



# THE FLORIDA SURVEYOR

May 2021  
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# 2021 FSMS

## officers



**President-Elect**  
Lou Campanile  
(352) 547-3086  
lou@campanile.net



**Vice President**  
Jim Sullivan  
(561) 687-2220  
Jim.Sullivan@wginc.com



**Secretary**  
Joe Perez  
(321) 230-4420  
jlperez@pesengsurv.com



**Treasurer**  
Bon Dewitt  
(352) 392-6010  
bon@ufl.edu



**Immediate Past  
President**  
Don Elder  
(850) 354-9665  
donelderpsm@gmail.com

# PRESIDENT'S message

Good times are here again! COVID vaccines are available for all who want them, and life is returning to a “new normal”. I am enjoying venturing back out for social activities, and judging by how crowded everything is, I’m not the only one.

FSMS chapters are starting to meet again in person! Some are virtual, and some a mix of both. As your chapters start meeting again, please participate and be part of OUR profession.

This month, May 27, the Tampa Chapter is hosting the annual Tri-Chapter meeting with Ridge Chapter, and the Central Florida, in Lakeland. If you are in the Central Florida area, please join what is always a GREAT FSMS event.

Don't forget our 66th Annual FSMS Conference is ON SCHEDULE for July 28 – 31, at the Sawgrass Marriott Resort, in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida. Conference packets have been sent out to all our members, and exhibitor packets have been sent to potential vendors for our exhibit hall.

Please plan on attending, and we have plenty of [SPONSORSHIP](#) opportunities to show off your business to your fellow Surveyors. We have a great list of CEU classes, and programs available for all levels of our profession. Some new classes being offered, include test prep for the NCEES Fundamentals of Surveying (FS), and Principles and Practice of Surveying (PS) tests, as well as CST testing. Please encourage your Surveyors in Training to consider the test prep, and survey technicians to consider CST testing.

On the legislative front the 2021 session came to a close last Friday, April 30. It looks like Surveying fared well. We had another run at rolling back our education and experience requirements for PSM licensure, but the proposed bill was defeated. This was a victory for FSMS, that happened because we have a great lobbyist, and a great legal committee that is always looking out for legislative attacks on our profession. This, and other issues are not going away, and we will be working hard before the next session to be prepared.

Hope to see YOU in July at YOUR conference!



---

## **President**

Hal Peters

(352) 304-9534

hpeters@gpinet.com

# FSMS SHOUT OUT



Above: Earl Soeder with the Steven Woods Exceptional Volunteer Award presented by FSMS in November 2020.

THANKS  
TO  
EARL SOEDER  
FOR  
BEING  
A  
VALUED  
MEMBER  
OF  
FSMS!

FSMS would like to recognize the consistent efforts of Earl Soeder, one of our most active members! Thank you, Earl for your dedication on behalf of the Surveying and Mapping profession.

# Conference Seminars

Wednesday, July 28<sup>th</sup>

**Seminar 1**

8:00 am —  
3:00 pm



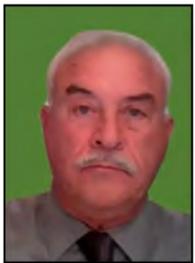
**Art of Retracement**  
**Course #10114 - 6 CEC's**  
**Gary Kent, PSM**

Every professional surveyor across the United States knows the phrase "Follow in the Footsteps" as it relates to conducting a boundary retracement survey. But what does it really mean and what is the basis for following the footsteps? And exactly whose footsteps are we talking about? Surveyors also know the effect of the statute of frauds is that what is written in the conveyancing document is considered by the courts to be the highest and best expression of the parties' intentions. But what happens when the evidence of the footsteps on the ground conflicts with the written title? What if there are seemingly no footsteps to follow? What then? In this program we will explore the concept of retracement, how it relates to and is dependent on the document of conveyance, and what controls when conflicts are inevitably encountered. When armed with a full understanding of the concept of retracement, surveyors will be much better equipped to help steer their clients (and their affected neighbors) away from the pain and cost of litigation, and towards an amicable solution based on well-placed confidence and understanding of their respective roles and responsibilities.

**Gary Kent** is a Professional Surveyor with Schneider Geomatics in Indianapolis. After 37 years, he transitioned to part-time status in 2020 and formed Meridian Land Consulting, LLC to provide training, consulting and expert witness services. Gary has served on the Indiana 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 also served as Chair of the Joint ALTA/NSPS Committee responsible for the ALTA/NSPS Standards since 1995. Gary has presented programs on easements and rights of way, survey standards, boundary law, and other surveying-related topics in all 50 states.

**Seminar 2**

8:00 am —  
3:00 pm



**Boundary Surveying Issues for Florida Surveyors**  
**Course #9331 - 6 CEC's — CE53**  
**David Melvin, PSM**

The seminar deals with boundary surveying in the State of Florida. Many surveyors all over the State of Florida make boundary surveys for their clients. Revisions made in July of 2018 in the wording of boundary survey standards in Florida have made boundary surveys a very topical subject. The revisions have brought to light the complexities involved in performing a boundary survey. In the opinions of many boundary surveyors the new wording in Florida's standards reflects an apparent reawakening to boundary surveying requirements which are based in the law. Florida surveyors need to reexamine their boundary surveying practices. This seminar provides an excellent opportunity to make such an examination of boundary surveying issues.

**David Melvin, PSM**, is a Professional Land Surveyor with over 40 years of experience in the surveying and mapping profession. He graduated from the University of Florida in 1981 with a degree focused on land surveying. In 2003 he started Land Pro Seminars, a board-certified continuing education provider for surveyors and engineers. David's chosen areas of expertise are land and water boundaries, floodplain mapping, jurisdictional wetlands, and land surveyors' regulatory issues.

Thursday, July 29<sup>th</sup>

**Seminar 1**

8:00 am —  
10:30 am



**Changes to ALTA Standards**  
**Course #10115 - 3 CEC's**  
**Gary Kent, PS**

After 2 years of work on the part of the Joint ALTA/NSPS Committee, the proposed 2021 ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey Standards were adopted in August, approved by ALTA and NSPS in October, and they became effective on February 23, 2021. This program will outline the many changes from the 2016 Standards and provide an explanation of what each means to the surveyor. In addition, an overview of the entire set of 2021 Standards will be provided including detailed explanation of the relationship between Land Title Surveys and title insurance. Finally, some common questions that arise in the process of performing a Land Title Survey will be discussed.

**Gary Kent** is a Professional Surveyor with Schneider Geomatics in Indianapolis. After 37 years, he transitioned to part-time status in 2020 and formed Meridian Land Consulting, LLC to provide training, consulting and expert witness services. Gary has served on the Indiana 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 also served as Chair of the Joint ALTA/NSPS Committee responsible for the ALTA/NSPS Standards since 1995. Gary has presented programs on easements and rights of way, survey standards, boundary law, and other surveying-related topics in all 50 states.

# Conference Seminars

Thursday, July 29<sup>th</sup>

Seminar I  
8:00 am —  
10:30 am



**Sea Level, Tidal Data & Water Boundaries**  
Course #9666 - 3 CEC's  
George Cole, PLS PE, PhD

This presentation will be based on a publication in development which will be a much updated version of the venerable WATER BOUNDARIES book (John Wiley & Sons, 1996) and will cover some interesting new twists.

The major topics will include the following: Sea Level Change, Tidal Variation and Datum Planes, Tidal Coastal Boundaries, Riparian and Littoral Boundaries, and Boundaries for Riparian and Littoral Rights.

**George M. Cole** is a professional surveyor, engineer, and geographer. His background includes directing hydrographic and geodetic surveys as a commissioned officer of the U.S. Coast & Geodetic Survey (now NOAA); service as the State Cadastral Surveyor for Florida; as a private consultant directing private surveying and mapping operations in both the United States and Latin America; as a visiting professor at the University of Puerto Rico; and currently continues as an adjunct professor at the Florida State University and at the University of Puerto Rico. In addition, he has served as technical advisor to several states on boundary issues; and has provided expert testimony to a number of local, state and federal courts. Dr. Cole has also made significant contributions to professional literature and is the author of several surveying textbooks (with notable examples being *Water Boundaries*, John Wiley & Sons, *Surveyor Reference Manual*, Professional Publications, and *Land Tenure, Boundary Surveying and Cadastral Systems* (with Don Wilson), CRC Press).

Wednesday & Thursday, July 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am—  
4:30 pm



**Fundamentals of Professional Surveying - SIT Prep Course**  
Course #10116 - 16 CEC's  
Dr. Stacey Lyle, RPLS

Interactive course following a workbook on the NCEES's Fundamentals of Surveying Exam. The Fundamentals of Surveying (FS) exam is generally the first step in the process to becoming a professional licensed surveyor (P.S.). The is designed for recent graduates and students who are close to finishing an undergraduate surveying degree from an ABET accredited program. This course will summarize the following: 1. Review FS Exam Format and Exam Taking Skills; 2. Math and Science of Professional Surveying; 3. History of Surveying; 4. Mapping Processes and Methods; 5. Boundary Construction Workflow; 6. Geodesy; 7. Photogrammetry/Hydrography; 8. Engineering Surveying; 9. Business Law; and 10. Fundamental of Surveying Exam Problem Solving

**Dr. Stacey Lyle, RPLS**, Associate Professor of Practice Texas A&M University College of Engineering and College of Geoscience where he teaches Surveying, Engineering, and Geosciences graduate and undergraduate courses. Dr. Lyle is a Licensed Professional Land Surveyor with 30 years of experience in Land Surveying, Geodesy, Hydrographic Surveying, and Photogrammetry with over 30 peer-review publication. He holds a BS in Engineering, a MS Computer Science, and a PhD in Geography. He has worked for Wimpol (Fugro Chance) as an offshore surveyor, for Leica Geosystems as GPS and Photogrammetry Expert, and Director of Machine Control, and was a Research Scientist with Conrad Blucher Institute for Surveying Science at Texas A&M University- Corpus Christi as an Associate Professor in the Geographic Information Science and Geospatial Engineering Programs. Dr. Lyle is the 2021-2022 ABET Engineering Accreditation Commission's Commissioner representing the National Society of Professional Surveyors. He is a former NASA Faculty Fellow, USDA Faculty Fellow, and NOAA NGS Honouree for work developing High Accuracy Reference Networks. And in 2013 he was invited to the United Nations for the Global Geospatial Information Management as the Energy Industry Representative. Dr. Lyle has testified as an expert witness on Federal and State court cases on Land Boundary/ Oil& Gas issues acted as an expert to industry to US Congress and US Senate, to the State of Texas Railroad Commission and to the Board of Professional Land Surveyors on regulations. He has also co-authored State regulatory Rules and Acts with State Boards. Currently, Dr. Lyle is a Subject Matter Expert with BP's onshore Lower 48 operation as the Survey Lead working with the new Technical Information Management team to drive business with Geospatial solutions and capabilities.

