



## Calibration Baseline

The NGS in association with the Sacramento Chapter of CLSA is establishing a Calibrated base Line (CBL) in the Sacramento area. Everyone is invited to participate (i.e. provide manual labor) or observe the installation of the four marks. These are NOT your standard survey marks! Each mark will begin with a 16”

by 60” hole augured into the ground and filled with about



1,000 pounds of concrete. In addition, we can't forget the unique and special NGS brass caps.

This may be a once in a lifetime experience for the average surveyor.

Please contact Stanley King at [sking@omnimeans.com](mailto:sking@omnimeans.com) if you are interested in volunteering or observing. You will be added to our contact list once a final date and location is confirmed.

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### Roseville Cattlemens

2000 Taylor Road  
Roseville, CA 95678

April Meeting  
Thursday, April 2nd

Drinks at 5:00

Dinner at 6:00

See details on the website!

**PPC Meeting Minutes - March 19, 2009**

Meeting called to order at 5: 30PM in the Conference Room of WRG Design, Inc, Roseville

In attendance: Neal Jones  
Evan Page  
Ian Wilson

Absent: Jon Scarpa (excused)

**Public Items Covered:**

- 1) WRG Design Office Principal, Robert (Rob) Hedrick stopped in to introduce himself to the committee, welcome us to the WRG Conference Room and encourage us in our efforts.
- 2) Ian Wilson shanghaied/press ganged/forced in Vice-Chair – Secretary Office until further notice.  
The position allows for one person to be responsible for the recording of the actions of the committee and for all correspondence
- 3) Letters to the County Surveyors inviting their participation in the Sacramento PPC were approved and signed by all present. Arrangements are being made to have Jon Scarpa sign the letters.
- 4) The letterhead used for the County Surveyor letters was accepted. The committee decided to use the Chapter logo and the State CLSA logo at the upper corners of the letterhead to be used in future  
Ian to contact Crissy at Central Office to get a logo file and approval for letterhead design.
- 5) PPC will request a budget of \$100.00 to cover expenses for mail, etc.  
Neal to make formal request of Chapter Executive Committee (XCOM)  
Ian to keep a set of books to detail expenses and costs incurred.
- 6) PPC will make formal request of Chapter XCOM for letters of appointment.  
Neal to make request again.
- 7) Sacramento PPC to forward copies of Committee Guidelines and Charter Statement to State PPC  
Ian to forward copies to Robert Reese

After discussion of confidential items, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00PM

Respectfully submitted,



D. Ian Wilson, PLS  
Sacramento CLSA Professional Practices Committee  
Vice-Chair - Secretary

## Right of Entry and a Missed Business

### Opportunity by Rob McMillan

Every once in a while, I get a phone call from out of the blue... Someone with a general question about land surveying that thinks I have the answer. Last year I got such a call, but the difference was, this was from a relative asking me specifically about Land Surveyor's Right of Entry. My cousin was startled to find fresh lath and flagging within the six foot chain-link fence surrounding the 5 acre lot on which his home is built. He was upset that a land surveyor had been on his property without contacting him, and thus risking the wrath of his two very large (but luckily well fed and friendly) Rottweilers. I think we all agree that the land surveyor was technically allowed to do this, but may it may have been better if neighbors were contacted.

How does this translate into a lost business opportunity? My cousin is the Operations Manager of a multi-million dollar per

year business that owns numerous large properties in Southern California. He, and the owners of the company, have been involved in land development, residential construction, and heavy construction in some form since the 1960's. These folks are seemingly always in need of a Land Surveyor for some task or another. Sometimes it is layout for irrigation lines or structure construction, other times it is for legal descriptions or subdivision work.

The land surveyor could have taken the time to send a postcard or place door hangars (available from the CLSA website) notifying the adjoining that XYZ Land Surveying would be in the area performing a boundary survey. My cousin surely would have inquired about having his corners located and marked, which could have lead to considerable future work for XYZ Land Surveying.

Can we afford to miss this kind of opportunity? I think not...

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Applications must be received by  
April 30, 2009

# What you doing...

What are you up to the weekend of the LS exam? We are thinking of doing something with our potential new professionals. Interested? We will have more information at our next meeting.



