

The header features a dark blue background with a network of white icons representing people connected by lines. A large, light blue arrow points from the bottom left towards the top right, passing behind the title text.

Speaker Biographies

Laura E. Ayers, Esq

New York Attorney Laura E. Ayers focuses her solo-law practice on real property litigation. Laura's years of experience in dealing with the special issues that arise in complex real property disputes makes her often sought out and retained as special counsel to municipalities and by other litigators. Laura is a frequent lecturer on various real property topics including Highway Law, Easement Law, and Boundary Line Disputes for the New York State Bar Association, and the New York State Arborists ISA Chapter, Inc. Laura received her Bachelors of Science in Biochemistry and Biophysics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and her Juris Doctor from Albany Law School of Union University.

William E. Beardslee, PLS, PE, PP

Bill Beardslee is a licensed professional land surveyor, engineer and planner with over 45 years' experience in the field of land development. He is known for his excellent presentation and writing capabilities, along with being one of the leading technical experts on land development in the engineering and surveying arena. Bill has made over 2,000 presentations on engineering and surveying projects to local and state agencies. Prior to his retirement, he was the owner and Director of Engineering for Beardslee Engineering Associates in Sparta, NJ. Bill holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from New Jersey Institute of Technology and a Master of Arts Degree in Corporate & Organizational Communications from Fairleigh Dickinson University. Now retired in North Carolina, he stays active in business development for Davis-Martin-Powell in High Point, NC.

J. Steven Boddecker, PLS

Steve Boddecker is Fisher Associates PE, LS, LA, DPC's Vice President and Director of Geomatics where he provides leadership and strategic directions to our Land Surveyors and GIS teams. He is also the Principal who oversees Health and Safety in the firm. Located in Fisher's Buffalo office, Steve spends much of his time in Fisher's other four offices as he works with his team to further their goals. With more than 40 years of experience in Surveying, his projects have spanned all three of the company's market sectors, Transportation, Energy and Land Development Sectors, including highway related survey and mapping; gas; wind and electric utilities; and large-scale boundary and topographic surveys. Steve has served the professional societies both regionally and statewide as President of the Niagara Frontier Land Surveyors Association twice, 1997 and 2004. Steve was also President of the New York State Association of Professional Land Surveyors from 2012-2013, and he currently serves on the NYSAPLS Finance, Nomination & Awards, and Legislative Committees. He is also the Chairman of the NYSAPLS Political Action Committee. Outside of the professional world, Steve enjoys the solitude of fly fishing and his dog.

Joanne Darcy Crum, Esq. PLS

Joanne Darcy Crum is an attorney and a professional land surveyor with over 25 years of business experience. She is a former member and Chair of the New York State Board for Engineering and Land Surveying and Vice President of the Northeast Zone of the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) where she also served

as the Chair of the Examination for Professional Surveyors Committee. Her practice is focused on title review, land development, easements and boundary disputes, professional discipline for design professionals, municipal law, planning and zoning law, and small business issues including formation of business entities, business succession and MWDBE certification.

William T. Derry, PLS

Mr. Derry is the Technical Sales Engineer for Leica Geosystems for US and Canadian regions, focusing on technical support, system configuration and installation, and sales support.

James Flint

Jim Flint is the Upstate New York Area Manager for Eastcom Associates, Inc. Jim has been with Eastcom Associates Inc. since April of 2017. Prior to that, he spent 14 years with Dig Safely New York, during which time he held positions as Customer Service Representative and Field Representative for Central New York and Field Supervisor for all upstate NY staff. In this position, Jim facilitated excavator training and community awareness regarding damage prevention of underground utilities throughout Upstate NY. For two years prior to working with Dig Safely New York, Jim was a telecommunications Technician with MCI/WorldCom (now Verizon Business) and was responsible for network operations in Central NY. Jim has attended Onondaga Community College & Tulsa Community College Telecommunications School and is currently progressing toward additional degrees in Occupational Safety & Health and Organizational Leadership at Southern Columbia University.



