

The TBM Newsletter of the NHLSA

Volume 27 Issue 1

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PO Box 689
Raymond, NH
03077-0689

Telephone:
603-895-4822

Web Site:
www.nhlsa.org

E-mail:
info@nhlsa.org

Publications Director
Clayton E. Platt, LLS

TBM Editors
Anne W. Bialobrzkeski, LLS
Roscoe Blaisdell, LLS
Barbara Cormier
Emily Hayes
Dave M. O'Hara, LLS
Tim Runnals



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priceless. You can't own it,
but you can use it. You
can't keep it, but you can
spend it. Once you've lost it,
you can never get it back."

~ Harvey MacKay



President Fowler presents the 2024 Land Ethic For Tomorrow (LEFT) Award to Recipient Charles Bonin of Green Acre Woodlands, Inc. "Honoring your many decades of exemplary stewardship of remarkable New Hampshire woodlands."

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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**NHLSA WELCOMES
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AFFILIATE

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 16 Woodlawn Avenue
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 Eli is employed with:
 Stake & Stones
 Land Surveying, LLC
 229 South Main Street
 Newmarket, NH 03857
 603-292-5747 (o)
adams.eli47@icloud.com

Brett Beliveau
 141 Lafayette Street
 Laconia, NH 03246
 603-418-6552 x5009
bbeliveau@dubois-king.com

Thomas Champion
 64 Clark Street
 Franklin, NH 03235
 603-418-6552
tchampion@dubois-king.com

David Shibley
 73 Edward Street
 Laconia, NH 03246
 603-524-1166
dshibley@dubois-king.com

Marshall Burd
 603-418-6556
mburd@dubois-king.com

Brett, Thomas, David & Marshall are employed with:
 Dubois & King, Inc.
 208 Union Avenue
 Laconia, NH 03246



Before we dive into a new year, we have unfinished business from 2024. Throughout this issue you'll find bits and pieces left over from last year. Below are some words from our new Chair of the NHLSA Foundation, Seth Burnell.

NHLSF holds a raffle at each quarterly meeting, along with live and silent auctions and a 50/50 drawing at the annual meeting. This year's live auction was our first since Terry Eldredge's retirement from his long-standing service as the North East Surveying Societies (NESS) auctioneer. Eric Mitchell was slated to be this year's auctioneer, but due to unforeseen circumstances things took a different turn. As it turned out, Ryan Fowler was ready to take on the task, perhaps riding a wave of energy having just passed the presidential torch to Craig Bailey. We also had our own space in the "Penstock" pub room this year, which provided a lively atmosphere and ended up being a good fit.



The silent auction donations were supplemented with an array of remaining Thompson School equipment, some of which we will continue to seek a home for in 2025. However this year's highlight was a special donation of some new GPS equipment by a new Sustaining member, Stonex USA. In all, the auction raised \$6,789 (weird numbers, right?) with Stonex's donation raising \$4,000 alone. The raffle raised \$270, and the 50/50 raised \$300. This year's 50/50 winner, Richard Drew donated his half of the proceeds (\$150) to support UMaine students' attendance at the NSPS Spring 2025 Student Competition and Day on the Hill in March. See more on this on page 10.

Speaking of students, in November the Foundation voted to award both the Warner M. Plummer and E.N. Roberts scholarships to student member Allyson Kitchens, in the amount of \$2,000 each. Ms. Kitchens attended both days of the annual meeting, accepting the scholarships Thursday evening and representing the University of Maine at their table for Friday's equipment show. See more on page 14.



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The Way I See It!

EDITORIAL

There is much going on with NHLSA heading into the new year. Our annual Goals Meeting was held on Saturday the 11th, at the shiny new office of Northam Survey. This is the big get together where we try our best to keep the organization going for another year – fully staffed and supported by volunteer members. At this point we have found a new Vice President to move into the leading role in 2026. Thank you Scott Boudreau!

We are still looking for a Treasurer and it is critical that we fill this vacancy as soon as possible. The Treasurer is the Chair of the Finance & Budget Committee, which:

- ◆ Oversees the detailed accounting of all Association and Foundation funds
- ◆ Ensures that monies are expended in a prudent manner and within the guidelines of the approved budget
- ◆ Prepares a budget for the Executive Committee's approval in October and voted on at the annual meeting
- ◆ Records monthly accounting for both income and expenses
- ◆ Reports year-to-date totals to the Executive Committee each month.

