



THE NEVADA TRAVERSE

Journal of the Professional Land Surveyors of Nevada

Institutional Affiliate National Society of Professional Surveyors • Member Western Federation of Professional Surveyors

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Remote Sensing
and Sensibility...Page 5

New York Mine (1880 - Current Day)

- One of many mines in the Comstock Lode
- Current site only has 4 structures on it including a headframe, a hoist house, and 2 core storage buildings.
- The shaft below the headframe use to span about 800 feet below the surface but has since caved in and only reaches about 200 feet below.
- A mission to historically preserve New York Mine.
- Accurately locate the winch cable and the hoist house so that the structures could be restored in the same location.

Conference Wrap Up....Page 9



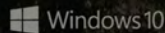
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The Nevada Traverse

This publication is issued quarterly by the **Nevada Association of Land Surveyors (NALS)** and is published as a service to the Land Surveying profession of the state of Nevada. *The Nevada Traverse* is an open forum for all Surveyors, with an editorial policy predicated on the objective of NALS and Bylaws, Article II, which reads:

"The purpose of the association shall be to promote the common good and welfare of its members in their activities in the profession of Land Surveying; to promote the common good and welfare of the public in terms of professional land surveying activities; to promote and maintain the highest possible standards of professional ethics and practice; to promote public awareness and trust in Professional Land Surveyors and their work.

This organization, in its activities and in its membership, shall be non-partisan, non-sectarian, and non-discriminatory."

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The Editor's Corner



by Carl C. de Baca, PLS

It has been a most interesting three months since the last Nevada Traverse went to print. We saw the installation of the 2019 officer corps, a NALS strategic planning meeting, our first joint conference in some time with our beloved sister state, California, and our GBC Student Team, made up of all Nevada resident students, represented themselves and their school outstandingly in the National Student Competition in Arlington, Virginia. (Using the flimsy excuse of being a journalist, I was lucky enough to witness all these things.)

On the national front, after the announcement last October by the Governor of New Mexico which changed licensing regulation for many professions and occupations, West Virginia saw the introduction of legislation which would allow for the unlicensed practice of many professions including our own, and Florida's governor announced an 'Occupational

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ►

Table Of Contents

- The Editor's Corner 2
- About the Cover. 3
- The President's Message 4
- Remote Sensing and Sensibility 5
- The 2018/2019 NALS Education Foundation Scholarship Winners 7
- 2019 CLSA/NALS Conference Wrap Up 9
- Russell Avery Rest in Peace 13
- A Monumental Round Table Meeting. 14
- Sustaining Members 23
- Professional Listings.. . . . 24
- NALS BoD Meeting Minutes 28-29
- NSPS Director's Report. 30
- Southern Nevada Chapter Report. 32
- Southern Nevada Chapter Picnic 32
- Lahontan Chapter Report 34
- Scout Troop 411 Happenings 34
- Walt Neitz Rest in Peace 36
- Advertiser Index. Inside Back Cover



License Deregation' to brainstorm on how to curtail or eliminate many unreasonably onerous licensing regulations. And in South Carolina a man won the right to declare himself an engineer, even though he has no such license, in a lawsuit based on free speech grounds. For some reason, the terms "threat" and "erosion" come to mind. While we at NALS and NSPS are refocusing our efforts on 'outreach', we should make sure that outreach includes governors and state legislators. If they know who we are and how important the profession of Land Surveying is, it will much harder to lump us in with the teeth whiteners, tanning bed operators and manicurists when considering how to eliminate licenses.

Nearer to home, NALS membership is up. It's the highest it's been in several years. Attendance and participation at chapter meetings is strong and there seems to be a renewed spirit of camaraderie up and down the state. It's too early to see any results from the conference yet, but I'm guessing NALS made a solid amount of money, which will help pay for numerous programs throughout the year. If my own contribution (after losing a stare-down with a fellow named Lightning) was any example, then the scholarship auction bagged our Education foundation a pretty good haul, as well. Attendance in surveying classes at Great Basin College is strong. Our Education Foundation gave out over \$10K in scholarships in 2018 and is poised to do so again this year. And I think we are going to see the creation of a Young Surveyors Network in Nevada in 2019.

One sad note to report, Walt Neitz, a founding member of NALS, and possibly the last surviving one at that, has passed away. Walt, rest in peace. One other sour note, our Great Basin Chapter has had to take a temporary time-out to reconstitute itself and find its way. Given that the chapter essentially represents all of the state that is not Las Vegas / Henderson or Reno / Sparks / Carson City, GB Chapter has a huge mandate and it is up to all of us to get it back on its feet and help give our rural brothers and sisters a voice.

A couple of sad notes to report, Walt Neitz, a founding member of NALS, and possibly the last surviving one at that, has passed away. Also closing the horizon for the last time was Russell Avery. Russ was a strong survey presence in Southern Nevada for many years and touched a lot souls over his long career. Russ and Walt, may you both rest in peace. One other sour note, our Great Basin Chapter has had to take a temporary time-out to reconstitute itself and find its way. Given that the chapter essentially represents all of the state that is not Las Vegas / Henderson or Reno / Sparks / Carson City, GB Chapter has a huge mandate and it is up to all of us to get it back on its feet and help give our rural brothers and sisters a voice.

Happy Reading! ☉

About the Cover...



The Great Basin College 2019 Student Competition Team presents their project to an audience of their peers in Arlington Virginia.



2018 President Jerry Juarez receives a plaque from 2019 President Jason Higgins for his service to NALS.

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Help your NALS Board to keep you current.

Thank you!



The President's Message

by Jason Higgins, PLS



7th and 8th. Our state board, together with selected guests (which included Byron Calkins from Great Basin College, business owners, past NALS and SNALS presidents and current West Fed representatives) were asked to come together to craft the next strategic plan for the organization. Crissy Willson, our executive director served as our moderator. For those of you that are not familiar with a strategic plan, the purpose is to conduct a planning session to set priorities, focus volunteers and other resources, strengthen our mission and ensure that the members and other professionals are best served by the association. NALS has traditionally held a strategic planning summit every 5-7 years.

The Strategic plan yielded 6 initiatives and several proposed bylaws changes.

The initiatives are as follows:

- 1) **Recruit Leaders at the Chapter and State Level**
 - a) Amend bylaws to change President-Elect to Vice President. Provide flexibility by allowing Secretary and Treasurer to be combined if necessary. Define roles of Immediate Past President.
 - b) Expand Chapter participation by adding live streamed monthly meetings for those that can't attend in person.
 - c) Provide leaders with resources by updating guidelines and board handbook (a draft has been prepared). Provide annual orientation for Board members.

Note on Committees:

- i) *NALS Our bylaws only require that the committee includes one member of the Board of Directors.*
- ii) *The bylaws allow anyone to serve on a committee.*
- iii) *This means that members, licensed or unlicensed, and even non-members may serve on a committee.*
- iv) *There is a misperception among members in believing that unlicensed members are not allowed to serve.*

- 2) **Support Four-Year Degree Program**
 - a) President's Message in the Traverse to address support of degree requirement for licensure.
 - b) Draft a resolution for NALS Board of Directors consideration to support four-year degree requirement (resolution has been drafted, pending approval by board of directors – May meeting).
 - c) Assist in securing a second professor at Great Basin College which will allow for ABET accreditation.
 - d) Coordinate with Great Basin College and UNLV to institute a minor program at UNLV.
 - e) Promote the NALS Education Foundation for the continuation of scholarship program.

- 3) **Increase Outreach and Workforce Development**
 - a) Amend bylaws to expand NALS purpose to identify recruitment to the profession as a critical mission.
 - b) Expand outreach beyond Trig Star. Identify new ways to provide awareness
 - i) Skills USA
 - ii) Counselor Conferences, STEM Days, Job Fairs
 - iii) Scouts
 - iv) Future Cities
 - c) Reach out to Nevada Department of Education to partner on workforce development (a draft letter has been prepared, pending approval by board of directors – May meeting).
 - d) Identify mentorship opportunities.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 35 ►

This individual will be receiving Life-Time Membership to NALS. Per the NALS By-Laws:
A life member award is given to any person who is:

- *licensed as a Professional Surveyor in the State of Nevada*
- *has at least ten years continuous membership in the Association*
- *is 60 years of age or older*
- *and who has shown exemplary service to the Association and the land surveying profession*

Life members are exempt from paying annual dues. Life memberships must be approved by the Board of Directors.

We had to verify this individuals age with his employer to see if he met the minimum age requirement.

As I understand it, this person was being told by his better half that a couple's escape was planned to get away, the same time the conference was being held in Reno. In reality, his family came in from around the country for a surprise stay-cation. This individual has selflessly served our association for well over two decades in various positions. He has been the chair for too many committees to count, our chapter president and served as our NSPS Governor, later re-named Director for 15 years.

Please join me in congratulating NALS newest life member, Mr. Paul Burn.

Greetings fellow Land Surveyors! Well it is early May already and we have had a very busy start to 2019. To date, we have held our first quarterly board meeting, a 2-day strategic planning summit and held our annual conference in conjunction with our neighbors to the west of the California Land Surveyors Association (be sure to read the conference wrap up article in this issue). These events, together with regular chapter meetings, events and committee meetings have been very productive.

I want to thank the state and chapter board members for their enthusiasm and willingness to put the hard work in to meet the demands of an aggressive agenda for the year.

Our financial status is in good shape. Thanks to cost savings measures and proper planning by prior boards, we came out of the recession okay. Funds were low, membership and sponsors were down, but the association is once again on solid footing.

To plan for future downturns, a potential poor conference turnout or other unforeseen financial hurdles, the board started setting aside cash reserves last year. We invested in two, \$10K CD's, at different maturity dates to allow for access, if needed. Pending the final reports from the conference, we should be in a position to add to this reserve again this year. The Strategic Planning Summit was held in Reno on February

Remote Sensing and Sensibility

By Carl C. de Baca with contributions from Nick Montoya and Jasen Solt

Arlington, VA April 10, 2019

The 2019 National Student competition kicked off at 8:00 on Wednesday, April 10 in the Gallery Ballroom at the Hilton. This year thirteen schools sent teams to compete and the subject over which the students were attempting to demonstrate mastery was entitled “Utilizing Remote Sensing in a Modern Survey Practice”. This was a wide-open mandate and all but guaranteed that the audience and judges were in for a variety of projects with elements of UAV technology in all its forms. There were bathymetric projects, terrestrial scanning projects, and nearly all of the schools used some form of drone mapping. A couple of schools looked at existing LiDAR data sets and one school even used satellite mapping. Holy cow! To make matters more interesting still, the two divisions of competitors, Associate Degree and Baccalaureate Degree all competed together with no allowances made for the lesser group.

Rich Vannozi Massachusetts Director and the event’s organizer, and Patty Brooks New York Director presided over the competition and kept the teams on track. This year’s judges were Joanne Williamson Hawaii Director and chair of the NSPS UAV Committee, Greg Copeland Maine Director and Chris Glanz a past president of the Young Surveyors Group and their current Delegate to the NSPS.

