
HOOSIER SURVEYOR



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WINTER 2011



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Chuck Coyle, right, Columbus, new incoming president of ISPLS, presents the past president's gavel plaque to outgoing president, Jim Tibbett, Linton, at the recent January 2011 annual ISPLS convention held at the Marriott Indianapolis East Hotel in Indianapolis.

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EDITORS NOTE

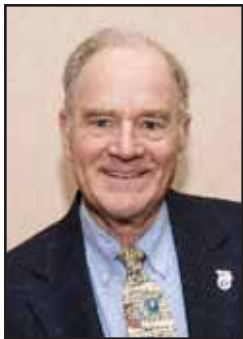
Deadlines for copy for various planned issues of the Hoosier Surveyor are as follows: Winter - December 31; Spring - March 31; Summer - June 30; Fall - September 30.

The Hoosier Surveyor is published quarterly by the Indiana Society of Professional Land Surveyors to inform land surveyors and related professions, government officials, educational institutions, libraries, contractors, suppliers and associated businesses and industries about land surveying affairs.

Articles and columns appearing in this publication do not necessarily reflect the viewpoints of ISPLS or the Hoosier Surveyor staff, but are published as a service to its members, the general public and for the betterment of the surveying profession. No responsibility is assumed for errors, misquotes or deletions as to its contents.

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PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

by Charles M. "Chuck" Coyle, Jr., P.L.S., Columbus, Indiana



Greetings ISPLS Members, Have you ever noticed how often times "when it rains, it pours?" It's been about four weeks since the ISPLS convention, and I am just covered up with work. My work here at "Force" began to pick up a couple of weeks before the convention, and has only gotten busier since! And it seems like every day at least one e-mail comes my way about something that is going on with the

Society. I'm not complaining, just making a comment. It's good to be busy, and I hope that each of you is experiencing an increase in your job list as well.

This is the first of my "formal" messages to the membership for the year. Let me say that I am both honored and humbled to be your ISPLS President. This past year, as President Elect, was my first experience as a Board Member since becoming an ISPLS member back in 1989. Between this inaugural message and the "Meet A Member" interview in this issue of the Hoosier Surveyor should give you greater insight into what I'm really all about. I was particularly flattered by the fact that in honor of my 59th birthday this past December, the most recent ISPLS convention was its 59th as well. The 2012 ISPLS conference will again honor me at age 60. Perhaps an ISPLS historian might know if I might be the oldest person to hold the office of ISPLS president? I am told that age is a state of mine. Never the less I intend to provide leadership to ISPLS to the very best of my ability and experience. Thank you for the privilege!

Several activities are either in process now or are in the planning stages. The ISPLS sponsored SB 374, Right of Entry, bill is scheduled for a hearing next week. I will keep the membership informed on this pending legislation as it progresses. Also pending is HB1298 concerning the Regulation of Professional Licensing. While this will seem to have little effect on land surveyors, we will continue to monitor this bill.

ISPLS has been offered booth space at the IGIC Conference to be held March 1st and 2nd at the Horizon Center in Muncie, IN. Anyone who is interested in manning the booth or in helping with the set-up or tear-down of the booth may contact Ryan Swingley for more information.

Saturday, March 5th will be the first Board of Directors meeting of 2011. The agenda is beginning to fill up. If you have issues that you would like to know more about or if you have items you'd like to bring to the Board, you may forward that information to me or to the ISPLS office. We will need that information by Friday, February 25th to be considered for the meeting's agenda.

Saturday, March 12th will be the ISPLS sponsored LS-SIT Review Classes. Information and registration forms can be accessed on the ISPLS Website.

On Saturday, March 19, 2011 surveyors across the country will be hosting National Society of Professional Surveyors (NSPS) Surveying USA events to kick off the start of National Surveyor's Week which begins on Sunday, March 20, 2011. Advanced Global Positioning System (GPS) equipment will be on display and simultaneously collecting data at sites throughout the nation. The goal of NSPS Surveying USA is to give the public an opportunity to observe local surveyors in action and to learn more about one of the world's oldest professions. Surveyors at each location will be available to answer questions about the event and to discuss the role of surveyors in the community. Ryan Swingley will be coordinating this event for ISPLS, if you wish to participate contact Ryan soon.

Very soon a new information page will be added to our Website titled "Opportunities for Education in Surveying in and around Indiana". This will be an information reference resource for persons interested in becoming land surveyors. Direct links to schools with surveying programs will be available on this page. I am very excited about this tool.

I am also interested in having a searchable ISPLS Membership Roster added to our Website. This will allow for constant updating as new members are added, or as members move, or change companies, etc. This will be a great tool for all members.

Several matters that the Board will consider at future meetings will be an updating of the ISPLS Website and the 2011-12 ISPLS Annual Budget. I mention the budget because the Board will need to consider funding "Special Projects" using ISPLS investment funds and the ISPLS Foundation. Special project proposals must be reviewed by the Board by late April for inclusion in next year's budget. The system or method by which these requests can be made is not yet in place. If you have a request in mind for consideration by the board, please inform the Board soon.

My goal is to attend one meeting of each ISPLS chapter this year. This will provide me with the opportunity to rekindle long time acquaintances and to make new friends. Let me know your schedules.

Thanks to each of you for your support of ISPLS!

ISPLS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

by Dianne Bennett, Executive Director

September 18, 2010

The ISPLS Board of Directors met on Saturday, September 18, 2010 at ISPLS headquarters. President Tibbett called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. The minutes and treasurer's report were reviewed and approved.

IPLA/Registration Board - A letter was sent requesting additional meeting dates for the Land Surveyors Board.

V.U. Review - Bill Clark gave a review of the Vincennes University Surveying Technology program.

Nominations - President Elect nominations submitted were Gary Kent, Joseph Mullins and Ronald Wharry. A motion was made and passed to approve the slate for President Elect.

Membership - A motion was made and passed to approve new membership applications.

