

The TBM Newsletter of the NHLSA

Volume 27 Issue 2

February 2025



The TBM is published by

New Hampshire Land Surveyors Association

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President Bailey officially inducts Scott Boudreau as NHLSA's new Vice President at the recent Goals Meeting



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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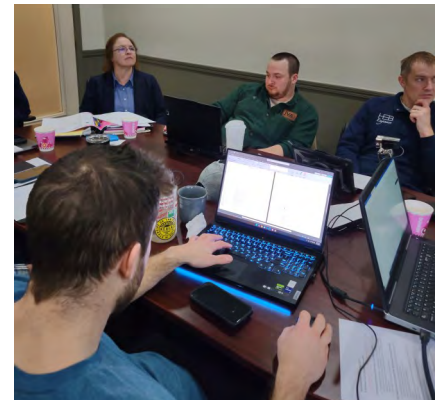
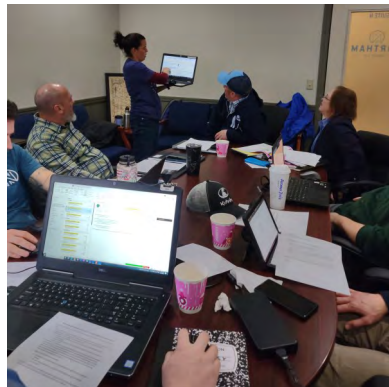
"When you come to the end of your rope, tie a knot and hang on."

~ Franklin D. Roosevelt

NHLSA Goals Meeting Highlights

The Executive Committee and other Committee members met on January 11th at the shiny new office of Northam Survey in Dover. The ExCom met at 8:00 am, followed by the Goals Meeting. Thirteen members attended in person, driving in a slight snowstorm, and Meri Merico, the new Young Surveyors Chair, attended via Zoom. Sorry Meri missed the doughnuts that Eric provided. Thank you Eric! The room was packed with good ideas and much optimism. All aspects of the operation of the Association were touched on and discussed, with the highlights outlined below. As you can see, this is a very progressive list with lots to accomplish—we need your help!

- ◆ Disbanded the DOT & Municipal Boundaries Ad-Hoc Committees, due to lack of activity.
- ◆ Created a new Ad-Hoc Committee titled “NH Coordinate System”.
- ◆ Discussed recruitment of volunteers and support for all NHLSA endeavors, not just by a general call-out but by directly asking individuals to volunteer.
- ◆ Continue the search for a Treasurer and continue with QuickBooks accounting software; created a Venmo account; set a budget meeting for September 8th.
- ◆ Keep up to date with pending legislation and OLPC activities.
- ◆ Increase support for the Education Director in organizing speakers and seminars; try to hold bi-monthly meeting of the Education Committee; with Eric Mitchell’s guidance, plan the Putting It All Together class for August to be taught by Eric Salovitch and Ryan Fowler.
- ◆ Grow the Awards Committee for future transition; improve display for the Map Contest at the Annual Meeting.
- ◆ Review Publications advertising costs; set up schedule for regular contributions by committee chairs to be published in *The TBM*; organize and possibly digitize old TBMs.
- ◆ Encourage membership and all surveyors to index and keep records in acceptable formats for the NH State Archives. Digitize, digitize, digitize...
- ◆ Provide assistance and education on the upcoming nationwide datum change.
- ◆ Promote and support the Trig-Star program statewide, allow corporate sponsorships.
- ◆ Promote the scholarship program statewide and enlist the membership to help.
- ◆ Review NHLSA’s Ethics & Standards with possible updates
- ◆ Review Foundation’s leadership and By-Laws.
- ◆ Amy to attend 50% of ExCom meetings.





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The NSPS student chapter has committed to attending the NSPS student competition again this year. As you know, they won third place last year and after that taste of success, they are excited about 2025 and trying to come out on top again. It was a little trickier this year because the competition is being held during the University of Maine's spring break. Below is a sponsorship form as both a fillable (on request) PDF form, and a Word document. The students are doing T-Shirts as they did last year.

