



CLSA
CALIFORNIA LAND SURVEYORS
ASSOCIATION

eNewsletter

OCTOBER 2024

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



**Kevin Nehring, PLS
President, CLSA**

Questions? Comments?
Concerns? Contact me:
Ca.PLS8200@gmail.com or
559-451-7112.

When I talk to Geomatics and Land Surveying students, I always tell them not to get too attached to their first job. It may be a good job - a great job - with a good employer, good coworkers, and a fair wage. A place they could have a career. That IS good.

However, I encourage the students to move around early in their careers, to different employers. I encourage them to continue their education by working with different surveyors. They may have landed their dream job right out of college, but will that job provide them with the breadth and scope of training that they need to become a surveyor? Not merely competent, but a *good* surveyor?

In order to sit for the California PLS exam, multiple licensed individuals have to vouch for the one sitting for the exam. Many surveying firms are one or two license shops. It may be necessary to change employers just to have the opportunity to work with another licensed surveyor or two. It may be necessary to change employers just to have the opportunity to move from the field to the office, or vice versa.

In order to become a well-rounded surveyor, it's important to work with others. As a student and as a potential Professional Land Surveyor, you'll have a greater understanding of the profession - and ultimately the task at hand - and you'll have enough licensed individuals ready to say, "Yes, this individual is ready to be a Professional".

In the last twenty-four years, I've worked for three companies. Good companies. I didn't leave because I didn't like the job or the employer or my coworkers. Quite the opposite, in fact. These were places I could see myself staying, but in order to become a better surveyor, I left for different opportunities.

Those decisions to leave were not easy. I had a career to consider, but I also had a family to take care of. The stability and comfort of the job I knew was better for my family, but changing jobs was better for me, and *potentially*

better for my family. They were hard decisions to make, but ultimately, I feel I'm a better, well-rounded surveyor, and I know my family is better off.

Change is hard.

...and scary.

It's often easier to stay with what we know; to stay where we are comfortable. However, change is sometimes necessary for the betterment of an individual. As an employer, losing a valued employee is a challenge. As an employee, moving to an unknown employer can be absolutely terrifying.

A number of years ago, CLSA began working with California Advocates to lobby for us in Sacramento and to manage the daily affairs of CLSA. With a team of people available to us for everything we needed, Kim Oreno was eventually assigned to be our Executive Director.

Kim was not a surveyor, nor did she know what we do. To her (and most likely to CAMS) CLSA was (and still is) a group of strong personality types wearing plaid flannel shirts and ball caps, each with more than one opinion on any given subject, whether that subject be education, State Law, boundary monumentation, or plate tectonics. What did she do to deserve us?

What did we do to deserve her?

Over the past few years, CLSA has grown. Not so much in membership numbers, but we're financially better off than we've ever been, and I believe that we're stronger as an Association than we've ever been. The Association can say, 'we did that', but I also believe that the fact that we're better off is in large part due to Kim and her involvement with us. She brought many good ideas to the table - membership ideas, outreach ideas, financial ideas, and more - and the ability to implement them. Every one with the intent to make us better. And they did.

In some ways, Kim had come to understand us better than we understood ourselves.

Kim had become that valued employee.

A few weeks ago, Kim shared with me that an opportunity had presented itself to her. An opportunity with the potential to be better for her and her family. However, that terrifying

fear of leaving the comfortable known to the unknown was there. The prospect of leaving the unexpected friendships she'd made were obviously heartbreaking. More than a few tears were shed on that call.

I've received calls from many of you in the past few weeks about Kim. Some calls were panicked. The unanimous consensus has been, "What are we going to do?". The most concise response came from Rob McMillan, who after hearing the news and quietly thinking about it for a moment replied with a single, four-letter expletive.

CAMS will take care of us, as they have in the past. CLSA will go on, as it always does.

...but change is hard.

We'll miss you, Kim, and we wish you the best in this new and exciting chapter of your life! You'll always be welcome here. Bring your boots, and a hat, and a plaid flannel shirt; you'll fit right in.

Thank you for doing what you do.

If you, as a Chapter Officer, Director, or member, have questions about anything related to the Association, please contact the Executive Committee.

Questions? Comments? Concerns? Contact me:
Ca.PLS8200@gmail.com or 559-451-7112.

• Kevin Nehring

WHERE OUTSIDE CALIFORNIA IS THIS?

Try to identify the location of this month's photo. It is a significant point. Please tell me how you identified the location. Submit your answer or submit your photo of a special location for use in a future CLSA eNews to: [Rob McMillan](mailto:Rob.McMillan)



SURVEYING IN THE NEWS

2024 Minority Surveyors Summit - Online Event

Breaking ground and making history! Join us for the 1st Annual Minority Surveyors Summit. Empowering diverse voices in the surveying industry—don't miss out!

Event by [Future Surveyors Foundation](#)

Date/Time: Fri, Oct 25, 2024, 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM (PDT)

Registration:

Eventbrite link <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2024-minority-surveyors-summit-tickets-1002936860147>

Cost:

Professional/PLS

\$100.00+\$8.55 Fee

Paraprofessional

\$50.00+\$5.20 Fee

Student

\$10.00+\$2.51 Fee

Student must be enrolled in a college, technical, or high school program

Agenda/Event Information:

Co-Hosts: David Acosta & Amanda Allred

Tentative Schedule (all times shown in Pacific Time Zone)

8am - Introduction & Keynote: Martha Ortiz & Crystal Ruiz – “Leveraging Success & Value as a Minority”

9am-Break

Sessions

9:10 am - Session 1 Courtney Tolson - "History of SUE, Damage Prevention and Utility Engineering @ SAM"

10:10 am - Break

11 am - Session 2 Panel - Tyler Trujillo, Ruth Trujillo, Kelli Howard, Ana Lehnert "Empowering Minority Voices: A Panel on Professionalism and Utilizing Unique Strengths"

12:30 pm - Break

12:40 pm Session 3 Ramon Labrador - "Navigating Challenges and My Path to Achievement"

1:40 pm Social Rooms/Happy Hour Networking

2:50 pm Thank You and Wrap up

3:00 pm End Program

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST



Steve Parrish, PLS

Steve Parrish, PLS

Continuing Education Online Library

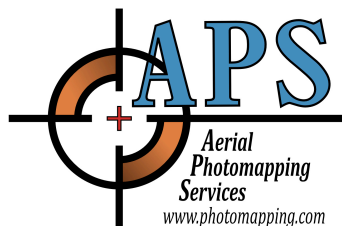
- Quality, cost-effective CE with renowned speaker, Steve Parrish, PLS
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- [2024 PE Act and PLS Act with Board Rules](#)
- [2024 Subdivision Map Act & Index](#)

[CLICK HERE](#)

NSPS - STOLEN EQUIPMENT REGISTRY

Reminder - NSPS provides a registry of stolen equipment.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

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 CLSA Headquarters,

clsa@californiasurveyors.org

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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.

CLSA EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The Education Foundation was established in 1993 and is committed to supporting land surveying students and programs. Last year almost \$50,000 in scholarship aid was provided to land surveying students. Your monetary and surveying equipment donations are appreciated! [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about the Education Foundation.



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