

The UCLS Newsletter



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“The way a team plays as a whole determines its success. You may have the greatest bunch of individual stars in the world, but if they don’t play together, the club won’t be worth a dime.”

-Babe Ruth



Who is it?
 Most, if not all UCLS members will recognize Ron Whitehead in this month’s “who is it” competition. However, can you correctly name the award that he was recently recognized for? Correctly identify the award and you may be eligible for a free luncheon at your next chapter meeting. Answers may be emailed to srmerrill@ucls.org. The earliest received date and its time of response will determine the winner.

In This Issue: We introduce you to the new DOPL investigator, review their current case files, and provide suggestions to keep you out of trouble. Jim Kaiserman, who presented at the fall forum, contributes a record of survey checklist; Surveyor Sam continues to share his/her “Tricks of the Trade” experiences to make our work more efficient; and NGS provides guidance on their state of operation during the Federal Government shutdown.

Each month, the UCLS publication committee invites four members to participate in the “getting to know our members” section. The selected members (you know who you are) failed to respond - or even decline - our multiple requests for contributions.

A letter from the president of the Utah Association of County Surveyors highlights the value of the office and concerns regarding current trends of the office.

What do recorded records really mean? A UCLS member is asking for your comments and views on the subject. Please share your perspective on the subject.

Do you have a picture to share? We invite you to share charismatic photos of yourself and/or coworker, panoramic images of Utah’s scenic wonders, or pictures of survey related tools and equipment. Additionally, we need interesting and unique descriptions or survey related stories to share with our membership. Remember, if you do not participate you have no right to complain. Please let us know your thoughts, recommendations, suggestions, or complaints.

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Contributions are encouraged. Articles, Advertisements, Pictures, and Comments may be submitted to UCLS at ucls@ucls.org or uclsforesights@ucls.org

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Another Trick or Two

by: Sam Surveyor

I've had times where I wish I had this or that in my truck to help. I'd like to encourage you to always have a couple of this or that's in your truck. I had a friend help me out many years ago when I was stranded on the road. He related to me that when he bought his first car his dad gave him a towrope. He said that the towrope was the biggest life saver he had in his car. Being in the position I was in at the time, I had to agree. From that day on, I have kept a good towrope in my truck. It seems that I use it every month.

Another great thing is one of those multi toolboxes. You know the 110 piece set that comes in a tidy box. I hear an info-mercial every weekend on T.V. telling how to get one for \$19.95, that's the one you want. I know the tools in it are a piece of crap most of the time but I am amazed how often I draw on them to fix something quickly. When I'm feeling like a Samaritan and pull over to help someone, they ask do you happen to have a _____. As a matter of fact, I do in the handy dandy all-in-one tool kit.

Speaking of tools, one of the best is the cordless drill. Since I have added this to my truck, I use it a lot. I can drill into cement to set a plug in the walk. I can sometimes undo a screw or nut that is just too tight for my grip. There are some things to remember, the batteries don't last forever! In fact, they will only be good for a year or so. Batteries are touchy things. If you leave them out in the cold they will die quickly. If you think "I changed them a month ago and haven't used them", chances are they will die soon or already be dead. If you keep them on a charger for long periods of time, they forget how long the charge will last. And the time between charges will get shorter in a hurry. Be careful with them. Try to run them out and then charge them for 4 to 8 hours.

Maybe you have a trick or slick way of doing something. Send it in and I'll write about it if you don't need the attention. I hope to see you in the trades, I mean fields. Remember I'm pulling for ya.

DOPL Investigation by: Allyson Pettley

August 2008 - Present
State of Utah Department of Commerce
Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing

April 2011 - Present Investigator II POST

As a DOPL Investigator, I have had experience in investigating cases involving multiple professions. At the time of my assignment as DOPL Investigator, my case load included primarily medical and mental health profession related cases.