- Rich Vannozi, Assistant Professor of Surveying Engineering Technology



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Greetings from the Student Chapter of the National Society of Professional Surveyors at the University of Maine! We want to take a moment to invite you to join us in supporting the next generation of surveying professionals.

Our student chapter is committed to nurturing excellence in surveying and related fields providing our members with the knowledge, skills, and opportunities they need to succeed. We are seeking donations from businesses like yours.

Your generous contributions can make a significant difference in our ability to provide:

- Educational Events: We organize workshops, guest lectures, and training sessions to enhance our members' knowledge and skills.
- Conference Participation: Your support allows our members to attend regional and national surveying conferences, gaining exposure to industry trends and networking opportunities.
- Community Outreach: We engage in outreach programs to use surveying and geospatial sciences in our communities.

By supporting our student chapter, you're not just investing in our future; you're actively shaping the future of the surveying profession. **To become a sponsor for the NSPS National Competition held in the spring, a donation of \$300 would be greatly appreciated. As a token of our appreciation, each \$300 sponsor will receive a complimentary competition T-shirt, on which your business will be proudly listed!**

To donate or learn more about how your contribution can benefit our chapter and its members, please do not hesitate to reach out to our treasurer, Thatcher Unfried at thatcher.unfried@maine.edu. Any amount, big or small, is greatly appreciated. Thank you for considering our support request and we look forward to the possibility of partnering with your esteemed business to foster excellence in surveying and geospatial sciences at the University of Maine. Thank you!

 Enclose this information with your donations. For donations of **\$300 and greater**, the name you provide below will be the name added to our t-shirt.

All checks should be made payable to: UMaine Student Chapter of NSPS. Mail to: School of Engineering Technology, 5711 Boardman Hall, Room 119 Orono, Maine 04469-5711

Name for T-shirt (clearly printed): _____

T-shirt mailing address: _____



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FOR THE RECORD... A TRIBUTE TO JOHN ADAMS BRECKENRIDGE

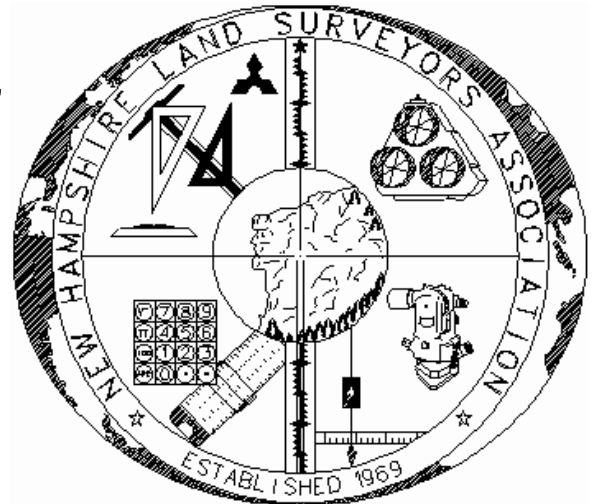
By Douglas C. Burnell

Inquiries and some confused reporting in [TBM 28](#) about the origin of our logo brought responses, indeed. First, I owe apologies to Don Wilson for attributing to him what proved to be a misstatement of where the credit was due for our logo. Secondly, I should like to share the following historical fact, which was gleaned from early NHLSA publications and covered in an epistle by John Breckenridge all the way from Germany.

John Adams Breckenridge was born on May 19, 1943, in Keene, where he later attended the charter meeting of NHLSA with his father, Walter, in 1969. Surveying in Sullivan County and doing business as Breckenridge Surveys of Unity Road in Newport at the time, John became NH RLS #418 in January 1972.

Early in the Spring of 1973, a contest to design an official logo for NHLSA was advertised. Since John was recuperating from an operation at the time, the hours he spent designing the winning entry were readily available. Unaltered since its conception, our logo shows the earth, flattened at the poles; the Old Man of the Mountains, New Hampshire's state symbol; and the transition from slide rules to calculators, computers, and EDM's, all of which were coming of age about then. For his efforts, John received a \$50 savings bond and, we should mention a resounding endorsement from the NHLSA membership that his design has withstood the test of time in a recent logo contest held in conjunction with our 20th anniversary.

