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## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



School has started throughout the state, and the temperatures are finally dropping, but not enough to drop your guard. Be sure your field staff stay hydrated!

These last several weeks have seen some CLSA activity as follows: outreach to fire area officials by our Monument Conservation Chair, Kevin Nehring, review of the CLSA Member Survey by Board members, and review of the BPELSG draft strategic plan for comment by the Executive Committee, along with the usual ongoing business in our committees and by our liaisons. Chapters are getting back into in-person meetings in some locations.

Last month I mentioned hearing of two incidents of theft of survey equipment. Information was provided for the first last month. Details on the second are below. Keep an eye on your gear.

August 2 -- Trimble R8 Model 4 GNSS Receiver (Serial number 5406453920, Caltrans Tag number DHQ 44802) and Seco tripod model PN-5119-00 YEL were stolen while being used as a base station on Cielo Azul Road in the Prundale area of Monterey County. The surveyors were working within 1000' of the base station when it was purloined. Please contact Eric Vance ([eric.vance@dot.ca.gov](mailto:eric.vance@dot.ca.gov)) with any information.

The IN-PERSON 2022 Conference will be held in Las Vegas, NV March 30 - April 2, 2022. The theme is *Mapping the Path for the Next Generation*. Here is a sneak peek at the flyer.

I suggest attendees plan to arrive on the March 29, as the conference will start on the morning of the March 30. This will be a four-state (CA, AZ, NV, UT) plus West Fed conference, so I anticipate a great turnout, an opportunity to improve your abilities and reconnect with old friends.

Have you heard of the [GPS on BMs](#) program? We have mentioned it several times over the last few years and we are currently approaching another deadline for data collection. Steve Martin has an article in this edition of *CLSA eNews* describing his recent efforts. Thank you goes to Steve for his recent field survey efforts and the article, to John Tosto ([gpsonbms@californiasurveyors.org](mailto:gpsonbms@californiasurveyors.org)) for coordinating CLSA's efforts statewide, and to NGS Southwest Regional Advisor Dana Caccamise for his continued expertise, encouragement and guidance.

When I talk about the things that CLSA is doing and accomplishing, what I hope my readers understand is that individuals are contributing their time, energy and brainpower to make things better for our profession. If you have read this far, then you will be familiar with the conclusion.

Chapters, please continue recruiting new CLSA members. Licensees, LSITs, Technicians and others are all welcome. There is a membership level for any level of qualification. Individuals, companies, or corporations who, by their interest in the land surveying profession, are desirous of supporting the purposes and objectives of CLSA may also join as Sustaining Members.

If you are not a CLSA member, please recognize all the good that CLSA is (and CLSA members are) doing to benefit you in your day-to-day work and improve the profession as a whole. Please give back to the profession by joining CLSA and participating in the various efforts of importance to you.

Members, please reach out to others who are not currently CLSA members and invite them to join or re-join us. I challenge every member to bring in at least one new member. Every membership helps improve our situation adding additional funding, brainpower and enthusiasm. Increasing membership is critical to

CLSA Conference Committee Chair Rich Maher, President-Elect Warren Smith and Executive Director Kim Oreno are our members of the joint conference committee.

the success of our organization, and the well-being of our profession. Thank you for all your efforts.

Keep yourselves and your people safe.

Robert M. McMillan, PLS, EIT  
[RobPLSCA@gmail.com](mailto:RobPLSCA@gmail.com)



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## MY WEEK OF GPS ON BENCHMARKS

By Steven J. Martin

With the realization that the translation from the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD88) to the forthcoming North American Pacific Geopotential Datum of 2022 (NAPGD2022) is going to be based upon submissions to the National Geodetic Survey's GPS on Benchmarks program, and that the deadline to submit GPS data to be used in the translation is rapidly approaching (12-31-2021), I decided to get involved.

In reviewing the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) GPS on [Benchmarks Web Map](#), the County where I spent a good portion of my career, San Diego County, has a big need to fill out the 10km hexagon spacing goal. At that time only 19% of NGS's 10km hexagons in all of California had been completed.