February 2012, the focus of my assignments was revised to include investigating cases and providing public education outreach in the massage therapy profession. Due to the increasing abundance of unlawful conduct in multiple jurisdictions within the state, I established a strong network of law enforcement partnerships.

In addition to the massage therapy focus, contractor and related construction cases were also included in my case load.

In October 2012, I completed training and education at the Utah Peace Officer Standard Training facility and obtained certification as a Special Function Officer.

In May 2013 cases related to Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Architects and Geologists have been incorporated to my case load and have been elevated to my primary priority.

I have been involved with both administrative and criminal proceedings as they relate to Utah regulated professions.

Prior to my becoming an Investigator, I was the Board Secretary for the Uniform Building Code Commission Education and Enforcement Committee and was involved in the licensing process of contractors, electricians, and plumbers.

Random audits are performed on 10% of licensed professional land surveyors per renewal cycle (every two years).

Allyson Pettley,
DOPL Investigator

NSPS to Hold 'Lobby Day on Capitol Hill' Webinars

NSPS

The NSPS Fall Business Meeting, to be held November 20-24 at the Four Points Sheraton at Baltimore-Washington Airport, will include a Lobby Day on Capitol Hill on Thursday, November 21. In order to enhance the effectiveness of the NSPS message before Congress, the society's government affairs consultants, [John M. Palatiello & Associates, Inc.](#), are conducting two webinars to help train and refresh NSPS members on effective Congressional meetings. The first webinar, on making Congressional appointments, will be held on Tuesday, October 15 at 1:00 PM (EDT). The second webinar, on Monday, November 18 at 1:00 PM (EST), will provide guidance on the logistics of Lobby Day and a briefing on the surveying issues to be discussed with Congress. Information on the [Fall Business Meeting](#) and a [schedule of events](#) at the Fall Business Meeting has been posted. Mark your calendar. Information on registering for the webinars will be announced soon.

The three issues for Hill Day are:

Davis-Bacon Act - In March of this year, the Department of Labor reversed more than 50 years of policy and precedent and determined that members of survey crews are subject to the controversial "Davis-Bacon Act", classifying these skilled and trained technicians as "laborers and mechanics". This ruling will have an adverse impact on the surveying profession, particularly the small businesses that make up 99 percent of the market, without any benefit to the public or members of survey crews themselves. This was done with no advance notice, no public comment, and no assessment of the economic impact. NSPS urges Congress to reverse the Labor department's ruling.

Map It Once - A GAO report, Congressional hearings, and other studies have highlighted the need to reform and redesign how surveying, mapping and geographic information activities are funded and managed at the Federal level to eliminate wasteful duplication, improve governance and coordination, and maximize the use of state-of-the art mapping and geospatial technologies. NSPS supports H.R. 1604, the Map It Once, Use It Many Times Act, introduced by Rep. Lamborn (R-CO), to enhance the use of geospatial data, products, technology, and services, and to increase the economy and efficiency of Federal geospatial activities.

Utility Location - It estimated that an underground utility line is hit somewhere in the United States every 60 seconds. Surveys and maps of underground utilities are often inaccurate. In many cases, they don't even exist. The inaccuracy of location data, unmarked utilities, and crowding within rights of way are major factors contributing to disruption to underground infrastructure. Digging, drilling or excavating in the vicinity of unknown, unmarked, unmapped, or incorrectly located utilities can be costly in terms of wasted excavation time, service disruption and utility downtime, environmental damage, and - worst of all- personal injury or loss of life. NSPS urges Congress to enact legislation requiring accurate mapping of pipelines and other forms of surface transportation and underground infrastructure and utilities.

NOTICE:

HEIGHT MODERNIZATION WEBINAR

When: Tuesday November 19, 2013 between 11:00 am and 3:00 pm MST.

