



**CLSA**  
CALIFORNIA LAND SURVEYORS  
ASSOCIATION

# eNewsletter

**FEBRUARY 2026**

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Kristie Achee, PLS  
President, CLSA

Questions? Comments?  
Concerns? Contact me:  
[kristie.achee@qkinc.com](mailto:kristie.achee@qkinc.com) or  
(661) 616-2600.

### February President's Letter

Fellow surveyors,

I got into surveying because I like numbers, not letters.  
But here we are... smile for the cameras!

In my travels last year as President-Elect, I was able to visit with 80% of the CLSA chapters and met many surveyors from all areas of our profession. It was an absolutely wonderful experience, and I want to thank everyone I had the opportunity to talk with and share a meal with. I felt welcome in every corner of the state.

We all need to give Jennifer Blevins, our Interim Executive Director, a huge round of applause for coming out of retirement to help guide our association and to help our new Executive Director, Will Hixson, CAE, to hit the ground running. Thank you, Jenny! A huge welcome to Will: you are already doing a bang-up job, and we look forward to collaborating with you and having you keep us in line!

We have an amazing year ahead and it starts now as we put the finishing touches on the upcoming Western Regional Survey Conference and CLSA's 60th Anniversary celebration in Las Vegas! The Conference starts on March 17 with the exhibitors moving in and setting up booths and a Western Federation of Professional Surveyors (WFPS) meeting. The opening ceremony starts bright and early on March 18 at 8:00am. Don't miss our 60th Anniversary dinner on Friday night March 20 at the Las Vegas Country Club. Get your tickets now for both events as they are selling out quickly! Several Break Sponsorships are still available for \$750.00, and student sponsorships are \$500.00 with a lot of interest from students up and down the state. CLSA is sponsoring students from six different schools this year!

Current membership is at 1,035 active members. If you have not already done so, please join your local chapter and the state association today. We also have a new remote chapter that is just getting started so the barriers for entry and participation are fading away, no more excuses. Reach out to your fellow surveyors who are not yet involved and ask them to join.

I look forward to working with all the Committee Chairs and committees on how we can make CLSA the best it can be this year. Together we will move CLSA forward, onward and upward, always with a level backsight/base point.

Kristie Achee, PLS

2026 CLSA President



*Treasurer Dave Murtha, President-Elect Michael Pulley, President Kristie Achee, Immediate Past President Joe Padilla, and Past President Kevin Nehring at the February 7<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors Meeting in Sacramento.*

At the most recent CLSA Board of Directors meeting, the 2026 Executive Committee, Committee Chairs, and Liaisons were officially announced. Please join us in welcoming this outstanding group of leaders!

**2026 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

President - [Kristie Achee, PLS](#)

President-Elect - [Michael Pulley](#)

Secretary – [Kathy Nitayangkul](#)

Treasurer – [Dave Murtha](#)

Immediate Past President – [Joseph Padilla](#)

Executive Committee Member at Large - [Mike Mueller](#)

Executive Committee Member at Large - [David Woolley, PLS](#)

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND LIAISONS:**

Awards – Kristie Achee

Bylaws – Tom Herrin

Policy & Procedure – Joe Padilla

Past Presidents Advisory – Joe Padilla

Nomination – Joe Padilla

Education – Sherry Toutges

CA Trig Star – Sherry Toutges

Education Foundation – Travis Bohan

Continuing Education – Kim Holtz

California Surveyor Magazine – Dave Murtha

2026 Conference – Steve Martin

Oregon Survey Education Liaison – Michael Pulley

Public Awareness – Connie Barrett

Advanced Technologies – Jesse Lenaker

Leadership Academy – Connie Barrett

Legislative – Michael Butcher

Surveyor Coalition Ad Hoc – David Woolley

Professional Practices – Roger Hanlin

Monument Preservation – Mikey Mueller

BPELSG Liaison – Rob McMillan

NCEES-POLC – Trent Keenan

WFPS Delegate – Kevin Nehring

WFPS Delegate – Kathy Nitayangkul

CalTrans Liaison – Jonathan Maddox

CSRC Liaison – Steve Martin

CEAC Liaison – Steve Hennesse

ACEC Liaison – Jocelyn Limas

LCSSO Liaison – David Bush

Membership – Bill Hofferber

NSPS – Armand Marois

Scouting America – Kurt Lehnhardt

Diversity – Annette Hovorka

Young Surveyors Network – Kyle Brook

President's Special Committee QBS – Mike Hartley

WHERE IN CALIFORNIA IS THIS?



Try to identify the location of this month's photo. Please describe how you identified the site. Submit your answer and/or your photo of a special location for use in a future CLSA eNews to:

[Rob McMillan](#)

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The answer to the January **Where in CA** was correctly identified by Andrew LaBine, PLS, President of Praxis Land Surveying as “taken on Highway 46 between Paso and I5, looking east, towards Bakersfield. (He attached a kmz). I’ve driven this stretch of hwy more times than I would have liked, so I knew it immediately when I saw it.”

Also successful was Tim Romano, PE, PLS, President of Romano Design. “My first thought is that could be literally anywhere in CA, but it also looked really familiar. The only hilly areas I know without a lot of trees are the hills between Salinas Valley and Central Valley. Haze in the distance suggested big flat valley ahead. I also noted it was a divided highway. First guess was 152 west into Hollister but Google Maps proved me wrong. Highway 46 was the only other divided four-lane that I could think of. Of course, it probably helped (subliminally) that I drove it last weekend...”