The Treasurer has signatory authority, along with the Executive Administrator and Secretary, and must be a licensed land surveyor. The Association has adopted QuickBooks to manage our finances, so the volunteer would need to know QuickBooks or be willing to train. Thankfully, Barb has been keeping duplicate reports in the Excel format that's been used for several decades to assure that the books balance. Therefore, even in the current absence of an Active Treasurer, the books are still being balanced.

All organizations struggle to get volunteers to help with administration and leadership. It does not help that the recruiting pool of members has shrunk from 425 to 375 in the last 20 years. We have been fortunate to have a strong core of younger surveyors step up. The problem is that when the few take on more and more duties, they eventually burn out, and the hole they leave in any organization is bigger than it should be. As a professional organization, NHLSA provides important benefits for our business interests (and occasionally our social needs as well) and needs many hands to be successful. The challenges we are facing with licensure issues and public perceptions about what we do, can best be addressed by survey organizations like NHLSA and the National Society of Professional Surveyors. Looking forward, we need your help!

Clayton Platt, LLS
Publications Director
TBM Editor

Welcome to NHLSA's New Vice President

Scott D. Boudreau (NH LLS #961) began his surveying career in 1999 after graduating from the University of New Hampshire with a BS in Forestry: Forest Management. He gained valuable experience working for a few surveying companies in New Hampshire and Maine before obtaining his license and starting his own LLC in 2008, Boudreau Land Surveying in Newmarket, NH.

While managing his self-employed business, Scott is a Senior Lecturer in the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department of the College of Civil and Physical Sciences at the University of New Hampshire, teaching courses in AutoCAD, GIS, and Introduction to Surveying. Scott began his teaching career at UNH with the Thompson School of Applied Sciences in 2015 as lecturer of Surveying and Mapping, until the program closed its doors in 2018.

Scott is also a Professional Land Surveyor in Maine (PLS #2455) and a certified NH Septic Designer (#1528). Scott earned the rank of Eagle Scout in 1995 and spent many years as an adult scouting leader. Scott was also a trombonist in the 39th Army Band for 9 years, ending his enlistment at the rank of Sergeant in 2003. When not surveying or grading, Scott has many other home and yard improvement projects planned or in process and occasionally dabbles in fly fishing in the north country. He resides in the town of Newmarket with his wife Alison, and two children, Jack and Norah.



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Welcome to the New Year of Surveying!

As we watch the year 2024 quickly fade away in the rearview mirror, let's keep focused on the goals ahead, namely keeping NHLSA in the best possible position to carry on the mission... which brings up a good question: "What are the purposes of NHLSA?" I'm glad you asked! According to the Articles of Incorporation, the purposes of the New Hampshire Land Surveyors Association shall be.

- ◆ *To advance the theory and practice of land surveying and the betterment of the profession.*
- ◆ *To disseminate information about land surveying services and the experience of land surveying.*
- ◆ *To promote improved practices in the science of land surveying.*
- ◆ *To encourage and adopt a high professional standard.*
- ◆ *To promote the professional and social improvement of the members of the Association.*
- ◆ *To promote cooperation among all public and private individuals, firms, utilities and agencies having an interest in the field of land surveying.*



Take a moment to read through those 6 items and let them percolate. Those purposes were originally penned some-time before July 5th, 1973, over 52 years ago! If you ask me, these purposes are just as relevant today as they were on day one of our official incorporation as a non-profit corporation.

As we proceed through 2025, our 56th year as an Association, it should be our collective goal to ensure that everything we do as an association checks one of the six "boxes" of our purpose. If we find ourselves spending time or effort on a task that doesn't align with our purpose, we should probably reconsider why we are doing that task.

What about getting those "tasks" done? The Officers, Directors, Committee Chairs and Committee members of NHLSA are some of the most dedicated professional people I have ever had the pleasure to work with, and they are just as dedicated in their professional lives, which means the leadership's time is always stretched thin. So don't be surprised if you get a phone call from me this year looking for assistance. We have several open positions on committees, and a few of our committees could use more hands to lighten the load. Most of the committee positions are intermittently active, with occasional chaos between long periods of boredom.

There is a running joke in the Scouts where a newly recruited adult leader is told "It's just one hour a week." While I won't suggest our volunteer jobs can be done with just one hour per week, these jobs are important and generally fulfilling to accomplish, and we're just looking for a one-year commitment (with a few exceptions.) Even the multi-year commitments shouldn't be considered a lifetime sentence, but instead seen as a short-term commitment to assist NHLSA in executing the six purposes laid out for us over 52 years ago.

Here's to looking forward to a great year! Thank you in advance for your support and assistance.