Conference Room - Jason Coyle gave a review of seating options for seminars to be held in the ISPLS conference room.

Survey Reviews - There was board discussion regarding the "ISPLS Survey Review" standards and mentoring committee.

Goal setting - ISPLS goal setting will be October 30th, 2010.

2011 Convention update - Doug Herendeen presented the convention seminar program.

Membership roster - The roster will be printed and incorporated in the registration handout material at the 2011 Convention.

Manual #3 update - A paper copy of the finished manual was received. A motion was made and passed to put the Manual #3 on a DVD with a search engine and have it available for free distribution at the 2011 Convention.

ISPLS Web Page - The web page has link issues. Jason Coyle will work to correct the "link issues".

Announcements : Next board meeting date is November 6, 2010.

November 6, 2010

The ISPLS Board of Directors met on Saturday, November 6, 2010 at ISPLS headquarters. President Tibbet called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m. The minutes and treasurer's report were reviewed and approved.

Todd Ensign, Capin Crouse, gave a review of the "draft" financial statement for ISPLS.

Wallington Quarter Report - The board reviewed and discussed the report.

ISPLS Goals - A motion was made and passed to accept the 2009 ISPLS "Goal Setting Initiatives 12/12/2009" and the "Recommendations of the ISPLS Past Presidents Council dated 4/16/2010".

Board of Registration - ISPLS has offered to assist the BOR mentoring program.

Lobbyist - Mike O'Brien, Bose Public Affairs Group, gave an update of Indiana Legislative activities for 2011.

Convention - A motion was made and passed to approve the program schedule as presented.

VU Annual Survey Program Review - A letter was presented regarding the VU review agreement. A motion was made and passed to accept the letter as presented.

Nominations - Gary Kent won the President - Elect election. A motion was made and passed to destroy the ballots.

Membership - A motion was made and passed to approve the membership applications.

By Laws - A motion was made and passed to approve the By-Laws as presented for consistency.

Manual #3 - The CD for Manual #3 has been received. It will be copied for distribution at the 2011 ISPLS Convention. A motion was made and passed that non-members pay \$100 (includes shipping & handling) for the 2010 Manual #3. ISPLS members requesting a CD will pay \$10 for shipping and handling.

ISPLS Foundation - A motion was made and passed to present the proposed - "Statement of Purpose" to the ISPLS Foundation board.

V.U. Surveying Foundation - A motion was made and passed to fund \$5,472.00 from the ISPLS investments to the VU Surveying Program for "surveying equipment".

Announcements: Next BOD meeting will be Saturday, December 11, 2010 at headquarters.

December 11, 2010

The ISPLS Board of Directors met on Saturday, December 11, 2010 at ISPLS headquarters. President Tibbett called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. The minutes and treasurer's report were reviewed and approved.

Membership - A motion was made and passed to approve the membership applications as submitted.

Director Slate - A thank you goes to Dan Kovert and Frank Ballintyn for the time they have given to the society. Perry Cloyd and Dennis Grumpp were thanked for running again for BOD.

National Museum of Surveying - A paper copy of the power point presentation was presented. Monetary assistance was asked and the this will be considered in the 2011/2012 ISPLS budget. The Northwest chapter made a \$500 donation to the museum.

GIS Conference - The conference will be held March 1 & 2, 2011. ISPLS will have a complimentary booth at this event.

ISPLS web site - An update was given. The website will be under "Young Professionals" committee.

2011 BOD meeting dates - Chuck Coyle presented a list of dates. There will be an "executive session" on March 26, 2011.

Announcement - Next BOD meeting is January 12, 2011 at the ISPLS Convention.



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Machine Control & the Land Surveyor... How is 3D Machine Control Technology re-defining the role of the Land Surveyor?

by Jayson Jones, PLS



In some instances, it does not affect our professional at all. It certainly does not affect the profession from a boundary surveying point of view. If you are a land surveyor and you only perform boundary surveying, I don't see machine control affecting your business at all. The world will still need professional land surveyors to complete boundary surveys.

However, if you are a land surveyor who does construction layout, machine control will certainly affect your business and most likely, already has. One of the biggest issues I see with the surveying industry is that land surveyors are simply letting the machine control industry go by and they are not getting involved. It is understandable to some degree as we are creatures of habit. Change, especially when education is involved, is not always readily embraced. But, to ignore the benefits of this exciting technology has its consequences. In some instances, I have found this to be a case of 'out of sight, out of mind.'

Marc Cheves, LS editor of *The American Surveyor* makes note in his February 2009 editorial that he had the good fortune to moderate the machine control panel discussion at the New York State Association of Professional Land Surveyors conference in January. The panel included Harry O. Ward, PE, Daniel Streett, PE, LS and Bruce Flora, LS, all industry veterans. I also had the good fortune to sit in on this panel discussion. There was certainly a lot of knowledge in the room and the panel did a great job of answering the questions posed by the audience made up of mainly land surveyors. One of the things I found most interesting was the fact that many of the audience members knew absolutely nothing about machine control. One of the first things the panel did was to ask if there were any specific questions that anyone wanted to ask to make sure everything was covered during the three hour discussion. At this point, a gentleman sitting next to me leaned over and whispered "How can I ask any questions, when I have absolutely no idea what machine control is?" This is when it became obvious to me that there are many in our profession who know little or nothing about machine control and that this technology could be taking away part of their livelihood.

One reason I find it hard to believe that many land surveyors know nothing about machine control is the fact that machine control is no longer new. It has been around for quite some time and has been used in a practical way for over ten years in the construction and mining industry. It has been the subject of articles in many of the land surveying magazines, not just in the construction industry magazines. How is it possible that many of us let technology that could take away our livelihood, pass us by for ten years, without even knowing it was out there? I don't have an answer for that other than perhaps land surveyors are not keeping up with their profession as a whole.

