

May 2022

SIDE SHOTS

Professional Land Surveyors of Colorado

Volume 53, Issue 1



**Women in
Surveying**
SEE PAGE 12

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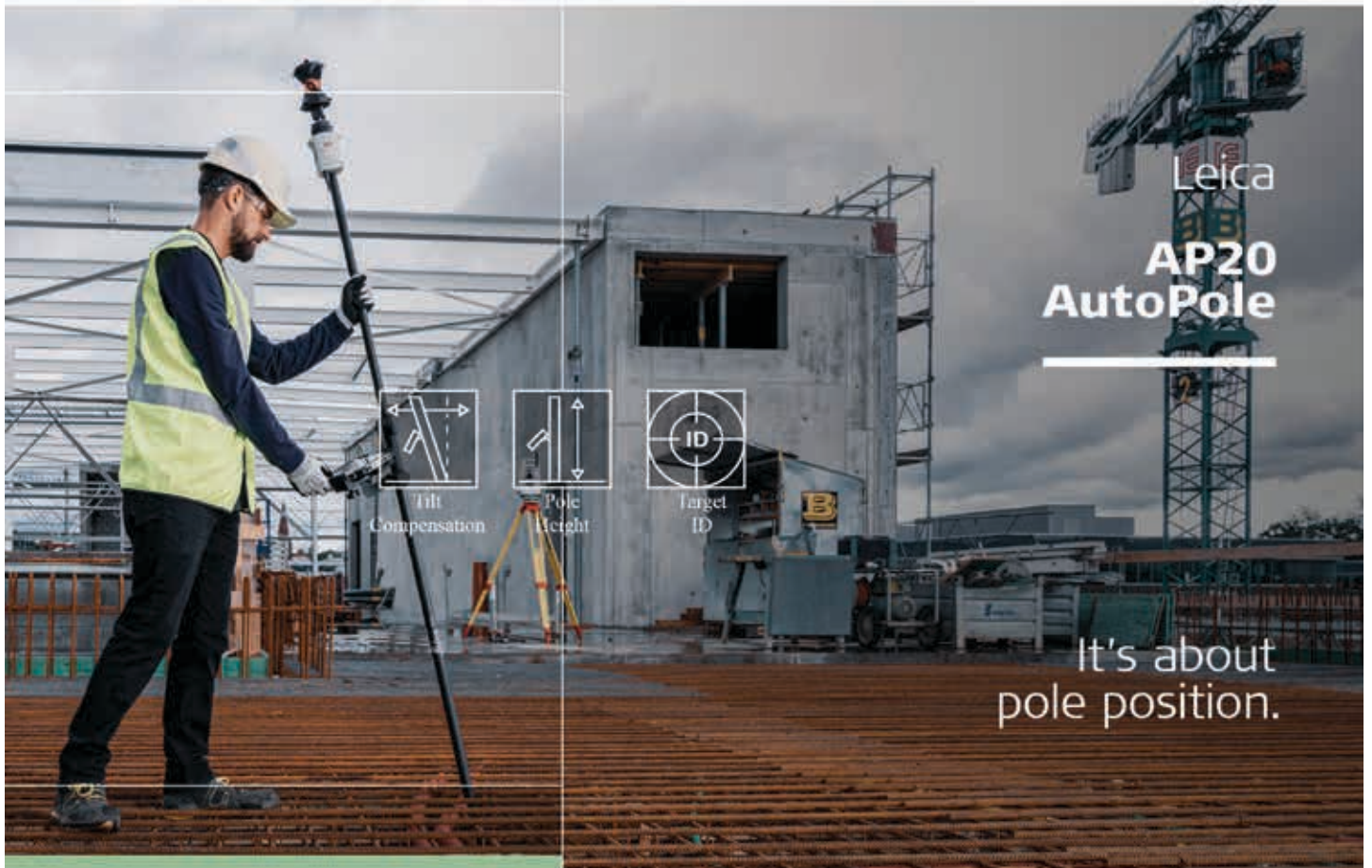
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SIDE SHOTS

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On the Cover: Kathryn Jane Lyon, PLS

*Side Shots is the official publication of the Professional Land Surveyors of Colorado, Inc.
and is published quarterly for the betterment of the surveying profession.*

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Brian Dennis
Vice President

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Hello, wonderful Survey Colleagues!

As we welcome spring, with all its newness, I hope to turn your attention to the opportunities ahead, but first, a look back with gratitude. Thank you to the fabulous folks who worked so hard to make the RMSS the wonderful event it was. It was so great to see so many old friends that I hadn't seen in the flesh for a couple of years! It was also exhilarating to make several new friends during the activities as well. It was especially exciting to engage in the new Vendor field tracks on Saturday. Thanks, again, to all the volunteers that made this event such a success!



As we move toward the ever-increasing busyness of summer, please take every opportunity to reengage with your local chapter as more and more in-person meetings and events begin populating their calendars. These chances to network with fellow professionals are invaluable to many, and yet, unknown to many more. Please reach out to and expand your network by inviting folks who have not been active in the local chapters to join you at the next event. Fun and education don't have to be mutually exclusive. Rather, the most valuable education is the learning we retain, and we retain things we enjoy much more effectively than those things we do not.

Thank you all for the fine work you do and for promoting the profession by conducting your business professionally. Stay safe out there!

Grateful,

Ralph Pettit
PLSC President

FROM THE EDITOR

Side Shots is a publication I have always enjoyed reading and I feel lucky to get to read it early. I hope you enjoy this content-packed edition. Please consider reaching out to the editorial staff (also known as volunteers) with any content requests or submissions. We would love to see your best survey photos and to hear your stories about the toughest plat, or largest pincushion. Let us know if there is a surveyor we should interview, or a story we need to capture. Help us continue to serve the survey community in ways that are educational, entertaining, thoughtful, or just plain useful.

