

The TBM Newsletter of the NHLSA

Volume 26 Issue 12

December 2024



The TBM is published by

New Hampshire Land Surveyors Association

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JD and the Stonemasons
at the 55th Annual Meeting & Equipment Show

Deadline for Advertising and Articles

The TBM Newsletter of the NHLSA is published monthly.
Copy and ad deadline is the 1st of each month.



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"The world is full of willing
people—some willing to
work, the rest willing to let
them."

~ Robert Frost

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Annual Meeting– December 6, 2024

Once again, our Annual Meeting & Equipment Show was held at the Double Tree by Hilton Manchester Downton in Manchester. The experiences of last year helped make things run more smoothly, and the freezing rain and snow stopped early on Thursday morning. As always, Barb and her helpers were up before dawn to get ready and make everything happen, setting out books, calendars, antique and not so antique instruments up for auction, and other merchandise, along with the usual candy and smiles.

Thursday progressed with two separate seminars. The technicians spent the day with Tasha Huhta, Eric Salovitch, and Emily Hayes learning about mentoring, reviewing deed interpretation, understanding path to licensure, and studying for the exams as they move along the career path. There was also a guest appearance by two technicians who had recently passed their FS exam, and share their experience. We had about 60 young surveyors in attendance, a positive sign for the future of our profession in NH.

The licensee seminar was led by Tim Burch from NSPS, covering some familiar topics: ethics and standards, promoting our profession, licensure, social media, and mentoring young surveyors. Tim is intimately involved with NSPS, and it was valuable to get a national perspective on the state of land surveying today. Not surprisingly, the Young Surveyors' effort in NH is one of the most successful in the country. This is true not only in getting students involved but in supporting their continuing education and development through to licensure. Kudos for this go to Eric Salovitch, Emily Hayes, and our recently installed director Joel Connolly.

The banquet was well attended and for the first time ever we had a band of all land surveyors providing country and Irish tunes for the crowd. JD and the Stonemasons, from the homebase of Sunapee, took the stage with fiddle, guitars and banjo. The dancing was light, but the music was lively.

Friday offered a wide array of mini-workshops and camaraderie. My day was spent learning 1) that the new datum is coming, not in years but in months (beta testing version anyway); 2) that Zoning and Planning Boards still make mistakes sometimes; 3) that your GPS base should be in the open sky and you gotta shoot those monuments at least twice- (three times if you work for Northam Survey).

By 5:00 Friday everything was packed in the trailer and on the road. I cannot say enough about how lucky NHLA is to have volunteers and employees who worked so hard to make this meeting happen. While there is a village behind it, we all owe Loralie Gerard, Craig Bailey, Seth Burnell, Barbara Cormier, and Amy Cotter a special thanks for their time and effort.

Respectfully,
Clayton Platt



President Ryan Fowler conducting the Annual Business Meeting



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Tellers Committee Report

Know All Readers By These Presents; At 11:30 o'clock in the forenoon on the 26th day of November in the 2024th year of our Lord, the duly appointed members of the NHLSA Tellers Committee assembled at the Chen Yang Li Restaurant in Bow NH, for the purpose of counting ballots cast in the election of officers and directors charged with leading NHLSA in 2025. In attendance were Doug Sweet, Chairman and Gang Leader; Brian N. Burford, Robert's Rules Parliamentarian and noted philatelist (google it); Mark Stevens, Supervisor of the Checklist, scribe and cargo carrier. Also, in attendance after a long hiatus was Bill Bean, team mascot and buyer of lunch.

The first item on the agenda was to order copious quantities of Won Ton Soup, Lo Mein, Sweet and Sour Pork, Shrimp Fried Rice and Pu Pu Platter. Motion by Sweet to stick Bill Bean with the check, seconded by Stevens, amended by Burford to also include tax and generous tip. Motion carried unanimous but one.

The next agenda item for discussion and resolution was raised by Brian Nelson Burford who inquired as to whether any of the Committee members would be present at the Annual Meeting to present the report revealing the results of this election. None were forthcoming with volunteer enthusiasm. Mark Stevens was tasked with preparing a report in a sealed envelope, to be presented to President Ryan Fowler to open and read aloud to the assembled members at said Annual Meeting.

The next agenda item requiring thoughtful consideration and thorough deliberation by the sage members of the Tellers Committee was whether to disqualify, or accept, late ballots arriving after the designated deadline. Motion made by Burford to accept all ballots trickling in after the deadline but received before the Tellers Committee started their official count. Counter-Motion by Stevens to not accept any late ballots arriving after the specified and published drop-dead date because rules are rules and deadlines are deadlines, not suggestions.