Why is this the first machine control panel discussion to be conducted during NYSAPLS conference? How many other state land surveying conferences are including machine control as one of their seminars? I did attend an eight hour seminar hosted by NYSAPLS during 2008, but I believe that is the first one hosted by NYSAPLS or by the land surveying profession in NY. I have been to numerous seminars and classes hosted by machine control dealers and heavy equipment dealers, but I believe this was the first one sponsored by the land surveying profession. It amazed me that there were not many people there. I had envisioned a large group of land surveyors trying to break into this market and that classes would be well attended. That is not what I found.

Amber Anderson and Jennifer Mauer of NYSAPLS were kind enough to provide me with some statistics. In NY there are currently 1503 licensed land surveyors. Last year, a total of 40 people attended an eight hour seminar that was presented in three different locations across NY. That is less than three percent of the licensed land surveyors in NY and it does not include unlicensed staff. At the NYSAPLS conference in January the conference was attended by approximately 765 people. Of those people, 87 attended the panel discussion and 31 attended a separate seminar called "Viewing Your 3D Future - Man or Machine," presented by Harry Ward. That seems to be a relatively low percentage for technology that may be taking away our livelihood.

The fact of the matter is machine control is here and it will only get bigger. The numbers currently being thrown around the industry are that only 7% to 10% of the construction industry is using machine control. So, what happens when the number jumps to 20% or 30% over the next few years? That means there will be at least twice as many users than there are now. If we are seeing it affect our business now, what will happen when twice as many contractors are using it? Are we going to sit by and watch it all pass us by and then complain that we lost a portion of our livelihood to machine control technology? Considering the current statistics many land surveyors may be doing this.

However, there is a bright side. There is still opportunity in the construction industry for the land surveyor. Machine control technology can certainly provide an opportunity for land surveyors if only they will embrace the technology. You don't have to drive by a construction site every day and watch it progress with no grade stakes anywhere on site and wonder where your livelihood went. The answer is simple, you can be a part of machine control and machine control technology. All you need to do is make the commitment to learn the technology and become part of the solution. There are still opportunities for the land surveyor in the construction field and there are still opportunities to work with construction companies that are already involved in machine control. These are

...continued Page 9



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Practical Location

By Knud E. Hermansen¹ and Robert A. Liimakka²

Practical location is an equitable doctrine allowing parties-in-interest (e.g., adjoining neighbors) to fix the location of their common boundary in a location that may differ from the location where a surveyor would place the common boundary.

Equity jurisdiction permits courts to recognize a boundary location where certain elements exist. Equity has long recognized that a line of peaceful possession or occupation, in certain circumstances, established without fraud or deceit should not be disturbed.

The first element generally required for practical location is that the record boundary be vague or unknown. Some states require that this boundary be vague after examination by a competent surveyor. The remaining states only require that the boundary be vague or unknown to the parties-in-interest. The purpose for this element is to prevent parties from usurping the legal requirement that parties alter the location of their record boundaries by written instrument. By requiring the boundaries be vague or unknown, the legal fiction is created that the parties-in-interest have not altered the location of their deed boundaries. Rather, the parties-in-interest have fixed a definite location for the boundaries described in their respective deeds.

The second element is that the parties-in-interest by their acts fix the boundary by definite monumentation. While corner monuments are sufficient, also acceptable are fences, walls, building lines, etc. This element is to insure the boundary location does not continue to migrate and be a source of dispute. It also provides actual notice of where the parties-in-interest have fixed the location of the common boundary. The parties-in-interest can not claim to have been misled as to the location they have fixed.

The third element required for practical location is that the parties-in-interests conduct and that actions (or in some cases lack thereof) show recognition that the boundary so located by the parties-in-interest is recognized and accepted by the parties-in-interest as their boundary.

Finally, most courts have further required that there be either: 1) recognition for some length of time (usually the statute of limitations) or 2) some loss would be suffered by a reliant party if the deed boundary were upheld or 3) the practical location falls within the realm of possibility for the location of the deed boundary (though maybe not the location chosen by a competent surveyor). Without this last element, most courts would be reluctant to change the location of the record boundary fixed by a surveyor since there is no compelling reason to adopt a location other than the record location.

Consider the following example where practical location may be recognized:

John and Jim are adjoining lot owners. One summer day while both are doing yard work they begin discussing where their common boundary is located. Neither is sure. After drinking a couple of beers they decide that the best and least expensive way to determine their common boundary is to split the frontage (after all, they believe, they have the same size lots). John goes to get

his plastic tape and Jim goes to get some old metal posts he has. Together they split the front and back distance and place the metal posts in the ground to mark their corners. For the next ten years they each respect the metal posts they set. Jim builds a new garage based on the metal posts marking his boundary. John passes away and his daughter obtains the property upon John's death. She has the property surveyed and discovers the metal posts are three feet on her (deceased father's) property. She demands Jim respect the surveyor's monuments rather than the metal posts. Jim's garage would be in violation of the set back distance required by municipal zoning if the surveyor's opinion is determined to be the correct location of the common boundary.

In the example, the surveyor hired by the daughter should locate the record boundaries based on a complete and comprehensive evaluation of the evidence within the framework of the rules of construction. It is not the duty of the surveyor to determine if a location by practical location has been fixed by the parties-in-interest. However, the surveyor would have been wise to inform the daughter that the metal posts established by her father and Jim may now be the ownership boundary based on the doctrine of practical location or equity. Of course, it would be up to Jim to prove each of the elements of practical location in order to have the metal posts recognized as the location of the common corner.

The daughter's surveyor may want to consider wording such as the following in a letter or report to the daughter:

I have established the location of your common corner based on the best available evidence with due consideration to the rules of construction established by the court through precedence (*stare decisis*). My opinion conflicts with metal posts that appear to have existed in its location for some time and have been recognized as a monument to the corner. I do not know the history of the metal posts or how long the posts have existed. Under certain circumstances a court would recognize these posts as the corners even though it is not cited as a monument to your deed or is located where your deed description would place the common corner. Much like a person that makes a mistake on their taxes ten years ago, the court is often reluctant to unsettle what has appeared to have been an innocent mistake in the past. Seeking the counsel of an attorney will give you a better explanation of the law and your chances of success should a dispute ensue.

