## 2011 Conference Annual Report Index

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<td>Chapter 4 annual report</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
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<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
It has been an interesting and eventful year as your president. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve this organization. The MSPS board of directors has been thoughtful and has provided excellent direction for this organization. I am very proud to have served with them.

The first issue addressed this past year was the budget. In September 2009 the budget for fiscal year 2009-2010 was approved by the MSPS board. The budget committee proposed balancing the budget by eliminating approximately $50,000.00 from the budget. All budget items were scrutinized and cut to minimums. There was no room in the budget for any unexpected expenses. However, two unbudgeted expenses occurred. One expense was for an attorney's review of the bylaws which were revised and adopted at the 2010 MSPS annual meeting. The other was for the publication of “A Striking Triumph of Geometry over Physical Geography, Vignettes of the Public Land Surveys” published by Professor Rod Squires. Expenses would have matched budget except for these two items. Funds from book sales were designated to be placed into reserves until the cost of publication has been recovered. So, the funds invested in the book publication were an investment more than expense. The total cost of book publication and the attorney’s fees put MSPS expenses about $8000.00 over budget. However, MSPS will get a return on the book investment.

The committee realignment started in 2008-2009 was finalized this year when the bylaws were amended to remove the committee definitions and structure. The committee structure and definitions were placed into the operations and policy manual where they can be amended as necessary by the MSPS board of directors. The committees were consolidated from about 28 standing committees to 12 standing committees. The committee structure seems to be working. One committee MSPS may want to revisit is that of the ethics committee. The duties of the ethics committee became a function of the board of directors instead of a committee. The board may want to consider having an ethics advisor, especially if the board of licensure adopts an ethics component to its continuing education requirements.

There was a motion at one of the board meetings to rescind the Recommended Minimum Guidelines for Land Surveys published by MSPS in 1986 and last revised in 1999. There was also a motion to rescind the MSPS Rules of Professional Conduct. The board of directors carefully considered both of these issues. Both issues were presented to the chapters for consideration. The Recommended Minimum Guidelines was referred to the Manual Committee for review, and the Rules of Professional Conduct were left as published.

MSPS, the Society of Land Surveyors of Iowa, the Surveyor’s Historical Society, The Alamakee County Highway Department, and the Houston County Highway Department constructed a turnout and erected a kiosk at the initial point of the public land surveys in Minnesota which is located on the Iowa-Minnesota boundary about six miles west of New Albin Iowa. The project was initiated by the MSPS historical committee. The project turned out great, and it is a project that we can all be proud of. The project is a testament to the power of cooperation.

In closing, I wish to recognize the committees. The amount of work done by committee members is remarkable, and the recognition minimal. The committees have always been ready to accept new assignments, and effectively finish these assignments. Certainly MSPS would not be nearly as effective of an organization as it is without the support of the committees.

It has been a busy and challenging year. It has been a lot of work, and it has had its rewards. The board of directors, the committees, Ewald Consulting, Messerli and Kramer, and the membership have all been a pleasure to work with. I feel honored to have been placed into this position by the membership. I look forward to serving this next year as your past president.

Sincerely,

Tony Blumentritt
MSPS President
Executive Director’s Report

On behalf of the staff at MSPS I want to thank the leadership and members of MSPS for another exciting and productive year. We have enjoyed our work with the MSPS Board and committees. 2010 was not without continued challenges to the Society including decreased attendance at events but his was balanced-out with relatively good participation at technical seminars and a fairly stable membership base.

Of great continued advantage to MSPS is the fine leadership of the Society. Each year we see some new volunteers as others complete their terms. What we have noted through this natural cycle of leadership is a constant and strong dedication by the Society’s volunteers who have a strong commitment to the Society and their work in the profession. When leadership is fully-engaged it makes meeting whatever challenges might come that much more achievable.

Our primary challenge again this last year was decreased attendance at the 2010 Annual Meeting. The Board of Directors has worked hard adjust our annual operating budget to provide the same events, products and services to members despite decreased revenues. Annual meeting attendance is something that is challenging most other state organizations. Many other states continue to see more dramatic decreases, not only with event attendance, but with membership as well. Our membership has remained relatively steady.

The Society remains in sound shape despite decreased event revenues because past MSPS boards had the foresight to build appropriate reserves for exactly this type of scenario. We continue to make conservative assumptions in our budgeting and diligently examine all expenses for areas we can get by with less without negatively impacting service to our members. Our primary goal is continuing quality service to the members via excellent educational offerings, informative publications and a strong legislative/regulatory presence.

As is previous years I was a part of the delegation from Minnesota that attended the ACSM Annual Conference, this last year in Phoenix, AZ. At the event MSPS won a NSPS Journalism Excellence Award at the for the Society’s website and I had the honor of chairing the meeting of state chapter executives. It is always interesting to meet with staff executives from other states to hear about the successes and challenges they have met and to share ideas for the benefit of all societies.

2010 was another year rich with opportunities and challenges for the Society. Staff looks forward to serving the membership in 2011 and we wish you all a prosperous and happy year.

Sincerely,

*Eric Ewald, CAE*
MSPS Executive Director
MSPS Annual Meeting Minutes - Jan. 28, 2010

Call to Order:
The meeting was called to order at 8:40 by MSPS President Lowell Schellack.

President Schellack recognized the out-of-state VIP’s in attendance:
• Alan Worobec - President: Association of Ontario Land Surveyors (AOLS)
• Steve Bossenmaier - Past President: Association of Manitoba Land Surveyors
• Jan Fokens - NSPS Area 5 Director
• Todd Norton - North Dakota Society of Professional Land Surveyors
• Jim Wallen - President: Wisconsin Society of Land Surveyors
• Curt Sumner - ACSM/NSPS Executive Director
• Kristi Goehring - President Elect: South Dakota Society of Professional Land Surveyors
• Richard Leu - Board of Directors and NSPS Governor: Society of Land Surveyors of Iowa

Approval of Minutes:
M/S/C to approve the minutes from the 2009 Annual General Business Meeting.

Treasurer’s Report:
Treasurer Tom Arneson presented the financial reports for the Society calling member’s attention to the reports provided in the Annual Report book. M/S/C to approve the Treasurer’s report.

Executive Director’s Report:
Executive Director Eric Ewald highlighted some of the successes and challenges of the preceding year and thanked the MSPS leadership and members for all of their good work. See written report in Annual Report book.

Committee Reports:
President Schellack invited any committee chairs who wanted to share any updates with those in attendance beyond those in written reports to approach the podium.

Government Relations
Rick Morey provided a brief legislative report highlighting that the Department of Labor and Industry prevailing wage survey was completed and the rates published.

Education
Sam Deleo reported that SCSU was in the process of hiring a new program director.

Final Points
Kemna updated attendees on the final points program and plans for upcoming installation ceremonies.

Membership:
Arneson reported on membership refereeing to written report in Annual Report book. The Society experienced increases and decreases in various types of membership resulting in a small over all decrease in membership: 673 down to 668 in total.

Historical:
Otto made reference to written report in book and updated attendees on Historical Committee projects including:

Nominations and Elections:
MSPS Board of Directors ballots were distributed to those in attendance and notice was given that ballots were also available at the registration tables. President Schellack then called for any nominations from the floor. There were none. M/S/C to close nominations.