Leica Geosystems of California made a trip possible with the demo of a Leica GS18T unit for the week. Then the plan came together quickly. With a minimum occupation time of 4 hours (recommendations are to go extra time to avoid rejection for less than 4 hours of usable data), allowing for drive time, and some time to search for these historic benchmarks, my plan was to observe one per day for the week. Logistics included a few days of camping in Julian, CA.

My plan was to occupy stations YUNG (DX5304), SDGPS03 (DX5297), PMT 79 (DX0493), HPGN 11-08 (DX5292), SY 12 (AF9888), SDGPS 15 (DX5300). I prioritized stations of the San Diego High Precision Geodetic Network (SDHPGN) on the [NGS web map](#) because I had helped Chief of Party Norman Peet build those monuments 31 years ago (see article in California Surveyor #167 [CalSurv167](#)). At the first SDHPGN station I looked for, YUNG, a CALTRANS contractor has a lay down yard with stockpiles. I could not even look to see if the station was still under all that, so I had to change the plan. Another station, HPGN-CA 11-08, at the entrance to Mataguay Scout Camp was behind a locked gate, so with many, many others to choose from, I moved on to SDGPS 15. What I ended up observing during the week was: PMT 66 (DX0515), SDGPS02 (DX5296), SDGPS03 (DX5297), SDGPS15 (DX5300), CY 77 (DC0538), and SY 12 (AF9888).

It was apparent from the few benchmarks that I did search for that a significant percentage of marks in the NGS database have been destroyed by highway construction or



other improvements. If you recover one of these historic marks, or find where it has been destroyed, fill out the quick and easy NGS [Mark Recovery Form](#) to save the next surveyor some time in looking for the mark.

NGS has elevated the importance of the GPS on Benchmarks program and calls it vital to transitioning to the Modernized National Spatial Reference System (NSRS). "Crowdsourcing and submitting geospatial data to NGS is how the Modernized NSRS will be realized and accessed."

I have a lot of respect for the vision and work of previous generations of surveyors in giving us these benchmarks and control points to tie our surveys into common datums. To me the GPS on Benchmarks program is a perfect way to respect that vision and work while also making it relevant to the definition of new datums.

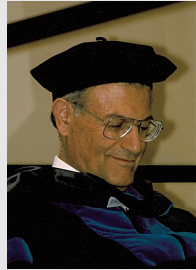
I enjoyed my time driving the backroads of San Diego County and revisiting a few of the SDHPGN stations that I helped build 31 years ago. I am already planning my next trip. I feel like I am making a difference to aid the transition from the historic benchmarks and geodetic control stations to a GNSS and gravity based modernized reference system. By helping to make the NAVD88 to NAPGD2022 translation based upon a 10km grid of modern measured stations, the translation, and to some extents, the Modernized National Spatial Reference System (NSRS), will be much better for the surveyors that follow behind us.

If you would like to get involved, go to the NGS GPS on Benchmarks web page (<https://geodesy.noaa.gov/GPSonBM/>) and contact the CLSA GPS on Benchmark Coordinator at [gpsombms@californiasurveyors.org](mailto:gpsonbms@californiasurveyors.org).



**CLSA LOSES FRIEND DR. FAREED W. NADER, Ph.D**

We are sad to share the news of Dr. Fareed W. Nader's passing. Fareed earned a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Arizona in 1961, a Master's Degree from Arizona State University in 1963, and a Phd. in Surveying and Mapping in 1973 from Purdue University. He worked for the Federal Aviation Administration before beginning his 35-year teaching career. He taught surveying and photogrammetry at the University of Hawaii for five years before securing a position at California State University, Fresno (CSUF) where he was a professor and taught geomatics engineering for 30 years.