# Conference Seminars

## Saturday, July 31<sup>st</sup> (All Day Course)

8:30 am—  
3:00 pm



### Chapter 177

Course # 10113 - 6 CECs

Panel Discussion - Moderators: Richard Allen, PSM, CFM & Matt Kalus, PE, PSM

Panel to Discuss Proposing Changes to Florida Statutes Chapter 177.

The discussion will cover the history of FS 177 and what is the intent of the statute. Discussion will include proposed changes and what discussions there have been thus far and to gather additional positions on the legislation. The importance of subdividing and platting real property is becoming increasingly important as more development takes place in the state and the discussion on what is the purpose and what are the requirements become increasingly important. It must also be discussed that the use of the plat for legal or planning purposes outside of the platting of real property is becoming more prevalent and overburdensome as it has no place on the plat.

**Richard Allen, PSM, CFM**, is the City Surveyor for the City of Orlando. Richard has over 24 years of land surveying experience and has been with the City of Orlando for the last 15 years. He oversees the survey activities for the City of Orlando and manages the survey section. Richard is the Surveyors in Government Liaison for FSMS and is the Secretary for the Geospatial Users Group. In addition he is the Region 5 Director for the Florida Floodplain Managers Association representing Central Florida.

**Matt Kalus, PE, PSM**, is a Senior Surveyor and Mapper in the Development Engineering Division of Public Works for Orange County Government. Matt has extensive experience in surveying, mapping, GIS and engineering. His current role is the review and approval of subdivision plats and for development across Orange County. He has also worked for the Orange County Property Appraisers Office in the GIS Mapping section and for Lake County Government.

## Saturday, July 31<sup>st</sup> (2 Hr. Morning Segments)

8:30 am—  
10:10 am



### Data Fusion

Course #10106 — 2 CEC's

Craig Emrick, Sherry Grymko, Nick DiGruttolo

This course includes a brief summary of technologies used for data collection and how to fuse this data together to create a seamless dataset. Technologies included in this course are Airborne LiDAR, Terrestrial scanners and Single/Multi-Beam Hydrographic Surveying. The course is designed to provide an understanding of the various datasets created with different technologies (Air, Land, Water) and how to merge them together to provide the full topographic picture.

**Craig Emrick** is a native Floridian and has been involved in surveying since 1993 in both the public and private sectors statewide. He is a 2002 graduate of the University of Florida's Geomatics Program and is a licensed surveyor in the States of Florida and Alabama. Craig is Pickett's Vice President of Geospatial Services and is responsible for the management, execution, and quality control of various aerial surveying projects throughout the US and Caribbean.

**Sherry Grymko** has been involved in the surveying and mapping field since 2002 when she began her career at Pickett and Associates. She graduated from Penn State University with a Bachelor's in Surveying, and the University of Florida with a Master of Science in Geomatics in 2004. Her experience includes hydrographic surveys, boundary surveys, topographic surveys, ALTA/ACSM title surveys, "as-built" surveys, photogrammetric geodetic ground control, volume computations and GIS mapping. Ms. Grymko is the Survey Manager and Lead Project Surveyor for all hydrographic surveys and has extensive knowledge of single beam and multibeam hydrographic survey data collection and processing.

**Nick DiGruttolo** has been surveying since 1988 and spent 15 years working as a field crew chief for Sarasota County before moving to Gainesville to pursue his bachelors in Geomatics. After obtaining the bachelor's degree, Nick obtained surveying licenses in Florida, Georgia and Mississippi and completed a MSc and PhD with a concentration in geomatics while working for Northrop Grumman Advanced Geospatial Intelligence Operating Unit. At Northrop Grumman, Nick managed surveying and mapping projects mainly in support of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, which involved establishing control for LiDAR and photogrammetry projects and producing real estate base maps for Navy installations. Nick currently works for Pickett and Associates as a Survey Manager supporting electrical utility projects.

# Conference Seminars

Saturday, July 31<sup>st</sup> (2 Hr. Morning Segments)

8:30 am—  
10:10 am

**Updates on the Modernized NSRS (2022) and NGS Products**  
**Course # 10107- 2 CECs**  
**Denis Riordan, Gulf Coast Region Geodetic Advisor, NOAA, National Geodetic Survey (VIRTUAL)**

The National Geodetic Survey continues to work on the updated 2022 Datums for the U.S., now being called the "Modernization of the National Spatial Reference System" (NSRS). This presentation will provide updated information on the state of that NSRS modernization project, along with discussion on related NGS products such as, coordinated transformations using NCAT, deprecation of the U.S. Survey Foot, the NGS GPS on Benchmark project, and the latest on OPUS products.



**Denis Riordan**, has worked with the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) for the past 16 years and serves as the Geodetic Advisor for the NGS Gulf Coast Region (AL, FL, LA, & MS). He works to support those who use NGS products and services (products like the National Spatial Reference Frame (NSRS). He holds a B.S. Degree in Surveying and Mapping from the University of Florida, is a licensed surveyor in the State of Florida, and worked for over ten years with private industry in the field of land surveying prior to joining NGS

8:30 am —  
10:10 am

**Future of Florida Surveyors and Mappers**  
**Course #10108 — 2 CEC's**  
**Moderated by: Jack Breed**

**The Florida Surveyor and Mapper**

- ... A Professional?
- ... .. A Tradesman?
- ... .. Licensed or Certified?
- ... .. Educated, Experienced and Tested?
- ... .. The Grandfathered Majority or the Educated Minority?
- ... .. Two-tiered license?



Jack Breed will serve as the Moderator of a no-holds-barred, no-sacred-cows group discussion of the future of our grand old Profession (Trade?) This is not for the timid, and it's most certainly not a time for poor manners. Join in the mutual respect and camaraderie of your fellow Surveyors and let's hash it out. If you are not a member, pay your dues before offering your opinion!

**J.N. "Jack" Breed, P.L.S.** is a Fellow, Life Member, and Past President of the Florida Surveying and Mapping Society, and currently serves our profession as the Chairman of both the Legal and Legislative Committees. Mr. Breed is a High Honors graduate of the University of Florida College of Engineering, with a 1982 Bachelor's Degree in Land Surveying. In addition to being one of the Founders of CivilSurv Design Group, Inc., he is an Adjunct Instructor in the School of Forest, Fisheries and Geomatics Sciences (FFGS) in the University of Florida's College of Agriculture & Life Sciences. He is a Florida-licensed Professional Surveyor and Mapper (LS4089), an FDACS BPSM approved Continuing Education Provider (CE77), and serves on the UF Geomatics Program Advisory Committee and the FFGS Advisory Board. The grandfather of a sixth-generation Floridian, Mr. Breed is active in many arenas, including serving as an Elder and Bible Instructor in the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, Founding Chairman of the Geneva Classical Academy, and holding active memberships in the National Society of Professional Surveyors, the Lakeland Chamber of Commerce, the Ridge League of Cities, the Lakes Management Society, the Sebring Historical Society, the Coastal Conservation Association, Ducks Unlimited, and the National Rifle Association. Mr. Breed is the CC&BW for the world-renowned Grove In The Swamp Barbecue Team, and a Life Ambassador for Maker's Mark.

Mr. Breed's 40+ years of experience has included leading all phases of infrastructure planning and development in Surveying and Mapping, Engineering, Environmental Sciences, Planning, Design, Agency Permitting, and Construction Management. His career has focused on Public Infrastructure projects. As a Professional Surveyor and Mapper, he has been responsible for route/right-of-way, sectional retracement, boundary, construction, topographic, hydrographic and geodetic control surveys for roadways, electric transmission lines, transportation projects, land acquisition / conservation projects, watershed modeling, and commercial and residential developments. Mr. Breed's credentials as an Educator combined with his expertise in resolution of complex boundary and title problems has established him as an Expert Witness throughout the State of Florida, particularly in eminent domain proceedings and professional practices issues.