In the Fall of 1975, John was "approached" -- a familiar phenomenon in NHLSA circles -- to take over the editing of [The NHLSA Newsletter](#), as the four issues "published sporadically at Concord, N.H." since November 1973 by John Keller were literally called. Armed with official backing to become a quarterly publication by vote of the NHLSA executive board on December 12, 1975, John covered current events such as the following in his first issue: Vern Dingman and Don Wilson working on a summary of N.H. law pertaining to land surveying; the N.H. Highway Department soliciting letters in support of the creation of a calibration base line; the death of John W. Durgin, Jr.; "Metric Recommendations for Land Surveyors"; NHLSA's first seminar ever, a two-day Air Photo Workshop held at the Ramada in Concord (all thirty attendees were listed, including Yours Truly and complete with addresses!); introduction of the "round toit", that indispensable item for everybody who will "do it as soon as I get around to it"; many separate words of consolation, "given the extent of national problems concerning unemployment, economic privation, and energy cutbacks"; and the farewell letter of outgoing President Albert A. Schaal.



Collecting as many other states' newsletters as he could get his hands on, and consulting especially with [The Vermont Cornerpost](#) veterans, John produced a second issue (July 1976) emulating Vermont's 5 1/4" x 8 1/4" format. This then-combined journal and newsletter was dubbed [The Benchmark](#), a bit of technical jargon mysteriously forwarded to John as one of many unopened responses to a virtually forgotten April 1975 "name the newsletter" contest. [For historical record, whoever submitted the name "Benchmark" in this contest should report in and be recognized!] Type-set and run at the Newport, N.H. [Argus Champion's](#) facilities, this "fancy format" remained in place for the faithful stream of quarterly [Benchmarks](#) which John produced virtually single-handedly over the next four years.

To the pioneering creativity of a man named John Breckenridge, we all -- especially those of us who have attempted to follow in his editorial footsteps -- owe a great deal.

- Reprinted from the Fall/Winter 1991, Volume 13, Number 1, "[the benchmark](#)". As you can see, the original title was not capitalized, as you'll see on page 8.



NHLSA Logo Contest

The New Hampshire Land Surveyors Association has for over fifty years owned a logo that we all know and dearly respect. The logo includes four quadrants of classical and traditional surveying equipment, both “office” gear and “field” gear.

The images were originally drafted by hand on an old drafting machine – which wasn’t that “old” in 1973, when our logo was officially adopted. The Executive Committee thinks it is time to consider modernizing the logo, and in doing so try to meet the following initiatives;

1. Be mindful of, and give a nod to, our original legacy logo.
2. Adopt some imagery that better reflects the current technology in use.
3. Simplify the image for easier scaling up or down from letterhead to vehicle:
 - a. Small for letter head (1 inch printed)
 - b. Large for vehicular lettering (9 feet printed)

The Executive Committee has authorized a contest for all to submit their logo designs over the next several months, so that we could have the logo selected and printed in time to letter the official NHLSA trailer for the Summer Quarterly to be held in June 2025.

Please submit your design ideas to Barbara at the office using info@nhlsa.org. Best of luck!



The deadline to submit entries is May 31st. Two members have submitted an entry, thus far.

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Donald Blanchard Henniker, NH



The kind and faithful heart of Donald Graham Blanchard, age 93, went to rest among family on January 3, 2025. He was born October 29, 1931, to Donald T. and Jean F. (Paul) Blanchard of Canterbury, NH.

He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Gertrude Ann Blanchard, his children: Matthew T. (and Rita) Blanchard of Hopkinton, NH; Dawn P. Blanchard (and Donald Goss, Jr.) of Henniker, NH; James A. Blanchard of Lebanon, NH; Jonathan D. (and Kimberly) Blanchard of Orcutt, CA; and Deanna L. Blanchard of Swan Valley, ID as well as nine grandchildren and four great grandchildren and two more on the way!