One thing that is certain is change. Even our licensure exams are not exempt. Changes to the design of the NCEES Principles and Practice of Surveying Exam (PS for those who prefer acronyms) are proposed. Kayce Keane has provided a summary of the process and the general changes proposed.

Please take the time to read the article and to contribute your thoughts via the survey questionnaire issued by NCEES. As Kayce reminds us: This is the time to participate by contributing your responses which will let NCEES know what qualifications Colorado surveyors want new licensees to possess. Please take advantage of this opportunity to contribute your ideas and experience to this process.

The proposed changes are well laid out in an article from NCEES's "Licensure-Exchange" column entitled "Task Force Studies Restructuring of PS Exam" reprinted here courtesy of NCEES.

We continue our series highlighting "Women in Surveying" with Kathi Lyon's recounting of how she became a surveyor and what sparked and sustained her interest in this wonderful field. For those of you who know Kathi, you know that she is a genuine and generous person, willing to share her experience and expertise with anyone who is engaged and curious. For those of you who don't know her, this is a lovely introduction that you should follow up on when you get the chance at CDOT, or at the next conference.

You can stay up to date on the workings of the PLSC by reviewing the minutes and the financial reports. We will include the NSPS and WFPS updates from Todd Beers and the BLM survey update in the next edition.

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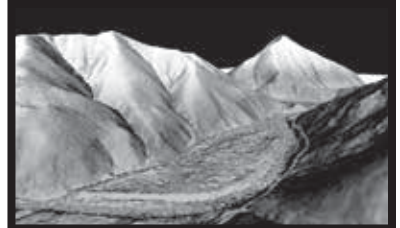
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Proposed Restructuring of the Principles and Practice of Surveying Examination (PS)

By: Kayce D. W. Keane, PLS

Date: March 11, 2022

Since 2017 NCEES has investigated the possibility of restructuring the existing Principles and Practice of Surveying Examination (PS). Please review the following article produced by NCEES in July of 2019 for a brief history behind the new approach and the intended benefits.

The **present** PS exam structure is as follows: an exam with a 7-hour appointment time made up of two sections (3 hours each), leaving the remaining hour for a Non-Disclosure Agreement (2 minutes), a Tutorial (eight minutes) and an optional lunch break (50 minutes). The current examination is administered in a computer-based format (CBT).

The **proposed** PS exam structure is as follows: A set of five divisional exams consisting of Core PS, Boundary, Public Land Survey Systems (PLSS), Mapping Science and Incidental Drainage Design. The appointment time has yet to be determined. Each divisional exam will be administered separately via CBT. Select jurisdictions (such as Colorado) will determine which divisions are required for their state to obtain licensure.

This new PS exam format would not preclude Member Boards from administering their own jurisdiction or state specific examination. The Core PS division would be required for all candidates seeking licensure. The Member Boards would then decide which of the remaining 4 divisions to include for their jurisdictional licensure.

This past January, land surveyors from across the country gathered virtually to develop divisional questionnaires as the first step of the PS Professional Activities and Knowledge Studies (PAKS) for proposed divisional restructuring of the PS exam. A PAKS, or job task analysis, is a two-step, systematic, and documented process for obtaining information about the professional attributes (e.g. responsibilities, tasks, skills, knowledge, and abilities) necessary for licensing professionals via high-stakes examinations.

The first step in a PAKS is to create a questionnaire that will be completed by practitioners of Professional Surveying and other respondents providing feedback to what they believe is important for a minimally competent candidate seeking licensure to know. A panel of Subject Matter Experts (SME) from across the nation representing various fields of practice (industry, government, professional/technical societies, and academia) was assembled to create a questionnaire for each of the proposed PS exam divisions. SMEs were selected with diversity goals in mind; years of experience, gender, age, ethnicity, practice type and geographic location were considered during the selection process. Once the questionnaires have received the commensurate number of responses to be psychometrically valid, the data will be analyzed, and a second panel of SMEs (including members from the first panel that created the survey) will be assembled to create an exam blueprint (specification) based on that data from each of the respective divisional questionnaires.

To garner Colorado representation, professionals across the state were nominated to serve as an SME on the panel that created the questionnaires. In the end, four Colorado Professional Land Surveyors were nominated as SME to sit on the sub-committee.

HERE IS WHERE YOU COME IN:

A questionnaire has just been released <http://ncees.org/PSPAKS> and is being circulated across the country to professionals such as yourself and **must be completed prior to May 30, 2022**. This form will ask that **you** weigh in on the details outlined in each of the five questionnaires created. It will take 35-45 minutes (more or less) to complete but it is critical that we have as many licensed professionals as possible across the nation, but more specifically Colorado, opine on this request. Lastly, please note, it is a requirement that a statistically significant number of professionals submit responses. Please do what you can to help this directive.

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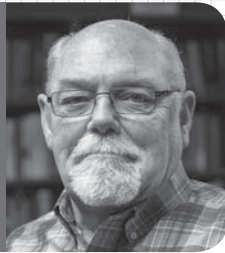


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NCEES SURVEYING EXAM MODULE
TASK FORCE CHAIR

Task force studies restructuring of PS exam

IN 2017, THE NCEES DELEGATES VOTED TO AUTHORIZE the development of depth modules for the Principles and Practice of Surveying (PS) exam. As a result, the Surveying Exam Module Task Force has been working to evaluate the needs of surveying licensure. President James Purcell, P.E., assigned several charges to the 2018–19 task force related to this initiative. All charges are interrelated, addressing how national surveying licensure exams, state-specific exams, and surveying licensure work together to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

Task force members worked extensively this year on evaluating the need for restructuring surveying licensure exams. Continuing the work of the 2017–18 task force, we explored a multidivisional approach for the PS exam. Our deliberations included surveying member boards, evaluating feedback from the 2018 annual meeting workshop, consulting with the member board administrators, and reviewing the current PS exam specifications, just to name a few.