M/S/C to adjourn the Annual General Business meeting.
## 2010 Membership Committee Report

### Current Membership Distribution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Class</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Licensed</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>426</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technician</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Paid Individual Members</strong></td>
<td><strong>557</strong></td>
<td><strong>576</strong></td>
<td><strong>557</strong></td>
<td><strong>496</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorary</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Gratis Individual Members</strong></td>
<td><strong>23</strong></td>
<td><strong>45</strong></td>
<td><strong>52</strong></td>
<td><strong>56</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Individual Members</strong></td>
<td><strong>580</strong></td>
<td><strong>621</strong></td>
<td><strong>609</strong></td>
<td><strong>552</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firm</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustaining</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Corporate Members</strong></td>
<td><strong>63</strong></td>
<td><strong>52</strong></td>
<td><strong>60</strong></td>
<td><strong>50</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total Membership</strong></td>
<td><strong>643</strong></td>
<td><strong>673</strong></td>
<td><strong>668</strong></td>
<td><strong>602</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Linda Brown, Membership Chair*

*Eric Ewald, Executive Director*
# Balance Sheet

**Minnesota Society of Professional Surveyors, Inc.** 
**As of September 30, 2010**

## ASSETS
### Current Assets
- **Checking/Savings**
  - Bank Accounts
    - U.S. Bank Savings Sweep: $3,523.30
    - U.S. Bank Checking: $6,407.24
  - Total Bank Accounts: $9,930.54
- **Money Market/Investments**
  - Ameriprise Money Market
    - Education Funds: $5,752.73
    - General Funds: $13,226.25
    - Ameriprise Money Market - Other: $22,354.88
  - Amex CD #2957: $14,487.20
  - Mutual Funds: $113,464.36
  - Total Ameriprise Money Market: $41,333.86
- **Total Checking/Savings**: $179,215.96
- **Accounts Receivable**
  - Accounts Receivable: $674.32
- **Total Accounts Receivable**: $674.32
- **Other Current Assets**
  - Inventory: $3,140.00
  - Prepaid Expenses: $7,071.03
  - Undeposited Funds: $195.00
  - Total Other Current Assets: $10,406.03
- **Total Current Assets**: $190,296.31

## Fixed Assets
- **Equipment**: $4,928.00
- **Total Fixed Assets**: $4,928.00

## TOTAL ASSETS
**$195,224.31**

## LIABILITIES & EQUITY
### Liabilities
- **Current Liabilities**
  - Accounts Payable
    - Accounts Payable: $663.98
  - Total Accounts Payable: $663.98
- **Other Current Liabilities**
  - Sales Tax Payable: $105.81
  - Total Other Current Liabilities: $105.81
- **Total Current Liabilities**: $769.79
- **Total Liabilities**: $769.79

### Equity
- **Education**: $14,444.46
- **Retained Earnings**: $173,865.45
- **Unrealized Gain/Loss Investment**: $17,037.75
- **Net Income**: $-10,893.14
- **Total Equity**: $194,454.52

## TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY
**$195,224.31**
## Minnesota Society of Professional Surveyors, Inc.

### Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual

October 2009 through September 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Oct '09 - Sep 10</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>$ Over Budget</th>
<th>% of Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advertising Income</td>
<td>3,845.18</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
<td>-2,154.82</td>
<td>64.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books &amp; Brochures</td>
<td>3,573.27</td>
<td>3,000.00</td>
<td>573.27</td>
<td>119.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dedicated Dues</td>
<td>7,300.00</td>
<td>9,400.00</td>
<td>-2,100.00</td>
<td>77.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibitors</td>
<td>5,125.00</td>
<td>10,000.00</td>
<td>-4,875.00</td>
<td>51.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Income</td>
<td>618.72</td>
<td>2,000.00</td>
<td>-1,381.28</td>
<td>30.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Dues</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate</td>
<td>880.00</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
<td>-120.00</td>
<td>88.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firm</td>
<td>16,254.60</td>
<td>19,000.00</td>
<td>-2,745.40</td>
<td>85.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Licensed</td>
<td>55,050.00</td>
<td>60,000.00</td>
<td>-4,950.00</td>
<td>91.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSPS</td>
<td>235.00</td>
<td>250.00</td>
<td>-15.00</td>
<td>94.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>350.00</td>
<td>500.00</td>
<td>-150.00</td>
<td>70.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustaining</td>
<td>2,480.00</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
<td>1,480.00</td>
<td>248.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technician</td>
<td>2,700.00</td>
<td>3,000.00</td>
<td>-300.00</td>
<td>90.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training</td>
<td>3,315.00</td>
<td>4,000.00</td>
<td>-685.00</td>
<td>82.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Membership Dues</td>
<td>81,264.60</td>
<td>88,750.00</td>
<td>-7,485.40</td>
<td>91.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Income</td>
<td>4,209.40</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Registrations</td>
<td>164,323.20</td>
<td>148,000.00</td>
<td>16,323.20</td>
<td>111.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Income</td>
<td>270,259.37</td>
<td>267,150.00</td>
<td>3,109.37</td>
<td>101.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross Profit</td>
<td>270,259.37</td>
<td>267,150.00</td>
<td>3,109.37</td>
<td>101.2%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>495.81</td>
<td>1,053.00</td>
<td>-557.19</td>
<td>47.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Service Charges</td>
<td>4,382.27</td>
<td>3,000.00</td>
<td>1,382.27</td>
<td>146.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dues and Subscriptions</td>
<td>500.00</td>
<td>75.00</td>
<td>425.00</td>
<td>666.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment Rental</td>
<td>6,390.67</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
<td>390.67</td>
<td>106.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facility Rental</td>
<td>8,550.00</td>
<td>7,500.00</td>
<td>1,050.00</td>
<td>114.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food &amp; Beverages</td>
<td>51,775.27</td>
<td>44,650.00</td>
<td>7,125.27</td>
<td>116.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gifts &amp; Awards</td>
<td>8,418.10</td>
<td>7,500.00</td>
<td>918.10</td>
<td>112.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>12,400.00</td>
<td>-12,400.00</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorariums</td>
<td>8,400.00</td>
<td>8,500.00</td>
<td>-100.00</td>
<td>98.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>1,411.64</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
<td>-88.36</td>
<td>94.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licenses and Permits</td>
<td>35.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lobbyist</td>
<td>27,000.00</td>
<td>25,000.00</td>
<td>2,000.00</td>
<td>108.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lodging</td>
<td>7,315.39</td>
<td>6,050.00</td>
<td>1,265.39</td>
<td>120.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management Fees</td>
<td>94,518.00</td>
<td>94,218.00</td>
<td>300.00</td>
<td>100.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>400.00</td>
<td>-400.00</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outside Services</td>
<td>11,182.00</td>
<td>3,500.00</td>
<td>7,682.00</td>
<td>319.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage and Delivery</td>
<td>6,738.44</td>
<td>5,300.00</td>
<td>1,438.44</td>
<td>127.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing and Reproduction</td>
<td>25,534.80</td>
<td>23,700.00</td>
<td>1,834.80</td>
<td>107.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration Fees</td>
<td>615.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsorships</td>
<td>500.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage Rent</td>
<td>120.00</td>
<td>120.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies</td>
<td>4,048.98</td>
<td>1,900.00</td>
<td>2,148.98</td>
<td>213.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>1,218.58</td>
<td>1,200.00</td>
<td>18.58</td>
<td>101.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>10,002.56</td>
<td>10,800.00</td>
<td>-797.44</td>
<td>92.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web Maintenance</td>
<td>2,000.00</td>
<td>2,000.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expense</td>
<td>281,152.51</td>
<td>266,366.00</td>
<td>14,786.51</td>
<td>105.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Net Income                  | -10,893.14       | 784.00  | -11,677.14    | -1,389.4%   |
Education Committee

- Education Committee Activities
This past year has been exciting to say the least. Unfortunately excitement is not always positive. The restructuring of the colleges at St. Cloud State University created a dark cloud of concern over the University’s Land Surveying and Mapping Science (LS&MS) program. On the bright side the ripple effects our economic downturn has had seem to be settling a bit and land surveying students seem to be positive and outgoing just as we would hope. Just as many industries have had to retreat to a survival mode attitude the land surveying industry has had do the same in many aspects. We began the year without a director of the LS&MS program at SCSU and worse yet, rumors of the program closing. Members of MSPS were quick to take action in expressing their support yielding good results without having to announce a Save the Program campaign.