The doctrine of practical location can be useful foundation for the surveyor's opinion in the situation where the location made by the parties would reasonably coincide within the realm of possibilities for the location of the record boundary.

Consider the previous example and assume that Jim's deed called for a frontage of "200 feet more or less" and John's deed called for a frontage of "200 feet more or less" and the situation the surveyor discovered was the following:

...continued Page 9

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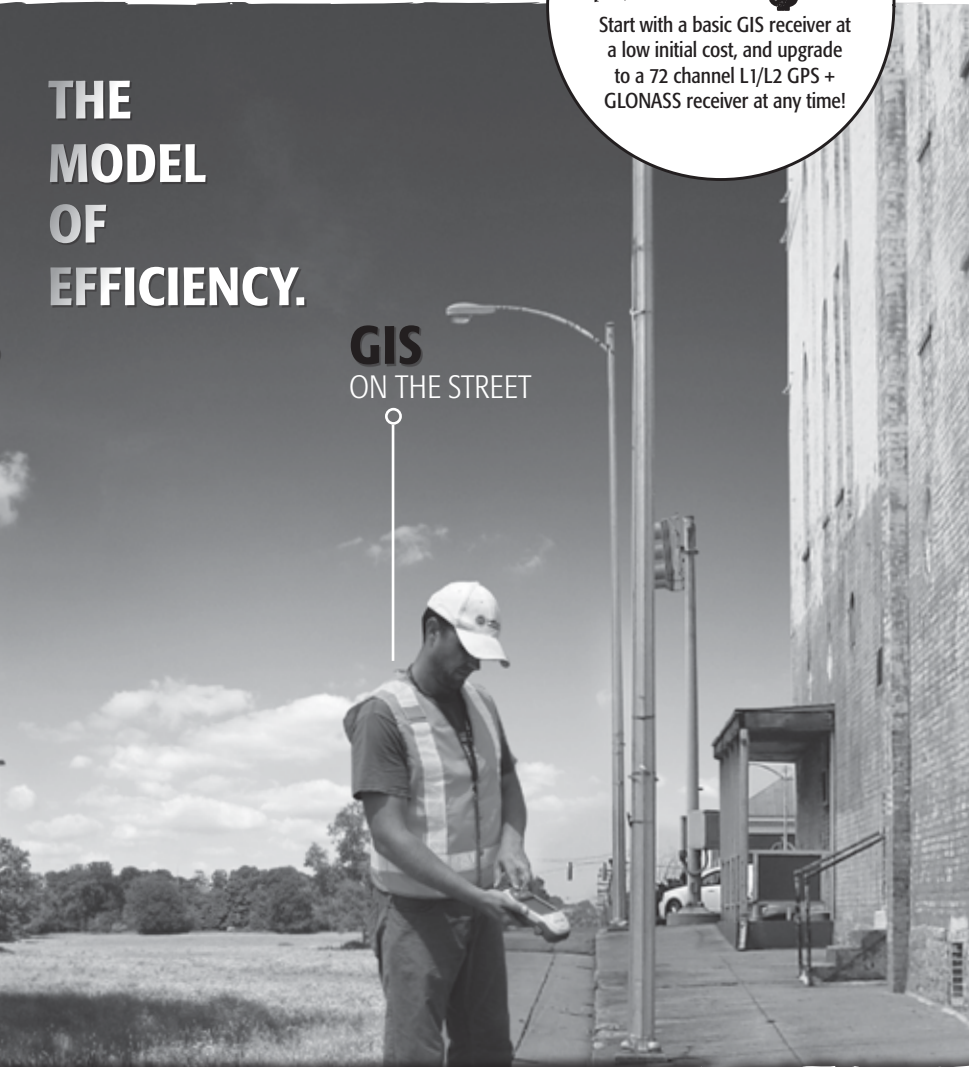
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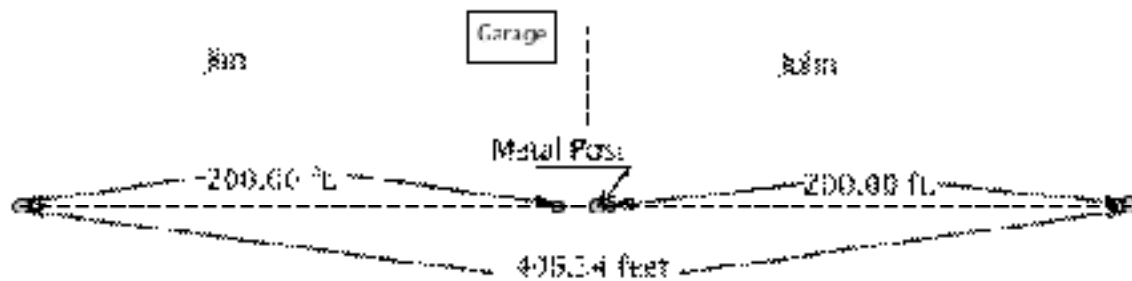
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Machine Control

...continued from Page 5

As the diagram shows, the metal post falls within the realm of possibilities given the vague deed description (though not an equal allotment of the excess). While the post may not be where a surveyor would place the common corner, the post does fall within the realm of possible locations fixed by the deed description. As such, the courts would tend to favor the position of the post as the deed corner simply because the parties-in-interest have historically done so.

In this situation the contents of the letter or report may state the following:



I have determined your common corner is the location fixed by an existing metal post. There are three factors that support this decision. First, the metal post has existed for some time without apparent dispute or disagreement as to its location. Second, predecessors in title have appeared to recognize the post as marking the location of the common corner. Finally, there is reasonable compliance between the position of the post and with the deed description given the loose and imperfect description (e.g., “200 feet more or less”). Under the circumstances, the courts often presume that the post location is a practical and reasonable location monumenting the common corner location intended by the original grantor.