Motion made by Sweet to amend the Stevens countermotion to also include appropriate language requiring late voting members to report directly to the firing squad without passing "Go" or collecting \$200. Bill Bean then proposed an addendum to the Sweet amendment to the Stevens countermotion to the Burford Motion, which would allow for a final cigarette before the late-voting-member becomes the firing squad center of attention. Chairman Sweet called for any further discussion and Burford educated the Tellers that the U.S. Surgeon General has determined that smoking is harmful to your health. Therefore, in the interests of keeping all NHLSA members healthy, the Tellers concluded that a final cigarette should not be provided to members facing the firing squad. Burford's revision to Bean's addendum, to Sweet's amendment to Stevens' countermotion of the original Burford motion then passed unanimously. I'm still unclear whether we are counting late ballots or not, but we won't be smoking any cigarettes.

With the formalities now out of the way, Tellers undertook the task at hand, counting ballots. A total of 81 ballots were received, which is a slight increase from last year. Upon verification that these ballots were submitted by an NHLSA member with voting privileges, and who was not scheduled for firing squad, all 81 ballots were accepted.

Certified tallies were as follows:

For **President**: Craig Bailey- 81 votes.

For **President-Elect**: Seth Burnell- 81 votes.

For **Vice-President**: (There was no candidate on the ballot.) Write in votes were as follows:

Receiving three (3) votes: Steve Michaud

Receiving two (2) votes: Mark Condodemetracky
Mike Carter
Eric Peabody

Receiving one (1) vote each: Steve Bibeau, Paul Gendron, Bevan Timm, John Noonan, Dave Krause, Scott Boudreau, Joel Connolly, Ken Clinton, Jack Kaiser, Dennis McKenney, Jed Paquin, Alan Barnard, Robert Weir, Patrick Sweeny, Mike Bemis, and "Joe Biden"

For **Secretary**: Eric Salovitch – 79 votes
Steve Bibeau – 1 vote

Continued on page 6

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For **Treasurer:** (there was no candidate on the ballot) Write in votes were as follows:

Receiving three (3) votes: James Verra

Receiving one (1) vote each: Emily Hayes, Steve Michaud, Jason Pohopek, Elizabeth Keegan, Bill Doucet, Wendy Pelletier, Mark Condodemetraky, John Noonan, Steve Bibeau, Kevin Tilton, and "Warren Buffett"

For **NSPS Director:** Dave Collier - 79 votes

For **Professional Conduct & Practice Director:** Joel Connolly - 79 votes
Steve Bibeau – 1 vote

For **Publications Director:** Clayton Platt – 80 votes

With the votes counted and certified, and with the soup course being served, Chairman Sweet called for any New Business, at which time Committee members regaled each other with highly detailed reports of our latest health maladies, including but not limited to: exploding aneurysms, deteriorating vision, compressed disc, bad backs, pinched nerves, sciatica, new developments in walking canes, stress tests, pace-makers, gall stones, diabetes, and colonoscopies.

A motion was accepted to adjourn followed said dissertation with a promise to meet back next year, if any of us are still upright and taking in oxygen.

Further we sayeth not.

Doug Sweet, Chairman
Bill Bean, buyer-of-lunch
Mark Stevens, Scribe
Brian Nelson Burford, philatelist



Tellers Committee 2024 counting ballots.
(L-R) Doug Sweet, Brian Burford, Mark Stevens, Bill Bean.
Photo by passing waiter who commented favorably on Bill Bean's orange suspenders.



This is what grief is to me
It's now a part of who I am

Winter is so peaceful
The snow covers up the ground with a soft blanket
Covering all the holes

Like grief
It covers my smile and my happiness
A blanket to protect me from life that is no more
It holds you close to my heart
It holds my pain
It keeps me silent in my thoughts and memories
It helps me move forward with you in my heart
It helps me smile in public as if everything is okay
It comforts me when I am alone
It helps me sleep at night
It brings me peace
It helps me cry and laugh
It just helps
It is now a part of who I am
And will never leave
Because it reminds me of you and the love we had
It holds me close and keeps me sane
Thank you grief
You're my best friend.

- Heather Lewis



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NSPS CERTIFIED SURVEY TECHNICIAN (CST)

December 2024 Report

On December 6, 2024, eight survey technicians were tested at the 55th Annual Meeting and Equipment Show in Manchester, NH. Test takers took the Certified Surveying Technician (CST) Level 1 and Level 2 Exam. The exam was proctored by Scott Boudreau. CST is a comprehensive national (four-level) certification program for survey technicians sponsored by the National Society of Professional Surveyors. The Certified Survey Technician Board (CST Board) administers the program, which is intended to gauge technical capabilities and general knowledge of workplace safety and procedures. Four levels of certification are offered in two primary tracks – field and office.