# Conference Seminars

Saturday, July 31<sup>st</sup> (2 Hr. Mid-Morning Segments)

10:30 am —  
12:10 pm

**Standards of Practice**  
**Course #10109 - 2 CEC's**  
**Howard Ehmke II**

This course will look at the Standards of Practice



**Howard Ehmke, PSM** earned his Associate in Science Degree in Land Surveying from Palm Beach Junior College in 1979 and an Associate in Arts Degree in Building Construction from Palm Beach Junior College in 1973. Mr. Ehmke earned his Florida Professional Surveyor and Mapper License in 1985 (License number 4191). He has worked for the South Florida Water Management District for the past 46 years. In 1999 he was a co Project Manager for the CERP Geodetic Vertical Control Project a joint survey control project of the Army Corps of Engineers and the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD). In 2008 he served as President of the Indian River Chapter of the Florida Surveying and Mapping Society (FSMS). He also served as chairman of the Florida Surveying and Mapping Council for FSMS. Worked at the South Florida Water Management District for 45+ years. Member of the Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers from 2009-2017. FSMS District 3 Board Member 2020-

10:30 am —  
12:10 pm

**Human Performance & Safety**  
**Course #10110 — 2 CEC's**  
**Greg Prather, PSM**

This discussion will focus on safety and how human performance tools can improve workplace safety, or can they?



**Gregory A. Prather, PSM** is the Vice President of Surveying and the Company Safety Officer for Pickett and Associates, Inc. Mr. Prather began his career with Pickett in 1983 and became a Florida Registered Surveyor in 1992, later he became a company partner in 2003. Gregory has extensive field and office experience and is a hands-on leader. He has held several positions at the Chapter level of FSMS and currently the District 4 Director. He remains an active member of FSMS and is Chair of the Education Committee and a member of the Ethics and Professional Practice Committee.

10:30 am —  
12:10 pm

**Professionalism & Ethics**  
**Course #9391— 2 CEC's**  
**Robin Petzold, PSM**

This course will introduce attendees to all aspects of professionalism and ethics. Surveyors and mappers need to know, understand, and execute the highest levels of professionalism and ethics. Attendees will learn tips and answers to solving ethical problems.



**Robin Petzold** recently retired after 40 years in the surveying industry. He was a senior partner with the firm of Wantman Group, Inc. headquartered in West Palm Beach with offices throughout the country. In addition, he served on the Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers from 2010 to 2018 and continues to serve on the Probable Cause Panel as a past Board member. Robin currently serves on the EPS committee and has served on several past Committees including Surveying Task Force, PAKS, Education, National Surveying Award to name a few with The National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying

Mr. Petzold currently holds degrees in Business, Land Surveying, and Animal Science. He began surveying in 1981 while studying Land Surveying at Palm Beach Junior College, which eventually became Palm Beach State College. While attending school and working full time, he also served as an adjunct faculty instructor at PBSC in the surveying program from 1982 to 1994, teaching basic surveying, route geometrics, and measurement science. Mr. Petzold holds surveying licenses in Florida, Alabama, Ohio, Iowa, and Wisconsin.

# Conference Seminars

Saturday, July 31<sup>st</sup> (2 Hr. Afternoon Segments)

1:30 pm —  
3:00 pm



**Trimble Connect - Spectra Central Cloud Services**  
**Course #10118 - 2 CEC's - CE91**  
**Earl Soeder, PSM**

This course will go over Trimble connect / Spectra Central Cloud services – How to create account, set up account and implement for field to office contactless data transfer. Also configuring hardware i.e. Base & Rover internet data collection including best practices. We will discuss best practices as well as warnings “things not to do” procedures.

**Earl Soeder** is a licensed Professional Surveyor & Mapper and Registered in Florida and has been surveying for 36 years. Earl has been deeply involved in many aspects of surveying from GPS/Hydrographic to Control Surveys. His unique experience led him to teaching surveying as an associate scientist at Florida Atlantic University Geospatial department as well as community colleges throughout Florida. A member of FSMS (Florida Surveying and Mapping Society), he has given back to his profession through education and volunteering in many trade associations. Earl is well versed in all Trimble & Spectra products from Surveying/Engineering Systems to Mapping grade products

1:30 pm —  
3:00 pm



**Aerial Mapping & Accuracy**  
**Course #10111 — 2 CEC's**  
**Jason Heywood**

This discussion will focus on safety and how human performance tools can improve workplace safety, or can they?

**Jason Heywood** is the President of DroneView Technologies. An aerial mapping and geospatial services company based in Southeast Michigan. He is an ASPRS Certified Photogrammetrist (CP) a Florida Professional Surveyor and Mapper (PSM) and is a Virginia licensed Surveyor Photogrammetrist (SP). He earned his Bachelor's degree at Staffordshire University in England, and his Master's degree at Eastern Michigan University. He is an active member of several national and state professional geospatial organizations and is the Past-President of the Eastern Great Lakes Region of the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing [ASPRS]. His 25 years of experience providing aerial mapping and geospatial services include projects for federal, state, municipal and private clients.

1:30 pm —  
3:00 pm



**PLS vs. Metes & Bounds States**  
**Course #10112— 2 CEC's**  
**Sam Hall, PSM**

Meets, Bounds, Meanders, and Public Lands

A Comparison of Meets and Bounds vs the Public Land Survey System

This course will discuss the history of each system including the challenges that led to the Land Act of 1785, the order of calls, retracement challenges in each system, and various differences between Florida boundary law and various regions within the 13 Colonial States.

**Sam Hall, PSM** has 22 years of experience, the majority of which has been spent supporting public infrastructure development in the southeast region in the U.S. He is licensed as a professional surveyor in Florida, Maine, and New Hampshire. His experience covers a broad range of surveying and mapping aspects, including traditional boundary retracement, GNSS positioning, remote sensing, and subsurface utility engineering surveys. He's currently a Vice President at DRMP, Inc., a multidiscipline engineering consulting firm headquartered in Orlando, Florida.

# Around the State



## Greetings Gator Surveyors!

And.... Welcome to the School of Forest, Fisheries and Geomatic Sciences! I cannot say that out loud without a tear in my eye and a catch in my voice, thinking about Dr. David W. Gibson's dream for our program.

And.... Special thanks to our Director, Dr. Red Baker for investing his time in our Cedar Key Lab. Getting an old Forester out of the woods and down to the beach is hard to accomplish.

And... Thanks to the 2021 SUR4430 Class for a well-organized and enjoyable day in Cedar Key, you folks are a great group! (Even though you didn't offer a hot dog to me and Sandy)

And... MVP award to Tim Jaskiewicz for providing thorough instruction in data collection techniques. Someone should forward this message to his boss, Red Mike Jones, and push for Wood to give Tim a big raise.

And... significant bonus points to Jake Harris for taking a Marina-Crap-Bath in that bottom-snot.



Go Gators!

Jack Breed





# ***REGISTRATION OPEN!***

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FSMS Conference!***



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presented by Dr. Stacey Lyle, RPLS, Associate Prof. of Practice, Texas A&M University College of Engineering and College of Geosciences



# SIT prep course

16 CEU's

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ON-SITE REGISTRATION

Pre-registration recommended  
On-site registrants accepted  
upon space availability



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## DAY ONE - WORKBOOK TECHNICAL REVIEW

1. Workbook Introduction  
NCEES Exam Format
2. Surveying Mathematics
3. History of Surveying
4. Geodesy and GNSS
5. Photogrammetry and  
Mapping
6. Topographic Surveying
7. Boundary Surveying
8. Route Surveying

## DAY TWO - ANALYTICAL REVIEW

1. PLSS and Metes/Bounds
2. Contract Law
3. Business Concepts
4. Transfer of Ownership
5. Boundary Law
6. Boundary Construction
7. Exam Practice Questions
8. Exam Practice Questions

## MATERIALS ONLY

if you are unable to attend the seminar, the course materials are available for purchase. Visit [www.GeoScholar.com](http://www.GeoScholar.com) to order.

# Conference Schedule 2021

## Wednesday, July 28

7:00am - 5:00pm	Conference Registration Desk Open	<i>Masters Reg. Desk</i>
7:30am - 8:00am	Seminar Sign In	<i>Masters Reg. Desk</i>
8:00am - 10:00am	<b>Seminar / Meeting - Session 1</b> <b>Art of Retracement</b> Course #10114 - 6 CEC Hours Instructor: Gary Kent, PSM	<i>Masters ABCD</i>
8:00am - 10:00am	<b>Seminar / Meeting Session 2</b> <b>Boundary Surveying Issues for Florida Surveyors</b> Course #9331 - 6 CEC Hours - CE53 Instructor: David Melvin, PSM	<i>Masters E</i>
8:00am - 10:00am	<b>Seminar - 2 Day Course (Day 1)</b> <b>Fundamentals of Prof. Surveying</b> Course #10116 - 16 CEC Hours Instructor: Dr. Stacey Lyle, RPLS	<i>Players B &amp; C</i>
10:00am - 10:15am	Break (All seminars)	<i>Masters Foyer</i>
10:15am - 11:45am	<b>Seminar / Meeting - Session 1</b> <b>Art of Retracement</b> Course #10114 - 6 CEC Hours Instructor: Gary Kent, PSM	<i>Masters ABCD</i>
10:15am - 11:45am	<b>Seminar / Meeting Session 2</b> <b>Boundary Surveying Issues for Florida Surveyors</b> Course #9331 - 6 CEC Hours - CE53 Instructor: David Melvin, PSM	<i>Masters E</i>
10:15am - 11:45am	<b>Seminar - 2 Day Course (Day 1)</b> <b>Fundamentals of Prof. Surveying</b> Course #10116 - 16 CEC Hours Instructor: Dr. Stacey Lyle, RPLS	<i>Players BC</i>
11:45am - 1:00pm	Lunch on your own (All seminars)	
1:00pm - 3:00pm	<b>Seminar / Meeting - Session 1</b> <b>Art of Retracement</b> Course #10114 - 6 CEC Hours Instructor: Gary Kent, PSM	<i>Masters ABCD</i>
1:00pm - 3:00pm	<b>Seminar / Meeting Session 2</b> <b>Boundary Surveying Issues for Florida Surveyors</b> Course #9331 - 6 CEC Hours - CE53 Instructor: David Melvin, PSM	<i>Masters E</i>
1:00pm - 3:00pm	<b>Seminar - 2 Day Course (Day 1)</b> <b>Fundamentals of Prof. Surveying</b> Course #10116 - 16 CEC Hours Instructor: Dr. Stacey Lyle, RPLS	<i>Players BC</i>
3:00pm - 3:15pm	Break (All seminars)	<i>Masters Foyer</i>
3:15pm - 4:30pm	<b>Seminar - 2 Day Course (Day 1)</b> <b>Fundamentals of Prof. Surveying</b> Course #10116 - 16 CEC Hours Instructor: Dr. Stacey Lyle, RPLS	<i>Players BC</i>
3:15pm - 4:30pm	Surveying & Mapping Council	<i>Heritage ABC</i>
4:30pm - 5:00pm	Executive Committee Meeting	<i>Heritage DE</i>
6:00pm - 9:00pm	BBQ Dinner ("Wednesday" arm band <i>required</i> )	<i>Masters ABCDE</i>
8:00pm - 10:00pm	Cornhole Tournament (Sign up at Registration Desk)	<i>Masters ABCDE</i>

