

ARVADA



CENTER



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AT THE ARVADA CENTER FOR
THE ARTS & HUMANITIES
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ARVADA, COLORADO 80003
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Professional Land Surveyors of Colorado, Inc.
In conjunction with the Northern,
Central and Southern Chapters of PLSC

7th Annual Rocky Mountain Surveyors Summit

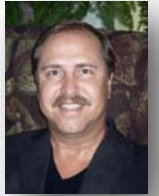
Speaker Biographies and Abstracts

Professional Track

WEDNESDAY MASS SESSION PRESENTER: TBD

Speaker Biography:

John B. Stahl, PLS, is a registered professional land surveyor in the states of Utah and Montana, currently owning and operating Cornerstone Professional Land Surveys, Inc., and Cornerstone Land Consulting, Inc., in Salt Lake City. Mr. Stahl specializes in surveying land boundaries, resolving boundary conflicts, performing title and historical research, land boundary consultation services, mediation and dispute resolution. He has been qualified as an expert witness in numerous boundary, access, and negligence cases. He has furthered his mediation education by participating in a state-qualified training program. He has also completed a training program to earn the recognition as a Certified Federal Surveyor. Mr. Stahl has served his profession as state chairman of the Utah Council of Land Surveyors and a Utah delegate to the Western Federation of Professional Surveyors. He is an adjunct instructor for the Salt Lake Community College and the Utah Valley University, where he teaches an extensive course in land boundary law. Mr. Stahl has authored numerous articles and publications covering topics on boundary laws, research, and resolving conflicts of evidence.



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TOPIC TITLE: *RACE TO THE COURTHOUSE—THE IDIOTS GUIDE TO WHY THERE IS SUCH A THING AS TITLE INSURANCE, AND WHY SURVEYORS WANT TO KNOW*

Speaker Biography:

Don Whitmore has more than thirty-five years' experience in title insurance. He has been a Chief Title Officer serving the Colorado Springs market since 1987, with responsibilities including high liability underwriting, commercial transaction consulting, escrow/underwriting coordination and title plant operations. He has been a key member of the Commercial Services Team at Land Title Guarantee in Colorado Springs for the past six years.

Mr. Whitmore has developed and implemented training programs in title insurance examination for in-house use by a major underwriter. He regularly participates in training programs for clients and customers.



Abstract:

This presentation will review:

1. What constitutes Ownership of Land in the USA
2. Colorado statutes controlling how title to land is recognized
3. How the public records work and why
4. Discuss real estate transactions and the necessity of Surveys and Title work
5. Provide insight to the Terms of the Title Insurance Policy and types of Policies
6. Dissect a commitment for a Title Insurance policy
7. Review survey related endorsements and issues.

TOPIC TITLE: *SURVEYING IN DENVER: REQUIREMENTS, RESOURCES, AND REVIEWS*

Speaker Biographies:

Jeff Jones, PE/PLS, is the City Surveyor for the City & County of Denver. Jeff's surveying career began in 1979 working for a surveying firm in Denver, while attending the University of Colorado at Boulder. Jeff obtained a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering and was a Teaching Assistant for the Surveying courses at the University of Colorado at Boulder. He was a volunteer in the US Peace Corps in the late 80's in Nepal. As a District Technical Engineer in Eastern Nepal, he worked on various civil engineering projects and drank a lot of tea. Jeff has been employed by Denver since 1990 with various responsibilities including a decade of civil engineering/project management and a decade and a half of surveying. One of Jeff's passions includes working with Engineers Without Borders at the University of Colorado Student Chapter and their work in Jeff's former Peace Corps village.



Warren L. Ruby, PLS, is a Land Surveyor Supervisor for the City and County of Denver. Licensed in 1987, Warren has 40 years of land surveying experience spanning the State of Colorado. Warren worked in the private sector as the head of surveying for CLC Associates in the metro area and as a project surveyor for Foley Associates in Telluride before coming to the City of Denver in 2007. Since being at the City Warren has researched and attempted to answer the question "What authority does the City have to regulate surveying in Denver?" In this presentation he will present some of the results of that research.



Ralph Pettit, PLS, is a Land Surveyor Supervisor for the City and County of Denver. Ralph has 30+ years of experience in the surveying profession. The first 25 years were in the private sector focused primarily on residential and commercial development. Through working in four states, holding current licenses in Colorado and North Carolina, and employing as many as 33 people, he has acquired a wide array of knowledge, skills, and experience. During Ralph's five years in the public sector working for the City and County of Denver, he has drawn on that private sector experience to help streamline the review process by developing and implementing policies and procedures that aid the City reviewers and developers alike. Ralph takes great pride in our surveying profession and works relentlessly to help ensure the products we produce are of the highest quality and professional care to the benefit and betterment of our customers, ourselves, and our profession.