The New Hampshire Land Surveyors Association (NHLSA) is looking to expand the CST program within New Hampshire. To further this effort the NHLSA CST Committee is scheduling testing three to four times per year. The Committee has scheduled the next exam for March 28th at the Hilton Garden Inn, Lebanon, NH and is also looking to schedule testing this May at the University of New Hampshire Durham campus. Refer to the NSPS website calendar link to sign up for a test at any location: <https://cstnsp.com/calendar/>

The additional education and preparation for CST testing can be of great benefit to survey technicians. The program also benefits NHLSA, its members, and future members, by insuring a well-trained work force. The CST program was set up for field technicians on a path to excel in field operations. In addition, the CST testing program helps to prepare technicians who are looking to track into licensure with exam practice and material competency under the CST office testing track.

Please reach out to Scott Boudreau or John Chagnon if you or someone in your firm has anyone interested in the CST program.

John R. Chagnon, LLS 738
CST Committee Chair
603-766-2988
jchagnon@haleyward.com

Scott D. Boudreau, LLS 961
CST Proctor

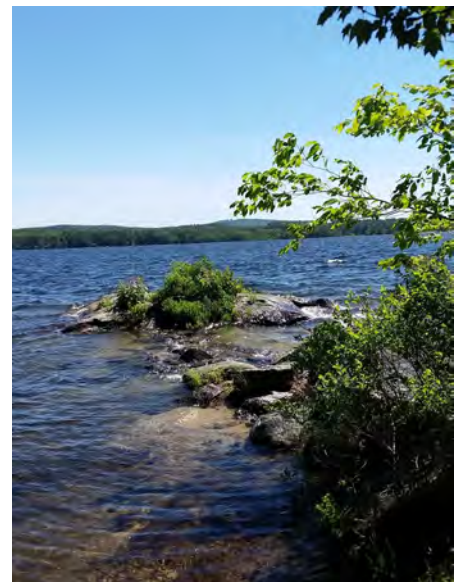
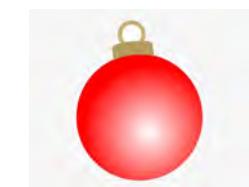
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This next location of the *Where Am I?* photo. If you think you know where this photo location is, send your guess to Barbara at info@nhlsa.org.

An extra month to send in your guess!

- Emily Hayes





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Thoughts on Professional Practice and Education

Article 13: Pursuit of Graduate Education

by Knud E. Hermansen[†]
P.L.S., P.E., Ph.D., Esq.

This is the thirteenth article I have prepared in the series offering thoughts on professional practice and education. In this article I am going to give my thoughts on obtaining graduate education. I will define graduate education as any education earned beyond the undergraduate bachelor's degree.

I will start with the premise that graduate education is not necessary for a rewarding and successful surveying career. I would even go so far to state that for many surveyors, obtaining graduate education will not gain an economical return on the investment. Finally, I will readily admit that there are numerous surveyors without a graduate education, or even an undergraduate degree that, are far more intelligent than many people with graduate education, including more intelligent than me. In other words, three graduate degrees does not make me more intelligent than many surveyors without a degree. If you are content with your position in the profession, your future, and your prospects, you do not need to consider graduate education.

There are three reasons to embark on graduate education. The first is to expand the depth of your knowledge. This would be accomplished by obtaining advanced education in surveying. The second reason is to expand the scope of knowledge. Expanding the scope of knowledge would occur by obtaining advanced education in a discipline other than surveying, such as business administration, law, public administration, civil engineering, or forestry, as examples. The third reason is to qualify for other employment or licenses. For example, a graduate degree is generally required for a tenured college faculty position.

Consequently, a person with an undergraduate degree in philosophy that decides to pursue surveying, may wish to consider getting a graduate degree in surveying rather than an undergraduate degree in surveying. A person with a surveying degree may wish to obtain a graduate degree in business administration.

The first graduate degree is generally a master's degree (e.g., Master of Science, Master of Arts, Master of Business Administration). The master's degree tends to focus on a specific discipline. There are few, if any, requirements when obtaining a master's degree for earning non-discipline specific courses to provide for a 'rounded' education. Thirty credits are generally required for a master's degree. Some of the credits may be awarded for research and thesis. The thirty credits may be composed entirely of surveying or surveying related coursework.