## Thursday, July 29

7:00am - 5:00pm	Conference Registration Desk Open	<i>Masters Reg. Desk</i>
7:30am - 8:00am	Seminar Sign In	<i>Masters Reg. Desk</i>
8:00am - 10:30am	<b>Seminar / Meeting - Session 1</b> <b>Changes in ALTA Standards</b> Course #10115 - 3 CEC Hours Instructor: Gary Kent, PSM	<i>Masters ABCD</i>

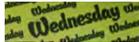
# Conference Schedule 2021

8:00am - 10:30am	<b>Seminar / Meeting Session 2</b> <b>Sea Level, Tidal Data, and Water Boundaries</b> <i>Masters E</i> Course #9666 - 3 CEC Hours Instructor: George Cole, PLS, PE, PhD	
8:00am - 10:30am	<b>Seminar - 2 Day Course (Day 2)</b> <b>Fundamentals of Prof. Surveying</b> <i>Players BC</i> Course #10116 - 16 CEC Hours Instructor: Dr. Stacey Lyle, RPLS	
10:30am - 10:45am	Break (All seminars)	<i>Masters Foyer</i>
10:45am - 11:45am	<b>Seminar - 2 Day Course (Day 2)</b> <b>Fundamentals of Prof. Surveying</b> <i>Players BC</i> Course #10116 - 16 CEC Hours Instructor: Dr. Stacey Lyle, RPLS	
10:45am - 11:15am	Depart for Topgolf (Green arm band <i>required</i> )	<i>Off-Site Venue</i>
11:45am - 1:00pm	Lunch on your own	<i>Off-Site Venue</i>
12:00pm - 4:00pm	Exhibitor/Vendor Set-Up	<i>Champions ABCDE</i>
1:00pm - 3:00pm	<b>Seminar - 2 Day Course (Day 2)</b> <b>Fundamentals of Prof. Surveying</b> <i>Players BC</i> Course #10116 - 16 CEC Hours Instructor: Dr. Stacey Lyle, RPLS	
3:00pm - 3:15pm	Break	<i>Masters Foyer</i>
3:15pm - 4:30pm	<b>Seminar - 2 Day Course (Day 2)</b> <b>Fundamentals of Prof. Surveying</b> <i>Players BC</i> Course #10116 - 16 CEC Hours Instructor: Dr. Stacey Lyle, RPLS	
3:30pm - 4:00pm	Return from Topgolf	
4:00pm - 4:10pm	Exhibit Hall Grand Opening	<i>Champions ABCDE</i>
4:10pm - 5:30pm	Exhibitor Reception ("Attendee" badge <i>required</i> )	<i>Champions ABCDE</i>
6:00pm - 8:00pm	Legislative Reception	<i>Arbor Ballroom</i>
9:00am - 12:00am	Game Night	<i>Arbor Ballroom</i>
<b><u>Friday, July 30</u></b>		
7:00am - 5:00pm	Conference Registration Desk Open	<i>Masters Reg. Desk</i>
7:00am - 8:00am	Breakfast (FSMS Members Only)	<i>Heritage CDE</i>
7:30am - 8:00am	General Business Session - Sign-In	<i>Masters ABCDE</i>
7:30am - 5:00pm	Exhibit Hall Open	<i>Champions ABCDE</i>
8:00am - 9:30am	General Business Session	<i>Masters ABCDE</i>
9:30am - 10:00am	Break (General Business Session)	<i>Masters ABCDE</i>
10:00am - 12:00pm	General Business Session	<i>Masters ABCDE</i>
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Exhibitor Luncheon ("Admit One" arm band <i>required</i> )	<i>Champions H</i>
1:00pm - 3:00pm	FDOT - Town Hall ( <i>Open to all</i> )	<i>Champions FG</i>
2:00pm - 5:00pm	NSPS	<i>Champions H</i>
3:00pm - 4:00pm	Geospatial Users Group	<i>Champions FG</i>
4:00pm - 5:00pm	Surveyors in Government	<i>Heritage ABC</i>
6:30pm - 7:00pm	Cocktail Reception	<i>Masters ABCDE</i>
7:00pm - 10:00pm	Recognition Dinner (VIP or Smiley Face (child) arm band <i>required</i> )	<i>Masters ABCDE</i>
10:00pm - 11:00pm	President's Reception	<i>Cascades Deck</i>
<b><u>Saturday, July 31</u></b>		
7:00am - 12:00pm	Conference Registration Desk Open	<i>Masters Reg. Desk</i>
7:30am - 11:00am	Exhibit Hall Open	<i>Champions ABCDE</i>
8:00am - 5:00pm	Certified Survey Technician (CST) Exam	<i>Masters C</i>
8:00am - 8:30am	Seminar Sign-In	<i>Each Classroom</i>
	<b><u>Saturday Tech Sessions</u></b> ( <i>Registration Required</i> )	
8:30am - 10:10am	<b>All Day Session</b> <b>Chapter 177</b> <i>Masters D</i> Course #10113 - 6 CEC Hours Panel Discussion - Moderator: Richard Allen	

# Conference Schedule 2021

8:30am - 10:10am	<b>Morning Segments</b>	<b>Data Fusion</b> <i>Masters E</i>
		Course #10106 - 2 CEC Hours Instructors: Craig Emrick, PSM, Sherry Grymko, PSM, Nick DiGruttolo, PSM
		<b>Updates on the Modernized NSRS (2022) and NGS Products</b> <i>Heritage AB</i>
		Course #10107 - 2 CEC Hours Instructor: (Virtual) Denis Riordan, NOAA, NGS
10:10am – 10:30am		<b>Future of Florida Surveyors and Mappers</b> <i>Heritage CDE</i>
		Course #10108, 2 CEC Hours Group Discussion - Moderator: Jack Breed, PSM
10:30am - 12:10pm	<b>Mid-Morning Segments</b>	<b>Standards of Practice</b> <i>Masters E</i>
		Course #10109 - 2 CEC Hours Instructor: Howard Ehmke II, PSM
		<b>Human Performance &amp; Safety</b> <i>Heritage AB</i>
		Course #10110 - 2 CEC Hours Instructor: Greg Prather, PSM
		<b>Professionalism &amp; Ethics</b> <i>Heritage CDE</i>
		Course #9391 - 2 CEC Hours Instructor: Robin Petzold, PSM
12:10pm – 1:30pm		Lunch ( <i>On Your Own</i> )
1:30pm - 3:00pm	<b>Afternoon Segments</b>	<b>Trimble Connect - Spectra Central Cloud Services</b> <i>Masters E</i>
		Course #10118 - 2 CEC Hours Instructor: Earl Soeder, PSM
		<b>Aerial Mapping &amp; Accuracy</b> <i>Heritage AB</i>
		Course #10111 - 2 CEC Hours Instructor: Jason Heywood, PSM, ASPRS CP, SP
		<b>PLS vs. Metes &amp; Bounds States</b> <i>Heritage CDE</i>
		Course #10112 - 2 CEC Hours Instructor: Sam Hall, PSM
3:15pm – 5:00pm		Board Meeting <i>Champions FG</i>

## Event Armband & Ticket Guide

<u>Wednesday</u> -	Welcome BBQ:	Wednesday Armband	
		Yellow Drink Ticket	
<u>Thursday</u> -	Topgolf:	Green Armband	
	Exhibitor Reception:	<b>Red</b> or <b>Green</b> Name Badge <i>Required</i>	
	Legislative Reception:	Flag Armband	
<u>Friday</u> -	Exhibitor Luncheon:	Admit One Armband	
	Banquet - Adult:	VIP Armband	
	Banquet - Child:	Smiley Face Armband	

# **NEED TO TAKE THE CST EXAM?**



**What:** CST (paper) exam  
**Where:** FSMS Conference at the  
Sawgrass Marriott Resort  
**When:** July 31<sup>st</sup>, 8 a.m.

**Advance Registration Required!**

[Click Here:](#)

[Deadline for application submittal to NSPS is  
July 10th](#)

**Questions?**

Contact Alex Jenkins  
p: (407) 292-8580 ext. 2209  
[ajenkins@southeasternsurveying.com](mailto:ajenkins@southeasternsurveying.com)

# FSMS Pioneer Alvin T. Glover

By: Laura Levine



Members:  
Member



One of the most notable qualities about Alvin Gloer is that while his technical skills are exceptional, he is a humble man who doesn't quite see how his life could make for an interesting feature article. However, once the layers of his life are peeled back, many engaging stories are revealed, from multiple cross-country moves, a whirlwind romance, and overseeing the development of a game-changing website for surveyors, one quickly realizes that humble certainly does not equal boring.

