

Central Valley Chapter - California Land Surveyors Association
www.californiacentralvalleysurveyors.org/printing-press/



Central Valley Chapter THE PRISM



All Chapter meetings are
 "To be Determined at this time."
 Below is a list of scheduled dates:

October 27, 2021

November 26, 2021

December - No meeting

Please see the Chapter website at

<https://californiacentralvalleysurveyors.org/printing-press>

for more information.

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California Land Surveyors
 Association

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Announcements

2022 STATE CLSA CONFERENCE ANNOUNCED

CLSA will participate in the 2022 Western Regional Survey Conference "Mapping the Path for the Next Generation", March 30-April 2, 2022 at the Luxor Hotel Casino, Las Vegas, NV. Go to plseducation.org for more information.

SURVEY EXAM SCHEDULE

FS (LSIT) - Computer based, offered year round

PS (NCEES LS) - Computer based, offered year round

CA LS - APRIL 13, 2022

CLSA MEMBERSHIP ADDED BENEFIT

Once negotiations conclude, NSPS membership will be an added benefit for CLSA members.

If you have news or an event that you would like to announce, send it
 to: editor@californiacentralvalleysurveyors.org

2021 Chapter Officers

President: Will Paul

Vice President: Landon Blake

Secretary: Dani Cano

Treasurer: Rich James

Chapter Director: Tristan Higgins

Chapter Director: Landon Blake

Alt. Chapter Dir: Will Paul

Alt. Chapter Dir: Rich James

2021 Chapter Committees

By-Laws Committee: Open (Chairman)

Education Committee: Open (Chairman)

Membership Committee: Rich Brown (Chairman)

Monument Pres Committee: Mike Quartaroli (Chairman)

Newsletter: Rich Brown (Editor)

Professional Practices Committee: Mike Quartaroli (Chairman)

Website: Landon Blake (Web Master)

2021 Chapter Programs

Public Outreach Committee: Zachary Wong (Coordinator)

Workshops: Open (Coordinator)

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Education

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Classes, Training, and Continuing Education

Mark Your Calendars

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

Nov 29-1, 2021 Sacramento
Dec 27-29, 2021 Walnut Creek
Jan 10-12, 2022 Sacramento
Feb 7-9, 2022 Walnut Creek
Feb 23-25, 2022 Sacramento

[Register here](#)

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

Dec 6-7, 2021 Sacramento
Jan 3-4, 2022 Walnut Creek
Feb 14-15, 2022 Sacramento

[Register here](#)

CAD Masters - AutoCAD Level III (1-Day Course)

Jan 6, 2022 Sacramento
Apr 28, 2022 Walnut Creek
June 23, 2022 Sacramento

[Register here](#)

CAD Masters - Civil 3D for Surveyors (2-Day Course)

Jan 3-4, 2022 Sacramento
Apr 25-26, 2022 Walnut Creek
June 20-21, 2022 Sacramento

[Register here](#)

CAD Masters - Civil 3D Introduction (3-Day Course)

Nov 22-24, 2021, Sacramento
Dec 6-8, 2021, Walnut Creek
Dec 13-15, 2021, Sacramento
Jan 10-12, 2022, Walnut Creek
Jan 24-26, 2022, Sacramento
Feb 23-25, 2021, Walnut Creek

[Register here](#)

CAD Masters - Civil 3D Advanced (2-Day Course)

Dec 13-15 2021 Walnut Creek
Feb 14-16, 2022 Sacramento
June 6-8, 2022 Walnut Creek
Aug 1-3, 2022 Sacramento

[Register here](#)

Lorman Training - A Primer on Land Surveys

On Demand, Webinar

[Register here](#)

CLSA 2022 Conference

Luxor Hotel & Casino - Las Vegas, NV
March 30-April 2, 2022

[Register here](#)

Joint Conference to include:

Arizona Professional Land Surveyors (APLS)
California Land Surveyors Association (CLSA)
Nevada Association of Land Surveyors (NALS)
Utah Council of Land Surveyors (UCLS)
Western Federation of Professional Surveyors (WFPS)

CLSA - Webinar (Photogrammetry to CAD Workflow Class)

Jan 7, 2022 12pm - 1pm

[Register here](#)

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

Agency Holiday Closures

This list is to be a guide ONLY. Please contact the specific Agency for questions or conformation.