- St. Cloud State University Activities
SCSU was successful in filling the vacancy for the position of the Director of the Land Surveying and Mapping Science (LS&MS) program. In the early part of the year a search committee was formed and candidates were interviewed. The net result was that Dr. Ahmed Elaksher joined the LS&MS faculty in August. This last year brought a lot of tension in the air with the restructuring at SCSU. Professor Eric Fuller had received his notice of layoff as did many other professors at SCSU. ABET accreditation is key to the success of the LS&MS program as many states require a degree from an ABET accredited institute in order to sit for a licensure exam. The loss of this accreditation was cause for great concern because ABET accreditation requires two full time professors in the program. Without Professor Fuller on staff there would only be one full time professor on staff for the program. MPSP President, Tony Blumentritt was very instrumental in communicating to the SCSU administration just what the LS&MS program has done for our profession and how important it is to keep the program growing. With the application for renewal of ABET accreditation due soon the SCSU President has granted permission to submit the application and begin working on the report that is part of the re-accreditation process. The fact that the University is willing to invest in the re-accreditation process generates a positive feeling that the program will survive SCSU’s reorganization, yet nothing is set in stone and notice of rescinding layoff notices has yet to be made.

Enrollment at SCSU appears to still be weathering the economic downturn. There were 19 graduates from the program in the 2009-10 school year. This compares well with 14 graduates the year before. In April of 2010 there were 20 SCSU students that sat for the FS Exam. 19 of these students were successful in passing it.

- IAC (Industrial Advisory Committee) Activities
The IAC met in May and again in October. Discussion throughout the year was focused on the consolidation, or reorganization of the colleges at SCSU and how it would effect the Land Surveying and Mapping Science (LS&MS) program. If you recall, last year employment and internships were a big concern for us. It appears that most students are finding internships over the summer. While the idea of changes in the program requirements to allow a capstone type project remains on the table, it is likely that a lack of internships will create the need for further discussion of possible changes at this time. It is the committee’s hope that with the slow but positive climb towards a healthy economy LS&MS program students will continue to be successful in their search for internships.

Some discussion took place related to the effects on the profession of having Bachelor of Elective Studies degree as an avenue to becoming licensed. Direction of the IAC and the Education Committee on this matter has yet to be presented. The IAC committee is committed to assisting SCSU in the upcoming application process for re-accreditation from ABET as requested and any other support that it may need. Thanks to all IAC members for their work this last year.

- Degree Advisory Activities
The legislative action lurking about to put a 60 credit cap on 2-year technical programs, which was put on hold at the direction of Governor Pawlenty still remains on hold. The Committee will keep it on our radar should it require further attention.

It appears that enrollment at most 2-year institutes has dropped, but not enough to threaten the closing of any one program. Given the impact that our economy has had on the land surveying profession we remain optimistically positive that all programs will remain in place.

Just as surveyors have found it necessary to expand their service areas in order to survive it appears that some colleges...
offering degree programs in land surveying are doing the same. MSPS has received a few requests to support other out-
state institutions. It is the Education Committee’s view that all institutions will receive support from MSPS.

• **MSPS/MLS Foundation Scholarships**
  For the 2010-11 school year, 14 applications had been received. 9 of the 14 applicants were selected to receive a
  scholarship from the Foundation. The applications were assessed and the FLS has selected the winners. The winners of
  the scholarships will be announced at the Annual Meeting. Over the years, successful applicants for scholarship selected
  by this committee have received financial assistance from the MLS Foundation and from MSPS as they progress towards
  a career in land surveying. We encourage all members of MSPS to be active supporters and promoters of the institutions
  that educate land surveying students, the TrigStar program, and the CST certification program. Please consider making
  a donation to the MLS Foundation and participating in their Live and Silent Auctions at the annual meeting. Your
  contributions are truly valued.

  The Bixby Scholarship in honor of the late Dr. Bixby will again be awarded this year. The scholarship is for $1,500 and
  will go to the graduate from last year with the highest GPA.

• **Closing Items**
  In conclusion I want to extend my thanks to Shannon Bollman, my co-chair and to all of the committee members:
  Tom Arneson, Rich Antony, Rick Blom, Charlie Christopherson, John Dahl, Barry Dorniden, Pete Jenkins, and Denny
  Pederson for their hard work as committee members. We look forward to a brighter and prosperous 2011.
On behalf of the staff at MSPS I want to thank the leadership and members of MSPS for aThis past year the following four committees were merged to form the Government Relations Committee: Government Affairs, Statutes, Joint Professions, and Legislative. The MSPS Government Relations Committee (Committee) exists to advise the MSPS Board and provide guidance to the MSPS Lobbyist on matters pertaining to the Legislature, the Board of AELSLAGID, and the other professions regulated by AELSLAGID. The Government Relations Committee meets as needed throughout the year. When the legislature is in session the Committee stays apprised of ongoing activity of concern to the profession. Members of the Committee review proposed legislation and rules changes for possible impact on the profession and the public and, if necessary, testify before those bodies. When the Legislature is not in session, the Committee seeks out issues of concern within the profession and prepares an agenda for the upcoming session.

Of special note in 2010, apart from forming the new Government Relations Committee through the merger of the former four committees, the Committee undertook an evaluation of MSPS’s need for, and relationship with, a lobbyist. Identifying value in continuing to employ a lobbyist, the Committee set about defining a required Scope-of-Services and advertising through an RFP. Analysis of the responses by both the Committee and the MSPS Board resulted in retaining Messerli & Kramer as the MSPS Lobbyist.

Legislative issues addressed during the 2010 Legislative Session are included as an attachment, as is the legislative agenda for the 2011 session. Of particular interest for 2011 is the possibility of imposing a sales tax on professional services. A survey of the Firm Members of MSPS on the possible impacts is currently underway and members may be called upon for further detail as the session progresses.

I would like to thank our lobbyists, the members of the Government Relations Committee, and any of the membership that have taken the time to provide input into MSPS’s legislative program.

Should you wish to get involved, and participation is strongly encouraged, especially for new members, or simply have your voice heard, please feel free to contact the chair, Rick Morey, at richard.morey@state.mn.us or morey_r_e@hotmail.com. Meetings will be scheduled as necessary to address issues of concern, or to stay apprised of activity by the Legislature or the AELSLAGID Board. Generally, meetings are from 11:30 -1:00 near the capitol. Facilities are available to participate via phone if travel is the reason keeping you from getting involved. Also, email is used to pass information and provide input between scheduled meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Morey
MSPS Government Relations Chair
The MSPS Government Relations committee met three times during the 2010 legislative session. The committee followed and was kept abreast on all of the issues surrounding the budget and the nearly $5 billion dollar deficit. The gubernatorial powers of unallotment were called into question and were not utilized this year to the extent they were in 2009. Due to the increasing budget deficit, MSPS monitored whether a sales tax on professional services was introduced. Governor Pawlenty’s 21st Century Tax Commission report was published just before the 2010 session and in this report it was recommended that extending the sales tax base to professional services would raise revenue to pay for cuts and credits in other areas of the Minnesota tax structure. Although no bill was introduced affecting our members, many provisions looking to tax professionals such as lawyers, certified public accountants, and others were discussed in the various tax bills introduced. We continue to monitor this adverse provision.

