



THE FLORIDA SURVEYOR

March 2020
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Cover Photo by: Ray Hennessy

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PRESIDENT'S message

Whether or not March follows the proverbial trend of “in like a lion, out like a lamb”, the days between will be packed with surveying and mapping activity!

National Surveyor’s Week is coming March 15-21. This is a great opportunity to contact your state and local leaders to solicit proclamations. The importance of these proclamations is not just the proclamations themselves, but also to raise awareness among our leaders that surveying and mapping is vital to our way of life.

Where you can get opportunities to speak at a local chamber of commerce meeting, Rotary or Lions Club, or a local school, please do so. What we do as the ambassadors of our grand profession matters! Some excellent resources for outreach are available at <https://beasurveyor.com/>.

As an example of a way you can engage the broader community, Brian Murphy (President of the North Central Florida Chapter) is currently working on putting together a surveying-focused career fair in Gainesville. If your company would like to participate, please email him!

Global Surveyors day is Saturday, March 21, and I am looking forward to getting to spend that day with the [CIAPR Exterior Chapter at a picnic in Davie](#). They are a wonderful group of colleagues who share our love for the profession and they always have lively events.

March also brings us the primary elections for 2020. Although the national races are gaining the most attention, your vote can strongly affect local races and local policies which are what we all often feel the most day to day impact from. In the interest of making the places where we live and work better for all, please be informed about your local ballot and go vote early or on March 17. It’s a great way to celebrate St. Patrick’s Day!

On a different front, the Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers has had a few new key arrivals. Ia Hall has joined the Board, adding her unique skills and a fresh perspective to the regulatory group. We are also fortunate to have the new Executive Director for BPSM. Liz Compton brings a wealth of regulatory and communications experience to this role, and she has dived right in and taken the responsibilities of protecting the public interest relative to surveying and mapping very seriously.

Finally, the surveying community and all of us were made poorer with the untimely death of Abe Remchuk, PSM last month. Abe was a US Army veteran and a UF Geomatics grad. Our thoughts are with his family and friends at this difficult time.

Until next month, stay safe out there!



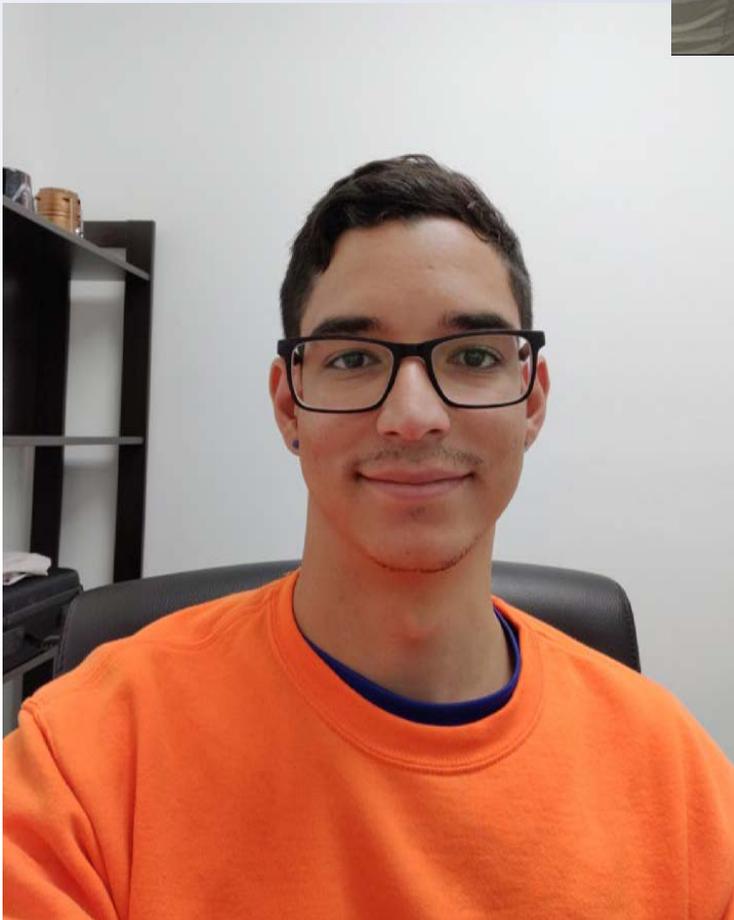
President

Don Elder

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FSMS SHOUT OUT



Meet Mariano Mijares, he was born in Caracas, Venezuela. He moved to Miami in 2006 and started his land surveying career in 2013.

He is currently enrolled in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, majoring in Geomatics.

He works as a field supervisor at J. Hernandez & Associates Inc., a Land Surveying firm in Doral FL.

He hopes to get his Professional Surveyor and Mapper (P.S.M.) license after graduating from the University of Florida.

Thank you to Mariano for your article contribution, "Investigating Efficiency & Accuracy of Tilt-Compensating GNSS Instruments" in the February issue of *The Florida Surveyor*.

*THANKS
TO
MARIANO
MIJARES
FOR
LAST
MONTH'S
CONTRIBUTION*





Photo by: Brandon Mowinkel

I would like to start off this month's article by discussing the passing of Abraham Remchuk, PSM, who was hit and killed last month in Lakeland while working on a survey project. He was hit while working in the roadway. Abe was 42 years old, and I am sure many of you have either seen the release by FSMS or maybe through shares on LinkedIn or news outlets. I would like to take the time to remind everyone to be careful and it is always good practice to revisit safety procedures, especially with so many impaired drivers out there. I know we all see people regularly on their cell phones and other electronic devices or eating or doing their makeup, we must practice extra caution anytime we are in or near the right-of-way as we can only control our own actions. We have been working to increase safety and awareness over the past several years by putting chevrons on all of our vehicles and increasing our number of flashers.

Everyone is changing their procedures as our Fire Department is now deploying two or more fire trucks when working on certain roadways to act as an added barrier as they have had several vehicles damaged from drivers not paying attention. It never goes without saying that we all want to make it home at the end of the day!

I want to thank everyone that has spread the word or contributed to the GoFundMe that was set up for Abe, as it will be extremely helpful to his parents who are elderly and on a fixed income to cover his expenses and deal with his other matters they are left to take care of. I know it always goes without saying, but my thoughts and prayers go out to them.

SURVEYORS IN government

By: Richard Allen, PSM, CFM



Photo by: Katie Moum

In other items of note, we have been experiencing a flurry of activity for proposed legislation that is coming in spurts from the removal of the education requirement early in the legislative season and now we are seeing changes proposed to CCNA (Consultants, Competitive Negotiation Act) F.S. 287.055. This is being pushed by HB 613 – Higher Education, and that it may be a companion bill to SB 72: Post-secondary Education bill. Proposed changes to CCNA bear watching as it has implications throughout government entities as continuing contracts are a big part of most if not all agencies both local and state levels. I would advise you to keep watching proposed legislative action and be vocal as it takes us all to oppose items that have an impact on the jobs we do. Until next time my friends.

Sincerely,
Richard Allen

You can reach me at Richard.Allen@orlando.gov or 407.246.2788.



Photo by: David Beale



FROM THE

ARCHIVES



THE PRIME MERIDIAN MARKER

Its Meaning and Place in History

by Dr. Joe Knetsch

Originally printed in *The Florida Surveyor* March 2000.

Few of the early settlers of Tallahassee realized the importance of the beginning of public land surveys as readily as the new officialdom of the Territory. Governor William Pope Duval and Territorial Secretary, George Walton, recognized that the land titles of all settlers had to be clear and firm before anyone would wish to risk life and limb on the frontier of Florida. When the orders for the institution of the surveys began, the Surveyor General of Florida, Robert Butler, had only been recently appointed and his staff and surveyors were not yet in place. Because Governor Duval was in St. Marks on an important mission to negotiate with the Indians, it was left to George Walton to assume the duties of placing the beginning point for the official land surveys.

There is the old legend, unsupported by any official documents, that tells of the stone being hauled on a wagon to the point designated by the Secretary and falling off of it about 200 yards short of the point. However, whether this may or may not have been the case, it is immaterial to the actual location of the point of origin. Once the point was set and the surveys begun, the exact point hypothetically put down by Walton is of no value.