## Early Influences

Alvin Thomas Gloer was born in Atlanta, GA on March 31, 1941, to Alton Gloer and Alma Cape Gloer. He had two brothers and one sister.

Their family lived all over the United States due to his father's military career. His Dad's home base during the Korean War was in Oahu, HI where Alvin, his mother, and siblings stayed while his father was in Korea. Alvin and his older brother, Alton Jr. lived with their Dad in Hawaii after the war.

"When I was about 12 years old, Dad was deployed to Germany. My stepmother took me and my brother to Atlanta to see Mom before we were to leave for Germany. We never left Mom's home after that until we were grown," said Alvin.

During Alvin's senior year at Russell High School in East Point, GA, he joined the Seabees, a Construction Battalion unit of the U. S. Navy Reserves. After he graduated in 1959, he was called to active duty on his birthday and joined Mobile Construction Battalion Ten on Guam. It was during his time in the Navy that Alvin trained as a land surveyor.

"I was a rodman on a survey crew building ammo magazines and base housing. My most memorable event was getting lost in the jungle on an overnight bivouac that took two days to find my way out," says Alvin.

Upon Alvin's return to the states in 1960, he came home on leave at Christmas and was introduced to his future wife, Shirley in Fort Pierce, FL. She was working with his mother Alma who set up the pair for a date for New Year's Eve.

They had a whirlwind romance and only seven days later eloped to Kingsland, GA to wed on January 8, 1961. They have been married for 60 years and have one son, Alvin T. Gloer, II, aka "Tommy" who was born in 1969.

After Alvin served his term in the Navy Seabees, the Gloer's moved to West Palm Beach, FL where Alvin worked for 10 years with a prominent survey and engineering firm while he also studied to become licensed.

## Licensure & A Dream Job

Alvin says of his time studying for licensure, "I attended Palm Beach Junior College, taking survey classes under a young new teacher named David Gibson. Our paths would cross often over the next 50 years. I worked my way up to party chief while studying for the LS exam. I studied mostly nights at home and in July 1971, I passed the test for my PLS."

The same year he became licensed, he also joined FSMS, then known as the Florida Society of Professional Land Surveyors. He has kept his membership current every year since and is one of the very few members who can boast of 50 years of consecutive membership in our society.

In January of 1972, Alvin managed the survey department for Marion Oaks, a new 16,000-acre subdivision being developed by the Deltona Corporation in Marion County, Ocala, FL.

During Alvin's employment in Ocala, he and Jimmy Chambers helped form the North Central Florida Chapter of FSMS. They coordinated with Bob Wigglesworth in Gainesville and elected him their first president and Alvin the first vice-president.

In a fitting full-circle moment, Alvin's former teacher, Dr. David Gibson had moved to the University of Florida during this time and became active in their chapter.

After 3 years Alvin obtained his Georgia surveyors license and began working as a project manager on the high-precision control surveys for the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority with Towill Inc.

In 1975 that job led to a position as Assistant Office Manager of the Towill Inc. office in Clinton, MO. There he obtained his Missouri license in August of 1975 and was responsible for a dependent resurvey of 163 land sections to be used for a dam reservoir.

"This was the land surveyor's dream job," Alvin said. "We proved section corners that had not been visited since being set in the 1840s. I would do the field survey of a township at a time then come into the office and do the calculations while the office manager, who also was licensed LS would do the fieldwork for another township. After the section boundaries were determined we staked and monumented the reservoir boundary."

Moving to Missouri turned out to be a pivotal change for the Gloers. Alvin said, "I was living in a motel for about 3 months while waiting on my family to sell our Ocala house and join me. In moving to a town where I knew no one I was drawn to a small Christian church across from the motel. I started attending on Sundays and Wednesdays and when my family joined me, we continued our attendance. Through that church, we made friends that lasted a lifetime even though we were only there for about 3 years. We kept in touch and when our friends from church would come to Florida, they always called us and visited."

"Twenty years later we had the opportunity to visit Missouri and visited our old friends. The same Sunday school class was still meeting with all our old friends. They had a dinner in our honor, and it was like we had never left. That was one of the highlights of our lives. We never made another move that we didn't prioritize finding a church community right away," said Alvin.

An opportunity came up for Alvin at a firm in Ocala and they reluctantly left Missouri in 1977, returning to Ocala for the second time. Overall, the Gloer's moved to Ocala three times in their life and Alvin's wife Shirley says they aren't moving away again!

There, Alvin worked as the Survey and Office Manager for Brownell, Moger, and Associates, a practice which he soon took over and ran from about 1979 until 1995.

It was in 1979 that Alvin formed his own firm and hired Kelly Roberts to be his Survey and Office Manager. This was only the second position Kelly had been in and it turned out to be a fruitful one full of learning opportunities.

Their department was one of the first firms to have a desktop computer, the TRS 80, which was a truly robust piece of technology at the time, holding 64KB of memory capacity and a pen plotter.

Although Kelly and Alvin were not usually out in the field together, there is one moment that sticks out in Kelly's mind which illustrates Alvin's exemplary surveying skills. One day, they were out in Ocala National Forest looking for a section corner.

Kelly recalls, "This particular line that we were cutting was part of an effort to recover an old county monument that marked a section or ¼ section corner in or near the perimeter of the Ocala National Forest in SE Marion County. These old county monuments which were quite large (8" octagon concrete monuments, typically 4 feet in length with a brass cap) had been set by the Marion County Surveyor during the Depression utilizing funding under the Works Progress Administration (WPA) appropriated to keep folks working during that difficult time in American History. Retracement of the original government surveys (circa the 1830s and 1840s) for much of Marion County had occurred during this period."

"When looking back, this particular line that we had cut was through very thick vegetation and heavy overhead tree canopy making it extremely difficult to find our target. As I was running the gun, I had expressed to Alvin the difficulty of being able to see the target down that dark cut line. As part of Alvin's normal field gear, he had a handheld compass with a reflective mirror that was useful for signaling back in the day," Kelly said.

"The spot where we were set up with the instrument was in a small open area with little overhead tree canopy and we were bathed in a fair amount of sunlight," said Kelly. "Without disclosing what he was up to, Alvin pulled out his compass with the reflective mirror and after just a few seconds, managed to capture the sun's rays onto that mirror and reflect it down the dark cut line. Imagine my surprise when the prisms suddenly lit up as though a light switch had been magically thrown to light up the target."

From there they were able to quickly complete their series of positional angles and distance measurements to the target and could move up to continue their traverse in search of the monument, which they successfully recovered.

Alvin's career still held its share of challenges, as many seasoned surveyors can attest. His advice to Kelly held kernels of both truth and humor. "Pick something else as a career," Alvin said to Kelly on more than one occasion.

Despite the stressors of owning a business, Alvin was not the type to bring that stress into his home life. He treasured his time with his family and didn't allow outside circumstances to affect them.

His son Tommy remembers, "He is a very supportive dad. He did everything for our family. I didn't know a lot about how the business was doing, whether good or bad, because he didn't bring that stuff home. Business was business, family was family."

Alvin reflects on one of the best aspects of owning the firm, saying, "One of the most enjoyable times was when I had the opportunity to employ students from the survey program at UF as interns during their summers. I found this very fulfilling to be able to influence these young surveyors. There must have been a half dozen students that worked for me at various times. One of those students, David Melvin, has been a friend ever since and I often talk with him on survey matters."

David Melvin was referred to Alvin by his professor, Dr. David Gibson when Alvin needed a computer draftsman. Alvin's computer draftsman had left three weeks prior and when David arrived there was a pile 3-4 feet high of 3-wire leveling notes and he immediately started working through those.

"Alvin was very much of a technical kind of guy, probably one of the most technical surveyors that I had the pleasure of meeting back in those days. He was the first guy that had a computer in the community, and he had an HP-68, and he wrote programs for it," said David. "He always tried to stay on the cutting edge of technology. I would say that was one of his qualities is that he tries to stay on top of things."

## High Standards

During Alvin's early years, he participated in a committee chaired by Dr. Gibson, that developed the original Minimum Technical Standards (MTS).

Then as Dr. Gibson started teaching MTS seminars around the state, he asked the North Central Florida chapter to provide samples of real surveys to use as examples in his MTS seminars.

"I offered one, taken blindly from my file cabinet, that was widely used, and I am proud to say no one ever found a violation on that survey," said Alvin.

Upholding himself to high standards was a trait that Alvin always remained true to, even when the competition was tough. "My dad's word and his reputation have always been a big deal for him," said Tommy.

"I was looking at getting into surveying and my dad was getting underbid by people," Tommy said. "And I said, 'Dad, why don't we just find out what they bid, and we'll just bid \$50 less for each lot survey.' "And he said, 'Tommy, that's not how we do things. That's not the honest way of doing things. We have an unwritten code as surveyors that we price everything what it cost to do the job. It would be dishonest to do something like that.'"

Alvin's adherence to high standards and his strong integrity earned him quite a reputation. "In 1995 Terry Wilkerson visited my office and discussed a position open with the Department of Environmental Protection, Division of State Lands. He encouraged me to apply and when I asked about the salary, I thought I could not take that much of a cut, but later realized a sole proprietorship like mine was so volatile I might be better off at a position that had some retirement benefits. I put my business up for sale and sold it to the second person I approached, Diane Barrineau. Turns out it was the best move of my life," said Alvin.

David remembers that although there was stress during the ownership transition to Alvin, "Alvin handled it well, he was very adaptive to handling the situation, and Alvin's job was to run the office and keep the clients happy and that was not an easy job. He took it in stride and did very well with it."

Not only was Alvin influential to young surveyors like David, but he also had his son Tommy help out many times which had a profound impact on his life.

