



THE Central Valley Chapter PRISM

Volume 5, Issue I

January 2015

2015 Chapter Officers

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Vice President: Landon Blake
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Treasurer: Tom Price
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Chapter Rep: Bill Koch
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2015 Chapter Programs

Adopt-A-Road:
Rich Brown (Coordinator)
Boy Scout Merit Badge:
Zachary Wong (Coordinator)
TrigStar:
Bill Koch (Coordinator)
Workshops:
Rich Brown (Coordinator)

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Up
Coming
Meetings!

Date: January 28, 2015

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Perko's @ 901 North Carpenter Road, Modesto

Speaker: Roger Hanlin - CLSA President-Elect

Topic: Changes? The Next 50 Years

Date: February 25, 2015

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Perko's @ 901 North Carpenter Road, Modesto

Speaker: Shane Gardner - Carlson Software, Inc.

Topic: Choices in CAD

Announcements

Fresno State University Announces

It's 54th Annual Geomatics Engineering Conference is February 20 & 21, 2015 in Clovis. Contact Marco Castaneda at neda209@mail.fresnostate.edu for more information.

CLSA/NALS Annual Conference

Is set for March 21-25, 2015, at the Silver Legacy Resort and Casino in Reno, Nevada

[Check State CLSA for more information](#)

Boy Scout Survey Merit Badge

Central Valley Chapter will be participating in the Boy Scout Midway, being held January 31, 2015. This will give local area scouts a chance to earn their Survey Merit Badge.

Central Valley Chapter joins Stanislaus County in Adopt-A-Road

The Central Valley Chapter of CLSA has agreed to a two year contract with Stanislaus County in the "Adopt-A-Road" program. The Chapter will be responsible for maintaining the mile long stretch of Claribel Road, between Roselle Avenue and Claus Road. There will be a clean-up event scheduled 2-4 times per year. Volunteers are needed for each event. If interested please contact Rich Brown.

2015 Membership is now due

You should be receiving your 2015 membership bill from State CLSA shortly. When you send in your dues, please don't forget to send in your Central Valley Chapter dues. We will be updating our membership database, so **please update your information**. You can also pay [online through the chapter website](#).

Classes, Training, and Continuing Education

Mark Your Calendars

CAD Masters - AutoCAD Level I (3-Day Course)

February 2-4, 2015, Sacramento

February 10-12, 2015, Walnut Creek

March 2-4, 2015, Sacramento

March 9-11, 2015 Walnut Creek

March 30-1, 2015, Sacramento [Register here](#)

CAD Masters - AutoCAD Level II (2-Day Course)

February 5-6, 2015, Sacramento

February 22-23, 2015, Walnut Creek

March 18-19, 2015, Sacramento [Register here](#)

CAD Masters - AutoCAD Level III

February 12, 2015, Walnut Creek [Register here](#)

CAD Masters - AutoCAD Civil 3D Intro (3-Day Course)

February 9-11, 2015, Walnut Creek

February 23-25, 2015, Sacramento

March 9-11, 2015, Walnut Creek

March 23-25, 2015, Sacramento [Register here](#)

ESRI - Introduction to GIS (2-Day Course)

Multiple Dates, Online

[Register here](#)

Fresno State University

54th Annual Geomatics Engineering Conference

February 20-21, 2015, Clovis

For more information contact:

Marco Castaneda @ neda209@mail.fresnostate.edu

CLSA/NALS Annual Conference

March 21-25, 2015, Silver Legacy, Reno, Nevada

[More information here](#)

Subdivision Map Act Seminar - Michael Durkee

April 22, 2015, Modesto

More information in the March edition of The Prism

If you have information about a training or class, please submit to: editor@californiacentralvalleysurveyors.org

Thoughts from the Editor



It's that time again. It seems like we just did this. Time to close the pages on the 2014 calendar and open the 2015. I want to take this time to look back at what the Central Valley Chapter has accomplished this past year.