He was predeceased by his parents and brothers, James Paul (and Vesta) Blanchard, and Alan Frank (and Elizabeth) Blanchard. Through them he leaves many dear nieces and nephews, and affiliated loved ones.

His life journey grew in many directions as he committed himself to family, community, country, and God. Shining the light of the Lord was a primary ambition. As a son, tide pool explorer, airman, husband, father, teacher, civil engineer, fireman, land surveyor, farmer, hunter and skier, he carried this light in his presence.

Joining the US Air Force in 1954, he left UNH, to serve in Japan. Upon returning to the US, and to UNH, he met his wife-to-be, Gertrude, while working on a Bachelor of Science (BS) in Civil Engineering and interning with the NH Department of Transportation. Don and Ging married in June of 1957. After having their first son, they moved to California where he obtained a Master of Science degree from the University of CA, Berkeley. Moving next to Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada, Don got his first professorship with the University.

In 1963 he moved to Henniker to teach at New England College (NEC). He led an effort to gain accreditation for NEC's Civil Engineering program and taught his last class in the spring of 1996. He was a member of the Congregational Church for 61 years. He was unloading the moving truck when the Reverend Lewis arrived to ask if he would lead the Pilgrim Fellowship program. He served the Fire Department for over two decades acting as a Deputy Forest Fire Warden and later Assistant Fire Chief. He was active with the American Society of Civil Engineers and the NH Land Surveyors Association.

To commemorate his love of life and service to his community, calling hours will be held at the Bennett Funeral Home, 209 North Main Street, Concord, NH on Thursday, February 20th from 5:00 to 7:00 P.M. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 P.M. on Friday, February 21st at the St. Theresa Parish, 158 Old Hopkinton Rd, Henniker, NH 03242.

His remains will be buried at a private service in Canterbury, NH later this spring. To plant trees in memory, please visit the [Sympathy Store](#).

Published by Concord Monitor on Jan. 28, 2025.

Bonus "Did You Know?"

In reprinting the 1991 article on the current logo, it became apparent that something is up with the letterhead below. It shows that Don is Vice President, with no President-Elect, however, Doug Burnell was President in 1992, and Don became President in 1993.

Can anyone shed light on this?

the benchmark

Fall/Winter 1991 | A publication of the New Hampshire

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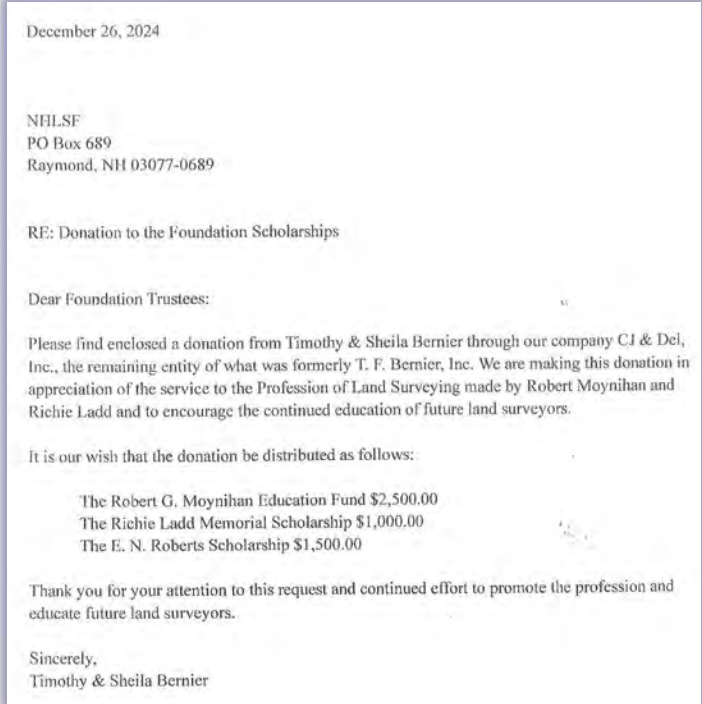
In light of the upcoming Spring Quarterly on Rights of Way and Railroads, we thought we'd share this "Did You Know?" from 2015.
See page 13.