Each team had twenty minutes to make a presentation, followed by five minutes of questions from the judges and audience. The teams varied from three to six members and each team member had to take a turn speaking to the room. A pre-determined random order established the day’s proceedings. The thirteen schools appeared in the following order: New Jersey Institute of Technology, Idaho State university, Texas A&M Corpus Christi, **our own Great Basin College**, Kennesaw State University, New Mexico State University, Central New Mexico Community College, Alfred State University, East Los Angeles Community College, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, Dunwoody College of Technology, Oregon Institute of Technology and the University of Akron.

each school were nearly all visually arresting and technically challenging. As noted above, the tools used to map these sites were widely variable and anyone attending the event could easily tell that these students may have all started their projects very tentatively but in the end had mastered them and in the process learned how to use the most modern remote sensing tools, making them even more hireable!

Among the more interesting projects presented were the remains of a nineteenth century adobe fort, notable for the one-time presence of Geronimo, which was drone mapped and laser scanned; a canyon road with tunnels that was drone mapped while the tunnels were scanned and late nineteenth century grain mill that had been turned into condos and was laser scanned, inside and out.

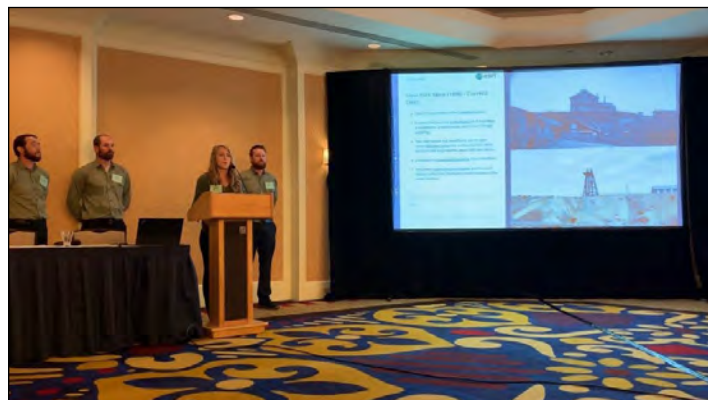
Our lovable GBC team’s project and presentation centered on an 1870’s Virginia City gold mine which they drone mapped while laser scanning the headframe situated over the old mine. They touched on interesting elements of the boundary survey and mapping, the historical survey control, the history of the mine itself and the challenges faced while mapping their project. (See commentary provided by a couple of the GBC students immediately after this piece.)



Jasen Solt, Jason Merchant, Sarah Walker and Nick Montoya

It was eye-opening to see these students producing design-level topographic mapping in state plane coordinates, citing NMAS and ASPRS accuracy standards, and articulating the challenges they faced while conducting the surveys. Many had weather problems, one had tidal issues to deal with and one had to topo a site they could not actually walk on – the off-season green on a golf course. This surveyor found it very amusing to hear GPS referred to as “conventional surveying”. How far we have come in the past ten years!

In addition to the live presentation, each team had to prepare a voluminous report and a poster that represented their project. Those three elements were major components of the scoring. Each team put together a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation, except for one team that used ESRI Story Map software. There was an endless array of animations, fly-throughs, contour maps, aerial imagery, scan imagery and data displayed all day on the projection screen. Software packages used included, Trimble Business Center, AutoCad Civil 3D, Carlson Civil, Faro Scene, Virtual Surveyor, Pix4D and probably a dozen others that this correspondent was unable to jot down as the students sailed through their lectures. The mind fairly boggles at all the information presented by these young surveyors.



The GBC team demonstrating confidence and competence

Teams came at the event from all angles. The sites chosen by

The judges, who were eminently qualified to evaluate this work,

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Remote Sensing and Sensibility... *continued from previous page*

certainly had their work cut out for them. One expects that they might have had to split hairs more than once to establish the top three teams in each category. In the end, every team that took home a trophy richly deserved it. Too bad there weren't more trophies because a couple of the 'honorable mention' teams were good enough to place. Here's hoping that all these teams and more, come back next year to try it again! What if we had twenty teams competing? How great would that be?

The winners in the Associate Degree category were 1st Place: Central New Mexico Community College; 2nd Place: East Los Angeles Community College and 3rd place: Northeast Wisconsin Technical College.

The winners in the Baccalaureate Degree category were 1st Place: University of Akron; 2nd Place: Texas A&M Corpus Christi and 3rd Place: Kennesaw State University.

Congratulations to the winners and in fact to all the competitors! A Job well done!

GBC Team Member Jasen Solt on the Experience of Competing Nationally

I don't know what was more difficult. The time I spent working on this project, re-learning calculus to complete my Least Squares midterm or preparing to stand in front of 150± of my peers and speak for a minute and a half. If this year's student competition presentation was going to be improved upon, our presentation was key (which we learned the hard way last year). Our flight out to Washington D.C. was scheduled to depart at 5:30am on Tuesday morning and we had a few practice runs under our belt. With enough information to fill our required presentation allotment, it seemed that repetition was what was going to make us, rather, me more comfortable. However, each time we attempted our presentation, whether, in front of empty chairs or in front of an audience, I fumbled and choked. While the others polished their well-rehearsed bits, I seemed to be heading for a re-write at the last minute. After re-working my portion and gleaned valuable advice from a surveyor with literary prowess, I was set for more practice, this time, in front of a mirror. After attempting our last run through prior to the start of the presentations for the day there was still some apprehension on my section. Our team chose to utilize a different presentation format from what is typically used during this type of competition presentation. Instead of Microsoft PowerPoint, we chose to utilize a free web app known as ESRI Story Maps which can be created to utilize a GIS component.

When we approached competition administrator Rich Vanzozi's table to provide our presentation and verify it's functionality a brief look of panic crossed his eyes. Vanzozi was receptive, however, and he allowed us to commandeer his laptop for our presentation. The order for the day has us presenting fourth. Just enough time for my undershirt to transfer the perspiration

to my freshly pressed, olive green, moisture absorbing, team chosen, designer shirt. I would love to say that my portion was flawless and I received accolades for my contribution - it wasn't. The practice and preparation, however, allowed me to recover from a brief pause and complete my part of the presentation with some confidence. The others on my team performed their pieces of the presentation exceptionally.

This student competition, although, stressful and time consuming considering our team members respective workloads provided us with the opportunity to access equipment and software that we are not typically in a position to. I took this opportunity to gain experience utilizing Trimble Business Center software as well as delve into the procedures needed to set up and execute a project typical to current procedures. We experienced many challenges and mistakes and learned how to correct and eliminate them.

This NSPS National Student Competition allows the students to create a project that can allow the individual to grow in knowledge and experience as well as encourage growth and support for the future surveyors.

GBC Team Member Nick Montoya on the Experience of Competing Nationally

When I heard that the 2019 NSPS student Competition was on "Utilizing Remotely

Sensed Data", and it was going to be held in Arlington, VA, I was all in. Once the team was established and we had a chance to work out our plan, we were able to put together a project that I feel came together really well in the end, a project that represented the prompt for the competition as well as the great state of Nevada.

I was tasked with performing and processing the scan data around the headframe to be used in the final product, which was a little bit scary as I had zero experience working with laser scanners to this point. Performing the scans was pretty straightforward but fiddle flopping my way through the processing this data as a first-time user of Recap was a bit time consuming, and maybe just a hair frustrating. But I will say after the fifth time of running through the registration process I feel like I got a pretty solid foundation to start building my experience with using point clouds.

Being able to be involved in the competition the past couple years has been an overall positive experience. While there has been a few speedbumps along the way, like finding out I have a pretty real fear of speaking in front of people, there has been so many more opportunities for me to learn to move past those boundaries while gaining a ton of valuable information and knowledge of surveying. The connections made and people met during these competitions, I believe, will only benefit myself and my career path in the future. I would also like to thank everyone who supported us along the way, and I am looking forward to competing again. ☺

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All Thirteen Teams Relieved That It's Over!

The 2018/2019 NALS Education Foundation Scholarship Winners

By Jerry Juarez

I've been involved with NALS for over 25 years, from serving as a member on the Southern Nevada Chapters' golf committee in the late 1990's to starting the Trig-Star program in Nevada 15 years ago now serving as Chair of the NSPS Trig-Star Program, and finally to President of NALS last year. Being involved with NALS has been very rewarding especially being able to bring awareness of Land Surveying to thousands of kids and hundreds of teachers over the years, but getting the opportunity to make a difference in young surveyors' careers by becoming a Foundation trustee with the NALS Education Foundation has to be the pinnacle of my NALS involvement.

First, let me introduce you to the other Trustees of the Foundation, like Marty Crook, who has driven the NALS Scholarship Auction successes for years, without him there wouldn't be any money to give away. Nancy Almanzan, PLS, President of NALS in 2009, who as far back as I can remember has served as the NALS Conference Chair and has also been involved with the Western Federation of Professional Surveyors for many years. Lastly, Carl C. de Baca, PLS, President of NALS in 2016. I don't think there's enough room in the Traverse to mention all that Carl has done for NALS, but I can sure mention some of the involvement he's had over the years. He's served as Chair on multiple committees like Bylaws, Legislative, Advanced Education, and continues to serve on many others. If that wasn't enough, he currently serves as the Director for Nevada with NSPS and editor of the Traverse



Great Basin Scholarship (\$2,500) – Jasen Solt

which has never been better. I would also like to welcome newly appointed Trustee Bill Kruger to the Foundation! I'm so honored to be able to serve as a fellow trustee with some of the most respected surveyors in Nevada!

It is my honor and privilege to be able to announce the 2018-2019 NALS Education Foundation Scholarship Winners! I've also included a self-written bio and photo for each recipient.

My name is Jasen Solt. I am 35 years old, married and have 3 growing boys. I grew up in the central valley of California and eventually made it over the hill to Reno to go to school at the University of Nevada Reno. While attending the University, I studied Art with a Photography emphasis, however, marriage and new children helped me to re-prioritize my responsibilities. I was working at Costco at the time and wanted the challenge of learning something new since I had to take a break from school. I had the opportunity to work with my brother in Redwood City, California as a survey CAD tech, but the commute from where I could afford to live was brutal. My family and I did not last long down there, and we made the move back to Nevada. I have since been working on developing my survey career at Lumos and Associates. At this time I have transferred to Great Basin College (GBC) with Associates degrees and am in the Bachelor of Applied Science program for Land Surveying and



Rita Lumos Leadership Scholarship (\$2,500) – Sarah Walker

Geomatics. I have been a member of the Student Competition Team for the past two years. I have been challenged to learn on the job and through the courses that I am taking in the evening online through GBC while working nearly 50 hours per week. When my family and I have free time we enjoy getting outdoors and visiting with friends and family.