I think it was a pretty epic year for us. The Chapter won three awards at the 2014 Conference in San Diego. Taking home the Newsletter of the Year, Chapter of the Year, and Keith Spencer was awarded Member of the Year.

The Central Valley Chapter has started working with Stanislaus County on their Adopt-A-Road Program. The Chapter adopted a one mile long stretch of Claribel Road, between Roselle Avenue and Clause Road. We will be running clean-up crews up and down the section of road three to four times a year. Our first clean-up day was November 15th, 2014. There were five of us present that day. We collected about 20 bags of garbage, which made a big difference in the view. I hope the participation numbers grow for next time.

The Chapter is again involved with local boy scouts. We will be participating in the next Scouting Badge Midway, to be held January 31, 2015. Thanks to the efforts of Zack Wong, we will be influencing the young minds of today's scouts, tomorrow's leaders.

This coming year looks to be even more exciting, with two seminars already lined up for the spring & summer. I want to thank everyone that has stepped up to make the Central Valley Chapter the best in the state.

If you would like to comment on this topic or suggest another, please submit it to:

editor@californiacentralvalleysurveyors.org

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

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State News

Surveying GOOGLE

By Rudy Striclan

Surveying Google One of my side gigs is as an adjunct lecturer on GIS with the University of Arizona. Through that association, I was recently given the opportunity to attend the first Google Geo for Higher Ed workshop at Google's corporate headquarters in Mountain View, California. Referred to as the "Googleplex," Google's world nerve center is spread out over two million square feet of office space near the southern end of San Francisco Bay.

Words and pictures can't adequately convey the total Googleplex experience. It's something you have to be immersed in and try to wrap your head around. My particular involvement through the Higher Ed workshop was in the company of academics across the country. They're articulate and interesting individuals, but they exist in environments somewhat foreign to most surveyors.

The Googleplex Environment

It's more like a university than a typical high-tech corporate setting. Maybe it's that most of the Googlers (as they're called) seem to be in their 20s or 30s, wear shorts and flip-flops, and are engaged in what we used to call "extracurricular activities" when I was in college (like playing pool and attending workout sessions).



Global communications hookups are everywhere. Beyond just the extraordinarily strong and fast wifi coverage, video conferencing nooks abound. These have dual flat-screen monitors with high-resolution video cameras. Deployed not only for long-distance conferencing, they are commonly used for intra-office meetings, as well. No need to shuffle around trying to locate colleagues; just text them to meet virtually and instantaneously. With the session recorded for posterity, as well.

The emphasis on continual connectivity and collaboration is omnipresent, down to providing special conference bikes—free-to-use, giant pedaled contraptions with seven inward-facing seats. This is carpooling on a different scale, with forced participation for effective mobility. There are hundreds of uniquely painted regular bicycles as well for speedy intra-campus commuting.

Free Food. The 25 restaurants and cafes distributed throughout the Googleplex lack only one thing—cash registers. All you can eat for free. Although immeasurably classier than shoving pizza slices under software coders' doors, the principle is the same: keep the troops well nourished and focused so that down time away from the work at hand is minimized. All of the serving ware was biodegradable or recyclable, of course: the cups and utensils were made from cornstarch, the plates and napkins from recycled paper. Maybe expired Googlers' remains are recycled in some way as well.

No paper. Throughout my stay, I didn't see one hardcopy output device. Everything, and I do mean everything, was conducted digitally. Every participant had their own laptop or tablet, complemented by (mainly Android) smartphones. I even saw two people with the Google Glass geek accessory. Googlers would whip out their laptops or tablets when visualizations were necessary, hooking them wirelessly to the videoconferencing screens or other projection devices. Whiteboards and writable surfaces were always convenient, including Google+ nooks that encouraged one-on-one collaboration.

As incredible as its current headquarters are, an under-construction site called BayView will provide an additional 1.1 million square feet of office space close to the current campus.

Using Google's Infrastructure to Play with the Big Boys

Big whoop, you might understandably say at this point.