Practical location is similar to the equitable doctrine of acquiescence. The major difference is that practical location requires the parties-in-interest all participate, while acquiescence requires only one party act while the other parties-in-interest acquiesce to the acts of the one party.

Some commentators equate practical location to a boundary by unwritten agreement. The difference between practical location and agreement is subtle and not always clear (some courts do equate the two doctrines). For an agreement the law requires an offer, acceptance, and consideration. In other words, an agreement requires a bargain fairly reached where each party derives some real or imagined benefit from their bargain. These elements are not required for a boundary by practical location. As a consequence, an unwritten agreement is appropriate where the parties are placing the boundary in a location different from what they know or perceive to be a location fixed by their respective deeds.

1 Knud is a professor in the Surveying Engineering Technology program at the University of Maine. He is also a consultant on boundary disputes, alternate dispute resolution, land development, real property law, and access law.

² Rob is a professor in the Surveying Engineering Program at Michigan Technological University. He is a professional surveyor and holds a MS in Spatial Information Science and Engineering from the University of Maine, Orono and is currently working on a doctorate in civil engineering.

Machine Control

...continued from Page 5

not the same opportunities we have had in the past, but they are there, you just need to know where to look. I for one have been very happy to transform from “stake driver” to “positioning expert.”

Jay Jones, PLS is a partner in the design firm of Aubertine and Currier Architects, Engineers & Land Surveyors, PLLC in Wauertown, NY where he specializes in construction surveying and machine control consulting. He is a New York State professional land surveyor and a graduate of SUNY Delhi with an AAS degree in Construction Technology, Michigan Technological University with a BS degree in Land Surveying and Purdue University with a MS degree with emphasis in Geodesy. Jay has been involved with surveying and construction projects since 1993, with GPS since 1996, and machine control since 2002. He previously worked as a land surveyor before joining Tug Hill Construction, Inc. as the head of the surveying department. Tug Hill Construction, a national site contractor, utilizes GPS and machine control to perform large civil and heavy highway construction projects across the United States. He was responsible for helping to implement GPS and machine control for the company and training employees on how to use and utilize its benefits. He currently works with multiple construction companies performing data preparation services, training, and also consults with companies looking to learn about machine control and utilize its benefits to their advantage.

ISPLS 59th Annual Convention Highlights

Indianapolis Marriott East, Indianapolis, IN (January 12-14, 2011)



Dennis Grumpp, New Palestine, (R) receives ISPLS Atlas Award from outgoing president Jim Tibbett, Linton.

Hosted by
Tecumseh Chapter
Attendance: 581



Chuck Coyle, Columbus (L) receives President's Award from outgoing president Jim Tibbett, Lintons.



Ferris State University Representative



Roger Woodfill at the Indiana Surveyors Historical Society booth.

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Assurance Risk Managers, Aurora, Co
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Carlson Software, Maysville, KY
Coliance risk Advisors, LLC., Indianapolis, IN
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Indiana Geographic Information Council, Indianapolis, IN
Indiana Surveyors Historical Society, Lawrenceburg, IN
Indiana 811, Greenwood, IN
Leica Geosystems, Norcross, GA
Positioning Solutions Company, Indianapolis, IN
Priority Engineering, LLC, Indianapolis, IN
Seiler Instrument, Indianapolis, IN
Turning Point Systems Group, Milwaukee, WI

ISPLS 59th Annual Convention Highlights



Maciej Zurawski thanks members for their contributions



Chuck Coyle (l) welcomes Kurt Sumner, ACSM Executive Director.



Jerry Ott glad to have hair again.



Ed Sweetland (r) receives President's award.



Jason Coyle (r) receives President's Award



William Henning
Height Modernization



John Matonich, Successful
Surveying Business



Wendy Gibbons,
Title and Survey Issues



Derek Fuller & Eric Banschbach,
IN Statewide CORS & GPS/GNSS
Real Time Network.



Jim Barnes & Ted Blahnik,
Watershed Management.



Jim Wyant & Matt Davis,
Machine Control.



Larry Phipps,
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Purdue University students in attendance.



Vincennes University students in attendance.



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Meet An ISPLS Member

Charles M. Coyle, Jr. P.L.S.

as told to David B. H. Best, PLS

1. Tell about your growing up years and about your family.

I was born and grew up in Indianapolis. I was the only child born to Charles, (Sr.) and Ruth Coyle. When I was 10-years old my parents built a new home in the Castleton area. That was back when Castleton was way out in the country. I played little league baseball in Fishers, and participated in a local Boy Scout troop, where I earned the rank of Eagle before I reached my 14th birthday. I attended Lawrence Central High School where I participated in football as a freshman, and as a wrestler during my remaining 3-years of high school. During my senior year I got involved in Junior Achievement and was chosen to be President of my J.A. Company, where I was a finalist for the President of the Year award. When I look back on my “growing up” years, probably the most constant activity in our family life was our involvement in our church. My mom and dad both taught Sunday School and were involved with the youth programs, and my dad also served as an Elder and Church Treasurer.

I met the lady who is now my wife in the summer of 1970, just a couple months after graduating from high school. Over the next 3-1/2 years we dated somewhat off and on, but in the summer of 1973 she won the battle, I surrendered, and we were married in January of 1974... 37-years ago.

Becky and I have been blessed with three children and soon to be eight grandchildren: Charlie the 3rd, married, 5-children, Aviation Technology graduate, Vincennes U., employed by Delta Airlines, Dulles, VA.; Robert “Jason”, married, 2-children, Construction and Surveying Technology graduate, Vincennes U., PLS in Indiana and Kentucky, employed by Stoeppelwerth and Associates, Fishers, IN., and newly elected ISPLS Director; Leah, my Lil’ Girl, is married to a Fire Fighter and EMT, expecting their 1st child in June, Advertising and Public Relations major, Pensacola Christian College, and now residing in Tallahassee, FL.