My name is Sarah Walker. I grew up in a small town called Cool, CA but have since moved to Gardnerville, NV. My interest in Land Surveying started when I was working at an Engineering Firm in Auburn, CA as a Design Drafter and was asked to go out and assist the surveyor on a job. I had never really learned about what Land Surveying was until that day and I was instantly hooked. I quickly decided to switch my major from Engineering to Land Surveying. In order to do so I needed to attend a different college. I sought out Great Basin College in 2015 and started their online Land Surveying/Geomatics program. I continued working full time while attending college part time serving in roles as an Engineering Technician as well as a Surveying Technician. I have now been in the Engineering/Surveying field for the past 8 years.

After the beginning of this year, I started working part time at a surveying/engineering/planning firm in Reno as a Surveying Technician, in conjunction with taking on a full course load at Great Basin College. I received my Associates Degree in Land Surveying in the Fall of 2018. I plan on graduating with my Bachelor's Degree in the Fall of 2020. I took the Fundamentals of Surveying Exam in July of 2017 (and passed!). I received my Land Surveyor-In-Training (LSIT) Certificate in September of 2017. I have competed on Great Basin College's Survey Competition team for the past 2 years now. I am a part of the Nevada Association of Land

CONTINUED ON PAGE 35 ►

Western Federation of Professional Surveyors

WFPS

526 South E Street - Santa Rosa, CA 95404
Phone: (707) 578-1130 Fax: (707) 578-4406
admin@wfps.org

October 15, 2018

Dear WestFed Survey Community:

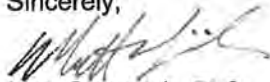
Wildfire ravaged the Western United States in the 2017 and 2018. Devastation impacted many, including some in the land surveying profession. Along with the terrible destruction came those that were willing to help. Lots of individuals reached into their pockets to give to those in need, surveyors were no exception.

The NSPS Foundation established a disaster relief fund which has been a valuable resource to help support those in the survey community. Recent natural disasters across the Country have created a need for more private assistance. On May 18, 2018 the Western Federation of Professional Surveyors joined efforts with the NSPS Foundation and established the Western State Scholarship and Relief Fund. This fund will benefit from the NSPS Foundations assets and help grow the money faster to support those in need.

In addition, to providing disaster relief assistance to surveyors in the western states, this fund will also be used to fund scholarships for students studying land surveying in the western states. WFPS has been providing scholarships for more than three decades. By moving the scholarship funds to the NSPS Foundation we are able to earn a greater return on investment and the tax benefits afforded a 501(c)(3).

Attached are applications for the relief fund and the scholarship. If you would like to contribute to the Western State Scholarship and Relief Fund, please send a check to WFPS Scholarship and Relief fund 526 South E Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95404.

Sincerely,



Matt Gingerich, PLS
WFPS Chair

About WFPS

The Western Federation of Professional Surveyors (WFPS) was formed in 1979. The Board of Directors includes two delegates from each of the 13 western states. WFPS serves as a regional voice for Land Surveyors and meets quarterly to discuss practice issues affecting western state surveyors. For more information about WFPS and the state associations, visit WFPS.org

WFPS Executive Office
T. (707) 578-1130 F. (707) 578-4406
admin@wfps.org



2019 CLSA/NALS Conference Wrap Up

by Carl C. de Baca

Well it's been a while since our two sister states got together for a conference and it looked like the vast majority were happy that it finally took place! If you didn't attend, go ahead and take just a minute and ... kick yourself. Some five hundred Californians and Nevadans met at the Silver Legacy in Reno from March 23 to the 26th for fun, education and an opportunity to renew friendships, and the event started, ran and ended like clockwork. This was an extremely well-attended affair, with a lot of moving parts, taking place over several days. For this correspondent, it is gratifying to know that our two fine organizations were able to work together so flawlessly. We have laid out a blueprint for how to do this again, perhaps on a semi-regular basis (pardon the blatant editorial opinion).

booths and the silent auction materials were slowly accumulated on the tables in the main hall. It looked to our cub reporter as though this was the best-attended set of pre-conference workshops in our history together. With Jeff Lucas offering two half-day workshops, the first on "Boundary Retracement Cases" and the second on "Deeds, Conveyances and Boundaries"; and an all-day class on Autocad "Civil 3D for Land Surveyors" put on by Rick Ellis, there was no shortage of educational opportunity, right out of the starting gate.



The digital Sandbox - a Trent Keenan Creation!



Meanwhile the LS Review track started in earnest with classes on the CA PLS Act, GPS Geodesy and Water Boundaries filling out the day. A bevy of students and volunteers ported donated equipment, books, knick-knacks, gifts and artwork here and there, while the auction tables slowly took shape. It was poetry in motion. Sometimes awkward and clumsy, but poetry nonetheless... A big thanks to everyone who donated items, everyone who bought items and all those responsible for bringing order to all this chaos!

Day One

On Saturday the 23rd, the pre-conference workshops ran throughout the day, while the vendors started assembling their

The vendor's hall sold out this year. In fact, it did so quite some time ago. Clearly there was a pent-up appetite for having a joint conference.



Marty Crook & Jeff Flamini setting up shop



CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ►

Conference Wrap Up...continued from previous page

With a change in process this year, the vendors showed up to assemble their wares on the first day, so that the exhibit hall could open along with the opening Ceremonies. This was a great idea and should be carried forward in future conferences.



And, finally, the first day culminated with the Scholarship Bowling Tourney at the National Bowling Stadium. More about that later!

Day Two

On Sunday the 24th, the proceedings got under way in earnest. Instead of kicking off at noon as has been the case in the past few joint conferences, we got underway at 8:00 AM with the Opening Ceremonies.



Scout Troop 411 did a bang-up job presenting the colors and Roni Ellison gave a beautiful rendition of the national anthem. Co-presidents, Annette Hovorka from California and Jason Higgins from Nevada led the assembled masses in the Pledge of Allegiance and then welcomed the attendees, introduced their officers and made a few announcements. Then they turned the stage over to another pair of co-presidents, (from 2010), Aaron Smith and Matt Gingerich, who in period costume did a bit of historic interpretation. With narration by Steve Parrish, Aaron channeled Alexei Von Schmidt while Matt dug into the character of Daniel Majors as they acted out an imaginary conversation regarding the differences between their two surveys of the Nevada/ California state line. Culminating in a shot of whiskey (before 9 in the morning, no less!), the presentation was both humorous and thought-provoking. This correspondent was still chuckling about the whole thing in the later afternoon. Just one thing though - wouldn't Alexei and possibly Daniel too, have had some kind of accents? (Thankfully no one said "Yo, dude".)



Daniel Majors and Alexei von Schmidt shoot the breeze

With the conference workshops starting right after the Opening Ceremonies, it was time to let the learning begin. Over the course of the day Jeff Lucas held forth on a variety of topics, while Forest Decker, Scott Peterson and Chris Facque offered classes on respectively, the US Forest Service, Accuracy of LiDAR Point Clouds, and Water Rights. The LS Review track covered construction survey calculations, and Public Lands.

Day Three

On Monday Dave Doyle spoke throughout all four sessions, the first two on modernizing the national spatial reference system and the second two on the history of geodetic datums.



Dave Doyle- Geodesy and Oracle

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Conference Wrap Up...continued from previous page

Dave is a great and enthusiastic speaker who salts his speech with the occasional Grateful Dead reference, (like a true master). Also happening on Monday, Steve Parrish and Byron Johnson teamed up for a presentation on private-federal boundary determination. Boy, talk about eminently qualified.

In addition to our featured heavyweights, James Johnston outlined Least Squares Adjustments, Michael Hartley spoke on QBS, Logan Campbell discussed collecting survey-grade data with drones and Mike Barger spoke about re-monumentation in Michigan. All in all, a great day for PDH's. The LS Review track tackled legal descriptions and boundary analysis.

Day Four

Ahh, Tuesday – the last day and lucky for everyone, it only went until noon. Scott Peterson gave a talk on boundary lines versus property lines, Dana Caccamise gave an NGS update, Laura Ledbetter discussed drone liability exposure and Karl Eitenmiller discussed water rights.

A Panel Discussion with a Surveyor, Attorney and a Title Company (actually a title officer) was a two-session open dialog between the audience and the panel. It started off slowly and gained speed like a snowball rolling downhill until just before the end. With about ten minutes to go it became patently obvious that the crowd was all 'conferenced out' and the questions tapered off to silence and fatigued stares. You know it has been a successful affair when a room full of surveyors runs out of things to say. A special thanks is owed to the attorney, Steve Silva and the title officer, Lisa Quilici, (mostly for putting up with the moderator). And it must be said that the surveyor, Dan Church is a true professional!

Panel Discussion and Round Table Meetings

Aside from the previously mentioned surveyor/attorney/ title officer panel discussion, this conference featured several other workshops done in a similar format, all of which were well-attended and gave those who came an opportunity to speak up on many issues of great relevance. Panel discussions included Meeting the NALS Officers, Meeting the CLSA Officers, Meeting the CA BPELSG and Meeting the NV BPELS. Round table sessions, all very informally moderated, covered Education and the Four-Year Degree, Women in Surveying, Concerns Facing the Profession, Workforce Development, Recruitment and Mentorship, and Outreach. Hopefully notes were taken at these jam sessions, because plenty of sage advice was offered!

The LS Review Track

CLSA once again put on a terrific LS Review track with John Adam, Mike Hart, Bill Hofferber, Armand Marois, Steve Martin, Rob McMillan, Evan Page and Ian Wilson all contributing their time and knowledge for the greater good. Attendees told your correspondent that this was terrific set of classes and that all of these volunteer instructors did a great job. Sadly, this effort probably does not get as much recognition as it should. Next time you see any of these fellas, be sure to thank them!

Social Activities

Well we did it! On Saturday night we sold out all ten lanes in the ground floor alley and packed the house at the National Bowling Stadium Bowling tourney. At this rate, we might have a stab at filling the 78 lanes upstairs someday. CLSA has a long history of bowling as an Education Foundation fundraiser and has many enthusiasts, NALS, with its brand-new Education Foundation, has only been doing this for three years, but is rapidly developing its own cadre of bowling nuts. Consequently, there were plenty

of bowlers from both groups and some teams had members from each state on board, as the liquid refreshments and gutter balls flowed. The winner was the Diamondback team from Las Vegas. Congratulations Boys!



Hello Dorothy!



Mitch Bartorelli preparing for a strike



Spin it Rusty!

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ►

Conference Wrap Up...continued from previous page

On Sunday night the two presidents hosted their hospitality suites. Traditionally, these events are a great opportunity to get into deep and often loud off-the-books conversations with people you might never have met before. For the first time in many years, if not ever, both states' center of hospitality could be found on the same floor, in adjoining suites, a most welcome innovation. And as always, what happens in those suites, stays in those suites!

Awards luncheon

The Awards Luncheon on Sunday was jam-packed with touching moments as many deserving folks from both states received recognition from their NALS and/or CLSA for their efforts on behalf of their organizations and the profession.

2019 President Jason Higgins presented his predecessor, Jerry Juarez with a plaque and gave him a hearty thanks for his efforts on behalf of the organization. Jerry then gave out presidential citations to Trent Keenan, Nancy Almanzan and Carl C.de Baca for their work in 2018.