Meeting Webpage: http://www.nhs.noaa.gov/corbin/class_description/HM_WesternRegion.shtml

Online Registration: <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/952765650>

Topics:

1. The National Height Modernization Program and plans for a new national vertical datum.
2. The type of elevation data we need today and how you can collect it.
3. How federal and state organizations are implementing Height Modernization.
4. Supporting services such as OPUS (Online Positioning User Service).
5. Challenges regarding elevation information in western states.

Who should attend?

1. Surveyors, engineers, and GIS professionals interested in accurate heights.
2. While some presentations will focus on the Western United States, anyone can attend.

What do Recorded Records Really Mean?

by: Concerned Land Surveyor

Please email comments to Susan at srmerrill@ucls.org with a subject line of "Records"

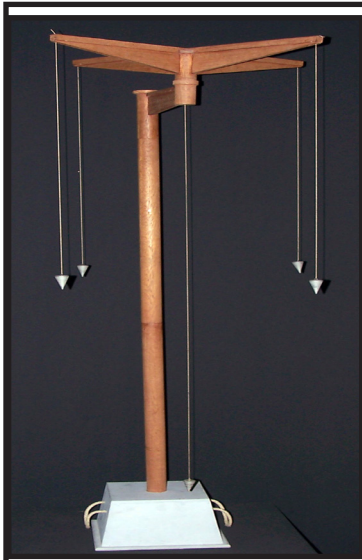
As a Professional Licensed Land Surveyor, I have spent countless hours in almost every County Recorder and Surveyors offices within the State of Utah researching and filing deeds, plats and record of surveys to verify and establish boundaries related to public right of ways and other various property boundaries. Many of the documents relied upon are the county plats, reference plats and additional county documents only to have recently been told this information can be not only be challenged in court but doesn't really hold any real authority because anyone can draw a line in the sand.

So I chose this forum versus a blog, e-mail chain or Facebook account to engage the Surveying community as a whole to ask the following questions and to see how varied the responses are and hopefully to find some correct, standard and legal answers.

1. When a county surveyor records a county plat showing right of way lines for various streets not created by a sub-division plat, what is the origin of these boundaries?
 - a. What is the authority by which they are drawn, recorded and preserved?
 - b. What is the proper use of these boundaries and what is defensible in a court of law?
 - c. Who is the legal owner of the streets (prescriptive or otherwise)?
 - d. Where is the landowners' legal boundary created?
2. When a deed is recorded in any county and the description says "Less Street" what is the legal and defensible definition of this term?
 - a. When the deed says "Less right of Way", what is the difference from "less street" and how is this term also defended?
3. Do we as surveyors file our plats, surveys etc, to comply with State Code, but do we understand what is the defensible and legal representation of the documents we create and file?
4. Are we creating documents that we in turn require a Lawyer or Judge to explain or can the document stand on its' own merits?
5. Can we correctly and eloquently defend what has been recorded?

I know this discussion will take on a life of its' own, but I was educated by some of the best surveyors of our generation and I was surprised when I asked them that their answers were similar to mine and consequently I have stumped them as well. I refuse to believe that as a profession, we are the only group of individuals that argue we are the only true profession to write and create (metes and bounds) legal descriptions only to be told that judges and lawyers truly decide what we are supposed to be stating in these documents and what their intent

August "What is it"



Surprising, many of you were able to identify last month's "what is it" tool. Many thanks to all those who participated. Daryl Fenn of Meridian Engineering was the first to submit the correct answer.

A GROMA, sometimes known as the surveyor's cross, was the most widely-used Roman surveying tool. It consisted of a wooden cross attached to a staff. The staff was placed vertically into the ground, after which the surveyor would use the arms of the cross to calculate straight lines and right angles. The groma had many uses, but was particularly important for planning Roman roads.

UCLS 2014 Convention Report September 2013

TITLE AND THE SURVEYOR

The 2014 UCLS Surveyors Convention is scheduled for February 19-21, 2013 (Wednesday through Friday) at the St. George Dixie Center.

Vendors will be able to move in and setup on Wednesday morning and the conference can start Wednesday afternoon around noon.