The first contract to survey for the prime meridian went to Benjamin Clements of Tennessee, a surveyor of vast experience, on the 16th of November 1824, The contract directions read:

Commencing on the South East corner of the Quarter Section selected for the seat of the Territorial Government of Florida and extending the Meridian North to the Georgia Line & South to the Gulf of Mexico, thence to Section Township 1 Range 1 South & East on the completion of which, from the beginning corner aforesaid, extend the Basis Parallel West to the Perdido.

(The contract for extending the Basis Parallel to the East went to another experienced surveyor, C. C. Stone.) Clements took his crew, which included his son Hosea, and began running the Prime Meridian. The job performed by Clements was the beginning line of all property lines in the State



of Florida. It is at this very point of origin that all individuals property descriptions in this State begin, hence the very importance of the marker. Clements did his work well and accurately.

Clements experienced little difficulty in running this first line and suffered no ill effects from it. However, this was not to be the case of all who followed in his footsteps. Many surveyors suffered greatly doing their jobs in the field. Some, like Henry Wells and William S. Moseley, suffered snake bites that incapacitated them

for days. Others, like A. H. Jones, Clements, James Exum and Michael Garrison were delayed and almost lost lives because of the high waters frequently experienced by the surveyors unfamiliar, at that time, with the rainy season of Florida. The fear of the Indian, as on every frontier in North America, also delayed, postponed or canceled surveys, although not one Florida Deputy Surveyor lost his life to an Indian attack. And, of course, the yellow fever and malaria took their toll among the surveyors and their crews. In the infamous outbreak of 1831, while on the Escambia River survey, Hosea Clements, who had assisted his father on the Basis Parallel and Prime Meridian succumbed to the dreaded disease. The dangers faced and sacrifices made by the surveyors of Florida give added meaning to the importance of this place.

Additionally, these brave men who tackled every difficulty imaginable in the field, often sacrificed their financial well being because of their work. The Territory did not have an adequate banking system nor did it have ready cash with which to pay the men for their work. Often, the surveyors had to go deeply into debt to pay their crews and the merchants who had loaned them supplies for the field. This led to frequent court cases, legal fees, lost credit and total exasperation. Some of the men went bankrupt, including the great Henry Washington, who, living here in Tallahassee, declared bankruptcy twice because of the failure of the Government to supply the money for his work in a timely fashion. Washington, like other Floridians, also invested his time and money in the Union Bank and when that institution failed, he, like many others, failed with it. The marker, therefore, symbolizes not only the beginning of surveys, but also represents all of the early

surveyors and their efforts to bring order to the property of all Floridians on the Florida frontier.

The city of Tallahassee, the site of an early Native American village, also begins with this marker. Not until the marker was laid down and the surveys begun could Benjamin Tennile lay out the pattern that became the central core of the Capital City. The Capitol Square, part of the original quarter-section allotted to the town, was the center point of Tennile's plan. The town was surrounded by a 200 foot strip of land, cleared for the open fire upon any approaching enemy, especially the followers of Neamathela, upon whose land the capitol was raised. Indeed, some of Robert Butler's first dispatches were carried north by Indian courier. The major remnant of that 200 foot cleared strip is today's Park Street.

The new capitol building, at first made of logs, was to be paid for by the selling of lots within the city, as surveyed by Tennile. This became known as the "Tallahassee Fund", which experienced a varied and colorful history of its own. When the capitol building of 1845 was completed, with the assistance of skilled slave labor, its construction was to be paid for by the funds generated by the sale of eight sections of land, located, oddly enough, near the natural bridge of the Santa Fe River. The object in this was to offer for sale land most likely to be purchased, thereby alleviating the fund of a long existence. Unfortunately, this did not happen and the fund's life dragged on for many years thereafter. Again, it is the setting of this marker that began the whole process that became the Territorial and State Capital and the City of Tallahassee.

So much of the history of this State is tied to the prime meridian marker. All property designations begin here, all surveys begin here, the Capital City begins here, and the famous Lafayette Land Grant also begins here. It is from this point that this famed grant gets its start. To honor and financially repair the fortunes of the Marquis de Lafayette, the Government gave him one

of the first townships created, 1 North and 1 East, the corner of which begins at the marker! As one of three large land grants given by the Federal government to the Marquis, it represents part of the Revolutionary heritage of our country and ties the site to something sacred to all Americans.

As a symbol of the rights of all Americans, the right to enjoy private property for personal benefit, the park and marker has great importance. It is not simply the visual symbol, but a physical representation of all that we hold dear and what our forefathers fought and died for. It symbolizes suffering, dedication to duty, citizenship, and the basis of much of our present society. It represents freedom and the pursuit of the happiness that can result from the ownership of private property by all, a right held sacred by the framers of the Constitution. Therefore, it is more than just a stone, it is a monument to what we stand for as a nation. Small as it is; hidden from the main flow of traffic; it is one of the most important landmarks in our State. When so much of our heritage is being lost or overlooked, it is a precious symbol of our past and, hopefully, a joyful symbol for our future.



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FLORIDA'S OWN prime meridian

By: Josh Goodman, Ph.D., Archives Historian,
State Archives of Florida

Every day, knowingly and more often unknowingly, we cross boundaries. We drive from one county into the next, we step across property lines, and we move in and out of the corporate limits of cities and towns. Visitors to Tallahassee's recently renovated Cascades Park frequently cross a very important Florida boundary, now marked with an impressive new monument. It's Florida's own prime meridian, the initial point in the grid on which virtually all land surveying in the Sunshine State is based.

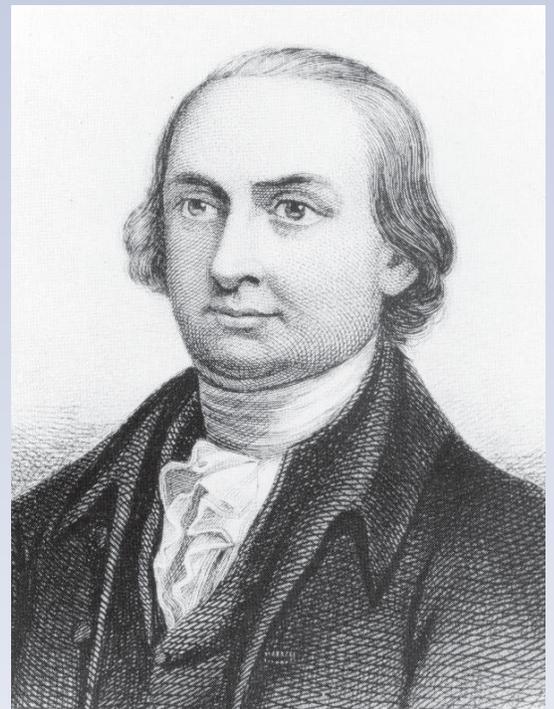


Brass plate marking the exact point at which Florida's prime meridian crosses its base line. All of the six-mile square townships comprising the state's land survey system are named in relation to this point. The point is located in Cascades Park, Tallahassee (photo 2014).

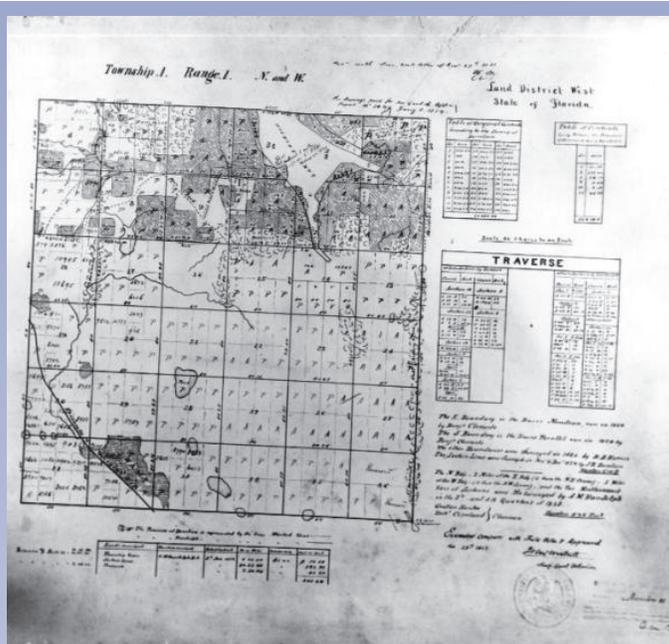
Initiating a system for identifying and selling land was a high priority for Florida's earliest leaders. Settlers would be unlikely to take a chance establishing themselves in the new territory if there wasn't a way to ensure the security of their title to the land they purchased. By the time Florida became a U.S. territory, the federal government already had a go-to method for measuring out new land.