After much discussion and analysis, the task force has concluded that a major change to the process for examining professional surveyors is needed to better serve the member boards and protect the public.

A divisional approach would allow member boards to better test minimal competence across various knowledge areas. It would allow for less duplication between jurisdictional, or state-specific, exams and the national exams, which would allow member boards to modify current jurisdictional exams to test knowledge areas that are truly limited to a specific jurisdiction. And, finally, this approach would allow member boards that license mapping science/photogrammetry or include mapping science in their definition of surveying to adequately test for competence in that area.

The task force recommends that the current PS exam be restructured into five separate divisional exams, each scored individually. Each state or territory would select which divisions it would require for licensing professional surveyors.

Plans for multidivisional exam

The task force recommends that the current PS exam be restructured into five separate divisional exams, each scored individually. Each state or territory would select which divisions it would require for licensing professional surveyors. Once a candidate passes a particular division, he or she would not need to retake it.

The task force recommends the following divisions:

- **Core PS:** Includes base professional surveying topics outside of boundary, such as public/private record sources, land development solutions, FEMA requirements, business practices, and professional conduct, that would be considered common practice regardless of licensing jurisdiction
- **Boundary:** Includes topics such as boundary principles, legal descriptions of real property transactions, federally mandated standards, and boundary surveys
- **Public Land Survey System, or PLSS:** Includes knowledge of BLM manual of surveying instructions, practical methodology for retracement of federal

authorized surveys, establishment of lost corners, and subdivision of aliquot portions

- **Mapping science:** Includes areas such as topographic mapping and control standards, hydrographic and remote sensing equipment, measurement using photogrammetric methods, measurement using LIDAR, and digital laser scanning
- **Incidental drainage design:** Includes topics such as channel calculations, erosion and sedimentation control practices, and storm water design standards

At the 2019 annual meeting, the Surveying Exam Module Task Force will present a motion that the PS exam be restructured into these five separately scored divisions and that the Committee on Examinations for Professional Surveyors be charged with implementation.

Impacts of proposed format change

The task force's charges included evaluating the impact of a multidivisional format for the PS exam. This includes effects on public protection and mobility as well as exam volumes.

The divisional exam would improve our ability to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of the public. For example, with the current format, an examinee could fail all items concerning PLSS and still pass. With the divisional approach, the task force recommends that each division be scored on a stand-alone basis, as is common with other professional exams. This approach offers additional assurance to member boards that their candidates are minimally competent in all the required content areas.

Mobility will be an important consideration with a multidivisional exam, as individual jurisdictions will establish which divisions they require for surveying licensure. The NCEES exam and license verification system would assist boards with verifying which modules examinees have passed and which licenses they hold. The current process will need to be adequately revised to ensure that during the verification process, boards are receiving the necessary information related to what divisions have already been passed and when.



Members of the Surveying Exam Task Force present their findings and solicit feedback from delegates at the 2018 annual meeting. The task force continued studying the structure of the PS exam in 2018–19.

The task force also considered the exam volumes that would be needed to sustain psychometric viability and economic feasibility. The current PS exam is administered via computer-based testing year round at Pearson VUE test centers. This administration method and the current exam volumes have produced viable psychometric outcomes. The task force feels that if the Council votes to move the PS exam to a multidivisional exam, most of the proposed divisions would have sufficient volumes to continue using the current year-round administration. Exam volumes of one or two of the proposed divisions may require single-day testing events, which we use already for our smaller-volume computer-based PE exams.

This is a multifaceted issue, and much research and analysis have gone into developing this recommendation. For more details on the task force's deliberations, see the full Surveying Exam Module Task Force report. It will be included in the *Action Items and Conference Reports*, which will be published on the NCEES website by July 1.

Reprinted with permission from NCEES Licensure Exchange, June 19 issue

WOMEN IN SURVEYING

Kathryn Jane Lyon, PLS

I didn't begin my survey career until 1997- after I graduated from CSU with a degree in Soil Science with an Environmental concentration. While getting my degree I worked Pre-load for UPS from 2 AM to 8 AM- then dashed off to class.

After graduation, my focus was to work outside. Coming from a farming background and growing up near Green Bay, WI. being outdoors was where I felt best. Most of my jobs were all agricultural related up until then.

I answered an ad for a Survey Instrument Person with a company in Fort Collins at RBD- soon to become Sear-Brown Engineering, and thankfully they hired me. When I started I knew nothing about surveying, but I had a Party Chief who loved to teach. He bought me my first textbook, the Land Surveyors Reference Manual, and we spent our lunch breaks reviewing the homework assignments he gave me. I finally found a career where all my interests fell into place, Science, Math, History, Law, research and Art.

It was only 2 years later that I became a Party Chief and started taking AutoCAD classes at night at Front Range Community College. At the 3 year mark I took my Fundamentals exam and got my LSIT. As time went on, Sear-Brown was bought by Stantec, and our projects became much larger and more diverse. Soon I was involved staking utilities, roads, and property corners and doing Section breakdowns with land development. ALTA's became one of my favorite- that's where I really appreciated the Art of Mapping!