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Abstract:

The City of Denver employs a very robust Survey Department made up of 26 people, 12 of whom are licensed professional surveyors. The Department is involved in design surveys, boundary and ROW work, monument preservation and restoration, GIS implementation, and addressing. Our biggest interface with the professional survey community is in the review of surveys submitted as a part of the Site Development Plan process. In this presentation we will discuss the origin and duties of the City Surveyor in the City Charter, the requirement in Municipal Code that additions to the City conform to the City grid, that they be surveyed by the City Engineer (Surveyor) and monumented by a rangeline system, and that all related records be maintained by the City Engineer. We will discuss how these duties and requirements impact our review of survey submittals to the City and County of Denver.

TOPIC TITLE: *SYMPOSIUM ON CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENT— PANEL DISCUSSION*

Abstract:

This year the survey symposium is going to address continuing education. If you believe that the skills and knowledge we used 20 years ago do not need to be updated, then you really need continuing education. The days of NAVD 29 are over, we change projections constantly now, we use satellites and gain more information from that source daily. If you balance a traverse with Crandall's they will hand you a walker.

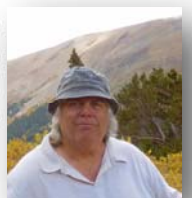
If you were to poll all of the lower 48 states west of a line from North Dakota to Texas you would find that only Arizona, Colorado and California do not have continuing education, and Arizona is looking into it. All of these states with the exception of Texas follow the same formula and as such we do not have to have a unique set of classes for each state.

This is not to say that they are all the same. Each state puts their individual touch on the rules, customizing them to their needs and requirements. This is your opportunity to have your voices heard.

TOPIC TITLE: *WHAT TO KNOW AND HOW TO PREPARE FOR A MINERAL SURVEY RETRACEMENT*

Speaker Biography:

Gene Kooper resides in Lakewood with his wife Clara. He is self-employed as a land surveyor and geologist. Gene has been licensed as a Professional Land Surveyor in the state of Colorado since 1985. He specializes in mineral survey retracements, underground mine surveying, conventional and GPS control surveys, and satellite image processing for mineral and oil and gas exploration clients. Gene received a B.S. degree in Geological Engineering and a Professional degree in Hydrogeology from the Colorado School of Mines.



Abstract:

For those that have attended one of Mr. Kooper previous seminars on mineral surveys these two sessions are new in both content and approach. The morning session is a nuts and bolts workshop on what to do before beginning the field survey. The afternoon session covers several important Land Office decisions and case histories that illustrate the problems often encountered during the field work.

This session will cover the topics of research and preparation for conducting mineral survey retracements. The session will begin with a short question and answer session on the different types of mining claims, mining laws and regulations. A downloadable primer on mineral surveys will be provide to attendees before the course as a refresher. Attendees are also encouraged to read the BLM guide, "Mineral Survey Procedures Guide", by John V. Meldrum, 1980. A downloadable copy is available from this BLM web page. <http://www.blm.gov/cadastral/minprocedures/mineralguide.htm>

Currently, the BLM has color scans of the Colorado mineral survey plats and connected sheets available on the GLO Records web site along with b/w scans of many of the patents. There are a handful of connected sheets and approx. 3700 mineral survey plats that remain to be hosted on the site. Digital scans of these plats and 700 volumes of the 786 volumes of mineral survey field notes are available on a 1 TB hard drive that can be purchased at the Colorado BLM state office's Public Room.

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Techniques on how to find these records will be covered along with how to prepare CAD drawings and create preliminary search coordinates prior to the field work.

The next topic will cover a General Land Office administrative policy that affected nearly 4000 surveys of the mineral lands in Colorado. Several techniques will be discussed on how to identify the practice where original monuments of prior official surveys were ignored in favor of the positions described in the patent. These theoretical positions can create confusion and mistakes if relied upon to reestablish lost corners.

The morning session will end with a discussion of the Act of April 28, 1904, which declared that the original, undisturbed monuments set by the U.S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor shall be regarded as the supreme evidence of what land has been patented.

TOPIC TITLE: MINERAL SURVEY RETRACEMENTS/DEPENDENT RESURVEYS—CASE HISTORIES AND BEST PRACTICES

Speaker Biography:

Gene Kooper see previous page.

Abstract:

The afternoon session will include several cases histories that show some of the situations that can be encountered when retracing mineral surveys. Attendees should be familiar with Chapter X of the 2009 Manual, esp. the sections related to resurveys of mineral surveys. Download links will be provided prior to the seminar that contain the field notes, plats, patents, drawing files and other materials for several case histories. At the beginning of the session, attendees will be asked to select which case histories to discuss. In addition to the case histories, there are three Dept. of Interior Land Decisions that will be covered in detail.