Recently, the New Hampshire Land Surveyors Association (NHLSA) and the New Hampshire Land Surveyors Foundation (NHLSF) received very generous donations. The NHLSA donation is for items below on the left, and Tim & Sheila Bernier specified where they want their donation to go towards. Please join

us in thanking both Tim & Sheila and yes, this anonymous donor. I will surely let him/her know.

- Barb



2024 NHLSA Anonymous Donation	<u>\$3,134.74</u>
2024 Expenses	
NHCCD-bronze sponsor	\$325.00
UNH Coop Career Expo-pallet sponsor	100.00
Total 2024	<u>\$425.00</u>
2024 Ending Balance	<u>\$2,709.74</u>
2025 Expenses	
*NHTOA-pine sponsor	\$500.00
Current balance	<u>\$2,209.74</u>

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Governmental Affairs Update

The 2025 session of the NH Legislature has kicked off; fortunately most of the issues regarding surveying and licensure we have been following for some time are not a priority for this legislative session. There is one bill that has been introduced, HB82, that does impact the surveying statute.

This bill was introduced on behalf of the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification (OPLC) as a “housekeeping item”. Essentially this bill is supposed to “fix” some of the lingering conflicts that exist in statute as a result of the shifting of roles in Concord. Whereas the Board was formerly responsible for administration and enforcement, the legislature in previous sessions has systematically moved most of the responsibilities of licensure to OPLC for administration and enforcement. As a result, the Board will still be responsible for Rulemaking as laid out in RSA 310-A:58, which includes:

- ◆ The qualifications and record of applicants in addition to those requirements set under this subdivision, including the requirement for satisfactory evidence of good professional character;
- ◆ How an applicant shall be examined;
- ◆ The qualifications for license renewal, including the requirements for continuing education;
- ◆ Ethical and professional standards required to be met by each holder of a license to practice under this subdivision and how disciplinary actions by the Board shall be implemented for violations of these standards, including:
 - a. Technical standards for forest, rural, and urban surveys, including minimum error of closure;
 - b. Standards for adequate deed research into the history of the subject parcel and adjacent tracts necessary for proper boundary determination;
- ◆ The establishment of enforcement fines which may be levied in the administration of this subdivision.

HB82 looks to repeal a 310-A:58 VII & X which deal with administration and retired status, and 310-A:68, 301-A:69 & 310-A:70 dealing with expiration and renewals, non-residents, and disciplinary actions.

OPLC has said these are benign changes that are meant to clarify redundant language in existing statutes and to a certain degree they are. The goal of OPLC as a top-down administrative branch has for the most part been complete.

However, one issue that seems to keep being repeated is the fact that these bills need to continue to be introduced to correct oversights. This raises a red flag of potential unintended consequences, and also begs for a deeper review of both the broader shift and the language of the bill.

After reviewing this bill, one issue that was brought to the Committee’s attention is the fact that 310-A:70 lists what types of misconduct can lead to discipline by the Board. OPLC states that this language is redundant and therefore not necessary anymore. However when I brought this to the sponsors attention and explained that this may create a conflict with RSA 310-A:58 VI, which describes “Ethical and professional standards required to be met by each holder of a license to practice under this subdivision and how disciplinary actions by the Board shall be implemented for violations of these standards.”

Without amending this language, it now creates a gaping hole in the statute which can create confusion and hamper enforcement. In a time when it seems that unlicensed practice is increasing, we should be streamlining government oversight to shorten the disciplinary process and not make it longer, more confusing, and more arduous.

I offered all the resources of NHLSA to the sponsor of the legislation to help fix these oversights to prevent longer term delays or issues that will be detrimental to the public and profession.

HB82 is currently in subcommittee and has not been scheduled yet.

An additional bill that was introduced HB92 may be of interest to some members. This bill will prohibit a resident of a community from serving on the Zoning Board of Adjustment and Planning Board simultaneously. This bill is scheduled for executive session.