2. Why did you choose to become a Land Surveyor?

The real question is, “How did I become a Land Surveyor?” The truth is that I stumbled into this profession. When I was in the 5th grade I decided that I wanted to be an Architect; in the fall of 1970 I entered Ball State for an education in their College of Architecture and Planning. I soon realized that I didn’t think like an Architect, and I wasn’t the only one to figure that out. After only two-quarters Ball State asked me not to come back. My dad informed me that if I wasn’t going to be a student then I’d better find a job because he wasn’t going to support me for the rest of my life. Jobs weren’t particularly easy to find in the spring of 1971, but I ended up with a job with the Indiana State Highway Commission, now referred to as INDOT. They hired me as a stake driver, and although I wasn’t sure what kind of vehicle that was, I was pretty sure I could drive it. So on April 1st, 1971, I showed up at the jobsite only to be issued my very own 10-lb. sledge hammer. Hummmm... stake

driver? Within only a few months I had become very familiar with the operation of the transit and level, and basically moved to the position of Instrument Man.

3. What is your educational background?

In high school I pursued a college prep program where I had almost every math and science class available. My dad thought that it was important for me to do that. I wasn’t a particularly great student, but I gained a lot of knowledge. I’ve already related my experiences at Ball State University, but while still in the employ of the State Highway Commission I thought I ought to pursue some education in surveying to gain knowledge in why I was doing what I was doing in my daily work, so I did some research and enrolled in the Civil Engineering Technology program at the Purdue University extension in Indianapolis... East 38th street, right across the street from the State Fairgrounds. Some of our older members might remember those facilities?

4. How important is it to have a mentor? Did anyone in particular help you advance in your career?

When I first began with the highway department I had NO clue as to what surveyors did or how they did it. When I look back on how I got my start, I am so grateful to several men who took me under their wings and were so patient with me, and also such an encouragement. After about a year and a half the person who I first worked with encouraged me to pursue employment with a consulting firm as an Instrument man. A few months later I landed a job with Stoeppelwerth and Associates. Richard Frye was my supervisor. He along with the “real boss”, Richard Stoeppelwerth, were both a great encouragement to me. I was soon offered the position of Crew Chief. I am very thankful for those who took the time to share their knowledge and gave me encouragement in those early years. In turn, I have always tried to share that same consideration to young men and women who have had an interest in learning our profession. It was during those early years that I explored the requirements for licensure, and made the decision to pursue licensure as both a Land Surveyor and as a Real Estate Broker as I saw both of these as closely related professions. I became an Indiana registered land surveyor in 1984.

5. As president of ISPLS this year what innovations do you have in mind for the Society?

With the organization and make-up of the ISPLS Board of Directors as set forth in the Constitution and By-Laws, it is difficult to come on to the Board as President Elect with an agenda that is vastly different from the agenda that the Board set forth. For my year as President Elect, my time was spent just trying to find my way... observing, and questioning those things that were confusing or perhaps didn’t seem to make sense... at least to the “New Guy”.

...continued Page 15

ACSM on Web Radio

The American Congress on Surveying and Mapping (ACSM) announced in late January a new program for surveyors and mappers across the U.S. The program, "ACSM Radio Hour," airs on America's web radio (www.americaswebradio.com) every Monday at 11:00 am EST.

Sponsored by Parker-Davis Quik Stakes, the hour-long show is hosted by ACSM Executive Director Curt Sumner. Interviews with individuals connected with surveying in some way will be emphasized. Topics relevant to the surveying and mapping profession in the U.S. are welcome as suggestions for discussion, and can be e-mailed to the host at curtis.sumner@acsm.net.

The introductory show aired on January 24th. The following week, Jack Breed, PLS, discussed matters of concern in Florida, including a challenge to the definition of surveying and mapping and the Qualifications Based Selection (QBS) process for procuring the services of professional surveyors. The February 7th ACSM Radio Hour featured Gary Kent discussing the 2011 ALTA/ACSM Land Title Survey Standards which go into effect on February 23rd.

Sumner's guests for upcoming shows in February include: Sarah Ice (with the consulting firm Dewberry) who will be discussing FEMA issues and Letters of Map Amendment (LOMA); David Doyle with National Geodetic Survey (NOAA/NGS) who will be discussing geodesy from its origins to its present-day use in daily life; and Don Falken with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) who will be discussing the importance of survey technicians to the surveying profession, and the NSPS Certified Survey Technician (CST) program.

To listen in live to the forthcoming shows, visit www.americaswebradio.com and select "Listen". An archive of past shows can be accessed by those who cannot listen live, at <http://www.radiosandysprings.com/showpages/ACSM.php>.

Media contact: Ilse Genovese, ACSM, ilse.genovese@acsm.net, 240-632-9716 ext. 109

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Meet a Member

...continued from Page 13

I gained a lot of insight as to why some things have been done or have been pursued as they have been. There were also a few occasions when I questioned some things and with a fresh approach asked the questions and the Board took a step back to reconsider its previous thought process.

But to the question: We are currently in the midst of trying to get a "Right of Entry" bill through the Indiana Legislature. I also want to take a hard look at our Website, and look at more ways to make our profession more viable and visible. I am organizing a new committee called the "Young Professionals" Committee. This group will be headed up by Ryan Swingley and Jason Coyle, and will consist of more than a dozen young professionals. I am excited about the possibilities for new and innovative ideas that our young professionals can offer to help move our Society and our profession in new directions. I plan to lean heavily on the knowledge and wisdom of our Past President's Council chaired this year by Jim Tibbett.

6. What advice would you give to young people who are considering land surveying as a profession?

I would encourage them to seek an opportunity to experience some time with a surveyor in the field to give them a real sense of what we do and experience the GREAT tools and gadgets that we use to help us perform our work. And then to also experience taking the data back to the office to see how the information is utilized to create maps or prepare plans. If it looks good to them I would then encourage them to visit with colleges and universities that offer degrees in surveying. I encourage them to pursue a dual degree in civil engineering as well, and try to explain the additional career options that might be available to them within the surveying profession.