Called the Public Land Survey System, it called for the new territory to be divided into six-mile squares called townships, which were each further divided into 36 smaller one-mile squares called sections. Land grants for businesses, homesteaders, or government entities could then be sold off by the section or parts thereof.

The first step in laying out a township grid was to select a spot for it to start. When the order came down in 1824 for the surveying process to begin in Florida, the Surveyor General appointed for the territory, Robert Butler, had not yet arrived. Furthermore, territorial governor William Pope Duval was away from Tallahassee in conference with local Native Americans. Territorial Secretary George Walton, then, had the honor of selecting the location.



George Walton II, son of the George Walton who signed the Declaration of Independence. He served as Florida's first Territorial Secretary (circa 1821).



An early map of Township 1 North, Range 1 West, encompassing much of western Tallahassee. The map delineates the 36 one-mile square sections within the township, as well as numerous individual parcels of land that had already been purchased (1853).

How he made his selection is not precisely known, although some interesting stories have emerged over time. Probably the most popular version holds that while transporting a stone monument to the designated site it fell off its wagon about 200 yards short of its destination. Because of its immense weight, the legend explains, the stone was too heavy to put back onto the wagon, and consequently it was left where it fell and that became the point of beginning for Florida's township grid. The story has a nice ring to it, but evidence suggests that the point was originally marked with a wooden stake, not a stone.

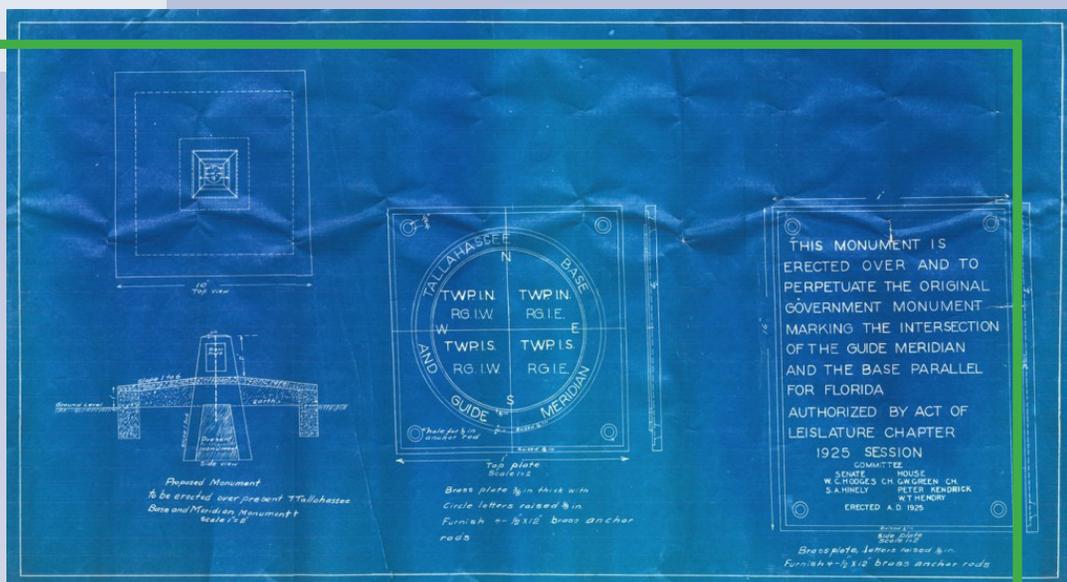
After the original point was established, surveyors began the lengthy process of establishing a north-south meridian and an east-west base line, dividing the territory into quadrants. The southeast quadrant contains the vast majority of Florida's territory, as it includes the entire peninsula. As more townships were surveyed out in relation to these lines, the General Land Office began granting land to homesteaders and other buyers. The original point of beginning for the grid remained fairly obscure for the rest of the nineteenth century.

In 1891, the City Commission of Tallahassee passed a resolution asking the General Land Office to establish a more elaborate monument marking the spot. The GLO gave orders for such a monument to be installed, and a local surveyor named John Cook identified a point on which to set it. This monument, however, for some reason appears never to have been placed. The one that existed before the Cascades Park renovation was erected by the Florida Legislature in 1925.



Right: The 1925 prime meridian marker in Cascades Park (1955).

Today, Florida's prime meridian is proudly displayed as a valuable historic site. Cascades Park was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1971, in part due to the presence of the prime meridian marker. When Cascades Park was renovated, the old 1925 concrete monument was removed and taken to the headquarters of the Florida Surveyors and Mappers Society in Tallahassee. The new monument, installed flush with the surrounding walking space, has been incorporated into an elaborate plaza that emphasizes the importance of the point for all of Florida.



Blueprints for new monument to mark the original point of beginning for Florida's township grid – the meeting place of the original prime meridian and base line (1925). Located in Box 1, folder 1 of Series 1152 (Subject Files of the Secretary of the Florida Senate), State Archives of Florida.



The prime meridian plaza at Cascades Park in Tallahassee (2014).

"Florida's Own Prime Meridian" by Josh Goodman originally appeared July 21, 2014 on the *Florida Memory* blog.

Reprinted with permission courtesy of Josh Goodman.



Issue 18, January 2020

NSRS Modernization News

For all issues of **NSRS Modernization News**, visit:
geodesy.noaa.gov/datums/newdatums/TrackOurProgress.shtml

Epoch 2020.0 has just passed!

One of the primary services of the modernized NSRS will be Reference Epoch Coordinates, or RECs, at passive geodetic control marks within the NSRS. The first such RECs will be computed and loaded into the NSRS database during calendar year 2022, and will refer to **epoch 2020.0** (which may have slipped by, unnoticed, around dinnertime in most parts of the USA on December 31, 2019.) The initial computation of 2020.0 RECs will rely on Final Discrete Coordinates (FDCs) derived from GPS surveys from 1996 onward. Also the Intra-Frame Velocity Model (IFVM) of 2022 (IFVM2022) will be used to estimate motions of points through time, from the epoch of each FDC to the 2020.0 epoch. Users interested in having the most accurate 2020.0 RECs on passive marks of interest are encouraged to survey those points before the end of calendar year 2021, so they may be included in the 2022 effort (if they have not already been surveyed in the last few years). This will minimize any modeling errors that might be in IFVM2022.

Progress in Ongoing Projects

There are currently 24 ongoing NGS NSRS modernization projects. Here are highlights from two:

Geoid Monitoring Service (Project Manager: Dr. Kevin Ahlgren)

NGS has released [NOAA Technical Report NOS NGS 68](#), which outlines plans to monitor the time-dependent geoid. While such changes are “small” relative to the larger crustal changes of the Earth, they are significant to NGS’s target accuracy of a sub-centimeter NSRS.

GRAV-D (Project Manager: Jeffery Johnson)

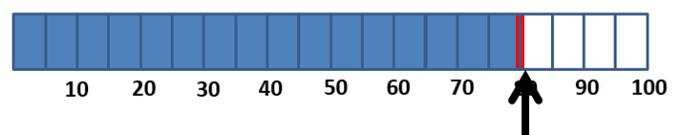
For the first time since the inception of GRAV-D, we have fallen behind schedule. It cannot be over-emphasized that this is not the fault of the hard-working people who make up the GRAV-D team. Unforeseen weather issues have dogged us, and as the “to-do” area shrinks, the ability to temporarily move to another (weather-clear) area diminishes. Mechanical issues have also been a particularly bad nuisance of late. Another real impact was the unfortunate government shutdown which coincided with the NGS plan to survey the logistically difficult Pacific islands region. Although NGS was able to recover somewhat and get part of Hawaii done, the damage to the schedule has had significant ripple effects.

NGS will diligently try to get back on schedule. However it should be noted that GRAV-D is the most obvious “long pole in the tent” of the NSRS modernization effort. Without GRAV-D completing 100% coverage, GEOID2022 will not have 100% coverage, and NGS has no plans at this time to release a modernized NSRS with an incomplete geoid model. However it remains too early to tell how all this will impact the date of the final roll-out of the modernized NSRS.

GRAV-D progress last quarter: **up 1.9% to 80.9%**

Behind Schedule!

Recently: Oklahoma



Schedule: **81%**



The Point of Beginning monument in it's current location at the Florida Surveying & Mapping office on Mahan Center Boulevard in Tallahassee, FL.