Continued on page 5



Surveying GOOGLE, *cont. from page 4*

How can any of this fantasyland possibly be relevant to surveyors or, more importantly, my business in particular? That's exactly what I posed to Mano Marks, Google's lead developer advocate for Google's Geo APIs (Application Programming Interfaces—the inside pathway for coders to extend software functionality). Incidentally, "geo" is the term Google uses to collectively describe their geographic location-related activities. I never heard the term "GIS" mentioned.

Mano helps people all over the world develop and deploy their geospatial content using Google's tools and data storage infrastructure. He works with large companies, small startups, and international aid organizations. I met Mano a couple of years ago, and he's a straight shooter. He also understands the importance of accurate and authoritatively vetted data. He can't divulge the number of Googlers in the Geo group, but it's not a small number, given the scope of only two of their various activities: Street View: five-million miles of street-level imagery, and aerial imagery: 20 petabytes, including 40 years of Landsat satellite imagery.

A big push for Google Geo is to provide not only worldwide geospatial data, but also the computational infrastructure to store, maintain, and analyze customer-provided data. This would be overkill for your next ALTA survey, but for organizations like NGS that were constrained by computer power during the National Adjustment of 2011, it might well have provided the capability to deliver this adjustment (and future ones) faster without regard for data processing limitations.

This ability to flip a switch and tap into global-scale computing power enables large (and small) companies to have pay-as-you-go, scalable data processing capabilities that level the competitive playing field. Big jobs requiring big computers are no longer limited to those organizations that have deep pockets to maintain their own computing infrastructure—smart "small-timers" can rent even more powerful systems and, at the end of the job, just turn them and their associated money flow off. No continuing hardware/software or internal IT personnel costs to maintain.

[Click for Complete Article](#)

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National News

...This Was Not Land Surveying

By Michael J. Pallamary, PS

Civil Engineer Places Two-Million Dollar Home on Wrong Lot

In 1984, Robert Lamoureux purchased an oceanfront parcel of land on Ocean Road in Narragansett, Rhode Island, described by The Surfrider foundation as “a diamond on the necklace that is Rhode Island’s beautiful coastline.” Lamoureux subdivided the land into two parcels, one of which was adjacent to a parcel of land owned by New York Businessman Saul Nulman. In 2006, the Nulman family created the Rose Nulman Park Foundation to “preserve and maintain” the property for use as a public park, free of charge and under the name “Rose Nulman Park,” in honor of Nulman’s late mother. Under these terms, the foundation was prohibited from disposing of the land unless they ensured that the property was permanently maintained and preserved for its designated use as a public park. If the terms were violated, the trust imposed a \$1.5 million penalty payable to New York Presbyterian Hospital.

The adjacent Lamoureux property, located at 1444 Ocean Road, was developed under a separate entity known as The Four Twenty Corporation. The company hired Craig Richard Carrigan, a registered professional engineer, to prepare a site plan, paying him \$30,000 for his engineering services. Carrigan’s plan was subsequently used in connection with the issuance of building permits and thereon, included a note informing the viewer that the boundary lines conformed to the Class III survey standards as adopted by the Rhode Island Registration of Professional Land Surveyors. A Class III survey is defined as a “data accumulation survey,” which “measure[s] and show[s] the relative positions or locations of physical features to a stated graphical scale ... “This definition includes the caveat that “[t]o the extent that property lines are reflected on such plans, they are to be regarded as pictorial only, unless such boundaries are also certified to a Class I, Class II, or Class V standard.”

Four Twenty proceeded to build a magnificent 2,400 square foot, three bedroom residence with a septic system and a sweeping driveway, all in reliance on Carrigan’s plans. When the project was completed, Four Twenty entered into a purchase and sale agreement to sell the property for \$1.9 million. Before completion of the transaction, the buyer commissioned Richard S. Lipsitz, a Professional Land Surveyor and the president of Waterman Engineering Company to perform an independent survey of the property. Lipsitz performed a Class I survey to verify the location of the property lines and to ensure the marketability of the property. Upon completion, Lipsitz’ informed the buyer that the home was built on the wrong lot and was instead, located entirely on the Nulman Trust Property. The buyer naturally terminated the purchase agreement.