Tentative schedule is as follows:

Wednesday February 19

8:00 am to Noon	Vendor Setup
Noon to 1:00 pm	Registration
1:00 to 2:00 pm	Annual Report/Opening
2:00 to 3:30 pm	Water Rights Discussion (Rick Hafen)
3:30 to 4:00 pm	Break
4:00 to 5:30 pm	Water rights Discussion (Rick Hafen)

Thursday February 20

7:00 to 8:00 am	Registration and Breakfast
8:00 to 10:00 am	Main speaker (Dennis Mouland)
10:00 to 10:30 am	Break
10:30 to Noon	Main speaker (Dennis Mouland)
Noon to 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 to 3:30 pm	Main speaker (Dennis Mouland)
3:30 to 4:00 pm	Break
4:00 to 5:00 pm	Main speaker (Dennis Mouland)
6:00 pm	Installation Banquet and Entertainment

Friday February 21

7:00 to 8:00 am	Late Registration and Breakfast		
8:00 to 10:00 am	Breakout Sessions		
Track 1	Track 2	Track 3	
Dennis Mouland presentation #2	Paul Newton Condo's, PUD's & Subd.		
Charm School for Surveyors	Problems with ownership dedications		
10:00 to 10:30 am	Break all Tracks		
10:30 to 12:00 pm	Breakout Sessions Tracks 1 & 3 continued		
12:00 to 1:00 pm	Lunch		
1:00 to 3:00 pm	Track 2	Track 3	
Track 1	SUTCO Title Insurance presentation on	Tony Cuomo State Plane	
Shawn Farris of Farris & Utley	what are the goals of title surveys	Coordinates Etc.	
to discuss cases			
that have affected Title in Utah			
3:00 to 3:30 pm	Break all Tracks		
3:30 to 5:00 pm	Breakout Sessions Tracks 1-3 continued		
5:00 pm	Drawings for rifle and other items		

18.0 total hours possible

Utah Council of Land Surveyors 2014 OFFICERS NOMINATION FORM

Nominees must be Licensed Members of UCLS

Please nominate yourself or those you would like to see serve as officers of UCLS. The nomination ballot must be received by the UCLS Nomination Committee on, or before, **November 5, 2013**. If additional space is needed for the biography, please add a second page. Those people nominated who have no biography attached will appear that way on the voting ballot.

STATE OFFICER

STATE CHAIR-ELECT

Job Description State Chair-Elect: Attend approximately six UCLS State Executive Board meetings held throughout the state per year. Assume State Chair position during the second year and past chair position during the third year. As State Chair attend and conduct the above mentioned board meetings, oversee all state UCLS business, appoint committee chairs, and attend or appoint an attendee to various meetings.

CHAPTER OFFICERS

CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Job Description Chapter Presidents: Hold chapter board meetings to carry out chapter business, plan and conduct at least 4 chapter member meetings, attend the UCLS State Board meetings mentioned under Chair-Elect duties, serve as a liaison between the state board and a UCLS committee.

CHAPTER VICE-PRESIDENT

Job Description Chapter Vice-President: Assist chapter president, attend chapter meetings, and assume responsibilities of the chapter president in his absence.

Name _____

Office Nominated For _____

Chapter Affiliation _____

Years in Surveying _____

Years in UCLS Association _____

Accomplishments and Current Survey Activity _____

Why you wish to run for office or nominate this person?

UCLS Fall Forum
by: James Olschewski

The UCLS held their annual Fall Forum this past Friday September 27, 2013 at the Salt Lake community College with great success and attended by 55 members. The event titled "Pay Attention to Detail" lived up to its name.

Aero-Graphics starting off the morning session with Brad Marz, Kelly Francis and Karl Jensen providing the basics in Aero-Photogrammetry. Their presentation included the equipment currently being used, the software and processing needed and the final products used in various designs. Their presentation was extremely informative and very useful for future projects.