Photos by: Laura Levine

The prime meridian marker that represents the starting point for all surveys in Florida. This embossed metal plate sits flush in a granite depiction of Florida, located behind the amitheater in Cascades Park in Tallahassee, FL.



Photos by: Laura Levine

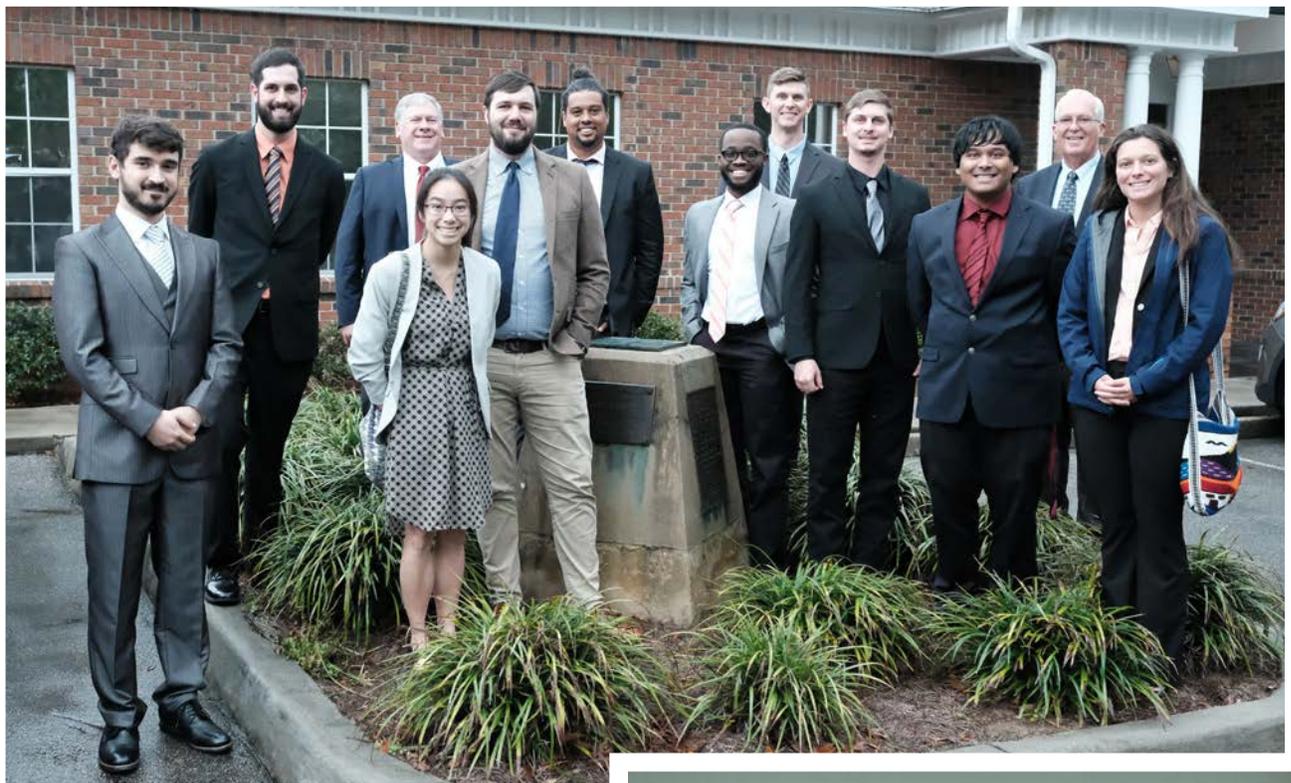
Around the State



L. Levine



On Wednesday, February 26, 2020, University of Florida seniors from the Geomatics program took their annual trip to Tallahassee to see the Capitol, the Point of Beginning at Cascades Park and the FSMS headquarters.



L. Levine

Above photo (left to right):
 Jesse Boyd, Travis O'Neal, Michael Osipov
 (blue suit), Zoey Holden (Vice President),
 Thomas Blythe (tan blazer, Treasurer),
 Morgan Jackson (black suit), Aaron Terrell,
 Scott Edenfield (President), Colin Naaman,
 Abdulla Sadeque, Jack Breed, Grace Plass
 (Secretary).



L. Levine



All other photos courtesy of
 Jack Breed



Reconnaissance

Liability, Battles and Wars

There is a trend that was addressed in this column about two years ago, but that deserves another look since it is a problem that will likely get worse before it gets better.

Surveyors frequently seek guidance when they are asked to sign a seemingly innocuous affidavit or certificate for a small fee. In conjunction with or sometimes completely separate from that request, the surveyor is told that the caller has a poor

copy of her ten-year old survey and can she simply provide a clean copy? Or maybe there is a request to “update” a 20-year old survey (“We *only* need an update; nothing has changed!”).

Surveyors need to be aware that such simple requests serve a purpose that is unrelated to surveying, but that will burden surveyors with high liability if they let them.

Below is a fairly typical example of a surveyor’s affidavit; there are many versions, most of which are not quite this egregious.

Without going into a long discussion on the myriad clauses that are problematic in this document, suffice it to say that surveyors should not sign something that even remotely resembles this. There are many reasons including, but not limited to, state standards, the ALTA/NSPS Standards, the normal standard of care, client and title company expectations, the possibility of persons being misled, and future misunderstandings over what the affidavit represents and what it does not.

Surveyor’s Affidavit

The undersigned states that he/she:

1. is a professional surveyor licensed in the state of _____.
2. Is familiar with the real estate described in the attached Exhibit A (“Real Estate”)
3. has reviewed the survey of the Real Estate previously prepared by his/her firm and certified on [date] (“Survey”).
4. is generally familiar with the improvements on the Real Estate and with that Survey.
5. has inspected the Real Estate and found no material changes to the improvements on the Real Estate or to the improvements adjoining the Real Estate since the date of the Survey.
6. has found that, to the best of his/her knowledge, the improvements on the Real Estate are within the boundary lines, easements lines and setback lines, if any, of said property, and that there are no encroachments of improvements on adjoining property onto the Real Estate, and that there are no assertions being made by an adjoining property owner, nor by the owner of Real Estate against any adjoining property owners, as to the location of boundary lines or disputes as to occupancy of any portion of their respective property.

This affidavit is being made to induce [title company] to delete the standard survey exception from a title insurance policy to be issued in connection with the purchase/financing of the Real Estate.

The undersigned hereby agrees to indemnify and hold harmless [title insurance company] from any claims, demands or expenses, including attorney fees, which shall be sustained due to any misrepresentations or inaccuracies contained herein.

“How many of you have been told you were the only surveyor who would not do something?”

Let the requestor complain. Let them tell you there is no additional liability. Let them tell you that you are the *only* surveyor they ever encountered who had a problem with it. (How many of you have been told you were the only surveyor who would not do something?) All of those statements are obfuscations.

Is this a sign that title companies do not like surveyors? Nothing could be further from the truth. The affidavit above probably did not even originate with the title company. In fact, title companies generally love surveyors. Many title companies wish they had a Land Title Survey on literally every property they insure. But that is simply not

continued on page 39

Kent, continued from page 40

going to happen; that proverbial train left the station years ago.

Then why is this happening? There is tremendous pressure in the real estate transaction industry to close mortgage loans more quickly. That pressure comes from all directions—sellers, buyers, lenders and the government (all for their own reasons)—and is aimed at moving that ubiquitous closing date up in time.¹ In order to accomplish that goal, extra time, costs and problems must necessarily be weeded out of the closing process. Surveyors are far from the only businesses that are impacted; in fact, title companies may actually be the most affected. But surveyors should know what to do to avoid being simple detritus in the process.

“There are few innocent requests for a copy of an old survey.”

There are few innocent requests for a copy of an old survey, and—despite frequent assurances—the surveyor is often taking on new liability in providing that copy. The more parties that have a copy of a survey, the more potential liability the surveyor incurs. Even when a surveyor provides a free copy of an old survey, there can be associated liability—particularly if the surveyor knows it may be used as part of the documents related to a new transaction.

Seemingly simple requests to provide surveyor's affidavits in lieu of surveys are nothing of the sort. Surveyors should read them carefully and decide if they can honestly sign them. They should also give careful consideration to providing “updates” of old surveys without a complete review of the previous survey, a site visit, review of current documents (including adjoiners), checking monuments and confirming that all current ALTA/NSPS and state standards have been met.² They do not have to fold under the pressure, smokescreens and insults.