The Meritorious Service Award was given to a very deserving Matt Gingerich for his long years of service to NALS. In a complete surprise, the Von Schmidt award, which is given to someone who has contributed to both states, was presented to C.de Baca, who was actually caught speechless, if only for a moment, (blink and you missed it).



Thanks Jerry!

The big NALS awards were given out as follows: the Editorial of the year award went to Shane Trotter. The Article of the Year award went to Carl C.de Baca. (C.de Baca was also presented with the 2017/2018 NSPS Editorial of the Year Award.) The Surveyor of the Year award went to Jon Wooten in recognition of his work heading up the 2018 GPS on Benchmarks campaign.



Congratulations Jon!



Congratulations Matt!

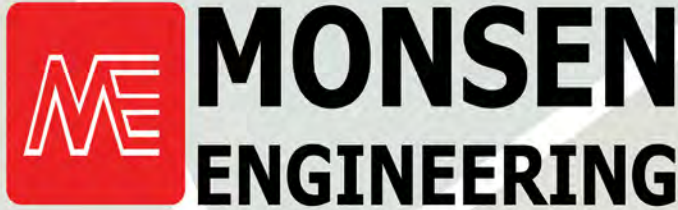


Congratulations Shane!



Congratulations Carl!

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Russell Avery Rest in Peace



RUSSELL AVERY Russell "Russ" Avery, 94, passed peacefully at home, May 16, 2019, in Las Vegas. His loving wife, of 41 years, Joyce A. Avery and daughter, Linda L. Miller, were at his side.

He was born November 03, 1924, to Orin Saxton Avery & Josephine Vivian Russell Avery. Russ was born and raised on the family Klamath Pass Ranch, Dorris, CA, along with his sister, Patricia Dresselhaus. In 1943, he joined the Army Air Corp (U.S.A.F.) Capt. A.R. Avery was a fighter pilot during World War II stationed in Honolulu, HI, and served in the Reserve Force until 1957. In 1957, he was honorably discharged from the U.S.A.F.

He never lost his love for flying. He had many accomplishments, including attaining a degree in Civil Engineering from Oregon State University in 1952. In 1993, Russ attained another degree in Anthropology from the University of Nevada at Las Vegas. Russ was a Professional Engineer, Professional Land Surveyor, Water Right Surveyor, Real Estate Broker & Land Developer. Along his journey, he was Airport Manager in Klamath Falls, Oregon, an Engineer at Porter, Urquhart, McCreary & O'Brien Consulting Engineers in San Francisco, CA. He then owned and operated an Engineering and Surveying business in California. Russ worked as an Engineer for the U.S. Navy Department before moving to Las Vegas, Nevada in 1968. Avery Engineering & Surveying Corporation was then established until he retired.

Russ was past President or chapter president of the following organizations: Archeology Association; California Land Surveyors Association; Nevada Association of Land Surveyors; Fraternal Order of Eagles Las Vegas Aerie # 1213; local and national Board of St. Jude's Ranch for Children, and UNLV Library Board. He is a member of the following; Masonic Molino Lodge # 150 in Los Molinos, CA; Masonic Daylight Lodge # 44 in Las Vegas; Scottish Rite in Las Vegas and Zelzah Shrine Temple in Las Vegas. Russ is a Life Member of the following; Elks, American Society of Civil Engineers and National Society of Professional Engineers. A past member of the Las Vegas Executives Association, Uptown Kiwanis and Las Vegas Board of Realtors. He was an avid reader of archaeological findings, history, technical journals, people and current events. Russ and Joyce enjoyed flying, camping & exploring together.

Russ is survived by his wife, Joyce A. Avery; daughters, Linda L. Miller, of Bend, OR and Rebecca L. Avery, of Summerdale, AL; grandchildren, Oran Lee Miller Jr., Chiloquin, OR (passed), Angela Hawkins, of Spring, TX, Amanda Mabrey, of Houston, TX and Nadja Schmidt, of Bend, OR; great-grandchildren, Breana Lee, Jesse, Anna-Marie, Gregor and Theodore. Services were Thurs., May 23. Burial was May 23rd, at Palm Valley View Cemetery, 7600 S. Eastern Ave., Las Vegas, NV.

He was a unique individual, remembered for his devotion, dedication & commitment. He is deeply loved and will be missed.

Excerpted from Las Vegas Review-Journal May 21, 2019



A Monumental Round (But Somehow Square) Table Meeting Hath Taken Place

A summons was sent out throughout the lands for a select group of knowledgeable surveyors to gather and debate. Nothing less than the Future of Surveying was at stake. (permit me the slight exaggeration!)

Whereupon a great assembly of surveyor muckety-mucks, heavyweights, big kahunas and grand pooh-bahs sat around a table and debated some of the challenges and opportunities facing the profession in anno Domini 2019. A meeting with such an objective could have gone on almost forever, but sadly there were only two hours allotted for this ambitious undertaking. As one might imagine, this esteemed group ran out of time before running out of subject matter. Ah well, there's always next year.

Amongst those who heard the clarion call and responded in person:

- Kim Leavitt, Idaho PLS, past president of ISPLS and 2018 President of NSPS,
- Pat Tami, California PLS, past president of CLSA and 2018 President of NCEES,
- Nancy Almanzan, Nevada PLS, past president of NALS and past chair of the Western Federation of Professional Surveyors (WFPS),
- Jason Higgins, Nevada PLS and 2019 President of NALS,
- Annette Hovorka, California PLS and 2019 President of CLSA,
- Ric Moore, California PLS and Executive Director of the California Board of Professional Engineers Land Surveyors and Geologists,
- Robert LaRiviere, Nevada PLS, past president of NALS and LS member of the Nevada Board of Professional Engineers Land Surveyors,
- Michael Kidd, Nevada PLS, City Surveyor for the City of Henderson and LS member of the Nevada Board of Professional Engineers Land Surveyors,
- Aaron Smith, California PLS, past president of CLSA and past chair of WFPS,

- Ray Mathe, California PLS, past president of CLSA and past chair of WFPS,
- Greg Phillips, Nevada PLS and president-elect of NALS,
- Todd Enke, Nevada PLS and president of NALS Lahontan Chapter,
- Jon Scarpa, California PLS and Sacramento County Surveyor,
- Armand Marois, California PLS, past president of CLSA and outgoing Director-At-Large of NSPS, and
- Your humble correspondent, Nevada PLS, past-president of NALS and Nevada Director of NSPS.

Alas, were I to but list the accomplishments of these powerful, enlightened and influential individuals, there would no room left in these pages for the article which follows. Suffice it to say, alone and in aggregate, these giants have indeed stomped the Terra.

The following epic conversation, informal in nature but substantive in content, was captured without the use of modern recording equipment and transcribed with haste so as to be brought to you, dear reader, without delay. This being the case, consider this piece as liberal paraphrasing rather than exact quotation (I made stuff up...). No set agenda was provided or followed so as to have the conversation 'develop organically' (does anyone else hate that phrase? It's right up there with 'synergy', 'core competency' and 'drinking the Kool-Aid'). Without a pre-determined schedule, topics came round in their own sweet time.

Nevada Traverse (NT) Well to kick this conversation off, does the profession of Surveying have an identity problem, a self-esteem issue?

Bob As a profession we are not good at tooting our own horns.

Jason We tend not to reach out to the other professions and look for opportunities to collaborate. We could put on workshops that satisfy continuing education credits for others, like attorneys and real estate professionals.

Annette We need to be more social media savvy. People don't see us as much anymore. We need more presence in LinkedIn and Facebook, and Twitter, etc.

Bob Also, it's a real loss not having a surveying class in most college engineering programs these days.

Jason You know part of it is we have forgotten who we are. Why do we call our education programs "Geomatics"? What's wrong with "Surveying"?

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ►



NT Interesting point, let's talk about education and outreach to students

Mike Question for NALS - Can we use scholarship money to reach out to younger kids and not just for college scholarships?

NT The money in the NALS Education Foundation is for 'educational purposes' and could definitely be used for reaching into schools at any level. We should look into more creative avenues for youth outreach, and the Foundation could fund some of that.

Mike NALS and CLSA are in the best position to be the clearinghouse for issues and opportunities. We need to get to the high school students but also to grade school and junior high students. If they knew about them, there are things in this profession that would get the attention of younger kids.

Todd And we need to revamp the Scouting Survey Merit Badge. The feedback I hear is that it's too hard and takes too long for a scout to get that badge and nobody is interested in going after it.

NT I've heard of proposals to update the merit badge and turn it into something that can be accomplished in one day. At the national level, NSPS has connections to Scouting that could make that happen.

Todd Also, we need to make a connection with the Girl Scouts too. That is a group of young people we should try to reach.

Kim I recently attended the national high school counselors conference. I was told more than once that if they see another brochure with a person standing by an instrument, they're gonna puke.

Jason At our Strategic Planning meeting, our youngest attendee, who teaches at Great Basin College, said that when addressing high schoolers, we need to quit falling back on the Mt. Rushmore imagery. It has no relevance to this generation. Instead, how about showing them a phone app for compass and lead a discussion on the concept of direction. That's a pretty good idea.

Kim I think it is definitely possible to find STEM money for teaching Surveying at high schools.

NT I've been intermittently beating the drum for a few years now about the SkillsUSA program. Maybe there is a way to combine STEM funding and a SkillsUSA program throughout our two states.

Armand The problem with any program, TrigStar or

SkillsUSA or the Scouting Merit Badge, is the need for committed volunteers. We have never been able to attract as many as we need.

Kim One thing is for sure, we are going to have to find new ways to attract people to the Surveying profession. We need to identify not only future professionals, but future technicians, too. Not everyone wants to be a professional.

Jason NSPS needs to look down the road and make a blueprint for the next generation of surveyors.

Ray If it ever was, Surveying is not a Journeyman profession anymore. We don't take field technicians in and develop professional surveyors anymore.

Pat Surveyors need to get out of our own way and look at the broader picture. We should represent something larger than just Surveying.

Annette I work primarily with GIS data, but really our jobs are all data management positions, regardless of who created the data.

Ric Exactly, embrace your expertise and market yourselves as experts who validate geospatial data.

Ray Take a look at the difference between 2008 and now. What do we want our profession to look like? Maybe we are over-focusing on technical skills and missing the boat on legal education.

Note: Ray, Pat and NT are holdovers from a similar roundtable meeting held in San Diego at a conference in 2008. A summary of that epic meeting was written in California Surveyor No. 159 which can be found on the CLSA website. It is striking how many issues that were relevant then are still so today!- NT

NT How do the core requirements for a college Surveying program get created anyway? How does a state board decide how much math is enough and how much law is enough?

Pat State Boards and NCEES look to ABET and ABET looks to NSPS for recommendations on requirements. Regarding technicians and technology, we worry too much about changes in technology and what it means to the profession. Is anyone familiar with the term 'disruptional innovation'? Periodically something comes along and changes everything that came before. The measurement technologies we've all used, EDM, GPS, etc, are done. We can either adapt and embrace the new dynamic, or cry 'poor me'. You should ask yourself "What kinds of these disruptional innovations can I get behind?"