Most notably the committee followed the Omnibus Employment and Economic Development Policy bill, making sure that the budget for the Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience and Interior Design was not adversely affected.

The Minnesota Interior Design Legislative Action Committee once again introduced legislation to provide for a certification process for the profession of Interior Design. The MSPS legislative committee invited the advocates of this legislation to a meeting to review the new bill language, their intentions, and what their plan is to move this type of legislation forward in the future.

Changes in Local Government the committee followed on behalf of MSPS included: references to meeting minutes, allowing the legislature to request local fiscal impact notes, municipal enforcement of state building codes, and eminent domain issues. The committee also followed 515 changes to the Minnesota Common Interest Ownership act that made clearer mandates for the developer to responsibly operate owners associations or Common Interest Communities.

In April the Department of Labor and Industry certified Commercial Prevailing Wage Rates for the 101 Classification: Survey Field Technician. These numbers were disseminated to the membership, and once again the government relations committee has been pushing education efforts to get companies and individuals to fill out the surveys. In October the department changed the definition of Classification 101 to be more clear and more concise. MSPS did not oppose these changes.

In the same category of Prevailing Wage, our committee monitored the introduction of a bill that would make it mandatory for contractors and subcontractors to enter into an apprenticeship agreement if they fell into the purview of prevailing wage. MSPS expressed their concerns to the bill author and if introduced again this year, the author agreed to add a provision to exempt MSPS.

Finally, MSPS had representation at the Joint Professional Committee that met monthly during the legislative session. The JPC is yet another way that we can communicate effectively with the AELSLAGID board. The JPC is an effective forum for all the professions to have open discussions about current issues affecting our members.

Post session the committee met twice to create the 2011 Legislative Priorities for the organization. We looked to the members responses to our annual survey to see what topics we should be actively opposing or supporting and those items that we should continue to monitor on behalf of the organization.

The committee also discussed the creation of a sales tax survey to send out to members of MSPS. The committee is looking for input on how a sales tax on professional services would negatively impact our industry. The committee wanted real life statistics and stories at the ready if this provision were to be introduced in 2011. The committee will be creating a one page document to hand to legislators as the 2011 session heats up.
I. SUPPORT

A. 505 CHANGES

There is concern that as currently worded MS 505.021 subd9(c) relating to County Surveyor certification could be construed to mean that the County Surveyor is certifying the plat. It has been proposed that the language be changed to clarify that the County Surveyor is only certifying that the plat contains the required elements, not that they are necessarily correct or performed by or under the direct supervision of the County Surveyor. MSPS will support efforts initiated by other stakeholders to clarify this language.

II. OPPOSE

A. SALES TAX ON PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

The issue of taxing professional services is likely to receive significant attention during the 2011 legislative session the state’s dire fiscal condition. The Minnesota Society of Professional Surveyors’ position has been and to actively oppose the sales tax on professional services for the following reasons:

1) Most surveying services that are commissioned are done so as a result of requirements imposed by a lender, mortgage company or government agency, NOT as a choice of an individual or company.

2) This tax would be added on to the already burdensome costs associated with selling or re-financing a home or property.

3) Most of our members own or work at small businesses that employ 10 or fewer licensed, professional surveyors. Because of the competitive market, it would be difficult for these small businesses to shift the cost of the sales tax to their customers.

4) Expansion of the already regressive sales tax would be contrary to the Minnesota tradition of maintaining one of the most progressive tax systems in the country.

5) Except for South Dakota (which taxes at a 4.0% rate, and imposed the sales tax on services during a budget crisis after World War II), states surrounding Minnesota do not tax professional surveying services. As a result, many metropolitan and border area surveyors may need to consider relocating to neighboring states. Any policy that would incentive professionals and companies to relocate outside the state cannot be supported by MSPS.

B. GOPHER ONE/ PUBLIC SERVICE EASEMENTS-INACCURATE LOCATIONS OF UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE

Over the years utility companies have been having problems with people setting up tents for graduation parties and weddings, and hitting buried lines when pounding in the tent stakes. They may require a Gopher State One Call ticket before driving any irons in the ground. MSPS opposes this change. This extra regulation could potentially be burdensome to short staffed survey crews, which would ultimately delay the completion of work in a timely manner and most likely see a raise in rates to the consumer.

C. PREVAILING WAGE AND APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS

Though it didn’t move, last session a bill was introduced requiring any firm working on a prevailing wage project to have an approved apprenticeship program. MSPS opposes any legislation that does not have an exemption for land surveyors.
III. MONITOR ONLY

A. ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR ARCHITECTURE, ENGINEERING, LAND SURVEYING, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE GEOSCIENCE & INTERIOR DESIGN (AELSLAGID) BOARD

The State Board provides an important public service to MSPS by implementing and monitoring statewide standards, licensing, and investigating complaints for the unauthorized practice of land surveying. MSPS and the public in general is well served by adequate funding for the board so that it can run effectively and efficiently process our professional licensing standards. MSPS is interested in funding issues for AELSLAGID, and will monitor its budget during the legislative session.

B. PREVAILING WAGE CHANGES

While there are no proposed changes to prevailing wage at this time, there is always the possibility that something may be introduced during the legislative session or the Department of Labor and Industry may recommend changes to its administrative rules. Prevailing wage changes could adversely affect the land surveying profession, thus MSPS will actively monitor any legislative or administrative proposed changes.

C. LICENSED INTERIOR DESIGNERS BILL

The Interior Designers are seeking to have their status under the Board of AELSLAGID changed from Certified to Licensed. As long as the proposal allows for funding to the Board to administer this change MSPS is not opposed to the legislation. MSPS will actively monitor any bill seeking this change.

D. REDEFINING THE PRACTICE OF LAND SURVEYING

The AELSLAGID Board is currently reviewing definitions of practice for professions under their purview. At some juncture, they may propose changes to redefine the practice of Land Surveying. MSPS would be affected by such change and will monitor action both at the State Board and Legislature for proposed changes.

E. BOARD PROPOSAL TO ELIMINATE ORAL EXAMINATIONS

Arguing that it is too subjective and not subject to statistical analysis, the Board of AELSLAGID is proposing permanently eliminating the oral exam from the licensure application and approval process. MSPS does not oppose this change but will monitor any legislation proposing this change to prevent unwanted amendments during the legislative process.

F. MNSCU CREDIT CHANGES

Recent changes standardize the number of credits for a degree in the MnSCU system regardless of major. While there are procedures for seeking exemptions, some want to make it easier for technical programs such as surveying to require additional credits. MSPS has an interest in how these bills are crafted and will actively monitor any proposed changes.

G. SHORELAND PROPERTY BILLS

Each session bills are introduced that affect shoreland property. Currently the DNR is working on updating rules that are 21 years old. The rules would limit dock sizes, increase minimum setbacks for new homes, developments and redevelopments near lakeshores and bluffs. They would also restrict the amount of pavement and hard surfaces to reduce runoff. MSPS is interested in the specifics of these rules and will monitor any proposals at the legislature to determine impact on the land surveying profession.