Practitioners, the profession and its licensing boards today may overcome challenges like these, and others more specifically related to technology, but

“Even if you are on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there.”

—Will Rogers”

in the next few decades—probably sooner—surveying will be consigned to its roots in boundaries and the preparation of property descriptions. Societal needs, external pressures and perhaps most notably, technology, will eventually win over the rest of what is, today, the practice of surveying.

It is important to note; however, that the future of the surveying *profession* and the future of the surveying *business*—while necessarily related—are two entirely different matters. One's future surveying business can encompass most of what it does today, and more, even though the specific areas of professional practice will likely be narrower. With some entrepreneurship, and if the profession pays attention and continues to learn and evolve, the future of both are bright. As Will Rogers said, “*Even if you are on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there.*” ■

Gary Kent is Director, Integrated Services at The Schneider Corporation in Indianapolis. He is past-president of ACSM and chairs the ALTA/ACSM Committee for NSPS and the Liaison Committee for ALTA. He is on the Indiana Board of Registration and lectures both locally and nationally.

¹ According to a recent three-year study by Lending Tree, the length of time to close a mortgage has decreased from 74 days in 2017 to 40 days in 2019.
<https://bit.ly/2Vxo6EK>

² Persons familiar with this column and seminars presented by the author know that he takes great exception to the term “update.” There is no such thing. Every “update” is a new survey because it purports to represent the current conditions on the property pursuant to the current ALTA/NSPS Standards. If the surveyor has performed a survey of the property previously, the client might see a related time and cost savings, but it is a still a new survey.

“Liability, Battles and Wars” by Gary Kent originally appeared in the Nov 2019 issue of *The American Surveyor*.

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DID
YOU
EVER
WONDER
WHY
??

By: Michael Whitling, PSM

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Why is being “stupid” a fault while being “stupendous” is a great thing?

Both words come from the early Latin verb stupere, for being numb or astonished, and is related to stupor. In Roman culture (27 BC – 476 AD), the stupidus was the professional fall guy in the theatrical plays. The words “stupid” and “stupidity” entered the English language in the 1500’s, as ‘a want of intelligence’, adapted from the Latin word stupiditas, meaning dull or senseless. “Stupendous”, meaning astonishment, outstanding, also from the 1500’s, comes from Latin word stupendus “to be wondered at,” and from the Latin stupere ‘be stunned, be struck senseless, be aghast, astounded, or amazed.’

Why is throwing a ball at pins called “bowling?”

“Bowling” is one the oldest sports known to mankind. While we cannot actually place a date of commencement of the sport, it is interesting to note that when the famous explorer, Flinders Petrie opened up an Egyptian Tomb in 1936, among many things found was a set of implements roughly resembling the pins used in tenpin bowling. Historians think that caveman may well have pursued this form of the sport using rocks or pebbles to toss at other rocks or pebbles. The word “bowl” could be derived from the Saxon bolla which meant “bubble” originally, but which later came to mean anything spherical. Then again, it may be from the Latin bulla or the Old French boule, both meaning “ball”. The game as we know it today traces its origin to Germany in the 16th century and spread all over Europe. In 1511, English King Henry VIII was an avid bowler. He banned bowling for the lower classes and imposed a levy for private lanes to limit them to the wealthy. Another English law, passed in 1541 (repealed in 1845), prohibited workers from bowling, except at Christmas, and only in their master’s home and in his presence.

Why are we called “ladies and gentlemen?”

The word “lady” is a term of respect for a girl or woman, the equivalent of “gentleman.” Once used to describe only women of a high social class or status, the female equivalent of lord. “Lady” is also a formal title in the United Kingdom. “Lady” is used before the family name of a woman with a title of nobility, or the wife of a lord, a baronet, laird, or a knight, and also before the first name of the daughter of a duke, or earl. “Lady” comes from a not so ladylike beginning, as one who kneads bread + maid, from the Old English hlaf for bread and dige for maid. In the 14th century the “f” disappeared so we got hladige, which eventually became “lady.”

Gentleman comes from Old French, gentilz hom, (gentle + man) and is any man of good and courteous conduct. Originally, a gentleman was the lowest rank of the landowning gentry of England, ranking below an esquire and above a yeoman; by definition, the rank of gentleman comprised the younger sons of the younger sons of peers, and the younger sons of a baronet, a knight, and an esquire, in perpetual succession. As such, the connotation of the term gentleman captures the common denominator of gentility (and often a coat of arms); a right shared by the peerage and the gentry, the constituent classes of the British nobility. In the early U.S., it meant a “man of property, not engaged in business or a profession” (1789). The English word from the beginning also had a special sense “nobleman whose behavior conforms to the ideals of chivalry and Christianity,” and gentleman came to be used loosely for any man of good breeding, courtesy, kindness, honor, strict regard for the feelings of others, etc. Eventually, in polite use, it came to mean a man in general, regardless of social standing.

Quick Facts:

When you think about the fact that they’re responsible for providing us nourishment in the womb, belly buttons are pretty incredible. But not everyone is amazed by the tiny dots in the middle of our bodies. In fact, some people are downright freaked out by them. And if that’s you, you now know the official term for it: omphalophobia

According to a study conducted by researchers in the Netherlands, bloodcurdling horror movies can do just that: curdle your blood. The scientists found that when we watch a terrifying tale, our bodies experience an increase in blood coagulant factor VIII, which is a clotting protein. Too much of the protein and our blood will clot or, in essence, curdle.