For the person interested in graduate study, there are two decisions that must be made. The first decision is to decide the focus of graduate study. The person must decide if studies will be in surveying or another field such as civil engineering, business, law, etc. The next decision is to decide the intensity of study. What I mean by intensity of study is the goal of graduate education. The easiest route for graduate education is to obtain a graduate certificate in a certain field. A graduate certificate at the University of Maine requires 12-15 credits of study, depending on the field of study. The next level of intensity is a master's degree that generally requires around 30 credits of study. Finally, a doctorate requires 42 to 90 credits of study beyond the bachelor's degree. In some cases, a person can achieve the goal of obtaining a graduate degree by taking smaller steps. For example, the credits used to obtain a graduate certificate can later be used to obtain a master's degree. The credits obtained in a master's degree can often be used toward a doctorate. There are exceptions such as a law degree where there are no intermediate goals toward obtaining a juris doctorate (law degree).

A student who seeks to embark on graduate education should be aware that many graduate programs will not accept or only accept a limited number of credits from another university. For example, a university that requires 30 credits for graduate study to obtain a master's degree may only accept six credits from another university. The program would require 24 credits obtained at the university awarding the graduate degree.

[†] Other books and articles by Knud can be found at <https://umaine.edu/svt/faculty/hermansen-articles/>



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I Found It—Now What Is It?

This month’s mystery item was submitted by Bob Berti. Thanks Bob. Our readers with long memories may remember a similar item which ran in this column many years ago. If you think you can identify this mystery item, email your guess to Barbara at info@nhlsa.org.

Happy Holidays,
Mark Stevens, LLS



I Found It – Now What Is It? Responses

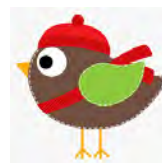
Gerry Miller correctly identified Brian Burford’s November mystery item as a “hand-vise” or clamp used for holding small pieces or slippery hard-to-hold objects. Gerry’s response indicates some professions that he understood to have used this tool, and I was aware of two others. I had seen these clamps used to stretch wet cow hides upon a drying frame during the tanning process in a leather factory, and also understood they were used for stretching fabric across the springs and frames when upholsterying a couch or chair.

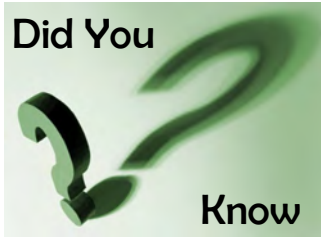
Mark



Brian’s What Is It is in tough shape. I’ve attached another picture that is in better condition. It’s a multi-discipline handheld vise with wooden handle tool apparently used by jewelers, gunsmiths, and watchmakers. I’ve only seen one that was being used by a jeweler. What’s not shown in the pictures is a hole in the end of the wooden handle where wire can be fed through and held in place by the clamping mechanism of the vise. Then it can be bent, twisted any which way into shape near a torch without burning your fingers.

- Gerry Miller





That any member is invited to any Executive Committee meeting? In addition, all members are welcome to attend our annual Goals Meeting. Have you been looking for a way to serve NHLSA but aren't quite sure where your skills might best fit in? This is your opportunity to learn about all the committees doing important work to make the Association shine. Many of these committees could use additional help, and there is a task and level of time commitment that will fit just anyone. If that isn't enough to entice you already, the Association will provide lunch. The NHLSA Goals Meeting will be held on January 11th, 2024, 9am-3pm, at Northam Survey, LLC, 750 Central Avenue, Suite N, Dover, NH. An **RSVP is required**, so if you would like to join us, please email Barb at info@nhlsa.org.



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Installation Ceremony



Linda Foster, NSPS President-Elect installing new officers & directors

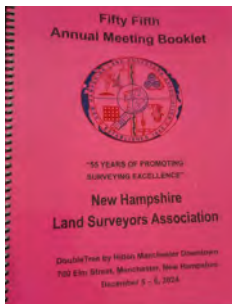
L-R: Craig T. Bailey, Seth Burnell, Joel Connolly, Eric Salovitch, Clayton Platt, David Collier

FAKE

Long ago and far away, when I was in High School, mini skirts were the fashion rage. Suzie Smith had a micro mini skirt that made old ladies go into heart palpitations and then faint dead away. Men would go brain dead and stutter and crash into walls whenever Suzie walked by. All male critters in the area with an ounce of testosterone, from bullfrogs to roosters and rams to bucks, got helplessly sucked up into Suzie's vortex whenever she wore the skirt. I think they eventually took it away from her and locked it up in an underground vault to save mankind. Something about it being a lethal weapon.

REAL

I had totally forgotten about those long ago days until this morning when I read the Annual Reports and Calendar over my first coffee. Someone with excellent tastes had picked the same color as Suzie's mini-skirt! Sigh....such memories. Being in a warm fuzzy mood, I immediately liked the booklet and calendar before I opened them.



Clayton



Tocky

We understand that the holiday season can be hard for some, and it's okay to not feel happy or joyful. We appreciate you and value you.

Peace,
Your editing team



Roscoe



Barb



Emily



Dave



Tim

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