H. MECHANIC LIEN COURT ACTION

Possible legislation may be introduced to address the dispute raised in Riverview Muir Doran, LLC., v. JADT Development Group et. al, about Minnesota Statutes §514.05 and the definition of actual notice to determine priority and validity of mechanic’s liens vs. mortgages. MSPS has an interest in any legislative changes in this area and will monitor for any proposals during the session.
Minnesota Society of Professional Surveyors
Established as Minnesota Land Surveyors Association in 1953
Affiliate of National Society of Professional Surveyors and American Congress on Surveying and Mapping

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2010 HISTORICAL COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT
December 28, 2010

The following are members of the MSPS Historical Committee: Dennis Pederson, Denny Honsa, Dick Walter, Don Borcherding, Gary Stevenson, Lee Brown, Paul Vogel, Pete Jenkins, Rod Eldevik, Rod Gunderson, Rod Squires, Ron Murphy, Richard Leu (Iowa Delegate), and Ed Otto - Chair. If you are interested in becoming a member of this committee please contact Ed Otto.

The MSPS Historical Committee formally met at the 2009 MSPS Annual Meeting in St. Cloud and at the MSPS Summer Meeting in Red Wing. Other correspondence between committee members was via email or teleconference.

INITIAL POINT WAYSIDE AND MINNESOTA/IOWA BORDER WELCOME CENTER KIOSK:
At the January 2010 committee meeting, the idea was outlined for creating a wayside rest pull out at the site of the Initial Point of the survey of the south line of Minnesota and providing new signage on the MnDOT kiosks at the State line welcome center pull out near New Albin, Iowa.

Pete Jenkins presented some drafts of the signage to be placed at the welcome center and outlined that the cost would be $1,500.00 to do three panels. Richard Leu, ISLS-NSPS Governor and Surveyors Historical Society (SHS) President suggested that MSPS, ISLS, and SHS each donate $500.00 toward this project. Tony Blumenritt took this request to the MSPS Board of Directors and it was approved. Richard Leu made requests of ISLS and SHS. The checks came from ISLS and SHS in March and April. Another unsolicited check for $500.00 came from MACS mid-summer.

Pete Jenkins and Don Borcherding have been working all year with MnDOT on approvals of the “story” of the surveyors’ part in the development of the area along the Great River Road. Initially, we had talked about three panels and the latest is that MnDOT would like five panels of survey information at the welcome site.

At the January 2010 meeting, the wayside kiosks were discussed along with the creation of the Initial Point pull out as one project. During the year these projects developed into two separate projects. In May, the Houston County, Minnesota, and Allamakee County, Iowa Highway Departments teamed up to actually build the wayside pull out and parking area and at no cost to us! Don Borcherding, L.S., and Dick Walter, L.S. (Houston County Surveyor) met on-site with the County Engineers and made presentations to the two County Boards about our project and the Counties just moved forward and built it! The Allamakee County Board even approved a variance from the Manure Ordinance to allow the construction.

Once the site was actually built it was time for the committee to go to work! Houston County personnel did the field work for a Topographic Survey of the site. Don Borcherding prepared and designed a Site Plan and Landscaping Plan. Ed Otto cut, scribed, and painted the replicated 8 feet long, 12 inch square post and built the kiosk. Don Borcherding designed the sign panels that were placed on each side of the kiosk. Dick Walter and Don Borcherding sought donations and bought the landscaping plants and materials.

On Friday, July 2, 2010, Don Borcherding, Dick Walter, Tony Blumenritt, Peter Oeliker, and several others from MSPS Chapter 3 installed the split rail fence around the patio area at the pull out site. They also planted numerous trees and shrubs and landscaped the area.

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On Saturday, July 31, 2010, the installation crew met at the Initial Point wayside to install the kiosk and replicated post. Members of the crew were Ed Otto, Dick Walter, George and Tammy Mauss (with tractor), Richard and Joyce Leu (ISLS-NSPS Governor), and Pat Veraguth with his three sons. Work proceeded with the digging of the holes for the placement of the kiosk and post. The informational panels were installed with protective acrylic on both sides. Protective split rail posts were set in front of the kiosk and post. Limestone boulders from a nearby quarry were placed in a row along the split rail posts and around the replicated post (see article in the Fall 2010 Edition of the Minnesota Surveyor).

On Saturday, September 11, 2010, an estimated 75 people attended the formal dedication of the Initial Point wayside (see article in the Winter 2010 Edition of the Minnesota Surveyor). Ed Otto introduced the key participants in the project. Don Borcherding, dressed in an 1852 military costume, impersonated Captain Andrew Talcott and gave a power point presentation on the significance of the Initial Point and the history of the survey of the south line of Minnesota. At least four newspapers covered the event and we received a lot of positive feedback.

WELCOME CENTER / INITIAL POINT BUDGET:
To date we have received $4,500.00. This includes $500.00 each from MSPS, ISLS, SHS, and MACS and 25 individual and corporate sponsorships at $100.00 each. Expenses to date total $3,094.40 including the $1,500.00 we are committed to pay after the sign is installed at the welcome centers when they are complete. This leaves a balance of $1,405.60. This amount should cover the cost of installing directional and informational signage at the county park shelter in New Albin and at Lee’s monument which we plan on working on in 2011.

Don Borcherding and Peter Jenkins continue to work with MnDOT staff to complete the panels for the Welcome Minnesota pull out area. We hope that the finished panels will be installed in the Spring of 2011.

MSPS HISTORICAL DISPLAY:
The MSPS Historical Display was at the Runestone Museum in downtown Alexandria from May 13, 2009 to May 17, 2010. It was moved from Alexandria back to the Wright County Heritage Center in Buffalo where it was on display next to the Smithsonian Institute’s traveling exhibit called “Journey Stories” until September 2010. It remains in Buffalo until the MSPS Annual Meeting where the committee will bring it to St. Cloud for all the members to see. Hopefully, the members will see how easily adaptable it is to a new location. After the annual meeting the display will move to the Sherburne History Center in Becker, Minnesota where it is scheduled to be until August 1, 2011. Gary Stevenson reported that the Ottertail County Historical Museum is interested in displaying the exhibit but those plans are still tentative. If you know of a suitable location for the display after August 1, 2011, please contact me.

DONATED EQUIPMENT:
At the committee meeting in August in Red Wing, Paul Voge brought several pieces of historical equipment that were donated to MSPS by the Duluth Missabe and Iron Range Railway. The equipment includes a dip needle, three polar planimeters, a Stadia slide rule, a right angle glass, two hand levels, a magnifying glass, and a field range finder.

It was suggested by the committee that possibly this equipment could be displayed in an “Office of Yesteryear” display similar to the one that the Wisconsin Society has in Green Bay.

BERNIE LARSON DONATED MATERIALS:
In July 2009 Ron Murphy, Ron Squires, Ted Kemna, and Ed Otto met at Ewald Consulting to go through materials donated to the Society from the family of Bernie Larson. The usable textbooks were donated to the Miller Library at St. Cloud State University. Ron Murphy volunteered to go through the remaining materials. On December 3, 2010, I got a letter from Ron stating that he and Fred Johnson, L.S., had finished going through the materials and that they have 1½ bankers boxes of items relative to Bernie’s history, to land surveyors, and some court cases and corner research. The committee will have to decide what we should do with these materials.

The next committee meeting will be at 7:30 a.m., Friday, January 28, 2011, at the Historical Display in the Exhibit Hall at St. Cloud. All MSPS Members are welcome to attend.

Respectfully submitted,
Edward J. Otto, P.L.S.
MSPS Historical Committee Chair
Another fun year of Trig-Star wrapped up in mid-May statewide and in late July at the National level. Here in Minnesota, the Contest resulted in cliffhanger competition for both individual and team awards, despite a drop in the number of participating Chapters and schools when compared with prior years. Most of the sidelined local sponsors expect to re-enter the fray in 2011 — and 2010’s dramatic, tension-filled, edge-of-your-seat finish should encourage new entrants as well (unless they’re chickens)!