7. What can ISPLS do to attract more young people into our profession?

I don't think that the profession of Land Surveying is a high profile profession. When was the last time you saw a sitcom on TV about a land Surveyor? As surveyors, we do some really "neat" things and in some really "neat" places, but we get little or NO publicity. Again, for myself, I had no idea as to what surveyors did until I fell into it. We need to explore better opportunities to display what we do. For example, by helping Boy Scouts with the Surveying Merit Badge; by participating in a Trig Star competition; by participating in college and vocational days in your local high schools; and simply by taking part in local civic events to show that surveyors do care about their communities by setting an example.

8. What is something you learned early in your career that you still apply today?

Two things stick out and immediately come to mind as I respond to this question: 1) In response to my reply as to why I picked a particular monument to use as a reference corner, and further prefacing my replay with, "I assumed", Dick Frye explained to me

in a nice but firm way that, "He that assumes makes an ass out of u-m-e". If you've not heard that before just let it sink in a bit... He told me that one about 38 years ago, I've never forgotten it. And 2) Is simply to make sure that when you've set out your work in the field, be it a traverse or a bench circuit, make sure to close it out to insure that the results are what they were intended to be. Many of us try to short cut our work and time, but in the long run, checking it out may save you or your employer a lot more than that.

9. What's the toughest mistake you ever made? What did you learn from it?

I tend to operate with the mind-set that if I make a mistake, then I roll with it and try to correct it and/or make it right. Looking back I believe I would have set my course differently: I would not want to exchange the experience that I've had in my surveying, engineering and construction career, but I would have liked to have prepared and completed a more formal education in my early years before I settled into the responsibilities of family and personal finance. Several years ago I came to realize that I could not change that for myself, but I could take my own experiences and use them to influence the next generation. I think I've done that with some success, and will strive to continue that theme throughout my remaining years.

10. Tell about your company and the role you play in it.

I have been employed with the Force organization since 1984. "Force" is a Design & Build organization comprised of two companies: Force Construction Co., Inc. and Force Design, Inc.

The companies are owned and managed by brothers: Harold Force, P.E., and David Force, A.I.A. "Force" primarily specializes in industrial and commercial projects. With my broad-based background in land surveying, construction surveying, construction estimating and management, and site design "Force" has been a great fit for me. When I began my tenure with "Force" I began on the construction side as a project estimator and manager where I remained for about 12 years. I would occasionally perform site design on our larger scale projects, but with the implementation of Rule 5 regarding erosion and sediment control, and greater requirements for stormwater management I moved to the other side of the building and into a new position as Site Design Coordinator with Force Design, Inc., where I have remained for the last 14+ years.

11. What do you do in your "free" time? What are your hobbies and outside interests?

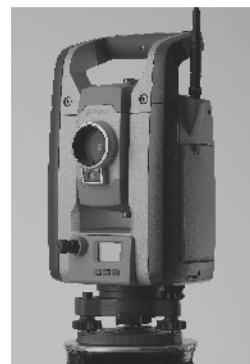
"Free time"? That's an interesting term. I actually stay busy enough that it's hard to define almost any of it as "free time", but the reality is that our time is steered by what we allow it to be steered by. I lead an adult age Sunday morning Bible study at our church, and I currently serve as Chairman of the Board of Deacons. I sing in the church choir, a men's quartet, and a mixed quartet with my wife. I absolutely love Southern Gospel music, and for the past several

...continued Page 18



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Vincennes University Land Surveying Program Foundation

by James C. Tibbett, P.L.S.

The Vincennes Land Surveying Program Foundation is very pleased to announce that Seiler Instrument Company out of Indianapolis, Indiana, represented by Craig Williams will help with the equipment needs of the Vincennes University Land Surveying Program. In the spring of 2010 the Foundation working with Topcon and several surveying companies and private surveyors presented the V.U. Program with three new Topcon total stations. Then in the fall of 2010 the Foundation working with Leica and the Southwest Chapter of ISPLS presented the V.U. Program with two Leica Total Station and three Leica Electronic Levels.

The Foundation working with both Leica and Seiler and with contributions from the Indiana Society of Professional Land Surveyors and the CIC Chapter of ISPLS proudly presented the V.U. Program with eight Sokkia Automatic levels from Seiler Instrument Company and seven Leica levels from Leica Geosystems. Funding for this equipment is from the Foundation which is supported by the ISPLS, the Southwest Chapter of ISPLS, the CIC Chapter of ISPLS, land surveying companies and private land surveyors. The concept of this program began in 2007 with the help of ISPLS, Edward Sweetland and James C. Tibbett. Since that time the Foundation has received financial help from several surveying companies and many land surveyors throughout Indiana. The land surveying companies and individual land surveyors can see the bigger picture and understand that by funding the Foundation they truly promote the interests of the surveying profession by providing a direct link to the profession, not by one student at a time, but by an entire classroom of future Indiana land surveyors.

During the last three years we have shined a spotlight on the Vincennes Land Surveying Program by adding several GPS units and a Laser Scanning instrument. Over the last three years this program has added over \$85,000 (list price) of equipment to the V.U. Surveying Program. The Surveying Program Foundation will conduct its annual golf outing this spring. PLEASE come out and have some fun. THANKS everyone for helping make the Foundation a true success

During 2010, I have served as ISPLS President and as President of the Vincennes University Land Surveying Program Foundation. The two programs are not directly linked but both have the interest of the surveying profession at its core. I have spent many hours working to advance both organizations. I have attended many meetings through out Indiana, made every chapter golf outing, (wish I could play golf), and wrote more letters and press articles in one year than in the last 10 years of running my own land surveying company. I believe both organizations have made major moves to advance the surveying profession. Both organizations envision the bigger picture and want to make a true difference in our profession. It is the membership of both organizations that made this all possible. I thank all who have worked with both organizations to make 2010 a very special year for me. We have made a difference with your help.