Stanislaus County

Nov 25-26
Dec 24
Dec 31

City of Ceres

Nov 25-26
Dec 24-25
Dec 30-31

City of Modesto

Nov 25-26
Dec 24
Dec 31

City of Turlock

Nov 25-26
Dec 24
Dec 31

San Joaquin County

Nov 25-26
Dec 24
Dec 31

City of Manteca

Nov 25-26
Dec 24
Dec 31

City of Stockton

Nov 25-26
Dec 24
Dec 30-31

Merced County

Nov 25-26
Dec 24
Dec 31

City of Merced

Nov 25-26
Dec 24
Dec 31

Tuolumne County

Nov 25-26
Dec 24
Dec 31

M.I.D. (Modesto)

Nov 25-26
Dec 24
Dec 31

T.I.D.

Nov 25-26
Dec 24-27
Dec 31
Jan 3-4

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

to: editor@californiacentralvalleysurveyors.org

Chapter News

Published by Modesto Bee, November 7, 2021



David Skidmore, PLS 7126

October 7, 2021

Hughson, California - With great sorrow, we mourn the sudden passing of David Lee Skidmore at the age of 64. A beloved father, husband, brother and friend to so many, Dave will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

Dave is survived by his wife of 33 years, Nikki Skidmore, sons Jacob and Ben, daughter-in-law, Kylie and grandson Rhett, his father, Richard Skidmore and sister, Susan Rash. He was preceded in death by his loving mother, Jaqueline and stepfather Marvin Solum, and brother, Timothy Skidmore.

Dave was born in Patterson, California before the family moved to Hughson in 1960, where he resided until his passing. A graduate of Hughson High, Dave lettered in football, baseball and basketball. He went on to study at Modesto Junior College and California State University, Fresno. Dave worked at Delamare-Fultz Engineering and River Mountain before arriving at R.B. Welty & Associates to work alongside his father, where he proudly obtained his Surveyor license.

After nearly 25 years of practice in the Modesto area, Dave boldly set out to establish his own business, cofounding Associated Engineering Group, Inc. in 2002 with his colleague and dear friend, Ryan Carrel. Over the next 20 years, Dave successfully grew the business and expanded its professional consulting services. His career saw thousands of projects which spanned the entire Central California region. One of his proudest achievements was having his son work alongside him for the past eight years. Dave loved working outdoors and never hesitated to share his knowledge with employees, clients and friends. He was an exceptional worker, business leader and well-respected Land Surveyor with deep admiration for the profession.

Many will remember and appreciate Dave for the incredible mentorship he provided, whether work-related, land planning or sharing his personal experiences. He was passionate about helping others who also faced family health disabilities and was eager to lend a hand in any way he could.

Dave worked hard to maintain numerous lifelong friendships and cherished the company of others. He had a passion for the outdoors and enjoyed skiing, golf, scuba diving, camping, fishing, backpacking, softball and tennis. Dave also loved traveling and enjoyed adventuring with close friends on annual trips for over 30 years. Above all else, Dave was a devoted father and husband. When his sons were young, Dave enjoyed coaching their various sporting activities. Most recently, he was thrilled to become a grandfather. Dave and Nikki adored spending time with their grandson and planning their next visits. Over the past few years, Dave completed a remodel of their beloved Hughson home. Developing and caring for their property was important to Dave, and he was extremely proud of everything they built. He will be forever irreplaceable in his loved one's hearts.

A Celebration of Life will be held in Dave's honor on his birthday, November 20th, at the Fruit Yard at 11:30 AM, located at 7948 Yosemite Blvd. in Modesto. An open house will follow the service at Dave and Nikki's home. In lieu of flowers, the family welcomes donations in honor of Dave to the Ronald McDonald House.

Western Regional Survey Conference

MAPPING THE PATH FOR THE

NEXT GENERATION

NEXT GENERATION

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Project Surveyor | 3+ Years of experience | Selma, CA

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CAD Technician | 3+ Years of experience | Selma, CA

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National News

Adverse Possession or Trespass?

By Wendy Lathrop, PS, CFM

When we talk about adverse possession, the topic is a claim of ownership. There are very specific requirements that are common to all states' statutes: the possession of the land must be open (not hidden), notorious (known), hostile and exclusive (against the "true" owners' claim of right); and continuous for a statutorily prescribed time frame (that length varying between states). Some states add requirements to also have paid taxes for that time frame, but others don't care who pays as long as the treasury's coffers are being filled.

What distinguishes this from trespass? After all, suits to claim ownership by adverse possession might include the phrase "trespass to try title." That terminology refers to a quiet title action either to clear problems in chains of title or to resolve competing claims to property.

Beyond trespass to try title, general "trespass" can have expensive repercussions, whether the entry on land was intentional or not. This is because "trespass" falls under the umbrella of tort actions, and torts open the door to financial consequences.