Then Stantec expanded into Transportation and Hydraulic surveys. I was fortunate to be able to topo the roads, process the data and create the final Right of Way map, exhibits and descriptions: Field to Finish! I felt so fortunate to learn from the "bottom-up" and to have excellent PLS's to learn from. Attending the Northern Chapter of the PLSC offered the opportunity to learn even more, just by listening to the ideas and discussions that came up.



Mine tailing topo in Leadville



Contaminates running into Turquoise Lake, Leadville CO



Party at the Party Chief's house!

At the 10-year mark, I was anxious to get my License and in 2008, I passed the exams to become a Colorado Professional Land Surveyor. I couldn't be happier with the choices and experience- both bad and wonderful, with this career. One of my favorite jobs was surveying mine tailings and hazardous water pits in Leadville. Sure, that sounds crazy- but doing something to protect Turquoise Lake from becoming contaminated and helping the fish population, was exactly the type of work I dreamed of doing with my degree and license.

My transportation experience paid off and now I work with CDOT. I don't get to go to the field as often- but at my age, I don't mind sharing my stories and experience

with our upcoming future Surveyors. They have their own stories to share too - using LiDAR scanning, UAS and technology that keeps them from having to get near those ponds that contain – who knows what!

The work we do as Surveyors has stood the test of time. It is frustrating to have to continually convince others how fundamentally crucial our work is. From the roads we travel, to the lakes we enjoy, to the flood control topography and GPS information we provide and to the homes we live in, I am very proud of the contributions surveyors provide to our society- and hope you all are too.



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UNDER THE GOLD DOME

April 2022

The 2022 Colorado General Assembly is entering its final one-third of its 120 day session. Almost six hundred bills have been introduced, with another one hundred to one hundred fifty bills expected. Needless to say, the days to come at the Capitol until sine die on May 11 will be full of excitement, much debate, and more than a few surprises.

As mentioned in our January article, the major legislative issues this session include the state spending of two and one-half billion dollars of federal stimulus, the creation of affordable housing programs, and wildfire prevention and forest recovery programs. Several controversial issues still remain to be addressed including collective bargaining for county employees and a new statewide recycling program.

For the first time in several years, the Professional Land Surveyors of Colorado (PLSC) initiated legislation this session. HB22-1036 (Concerning Surveys and Improvement Location Certificates), sponsored by Representatives Marc Snyder (Democrat, Manitou Springs) and Matt Soper (Republican, Delta) as well as Senator Pete Lee (Democrat, Colorado Springs), directed the real estate commission to clarify the difference between land surveys and improvement location certificates on the real estate closing document. The two were classified as a “survey” in most closing documents, even though current statute states that improvement location certificates should not be construed as a survey. The situation led to many misunderstandings by property owners after closing, especially if property boundary questions or disputes should occur.

Despite initial concerns from the realtors, title companies, and mortgage brokers, we were able to work through their objections and pass the legislation

overwhelmingly with 60 (out of 65) “yes” votes in the House. After that vote, we were contacted by the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA). They offered to change the form at the April 5, 2022 real estate forms committee meeting, if we paused the legislation. We are happy to report that this committee unanimously approved the change effective immediately. The form now has an additional line to delineate whether a survey or an improvement location certificate is being used in a real estate transaction. We would like to thank Scott Thompson and Ralph Pettit for their tireless work since on this issue since last summer.

The PLSC lobby team also worked successfully on amending SB 116, which addresses the portability of licenses of regulated professions between states. As introduced, the legislation would not have required a state specific exam for out of state land surveyors who wanted a Colorado license. Working with the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA), we were able to amend the bill in the Senate so that the state exam was preserved. Then in the House, we supported the Engineers’ efforts to remove engineers, architects, and land surveyors entirely from the legislation. As the legislation moves forward, land surveyors are now exempt from all provisions of the legislation.

With about a month to go, there still will be plenty of surprises to come. We plan to continue to work with PLSC’s Legislative Chair and Leadership to ensure that the 2022 General Session is successful for the Land Surveyor community.

Best wishes,
Steve Balcerovich and Kathy Oatis
PLSC contract lobby team

PLSC Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

February 15, 2022

1. Call to Order: Pettit

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Steve Parker	Ex-Officio	Southern	x
Parker Newby	Non-Voting	Southwest	
Todd Beers	Non-Voting	NSPS/WFPS Delegate	
Guests:			
John Hunter		Geo-Coordinator	
Peggy Streicher		GIS in the Rockies	
Robert Boehm		Central Chapter	x
David Berglund		Northern Chapter	x
Willie Whelen		NW ¼ Chapter	
Brian Shaw		NOAA/NGS	x
James Combs		YSN	
Cole Conger		YSN	x

2. Determination of Quorum (6 voting), Lee

3. No changes to agenda, Pettit

4. Approve January Minutes, Pettit

MOTION: To approve the January 2022 BOD Minutes as presented. (ST/IC)

Approved unanimously

5. Financial Items, Pettit/Lee/Roland

- a. Investment Update from Key Bank (Savings, Earnings, Performance)
 - i. Investments: \$326,290 Checking: \$76,345 Savings: \$62,849
- b. NSPS Foundation MOU
 - i. Request for opinions by Friday with email vote

6. Side Shots Report, Parker

- a. In production

- b. Need volunteers – please personally request from members who are detail oriented and have a good network to request articles

7. Project Updates

- a. Colorado Railroad Museum Project, Hulse/Boehm
 - i. Nothing Significant to Report (NSTR)
- b. Adams County, Cortez/Berglund/Lassner
 - i. On agenda for Adams County to discuss
 - ii. What type of indexing system can PLSC provide? Scans have been done but indexing/data not logged
- c. CO/NE Project, Boehm/Cortez
 - i. IC needs to get in touch with Region 4 regarding monument