Following their presentation, Joshua Vandiver, Brad Adams and David Lutz with Leica Systems presented an in-depth look at Laser Scanning and the various applications where this advancing technology has and is being used.

The last presentation of the day was without a doubt the most entertaining as Jim Kaiserman the Wasatch County Surveyor provided a very spirited talk on filing plats, surveys and other documents in the various counties and the problems and issues that most counties want/need corrected before the documents are recorded.

The UCLS would like to thank all those who participated in this even and also to everyone who took the time to come and make this event the success that this turned out to be.



CORS NOTICE

The CORS network is comprised of approximately 2,000 stations which are owned and operated by more than 200 partners comprised of Federal, state and local agencies; academic institutions; and private organizations. NOAA operates approximately 60 CORS sites. Data from the non-NOAA CORS sites may be available directly from individual CORS owners/operators.

During the shutdown of the Federal government:

CORS data is being collected by NGS and will be made available to the public along with associated services and tools such as UFCORS, OPUS, etc., once the shutdown is over and the data undergo quality control/quality assurance measures.

Only federal government websites necessary to protect lives and property will be maintained. Access to the NGS Integrated Database (NGS IDB) is currently not available to the public. CORS data and information from the NGS IDB can be made available in emergency situations concerning safety of life or property.

NGS will continue to provide geopositioning services necessary to maintain public safety, transportation, and protection of Nation's critical infrastructure. Services include management of a network of Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS), maintain the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) and support overall global positioning activities essential to support public transportation and safety. The Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) data supports three dimensional positioning, meteorology, space weather, and geophysical applications throughout the United States, its territories, and a few foreign countries.

Juliana P. Blackwell
Director, National Geodetic Survey

Golden Spike Chapter Report

by: David Balling

In August, Troy Langston from Monsen Engineering came to tell us about the latest and greatest in survey technology. We gathered at Javier's in South Ogden and had an enjoyable lunch.

September was the Fall Forum and we opted to not hold a lunch.

On October 9th, Scott Bishop from board at DOPL has agreed to speak with us. Some of the issues that have been circling is the amount of continuing education and 2 to 4 year degrees. I'm sure there are other items to discuss and Scott will no doubt be able to fill the time with important information. We will meet at the Layton Golden Corral, 1624 N Heritage Park Blvd, Layton.

We'll keep you posted of the upcoming meetings and sent flyers.

Salt Lake Chapter Report

by: David Mortensen

We had a great summer in the Salt Lake Chapter. We are so grateful to Bill Rowley from National Title and Matthew Jensen from Parr Brown Gee & Loveless for presenting to us. We are also grateful to Brad Daley for preparing a great barbeque for us all in August. It was good to be able to meet everyone's families and socialize a little bit. Hopefully we can continue this in the future and have more members come. During this meeting we were able to witness Dale Robinson receive a recognition reward for his volunteer work as the Chairman of the Legislative Committee over the past few years. We are so grateful for all that volunteer to help the UCLS and the Land Surveying community in the state grow. We are looking forward to good meetings this fall and look forward to seeing you all in October and November. October we will be meeting at Joe Morley's BBQ on the 17th. Please come with some ideas for nominations for the new officers for the Chapter President and Vice President and for next year's Chair Elect. Please let me know if you have any ideas for topics that you would like to hear about. Please email me at dmortensen@bushandgudgell.com Thanks again for your support and we look forward to seeing you in the near future.

UCLS Color Country Chapter Report

by: Scott Woolsey

The Color County Chapter met on September 5th at the Washington County Public Works Conference Room and we had Mark Silver with Igage come and discuss the status of the St. George City base station and he showed some new equipment that is being offered for static GPS work. We had 12 surveyors attend.

A Chapter luncheon meeting is scheduled for the middle of October. Not specific topic has been finalized.