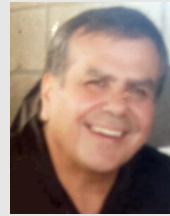


Professor Nader's passion for teaching and geomatics was evidenced by his numerous achievements including being the second chairman of the CSUF Department of Geomatics, organizing and overseeing the 1984 International Surveying Teachers' Conference held at CSUF. He was the recipient of numerous teaching awards including: "Instructor of the Year Award in Surveying" (1991), "Dean's Leadership Award for Outstanding Service to the School of Engineering and Computer Science," CSUF (1998) and "California Land Surveyors' Association Honorary Land Surveyor's License No. 2". In 2008, he was voted "Professor Emeritus" for Geomatics Engineering.

*"Don't let school get in the way of a great education!"*

-- Dr. Fareed W. Nader

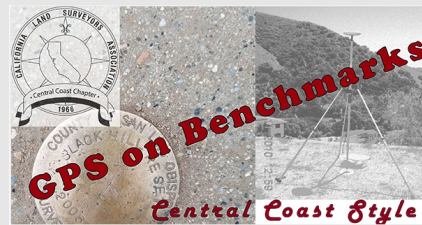
[READ MORE](#)



**CLSA LOSES FRIEND, JOHN CANAS, PLS 4408**

We regret to share that John Canas has passed away. John Canas was a Life Member of CLSA and had been a member since 1974. Our thoughts are with his friends and family.

[READ MORE](#)



The Central Coast Chapter of CLSA is proud to announce its GPS on Benchmarks Campaign Initiated by the chapter and executed by the chapter's Education Committee, this campaign was designed to support the NGS program and provide additional data in our area for the upcoming readjustment. Here is a [link](#) to the chapter's campaign outline.

**FREE WEBINAR - ASCE - FUNDAMENTALS OF SURVEYING (FS) EXAM REVIEW**

**SEPTEMBER 21, 2021 | 8:00AM - 9:00AM**

This workshop will provide for a Fundamentals of Surveying (FS) Exam Review. This session will be presented considering an audience largely consisting of individuals preparing to sit for the FS Exam. The intent of the workshop will be to identify and revisit various land surveying topics that would likely be included within a typical FS Exam. Reference will be made to the most current Exam Specifications from NCEES.

[REGISTER](#)

**CLSA STORE - 2021 PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE**

- 2021 PE Act and PLS Act with Board Rules
- 2021 Complete Package with DVD
- 2021 Subdivision Map Act & Index

[CLICK HERE](#)

**IN THE NEWS...**

**Manufactured Home and Utilities Installed on Wrong Lot**

In 2018, a couple bought adjoining 50' wide vacant lots (283 and 284) in a Texas subdivision. The previous owner pointed out the lots she thought she owned to the couple. They hired a surveyor in 2020 to



## ARTICLE & PHOTO SUBMISSIONS FOR CALIFORNIA SURVEYOR MAGAZINE

Do you have a photo from your field work that would make a great magazine cover? Do you have an idea for an article or have you written an article that you'd like us to consider including in the next issue? Please send your submissions and ideas to California Surveyor Editor, [Joseph Waltz](#).

## NSPS - STOLEN EQUIPMENT REGISTRY

Reminder - NSPS provides a registry of stolen equipment.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## COURTHOUSEDIRECT.COM



Offers a \$.07 per page discount and will automatically donate \$.10 per page to CLSA when members download courthouse documents through this website. These instruments include Deeds, Easements, Rights-of-Way, Releases, Liens, etc.

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Save up to 60% on your office supplies. Click on the Office Depot Logo to begin utilizing the CLSA-Office Depot Discount Program. If you do not know your username and password, or for more information, contact the CLSA Central Office.



The CLSA Education Foundation was established in 1993 and is committed to supporting land surveying students and programs. Last year over \$50,000



move forward with development. The field survey was conducted on lots 283 and 284 per the deed documents, yet the installation of utilities and the home moved forward on lots 281 and 282. (It appears that there was no construction survey for the actual house or utilities installations.) How do your field staff confirm they are

at the correct location? How does your organization ensure clear communication with clients and other parties downstream in processes? [Bastrop County family's house, utilities built on wrong lot \(kxan.com\)](#). (Graphic by KXAN) This was also featured with a discussion of ideas of how to resolve the issue by attorney Steve Lehto on the YouTube channel Lehto's Law: [House Built on Wrong Property](#).