Submit your location guess for this month’s **Where in CA** to [Rob McMillan!](#)

## **2026 CLSA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

Don't forget to renew your CLSA membership! Now is the time to renew, join, or rejoin CLSA to support all the work the association does to enhance and advance our profession. Also, reach out to your coworkers and colleagues to encourage them to join CLSA. Be sure to renew your membership with both your local chapter and with the state association.

[RENEW MEMBERSHIP](#)

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## **CLSA 60TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER - FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2026**

CLSA is turning 60 this year! Join us for a milestone celebration on Friday, March 20, 2026, at the Las Vegas Country Club during the Western Regional Survey Conference.

Click the link below for more information!

[CLSA 60th REGISTRATION](#)

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## **Western Regional Survey Conference - March 18-21, 2026**

We are pleased to announce that the Alaska Society Of Professional Land Surveyors (ASPLS), Arizona Professional Land Surveyors (APLS), California Land Surveyors Association (CLSA), Nevada Association of Land Surveyors (NALS), New Mexico Professional Surveyors (NMPS), Utah Council of Land Surveyors (UCLS), Professional Land Surveyors of Wyoming (PLSW) and Western Federation of Professional Surveyors (WFPS) will be hosting a [joint Conference in Las Vegas on March 18-21, 2026.](#)

Featured sessions include a CFedS Workshop, a Civil 3D Workshop, a Mock Trial, a Survey Tech track, NGS/CSRC/YSN/Licensing Board updates, Education Foundation Scholarship Auction and Bowling Tournament, plus numerous other sessions of interest to Professional Land Surveyors.

Be sure to register today!

[Conference Registration](#)

[Sponsorship and Exhibitor Opportunities](#)

[Hotel Booking](#)

**Note from Joe Padilla:**

*I will be driving my Dodge Ram 2500 with an 8' bed to Las Vegas for the West-Fed Conference. If you have anything you would like to donate to the Scholarship Auction but cannot get it there, I will be happy to take it there. Auction items need to be dropped off at Johnson-Frank (address below) and packed securely so it doesn't fly out of the back. Please "No Plotters." Let me know if you have any questions and let me know when you plan on dropping it off.*

Johnson-Frank & Assoc., Inc. 5150 E. Hunter Ave. Anaheim, CA 92807

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## **Western Regional Survey Conference Session Highlight: Gary Kent**

Gary Kent will be speaking on the 2026 ALTA-NSPS Land Title Survey Specifications, and several other topics.

Note from Gary:

*"Hello, I'm Gary Kent, and I will be speaking at the Western Regional Survey Conference this year (March 18-21 in Las Vegas).*

*As a lead-in to the conference, I want to hear from you with your questions (or interesting stories) about Land Title Surveys, Boundaries, Title, Easements, and Right of Way. I would love to know what you're thinking!*

*So...with the help of my friends, I have set up an email box: [askgary2026@gmail.com](mailto:askgary2026@gmail.com).*

*I look forward to this dialogue with you, and also the opportunity to meet you at the conference. Please come over and say hello!*

*See you soon and thank you!"*

You can email questions to Gary directly using the link below.

[EMAIL GARY KENT](#)

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**WOMEN SURVEYORS SUMMIT IN SAN DIEGO, CA | SEPTEMBER 17-20, 2026**

If you are thinking about a conference to attend after summer, the Women Surveyors Summit will be in San Diego, CA. This in-person event is the 7th Women Surveyors Summit. This is a "for women, by women" event and will include opportunities for continuing education. A minimum of 12 PDH's will be available, with a 2-hour Ethics course. The event runs from 4:00 p.m. Thursday, September 17, 2026, through Sunday, September 20, 2026. A proctored CST Exam, open to all, will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Thursday.

Click below for more information.

## WOMEN SURVEYORS SUMMIT

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### **BAY AREA ACQUISITION**

Fusco Engineering, Inc. has acquired Luk & Associates – an experienced civil engineering company in the East Bay. Jackie Luk, PE, PLS, will bring her unique experience as the Principal of Fuscoe's East Bay office.

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### **QUICK CONGRATULATIONS**

- Greg Sebourne, PLS, has joined CANNON as their Regional Survey Manager.
- Juan Reta-Zunoga, LSIT started a new position as Survey Tech II at LA County DPW.
- Matt Milhorn has been promoted to Senior Land Tech at PG&E.
- Michael Anayas-Hilliard, PLS joined Ruggeri-Jensen-Azar as Gilroy Office Survey Manager.

- Tom Cardenas' new position is Senior VP Marketing and Communication at Cansel Group.
- Jon Hornecker, PLS, started a new position as Retired from Port of Long Beach.
- Pantalion Sanchez started a new position as Assistant Surveyor at Frayji Design Group.

## SUSTAINING MEMBERS

### Aerial Photomapping Services



### BizWatt, LLC



### Carlson Software



### Looq AI



### Survey Helper



### Tait & Associates, Inc.

### That CAD Girl



## SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP

### SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the California Land Surveyors Association, Inc. as a Sustaining Member is open to any individual, company, or corporation who, by their interest in the land surveying profession, is desirous of supporting the purposes and objectives of this Association. For information regarding Sustaining Membership, contact:

2520 Venture Oaks Way, Suite 150 • Sacramento, CA 95833  
916-239-4083 • 916-924-7323 Fax • [clsa@californiasurveyors.org](mailto:clsa@californiasurveyors.org)

### PUBLICATIONS

2026 publication orders are being accepted now. Click the link below for more information!

[CLSA STOREFRONT](#)

### 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](mailto:clsa@californiasurveyors.org)

## 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.

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.



**Contact Info:**

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