Construction Survey Committee Report

by: Russell Flint

This committee plans to meet every couple of months, focusing our time more specifically during the winter months when construction has slowed significantly. It is important that we continue our discussions on a construction survey standard. Admittedly we have found it difficult to come to a consensus on what items to focus on and when. It is a much slower process than I would have imagined, and difficult to get everyone involved at the same time. Our plan is to try to meet online or over the phone to make it easier to keep everyone involved. We also discussed a couple items, first the cst program and what role it may play for construction surveyors, and second future plans to meet with the AGC of Utah and offer to provide instructional classes on construction surveying to help get us more involved with them as well.

UCLS Standards and Ethics Committee Report

by: Matt Clark

The UCLS S&E Comm. held their last meeting Sept. 19 at Meridian Engineering's office. We had a good meeting and had invited Allyson Pettley, who is replacing Wayne Jeppson as the DOPL Investigator for Engineers and Land Surveyors. Allyson summarized the cases or complaints against surveyors that she has been working since taking over for Wayne this past May. We had a lengthy discussion of what it means for a land surveyor to rubber stamp a survey vs a PLS who is in direct supervision of the research, fieldwork, drafting, calculations and final boundary determinations that go into the preparation of a ROS Map prior to signing and sealing it. A surveyor who is being investigated by DOPL for rubber stamping better be able to demonstrate that he/she was in responsible charge of and in direct supervision of all aspects of the survey work being done to avoid a citation. The committee is also continuing to work on a UCLS "Development Platting Guide" this guide document addresses the maps prepared by land surveyors during a development process.

UCLS Board Meeting Agenda

September 28, 2013

9:00 a.m.

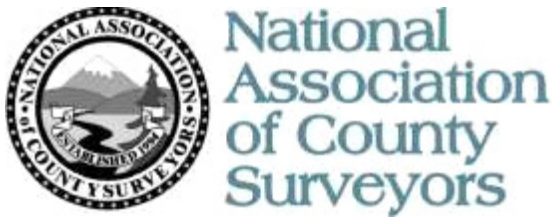
Salt Lake Community College, Taylorsville Campus

4600 South Redwood Road, Taylorsville

Markosian Library, East Entrance

(Breakfast will be provided)

- I) Welcome & Call to Order - Ernest Rowley
- II) Roll Call
- III) Additions to Agenda
- IV) Approval of Minutes - July 13, 2013
- V) Secretary Report
 - a) Budget review
 - b) Nominations - any changes to form; announce at chapter meetings
- VI) Follow-Up Items
- VII) New Items
 - a) CE/PDH credits from sources outside of UCLS convention - Mike Nadeau
 - b) Height modernization - Val Schultz
- VIII) Committee Reports
 - a) Membership - Jim Kaiserman Liaison
 - b) Public Relations - James Coutts Chair, Brad Mortensen Liaison
 - c) Legislative - Doug Kinsman Chair, Dennis Carlisle Liaison
 - d) Education - Dan Perry Chair, Dave Balling Liaison
 - i) Discussion of scholarship amount for Heather Butler - possible increase
 - ii) How to spread the Twist training - Walt Cunningham
 - e) Publication - Steve Keisel Chair, Val Schultz Liaison
 - f) Workshop & Convention - Scott Woolsey Chair 2014 Convention, James Olschewski Chair 2013 Fall Forum, David Kay Liaison
 - i) Fall Forum Wrap-up
 - ii) Convention
 - g) Standards and Ethics - Matt Clark Chair, Mike Nadeau Liaison
 - i) Discussion with DOPL investigator - Brad Mortensen
 - h) Testing - Darryl Fenn Chair, Ken Hamblin Liaison, Richard Oborn DOPL
 - i) Historical - Greg Hansen Chair, Jerry Allred Liaison
 - i) Calendar sponsors
 - j) Construction Surveying - Lance Greer Chair, David Mortensen Liaison
- IX) UAC Report
- X) NSPS - Steve Keisel
- XI) WestFed Report - Mike Nadeau
- XII) Chapter Reports
 - a) Book Cliffs
 - b) Color Country
 - c) Golden Spike
 - d) Salt Lake
 - e) Timpanogos
- XII) Adjourn