To watch the testimony of myself and Dennis McKenney for HB82 please see the link below and forward to 4:48:57 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hwjmlbRKozA>.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Condodemetraky
Governmental Affairs Director



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**Been There, Done That:
Another Tale From A Country Land Surveyor
*Propria Persona & the Incredible Failing Duo***

By Edward Goodrich, Jr., LLS 677

The one thing that I didn't fully appreciate the gravity of when I was studying to become a land surveyor, was litigation. It will happen. And it can be unpredictable.

My longest and most convoluted case involved twenty-seven defendants, one of them being my hometown. Older folks in town will remember the case that the twins brought, as many were involved. The notorious pair were part of a family from down South that had bought a stately brick home on a hill, well known for its blueberry pasture.

Before proceeding with my story, I must inform the reader that the offending culprits are no longer around to continue their harassment of the public. Both have done as William Shakespeare's Hamlet stated, "Shuffled off this mortal coil."

Before the dynamic duo reached room temperature, they wreaked havoc all around the area, including in multiple towns. That's not all; the twins even had the brass to go after the State of New Hampshire Department of Transportation (DOT). They claimed that the DOT had sprayed water on a state highway in the middle of a winter night, purposely icing the road to force them to crash their car. This is not fiction. This was too real!

One of life's great learned lessons is that acting on a project with only a little bit of knowledge can be a dangerous thing. Half-cocked attempts at work will most often lead to p@\$\$-poor solutions. Apparently, the protagonist pair were absent when this topic was discussed, because they went after many cases around the area without succeeding.

Those two young men tried to claim ownership to all the properties surrounding their parents' homestead. I mean ALL of them. They also sued attorneys and land surveyors alike. The targets included one lot that I used to own and had surveyed myself. My old lot clearly had spun off from their parents' farm in the mid-nineteenth century but still abutted it. Why not include me in the defendant's list? I felt left out.

All the talk around town was that the case was so complicated, including talk by an attorney hired by one of the defendants. I was asked by many to jump on board and help, but I was reluctant to wade into that swamp. I was the Town and School District Moderator back then, but the Selectmen did finally approach me and requested my help. The Town Fathers agreed to cross my palm with silver and gold as needed. I agreed to the offer of precious metals and was hired by the front office to help it respond.

What I discovered in just three or four hours of research in the Registry of Deeds surprised me. This was such a simple case! I quickly determined how faulty the plaintiffs' case was, the first aspect being that they were acting as their own attorneys.

Propria Persona, Pro Se: "in his or her own person." Now, if you're like me and don't have a law degree and your second language isn't Latin, I prefer the old cliché: The person who acts as his own doctor has a fool for a patient. We know that you can easily substitute any profession in this witticism. These Pro Se court litigants robbed 27 defendants of many hours of time, tranquility, and money. They wasted precious time on the Court with their half-baked scheme. The problem was that they didn't understand what they had found and ran with just a little bit of information.



What I discovered was that the twins had traced their parents' deed chain of title back through time. They had discovered that it was once part of a larger parcel, then part of another larger parcel still, then another... They had traced it all the way back to the Masonian Patent and the confusion with the original creation of the line of the King of England's grant.

What they didn't understand or do was to trace the history forward to reveal all the tracts of land that had been sold off to other individuals, resulting in what their parents had finally purchased. They considered that their farm, surveyed at 39.9 acres, that their parents had bought, was actually 2800 acres, and that many, many acres of land had been stolen from them. They wanted it back!

First, they sued the attorney, then the land surveyor who had mapped their parents' property. They lost. Then, they went looking for a surveyor to give them what they wanted. Many were contacted and all soon ran for the hills.

About this time, I was elected President of the New Hampshire Land Surveyors Association (NHLSA). NHLSA frequently had a member help unfortunate people with legitimate claims pro bono. At one of my first monthly meetings, our Treasurer had requested an item for the agenda—a request for NHLSA to help a pair of mistreated children who had called our office about their case. I simply told our Executive Committee what I knew about the case. The matter was soon tabled.