8. Reports

- a. WCCC Update/Scholarship Committee, Sylvester
 - i. See report immediately after these Minutes
- b. GIS in the Rockies, Streicher
 - i. NSTR
- c. Colorado Coordinator Activities, Hunter
 - i. NSTR
- d. NGS Update, Shaw
 - i. Received videos for PLSC Summit
- e. Lobbyist/Legislative Committee, Thompson/Pettit
 - i. Proceeding through legislation (defining ILC on real estate forms) – passed through House
 - ii. Zoom meetings with possible opposition and all are neutral
 - iii. Moving to Senate – no opposition
 - iv. Request made for article on ILC and definitions/differences to land surveying
 - 1. Need to explore multiple ways to disseminate this information over multiple channels
 - 2. New forms will likely be published December for next year

9. Membership Committee, Carson

- a. BR to call EC

10. Outreach Committee, Dennis

- a. Peter Curtis March 15 – FRCC presentation
- b. Eldorado PK-8 - March 18
- c. Arvada Career Fair - May

11. Education Committee, Johnston/Bowker
 - i. RMSS
 1. Annual Member Meeting – February 23 at lunch
 2. Chapter Summit – move to virtual at a later date
 3. Need Speaker Liaisons
 - a. Ralph Pettit
 4. DORA moved to virtual – Friday March 4 from 12-4
 5. Four parts
 - a. YSN Event
 - b. In Person
 - c. Saturday Vendor Sessions – registrations down – Friday is the go/no go
 - d. Virtual/On Demand
 - i. Reviewed all videos
 - ii. PLSC Board thanks the Planning Committee and TJ and BB
 - iii. Meet for Silent Auction on Tuesday 2/23 at 2:30PM at storage unit – Becky will send the address
12. Trig Star Committee, Lassner
 - a. Get invoice from Trish to pay for Colorado
 - b. Becky to set up email (trigstar@plsc.net)
13. CST Committee, Parker
 - i. Exam April 23 at HKS
14. NSPS Delegate Report, Beers/Parker
 - a. Virtual Congressional Visit end of March
15. WSPS Delegates' Repor, Beers/Parker
 - a. Same time as NSPS
16. NSPS YSN, Combs
 - a. Kick-off meeting Tuesday 5PM before the Summit
17. QBS Update, White
 - a. Meeting in Feb/Mar – QBS Training with CDOT and National Survey from ACEC
18. Chapter Reports
 - a. Southern, Parker
 - i. Identified Board and Executive Candidates – elections through Survey Monkey
 - b. Central, Boehm
 - i. Board Meeting earlier this month
 - ii. CCPS will raffle off framed maps and gift cards and swag
 - iii. CCPS Elections closed
 - iv. Planning golf tournaments (spring and fall)
 - c. Northern, Berglund
 - i. Two meetings since the new year – ALTA Standards and OPUS
 - ii. Elections complete
 - iii. No meeting next month
 - iv. Meetings are live streamed
 - d. NW ¼, Whelen
 - i. No report
 - e. Southwestern, Johnston
 - i. In person/Virtual meeting Jan 18 – 25 ppl
 - ii. Chapter putting \$500 towards KMZ file
 - iii. Next meeting in March
 - f. Western, Bowker
 - i. Next meeting March 9 (most likely hybrid)
 - ii. Local scholarship push
19. Next Meeting Date and Location
 - a. Next BOD Meeting will be March 15
20. Adjourn (SL/BD)

CALL FOR ARTICLES

**Do you have an interesting case study or project
that you have worked on?**

Side Shots is always looking for material to publish.

If you want to submit an article, please email SideShots@plsc.net.

WCCC Update and Scholarship Committee Report

We are now in the 4th week of the Spring Semester at WCCC.

The following courses are being given this semester with student counts:

SURV 200 – Advanced Surveying Field Work (3 cr) – 6 students of which 5 are distance learning.

SURV 205 – Advance Surveying Calculations (4 cr) – 5 students, all distance learning.

SURV 203 – Legal Aspects of Surveying (3 cr) – 19 students of which 14 to 15 are distance learning depending on the day.

SURV 204 – Real Property Descriptions (2 cr) – 20 students of which 15 to 16 are distance learning depending on the day.

CONC 218 Session 1 – Construction Management Surveying (3 cr) (Similar to SURV 100) – 19 students all on campus.

CONC 218 Session 2 – Construction Management Surveying (3 cr) Similar to SURV 100) – 12 students all on campus.

Classes Scheduled for the Fall 2022 semester:

SURV 100 – Introduction to Surveying w/ field lab (3 cr)

SURV 102 – Surveying Calculations I (4 cr)

SURV 206 – Property Law – Boundary II (3 cr)

SURV 207 – Surveying Ethics – An Overview of Ethical Expectations (2 cr)

SURV 298 – Internship/Capstone Project (4 cr) – Also offered in any semester as needed for the final course prior to receipt of the Post Baccalaureate Certificate.

This semester, we have been able to add a couple of student lab assistants to help out with the CONC 218 survey lab courses held during the week. The last two semesters, the lab was on Saturday, and we were able to get 2 PLS lab assistants. Next semester, the Construction Management/Technology Department is planning on teaching the CONC 218 on their own. As such, I will be tutoring the potential instructor this semester (Spring 2022), and act as an advisor to her next semester.