"My dad started me working with his company in the field when I was thirteen years old. It was cool and it gave me something to do during the summer. When I turned sixteen, I started running errands for him, going to pick up blueprints and dropping stuff off for people after school. During the summers, I was back out in the field," said Tommy. "I learned a lot about surveying, I learned a lot about life from the men that were on the crew. Most kids don't have that kind of experience. They have one or two men to look up to. I had three crews of three, so nine different guys to look up to."

Tommy received advice as well as many practical applications for life when he was out helping the crews. "I learned to drive in the crew trucks. The guys would be setting up stuff and they would say, 'go set those five monuments. Take the truck and drive out to the five points we just set and put those monuments in.'"

While Alvin was initially unsure of selling his business, he knew it was not destined to stay in the family. His son Tommy recalls, "His business was set up for me to go into it and I know that's what he wanted, but it just wasn't my thing. When I went into the Army, they made me an X-ray tech and I called my dad up and said, 'Guess what? I'm warm in the wintertime and cool in the summertime! I don't have mosquitos biting me or alligators trying to eat me.'"

## A Game Changer

Nick Campanile, a Board Member for Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers, said, "I first met Alvin when I worked at DEP. He came in not too long after me, I started in late 1994. He came in a year or two later. So, we both worked together at the Bureau of Surveying and Mapping, in the Division of State Land at DEP."

"What he brought with him was much experience in the surveying profession. Alvin is currently a consultant through the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. He is an expert survey reviewer for surveys that come through probation, that come before the Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers," said Nick.

At the State of Florida position, Alvin was hired to revamp the records of the Bureau of Survey and Mapping (BSM). On his first day, he was also assigned the Certified Corner Records (CCR) program, and along with that, LABINS (Land Boundary Information System).

According to the official LABINS site, "The Land Boundary Information System (LABINS) began in 1984 as a means for distributing survey-related data that is maintained and managed by federal and state agencies to the general surveying community. The original system was on main-frame computers that used dial-in modems for communications. The system soon migrated to the personal computer environment and delivered to surveyors on floppy disks and CD-ROM."

The program was developed by computer programmer Stephen Hodge who had been working at Florida State University under contract through the Florida Resources and Environmental Analysis Center (FREAC) Program to BSM. The CCRs were distributed by floppy disk and sold on a subscription of \$200 a year.

"It was sort of a nuisance program that no one wanted to manage because it was a law, for surveyors to file the records, but not enforceable. Participation was mostly voluntarily supported by surveyors and many simply ignored it. The distribution was very basic and cumbersome," Alvin said.

When Stephen proposed the idea to Alvin of posting all of this information online, Alvin recalls his initial skepticism. "One day after I started working with Stephen, he came to me and told me about this thing called the internet or WWW. He wanted to post our CCRs on a website. I told him I didn't see how this thing could ever last long! WRONG. We developed what is now widely known as LABINS.org."

Alvin felt that if he and Stephen were going to pull this off, they must distribute the information at no cost. Stephen confirms that as he and Alvin led the expansion of LABINS, Alvin was genuinely concerned about ensuring surveyors had access to the data.

"Alvin was eager, professional, and always stood by what he said. If something was in a file cabinet, Alvin wanted it out of there and in the system," said Stephen.

Stephen developed the site, and they originally posted the CCRs in a transcribed form. Soon Stephen was able to post an image of each CCR, so they eventually replaced the transcribed forms with images, which turned out to be much better and faster.

Alvin's responsibilities grew to include the state lands portion of the aerial photography program known as DOQQ (Digital Orthophotos Quarter Quadrangle.)

This was a program that partnered with the state's water management districts to fly aerial photos of the entire state on a 5-year rotation. These were provided to surveyors on request which Alvin eventually got permission to include on the LABINS site.

Next, he was given the Mean High Water (MHW) program when Doug Thompson retired, and they added the established MHW elevations and the formulas for computing MHW studies to LABINS.

"We continued to add information including digital photography and much more. When I left the state in 2007, it was the only site in the world that contained the volume of survey-related data available to surveyors for free," said Alvin.

## Active in Retirement

Faith and family continue to play essential roles in Alvin's life, with Alvin serving as an Elder and Bible school teacher as well as enjoying dinner with Tommy at least once a week.

"Well, I can tell you that he's the best dad still to this date that anybody could ask for," said Tommy. "He's a really good friend now instead of just my dad."

Alvin also continues his tireless dedication to surveying and still maintains his license and CEUs.

Despite some of the challenges that come with reviewing surveys, Alvin still collaborates with BPSM, analyzing surveys across the state for compliance with the MTS (now SOP) when a probable cause is determined after a complaint has been filed against a surveyor or survey firm. "Alvin comes to about every meeting and is still an active participant in expert survey reviews," said Nick Campanile.

Alvin said, "During this time, I have probably been one of the least favorite surveyors in the state. I take this responsibility seriously knowing that the result of my review can affect a surveyor's professional and financial life. It has been very challenging and even educational for me to see how the surveyors around the state approach a survey."

"My wife says during each case review, 'I don't know why you continue to do these reviews,' because of the time involved."

"My advice to the surveyor young and old is to never forget the first rule of surveying. 'Do every survey as if you will have to defend it in court!' I would amend that to read 'do every survey as if you will have to defend it to BPSM'."

"Records are the key to your professional life," Alvin said. "Most complaints are from clients that feel their surveyor has abandoned them."

It would be wise to heed this advice, keeping in mind that your surveys may one day undergo a review by the formidable yet fair, technically proficient, Alvin Gloer himself.

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M. King

President

Secretary

71 MEMBERSHIP

Florida Surveying & Mapping Society

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July 28-31  
66<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference



*Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa  
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Florida Surveying & Mapping Society

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- **Basics of Real Property, #8359, 3 CEC**
- **Digital Signatures for Surveyors, #8491, 3 CEC**
- **Easements and Rights of Ways, #9945, 3 CEC \*2020 UPDATED COURSE**
- **Elevation Certificates and the Community Rating System, #8257, 3 CEC \*2020 UPDATED COURSE**
- **Introduction to Photogrammetry, #7887, 3 CEC**
- **Quality Assurance/Quality Control for the Design Professional and Technical Staff, #9293, 3 CEC**
- **Writing Boundary Descriptions, #8361, 3 CEC \*2020 UPDATED COURSE**

### 6 Hour Courses Available

- **Boundaries in Florida, #7667, 6 CEC**
- **Chapter 177, Platting (Plat Law), #6970, 6 CEC**
- **Critical Communication for Surveying & Mapping Professionals, #7228, 6 CEC**
- **Ethics for the Design Professional, #8620, 6 CEC**
- **Florida Laws, #6966, 6 CEC**
- **Florida Surveying Law and Rule Changes, #9574, 6 CEC**
- **Geographic Information Systems (GIS), #7107, 6 CEC**
- **History of Surveying, #7108, 6 CEC**
- **Identification of Native and Non-Native Trees in Florida, #7874, 6 CEC \*2020 UPDATED COURSE**
- **Land Tenure and Cadastral Systems, #7829, 6 CEC**
- **Map Projections and Plane Coordinate Systems, #7669, 6 CEC**
- **Practical Geometry for Surveyors, #7109, 6 CEC**
- **Public Land Survey System, #6979, 6 CEC**
- **Remote Sensing Applications to Surveying & Mapping, #6972, 6 CEC**

# FSMS Correspondence Courses

FSMS Member

## Step 2: Choose Member Type

<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 _____ = \$ _____	
<b>TOTAL</b>			\$ _____

Non-Member

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6 CEC	\$145 Per Course	x _____ = \$ _____	
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<b>TOTAL</b>			\$ _____

Non-Licensed in ANY State

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<i>MAILED</i>			
6 CEC	\$110 Per Course	x _____ = \$ _____	
3 CEC	\$70 Per Course	x _____ = \$ _____	
<b>TOTAL</b>			\$ _____

## Step 3: Payment Information

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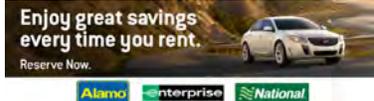
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# 2021 eLearning Courses

## **6 General CEC - \$99/course (members) \$120/course (non-members)**

- Professional Ethics & Professional Courtesy FULL Video - Course #8363
- Georgia Technical Standards for Property Surveys- Course #8554
- History of Surveying - Course #7140
- Identification of Native & Non-Native Trees in Florida - Course #8132
- Ethics for the Design Professional - Course #8621
- Land Tenure & Cadastral Systems - Course # 8260
- Map Projections & Plane Coordinate Systems - Course #8261
- Mean High Water Observations & Computations - Course #8262
- Public Land Survey System - Course #7147
- Remote Sensing Applications to Surveying & Mapping - Course #7148
- Practical Geometry for Surveyors - Course #7141

## **3 General CEC - \$49/course (members) \$70/course (non-members)**

- Basics of Real Property - Course #8360
- Contracts for the Professional- Course #8412
- Elevation Certificates & the Community Rating System - Course #8256
- Introduction to Photogrammetry - Course #7968
- Writing Boundary Descriptions - Course #8362

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# FROM THE



# ARCHIVES



# University of Miami #1 in Surveying Competition

by Michael J. Whitting, PSM

University of Miami didn't have their best football season or basketball season, but the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Student Organization can make claim to having won the Surveying Competition at the ASCE 2010 Southeastern Student Conference. Twenty-four Universities with Engineering Programs from Florida, Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee participate each year in the conference which includes 15 different competitions including; concrete canoe, bridge building, concrete beam, geotechnical competition and surveying. The objective of this year's competition was to use historic means to measure horizontal angles and distances, something that I, as an Adjunct Professor and Surveying Competition Advisor, have always taught as part of my Surveying classes. The qualifying event was pacing an unknown distance



tance. Another 30 minutes was given (after the angles and distances were determined) to finalize calculations and submit their survey. The judges then ranked the teams based on the following criteria:

1. Linear misclosure and accuracy (80%)
2. Quality of the survey and field notes (20%)
- 3.

The University of Miami actually qualified 1<sup>st</sup> in pacing being only tenths of a foot from the actual distance. This sent them into

the finals. Before the final competition, the students consulted with me to implement a strategy for taking home the gold. The strategy became a reality when UM was called up to the stage to receive the first place plaque. UM ASCE also took home 2<sup>nd</sup> place for Crash Attenuator Competition, 3<sup>rd</sup> place for the Environmental Competition, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place for the Visual Display Competition. UM ASCE has continued their trend of progress as they have moved from an overall ranking of 15<sup>th</sup> in 2007, 12<sup>th</sup> in 2008, 9<sup>th</sup> in 2009 and now 4<sup>th</sup> overall in 2010. Most importantly, UM also took home the Spirit Award, given to the school with the most spirit during the entire conference. Congratulations to the University of Florida for being the overall ASCE Southeast Conference Champions for the fifth year in a row, but in the Surveying competition, University of Miami is number one!



and the top five college teams closest to the actual distance would move on to the finals.