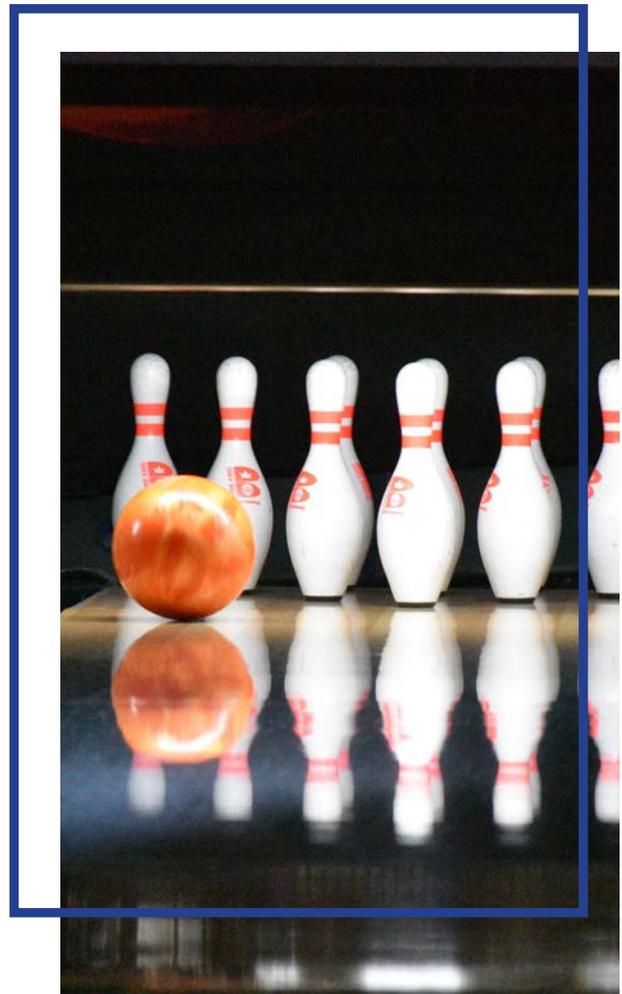


Photo by: Michelle McEwen

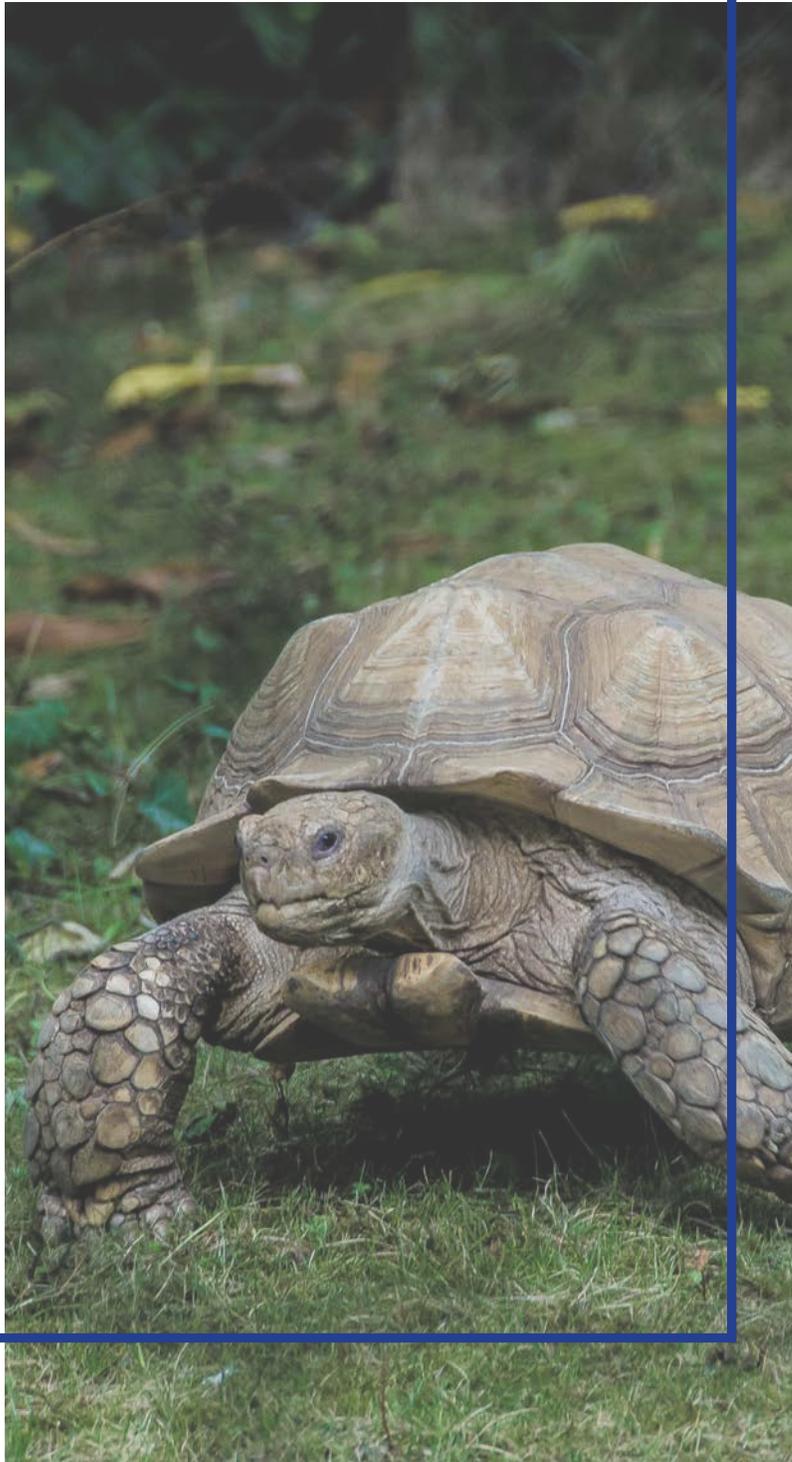


Photo by: Luca Ambrosi

You may think that chimps and monkeys have the closest fingerprints to humans, but it's actually the cuddly marsupials that have fingerprints nearly indistinguishable from humans, even under a microscope.

The oldest known animal was a tortoise, which lived to be 152 years old.

In Sweden blood donors receive a text message when their blood is "withdrawn." "We get a lot of visibility in social media and traditional media thanks to the SMS," Karolina Blom Wilberg, a communications manager at the Stockholm blood service, told Huffington Post. "But above all we believe it makes our donors come back to us, and donate again."

Black, Green, and Oolong teas are all derived from exactly the same plant. The differences in taste and color come from their processing.

All that excess air in chip bags isn't there to dupe buyers into thinking there are more chips inside. In fact, it serves a purpose—and no, it doesn't contain oxygen. Instead, chip bags are filled with nitrogen. Oxygen would quickly turn the chips rancid, while nitrogen preserves the freshness of the chips, prevents combustion, and creates sufficient cushioning during shipping so the chips don't get crushed.

Tiny crustaceans have been detected in the tap water of New York City, and while these creatures pose no health threat to those drinking the water, that technically disqualifies it from being considered kosher.

In 1978, a French man named Michel Lotito began an unusual endeavor: He started eating a Cessna 150 airplane. Lotito developed an unusual tolerance for eating dangerous objects when he was nine-years-old due to a condition known as pica, which leads to an appetite for non-nutritive items. It took him two years to complete his metal-filled meal—he finished consuming the last of the airplane in 1980.

During one Phillies-Giants game in 1957, Richie Ashburn fouled off a ball into the stands that smacked Alice Roth right in the face, breaking her nose. As the medics led her out in the stands, Ashburn hit another foul ball off the very next pitch—hitting Roth once again, in the leg this time. Fortunately, she recovered, and the Phillies treated her and her family, per reports, “like royalty.”

Animal shelters are slammed on July 5th because so many pets run away out of fear of fireworks.

Send your thoughts to drmjw@aol.com

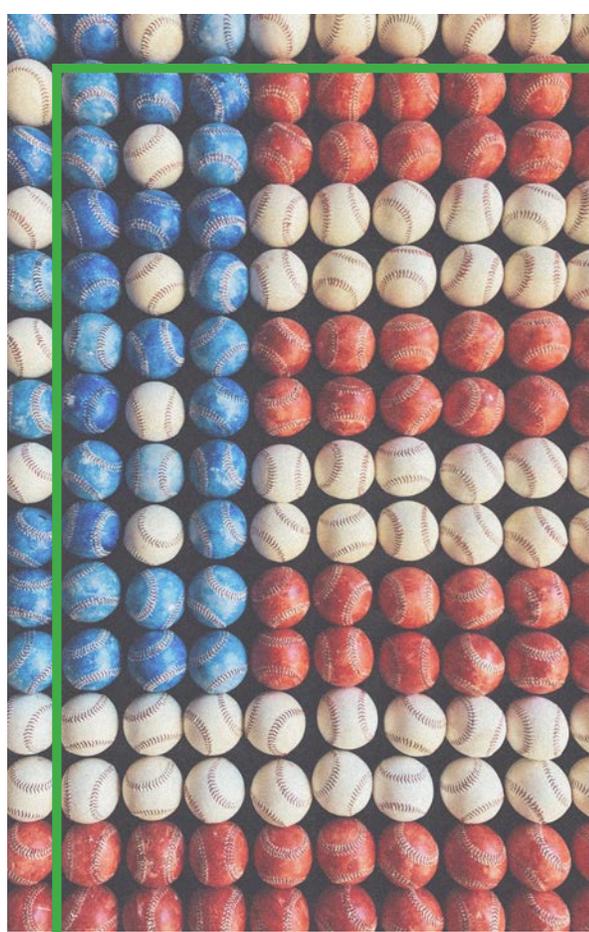


Photo by: Megan Ellis



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Communications Director

Laura Levine
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Don't fear failure so much that you refuse to try new things.

The saddest summary of life contains three descriptions: could have, might have and should have.