Craig T. Bailey

Craig T. Bailey, LLS
NHLSA President



The Office of Professional Licensure (OPLC) has been active in consolidating its power and working to sideline all of the citizen run licensing boards. This seems to be a concerted effort and legislation is pending that would move most all of the rule making and disciplinary actions from the Survey Board to the state employees in OPLC. If you are concerned about the integrity of the system that has worked well for the last 50 years, now is the time to contact your state legislators. Our Government Affairs Director, Mark Condodemetraky, will be attending upcoming hearings.

I am sure he will have more to report in the near future. If you have any questions or are willing to help, please contact Mark or Barb. Your neighbor in the legislature probably has no idea what the

OPLC does but they might understand that taking a voluntary citizen board and replacing it with paid state workers and lawyers is not efficient. More government does not save taxpayers any money.

Clayton Platt, LLS

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Annual Pics - 2024



Loralie Gerard, NHLSA Education Director with Keynote Speaker Timothy Burch



Patrick Nosel and Jack Roemer share their experiences in studying for and taking the SIT test in November.



President Elect Seth Burnell sets up one of NHLSA's new projectors in the main seminar room. The A/V rentals were a problem in 2023 and the Executive Committee acted by buying our own. The savings in renting will cover the costs by next year!

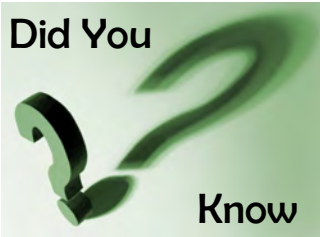


Dan Martin from NGS explains the process and changes with the upcoming new datum (farewell to NH State Plane). The question old surveyors have – can I retire before having to switch over?



Eric Salovitch, Emily Hayes & Tasha Huhta present for the Tech Track Session.

It's good to see that it's not all young surveyors in the audience.



That the next NSPS 'Day on the Hill' is set for March 18, 2025. There will also be a Training Webinar on February 25th. Save the Date now for Tuesday, March 18, 2025! Take part in this important annual NSPS event to make sure the voice of the surveying profession is heard loud and clear in Congress. The NSPS Online Training Webinar is set for Tuesday, Feb. 25 at 2 p.m. Eastern.



NSPS Election Results



Vice President Jeff Clendenning (AL)



Treasurer Patti Brooks (NY)

The member votes have been tallied and NSPS is pleased to announce that Jeff Clendenning has been elected to serve as the Vice President for the 2024/25 term and Patti Brooks has been elected to serve as the Treasurer for a 2-year term. They will be sworn in as Officers at the Spring Business Meeting in March.

Please join us in congratulating them on their election and to also thank Bob Miller and Thomas Brooks for their candidacies.



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Special thanks to those companies demonstrating their commitment to the profession and mentoring of their younger employees by bringing them to the NHLSA Annual Meeting (among other things). James Verra Associates and Northam Survey are not the only companies on this list, but they both had a strong turnout at this year's NHLSA meeting. Thank you Jim Verra (center left) and Eric Salovitch (center right)



Outstanding Survey Technician

Brayden Mastin, LSIT #794

In recognition of your dedication, mastering the skills of surveying, and the promise of a bright future for you in the profession.



Surveying Excellence
Bryan L. Bailey, LLS 576



Also being awarded Life membership was James E. Franklin. Jim wasn't able to attend on Thursday. We attempted to present him his award on Friday, but unfortunately missed him. Sorry Jim!



Literary Award
Gerald H. Miller, LLS 665



Life Award
Robert J. Berti, LLS 103

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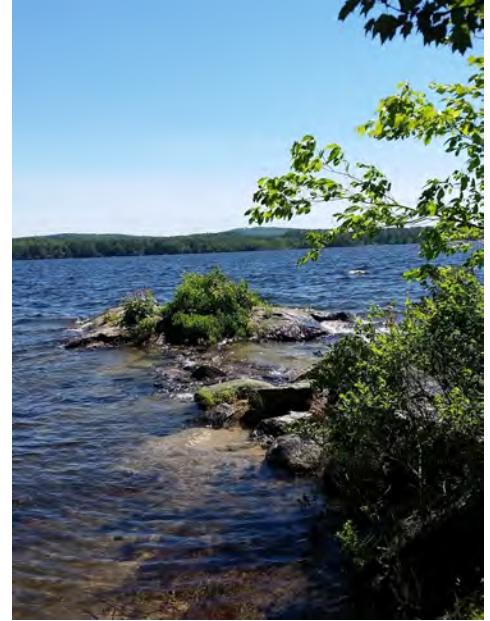
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JVA is an equal opportunity employer. We embrace diversity and believe in providing a fair and inclusive work environment for all employees.