The trial day came. I sat inside the rails with the Town's council; we passed notes back and forth on a legal pad. The judge advised the twins that they should have legal help before proceeding. They declined and were sworn in. I was called, sworn in, and took my seat up front. I was soon accepted as an expert witness by the Court. What happened while I was on the stand was quite a surprise for me and one that I had never encountered before. The wannabe attorney was asking me a string of questions, and I thought that I was reasonably certain where he was heading. But now for something completely unexpected! Oddly, he quickly shifted to some other area without making his point, a scenario he repeated many times over. After several hours of my testimony, we broke for lunch, and our team went over what had gone down and what could be coming next.

Soon, we were back, and I expected that the same path would be followed. It was. Then, another surprise! A bailiff came in and handed a note to the judge. The judge called for a short recess; a jury deliberating another case in the building had a question for His Honor. (I was made aware of the strange coincidence of this several days later. The jury foreman in that other case turned out to be my father-in-law.)

On one of their first pleadings against the 27 defendants, Justice Dunn had some terse words for the pair. Dunn stated in his order, denying the plaintiffs' motion for temporary injunction in this case, "the court finds the action is baseless; the claim is extremely vexatious."

Later, after all the testimony had been given, Presiding Justice Arthur D. Brennan wrote in his conclusion: "Someone once said, 'there is no question so difficult to answer as that to which the answer is obvious.'" He went on to write: "The plaintiffs have litigated dozens of cases in New Hampshire and in Federal Court over the last decade. A substantial number of cases involve the allegations included in this petition. The plaintiffs' claim to 2800 acres is fantastic."

Brennan continues: "The court found that there was no factual foundation to any of the accusations." The conclusion states: "The plaintiffs' petition to quiet title has been dismissed with prejudice, on the merits, for failure to state a claim for which relief can be granted." He added, "Further, in light of the litigiousness of the plaintiffs and their obsession with these fantastic claims, and in order to protect the rights of the defendants to the peace of a final judgment, and in order to protect the integrity of the court, the court orders" that the twins "are permanently prohibited from bringing any further claims based on the subject matter set forth in their petition to quiet title. Any violation of this injunction shall give rise to show cause orders as to why they are not in criminal contempt..."

YAHOO!

Did You Know? Court sides with landowner over abandoned railroad right of way

Is a railroad line an easement or a right-of-way? The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that land reverts back to its original owner. The court found for the property owner that a railway line abandoned in 2004 was an easement, which becomes part of the owner's property under an 1875 law, not a right of way that reverts to the public, as the government argued. Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. said once the railroad abandoned the line, "land became unburdened of the easement" which he noted conferred to the landowner "the same full rights over the right of way as he enjoyed over the rest of ... (his) parcel."

800 Words

COMMENTS FROM A CRANKY LATE-MIDDLE-AGED SURVEYOR

By Clayton Platt, LLS

For those of us who love land surveying, it is hard to come to grips with the deficit of young people coming into the profession. Being outside on most any day was a big draw when I started out. If it was really nasty there was always some leroxy lettering to do or steel tapes to clean and oil. Regardless of the generation, the "times" were always tougher forty years ago, but there is no doubt that there are fewer mosquitos and black flies now. More ticks, and with greater danger of disease, it seems like it balances out on most days and on most sites. Even wearing insect shield pants, it is still great to work outside.

Looking out my window I wonder, where have all the children gone? I find it interesting that there is only one kid in Sunapee who I recognize immediately. Although I do not know his name, his family, or where he lives, I like this kid. He is 11-12 years old, and he spends most all his free time outdoors, riding his bike, fishing in the Sugar River, or collecting memorabilia from the swap shop at the transfer station. You can tell he just likes being outside. Sometimes he is riding around with a friend but often it's just him, pedaling by at a determined pace. I often see him on Saturday morning on my way to the dump. He has a small trailer on the back of his bike that he pedals with a purpose as he heads home with his loot.

While I always get a smile on my face when he rides by, it also seems a little bit sad that encountering a kid outside having unsupervised fun is such an unusual sight. I live in the heart of the town of Sunapee, a few rods from the elementary school and Sherburne Gym. It is rare to see any kids after school hours hanging out or playing with a couple of friends. They are all at soccer practice, music lessons, or after school programs. The playground behind the elementary school is usually empty by 4:00.