We have now completed our transition of teaching only four of the 8 core surveying classes each semester,

with the other four core surveying classes taught in the opposite semester. The transition includes the requirement that any of these core offerings will be offered as a hybrid course to accommodate both those seeking a campus educational experience and those needing the distance learning opportunity. The SURV 298 – Capstone project will be offered every semester as a distance learning only, on an as needed basis for those needing the last course for graduation from the Post Baccalaureate Certificate program. (SURV 298 is not a part of the Associates of Applied Science in Land Surveying and Geomatics program).

As part of my annual evaluation preliminary documentation, I sent a memo to my immediate supervisor, Dr. Christi Hein, Director of Instructions, to begin open discussions with her about how to fund future Instructors and Program Directors. I pointed out the PLSC Board's desire and my desire that we are assured to have well qualified licensed Professional Land Surveyors leading the programs. To get such an individual, we need to compete with the private sector on salary ranges. I broached the subjects of some type of endowment to cover part of the salary of the position, direct contributions to salary of the position, any other resources and methodologies of which she or the school may aware, etc. I pointed out that we were less than enamored by how our contributions to the CMU Foundation were handled regarding salary when I was hired. I will keep the Board informed as these discussions progress.

I let Dr. Hein know and I want the PLSC Board to rest assured that my retirement is in no way imminent, but we need to start putting transition plans in place to ensure competent leadership of the programs into the future.

Scholarship Committee:

I have received no new scholarship applications since the last meeting.

On either subject, if any of the Board have questions, please don't hesitate to email me and I'll try to get an answer back to everyone relatively quickly.

Regards,
Tom Sylvester, PE, PLS
Program Director and Technical Instructor
Western Colorado Community College, a division of
Colorado Mesa University

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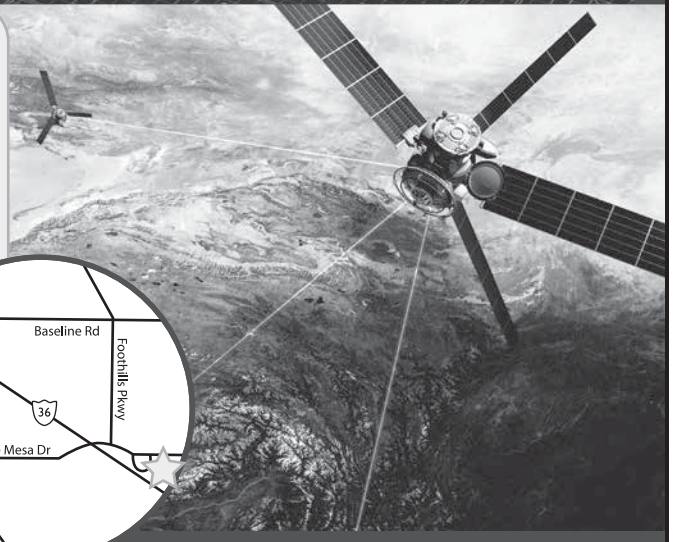
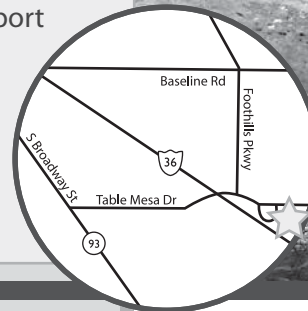
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Treasurer's Report

With the recent COVID-19 pandemic farther away in the rearview mirror and as we look toward where we are headed this is a good time to note of where we stand today. Membership is up, RMSS 2022 total attendance was up this year and costs have and are going up. Board officers are scheduling to meet for this year's budget meeting followed by a report to be issued in the next Side Shots. The current checking account is yet to pay out for the RMSS 2022 Conference totaling around \$65k +/- and the Front Range Chapters are also due a portion to add to their budgets per the current conference agreement with the PLSC.

Following last year's budget meeting and projection it was found that the PLSC would need to tighten down on spending and aim toward breaking even. It was rather difficult to forecast; for the pandemic was still affecting us and we all were looking toward its end. Thankfully we had some good news with COVID-19 numbers falling and mandates lifting allowed the 2022 RMSS Conference to exceed our projection, thank you all for participating! More to come following the PLSC officers budget meeting.

Current Assets:

Investment Account (Education Fund)	\$316,277.67
Checking	\$69,646.40
Savings	\$62,849.50
Sum:	\$448,723.57

Secretary Report - 2022

	Voting	Associate	Student	Sustaining	Complimentary	Honorary	Retired	Total
2022	248	160	37	22	4	11	7	489
2021	205	94	4	21		10	5	339
2020	195	120	4	15		10	4	348
2019	185	85	8	16		11	6	311

Call for Volunteers

PLSC and its Chapters are actively promoting the profession and doing outreach to the community. Currently, there are a number of ways to volunteer:

- Participate in merit badge events with Boy Scouts or geocaching events with Girl Scouts
- Attend career fairs for local schools and school districts
- Volunteer to help with the Rocky Mountain Surveyors Summit developing program topics, inviting speakers and vendors, and creating networking events during the Summit
- Participate in your local PLSC Chapter and help with developing technical programs for members, networking events and other projects.

This is a great way to expand your professional network and promote our great profession.



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City of Fort Collins Shares Data

City of Fort Collins Chief Surveyor, John Von Nieda recently contacted surveyors in Northern Colorado to let us know that they have a multitude of documents that they are willing to share including their in-house Land Survey Plat research compiled from the public record and section corner data to help make research and control within the City of Fort Collins easier.