The final event was to measure the angles and distances of a six sided traverse without instrumentation and submit a survey drawn to scale with bearings and distances. Field notes, in standard surveying format, must also be submitted along with adjustments and methodology used. Each college team then was given no more than 15 minutes to determine each angle and dis-





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- **Social Benefits** - Attend local chapter meetings to meet individuals with common goals

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<b>Legislative Committee</b>	Jack Breed
<b>Surveying &amp; Mapping Council</b>	Randy Tompkins
<b>Constitution &amp; Resolution Advisory Committee</b>	Eric Stuart

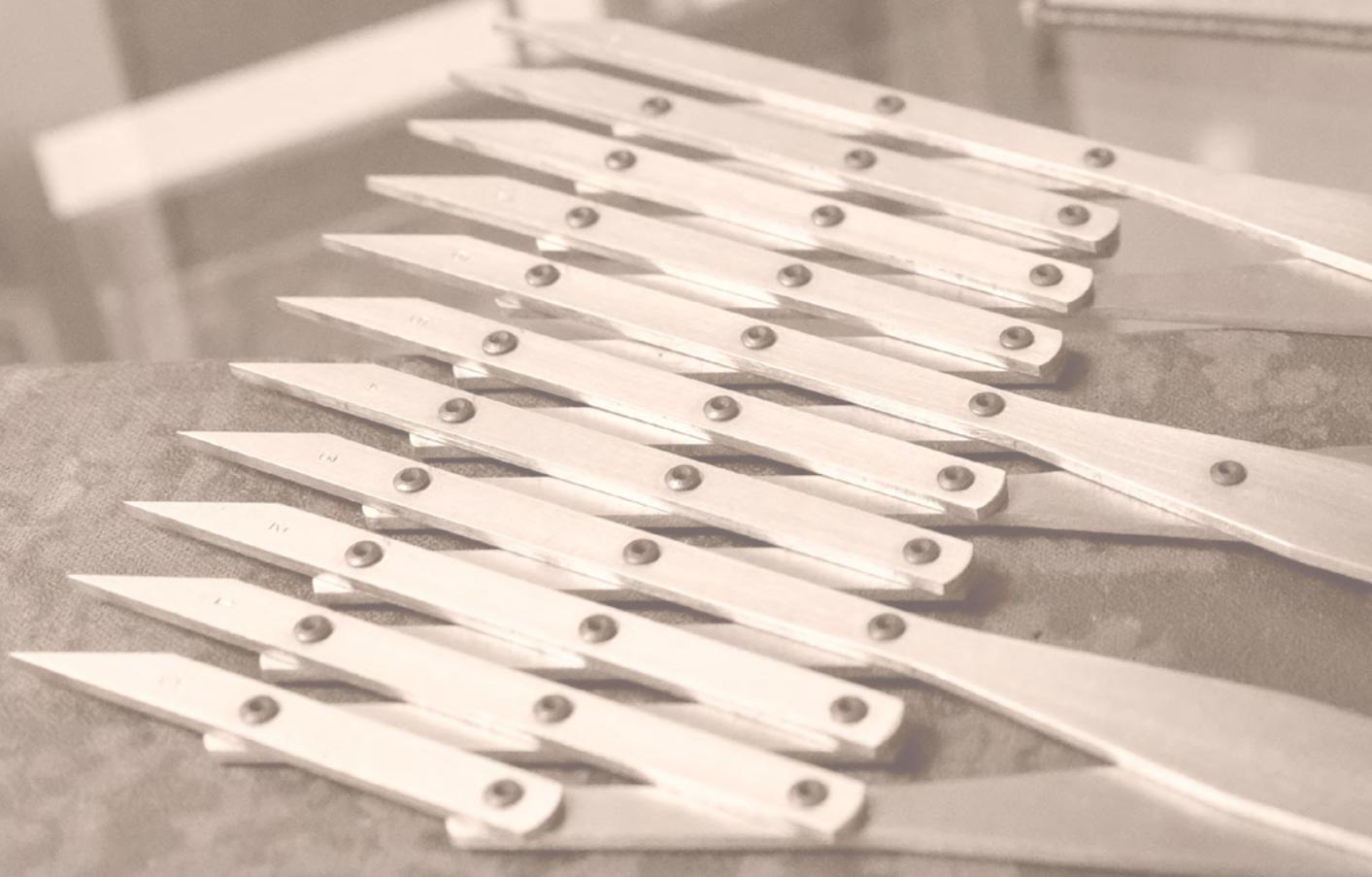
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<b>UF Alumni Recruiting Committee</b>	Russell Hyatt
<b>Professional Practice Committee</b>	Lou Campanile, Jr.

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<b>Surveyors in Government</b>	Richard Allen
<b>Academic Advisory UF</b>	Bon Dewitt
<b>FES</b>	Lou Campanile, Jr.

## Practice Sections

<b>Geospatial Users Group</b>	Earl Soeder
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# ADMINISTRATIVE staff



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director@fsms.org



## **Education Director**

Rebecca Culverson  
education@fsms.org



## **Communications Director**

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## **Regional Coordinator**

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The Florida Surveyor is the official publication of the Florida Surveying and Mapping Society, Inc. (FSMS). It is published monthly for the purpose of communicating with the professional surveying community and related professions who are members of FSMS. Our award winning publication informs members eleven months of the year of national, state, and district events and accomplishments as well as articles relevant to the surveying profession. The latest educational offerings are also included.

# SUSTAINING



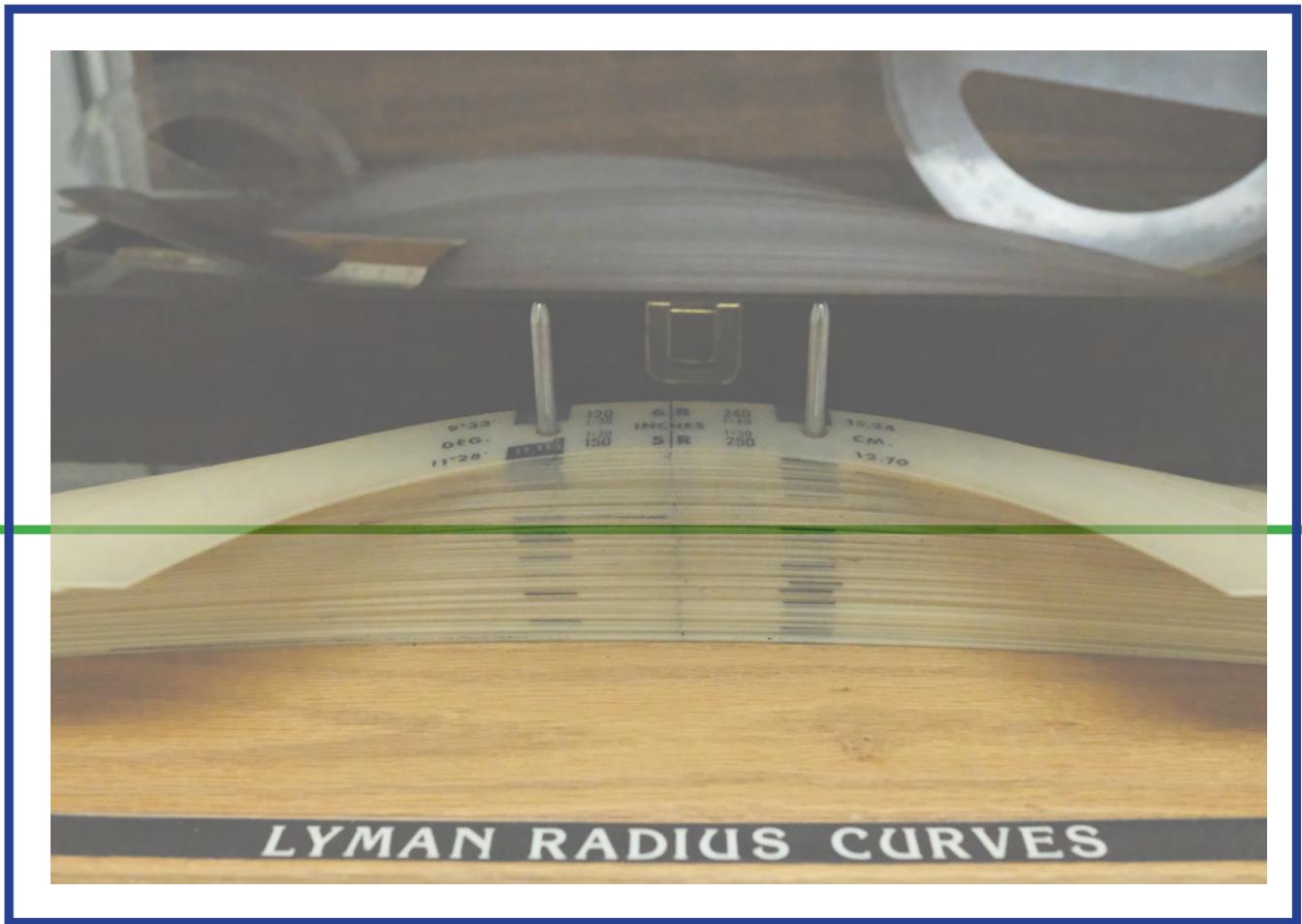
# FIRMS

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# 2021 Firm



# Sustaining s Directory



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Airworks	209-803-8274
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## J