In early 2011, Carol Nulman, on behalf of the trust, learned that the structure had been built on the protected trust property. She informed Lamoureux that the land was not for sale and that the new home would have to be removed. The trust subsequently filed a lawsuit in the Washington County Superior Court on March 11, 2011, asserting that the structure constituted a “continuing trespass” on its property while concurrently seeking a mandatory injunction ordering Lamoureux to remove all improvements and to return the Nulman property to its original condition. A pre-



Continued on Page 9

Classifieds

The County of Sacramento is Recruiting for County Surveyor (Principal Land Surveyor)

The Principal Land Surveyor acts as the County Surveyor for the County of Sacramento and is responsible for managing and directing land surveying and division activities for Sacramento County. The incumbent implements land surveying and land division programs through supervision of assigned professional, technical, and clerical support staff.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Either: 1. Two years of full-time experience in Sacramento County service in the class of Senior Land Surveyor.

Or: 2. Four years of full-time experience in Sacramento County service in the class of Associate Land Surveyor, Associate Civil Engineer or a higher class in land surveying or civil engineering.

Or: 3. Four years of full-time experience performing supervisory duties as a licensed surveyor or licensed civil engineer which have included difficult and complex land and engineering surveying projects.

Filing Deadline: 5:00 PM on January 21, 2015

Please view the official job announcement for all requirements and testing information. The full job announcement and on-line application are available for viewing on our website, or by visiting our office in person:

www.saccountyjobs.net

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Picture of the Issue



Pictured Above from left to right:
 Bill Koch, Keith Spencer, Kevin Genasci, Alfredo Mijango

**Central Valley Chapter
 is working with
 Stanislaus County
 Public Works to
 Adopt-A-Road.
 The 1 mile strip of
 Claribel Road, between
 Roselle Avenue & Claus
 Road will be under the
 Clean-up care
 of local surveyors.**

If you have a historic or interesting photo you would like to see in a future edition of The Prism, please submit to:
editor@californiacentralvalleysurveyors.org

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...*This Was Not Land Surveying, cont. from [page 6](#)*

liminary injunction hearing was held on June 21, 2012.

After examining the surveys, everyone agreed with Lipsitz' conclusions which, in addition to rejecting Carrigan's work, concluded that the structure encroached upon 133,000 square feet of the Nulman property, or about six percent of the land. Arguing that the encroachments were diminutive, the owners asserted that the encroachments were not enough to impair the use of the property as a public park.

Faced with the prospects of removing everything and relocating the house to another lot, Lamoureux pled hardship, stressing that it would cost him between \$300,000 and \$400,000 to move the building assuming, of course, he could obtain the necessary permits. In spite of the evident hardships associated with removing the building, the court ordered Lamoureux to remove everything. Much to his chagrin, the dispute escalated in late 2013 after the Rhode Island Chapter of the Surfrider Foundation joined the suit as amicus curia (friend of the court), to support continued public access to the beach and to discourage a relocation due to the potential impacts on the surrounding environment comprised of sensitive waterfront habitat. Amongst their varied legal points, the foundation pointed out:

The first questionable decision for a professional real estate developer is found in the fact that Defendant Lamoureux retained a professional engineering firm, Carrigan Engineering, to perform critical survey, site design and permitting work without requiring the firm to demonstrate proof of professional liability insurance. Given Appellant Lamoureux's "experience" as a developer, the value of the lot and the cost of construction (in excess of \$620,000), one would think that he would have been more careful in making certain that his contractors were properly insured. Although the presence of professional liability insurance would not have prevented the continuing trespass from happening, it would have provided the basis for an alternative remedy at law to make the Appellants financially whole that would not involve a coercive taking of property dedicated to public use and enjoyment. If there was proper malpractice insurance in place, there is little doubt that no one would be looking to a park or a private charitable foundation to unwillingly give up their property to account for the Appellants' negligence.