The relevant files and drawings he thought might be of use to you when working in or near the City of Fort Collins includes:

- The projection parameters for the City's Ground Master coordinate system (see projection information below)
- An updated spreadsheet containing the City's section corner inventory with tabs for Ground Master Coordinates, NAD83/92 State Plane coordinates, and NAD83/92 Lat-Long-Height coordinates.
- CAD Drawings and a pdf containing the locations of the points in the spreadsheet. The spreadsheet is to be expanded when the new datum comes out.
- An updated spreadsheet showing the reception nos. of most recorded land survey plats within the City's area of interest which are searchable by Section-Twp-Range, Subdivision Name, Surveyor's Name etc.
- A property corner catalog that has several thousand monuments surveyed by the City over the years which may be particularly helpful to you when relevant monuments no longer exist.
- A file of several hundred City benchmarks that is available upon request.

Feel free to call or email John VonNieda directly with questions about specific areas, and he'll send over anything he has. In return, if any of the information the City supplies appears to be inaccurate, or if there is information missing, please let John know.

*John Von Nieda, P.L.S.
Chief Surveyor
City of Fort Collins
281 N. College Avenue
Fort Collins, CO 80524
(970) 221-6565*

Ground master Coordinate System:
COORDINATE DATUM: Horizontal
5 Parameter Transverse Mercator Projection

With the origin at Larimer County HARN densification point No. FC2694.

Point FC2694

Latitude of 40 degrees 30 minutes 06.92556 seconds
North

Longitude of 105 degrees 03 minutes 29.34852 seconds
West (NAD83/92)

With a false Northing of 100000.000 (US Survey Ft) and a false Easting of 200000.000 (US Survey Ft) and a central meridian scale factor of 1.0002353698.

This is a ground coordinate system that the City of Fort Collins Engineering Department has adopted for their projects.

Editor's Note: The control maps, coordinate files, and benchmarks are available on the City of Fort Collins website. Please contact John for the dwg and spreadsheet files. The examples on the next page are an example of the valuable information available.

LSPs in Fort Collins:

DOCUMENT ID	CLERK FILE NUMBER	FULL NAME	LOT	BLOCK	SUBDIVISION
1844424	327049	MANLEY MURRAY E			
2589169	327708	MANLEY MURRAY E			
1802193	328824	HOGAN/OLHAUSEN INC			
1802193	328824	HOGAN/OLHAUSEN INC			
1918199	401011	HOFF JAMES R	L22	B291	LOOMIS ADDN
2737722	407605	HOGAN/OLHAUSEN INC			
2737722	407605	HOGAN/OLHAUSEN INC			
2306012	519234	DELGADO GUADALUPE P	L3	B10	FAIRVIEW WEST 6TH
2306012	519234	DELGADO GUADALUPE P	L3	B10	FAIRVIEW WEST SUB
1776397	523617	INTERMILL LARRY G	TR G		LANDINGS PUD 4TH
1776397	523617	INTERMILL LARRY G	TR G		LANDINGS PUD 4TH
	897610	SACKETT THORWALDSA	L7		COUNTRY CLUB ESTATES
	897610	SACKETT THORWALD HARVEY	L7		COUNTRY CLUB ESTATES
	978077	NICHOLS JAMES M.	L5		G. J. REID
	994541	McRAE GERALD B.	L10, L11		VILLAGE WEST 2ND FILING
2619030	19850022792	MUSCOTT WALLACE C		B18&19	FTC
2032198	19850048223	ROBINSON PHILLIP I	L9	B2	WEST ACRES
2225608	19860001781	STEWART JAMES H & ASSOC			
2672737	19870045340	WALTERS RODNEY A	L12		SYLVAN PLACE
2465092	19870062419	RUTHERFORD RICAHRD A	L1		MASON STREET PUD FTC

GPS Distribution Data:

729	130353.006	207942.844	4933	7S768DC	DOUBLE CORNER
730	130376.891	207943.198	4934	7S768DC	DOUBLE CORNER
731	128967.316	211900.853	4930	10R768	
732	129024.695	201331.940	4934	2R768	
733	137043.131	190912.995	4985	18X769DC	DOUBLE CORNER
734	137043.268	190918.349	4984	18X769DC	DOUBLE CORNER
735	137707.004	190922.749	4985	18X.5 769	
736	137699.488	191583.728	4982	18.5X.5 769	
737	137012.098	193560.297	4980	20X769DC	DOUBLE CORNER
738	137012.194	193555.001	4980	20X769DC	DOUBLE CORNER
739	135787.676	184298.492	5060	13W769	
740	133147.018	184254.597	5055	13U769	

CCPS – PLSC

We are excited about 2022 and have some fun things in the works. In June we will have our annual CCPS golf tournament at Homestead Golf Course. Stay tuned for more on this event. We are also trying to plan a Sporting Clays event in late summer or early fall. Our general meeting dates have been set and we are meeting on July 28th and October 20th this year. The general meetings will be in person, and we will make sure to get an invite out to the membership well in advance. It is extremely important that we get feedback from our membership and would love to use these meetings as opportunity get ideas on how we can improve the CCPS. Also, we are continuing to look for ideas on special projects and outreach opportunities to strengthen the surveying community. Please reach out to the CCPS board with any ideas you might have. We are all excited for a great year and look forward to seeing everyone at the next general meeting!

Derek Brown
President, CCPS

NORTHERN CHAPTER

Hello all, I hope you are well. We have had a great range of activities over the last 6 months and look forward to continued interaction during regularly scheduled meetings.

On October 6, 2021, our in-person Chapter meeting focused on AutoCAD/Civil 3D processing and surface model creation. Heather Lassner facilitated the meeting and we worked through multiple processes involving field to finish processing as well as editing of CAD files and creation of deliverable. This was a great opportunity to get together and share our knowledge and experience with some real-world examples.