Here is the reveal for the *Where Am I?* photo.

Emily is taking a break on this segment. We welcome anyone who would like to submit a Where Am I photo and send it to Barbara at info@nhlsa.org to be included in a future issue.



BIG REVEAL

The Location: Governor's Rock - Governor Wentworth Historic Site, Wolfeboro NH

The photo from this location is termed "Governor's Rock". The rock is located on the northeastern shore of Lake Wentworth at the end of a 50' wide strip of land which is a part of the 96-acre state owned historic site. The Governor Wentworth Historic Site memorializes the history of the area that was once known as the "Wentworth Farm". The "plantation-like farm" spanned 36 square miles and was originally part of the estate established by Governor John Wentworth II, the last Royally appointed Governor of New Hampshire. He was the nephew of Benning Wentworth, and he eventually replaced Benning as the Surveyor General of the King's Woods. (See the September 2021 issue of *The TBM* for history behind Benning Wentworth and the Wentworth-Coolidge Mansion in Portsmouth NH).

One of the main features of the historic site is the large stone foundation of the massive mansion that once existed on the property. Construction of the Wentworth mansion began in 1768. The house measured 40' wide by 102' long and was deemed to be "one of the finest in New England..." In 1820, the building burned completely to the ground, leaving only the chimneys standing. The foundation of the mansion has been preserved and is quite visible today.

In 1933, the land was donated to the State of NH by Professor and assistant Dean of Harvard University, Lawrence Shaw Mayo.





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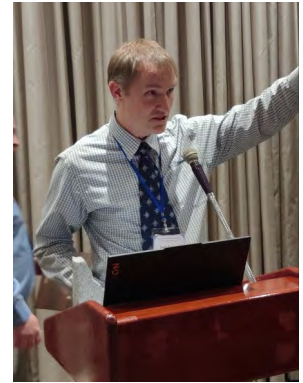


CADNET SERVICES

Frontsights

Our Spring Quarterly is shaping up. This will be held **Friday, March 28th** in Lebanon NH at the Hilton Garden Inn. It will be a joint meeting with our colleagues in Vermont. It has been quite a while since we met with our neighboring state society and NHLSA wants to have a good turnout from this side of the Connecticut River. We hope to see you there.

Representatives from the two states have been meeting, and although the details are still being ironed out, we are expecting the morning speaker to be Rick Kfoury, President of the Boston and Maine Railroad Historical Society. He will discuss right-of-way, railroads, and more. Immediately after lunch, both states will hold their business meetings for approximately fifteen minutes each in a single room with all attendees present for both meetings to share in the full experience. The afternoon will be a summit on young surveyors, with an array of topics from mentorship to licensure, and how to continue the momentum the Young Surveyors Network has provided. We will have a longer mid-afternoon break/social for more extended networking and discussions. There will be a cash bar and light appetizers during this afternoon event.



Seth Burnell, LLS

Also in the works is some early seminar planning for the rest of the year. The Education Committee is hoping to have the Summer Quarterly on the seacoast, possibly at one of the beautiful state parks along Route 1A. The Fall Quarterly will likely return to somewhere north of Concord in keeping with the traditional Case Studies theme of the past.

This year, NHLSA will host the NESS Conference in conjunction with our 56th Annual Meeting & Equipment Show. Due to the expected attendance, it was decided to return to the DoubleTree for this event, which will be on Thursday and Friday, December 4-5th. Stay tuned for more info, as we'll be looking for volunteers to help with planning and execution.

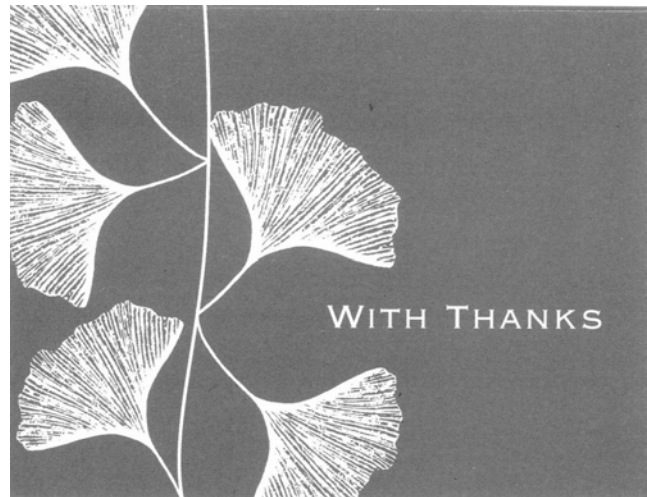
Scholarship Winner



Scholarship Recipient
Allyson Kitchens

Warner M. Plummer & E.N. Roberts

Allyson is currently attending UMaine at Orono. After graduating with a four-year degree and becoming established in her career, she plans on giving back to her local community and paying forward the support she has received to obtain her degree by helping her fellow young surveyors and engineers achieve their goals.



