2019 North Carolina State of the State

Membership

We look strong 90 days into our new membership year. We need 51 more members to meet last year’s numbers. Our Sustaining Membership category has already met our goal. The Student category has doubled from last year. The Associate Category is within 19 to make the projected goal. We still need 30 PLSs to meet the numerical goals and 50 to make the financial goals for the year. The difference is explained by new licensees who are granted one year free membership.

Legislation

We had a very successful year legislatively. We worked on two bills that were beneficial to surveyors.

1. H 871 - Fair Contracting Act limits the indemnification of design professionals in contracts to defend subcontractors with no direct negligence on the part of a surveyor
2. S 332 – Clarifies the statute of repose and statute of limitations for surveyors in NC. We were previously listed in 3 different statutes and the wording was very confusing. The concise new statute lists 3 years statute of limitations and 7 years statute of repose.

We also prevented NC Realtors from adding a requirement for another certificate on every subdivision plate attesting to the dedication of right-of-way.

Our state is making progress with E-recording plats. We now have 76 counties capable and about 9 counties actively participating in e-recording plats. The difficulties are usually because a town employee or DOT employee refuses to adopt process.

Education

We offered some specific courses this year that are equipping NC surveyors very well for the future.

NCGS and NCSS continue to work closely together to administer the Certified Floodplain Surveyor program. Expansion of the program is continuing nationwide with TN being the first state to implement the program outside of NC. Representatives from New Jersey will attend our class in October.

We also began to offer a four-part Photogrammetry Competency Course to address the new UAV technology. Our first graduating class of 16 PLSs completed the certification in August 2019.

Finally, we continue successful partnerships with our chapters to offer everyone chances to take classes close to home while helping both Chapters and NCSS improve financially. We have 6 partnerships scheduled for the fall. We already have two more scheduled for the spring.

Public Promotion

NC struggles like many other states to recruit students into the field so in October we participated in the NC School Counselor’s Association Conference for the 2nd year. We have worked on building a database of counselors in NC. We have also begun a program called Career Ambassadors. These are surveyors who can appear once or twice per year at career fairs or school events to promote surveying. We have attended 10 events this year through our career ambassadors.
Our Executive Director proctored two CST exam events training future licensees.

Leadership met with industry leaders at a construction roundtable discussion about the areas of technology that seem to be creating gray areas within the fields.

We have members that represent us consistently on the following Boards and Commissions:

- Geographic Information Coordinating Council
- Underground Damage Prevention Review Board
- Land Records Task Force
- Electronic Recording Council
- Geodetic Advisory Committee
- NCA&T Advisory Committee

**Other state accomplishments:**

Our biggest success came on August 13th when NCEES agreed to hire a marketing director and administrator to implement a regional pilot program to recruit women, minorities and all potential surveyors into the profession. This developed through a grant proposal called SCORE that NC presented to NCEES during their conference in Washington DC. If the plan is successful it could be implemented nationwide.

**Officers**

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