## Lake County, IN Junior Surveyor Program Aims to Interest Kids in Land Surveying field

Lake County Surveyor Bill Emerson Jr. is rolling out the program, which is designed for elementary school children between the ages of 5 and 10. The aim is to spark curiosity in a future in land surveying or a related occupation.



"The Lake County Junior Surveyor Program is designed to get kids interested in surveying, engineering and thinking spatially," Emerson said in a news release.

Participating children do activities on the Lake County Surveyor's [website](#). Upon successful completion of an assignment, they get a certificate and an official badge sent to them in the mail.

[READ MORE](#)

## Izard County, AR Man Faces Charges for Shooting at Land Surveying Company Employee

While conducting a survey in a newly developed area August 2<sup>nd</sup>, the surveyor heard a loud bang and described the noise as very close. The man the surveyor encountered identified himself as Hans Oss and when the surveyor asked what the noise was, Oss reportedly replied, "I shot at you."

[READ MORE](#)

## Association of Ontario Land Surveyors (AOLS) Posts Video: Protecting Survey Monuments

So the 2019 publication isn't real new "news" but it recently came to my attention and is worth the time (3:35) to [WATCH](#) it.

## NSPS SEEKS APPLICANTS FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR POSITION

The National Society of Professional Surveyors (NSPS) based in Frederick,

in scholarship aid was provided to land surveying students.

Donating to the Education Foundation is easy! Click [HERE](#) to donate via PayPal.

Thank you to everyone who clicks through to Amazon through the CLSA's Education Foundation Amazon Smile account! If you're not doing so already, please shop on Amazon with [this link](#).

## NGS GPS on Bench Marks

**NGS GPS ON BENCH MARKS UPDATE | AUGUST 2021**  
[CLICK HERE](#)

## BPESLG MEETING MATERIALS

The materials for the September 16-17, 2021 meeting of the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists are now available on the [Board's website](#).

MD is seeking letters of interest and credentials/resume from individuals wishing to be considered for the Full-time position of Executive Director. The Executive Director operates as the Chief Executive Officer of the organization in conjunction with the elected Officers, the Executive Committee, and the Board of Directors.



Applicants must have leadership experience in the workplace as well as within a professional society similar in nature to NSPS, in addition to experience working with a small staff in which all employees share responsibility for meeting the needs of the organization and its members. Preference will be given to candidates who hold a license as a Professional Land Surveyor in one or more states. Exceptional verbal and written communications skills are critical as is proficiency with Microsoft Office Suite.

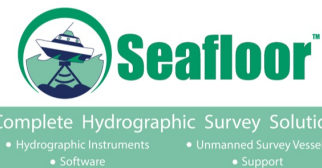
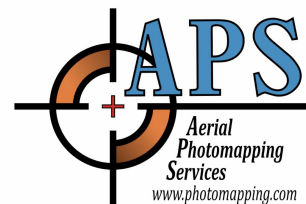
Experience in direct advocacy with regulatory entities, as well as governmental bodies and agencies (especially state and national), is also required. Ability to travel domestically with some international travel is required. Benefits include: 401(k), health insurance, vision and dental, paid holidays, vacation and sick leave. Must be willing to relocate to the Frederick, MD vicinity. Individuals will be required to provide a valid Driver's License. Salary negotiable based on experience and qualifications.

All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, or status as a protected veteran.

Candidates should send a cover letter and resume by September 17, 2021 to NSPS President Mark Sargent, 5119 Pegasus Court, Suite Q, Frederick, MD 21704 or email to [info@nspus.com](mailto:info@nspus.com).

Interviews shall be conducted in-person or utilizing a video interface.

## Thank You CLSA Sustaining Members



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