... Lamoureux knew or should have known that surveys come in different degrees of accuracy. . . Lamoureux should have known that the survey work to be performed by Carrigan needed to meet applicable state standards for a boundary line survey. The Class III survey performed by Carrigan Engineering did not meet these state standards. The Court should find it unacceptable that both a professional property developer and a professional engineering firm cut corners on critical information like a site survey that would serve as a foundation to the whole property development process. It is in precisely this type of circumstance—where professionals fail to take reasonable steps to ascertain a property boundary—that the courts have recognized that mandatory injunctive relief is appropriate without consideration of the relative convenience of the hardship involved. What might be an "innocent mistake" for an individual property owner building his own home for the first time, is not the case for those in the business of property development who should reasonably be held to a higher standard of knowledge and care.

[Click for complete article](#)

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—November/December, 2014

YOU ARE INVITED!



The Geomatics Engineering Program at Fresno State University cordially invites you, your colleagues, friends and family to the **54th Annual Geomatics Engineering Conference**

February 20th and 21st 2015

Clovis Veteran Memorial, Clovis, California.

The conference will have a variety of activities for you to enjoy including:

Zombie auction, Live auction, Bulldog Race, Banquet, Scholarship Commemoration, Panel Discussion

Presentations by great speakers such as Gary Kent and Michael Pallamary.

This is a student-run conference and with your presence you will be supporting the Geomatics Engineering Program and its students. The student are working hard to make this event enjoyable and fun, please come support us.

Price and more information about this event will be announced soon. Stay tuned.

If you have any questions, comments or if you would like to be added to our mailing list please feel free to email us:

Marco Castaneda – Conference Chair
neda209@mail.fresnostate.edu
Luz Garcia- Conference Co-Chair
luz931@mail.fresnostate.edu

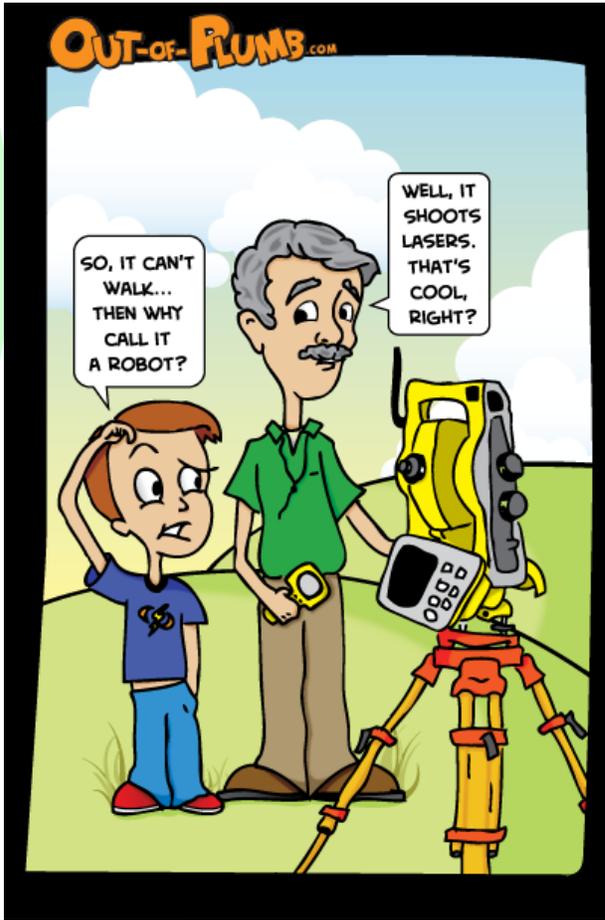
The Geomatics Engineering Program at Fresno State is a non-profit organization. Donations, scholarships, auction items, or any other help are welcomed and appreciated.

Come to support, come to have fun, ADOPT A BULLDOG!