Okay, here’s the wrap-up, try to stay calm. As always, the format for this contest is 60 minutes max, high score wins, and time elapsed is used as the tie-breaker. In the first two lists below, an asterisk (*) indicates a score of 100%. Local prize money varies between Chapters; please contact your Chapter’s Trig-Star rep (listed below) if more information is required. State prizes and medals are awarded for the top three contestants. Each state winner takes another exam, and national prizes are distributed to the top three participants and their instructors following that effort.

- $350/Gold First Place: Pingbo Yang, (Duluth) The Marshall School (18:15)*
- $250/Silver Second Place: David Anderson, (Duluth) The Marshall School (23:05)*
- $200/Bronze Third Place: Katelyn Goettl, Mankato West High School (34:21)*
- School Team Best (Trophy): (Duluth) The Marshall School, 831 points (of a possible 1000)

Please note that all three winners aced the exam, so the times really mattered this year! And several other near-misses across the state left an impressive number of contestants who ALMOST took home the medals. As an example, I graded an exam where I had to deduct 10 points (the only 10 points the student missed) for an answer that differed from the key by 0.01 foot! (Minnesota’s Coordinator also scored 100%, BUT his usual turtle-like finishing time would not have won him anything, again, so it is just as well that he is ineligible anyway.) In addition, Katelyn and her classmates almost retained the traveling trophy for Mankato West — that school’s top 10 scores totaled 830 points! I told you, this was classic stuff.

In Chapter order, not in order of finish, the local winners at each of the participating schools from across Minnesota are listed below. Congratulations to all winners, as usual, and thank you to all participants — let’s meet again for the 2010-11 Contest, if you’re still enrolled at the high-school level. We encourage any and all students from other schools to contact the undersigned, or another Trig-Star rep, or a local surveyor, for more information on participation. Numbers in parentheses indicate order of finish on a Chapter-wide basis.

Chapter One/Southwest - 115
(Trig-Star Rep: Janele Fowlds)
- Fairmont High School: Cameron Meyer
- Granada Huntley East Chain High School: Becky Petrowiak (3)
- Mankato West High School: Katelyn Goettl * (1) (34:21), Jing Wang (2)
- New Richland-Heartland-Elendale-Geneva Senior High School: Tony Wacholz
- Nicollet High School: Derek Wilking
- Sleepy Eye St. Mary’s High School: Brett Ubl
- United South Central High School: Breanna Wegner
- Waseca High School: Colten Tlusty

Chapter Two/Northwest – 57
(Trig-Star Reps: Rob Roberts, Terry Freeman)
- Breckenridge Senior High School: Laura Radig
- Moorhead High School: Jonathan Haglund
- Park Rapids Area High School: Jonathan Haglund

Chapter Three/Hiawatha Land
(Trig-Star Rep: Peter Oetliker)
No participation

Chapter Four/Arrowhead - 42
(Trig-Star Reps: Duane Kyrola, Fletcher Koos)
- (Duluth) Denfeld High School: Andy Switzer (5)
- (Duluth) The Marshall School: Pingbo Yang * (1) (18:15), David Anderson * (2) (23:05), Patrick Sheedy (3)
Minnesota Trig-Star 2009-10, continued from page 20

Hermantown High School: Ryan McEachern (4)

[Superior, WI, High School: Kristin Eliason (6)]

Chapter Five/Central Lakes
(Trig-Star Rep: Shannon Bollman)

No participation

Chapter Six/Metro
(Trig-Star Reps: Marcus Hampton, Matt Hansen)

No participation

As for the National contest, the results are as follows:

- $2000/$1000 First Place: Jiyong Shim, Cherokee Traill High School, Aurora, CO
- $1000/$500 Second Place: Tyler Fugere, Flower Mound High School, Flower Mound, TX
- $500/$250 Third Place: Nikhil Das, Rancho Buena Vista High School, Vista, CA

Other notables: Montana (6), Iowa (9), Minnesota (26), Wisconsin (28), South Dakota (32). North Dakota did not have an entrant this time. Total number of entrants: 34

Some final notes on this year’s State Contest:

- Several repeat attendees recorded excellent scores again this year. Among them were Andy Switzer (Duluth, Denfeld High School), Ryan McEachern (Hermantown High School), and Brett Ubl (Sleepy Eye, St. Mary’s High School). Thanks to all re-participants!
- For the first time in many years, WHA, Rochester Lourdes, and Eden Prairie all missed the Contest this time — we hope you’ll be back in the game for 2010-11!
- Incidentally, NSPS rules require that the students having win/place/show finishes at the National level receive their awards at their state’s annual conference — something to keep in mind when a Minnesota champ breaks through on that second exam!
- As always, this year’s Trig-Star Contest was run a little differently from Chapter to Chapter across our state. Over the years, I’ve been asked why that is the case, and my answer is simple: I’d like all interested schools to participate.

I believe the Contest provides an excellent opportunity to showcase our profession. In our appearances at schools around Minnesota, we surveyor/sponsors show students a practical application of mathematics, and we introduce them to a profession we enjoy which may be of interest to them (career-wise) and which certainly will affect their lives as adults (as home buyers, taxpayers, and so on). The Contest rules are very specific regarding the administration of only one test per school per year before a certain cutoff date, and the testing is proctored according to the same rules regardless of location, so I see no problem with allowing Chapters 1 and 4 to proctor the test once, for all interested schools, at one location, whereas my Chapter (2) and Chapters 3 and 6 have utilized the more standard school-by-school format to date. Do you folks see an issue here? I hope not, and I remain optimistic regarding the future participation of schools from every Chapter. Certainly other reasons abound for numbers fluctuation as schools opt out one year and re-enter the next — look at Moorhead’s flooding issues, or Eden Prairie’s scheduling hassles, or Peter’s family size! And, let’s face it, Minnesota’s Coordinator is…well, maybe not the sharpest pencil in the pocket, to put it kindly. Anyway, please let me know, I’d like to consider your comments on this or any other issues regarding the Trig-Star program. And don’t forget to consider signing up your school next time — use this (or previous) articles to introduce the subject, or contact one of us for copies of previous exams and other suggestions.

Thanks again to all surveyor/sponsors, teachers and students for another great year for the Trig-Star Program. I will keep you posted on what changes arise regarding an increased level of funding — if prize values increase at the National level, we will of course also ask the MSPS Board of Directors to consider increasing State prizes and Chapter matching grant amounts. Meanwhile, best wishes for a safe and successful 2011!

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The Capitol Area Land Surveyor’s Association (CALSA) meets on the second Thursday of the month except for June, July, and August. For 2011 there will not be a meeting in February due to the closeness of the MSPS Annual Conference, and the March meeting will be held jointly with MSPS Chapter 6 with CALSA hosting. Currently meetings are held at the Cherokee Tavern located at 886 Smith Avenue South in West St. Paul. We start gathering at 5:30 PM.

In addition to providing an opportunity for professionals working in and near the Metro area to get together, CALSA meetings include a presentation on topics of interest to the profession. Topics presented in 2010 were: Mn/DOT’s Geodetic Database, Licensing Board Update, BLM/BIA Surveys & CFEDS, Wind Farms, Comparison of Survey Requirements in Several States, New Survey Technologies, and the New ALTA Standards.

Other activities in 2010 include: donating $500 to the MSLA Foundation, funding two plaques to recognize the outstanding students in the St. Paul College Surveying Program, revising the By-Laws to streamline future changes, and an increase in membership.