Speaker Biographies

Nicholas Ford, PLS

Nicholas Ford is a licensed surveyor in New York State, as well as a full-time instructor at Alfred State College, where he teaches a variety of courses including courses specific to GNSS and geodesy.

Knud E. Hermansen, PhD, Esq., PE, PLS

Knud E. Hermansen is an attorney, professional engineer, and professional land surveyor licensed in several states. His education includes a PhD in Civil Engineering from the Pennsylvania State University and a JD (Doctorate in Law) from West Virginia University. Knud is a retired professor formerly of the University of Maine and operates a consulting firm offering surveying, engineering and legal services. Professional membership includes the National Society of Professional Surveyors, National Society of Professional Engineers, American Society of Civil Engineers, and several state survey societies and bar associations. He is an author or co-author of several books and articles.

Michael Hyman

Mr. Hyman is the Regional Director at Carlson Software, Inc. for NY and PA. At Carlson SW, Mike is focused on the Land Survey, Civil Engineering, and Construction market segments. Mr. Hyman is a 1991 graduate from Alfred State College with an A.A.S. in Land Surveying. Additionally, his responsibilities continually got him involved in working with Land Surveying technology for both the field and office. Now at Carlson Software Inc., Mr. Hyman is involved at many levels in the Land Surveying, Civil Engineering, and construction industries where he lectures, supports,

and presents innovative solutions to the industry related to Carlson Software products and services.

Brent A. Jones, PE, PLS

With Esri for nearly 15 years, Brent Jones oversees Esri's worldwide strategic planning, business development, and marketing activities for land records, cadastral, surveying and land administration. As a recognized innovator, Jones specializes in modernizing existing land administration systems and designing new GIS-based cadastral management systems for small and large governments globally. He is a licensed professional land surveyor and engineer, past member of the URISA board of directors, recipient of the 2019 URISA leadership award, past president of GITA (Geospatial Information and Technology Association) and a current member of the UNGGIM-LAS United Nations Committee of Experts on Geospatial Information Management, sitting on the Expert Group on Land Administration and Management. Established in 1969, Esri creates systems that drive all components of land and cadastral administration, including addressing, registration, taxation/valuation, planning and development.

Gary R. Kent, PS

Gary Kent is in his 38th year with The Schneider Geomatics in Indianapolis – having transitioned to part-time status this year. He also provides training, consulting and expert witness services as manager of Meridian Land Consulting, LLC. Gary has served on the Indiana State Board of Registration for Professional Surveyors since 2004 and is a past-president of both ACSM and the Indiana Society of Professional Land Surveyors. He has

presented programs on boundary law, easements and rights of way, surveying standards and practice, and leadership in all 50 states and three times in Europe.

Daniel J. Martin

Dan Martin works for the National Geodetic Survey and has been the Northeast Regional Geodetic Advisor since May of 2015. As the Regional Advisor, he instructs local surveyors, state and municipal agencies, and the geospatial community at large, on how to use and preserve the National Spatial Reference System, and provides liaison between the National Geodetic Survey and the States of ME, NH, VT, MA, CT, RI, NY, and NJ, as well as other federal agencies. He worked in the Route Survey and Geodetic Survey sections of the Vermont Agency of Transportation from 1988 through 2003, and held the position of Geodetic Program Supervisor for the Agency from 1999 through 2003. In 2003 Dan began his career with the National Geodetic Survey as the Vermont State Geodetic Advisor. Dan is a Past President and Fellow Member of the American Association for Geodetic Surveying (AAGS), he is also a member of the Vermont Society of Land Surveyors and the New Hampshire Land Surveyors Association.