Dear NHLSA,

Thank you for the support this organization has given me over the last year. The support I have received has made it possible for me to attend the University of Maine and continue my goals of becoming a Land Surveyor. I look forward to being able to support those interested in land surveying as I become established in my career.

Allyson Kitchens



Service Award
Kenneth C. Clinton, LLS 871
Professional Conduct & Practice Director

Service Award
Bevan Timm, LLS 1058
Secretary

NHLSA thanks these professionals for their service over the past several years. In addition, Wendy Pelletier, unable to attend the Annual Meeting, received a Service Award for her service as Treasurer since 2014. Eric Salovitch also received a Service Award for running through the Presidential chairs. Apparently, he enjoyed it so much, he wanted to continue his service and we appreciate his offer to volunteer for the Secretary position.

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Land Records Committee Operations

Over the course of the last 24 months, The Records Committee has been working through Ron Johnson's 800 final records. Ron was a second-generation surveyor, and as such he also was the holder of his father's records as well (Harold Johnson LLS 136). In addition, he had many drawings by Fred Coffin, LLS 467. Laconia lost quite a bit of history with the passing of Ron in January 2023.

The team began working with Ron's widow Georgie very early after Ron's passing, and the process was onerous because of the many rules that the NH State Archives applies to donations. Any files that are stored in "bankers' boxes" must be unboxed and re-boxed into special archival quality boxes. Of course, while making the change, the files should maintain their original indexing order.

Indexing is of utmost importance. A proper index of files must be in place. Whether listed by client, location, or job number, some sort of index must exist! In the index, a town and road location are also very important. The index must be available and must be ready for use by the Archives.

Multiple carloads (and one trailer load) of archive quality boxes were delivered to the NH State Archives. This required coordination between the team picking up the load, Mrs. Johnson, and the folks at the Archives. Of course, this occurs on a workday, because State facilities generally aren't operational over the weekend.

The next step was to prepare the final drawings and mylars in Ron's files. The word "final drawings" is important here if the drawings / plans / plats are not located in a flat file with proper indexing, they are of no use to the Archives and will not be accepted into the collection. Any "working" drawings or worksheets that are rolled or still on wall hangers will be disposed of.

The Archives will accept into the collection the physical flat file itself, but only if it is constructed from steel or aluminum. Wooden flat files are no longer acceptable containers because wood is known to off-gas over time. This means any plans stored in wooden files must be added to flat files of metal construction, all the while maintaining the proper index. This has translated into months of work by Mrs. Johnson!

Once the flat files were in order, another two days of transport using the NHLSA trailer occurred. After a couple of hours to load it, we parked the trailer until we could coordinate with the Archives for a date to receive the collection. This required another team to meet at the Archives (again during a workday) to unload the trailer and move the collection into the records warehouse.

Having a team of able-bodied movers is a necessary requirement when working with huge metal flat files (all generally loaded to maximum capacity)! To summarize, moving a surveyor's records to the NH State Archives is a really challenging operation to coordinate, between logistics of crew versus Archives availability and the sheer work needed to prepare the collection to be accepted in Concord.

A huge thank you to Emily Hayes for initiating the process with Georgie. Thank you to Jim Franklin for taking the reins as the NHLSA Records Committee Chair and a special thanks to Jim for funding a great moving team headed by Mr. Aaron Hayes from Candia. Also, thanks to Austin Hall, one of the Young Surveyors of NHLSA, who was part of the team.

The NH State Archivist, Ms. Ashley Miller, is a pleasure to work with, and I think NHLSA will be able to continue the strong relationship we've had over the past several decades with the Archives. We did ask about digital records, and Ashley immediately lit up when the topic came up. "Of course we'll accept digital collections!" she said enthusiastically. It seems to me that NHLSA and its Records Committee should begin to guide the membership into the inevitable approaching digital records collection age. Perhaps the Association could invest in a portable scanner? Members have inquired about the costs associated with converting ancient collections into digital, and the estimates would



curl your toes... we're talking **hundreds of thousands of dollars**. There's got to be something we can do as an association to defray those costs and spread them out over all of us who need it. In the meantime, home brewing a grass-roots system of indexing the records while we scan them into ones and zeros.