During 2010, the Vincennes University Land Surveying Program Foundation provided three Topcon Total Stations, two Leica Total Station, three Leica Digital Levels, eight Sokkia Levels and seven Leica Levels, for the V.U. Surveying Program, plus several level rods, tripods and prisms.



Vincennes surveying students with eight Sokkia Levels



Seven Leica Levels

Meet a Member

...continued from Page 15

years my wife and I have spent three evenings in September, six hours each night in Louisville at the National Quartet Convention listening to the nation's greatest Southern Gospel groups and performers. And besides all that... we have seven grandchildren with another due to arrive in June.

12. What are you currently reading? Do you have a favorite author?

I am not much of a reader, as I really don't find reading relaxing. Therefore, most of my reading is for educational and self-improvement purposes. The bible and technical magazines make up most of my reading. I have enjoyed listening to some books on CDs, particularly Tony Dungy's book, "Quiet Strength", and I have enjoyed listening to workshops by Dave Ramsey regarding being financially responsible. I find these particularly enjoyable while traveling to help pass the time.

13. What is your favorite movie?

An interesting question... this answer will show my age, but I can't limit it to just one: Going back a lot of years, I loved the movie "Bullet", with Steve McQueen. I think it had one of the greatest chase scenes ever. And while I'm not particularly a Tom Cruse fan, I loved the movie, "Top Gun", again for the action and

triumph in "the will to succeed". And then again Tom Cruse and Jack Nicholson in, "A Few Good Men", pretty much for the same reason. Showing my age, maybe I can relate: "Grumpy Old Men" and "Grumpier Old Men"... a couple of flicks that bring out the best and worse of long time friendships. And I'll complete my list with the movie, "Space Cowboys". Again, I think I can relate to my love for when we did surveying the old fashioned way... with a transit and steel tape. Those were the days when you felt the survey because you were in the very midst of the survey. I think we've lost some of that feeling of being a part of it when we can use a total station or utilize GPS.

ATTENTION PURDUE ALUMNS

All Purdue Surveying/Geomatics alumni please email your current contact information to Anne Hatke (President of Purdue ISPLS/ACSM Chapter), so they can update their contact list. Anne Hatke ahatke@purdue.edu

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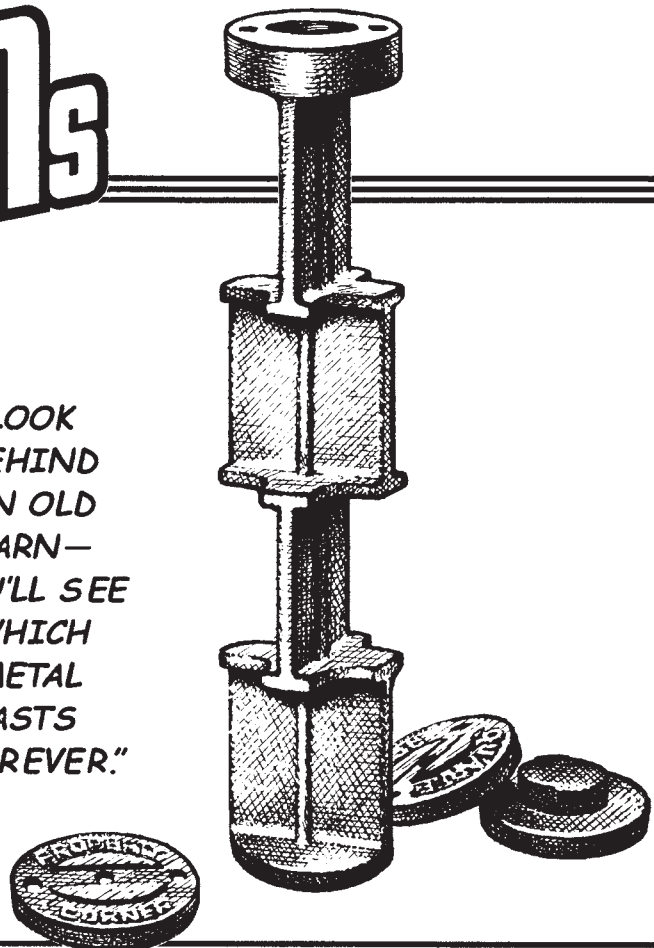
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March 1-2, 2011

IGIC Conference, Horizon Convention Center, Muncie, Indiana
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March 5, 2011

ISPLS Board of Directors meeting, ISPLS headquarters

March 12, 2011

ISPLS LS and LSIT Review, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
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You can register on the ISPLS web site (ISPLS.org)

March 19, 2011

NSPS Surveying USA,
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April 9, 2011

Land Surveyor Board of Registration meeting
Conference Center Room 6, Indianapolis

April 16, 2011

ISPLS Board of Directors Meeting, Headquarters, Indianapolis

May 21, 2011

ISPLS Board of Directors meeting, ISPLS headquarters

June 13, 2011

Indiana County Surveyors' Bass Fishing Tournament Patoka Lake
For more information contact: Meg Butcher at
Christopher B. Burke Engineering 317-266-8000
or email m butcher@cbel-in.com.

WELCOME NEW ISPLS MEMBERS

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Erich M. Bauer - Student
Erik Bennett - Student
Cameron Beron - Associate
Adam Bledsoe - Student
Curtis Bouchie - Student
James "Chip" Campbell - Associate
Matthew Cardinal - Student
Jerry Carter - Life
J. Michael Cozart - Associate
Alex Daugherty - Associate
Erika Donaubauber - Student
Lance Gogel - Student
Ryan Hanan - Student
Sean Hansen - Student
Matthew Healy - Professional
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Andrew McClelland - Student
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Stacia Pence - Student
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