Just For Laughs

Originally posted on
 October 15, 2008
 Out-of-plumb.com

Again, thank you to
 Chase Perryman
 For allowing us
 to share his
 great work.



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CLSA EDUCATION FOUNDATION
Land Surveying Photo Gallery



California Land Surveyors Association Education Foundation would like to thank Bryant Sturgess for generously donating his collection of historic images.

The proceeds from the photos sold on this website will be used to fund scholarships for land surveying students.

It's In There

CA SENATE BILL 1050 (Notary Law Update)

Summary: Senate Bill 1050 is the latest change to the form and wording of the statutory certificates of acknowledgment, jurat and proof of execution prescribed under California law in recent years. SB 1050 adds a prescribed consumer disclosure to each of these certificates.

Signed: August 15, 2014

Effective: January 01, 2015

Chapter: 197

Affects: Amends Civil Code Sections 1189 and 1195, and Government Code Section 8202

Changes:

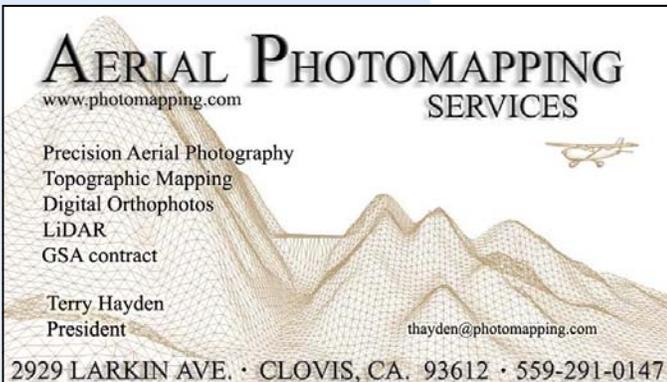
1. Requires the statutory acknowledgment, jurat and proof of execution certificate to contain a prescribed consumer disclosure in a box at the top of each certificate.
2. Requires the prescribed disclosure to be legible.
3. Clarifies that the physical format of the boxed notice in the new law is an example, for purposes of illustration and not limitation, of the physical format of the boxed notice that fulfills the requirement of the new law.

Analysis: Senate Bill 1050 is the latest change to the form and wording of the statutory certificates of acknowledgment, jurat and proof of execution prescribed under California law in recent years. In taking an acknowledgment that will be filed in the state of California, or any jurat or proof of execution, a Notary must use the exact form of the certificate as contained in statute for each of these acts. SB 1050 adds a prescribed consumer disclosure to each of these certificates.

The wording of the disclosure, which is identical for each of the three certificates, reads: "A notary public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness, accuracy, or validity of that document." This disclosure must appear in a box at the top of the certificate. The purpose of this new law is to cut down on fraud. According to the author in the bill analysis presented to the California Legislature, "When people are unfamiliar with the meaning and effect of a notary's seal and signature, there is an opportunity for criminals to pass deceptive legal documents claiming a false right to money, authority, or real property by inferring, suggesting, or stating that the notary's seal and signature constitute an official endorsement of authenticity. SB 1050 seeks to reduce fraud by including a clear consumer notification statement as to the limited effect of a notary's seal and signature. People unfamiliar with notary seals who are studying a fraudulent document presented to them will not give undue consideration to a notary seal as an official endorsement of authenticity and legal correctness."

Technically, the facts attested by a Notary in an acknowledgment, jurat or proof of execution are stated in the certificate a Notary signs and seals. Reading the certificates would prove that a Notary does not certify to the truthfulness, accuracy or validity of the document, raising a question of why this new law was needed. However, given how we have become accustomed to seeing such disclosures appearing in contracts, insurance policies, mortgage loans and other legal documents, the author of this bill and the California Secretary of State's office believes a plain language notice that the public can understand will help dispel any doubt about what a California Notary can do.

If there is a section in the Professional Land Surveyors Act or Subdivision Map Act that you would like to have discussed or you have a comment on, please send requests to: editor@californiacentralvalleysurveyors.org



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