For more information on CALSA, contact any of the members, or the CALSA officers:
Chris Mavis, President
Scott Trosen, Vice-President
Rick Morey, Secretary/Treasurer

Respectfully Submitted,

Rick Morey,
Secretary/Treasurer
Chapter 1 - Annual Report
(September 30, 2009 – September 30, 2010)
Prepared by Janele Fowlds, Chapter Secretary

Chapter Membership (25)
1 Life Members
24 Licensed Members

Chapter One's 2010-2011 Officers
President Joe Haefner
Vice-President Mike Eichers
Secretary/Treasurer Janele Fowlds

2011 Meeting Schedule
Thursday, January 27, 2011 Chapter Meeting St. Cloud at the MSPS Annual Meeting
Monday, March 7, 2011 TRIGSTAR Event in Mankato
Wednesday, March 30, 2011 Chapter Meeting at City Center Hotel, Mankato – Planning for Summer Meeting
Wednesday, June 29, 2011 Chapter Meeting & Golf – Event in New Ulm; Planning for Summer Meeting
Friday-Saturday, August 19-20 Hosting Summer Meeting
No Meeting
Wednesday, August 31, 2011 Chapter Meeting at City Center Hotel, Mankato – Need Guest Speaker
Wednesday, November 30, 2011

November 18, 2009 – Holiday Inn Boardroom, Mankato
The group discussed the current openings at the State level of MSPS. Anyone interested in volunteering for a position should contact Joe Haefner.

The group discussed 2010 nominations for the following MSPS awards:
- Surveyor of the Year
- William Kelley Award
- E.A. Rathbun Award
- Special Award

Anyone wishing to make nominations should contact Joe Haefner.

The group approved a motion to donate $500 to the MLS Foundation and a motion to donate $50 to the MSPS's President Banquet door prize fund.

Joe and Mike agreed to try and alternate attending the State Board meetings until a time where Chapter One has an elected representative.

January 28, 2010 - St. Cloud Civic Center, MSPS Annual Convention
The group discussed the 2010 Trigstar event.

Peter Jenkins updated the group on MnDOT's progress on State wide LIDAR data.
**March 31, 2009 - Holiday Inn Boardroom, Mankato**

Janelle provided an update to the group on the recent Trigstar event. The Trigstar Traveling Trophy was damaged during the past year while Mankato West had it. The teacher did not know how it happened. Craig Johnson, who is a Land Surveyor in the Ramsey office of Bolton & Menk agreed to fix the trophy for free.

The group approved a motion for Gerry Vickerman to become a life member of the Chapter 1 starting in 2011.

The group again discussed the importance of having Chapter representation on MSPS Board. Mike indicated that he and Joe are planning on trying to attend the State Board meetings until a time where Chapter One has an elected representative.

President Tony Blumentritt updated the group on some of the current State Issues

- MSPS Board is in the process of entering into a new contract with Ewald Consulting
- MSPS Board will be evaluating the contract with our current Lobbyist in the Fall 2010
- MSPS revenue has been down the last 2 years, therefore the last 2 years they have been required to take approximately $40,000 from reserves. This is a big concern and the Board has proposed may cuts for the 2010 budget to ensure this doesn't happen again. The Board is considering raising dues as a last resort.
- Tony is considering changing the format of the Thursday night activities at the Annual Meeting. They may eliminate the president's banquet and instead just have a less formal event in the exhibit hall.
- 515B revisions - A summary of the changes are within the attached document. Tony said the MSPS Board of Directors; based on recommendation from the Government Affairs committee has voted to support the amendment. The anticipated effective date of the bill would be August 1, 2010.
- Prevailing Wage -- some of the legislation involved with prevailing wage required a surveying apprenticeship program. This was not the intent, so legislation is proposed to remove this requirement.
- MSPS has in the process of restructuring the MSPS committees from 28 current committees to approximately 12.
- Ted Kemna is sending a letter to all Chapter Presidents regarding the Final Point monuments. Chapter One has a few past presidents which will or have Final Point monuments so we should plan on being involved.

Pete Jenkins updated the group on the Wayside West Rest Area project. There has been funding lined up so there will soon be a surveying exhibit.

Pete Jenkins informed the group on initiatives involving the MLS Foundation.

Pete Jenkins indicated the Lidar project in the Southwest part of Minnesota is a go and the contracts are signed. Work should take place this year.

Peter Jenkins let the group know that the MSPS Historical Committee is looking for a Museum to host the Surveying exhibit for 6 months to 1 year. The display will be available for someone else to use around January 2012 so if interested let Pete know.

Pete Jenkins informed the group of an invitation to "Surveyors Pow-Wow at the Casino" from Great Plains Chapter of NDSPLS.
June 30, 2010 – St. James Golf Course & Happy Chef Restaurant
Warren agreed to work on lining up a topic or speaker for our September meeting.

Group decided to have the 2011 golf outing in New Ulm.

The group had fun doing a problem from the 2010 Trigstar exam.

September 29, 2010 – Holiday Inn Boardroom, Mankato
A motion was made and approved to leave the Chapter annual dues at $30 for 2011.

The group discussed the current openings at the State level of MSPS. Anyone interested in volunteering for a position should contact Joe Haefner or Eric Ewald.

Joe and Mike agreed to try and alternate attending the State Board meetings until a time where Chapter One has an elected representative.

The group discussed 2011 nominations for the following MSPS awards:
- Surveyor of the Year
- William Kelley Award
- E.A. Rathbun Award
- Special Award

Anyone wishing to make nominations should contact Joe Haefner.

The 2011 Trig Star date is set for Monday, March 7 at SCC in Mankato. Janele reported that the 2011 Trig Star Sponsorship letter will go out in October. She plans on sending out school invitations in January 2010. Janele will again try to coordinate the Trig Star volunteer efforts through email rather than having a planning meeting prior to the event. Jay Stencel the director of the Civil Tech program at SCC got it worked out so there won't be any rental fees to use their facility for our 2011 event. SCC will be listed as a sponsor on the 2011 t-shirts and Janele will be back in touch with Jay in January to see if some of his students want to help with the event.

The group approved a motion to donate $500 to the MLS Foundation and a motion to donate $50 to the MSPS's door prize fund.

The group discussed the Summer Meeting and came up with a preliminary agenda. Joe Haefner agreed to be the chair of the event. The following duties were assigned:

Warren and Pete Jenkins - work on finding technical speakers for each of the 2.5 hours slated for education. Pete will work on trying to find someone to speak on Ethics. Another topics that were discussed as possibilities were Electronic Signatures and Title Information.

Joe Haefner - work on pricing out the Holiday Inn for technical seasons and Saturday banquet. Request a room donation from the Holiday Inn to be used at the MSPS Annual meeting as a silent auction item for the foundation. Get pricing for Boat Tours, Golfing and Yacht Club rental. Check on the possibility of historical tours of Fairmont.

Janelle - work on getting Saturday night entertainment.

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Chapter One Trig Star Report

MSPS sponsored a successful Trig Star program in 2010! The event was held on Thursday, March 11 on the South Central College, North Mankato campus. The program consisted of a 1-hour written exam, followed by small group presentations on land surveying (as pictured below) and an awards ceremony. One hundred fifteen students from eight different high schools participated in the event: (1) Fairmont High School, (2) Granada Huntley East Chain GHEC, (3) Mankato West, (4) New Richland-Hartland-Ellelendale-Geneva NRHEG, (5) Nicollet, (6) Sleepy Eye St. Mary's, (7) United South Central, and (8) Waseca. Each participant received a mechanical pencil, a certificate of participation and a Trig Star T-shirt. The students and their teachers received cash prizes totaling $335. The top three place winners also were awarded an engraved plaque to be awarded at their individual school’s awards night.