Armand we need to find professionals, social media

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Monumental Round Table...continued from previous page

consultants maybe, to help with establishing a presence in social media and to help with strategies for recruitment.

Pat Maybe we don't need as many technicians as we used to. But, if we had the same amount of people coming into the profession as we had before, we could keep them busy – just not doing the same tasks technicians have traditionally done.

Jason One of the things that came out of our Strategic Planning meeting last month was a suggestion to get our technicians more involved by allowing them voting rights and the ability to serve as committee chairs and chapter officers. We are going to explore that further this year.

Mike With respect to outreach for the Board of Engineers and Land Surveyors, should the board spend money for outreach outside the professions we oversee?

Ric the California board is looking at making You-tube videos for outreach, "How to file a complaint", "How to take an exam", and so on. And, maybe spending money on webinars is still a good idea.

Pat But really, the question is, can we find common branding? Is our message up 'til now getting stale?

Jon Surveyors don't embrace the concept of 'value-added' services. We aren't educating our clients on the importance of having a survey and helping them toward solutions that don't strictly involve the profession.

Nancy One thing that was emphasized in the NSPS/NCEES 'Future of Surveying' forum that I took part in was marketing the profession. The forum looked like a good opportunity to find a way forward and then it fizzled out.

Pat Has anyone seen the Tennessee Association of Professional Surveyors promotional video on You-Tube? [<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0avrQyHw5Rg&t=4s>] This is an excellent example of how to present the profession to the public.

Mike Going back to something that Ray said earlier, more law and less math in college survey programs would be a good idea to take back to NSPS.

Kim I can take that message back and sit in on the Education Committee meeting.

NT I'd like to talk about the threat to licensure going on in West Virginia right now. Across the country there are bills being introduced in state legislatures that would disempower or eliminate licensing boards. Let

me read you a quick summary of House Bill 2697 in West Virginia:

The Bill would allow unlicensed practice of a variety of licensed activities. Language in the "Legislative Purpose" stated in the Bill proposes to "expand opportunities, promote innovation and increase competition by allowing consumers to make decisions in hiring and contracting with providers of their choice; relieve providers from burdensome occupational licenses; promote the use of less-restrictive regulatory alternatives to occupational licenses to protect consumers' health and safety; encourage trade associations and similar private organizations to self-regulate; promote interstate mobility and flexible labor markets; and reduce the exposure of members of occupational licensing boards to liability under federal and state antitrust laws." There is language in the "Definitions" section of the Bill which would allow non-licensed individuals to provide services to the public as long as they present a "non-licensed disclosure" statement to prospective clients. A proposed example for such disclosure reads: Provider's Disclosure: "West Virginia state law requires providers of the service that you, the consumer, are agreeing to purchase in this contract to hold an occupational license. I am not licensed by the state, but by providing this non-licensed disclosure I am allowed by (cite this section) to perform the service in this contract."

Pat First of all, please – let's call these 'threats to public protection' rather than 'threats to professional licensure'. And for a minute look at this from the perspective of taxis versus Uber or Lyft. How many of us care what happened to taxi drivers once we could get an Uber using an app more easily than getting a taxi? The public needs to know us. It will be harder to eliminate us if people know who we are. Join other organizations like Rotary or whatever and look for opportunities to speak to people.

NT Well – our two hours are up so I guess we'll have to leave it there. I feel like we barely scratched the surface, but one thing is for sure, conversations like these need to continue at all levels, chapter, state and at the NSPS. Thanks to everyone for finding the time to sit in on today's meeting.

And with that, the meeting adjourned. I sincerely hope that as you read through this conversation, thoughts are triggered in your head. Thoughts of how can you help the profession – social media, youth outreach, marketing the profession, supporting college education, combatting bad and poorly thought out legislation – in fact there are a million ways you can help. This group of committed leaders didn't have all the answers but they did have most of the questions, and that is good start.

As Otter said in Animal House, "I think this situation absolutely requires a really futile and stupid gesture be done on somebody's part!"





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NALS Launches Job Board

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TOPICS	REPLIES	VIEWS	LAST POST
Western NV College - Instructor Needed by nalsboardadmin » Thu May 17, 2018 9:19 pm	0	1	by nalsboardadmin » Thu May 17, 2018 9:19 pm
Senior CAD Technician by sgrimmitt » Thu May 17, 2018 3:36 pm	0	1	by sgrimmitt » Thu May 17, 2018 3:36 pm
Welcome to the NALS Job Board by nalsboardadmin » Wed May 16, 2018 11:57 pm	0	8	by nalsboardadmin » Wed May 16, 2018 11:57 pm
Welcome to phpBB3 by nalsboardadmin » Sun Apr 15, 2018 12:10 am	0	3	by nalsboardadmin » Sun Apr 15, 2018 12:10 am

NALS has launched a new job board to help employers fill vacancies and members search for new opportunities. The job board is a separate system from our members' portal, to post you will need to register and follow the onscreen prompts. Registration is free. You do not have to register to view postings.

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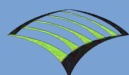
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IT CAN'T HAPPEN HERE. *

** Except it can.*

Natural disasters can strike just about anywhere. While here in Nevada we are blessedly immune to the ravages of hurricanes like Michael, that struck the South in 2018 or Harvey and Maria who wreaked havoc in 2017, we still had the worst fire year in state history this year. Even so it was nothing like California where the Mendocino Complex and Carr fires destroyed the homes and livelihoods of thousands of victims. Some of whom were surveyors, like yourself.



The National Society of Professional Surveyors Foundation, through its Disaster Relief Fund, has helped dozens of surveyors whose homes were destroyed by disasters such as these. But we do this from a very modest base and we could use your help. By helping us with a donation, you are helping surveyors across the nation as surveyors elsewhere may one day help you! Please give today.



Go to the NSPS website /www.nspss.us.com for a link to the donation page, or

Contact NSPS Director for Nevada and NSPS Foundation Trustee Carl C.de Baca PLS at Alidade.nv@sbcglobal.net for information on how to donate. And Thank you!



Conference Wrap Up...continued from page 12

Congratulations to all and thanks for all you do for NALS! Your peers and your profession recognizes and appreciates your efforts.

Comedy Luncheon

On Monday, the luncheon featured comedian Don McMillan who kept everyone in stitches with his nerd-centric jokes. A former engineer, he profiled the crowd for the nerds they really are. He was especially observant of the NALS officers, and had some great things to say about PowerPoint presentations. Everyone this correspondent interviewed found Mr. McMillan to be both extraordinarily funny and spot-on with his sense of engineers and surveyors.



Lightning Strikes!



Make us laugh funny man!

Scholarship auction

In a first for this event, the year's scholarship winners were announced prior to the start of the auction. That really drove it home – why we do this every year. In what may be one of the last times that Greg 'Lightning' Williams will preside over our event, the bidding was fast and furious, and extremely humorous. Lightning made several bidders cough up extra cash at the end of the auction and one bidder in particular got the demonic stare-down resulting in a \$500 'donation'. Great job, Lightning! Our cub reporter was informed that over \$35,000 was raised that night. No info is available yet on the split between the states, or on the take from the silent auction. Stay tuned.

Thank You's

Thanks to Annette Hovorka, 2019 President of CLSA and Jason Higgins, 2019 NALS President, and to their respective officer corps for their hard work at the conference. Thanks also to Central offices of both organizations for their tireless efforts at keeping this living, breathing organism on track. Thanks to the conference committee for each state and especially to Crissy Willson and Nancy Almanzan of NALS and Bill Hofferber of CLSA for their dogged efforts at getting this thing together in the first place, and then after surmounting various obstacles, putting into place a terrific program. Thanks to the hard work put forth by the student helpers from both states. Thanks to vendors for making this all possible and most of all, a warm and sincere thanks to those of you who attended, making Conference 2019 an awesome success.

Like Jethro Bodine would say, "Let's do this again, real soon!" Sláinte! -CRC 4/27/19



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NALS Board of Directors Meeting

May 17, 2019 • Offices of Diamondback Land Surveying • Las Vegas, NV

MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING held Friday, May 17, 2019 at the offices of Diamondback Land Surveying in Las Vegas, NV.

CALL TO ORDER

President Jason Higgins called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM

ROLL CALL

Jason Higgins, President
Greg Phillips, President-Elect
Justin Moore, Secretary
Nick Ariotti, Director
Todd Enke, Director
Gene Sawyer, Director
Crissy Willson, Executive Director

Absent: Robert Carrington, Treasurer and Bill Kruger, Director

Guests: Frank Wittie, SNALS Treasurer and Nancy Almanzan, Past President, Conference Chair, WFPS Director

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Report included in agenda.

President Jason Higgins reported on the activities of NALS over the last quarter. Highlights include:

- Strategic Planning Meeting
- Successful joint conference with CLSA
- NDOT AdHoc Committee Established

Initiatives were established as part of the strategic planning meeting one of which was for NALS to increase outreach and workforce development programs.

A letter was drafted to the Office of Career Readiness regarding workforce development was included in the agenda.

MOVED by Justin Moore and **SECONDED** to approve the workforce development letter. **MOTION CARRIED.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

Report included in agenda.

The Board of Directors reviewed the financial statements as included in the agenda. Executive Director Crissy Willson reported that a balance sheet comparison shows that NALS finances have steadily increased since 2016 and NALS should be able to meet their reserve goal this year.

MOVED by Greg Phillips and **SECONDED** to accept the financial statements as included in the agenda. **MOTION CARRIED.**

EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Report included in agenda.

The NALS Education Foundation funded students to attend the NSPS Student Competition and the CLSA/NALS Conference. In addition, \$8500 in scholarships were awarded this year. The NALS Education Foundation will be releasing their 2020 scholarship application this summer with a deadline in the fall for submission.

The annual scholarship auction, led by Marty Crook, raised over \$32,000 this year.

ADVANCED EDUCATION

Report included in agenda.

The survey program at Great Basin College (GBC) continues to thrive. NALS and the NALS Education Foundation has pledged to support the program as needed. The current need is for a second professor to support the program. A second professor would also enable the program to be come ABET accredited.

Action Item: President Jason Higgins to coordinate with Advanced Education Committee Chair Gene Sawyer and Professor Byron Calkins to write a letter in support of a second professor at GBC. NALS will also request support letters from the NALS Education Foundation, WestFed, and NSPS.

The strategic planning committee recommended that the Board of Directors reaffirm their support of a four-year degree requirement. A draft resolution was included in the agenda for the Board of Directors to review. The Board reviewed the resolution and made minor amendments.

MOVED by Todd Enke and **SECONDED** to adopt resolution 2019-02 as amended. **MOTION CARRIED.**

BPELS LIAISON

Report included in agenda.

BPELS Liaison Greg Phillips reported on the activities of BPELS. NALS continues to send a representative to each BPELS meeting.