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SEPTEMBER 2013

Greetings to All,

I would like to address an issue that is a growing and alarming problem for County Surveyors. Recently, County Executives of a county in my home State of Utah decided to close their County Surveyor's Office. This is not the first time that has happened. Other counties, not only in Utah but in other states, have combined and/or even eliminated their County Surveyor Offices for various suspect reasons including lack of funding, budget cuts, purported lack of relevance and similar unfounded justifications. The major reason is those executives do not understand the key role of County Surveyors in protecting property rights in their communities.

As County Surveyors, I think it is time to ask ourselves some questions. Why would County Executives decide to eliminate the office and reduce services and professionalism in their counties? What does county government and the public lose? What can and should we do about it? County Surveyors, as professionals, have an understanding of the noteworthy benefits and advantages a funded, functioning County Surveyor program provides to our counties and the public's well-being. While statutory authority and function vary from state to state, the County Surveyor's role and function in government remains as critical today as ever. The right to own and "quietly enjoy" property are basic founding principles of our country. County Surveyors perform a prominent role in the protection of these rights. Additionally, County Surveyors are key partners in emergency response, GIS mapping, construction, public real estate transactions, litigation, and a host of other important public services.

In Utah, the origins of the office of the County Surveyor can be traced back to 1852 and was one of the four original elected offices of county government. Elected offices were established to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public. In those days and before, the location and protection of property boundaries along with water rights, law enforcement and recording functions were an essential part of everyday life and survival. Those same rights and protections are no less important in today's world. To this day in Utah, one of the key statutory duties of the County Surveyor is to protect and perpetuate the original Public Land Survey System (PLSS). In a PLSS state such as Utah, the original PLSS is not only the basis for the establishment and protection of property ownership and the other functions I mentioned earlier, it is also the very heart of the County's ability to assess and collect the property taxes that fund most county services. We also know the PLSS is threatened on a daily basis by development and construction, and consequently, many of the public rights and functions of government are also at risk. For this reason alone, it is imperative for County Executives to understand the critical nature of the functions of a County Surveyor, the PLSS, and why it is essential to fund a County Surveyor program.

Some counties within my state do not fund a County Surveyor function and are experiencing growth and development not seen before. Boundary disputes and other development related issues in these counties have increased due to the lack of investment in the very infrastructure that County Surveyors are responsible to protect. It is a case of "you don't know you have a problem until you have one." My office has been called on to assist some of these counties with locating and documenting the position of their respective PLSS, to help facilitate resolution of the resultant legal problems. I can testify personally that the citizens of my County, Salt Lake, and our county government in general, have fewer boundary disputes and other related development issues due to the long standing efforts of County Surveyors and Executives both past and present. Additionally, we benefit from an accurate base for all mapping to support emergency response, tax revenue and most other county services.

What can we do to reverse this trend eliminating County Surveyors? It is clear to me the most effective way is for County Surveyors to become more proactive in educating County Executives and the general public about the role of the County Surveyor and why it is an integral part of everyday life and the function of government. An additional approach would be through strengthening your respective state's statute.

The NACS is taking a leading role on this issue to aggressively pursue this education process. In doing so, we need and welcome your input, ideas, and participation. As an association we are able to create a strong united front as we bring together all of our varying ideas and thoughts. Is this a trend you are seeing in your area? What is the County Surveyor's statutory role in your state? How do you address these issues in a non PLSS State? How can we increase awareness and educate County Executives? There are a couple of ways for you to weigh in. One way is to contact me or a Board member directly. Another way is to use our discussion board by following this link <http://countysurveyors.org/forum/forum.php>. There, you will notice I commented on this subject.

I look forward to hearing from you.