Thank you very much,

Craig T. Bailey, LLS
NHLSA President

Congratulations to all Award Recipients

Map Contest



Bevan Timm (R) —accepting for himself and Jack Kaiser



Doug Burnell, Awards chair presents to Loralie Gerard

Subdivision Plat – Doucet Survey LLC – Bevan Timm, LLS 1058, Surveyor
Boundary/Cadastral Map – Control Point Associates – John Lynch, LLS 899, Surveyor
Topographic Map – Doucet Survey, LLC – John F. Kaiser, LLS 937, Surveyor
Miscellaneous Map – Bergeron Technical Services – Loralie Gerard, LLS 883, Surveyor
Color Presentation Map – Doucet Survey, LLC – John F. Kaiser, LLS 937, Surveyor
ALTA/NSPS Map – Control Point Associates – John Lynch, LLS 899, Surveyor

We encourage all winners to submit their winning maps to the NSPS Map Contest. Once their information is available, it will be forwarded to you.



Fellow Award
Glen Johnson, LSS 898

Also receiving a
Fellow Award was
Wendy Pelletier, LLS 975



NHLSA Annual Registration Table

L-R: Barb Cormier, Amy Cotter, Linda Schultz, Anne Stuart

Vintage Equipment

1-10-25

NHLSA is in possession of (31) *vintage* Philly rods from the UNH Collection. We will be disposing of these beautiful relics on December 31, 2025. That leaves **355 days left** to own a piece of UNH and Thompson School history! Make us an offer on one or more of the rods – **NO OFFER IS TOO LOW!!!!** Even if these artifacts are simply “re-homed” to a good family, we’ll consider a handshake as payment enough! There are even a few pieces with Bonafide Mel E. Jenkins’ logo!

NHLSA is also in possession of a complete set of Trimble GPS units, circa 1999 vintage:

- (3) Pathfinder receivers
- (2) backpacks
- (3) 4600LS receivers
- (2) Base Receivers
- (1) Base Receiver antenna

various battery chargers, various data collector brackets. No Data collectors available, and about a dozen dead, sealed lead gel-cell batteries.

These Trimble units will be disposed of on December 31, 2025. We are looking for someone to re-home these units. The Association no longer has any room to store this equipment. The equipment is in Hudson, NH. It will take its final ride to the Hudson transfer station in **355 days**. Someone needs to come and save it!



Trailer Equipment Donations Need

The official NHLSA Trailer needs some basic equipment, such as a spider wrench, a 12 volt portable compressor, tire air gauge, and a grease gun. If you have any of these kinds of tools sitting around gathering dust, we can provide them with a nice home. We'd rather not have to purchase these items, and we're guessing some of you will have this kind of equipment lying around. Reach out to Craig with anything you can spare. Cbailey@nhlsa.org.

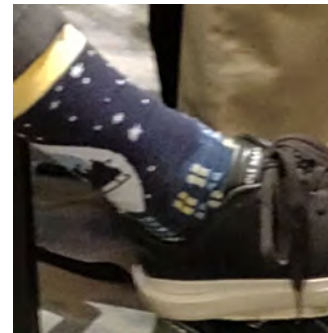




Tenure-Track Assistant Professor, Surveying Engineering Technology

The School of Engineering Technology at the University of Maine invites applications for an academic year, tenure track Assistant Professor of Surveying Engineering Technology. The Surveying Engineering Technology program offers innovative in-person and online education at the undergraduate and graduate levels to serve both traditional and non-traditional students. The successful applicant will develop and teach online and in-person courses at all levels of the curriculum. Engineering technology faculty members clearly communicate with students the connections between principles and professional practice. As a former NSF ADVANCE institution, the University of Maine is committed to diversity in our workforce and to dual-career couples. UMaine is located in beautiful Central Maine. Many employees report that a primary reason for choosing to come to UMaine is quality of life. Full details are available at:

https://fa-ewca-saasaprod1.fa.ocs.oraclecloud.com/hcmUI/CandidateExperience/en/sites/CX_1/job/918/?utm_medium=jobshare&utm_source=External+Job+Share



Guess Whose Socks?

Outreach Opportunities

Conant Middle High School, Jaffrey NH Career Day Wednesday, April 9th, 2025

We are excited to begin planning for **Career Day 2025 to be held on Wednesday, April 9th**. Our goal is to open our doors to the community and show our learners the wide range of career possibilities that exist in our own backyard. If you participated last year, we hope you will join us again this year. If you did not participate, please consider joining us. As we continue to refine our programming in support of both career and college readiness, this is a vital step in preparing our learners to be successful no matter where their future goals may lie.