William Nechamen, CFM

Mr. Nechamen, principal and owner of Nechamen Consulting, LLC. He was previously the Floodplain Coordinator for the State of New York Department of Environmental Conservation for 21 years. One of the founders of the New York State Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association (NFSFSMA), a professional association with over 500 active members, Mr. Nechamen



Speaker Biographies

was their first Chair and currently serves the Association as its treasurer and membership coordinator. Mr. Nechamen has been a Board member of the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) at various times since 2003. He has received the ASFPM Meritorious Lifetime Achievement in Floodplain Management Award. In his capacity as New York State Floodplain Coordinator, Mr. Nechamen managed a state-wide program of community assistance, outreach and training and coordinated National Flood Insurance Program and flood mapping related outreach and assistance with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, state agencies and local communities.

Joseph V.R. Paiva, PhD, PS, PE

Dr. Joseph Paiva, PS, PE is CEO of GeoLearn, an online education company providing courses for continuing education, exam preparation and general training of professionals and paraprofessionals in surveying and other geospatial businesses. In addition to working in surveying and engineering firms, including having an ownership interest in some of the firms, Joe has been an educator since the 1970s, teaching surveying at the University of Missouri-Columbia full time for 11 years. He continues this teaching on a part-time basis today at several institutions and mostly in an online environment. Joe joined Sokkia and worked there for 11 years in research and development where he pioneered electronic data collection for surveyors with the design and engineering of the SDR2, 20 and 30 series of electronic field books. He became VP there and managed a team that developed many other advanced products. He moved into similar roles, including VP of the

Land Survey Division at Trimble. As a consultant he has done a variety of technical and business-oriented work for many clients, including a series of successful stints as an expert witness. His entry into the world of UAS was with Gatewing in 2010, eventually becoming COO of this Belgian firm.

David A. Pfeiffer

David A. Pfeiffer retired in 2017, after 40 years of service at the National Archives. He was an archivist with the Archives II Reference Section, Textual Archives Services Division of the National Archives at College Park. He is a specialist in transportation and diplomatic records. He has published articles and given numerous oral presentations concerning diplomatic and transportation, and particularly railroad records in the National Archives. His article entitled "Bridging the Mississippi: The Railroads and Steamboats Clash at the Rock Island Bridge," published in the Summer 2004 Prologue, won the Arlene Custer Award for best article from the Middle Atlantic Regional Archives Conference in 2005. In addition, he is the author of "Records Relating to North American Railroads: Reference Information Paper #91," which is a guide to railroad records in the National Archives. He received his B.A. in History from Ithaca College in 1975 and his M.A. in History from George Mason University in 1982. He has worked for the National Archives since 1977 in various offices including the Records Declassification Division, the Printed Archives Branch, the Navy and Old Army Branch, and the Suitland Reference Branch.

Scott R. Reeser, PLS

Scott R. Reeser, has over 30 years of experience in surveying and design. Mr. Reeser is a graduate of the Penn State

University Surveying Program, holding an Associate's Degree in Surveying Technology. He has been a licensed Professional Land Surveyor in PA since 2008, and also holds surveying licenses in NY, WV, and CO. He is a Past-President of the of the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Land Surveyors, where he serves on the Executive Committee and Education Committee. Throughout his career he has worked for various engineering, surveying and civil consulting firms. His diversified experience has allowed him to work on projects that serve different market sectors including the general public, state and local government, private developers, public utilities and private utilities. Currently, Mr. Reeser is the Director of Surveys at Hunt Engineering Company, based in Malvern, PA.

Jeremy E. Thompson, PLS

Jeremy is a licensed land surveyor in NYS and is the current Instructor of Surveying at The New York State Ranger School in Wanakena. Prior to taking up a career in education, Jeremy worked in the private sector, surveying for 23 years, the majority of which he spent with LaFave, White & McGivern, L.S., P.C. working as the Survey Supervisor in their Theresa, NY office. Jeremy is actively involved in his community as well as in the surveying profession and currently serves as Treasurer for the New York State Association of Professional Land Surveyors (NYSAPLS), as well as a member of the Northern New York and Black River Valley Regional Associations, and as a member of NYSAPLS Education Committee.