## PPC Committee Report

- The PPC committee will ask the executive committee of the Sacramento Chapter for "letters of appointment" for the four members of the PPC; Neal S. Jones, D. Ian Wilson, Evan A. Page and Jon Scarpa. This action is to formalize the PPC committee for the Sac Chapter.
- The PPC committee will be sending signed formal letters to all seven of the County Surveyors Office's for their interest in and hopefully participation in the PPC committee's goals of having a county surveyor or a licensed representative on the committee serving in a one-year term then rotating out.
- The Confidential Complaint Form needs to be placed on the Sac Chapter web site.
- The PPC committee will have a scheduled meeting on the third Thursday of every month or until such time as a case comes before the committee. Then the Chairman will call the committee together to address the case-in-chief as soon as all the members can schedule their time.

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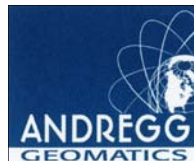
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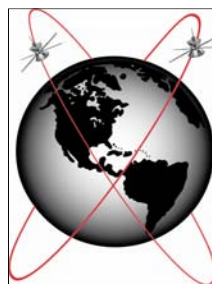
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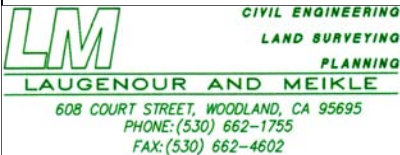


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# CLSA CONFERENCE 2009

March 28 - April 1



**Hilton San Diego Resort**  
(Mission Bay), San Diego, CA



Hotel Information:  
Hilton San Diego Resort  
Reservations: (800) 445-8667  
Cut-Off Date: February 25th  
Room Rate: \$159  
Group Code: CLSA

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### Featured Speakers Include:

- Mike Durkee, Esq.
- Gary Kent, PLS
- Dennis Moulard, PLS
- Steve Parrish, PLS
- "GIS Janet" & "Surveyor Randy"  
from Professional Surveyor  
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& Randy Rambeau, PLS)

### Program to Include:

- Workshops
- Technical Sessions
- LSIT Review Course
- LS Review Course
- CST Exam
- Mock Trial



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Please visit [www.californiasurveyors.org](http://www.californiasurveyors.org) for updated information

# Minutes

Meeting called to order by President Clayton Guiraud with a bang of his recently reacquired gavel.

Introductions were made around the room.

President Clayton talked about National Surveyors Week that is coming up starting March 15th; We are expecting a proclamation from the Governor; discussion donation letter from Cuyamaca Community College, El Cajon, CA; discussion of the upcoming CLSA conference; Several of our members participated with ASCE Engineers in the Sunrise Mall for a day to show engineering fields contribution to the public.

VP Oscar—Next meeting is at Cattlemen's in Roseville; Talk about a change of venue due to the cost of dinners; Logan Roadhouse with banquet room with 50 was suggested as an alternative the current locations or the Christmas party; Logans less than Cattlemens; BBQ at RiverCats game was discussed; report will be prepared for next month.

Secretary Annette- Discussion of what should be contained in the newsletter and the size; It was discussed to provide a link to website in the email for the newsletter rather than sending document.

Treasurer Nick- Will be providing numbers for the dinners; will be sending out letter to corporate sponsors letters requesting payments for advertising.

PP committee- Neal Jones: see report on page 4; complaint form to go to website; inform CLSA of members; letter going to 7 counties to try to get a rep from county surveyors office to bring to 5 members of the committee; 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday is scheduled date for the committee meeting.

Workshop Bill Telling- Jerry Miller for LSIT Review for fall; please take the survey available; Chuck Karayan has a new unwritten title lecture "When is a fence is a fence and when is it boundary?"; Case law in each jurisdiction is included;

Baseline Committee- Stanley King: Calibrated baseline near Grant Line; Paperwork is going; expect to be measuring next fall; Motion for \$500 for baseline effort and seconded, motion passed.

Trig Star time is here. Contact local high schools to participate. Chapter is here to help.

JFK High School wants to have an Introduction to Land Surveying; Ed Zimmerman attended meeting to have a template for an articulation agreement for surveying and other disciplines; once approved by state level will be able to arrange for agreements; Document available for review.

This semester at Sacramento City College had to have 25 people for classes; reduced to 20; By first of August must have the numbers for the fall semester; Next semester at the college will have Beginning surveying, problem solving, boundary, and survey business practices.