Times: 7:45 AM -11:00 AM - high school sessions and 11:45 AM - 2:00 PM - middle school learners; EXPO will run from 7:45 - 11:45

Format: We will be offering both tables in our EXPO area as well as multiple high school and/or middle school sessions that will run throughout the day. You can present at either high school, middle school or both, depending on topic, your time and comfort level. You may also have a table in our EXPO area. CMHS staff will be present at all sessions and during the EXPO.

NEW!!! - If your business is hiring, you will have a separate opportunity to talk directly to our seniors.

If you have questions, please reach out to me at dm.jackson@sau47.org or (603) 532-8131 X254.

Appreciatively,

Dayna Jackson

ELO Coordinator

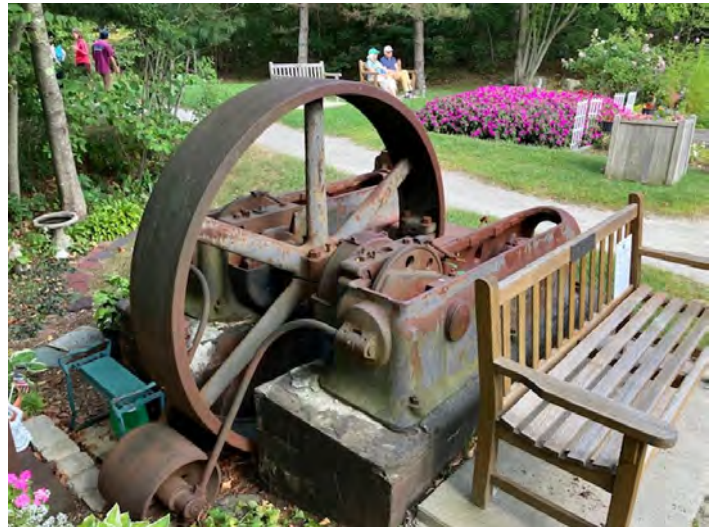
College and Career Coordinator

<https://sites.google.com/sau47.org/extendedlearningopportunities/home>

I Found It—Now What Is It?

For January 2025, we have a mystery item found by Clayton Platt. Other than being a flower garden conversation piece, can you identify it's former purpose? 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'll give you an extra month. If you think you can identify the December mystery item, email your guess to Barbara at info@nhlsa.org.

Mark

I have a dream

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 20, 2025



Past Presidents Breakfast (PPB)



The Past Presidents Assembly holding its annual Past Presidents Breakfast meeting.

Back row-L-R: Bryan L. Bailey 42nd; Eric Salovitch 54th; Corey Colwell 50th; Seth Burnell, President-Elect; Mark C. Sargent 35th; Edward L. Rogers 43rd; David M. Collier 40th; Darren J. Hardy 47th; Stanley H. Prescott, II 13th; Ryan Fowler 55th; Craig T. Bailey 56th.

Front row-L-R: James Verra 22nd; Charles B. Pearson 27th; Douglas C. Burnell 23rd; Timothy Burch, NSPS Executive Director; Cynthia D. Boisvert 46th; Gerald H. Miller 34th; Steven M. Ferguson 52nd; David A. Mann 37th; Mark C. Stevens 44th; Mitch Cummings 53rd.



Outgoing President Ryan Fowler presenting the Presidents gavel to Incoming President Craig T. Bailey



Incoming President Craig T. Bailey presents a Presidents gavel memento to Outgoing President Ryan Fowler

Best wishes to Craig as you begin your presidency, and to Ryan as you seek out nominations for 2026!

National Surveyors Week will be celebrated March 16-22, 2025

Report of Attendance at the NYSAPLS Conference

By Craig T. Bailey

I am pleased to report on my recent trip to New York as I represented the members of NHLSA. The trip overall was a very pleasant time. I took the “mountain” route through southern Vermont and eventually entered the “Thruway” in Albany, NY, and reversed the same path on my way home.

Upon arrival in Verona, NY at the “Turning Stone Resort Casino,” the New York State Association of Professional Land Surveyors (NYSAPLS) staff greeted me and quickly handled my arrival. They were very well prepared, and were able to hand me an envelope of all my conference materials and invitations to the special events. The conference had a staff of (3) paid staffers plus a large contingent of committed volunteers who were not attending classes.