Louis E. Boone

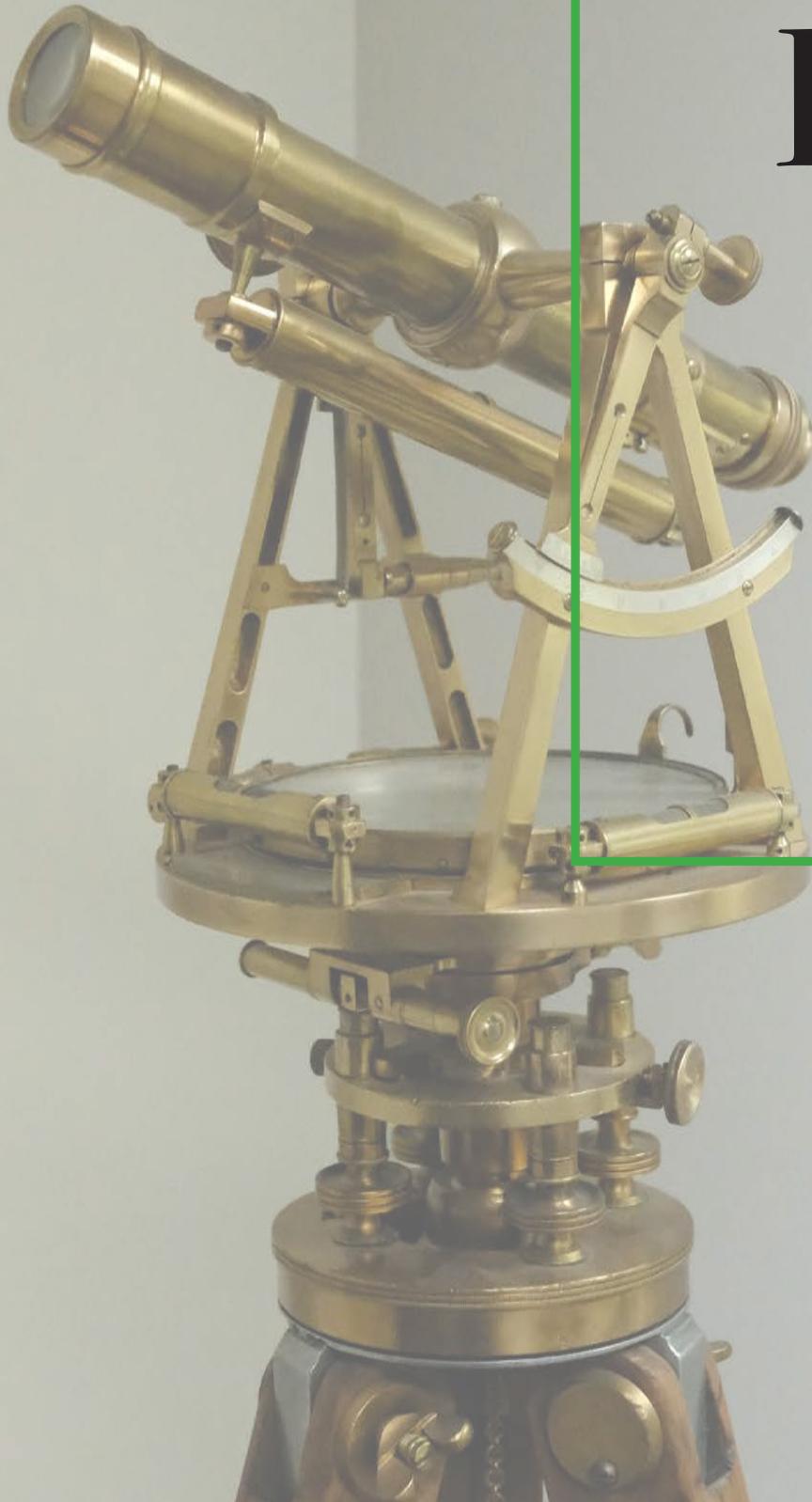


LIVE LIFE

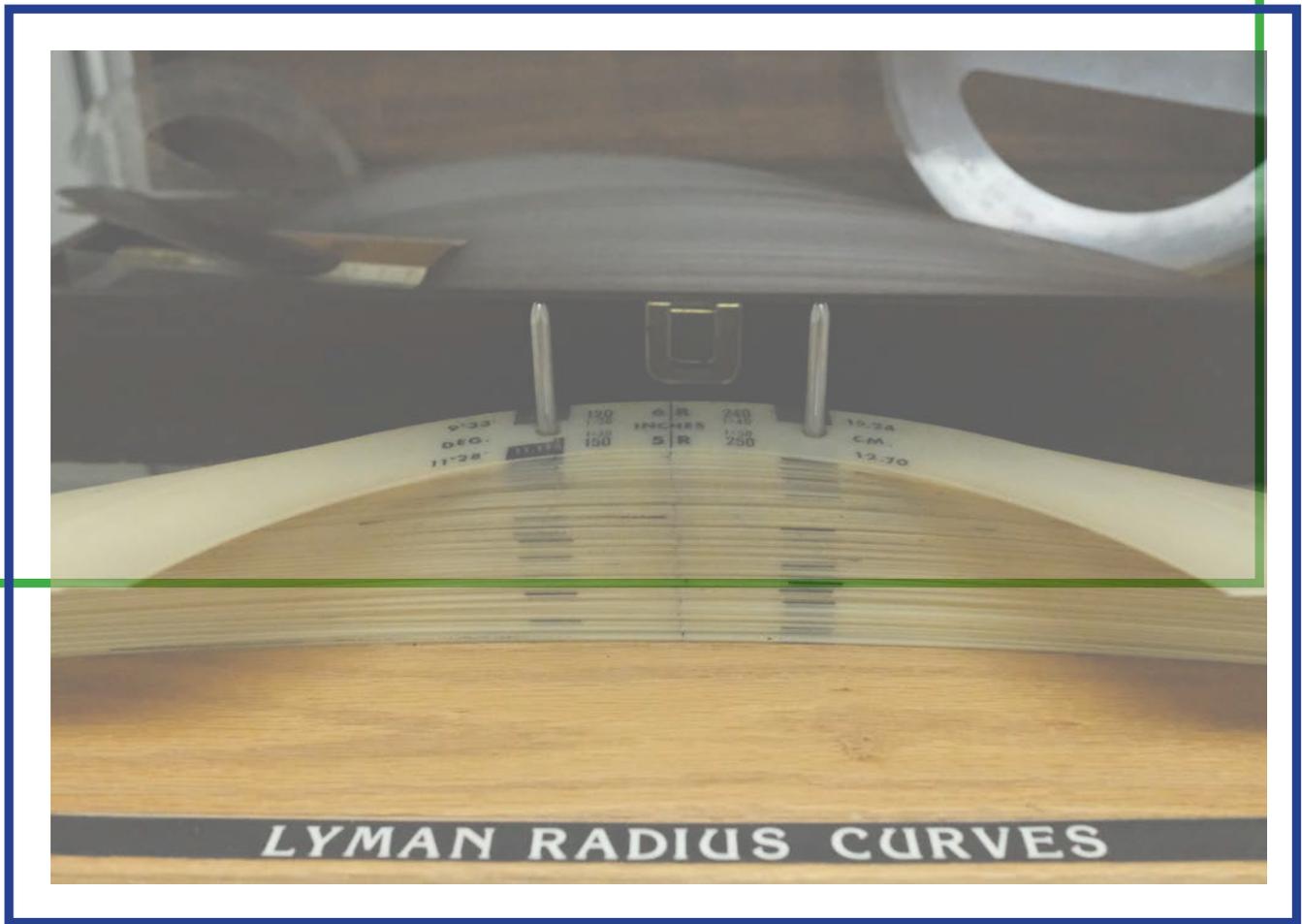
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2020 Firm



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Agnoli, Barber & Brundage, Inc.	239-597-3111
AIM Engineering & Surveying	239-332-4569
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Allen Engineering, Inc.	321-783-7443
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Amerritt, Inc.	813-221-5200
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Associated Land Surveying & Mapping, Inc.	407-869-5002
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B	
Banks Engineering	239-939-5490
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Bello & Bello Land Surveying Corporation	305-251-9606
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Bock & Clark Corporation	330-665-4821
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Calvin, Giordano, & Associates	954-921-7781
Cardno, Inc.	407-629-7144
Carter Associates, Inc.	772-562-4191
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Chastain-Skillman, Inc.	863-646-1402
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Clary & Associates, Inc.	904-260-2703
Clements Surveying, Inc.	941-729-6690
Collins Survey Consulting, LLC.	863-937-9052
Compass Engineering & Surveying, Inc.	727-822-4151
Control Point Assocites FL, LLC.	908-668-0099
Cousins Surveyors & Associates, Inc.	954-689-7766
CPH, Inc.	407-322-6841
Craven-Thompson & Associates, Inc.	954-739-6400
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Dagostino & Wood, Inc.	239-352-6085
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Donald W. McIntosh Associates, Inc.	407-644-4068
Donoghue Construction Layout, Inc.	850-763-7427
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DSW Surveying & Mapping, PLC.	352-735-3796
Duncan Parnell	407-601-5816

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E.F. Gaines Surveying Services, Inc.	239-418-0126
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Element Engineering Group, LLC.	813-386-2101
Engenuity Group, Inc.	561-655-1151
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GeoSurv, LLC.	877-407-3734
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GPI Geospatial, Inc.	407-851-7880
Gustin, Cothorn & Tucker, Inc.	850-678-5141
H	
Hamilton Engineering & Surveying, Inc.	813-250-3535
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I.F. Rooks & Associates, LLC.	813-752-2113
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John Ibarra & Associates, Inc.	305-262-0400
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L&S Diversified, LLC.	407-681-3836
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Rhodes & Rhodes Land Surveying, Inc.	239-405-8166
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R.M. Barrineau & Associates, Inc.	352-622-3133
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Rogers, Gunter, Vaughn Insurance, Inc. (HUB FL)	850-386-1111