- BPELS held a digital submittal workshop hosted by NSPE in Las Vegas. NALS, APWA, & ASCE are going to co-sponsor the workshop in the Reno area (date and location to be determined)
- BPELS is relocating their office in May. The new office will be better equipped to accommodate virtual meetings
- BPELS will be hosting the Reconnect Workshop in Reno on October 10th at the Grove
- BPELS has opposed AB 2 which is a bill sponsored by Clark County that would increase the amount that triggers Quality-Based Selection (QBS) to \$100,000
- National Transportation Safety Board is recommending elimination of the PE exemption for public utility work

Upcoming BPELS Meetings:

- Sept 12, 2019 Elko
- Nov 7, 2019 Reno
- Jan 16, 2020 Las Vegas
- Mar 12, 2020 Reno

BYLAWS

Proposed bylaw revisions included in the agenda.

The Strategic Planning Committee recommend several bylaw amendments in order to achieve strategic goals. The Board of Directors reviewed the bylaw amendment proposal and made minor changes.

MOVED by Gene Sawyer and **SECONDED** to approve the bylaw proposal, as amended, and submit to the membership for approval. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Action Item: Crissy Willson to revise bylaw proposal as amended by the Board of Directors and develop the ballot to be sent to the membership for vote.

Crissy Willson reported that a boilerplate has been developed for chapter bylaws. Upon final approval of the revised bylaws, the boilerplate will be provided to each Chapter for review. Once each chapter adopts bylaws, it is recommended that NALS file for a group exemption through the IRS.

CONFERENCE

Report included in agenda.

Conference Chair Nancy Almanzan reported the 2019 CLSA-NALS Conference was a resounding success! Below is preliminary data on the 2019 Conference.

Number of Attendees: 561

The registrants including: attendees, speakers, exhibitors, student volunteers and one-day registrants.

Number of Full Paid Attendees: 382

This includes attendees registered for the full Conference (Sat. – Tues. or Sun. – Tue.).

Percentage of Full Paid Attendees:

The percentage of full paid attendees is used to calculate the split of net profit between CLSA and NALS.

California – 71%

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ►

Nevada – 29%

Scholarship Auction:

The Scholarship Auction breakdown was as follows:

NALS - \$32,771

CLSA - \$18,476

CLSA has requested partnering with NALS again in 2020. NALS has also invited Arizona Professional Land Surveyors (APLS) and they have accepted the invitation. The APLS-CLSA-NALS Conference will be held in Las Vegas in 2020. Crissy Willson reported that space is currently being held at multiple hotels for a 2020 Conference and at the Silver Legacy for 2021 and 2023.

MOVED by Justin Moore and **SECONDED** to authorize Crissy Willson to negotiate and sign a contract with Silver Legacy for 2021 and 2023. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOVED by Todd Enke and **SECONDED** to authorize Crissy Willson to negotiate and sign a hotel contract for a 2020 Conference in Las Vegas. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOVED by Gene Sawyer and **SECONDED** to authorize Nancy Almanzan to negotiate and sign an MOU with California and Arizona for 2020. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MEMBERSHIP

Report included in agenda.

Membership Committee Chair Justin Moore reported that the NALS membership continues to grow. The membership survey was compiled and used by the Strategic Planning Committee for development of strategic goals and initiatives based on the feedback of the membership.

The list of members with unpaid dues was included in the agenda. Chapter leadership is encouraged to contact members in their area regarding outstanding dues.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Report included in agenda.

NALS is now using a service to track bills that affect the land surveying profession. Legislative Committee Chair Robert Carrington is currently tracking 16 bills.

NDOT AD HOC COMMITTEE

Report included in agenda.

This committee was formed in March of 2019 with the immediate goal of increasing accessibility to NDOT records, including right-of-way mapping, for the public. The ultimate goal of this committee is to bolster the profession of Land Surveying within NDOT and create direct lines of communication between NALS and NDOT.

During an initial meeting there was discussion of the importance of records kept by NDOT and the difficulties some surveyors, municipalities, and utility agencies have gaining access to the documents needed. At the recommendation of NDOT Director Kristina Swallow a working group was established.

The working group which includes representatives from NALS and NDOT met on May 6, 2019 in Carson City. The group discussed the current challenges, what processes are already being developed to address those challenges, and potential resources for the future.

The committee will need to meet multiple times with NDOT which may require travel funds.

MOVED by Todd Enke and **SECONDED** to authorize a maximum of \$2000 from the Board Meeting fund and Legislative fund as needed to accommodate NDOT Ad Hoc meetings. **MOTION CARRIED.**

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee is chaired by the Immediate Past President and includes each Chapter President and one additional NALS Past President. The Nominating Committee is charged with developing the slate of candidates which will be submitted prior to the August Board of Directors meeting and sent to the membership for vote.

NSPS DIRECTOR

Report included in agenda.

NSPS Director Carl C.deBaca attended the NSPS Spring Meeting and Lobby Day in Washington D.C. NSPS continues to monitor national legislation on behalf of the profession. In addition, NSPS recently submitted an amicus curiae in the Louisiana Supreme Court case of Catahoula Lake. The case centers on a superior court and later appellate

court decision that holds that an antique cartographer's map is a more accurate representation of the body of water in question, than the four townships meandered around the lake by the original GLO surveyors of the early 1800's. This case would call into question 200 years of US land law and NSPS will continue to watch closely. NSPS has provided an addendum to the 100% Membership MOU.

MOVED by Greg Phillips and **SECONDED** to authorize President Jason Higgins and Secretary Justin Moore to sign the NSPS 100% Membership MOU Addendum. **MOTION CARRIED.**

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Report included in agenda.

Both Lahontan and Southern Nevada Chapters are participating in TrigStar. Outreach Chair Jerry Juarez maned a NALS booth at the Nevada Counselors Association Conference.

The Young Surveyors Network (YSN) is a national organization that aims to establish a national network of Young Surveyors defined as surveyors aged 35 years or under, students of surveying or those surveyors within 10 years of graduating from a Bachelor or Master's Degree.

Each state association is encouraged to establish a statewide YSN. Based on feedback from the membership, the Strategic Planning Committee identified outreach as a main initiative that NALS should allocate resources toward.

MOVED by Greg Phillips and **SECONDED** to form a Nevada Young Surveyors Network. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Nevada Young Surveyors Network will be charged with identifying the young surveyors within the state and recruiting them to the YSN. The YSN shall review the strategic goals set by NALS in regard to outreach and develop programs to help achieve those strategic goals.

MOVED by Gene Sawyer and **SECONDED** to appoint Sarah Walker the interim Chair of the Nevada Young Surveyors Network. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOVED by Greg Phillips and **SECONDED** to allocate a maximum of \$2000 from the NALS budget to fund the NYSN and request the NALS Education Foundation look into funding sources. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Action Item: Crissy Willson to contact Sarah Walker and provide information regarding the formation of the YSN, the charges developed by the Board of Directors, the initiatives set at the NALS Strategic Planning, and the budget allocation process.

WFPS DELEGATES

Report included in agenda.

The Western Federation of Professional Surveyors (WFPS) highlight report will be published in the Nevada Traverse. The report provides details from each of the western states.

WFPS has recently established a Disaster Relief and Scholarship fund through the NSPS Education Foundation. Donations are now being accepted. The criteria and application information can be found on the WFPS website. www.WFPS.org

The next meeting will be held June 14, 2019 at the Luxor in Las Vegas. NALS Board members are welcome to attend the meeting.

LAHONTAN CHAPTER

Report included in agenda.

The Lahontan Chapter continues to hold monthly meetings and has scheduled a summer picnic and golf tournament. The Chapter will host a fall seminar, speaker and date to be determined. Information on chapter meetings can be found on the NALS website.

SOUTHERN NEVADA CHAPTER

Report included in agenda.

The Southern Nevada Chapter continues to hold monthly meetings, a picnic, and a golf tournament. In addition, the Chapter has scheduled two seminars. Information on chapter meetings can be found on the NALS website.

NALS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING SCHEDULE

August 1st – Reno, NV
October 18th – Las Vegas, NV





NSPS Nevada Director Report



by Carl C. de Baca, PLS, Nevada NSPS Director



Introduction

This is my first meeting in the role as Director from Nevada. While this is my third stint and ninth year overall as a representative to the NSPS, it has been five years since my term ended as Area 9 Director, my last posting to the national

organization. My predecessor, Paul Burn did a great job of keeping me aware of most important NSPS activities and issues while I was serving as the NSPS Foundation Trustee. However, I am still developing a refreshed understanding of the structure, operation and general procedures of the organization.

Western States Directors Council

The WSDC is a somewhat informal meeting for mostly western directors. It is open to all and serves as a significant 'idea incubator' for the Board of Directors. NSPS has faced some big issues having a distinctly western flavor over the past few years, like DPPS for example. During this most recent WSDC meeting, the issue that got the most attention was what should be done with the CFEDS program. As we all know, the BLM does not want to administer it any longer and it has been given over to NSPS. A couple of the western directors tried to get a motion created that would direct the Board of Directors to concede that NSPS has no interest in CFEDS and that the appropriate place for the program to land would be the Western Federation of Land Surveyors.

During vigorous discussion, it was pointed out that the PLSS extends well beyond the west. Florida and Louisiana are PLSS states. CFEDS surveyors work in eastern Indian reservations and National Parks. CFEDS is a national program and NSPS is a national organization. WFPS is a regional organization and not nearly as robust as NSPS.

The motion was withdrawn from consideration, for now while NSPS looks at how to improve their administration of the program.

Membership Committee Meeting

Now that the issue of the NSPS dues increase is resolved and all states will be paying \$50 per member going forward, each state will need to have a new memorandum of understanding signed between the state and the national organization, specifying the increased dues amount. NSPS is in the process of developing these and we should see ours soon.

On a related note, the Wisconsin society, which allows their

associate members full membership in their organization, has prepared an amended MOU which includes their associate members, giving them non-voting membership in NSPS. As I understand the document, they would need to collect half the normal dues amount for these associate members.

Joint Government Affairs Committee

This may very be the most important committee at NSPS. Activities include monitoring legislation, introducing legislation, fighting for QBS, combatting Light Squared and its offspring, Ligado, fighting to preserve NGS funding, dealing with NGS, FEMA and BLM and so on. NSPS employs a consulting firm, John Palatiello and Associates, Inc. Their principal lobbyist John "JB" Byrd is well connected throughout Washington DC and gives NSPS a real presence in the political arena.

During the spring meetings, NSPS was invited to send a delegation to the White House to meet with an undersecretary from the President's council of Economic Advisors and discuss the role of surveying and how it might fit in the White House plans of investing in infrastructure.

Young Surveyors Group

The Young Surveyors Group has been steadily increasing their presence and their influence within various NSPS committees. They are organized as an entirely separate group, not completely within or answerable to NSPS. The group is set up so that each state should have a Young Surveyors network. Our state president has the authority to appoint our delegate to the group and once that has taken place, the delegate can start working to put a network together.

Board of Directors Meeting

The BOD meeting was spread over the last two days. Reports and presentations take up the first day and motions and actions take up day two. The process is somewhat non-linear with the officers being installed on the first day but the officers' remarks not given until the beginning of the second day.