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<b>P</b>	
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T	
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Upham, Inc.	386-672-9515
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Winningham & Fradley, Inc.	954-771-7440
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David Glaze  
davidpga@bellsouth.net

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Frederic Rankin  
erankin@dewberry.com

### **Chipola**

Jesse Snelgrove  
jsnelgrove@  
snelgrovesurveying.com

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fletcher.jwf@gmail.com

## District 2

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kathy@boatwrightland.com

### **N. Central FL**

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bmurphy@3002inc.com

### **UF Geomatics**

Evan Coleman  
e.coleman@ufl.edu

## District 3

### **Central FL**

Leon Hampton  
lham5910@yahoo.com

### **Indian River**

Paige Rogolino  
progolino@  
aviromsurvey.com

### **Volusia**

Anthony Sanzone  
eastcoastland@  
bellsouth.net

## District 4

### **Ridge**

Larry Sharp  
lsharp@collinssurvey.com

### **Tampa Bay**

Charlie Arnett  
CArnett@  
Geopointsurveying.com

## District 5

### **Charlotte Harbor**

Derek Miller  
millersurveying@  
comcast.net

### **Collier-Lee**

Steve Shawles II  
sshawles@cesincusa.com

### **Manasota**

Aaron Levine  
aaron@msbsurveying.com

## District 6

### **Broward**

Earl Soeder  
earl@gpserv.com

### **Palm Beach**

Clyde Mason  
clyde@ritzel-mason.com

## District 7

### **Miami-Dade**

Frank Pauas-Suiero  
fparuas@gpinet.com

# 2021 Districts & Directors

## District 1 -/Northwest

Bay, Calhoun, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Madison, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Taylor, Wakulla, Walton, Washington

Eric Stuart  
(850)857-7725  
eric.stuart@sam.biz

Chad Thurner  
(850) 200-2441  
chad.thurner@sam.biz

## District 2 / Northeast

Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Clay, Columbia, Dixie, Duval, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Marion, Nassau, Putnam, Suwannee, St. Johns, Union

Nick Digruttolo  
(863) 344-2330  
ndigruttolo@pickettusa.com

Randy Tompkins  
(904) 755-4235  
randytompkins1@outlook.com

## District 3/East Central

Brevard, Flagler, Indian River, Lake, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Martin, St. Lucie, Volusia

Al Quickel  
(407) 567-1566  
alq.fsms@gmail.com

Howard Ehmke  
(561) 682-2987  
hehmke@sfwmd.gov

## District 4/ West Central

Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Sumter

Greg Prather  
(863) 533-9095  
gprather@pickettusa.com

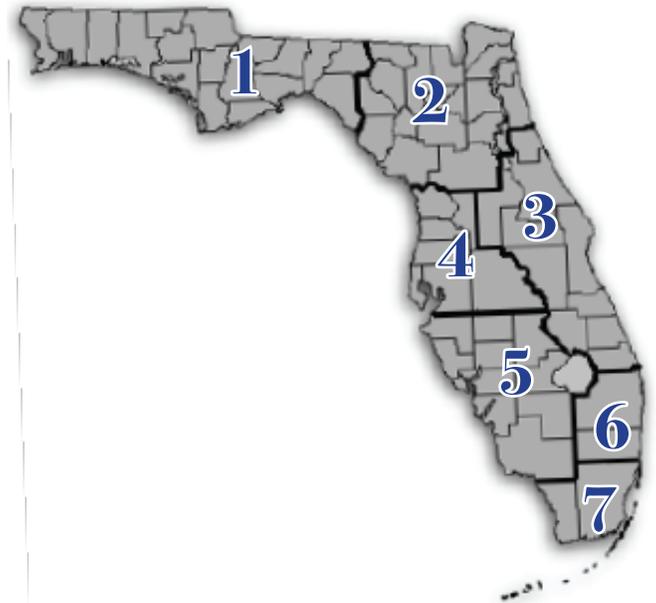
Alex Parnes  
(727) 847-2411  
alexwolfeparnes@gmail.com

## District 5/ Southwest

Collier, Charlotte, DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Lee, Manatee, Sarasota

Shane Christy  
(941) 748-4693  
schristy@georgefyoung.com

Jeffrey Cooner  
(239) 829-7016  
jeff@coonerconsulting.com



## District 6/Southeast

Broward, Palm Beach

Ken Buchanan  
(561) 687-2220  
kbuchanan741@gmail.com

Earl Soeder  
(407) 601-5816  
earl.soeder@duncan-parnell.com

## District 7/South

Miami-Dade, Monroe

Manny Vera, Jr.  
(305) 221-6210  
mverajr@mgvera.com

Jose Sanfiel  
(305) 351-2942  
josesanfiel@woolpert.com

## NSPS Director

Russell Hyatt  
(941) 748-4693  
russell@hyattsurvey.com

# Additional Information

---

## Past Presidents

### 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.*  
*Dianne Collins*  
*Don Elder*

## Upcoming Events

*Please email  
communications@fsms.org to  
notify us of upcoming events -  
including virtual meetings!*

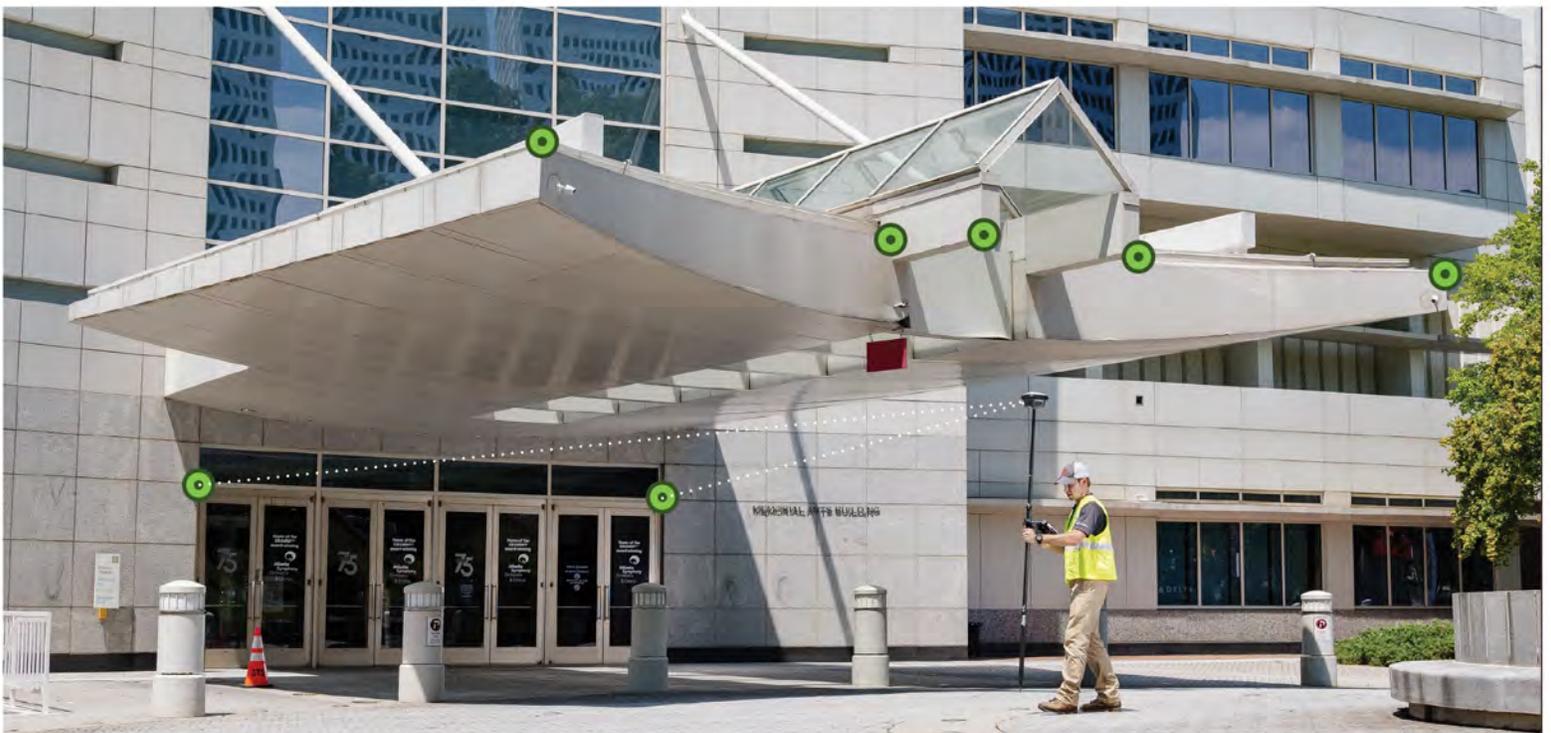
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