positions

Special Committees:

Peter Zwick spoke at the AIA Conference.

Old Business:

The December 1, 2012 non-member seminar will be held at the Holiday Inn in Strongsville.

New Business:

PLSO member of the Year and Surveyor of the Past nominations were discussed.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Ackerman

Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting will be held at Creekside Restaurant, 8803 Brecksville Road, in Brecksville.
creeksiderestaurant.com

When? January 24, 2013. Mark your calendar today. More details will come out in mid December.

We will be recognizing our Surveyor of the Year as well as our incoming and outgoing officers.

2014 Annual Conference

Ken Hejduk is heading up planning for the PLSO Annual Conference when it returns to Cleveland in 2014.

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

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.

Nov 1 Seminar Meeting

Nov 9 PLSO Executive Meeting

Nov 12 Chapter Executive Meeting

Dec 14 PLSO Executive Meeting (if needed)

Dec 17 Chapter Executive Meeting (if needed)

Dec 19 Cleveland Surveying News deadline

Jan 14 Chapter Executive Meeting

Jan 15 Cleveland Surveying News deadline

Jan 24 Annual Meeting

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Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2012

Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works Test Lab,
2433 Superior Viaduct, Cleveland

Meeting called to order at 6:17 pm.

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

Secretary's minutes: Executive Committee meeting minutes from May 14, 2012 accepted as amended. Motion Snezek, 2nd Feller.

Treasury: Tim Feller submitted the August reports. Acceptance of reports is subject to review.

A \$50 donation to American Cancer Society in memory of William Dempsey

Chapter Delegate: Tom Snezek provided the states delegate report.

Standing Committees

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

– Communication:

Newsletter Committee: Robert Hoy announced the newsletter deadline will be Friday September 21, 2012.

Website Committee: Updates to the scholarship page will be sent to Dino

– Program:

Ferris Steak House to be the site for the October 4th social meeting. Dinners will be on an individual basis.

The site for the Annual meeting is to be Creekside in Brecksville. The intent is to maintain a \$25 dinner fee. The chapter will cover any overage.

November 1st seminar meeting to be at Cuyahoga County Engineer's Test Lab. Speaker to be Ray Foos on the "baseline".

– **Education:** No report.

– **Finance:** Inactive

Special Committees:

Ken Hejduk is the 2014 Conference Chairman. Looking to fill program committee chair position.

Old Business:

December 1st non-member seminar meeting location appears as though the Strongsville Holiday Inn is the front runner. A not to exceed \$1500 cost was approved for Hotel, mailing and a night stay for Melinda Gilpin. Feller-motion, Snezek-2nd.

New Business:

NEED officers to fill vacant positions.

MOVE October Executive Committee meeting to the 22nd

Tim to verify Trigstar annual payment is paid

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.



Respectfully submitted

Timothy J. Feller