Adults are not much different. With the exception of some mountain bikers I encounter on occasion, I rarely see fellow hikers on the less popular trails I frequent. Hunting and fishing is down 20-30% from 20 years ago. It used to be that when you had to survey along a decent size brook there was always a fishing path or trail along the bank. Those trails seem mostly grown over these days. The 4WD trails through my woodlot in Croydon that ran up Pennyroyal Hill are mostly closed in with deadfall and blowdowns. The neighborhood kids who ran their sleds up and down the hill are parents now. Their kids are not around in the woods much. I recently read one of those pocket blurbs that tempt you from your daily work; everyone should spend at least 5 minutes a day walking in the woods or the park, phone off, not available. FIVE MINUTES, that's like a short walk in the yard coming out of the hole in a maximum-security prison! My best days are 7-8 hours in the woods, even if it involves cutting or blazing lines (for a few hours at a time).

I have one memorable story of the boy who rides around Sunapee all the time. Two springs ago we had flood-level waters in Lake Sunapee, the dam was wide open, and the river was running full bore. There was about 6 inches of air between the crest of water and the base of the bridge on Route 11. Up the road comes the boy and a partner, dripping wet, carrying a log on their shoulders that may have outweighed either one of them. "What are you guys doing?" we asked.

"We're trying to get our float out from under the bridge."

"How did your float get under the bridge?"

"We were floating down from the power plant and when we got to the bridge we realized we would not make it so we jumped off and floated under, but the floatie got stuck. We are going to drop this off the other side of the bridge and it will push our float through."

"That should work, but don't you think that it's kinda dangerous to be in the river when its raging like this?"

They shrugged and moved on.

My wife's motherly instincts forced her to discuss an intervention with me, but I thought that log was a brilliant idea! Hopefully that kid will find his way into surveying in 8 years.

All of us old surveyors just want to be swinging on birches again.

**NHLSA WELCOMES
NEW MEMBERS
FOR FEBRUARY**



OUT-OF-STATE

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That each NHLSA committee has a Goals Sheet? At our recent Goals Meeting, each committee, on hand, was offered to review their sheet and make any updates needed. John Chagnon, CST Chair, updated his, as you can see below.

This is sort of a blue print of what each committee is meant to accomplish. So, if you're thinking of joining a committee, or would like to chair a committee, this sheet comes in handy. There is always a Director who oversees their respective committees. See page 30 of your Annual Meeting Booklet.

NEW HAMPSHIRE LAND SURVEYORS ASSOCIATION

**CERTIFIED SURVEY TECHNICIAN (CST)
COMMITTEE
(Special Committee under Education
Group)**

PURPOSE

- To Promote and sponsor the NSPS Certified Survey Technician Program in New Hampshire.
- To coordinate and administer at least one exam each year.
- To participate in discussions regarding the program at the National Level.
- To coordinate the Program's benefits & rewards.

CHARGE

- (1) To promote the program to Technicians and Employers through NHLSA.
- (2) To provide information and support to those interested in becoming certified.

WHAT WE DO

- (1) Promote the CST certification process.
- (2) Schedule an exam at least once each year.
- (3) Proctor the exam in accordance with NSPS guidelines or find a proctor.
- (4) Submit an annual committee report.



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I Found It—Now What Is It?

For this January 2025 item, we have a mystery item found by Clayton Platt. Other than being a flower garden conversation piece, can you identify it's former purpose? Since this issue was published late, we're leaving it for another month. If you have a guess, send it to Barbara at info@nhlsa.org and win the first bragging rights of 2025.

Mark Stevens, LLS



I Found It – Now What Is It? Responses

There were no guesses at all submitted for the December 2024 mystery item sent in by Bob Berti. Knowing the skills of our members and readers, I don't believe this item is all that tough, and some of you can identify it. I suspect everyone was busy with the holidays and Annual Meeting etc., so we're giving an additional month to guess. If you think you can identify the December mystery item, email your guess to Barbara at info@nhlsa.org.

Mark



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