This year's officers are President Lisa Van Horn (Wisconsin), President-Elect Mark Sargent (New Hampshire), Vice President Tim Burch (Illinois), Secretary Craig Amey (Michigan), Treasurer Robert Miller (Pennsylvania) and Past President Kim Leavitt (Idaho).

There were four notable presentations before the BOD. First up was Mike Miller of the Department of Defense who spoke passionately and in great detail about employing veterans and the various military training and intern programs available to potential employers. The D.O.D. has created a whole infrastructure to help get veterans employed when their service to the country is over.

The second presentation was by Aaron Grau of the Association of Professional Pipeline Surveyors, a 501(c)6 organization dedicated to educating surveyors in pipeline work. NALS should consider asking this group to put on an all-day workshop at some future conference.

The third presentation, which was by far the most significant, was by Michael Dennis, the PLS manager of the NGS Datum 2022 program. Dennis, an energetic and humorous speaker, came to discuss the fate of the US Survey Foot after 2020. He gave an engaging half hour speech and slide show wherein he suggested that the government thinks it is high time for the country to

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ►



NSPS Report... continued from previous page

have a single definition of the foot. Since the National Institute of Standards and Technology recognizes the International foot exclusively and has for over 50 years, except in the case of surveys, we users of the US Foot are the outliers, not them. In the implementation of Datum 2022, coordinates are going to change by something like 10,000 meters. Mr. Dennis suggests that it would be a perfect time to ditch the antiquated foot, once and for all. After all with a difference of only 2 PPM from the US Survey Foot, the only place where it makes a relevant difference is in coordinates. Certainly not in boundary measurements. 2PPM is two tenths of a foot in a hundred thousand feet. In an informal poll, nearly all the directors supported the suggested adoption of the International Foot. I intend to present this topic to both chapters this summer.

A final presentation was made by incoming president Lisa Van Horn together with attorney and land surveyor Elizabeth Schleif regarding the recent Amicus Curiae filed by NSPS in the Louisiana Supreme Court case of Catahoula Lake. The case centers on a superior court and later appellate court decision that holds that an antique cartographer's map is a more accurate representation of the body of water in question, than the four townships meandered around the lake by the original GLO surveyors of the early 1800's. The cartographers map calls the area a river. At the center of the case is over thirty thousand acres of land lying between the high and low water lines which would stand to be transferred to private ownership. Our issue is primarily that this case would call into question 200 years of US land law.

Conclusion

I apologize for the length and level of detail for my initial report. After this, my reports will be more reasonable. And, of course, I can always answer specific questions, should any NALS member have one. I received my committee assignments and I am pleased to announce that I will be serving on the NSPS Bylaws Committee and the Membership Committee this year.

Report submitted April 23, 2019

Carl C. de Baca

Carl C.de Baca, P.L.S.
Nevada NSPS Director

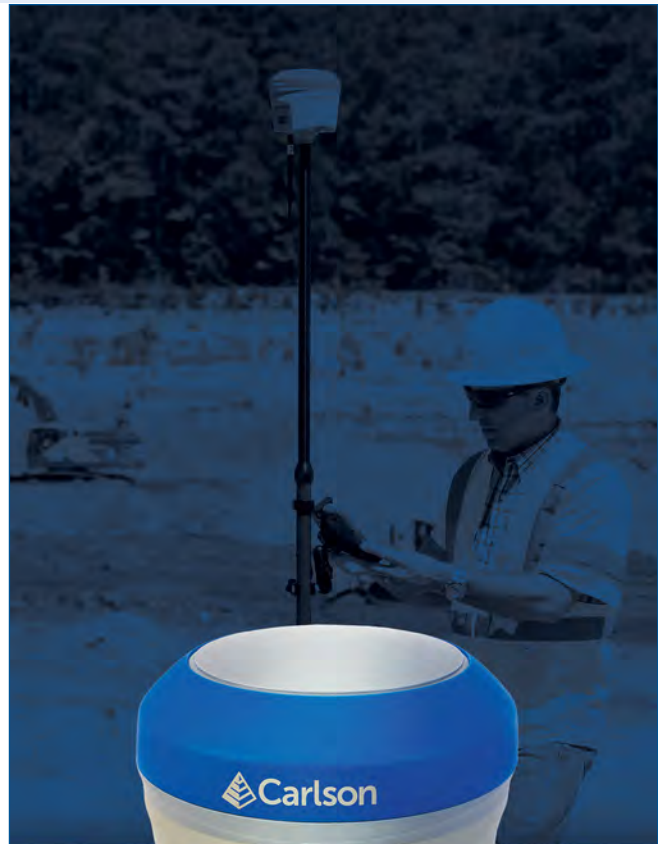


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Southern Nevada Chapter Report

*Prepared by Gene Sawyer, PLS, WRS
2019 President, SNALS*

Salutations my friends,
I hope everyone has been enjoying their year. I can't believe the first Trimester is over and done with already! It has been a fast paced four months. I can't tell you how proud I am of the Officers and Directors of this year's board. They've all embraced their responsibilities and have done well in helping steer the ship. I owe them a debt of gratitude and am one-hundred percent confident of our continued success for the remainder of the year. Our meetings and events have been very well attended and I hope it has something to do with the event outline. As one of my primary objectives, I prepared the calendar of events for the year to provide as much time as possible for planning purposes to our members and friends. I also scheduled most of our meetings around typical lunch hours to access more appealing venues and some new spots. Judging by the numbers in attendance, I believe it has paid off. I've introduced the new Monthly Meeting Sponsorship initiative wherein the raffle prizes, speaker gifts, and overhead associated with the lunch meetings are covered by a generous donation from a "willing participant". Without them I'm not sure we could have the lunch meetings. I am sincerely humbled by their generosity and willingness to help out when called upon. I also would like to thank Sean Corkill and Jon Wooten for helping us take on another year of Trig-Star. We keep telling them we can't do it without them but I'm afraid we're about to find the training wheels have been taken off the bicycle! Russ Jamison has done a tremendous job handling the program and seems more than capable of grabbing that baton and running with it. Thanks are also due to Dr. David James who continues to be our Land Surveying Champion at every opportunity.

Please read on to learn how our year has been thus far...
January 15th: Inaugural General Membership Meeting at Sierra Gold, made possible through generous support from our sponsors (WMK Surveying, Monsen Engineering). The topic was simply to recap some of the "end of year" activities of 2018 and introduce myself and the new board members, as well as to review the calendar of events for the coming year and receive input from our membership regarding the outline. There were approximately 50 guests in attendance!

February 21st: Lunch at Fogo De Chao Brazilian Steakhouse. Our speakers were Dr. David James of UNLV and Mr. Sean Corkill of LVVWD presenting "Bringing Awareness to Land Surveying through Community Outreach and the UNLV Engineering Curriculum." VTN NV was our Monthly Meeting Sponsor. This may have been record breaking attendance with approximately 55 guests in attendance.

March: No membership meeting due to the conference.

April 11th: Lunch at Lawry's the Prime Rib. NALS President Mr. Jason Higgins was our guest speaker presenting information specific to State Board activity, a summary of the February Strategic Planning Summit held in Reno, and a re-cap of the

CLSA/NALS Conference. Taney Engineering was our Monthly Meeting Sponsor and DataSight USA provided two gift cards to raffle for our guests. Speaking of the Conference. Thank you to everyone who found time to be there this year! With exceptional support from local surveyors and surveying firms alike, a substantial amount of money was raised for the Scholarship Foundation. Way to go!

April is also a busy Trig-Star month and as always, impressive to say the least. I had the distinct pleasure of presenting a 45-minute introduction to land surveying to the students of Clark High School. Dr. James, Sean Corkill and Russ Jamison presented the tow day "Make Math Real" event at Northwest Career and Technical Academy. It is a wonderful opportunity to introduce engineering concepts and basic land surveying techniques to impressionable minds. Approximately 300 students participated in this event. Again, thank you to all who continue to make these important event happen.

April 27th: SNALS 43rd Annual Picnic. (See below) ⊗

2019 Southern Nevada Chapter Picnic

Hello friends,
I wanted to reach out to you all to thank you for coming to the SNALS 43rd Annual Picnic on April 27th at Mountain Crest Park. The Board members, Picnic Committee, and volunteers did an exceptional job putting this together. We were treated to delicious BBQ pulled pork and chicken from John Mulls Road Kill Grill. We had awesome weather (No heat stroke this year! Yeah!), Survey Games, Raffle Prizes and had our faces painted by the Amazing Star Girl! We also enjoyed unlimited beer and margaritas, and had around 90 guests show up to be part of our family for the day!



CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ►



Our Sponsors were VTN Nevada, AMC, WMK Surveying, Monson Engineering, Tri-Core Surveying and Southern Glaziers Wine and Spirits. Thank you all very much!



The results of our Survey Games:

Distance Estimation: Ryan Anderson. 610.00', (587.31').

Hammer Toss: Tyler Richardson. 49.95', (50.00').

Pacing: Tim Wolf. 1156.00', (1159.11').

Wing-Ding 90: Kiersten Sawyer. 89°59'60", (90°) (Just kidding but I'm so proud of her!)

Congratulations to all of the winners! We will get the customary "Braggin' Boards" to you all as soon as possible! Everyone should know this event is a ton of work and a scary thought for the uninitiated. I can't thank the board enough for pulling off another successful gathering, however, I would be remiss if I did not recognize the very hard work of Russell and Kathy Hyatt and Frank Wittie. The three of them went the extra mile and were there from start to finish. The end of the day clean-up is the toughest and least favorite work which is quite obvious when you look around at the four other people helping you clean up (Russ Jamison and my daughter Kiersten.) It's like going to the gym after Thanksgiving dinner! There's nothing right about it. But we got through it and can put it behind us for another year. We saw many new faces this year and hope to see them again at upcoming events! **Keep in mind our May 18th Seminar at UNLV. Duane Price will present Reading and Interpreting Legal Descriptions. This is a morning session half-day event.**

In closing I want to thank everyone for being supportive of the Association and leading by example. Keep demonstrating the importance of being involved in our profession and attending association meetings and functions.

I appreciate you!
Sincerely,
Gene Sawyer, PLS, WRS
2019 President SNALS



Electronic BLM Manual
The Manual of
Surveying Instructions
2009

Currently available on the
BLM website:

http://www.blm.gov/pgdata/content/wo/en/prog/more/cadastralsurvey/2009_edition.html



Lahontan Chapter Report

*Prepared by Todd Enke,
PLS, President - Lahontan Chapter*

The first quarter of 2019 has started off with a bang for the Lahontan Chapter with a great slate of speakers for our general membership meetings, significant participation in the preparation and support of the 2019 CLSA/NALS conference and the planning for upcoming chapter events.