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SAM Surveying & Mapping, LLC.	850-385-1179
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Boundaries in Florida Course #8255 (6 SOP/L&R CEC)

\$ 120⁰⁰



Contracts for the Professional Course #8412 (3 General CEC)

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Elevation Certificates and the Community Rating System Course #8256 (3 General CEC)

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Ethics for the Design Professional Course #8621 (6 General CEC)

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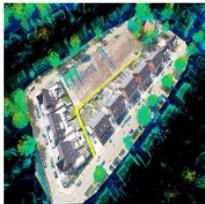
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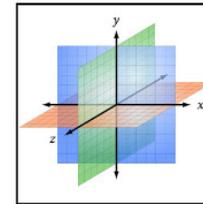
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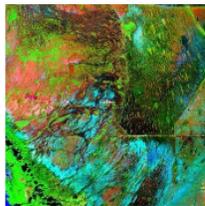
Practical Geometry for Surveyors Course #7141 (6 General CEC)

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Public Land Survey System Course #7147 (6 General CEC)

\$ 120⁰⁰



Remote Sensing Applications to Surveying & Mapping Course #7148 (6 General CEC)

\$ 120⁰⁰



Writing Boundary Descriptions Course #8362 (3 General CEC)

\$ 70⁰⁰



Correspondence Courses



Step 1: Choose Course(s)

- 5J-17 Standards of Practice (SOP), #6962, 6 SOP/L&R CEC**
- A History of the Prime Meridian Marker, #8403, 3 General CEC**
- Basics of Real Property, #8359, 3 General CEC**
- Boundaries in Florida, #7667, 6 SOP/L&R CEC**
- Chapter 177, Platting (Plat Law), #6970, 6 SOP/L&R CEC**
- Client Satisfaction Excellence for Surveying and Mapping Professionals, #7229, 6 General CEC (Only available by mail)**
- Contracts for the Professional, #8411, 3 General CEC**
- Critical Communication for Surveying & Mapping Professionals, #7228, 6 General CEC (Only available by mail)**
- Digital Signatures for Surveyors, #8491, 3 General CEC**
- Elevation Certificates and the Community Rating System, #8257, 3 General CEC**
- Ethics for the Design Professional, #8620, 6 General CEC**
- Florida Laws, #6966, 6 SOP/L&R CEC**
- Georgia Technical Standards for Property Surveys, #8553, 6 General CEC**
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS), #7107, 6 General CEC**
- History of Surveying, #7108, 6 General CEC**
- Identification of Native and Non-Native Trees in Florida, #7874, 6 General CEC**
- Introduction to Photogrammetry, #7887, 3 General CEC**
- Land Tenure and Cadastral Systems, #7829, 6 General CEC**
- Map Projections and Plane Coordinate Systems, #7669, 6 General CEC**
- Mean High Water Observations and Computations, #8220, 6 General CEC**
- Practical Geometry for Surveyors, #7109, 6 General CEC**
- Public Land Survey System, #6979, 6 General CEC**
- Remote Sensing Applications to Surveying & Mapping, #6972, 6 General CEC**
- Stress Management for Surveyors & Mappers: How to be Productive Under Pressure, #6902, 6 General CEC (Only available by mail)**
- Time Management for Surveyors & Mappers: How to be Productive & Exercise Time Mastery in A Hectic World, #6901, 6 General CEC (Only available by mail)**
- Writing Boundary Descriptions, #8361, 3 General CEC**

Step 2: Choose Member Type

FSMS Member

<i>EMAILED</i>	Fee	Quantity	Amount
6 CEC	\$115 Per Course	x _____	= \$ _____
3 CEC	\$58 Per Course	x _____	= \$ _____
<i>MAILED</i>			
6 CEC	\$125 Per Course	x _____	= \$ _____
3 CEC	\$68 Per Course	x _____	= \$ _____
TOTAL		_____	\$ _____

Non-Member

<i>EMAILED</i>	Fee	Quantity	Amount
6 CEC	\$135 Per Course	x _____	= \$ _____
3 CEC	\$78 Per Course	x _____	= \$ _____
<i>MAILED</i>			
6 CEC	\$145 Per Course	x _____	= \$ _____
3 CEC	\$88 Per Course	x _____	= \$ _____
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Rebrand Announcement

BONITA SPRINGS, FL, March 3, 2020 – David Dagostino, CEO and co-founder of land surveying company Dagostino Geospatial, Inc. DBA Dagostino & Wood, Inc., announced today that his company has undergone a name change and brand identity update.

Dagostino's original land surveying and mapping company was established in 1998 as Dagostino & Wood Inc., previously located on Jaeger Road in Naples before moving office space to Bonita Springs in early 2019. Under its flagship identity, the company's founders, David Dagostino and Mark Wood, both of whom hold Bachelor of Science in Surveying and Mapping degrees from the University of Florida, flourished as leading providers of land surveying and geospatial data services throughout southwest Florida for twenty-two years.

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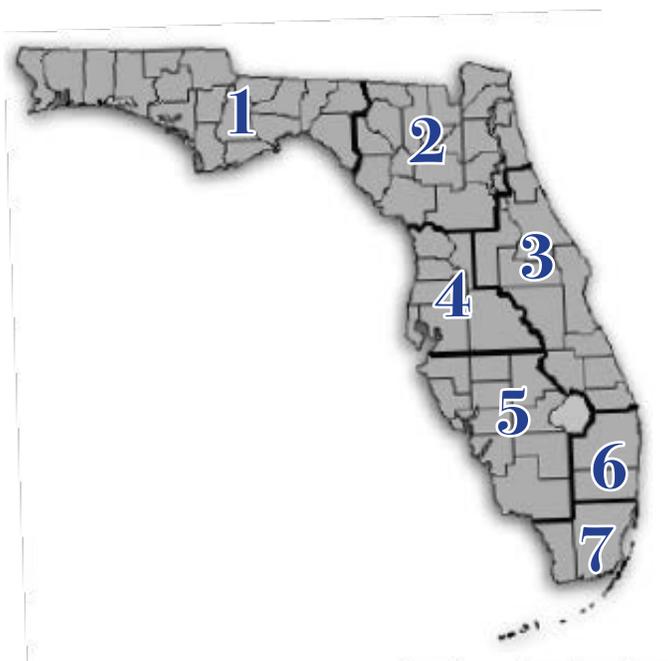
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NSPS Director

Russell Hyatt
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Additional Information

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1956

H.O. Peters
Harry C. Schwebke
John P. Goggin
R.H. Jones

1960

Hugh A. Binyon
Russell H. DeGrove
Perry C. McGriff
Carl E. Johnson

James A. Thigpenn, III
Harold A. Schuler, Jr.
Shields E. Clark
Maurice E. Berry II
William C. Hart
Frank R. Schilling, Jr.

1970

William V. Keith
James M. King
Broward P. Davis
E.R. (Ed) Brownell
E.W. (Gene) Stoner
Lewis H. Kent
Robert S. Harris
Paul T. O'Hargan
William G. Wallace, Jr.
Robert W. Wigglesworth

1980

Ben P. Blackburn
William B. Thompson, II
John R. Gargis
Robert A. Bannerman
H. Bruce Durden
Buell H. Harper
Jan L. Skipper
Steven M. Woods
Stephen G. Vrabel
W. Lamar Evers

1990

Joseph S. Boggs
Robert L. Graham
Nicholas D. Miller
Loren E. Mercer
Kent Green
Robert D. Cross
Thomas L. Conner
Gordon R. Niles, Jr.
Dennis E. Blankenship
W. Lanier Mathews, II
Jack Breed

2000

Arthur A. Mastronicola
Michael H. Maxwell
John M. Clyatt
David W. Schryver
Stephen M. Gordon
Richard G. Powell
Michael J. Whiting
Robert W. Jackson, Jr.
Pablo Ferrari
Steve Stinson

2010

Dan Ferrans
Jeremiah Slaymaker
Ken Glass
Russell Hyatt
Bill Rowe
Dale Bradshaw
Lou Campanile, Jr.
Bob Strayer, Jr.
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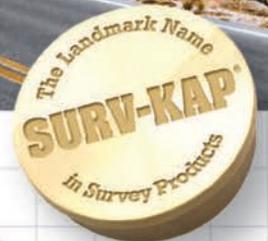
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