Our November 3, 2021, we again met in person and discussed the differences between the 2016 and 2021 ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey requirements. This meeting was facilitated by Laine Landau, and she did an excellent job of going through the revisions to the Minimum Standard Detail Requirements and Table A items as well as led a discussion about the ramifications of these modifications.

On December 21, 2022, we held our annual Christmas party. We attended a Colorado Eagles hockey game which was well attended. It was great to see everyone there and we look forward to continuing in-person Holiday events in the future.

For our January 5, 2022, meeting we were back to a virtual format in which we announced Celine LeBeau

had been elected as a Director and Reade Roselles had been re-elected as a Director. We also discussed ideas for Community Service and outreach as well as ideas for upcoming Chapter meetings.

On February 9, 2022, we were fortunate to have the Rocky Mountain Regional Advisor at NOAA's National Geodetic Survey, Brian Shaw present on the Online Positioning User Service (OPUS) in a virtual format. This is the second time in the last year that Brian has agreed to present for a Chapter meeting, and he did a fantastic job sharing his knowledge of the process. We look forward to working continued interactions with Brian in the future.

Due to the 2022 Rocky Mountain Surveyors Summit, we did not hold a Chapter meeting in March.

On April 6, 2022, our Chapter meeting was held at Fidelity National Title in Longmont. Jill Hatfield and Jessica Obenchain were kind enough to take part in an open forum in which they answered questions about and shared their knowledge of the title process. It was fantastic to receive information and perspective from Jill and Jessica and helped provide insight into the process and the challenges that are a part of the title process.

We look forward to future in-person events and outreach and a successful 2022 for all.

Respectfully,
Dave Berglund
President, PLSC Northern Chapter

NW 1/4 PLSC

This spring's Chapter Update is dedicated to William (Willy) G. Whelan, Land Surveyor. Willy, as we all knew him, was our current Chapter President and passed away this past Thursday the 7th of April at the age of 55. He would think it would be more important that we talk about how he lived, not the circumstances of his passing. And so here we go: A lifetime Eagles, Phillies and Flyers fan; never could get him to budge on that. A degree in Geography from the University of Virginia, then started surveying in the Boulder area with Drexel, Barrell & Co. after college. Upon arriving in Steamboat Springs about 30 years ago, he first worked at D&D, Inc. as a Party Chief. Learning surveying from Skidge Moon, Willy was a quick study and eager learner. Willy went on to continually self-educate himself and became a Land Surveyor and then a CFedS. Willy enjoyed riding his BMW motorcycle, his and his Dad's 1952 convertible Jaguar, taking trips with his wife Barbara and bluegrass music. He was also the number one lottery winner in the early 2000's at the West End Village lottery and went on to live in the same house for the rest of his life. His widow still resides there today.

CHAPTER NEWS

Willy also spent a number of years surveying for Landmark Consultants and Precision Excavating before opening his own business about seven years ago. Until his death, he was always curious about the next thing technology wise- LIDAR, Drone Technology, modeling. What set him aside professionally were his ethics- he always tried to do the right thing procedurally and legally. He also worked collaboratively with a number of local surveyors on a number of projects, which also tells you something.

We shall miss him; our friend, fellow professional surveyor and philosopher of life: William G. Whelan (Willy).

Brian Kelly
VP, NW1/4PLSC

SCPLS

The Southern Chapter is slowly roaring back to life during this post-pandemic time. We had a meeting in February and planned our next year, check the scpls.net calendar for upcoming meetings, presentations, and social events. In April the board seated new officers and directors, and the plan is to grow the chapter by inviting all the new surveyors in our region to come a meet the more seasoned surveyors in our region and enjoy a “shop talk” and “problem solving” style discussion sparked by our professional presenters.

Steven Parker, President SCPLS

SWC – PLSC

The SWC held an in-person/virtual meeting on March 22nd at the Durango Community Recreation Center. We did not have a topic presenter at this meeting and focused on going over old/new Chapter business.

Some highlights to this meeting were:

- Treasurer’s Report: Account balance is \$10,606.54

- The Chapter is proceeding to close its existing account with a national bank and move the balance to a local institution, Alpine Bank. Treasurer, Justin Bonnell is working on this action.

- At the January meeting, a vote was passed to donate \$500 to the “Colorado Monument Records Google Earth Mapping Project”. The Project’s web page has a donation tab where credit cards can be utilized.

- President Todd Johnston gave a recap of the 2022 Rocky Mountain Survey Summit (RMSS). The RMSS Committee is currently looking for volunteers for the 2023 Summit.

- President Todd Johnston went over Chapter goals for the year. These goals include:

- o Develop and approve Chapter Bylaws.
- o Use the Chapter webpage on PLSC.net to archive documents such as meeting minutes, videos, etc.

- It was decided that the Chapter will hold another “GPS on Benchmarks” event at the end of July or beginning of August. The SWC Officers will organize this event. We welcome participation from surveyors in the area!

- It was decided that the Chapter will hold a “Surveyor Rendezvous” dinner in December 2022. A committee will be put together in the Summer to organize this event. There was discussion that this event be held annually to be concurrent with the election of new Officers.

Our next meeting is scheduled for June 28th. More details will be shared as that date approaches.

Everyone have a great Spring/Summer season!

Todd C. Johnston, PLS
President - SW Chapter PLSC

WCLS

The Chapter is in the process of planning a local seminar in Grand Junction for the Fall. We are hoping to have the seminar in September of this year. Stay tuned for more information as we get closer to the Fall. WCLS is looking forward to seeing everyone again at this local event. I really appreciate everyone’s time and effort in making this happen. See you soon!

Brian K. Bowker, P.L.S.
President, WCLS

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