2019 though has offered up a mix of new board members, bringing back past board members and mixing them with the some folks who have been contributing characters for a long time. This year's group includes Bill Ray, Shane Trotter, Bill Kruger, Carl C. de Baca, Dave Crook & Kevin Almeter. Our chapter is in great hands for the future. I would like to reach out to our chapter members and invite all of you to come and participate and bring your ideas and energy as this is your chapter and the more of us, licensed or not, who become involved the stronger and more tight-knit we become in the future.

This year we have had been lucky enough to have a fantastic slate of speakers that have presented at or monthly meetings. This list has included our NALS State President Jason Higgins in January, Jeff Henkelman from NDOT Right-of Way Services in February and Paul Pace in March. This trend only looks to continue on with presentations in May by former California Surveyor magazine editor John Wilusz on his trip to Peru last year, Great Basin College's Student Competition Team reprising their last presentation in Washington DC, in June. In September we will have BLM Direct Mike Harmening leading an open forum question and answer session for us.

Moving forward this year we are working on volunteering again at the Northern Nevada Food Bank in September. Thank you Doug Larson for working on this! Justin Moore and Greg Phillips have organized our Annual Lahontan Chapter Golf Tournament August 2nd, (more details to follow). Lance Smith has helped organized a nice simple barbeque for the chapter at Bowers Mansion State Park on Friday, June 28th, again more details to follow. Other things we are working on are the Annual Christmas Party and possible continuing education workshops. Again, please don't hesitate to contact us with ideas, suggestions or just to get more involved.

Let me again thank everyone for the honor of serving as our chapters president and don't hesitate to contact me or any of our chapter board members for anything.

Respectfully,
Todd Enke

2019 President Lahontan Chapter



Scout Troop 411 Happenings

by Todd Enke, PLS

I would like to offer a big thanks to the chapter for continuing to support Douglas County Boy Scout Troop 411. Last year we participated in the Vietnam Moving Wall, Wreath's Across America, Douglas County Food Bank, Carson Valley Days and the Aviation Round-Up at the Minden-Taohoe Airport. This year's program has not slowed down at all as we have already had another trip to the Douglas County Food Bank, the 92nd Civil Support Operations Facility in Carson City, a trip to stay in a Hostel at Fort Mason in San Francisco and perhaps the one I am most excited and proud of is kicking off the Opening Ceremonies for 2019 CLSA/NALS Conference with the presentation of the Unites States, California and Nevada flags, what an honor and delight to see this. This year will not slow down as the boys have trips to Ichthyosaur State Park and Summer Camp on the California Coast. Thank you NALS Lahontan Chapter again for your support!



Hello my name is Cory Enke and I am a member of troop 411. I am from the troop that opened the CLSA-NALS conference. I was the one holding the California flag and it was a privilege to be part of a ceremony in front of over 350 people representing the BSA and my troop. I am one of the highest-ranking members in my troop and I couldn't be more thrilled to have partaken in this event. It's not the fact that it is an honor, even though it is, it's the fact that not that many people even get to perform a Color Guard ceremony. I am very pleased to have performed a Color Guard ceremony for such an important event. In troop meetings prior to your conference we have had to practice this presentation. A retired US Marine taught us how to do it. When opening day Sunday came along I had to wake up at 6:00 for the event but it was worth it. I am very thankful that you NALS people who have supported Troop 411 for the past two years. We can't thank you enough.

-Cory Enke Troop 411



4) Representation

- a) Revitalize legislative committee by recruiting members from across the state (completed). Secure a bill tracking service and provide regular reports to the membership (completed).
- b) Continue to support West Fed (Regional) and NSPS (National) and request their assistance when needed. Make sure there is succession plan so there is overlap/training of representatives.
- c) Establish relationships with agencies.

5) Communications

- a) Continue to publish the Nevada Traverse.
- b) Continue to expand social media presence.

Note: Be sure to follow NALS on LinkedIn. We need to continue to increase our online presence to reach our members.

6) Develop Benefits for Unlicensed Members

- a) Study Guide
- b) Education for Survey Techs, Field Crews

The Strategic Plan will be a living document to be used by this board and boards for the next several years. There is no doubt that this is an aggressive plan and will require active participation by membership.

There are several By Laws changes that came out of the Strategic Planning session. The board will be considering these proposed changes at the May meeting.

2019 CONFERENCE PRELIMINARY REPORT

The 2019 CLSA-NALS Conference was a resounding success! Attendees from 23 states met in Reno for the 4-day conference. In addition to providing professional development through workshops and technical sessions, the Conference provided an opportunity to network with peers while having fun! The Conference included a Bowling Tournament and a Scholarship Auction providing an opportunity for attendees to have fun and give back to the profession by donating to and purchasing from the CLSA and NALS Education Foundations.

I look forward to continuing the work of the association, with committees and business of the state as we enter the summer heat.



Surveyors Lahontan Chapter and also sit on the NSPS Trig-Star Committee. My passions for math and the outdoors makes Surveying such a rewarding profession. In my free time I like to ride trails on my dirtbike and go on hikes.



Bill Cuddy Memorial Scholarship (\$2,500) - Jason Lee Merchant

My name is Jason Merchant. I hold a Bachelor's of Science degree in Geography from the University of Nevada Reno and I currently reside in Sparks, NV. I started out as a GIS tech for a mining company, then went to work for one of the survey firms that worked for the mine as a GIS/survey tech. I really enjoyed surveying so decided to go back to school to get a degree in Land Surveying. I am in the Great Basin College Bachelor of Applied Science program for Land Surveying and Geomatics. I was a member of the GBC Student Competition Team this year.

NALS Hispanic/Latino Scholarship (\$2,500)

This scholarship was not awarded in 2018 – There were no applicants.



NALS Education Foundation Student Stipend (\$500) - Hadley Fowler

My name is Hadley Fowler. I am a GIS Analyst / Survey Technician at a local full service firm in Reno, NV. I graduated from the University of Wyoming in 2013, with a Bachelor's degree in Geographic Information Science. After graduation I moved to Reno, NV to work for Manhard Consulting, and now take up residence in Sparks, NV. I am currently working on a Bachelor of Science in Geomatics / Land Surveying at Great Basin College in Elko. I am an advocate for incorporating UAVs in Surveying and enjoy playing a round or two of golf in my spare time. ⊗



Walt Neitz Rest in Peace

Walt Neitz (LS 2771 - ret) has passed away. Walt was one of the last, if not the last, founding members of NALS. Walt was NALS state president in 1982, recipient of the NALS Meritorious Service award in 1996 and received Life Membership in 2010.



Walter "Walt" Louis Neitz
April 22, 1931 - March 14, 2019

The stars shined brighter on March 14, 2019, as our Dad, and Mom's beloved husband rode off into his final sunset.

In life, through his career as a Land Surveyor, Walt taught us to feel the heartbeats of the land, mountains, rivers and valleys. His love of the land was only surpassed by the love he held for his wife and family. Walt and his wife Alice shared a life of love that was beyond words, or measure. His joy for his family could be seen in the twinkle of his eyes, the smile on his face and the warmth of his words. Walt is now the twinkle of the stars, the colors of the sunset and the warmth of the sun on our faces. He is watching over his wife and family from the saddle of his horse Ben and his pard'ner Gus by his side. A Celebration of Walt's Life was held on March 23, 2019 at the Life Springs Christian Church in Star, ID

An online guest book is available at www.nampafuneralhome.com

Published in Idaho Press Tribune on Mar. 17, 2019

Walt was one of my early mentors. He was working at SEA when NALS was founded. He took a lot of scorn and doubt for that effort. Prior to NALS the surveyors, at least in Reno, participated in NSPE. The folks around here didn't give them much of a chance for success. And look what they did!

This was about the time I was audacious enough to think I might be able to get licensed – or registered as we called it then. Walt often took me with him in the field on boundaries and corner searches to make sure I got that kind of experience. I have always been grateful to him for that and I think he always felt a little pride as I advanced in the profession.

For the record: the first time I applied I was turned down. No G....D... woman was going to be a surveyor. 😊 Walt's efforts

helped. The second time I got brave enough to apply I was about to be turned down again. John Brooke was writing the Nevada portion of the test then and was the Sparks City Engineer. He was familiar with my work. I heard much later that he stepped in and insisted that I be given to chance to take the test.

Those of us who knew him will surely miss him. -Rita Lumos

Walt and I worked on occasion together. He was a great surveyor, especially in the rural lands of Nevada and Idaho. We last worked together near his office in Council, Idaho. A true Cowboy. We have lost a good one. -Ron Monson

When I came back to Reno in 1978 I worked for Walt. He alone pushed me to get my PLS. He was a real mentor to me, from a professional surveyor to a businessman standpoint. The man was an absolute rock for this profession. He was a big push to the association and was instrumental in a lot of the NRS Statues regarding mapping. The guy worked into his late 80's in Idaho. A lot of surveyors owe their career to Walt, me included. A sad day!!! -Lee Smithson

Walt was a very nice man and very knowledgeable. I haven't seen him for years, but during my time at SEA 1987-2004 had a great presence. He was an impassioned Land Surveyor and anyone that knew him enjoyed his cheerfulness and respected his abilities. Godspeed, Walt may you be turning some angles at the pearly gate.

-Ray Hebert

Walt was a respected member of our profession and gave so much to so many. -Paul Pace



NALS Historic Committee Search

The Historic Committee is searching for pictures and narratives on past presidents and prominent contributive members. The presidents are known, but a list of contributive members needs to be developed. This year we hope to collect an overview of recollections, contributions and photos for both categories for future use. Respondents need not worry that two or more reply; information and photos received will be compiled by the committee.

Please respond to:

NalsHistory@GMail.com



Thank you!



ADVERTISER INDEX for this Issue

<u>Advertiser</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
Berntsen International	20
Carlson.....	31
Lidar	17
Monsen Engineering Supply.....	Inside Front Cover
Office Depot.....	Inside Rear Cover
Surv-Kap.....	21
Vertical Mapping Resources	31
Wood Rodgers	21
Nevada Transit & Laser	Outside Back Cover

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The Nevada Association of Land Surveyors

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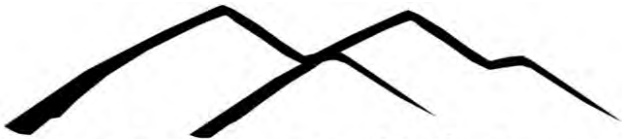
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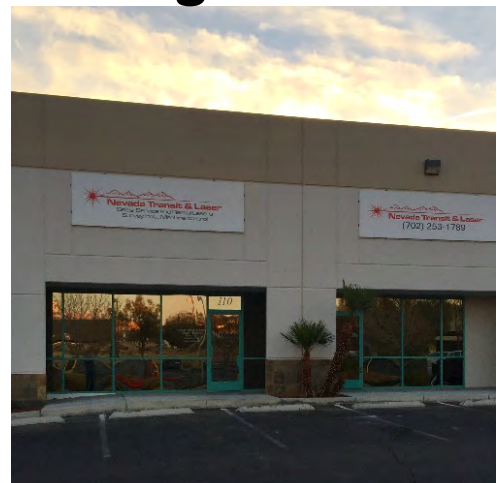
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