The case histories will cover topics such as when it is appropriate to bend senior lines through junior corners as allowed in the 2009 Manual, how to document and monument lost corners in unstable terrain, easements related to mineral lands in Colorado, how to use mining improvements to reestablish lost corners and the importance of original accessories.

Participation is encouraged throughout the presentation. The goal is to highlight what a PLS should consider as appropriate and/or best practice by sharing the situations encountered and methods employed to deal with the unique aspects of mineral survey retracements/dependent resurveys.

TOPIC TITLE: DORA PRESENTATION

Speaker Biographies:

Joyce J. Young has been with the Division of Professions and Occupations for 10 years. Before her promotion as Program Director for the Architects, Professional Engineers, and Professional Land Surveyors (AES), the Landscape Architects (LA) Board and the Colorado Passenger Tramway Safety Board, Joyce was the Enforcement Unit Supervisor for the state's Plumbing and Electrical Boards for five years. During that time she assisted each Board in their review of complaints and the applicable statutory authority for compliance and discipline. She also prepared policy and rule language based on Board directives for revisions. The prior five years were spent doing much of the same work under the direction of the previous AES Program Director, Angie Kinnaird-Linn, with the AES Board and the LA Board.



Earl F. Henderson, PLS, started his survey career with a brief term of employment in Maryland before gratefully spending nine more years in the colloquial system of surveying in the shadow of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Central Virginia. In 1999 he moved to Boulder and the PLSS. He became licensed to survey in the State of Colorado in 2000. After five years of employment in an engineering/surveying firm in Boulder he started his own business, Zenith Land Surveying, in 2004. He remains happily a "solo surveyor". He has been a staff writer for Professional Surveyor Magazine since 2004 writing fictional stories under the byline "The Humor in Surveying" and "Gigglebytes" while recently venturing into non-fiction. He has also been a contributing writer to Side Shots with his recent contributions there about the Colorado State Statutes and Board Rules. Earl was appointed by Gov. Hickenlooper to the AES Board at DORA in 2011 and is currently serving as Board Chair.



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Abstract:

Mr. Henderson and Ms. Young from the Colorado Board of Licensure for Architects, Professional Engineers, and Professional Land Surveyors (Board) will be presenting information about the Board and the Board's upcoming activities. They will also discuss some of the common issues that the Board sees when reviewing land surveying cases that can get you in trouble - and how to stay out of it!

TOPIC TITLE: *SUBDIVISIONS IN COLORADO*

Speaker Biographies:

Dave Pehr, PLS, began surveying in 1965 and was licensed as a Land Surveyor in 1972. He received a BA from The University of Colorado, evening division, in 1970 and graduated from the evening division of the University of Denver Law School in 1976. Dave has practiced law in Westminster since 1976, emphasizing real estate and boundary litigation, as well as representing land surveyors in disciplinary proceedings and civil negligence suits. Dave taught Legal aspects of Land Surveying at Red Rocks Community College and at Metropolitan State College for ten years and has presented many seminars for PLSC and its chapters over the years. He is currently retired and farming near Fort Lupton, Colorado.



Paul Bacus, PLS, is a Colorado native. Born in Denver but moved to Trinidad where he graduated from High School in 1975. He served in the U. S. Army from 1975 till 1978. Posted to Fürth West Germany Paul worked as a Field Artillery Surveyor and enjoyed the work so much he decided to stay in that field after his honorable discharge. While in Germany he met and married his wife Alison who is from East Kilbride Scotland. Returning to the US he worked for Drexel Barrell while attending the University of Colorado where he studied Geography and Cartography. Offered a job in Green River Wyoming he moved there in 1985 working for William H Smith & Associates for over 3 years. Returning to Colorado in 1989 he continued surveying achieving his license in 2001 at which time he started his own company, Bacus Land Surveying of Lafayette, Colorado. In 2002 while preparing for testimony in court he realized that there were no current publications concerning boundary law in Colorado. He began to produce a document compiling the regulations governing surveying in Colorado. Every year he would compile a booklet for his personal use until in 2010 he offered to produce the book for the Northern Chapter of PLSC. Since 2010 "Colorado Land Surveying Laws" has become a yearly publication.



Abstract:

Surveyors do not subdivide land. But the role that the surveyor plays is so essential it seems that we do. This class is concerned with the process of subdividing land and the relationship the surveyor has with the creation of boundary. From the 35 acre rule to see exhibit A what is the responsibility of the surveyor. This not only gives insight into what we do but it will also help with the interpretation of records.