PLSO has had a very interesting start to the new year. In early January it was discovered that there were activities by the Executive Director that involved misappropriation of funds. This led to her dismissal and a new Executive Director, Paula Hammer, was hired and came on board just 10 days before our Annual Conference. The conference was held in Columbus, with nearly 500 registrants in attendance.

There is a great deal of gratitude owed to the Officers of PLSO and to other individual members who stepped up to the daunting task of manning the office daily, processing conference registrations, working with the accountants and our legal team and pulling our resources together to fulfill the needs of producing a successful conference in such a short period of time. It reaffirmed my belief in the character and integrity of the professionals in our industry. Hoorah!! Damm the torpedoes!

It is estimated that in excess of $250,000, over several years, is in question. With the help of our legal team, accounting team, insurance provider and the local authorities, we are pursuing a just and satisfactory conclusion to this situation.

PLSO has reached out to its local chapters and individual members for financial support to carry the organization through this hour.

Our officers for the year were inducted at the Annual Conference:

President
Terrence Wright, PS, PE
trwrightz40@gmail.com

President-Elect
Richard Fredrickson, PS, PE
rfredrickson1968@gmail.com

Secretary
Paul Couch, PS
pcouch@akronohio.gov

Treasurer
Jared Akins, PS
akinssurveying@yahoo.com

Immediate Past President & NSPS Director
Thomas Silva, PS
tomsilva@silvasurveying.com
In other news of interest:

Ohio’s Registration laws are under attack by our legislators. There is this desire to do away with many of the safeguards that protect the safety and welfare of our citizens. This is being done through the smoke and mirrors of “Fair Competition” and deregulation.

Ohio was the testing ground of the Public Land Survey system. There are 20+/- different systems of the subdivision of land here. Most states have just one or two. It is very important for a Professional Land Surveyor, in Ohio, to have a thorough and complete working knowledge of all those systems in order to protect the well being of our citizens.

The state specific testing portion of our registration law is under attack. The legislation, as presented, consists of 400 +/- pages of legalese that many of the legislators won’t read or understand. This is occurring in many other states also. We must all stand together. If one state should fall, there will be a domino effect in the other states.

The Surveyor’s Historical Society is holding its Rendezvous in the Toledo, Ohio area this fall. It will consist of the anniversary of the Ohio/ Michigan war. That happened when the barbaric tribes from the north tried to force their will on the civilized peoples of Ohio. All participants from the north will be required to have their passports and green cards in proper order to attend. Please come, share some of our history and enjoy the Tony Packo dining experience. I'll be there with my tri-cornered hat and my flintlock rifle to ensure proper conduct by all.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Akins