A tort is any wrong done to a person or property, other than a breach of contract, for which the court will remedy the situation by awarding damages. Torts come various forms, but the ones surveyors are accused of most often are trespass and negligence. Torts can arise from intentional actions (or inactions) or negligent ones. A finding of liability for a tort means responsibility for the damages, and courts can assess these in the form of compensatory awards to make the injured party whole and/or punitive awards to teach the transgressor a lesson. Like McDonalds serving that million dollar cup of scalding hot coffee to a drive-through customer, surveyors can be found negligent, or we can be judged guilty of trespass when walking across a planted field or trimming vegetation to get a clear sight on a monument. Such tortious behavior can earn the offender thousands in punitive damages.

[Continued on Page 8](#)



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Classifieds

TRANSPORTATION SURVEYOR - (CALTRANS) DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Department of Transportation (District 10, San Joaquin County), is currently recruiting for multiple Transportation Surveyor positions (**\$5,406.00-\$10,377.00 per month**).

Some of the duties include, but are not limited to: Analyzes field survey data, prepares Survey Requests and compiles supporting information for field surveys. Produces maps and documents, including legal descriptions, acquisition deeds, appraisal maps

The incumbent works in an air-conditioned office setting with artificial lighting and/or natural lighting. Above duties require the use of a computer for extended periods of time. Duties may also require the incumbent to sit for extended periods of time to perform the duties of the position. Duties may also require the incumbent to work overtime. The incumbent may occasionally be required to work outdoors, on uneven terrain and in various weather conditions. The incumbent may also be required to travel overnight on short-term assignments throughout the Central Region or State for meetings, training or field/office job assignments.

San Joaquin County - Final filing Date: Until Filled

For further information, refer to the duty statement in the CalCareer link below.

<https://jobs.ca.gov/CalHrPublic/Jobs/JobPosting.aspx?JobControlId=248376>

JUNIOR ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN - (CALTRANS) DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

The Junior Engineering Technician (JET) is an entry level position to get started in the Surveying profession (**\$2,661.00-\$4,026.00 per month**). This position is planned on being available in District 10 (San Joaquin County) in the near future. Go to <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/human-resources/exams/surveyvacancies> for more information and open positions.

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Adverse Possession of Trespass? *continued from page 6*

Now back to distinguishing between trespass and adverse possession. If you win an adverse possession claim, you owe nothing (except legal fees) and gain clear quieted title. But if you fail, then you have been a trespasser and may be liable for damages. The case of *Lessee of Ewing v. Burnet* (36 U.S. 41) is far from recent, having been heard in the United States Supreme Court in 1837, but is illustrative.

Jacob Burnet owned the house across the street from a vacant lot owned by James Ewing in Cincinnati, Ohio. Ewing's lot was primarily sand and gravel, with excavation of those materials being the primary use and value of the lot; Ewing leased it out for that purpose. The steepness of the lot prevented it from being fenced.

Part of the problem in this suit was the fact that both Ewing and Burnet claimed deeded title to Ewing's lot, with a deed to Ewing's predecessor in 1798 and a deed directly to Burnet from that same grantor in 1803. Burnet started paying taxes on Ewing's lot in 1810, and did so until this suit began in 1834 after treating Ewing's lot as his own for all those years. That included claiming the exclusive right to dig and remove sand and gravel from the lot. Burnet gave some people leases and permission to remove sand and gravel from Ewing's lot for their own use and never let anyone else do so, suing them for—here's that term—trespass. The law in Ohio then (as now) required 21 years of adverse possession for claims to ripen. Witnesses at trial testified to Burnet's continuous claim of exclusive rights to the lot beyond that minimum requirement.

Meanwhile, Ewing's grantor knew of Burnet's deed but never entered the land, demanded possession, or exercised any act of ownership over it. And Burnet knew of this other claimant to the land before securing his own deed from the original owner (the predecessor to Ewing's grantor). While Ewing's claim was rooted in older legal title, which gave him constructive rights of possession, Ewing didn't act within the statutory window to reclaim the lot. The Supreme Court stated that Burnet "was during the whole time in possession of the lot, as *strictly, perfectly, and exclusively, as any person could be* of a lot not enclosed or built upon; or as the situation of the lot would admit of." [Emphasis added] That won him title by adverse possession.

Distinguishing between adverse possession and trespass, the Court noted that intention matters: "An entry by one man on the land of another, is an ouster of the legal possession arising from the title, or not; according to the intention with which it is done: if made under claim and colour of right, it is an ouster; otherwise it is a mere trespass, in legal language the intention guides the entry, and fixes its character."

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