Evening Program: Keith Nofield from Mount Diablo Historical Society; Presented interesting information about our local initial point and some examples for some of the historic items and papers preserved by the society; Donations are welcome.

# What Defines being a Professional Land

## Surveyor? By: William J Wilson, PLS

In light of the upcoming LS Exam, I will present the question: What is the defining factor that makes a surveyor?

- Ability to make precise measurements?
- Ability to perform records research?
- Ability to perform complex math problems?
- Ability to weigh evidence?
- Ability to calculate horizontal and vertical positions from a set of engineering plans?
- Ability to accurately Stake out those same points, so that construction crews can build what is on the plans?
- Ability to find obliterated monuments/property corners?
- Ability to accurately set monuments/property corners?
- Ability to proportion lost monuments/property corners?
- Knowledge of the difference between Lost and Obliterated?
- Ability to document and record for posterity the facts and evidence of his/her survey?

The list can go on but does it need to? Is the defining factor in the outline above? Is any one or several of the abilities mentioned above foremost in your mind as to what makes a surveyor?

Consider this: if you are a Crew Chief or on a field crew, you may place A, C, E, F, G, H, and perhaps D, I, and J, in some sort of hierarchy, order of more to less importance. While the juxtaposition for an office technician may be B, C, D, E, K and perhaps I, and J ordered to fit their view of surveying.

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# Surveyor? Continued from previous page...

I will submit that ALL and NONE of these define a surveyor.

All: because each of these things and more are the technical aspects of the job, the nuts, and bolts of what we do, so to say. Without the knowledge of at least some of these, you would not even be a survey technician.

None: why say none, if this is the knowledge we need to have to do our work? Because there is more to surveying than the technical; as surveyors we are charged with a duty to the public first and foremost, held to high ethical standards, and stewards of the past and future.

**Duty to the public:** The reason we must be Licensed, without which... well just think about what would happen without Licensed Surveyors. Construction would run amuck, contractors would be left to their own devices. Land disputes would overwhelm the Courts. **Duty:** *something that somebody is obliged to do for moral, legal, or religious reasons* (Encarta Dictionary: English (North America)). The Moral and Religious reasons why you do your surveys, I will leave up to you. As for the Legal reasons, the people of the State of California have dictated that we are all obligated (or obliged) to provide our services under the rules set forth in the Land Surveyors Act and the other Laws of this State. In doing so the people have guaranteed themselves the peace of mind that Land Surveyors will always do what is right, to protect the interest of the people. Whether the survey is for a Public Works Job, i.e. Highways, Water and Sewer lines, etc..., or Private Land Surveys i.e. Major Subdivisions, or small one lot retracement surveys, the public assumes the level of expertise and care are always the same.

**Ethical Standards:** Conforming to accepted standards. *Consistent with agreed principles of correct moral conduct • While such activities are not strictly illegal, they are certainly not ethical.* (Encarta Dictionary: English (North America)) This places us, as Surveyors, one-step past a Duty. While we, as Surveyors, know the laws and practice within the confines of those laws, we must also know when the law falls short or does not cover a certain area. It is when these gray areas of law are pushed and tested, that laws are changed or added to, in order for the public to maintain their peace of mind. When this happens not only do we suffer the repercussions of the changes or new restrictions. Surveyors also suffer in our public image; distrust is fostered and grows. Rightfully so, if one Doctor is doing something questionable, then they all might be, the same goes with Surveyors.

**Steward:** Property Manager *somebody who manages somebody else's property, finances, or household.* Guide or direct something *transitive verb to guide or direct something such as a project to completion • successfully stewarded the fundraising campaign to completion on time • stewarded the bill through Congress to the President.* (Encarta Dictionary: English (North America)) Wow, so much out of one word, as Surveyors we "Manage" the Boundaries of somebody else's property, while "Guiding" future surveyors as to the intent of past property owners when they divided their existing land for dispersal to a multitude of others. We are the interpreters of the past, caretakers of the present, and directors of the future. Do you feel the weight of the world; is it any wonder that three of our greatest Presidents were Surveyors?

Therefore, you may have the technical expertise to be a surveyor, but do you have what it takes to be a true "Professional Land Surveyor" (PLS)? This question is one we all must ask Licensed and License Hopefuls alike. Are we endeavoring at just the Technical or are we concentrating on the Professional?

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