The exhibitor’s floor was the size of a small ice hockey rink, and in attendance were easily 40 vendors, including some universities, colleges, various state agencies, and of course nearly a dozen equipment vendors. Many vendors booked double-booths on the exhibition floor. The NYSAPLS bookstore was also located in the vendor exhibition, along with tables and chairs for visiting and snacking.

While I was *allowed* to select a few classes to attend, it turns out there simply wasn’t time to attend more than an hour or so of one session – because there were several other events which an NHLSA presence was requested. I was perfectly fine with this since my attendance at the conference was to improve our relations with other societies.

The Young Surveyors Network event was impressive; the event ran for a couple hours and was essentially a social networking event at a cash bar. Two of the remaining colleges with full time Surveying programs introduced several current students, and we heard from the students what their goals were. Many prospective employers were in attendance! The Young Surveyors Network in NY is extremely active and they certainly know how to throw a great mixer.

The NYSAPLS bookstore was also impressive. They carried many of the same titles that we do, but I really appreciated how the inventory was presented, labeled and sold. In addition to text books and older reports from previous years, they had an extensive inventory of hats, sweaters, mugs, coffee thermoses, pens, pencils, and other sticker swag.

In attendance, along with equipment dealers, were a couple vendors that were actually selling field supplies, tripods, and total stations, all at “show” pricing. It was really nice to see folks purchasing rolls of flagging and new prisms right there on the exhibition floor.

Thursday night was the main social gathering and banquet with live auction. First and foremost, the food was absolutely incredible. It was a buffet, but they included a manned carving station as well as a bar. (The bar wasn’t a “cash bar” because it was *open* for the entire duration of the banquet.) The live auction was eye-opening; the smallest bid I recall was \$250, and the big one for the night was well north of \$3,000, for the right to hold a stone bound for the year and then give it back to be auctioned off again. The “Shaw” fund is the NYSAPLS version of our Foundation, and they awarded \$42,000 in scholarships over the course of the year.

On Friday we held the North East Surveying Societies (NESS) meeting over a working breakfast. In attendance was Maine, NH, Vermont, Connecticut & New York. Many items were discussed, but I will cover the main topics;

1. NESS purpose – why and when this was convened.
2. NESS Conference, this year to be hosted by NH
3. Unlicensed practice
4. Compare and Contrast of technical standards
 - a. Administrative Rules vs. Statute
 - b. Association vs. State
5. Monumentation practices and requirements

It was discussed that a half-year zoom call should happen this summer, in preparation for the upcoming NESS Conference, so the above topics could be discussed in detail.

We heard estimates of 800 conference attendees over the course of the three-day event, including an initial reception starting on Tuesday night. I would recommend that future NHLSA Presidents plan on attending this conference for two days, preferably arriving towards the end of Wednesday to attend the evening welcome reception. This would result in two nights in a hotel, and most likely a ½ day from work on Wednesday and two full days off work for Thursday and Friday.

The 2026, 2027, & 2028 NYSAPLS conference will be located in Saratoga Springs NY. NYSAPLS is able to lock-in rental rates and other fees by entering into multi-year contracts with their venue. Saratoga Springs will be a much more manageable drive from New Hampshire, and I encourage NHLSA to support their officers by continuing to share in the costs to attend. I was not prepared to attend early, but I hope future NHLSA attendees can spend more time at the conference, and knowing their location will be fixed for the next few years, we should be able to plan accordingly and utilize the best-available room rates as soon as the conference is open for registration.

The materials that were provided to each attendee included the specialty invitation items for visiting NESS leaders. In addition, they made available their annual booklet to all attendees via a "flip book" with an online hosting presence. Here's the link for their 2025 annual booklet: [2025-Conference-Journal - Flip PDF | FlipBuilder](#) It is not clear how long that link will last, but I also downloaded the PDF of the booklet that I will make available to the Association.



Timothy Burch, NSPS Executive Director
presents **Mark C. Sargent, LLS 741**
with the **National Surveying Excellence Award**



Publications Director Clayton Platt and his spouse
and volunteer **Linda Schulz** inspiring the rest of the group to get up and dance



We are saddened to announce the passing of our 24th President, Donald G. Blanchard on January 3, 2025.

We are awaiting an obituary (emailed when available), but, we have been informed of the following information for those who wish to attend the services for Don.

Calling hours open to the public at Bennett Funeral Home in Concord on Feb 20th from 5 to 7pm. A church service will be on Feb 21st at St. Theresa Parish at 2pm in Henniker.



Life Member Donald G. Blanchard, LLS 346
Photo from the NHLSA 50th Anniversary



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