In 2010 Chapter One spent approximately $1304.94 on the Trig Star program. This was made possible with the help of the 2010 sponsors, which contributed $1700. The sponsors were as follows:

\text{Platinum Sponsorship Level}\n\text{MSPS State Organization ($500)}\n\text{Jared Kotasek, LS ($300)}\n
\text{Gold Sponsorship Level ($100)}\n\text{Bellkato Corporation}\n\text{Bolton & Menk, Inc.}\n\text{Bruce Firkins, LS}\n\text{Sibley Surveyors Inc.}\n\text{Survey Services, Inc.}\n\text{WEB Construction Company, Inc.}\n\text{Wells Concrete Products Company}\n\text{W.W. Blacktopping, Inc.}\n\text{Gerald Vickerman, LS ($50)}\n\text{Tom Stearns, LS ($50)}\n\text{South Central College (Facility)}

The following MSPS members volunteered their time at the 2010 Trig Star event:
- Bolton & Menk – Rory Jensen, Aaron Mages, Joe Haefner, Jesse Zeig, & Janee Fowlds
- I&S Group – Dan Stueber, Kent Hays and Jim Osborne
- MNDOT – TJ Thill
- Survey Services - Mike Eichers
- Gerry Vickerman

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Chapter II had 54 members in 2010.

Five meetings were held in 2010. The dates and locations were as follows:

- January 28th, 2010  
  MSPS Annual Meeting, St. Cloud, MN
- April 29th, 2010  
  Blueberry Pines Golf Club, Menahga, MN
- June 17th, 2010  
  Four Seasons Resort, Lake Winnibigoshish, Bena, MN (Annual fishing trip)
- September 23rd, 2010  
  Sawmill Inn, Brainerd, MN
- December 2nd, 2010  
  Blueberry Pines Golf Club, Menahga, MN

Ten people, on average, attended each of the chapter meetings in 2010.

Chapter II continues to support the Trig-Star Program. This past year, members administered Trig-Star at three high schools within our chapter area in Park Rapids, Moorhead, and Breckenridge. Normally, an event is also organized at the High School in Walker, MN, but this year it didn’t work for the teacher to have it take place. We anticipate that we will be able to conduct an event there again this coming spring. With a matching contribution from MSPS, Chapter II gave a total of $600 in awards to the contest winners, $200 to the winners at each school.

Chapter II also continued to support the MLS Foundation Scholarship Fund this year, with a donation of $850.

Chapter II has a long-standing tradition of making a charitable contribution at Christmas to a worthy cause of the Chapter President’s choosing. For Christmas 2010, a $75 donation was made to Kinship Partners of Pequot Lakes, and a $75 donation was given to Early Childhood Family Education in Pequot Lakes.

The April Chapter meeting included a Chapter II Golf Outing, with the opportunity for members and guests to play a round of golf on the Blueberry Pines Course at Menahga.

The June Chapter meeting was the Annual Chapter II Fishing Event. MSPS President Tony Blumentritt attended, and constantly changing weather conditions on Lake Winnibigoshish that afternoon kept it interesting. Fishing was good enough to provide a delicious all-you-could-eat walleye, northern and perch supper.
Chapter 3 Annual Report for 2010

Chapter Officers:

President                  Christopher Munn
Vice President            Reinhold W. (Will) Zieman
Secretary/Treasurer        Scott Tuchenhagen

Meeting Schedule:

Chapter 3 meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of the odd numbered months, except for the MSPS Annual Meeting.

January 28th               MSPS Annual Meeting, St. Cloud, MN
March 18th                 Riverview Greens, Stewartville, MN
May 20th                   Riverview Greens, Stewartville, MN
July 15th                  Riverview Greens, Stewartville, MN
September 16th             Riverview Greens, Stewartville, MN
November 18th              Riverview Greens, Stewartville, MN

Activities:

Attendance started out fairly good with an average of 12 members present at the meeting but then dropped dramatically to an average of just 6 members present for the last four meetings. We look forward to 2011 with more participation from our over 50 person local membership. To help out with upcoming attendance we will strive to make the meetings more concise and to have more presentations to better serve the membership.

It was great to have the 2010 MSPS President, Tony Blumentritt, from Chapter 3 to keep us well informed of new developments at the state level as well as Pat Veraguth, a MSPS Director.

This year the Trig-Star competition was not held in our chapter area as our committee chair had other commitments during the competition period and could not get any assistance with the competition. He is working on expanding the competition to an additional high school in the Rochester area in 2011 and I am sure he will accept any assistance.
2010 CHAPTER OFFICERS:

President: Nick Stewart
President Elect: Craig LaTulip
Secretary/Treasurer: Anthony Lueck

The Arrowhead Chapter is located in northeastern Minnesota and includes six counties: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Carlton, Itasca and Koochiching. We meet five times each year during the Fall, Winter, and Spring months. The meeting locations alternate between Duluth, Virginia, Two Harbors, Biwabik, and Grand Rapids, beginning at 6:30 p.m. and running about 2 hours.

2010 MEETING SCHEDULE

- January 28, 2010 MSPS St. Cloud Civic Center
- March 17, 2010 Valentini’s Supper Club, Chisholm, MN
- May 19th, 2010 Rustic Rock Supper Club, Eveleth, MN
- September 15th, 2010 Sunset Bar and Grill, Duluth, MN
- November 17th, 2010 Sunset Bar and Grill, Duluth, MN

2010 EVENTS

- Congratulations to Paul Vogel, and all officers being elected to the 2010 MSPS Board of Directors.
- Chapter 4, Trigstar competition held on April 16, 2010. Thanks to all the members which volunteried to help with the testing. Four schools participated. Awards ceremony was held on May 20, 2010. The Travelling Trophy will be brought to Marshall High School for 2010. Marshall School participant, Pingbo Yang took statewide honors.
Minnesota Society of Professional Surveyors
Central Lakes Chapter 5

Ben O'Malley, President 320-685-5905(W)
Nate Carlson, Secretary, President 320-253-9495(W)
Bryan Balcome, Secretary / Treasurer 320-335-5023 (W)

Minnesota Society of Professional Surveyors
1000 Westgate Drive, Suite 252
Saint Paul, MN 55114-1067

Re: Central Lakes Chapter 5 Annual Report

Central Lakes Chapter 5 meets every other month, with the organizational meeting in March. The officers for the years 2010 to 2012 are Ben O'Malley President, Nate Carlson Vice President and Bryan Balcome Sec./Treas. This year our meetings have been held at The 400 Club in St. Cloud. Also the July meeting once again was a golf outing and meeting to follow at Southbrook Golf Course in Anndale.

We have had a number of topics and areas of interest brought to the table. The standing reports at the meeting are the MSPS Directors report and the Education Report. The MSPS Directors Report is a liaison to the members on what is happening at the Society level. Being that our chapter is located in the St. Cloud area Education topics are brought to the table and it is always interesting to hear about the programs, enrollment and where the society can join in and assist in developing up and coming Surveyors for the State. This year in particular we addressed ongoing budget cut issues SCSU is experiencing and what we as a chapter can do to help preserve the program that we have worked so hard to establish.

The chapter has set up an area on the agenda each meeting for issues by members. Out of that has come a number of very interesting topic for discussion and participation. Some of the topics discussed over the past year were as follows:

- Gary Stevenson gave a presentation on a 1901 survey vs. a 2000 survey for open discussion during our May meeting amongst the Chapter.
- Juergen Brunhhorst gave a formal presentation on Hydrographic Surveying based on his education background and prior work experience in Germany. Everyone who attended earned 1 PDH.
- In November we held an open discussion concerning MS 160.15 and MS 381.12 and how we are adhering to the statutes. We also discussed what we can do as a chapter to reinforce the importance of the statutes.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]
Bryan Balcome
Secretary/Treasurer