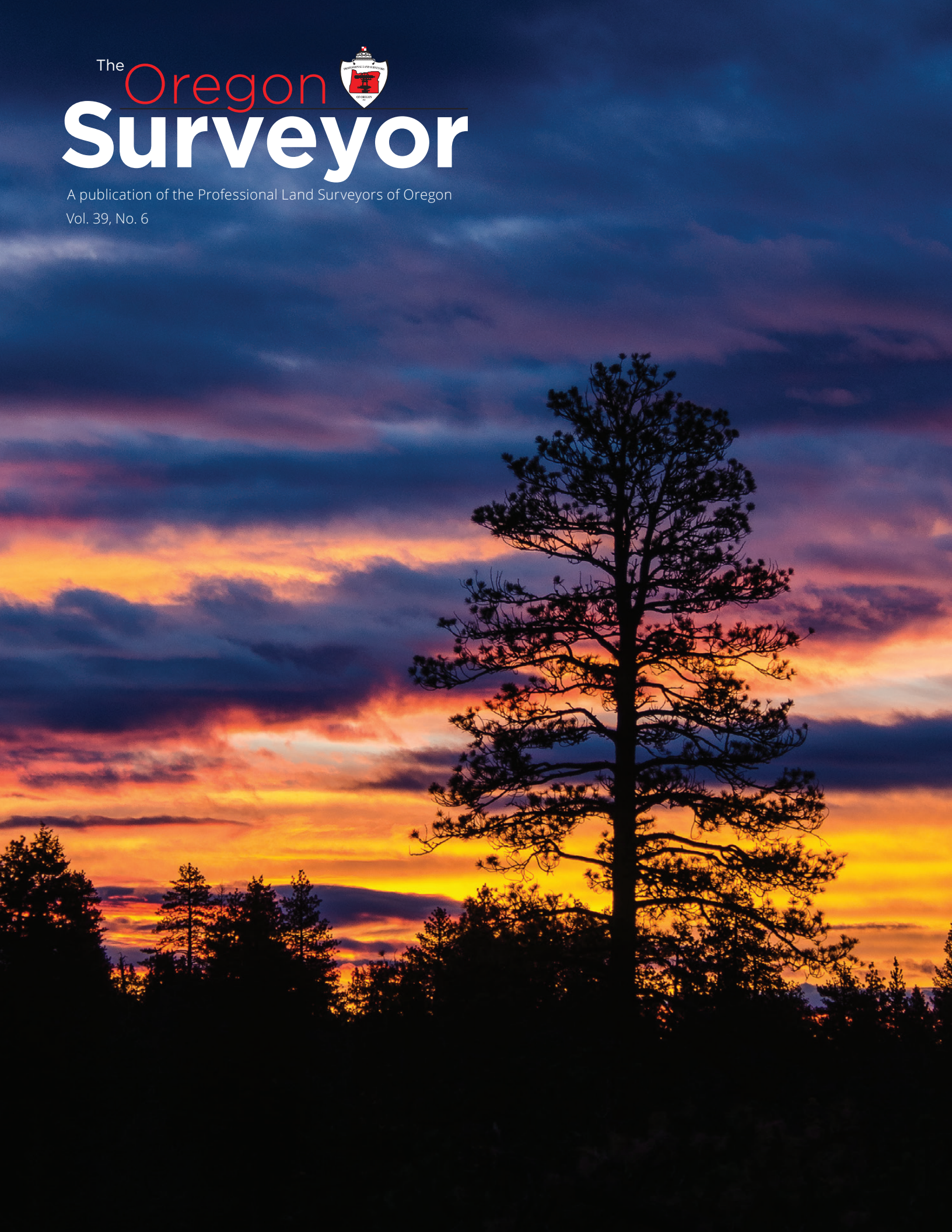


The Oregon   
**Surveyor**

A publication of the Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon  
Vol. 39, No. 6



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Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon



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## On the Cover

You have to get up early and you get to enjoy a fall Sunrise over the Ochoco Mountains of Oregon.

Wolf Mountain near Dayville, Oregon

*Photography by Pat Gaylord*

**The Oregon Surveyor** is a publication of the Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon (PLSO). It is provided as a medium for the expression of individual opinions concerning topics relating to the Land Surveying profession.

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# The Challenge of Change

By Greg Crites, PLS

I happened to read an article on MSN's website this morning entitled "The 30 most in-demand jobs around the world right now." Wouldn't you know it, number 9 on the list were *surveyors*! The caption with the accompanying image read, in part "There is no particular reason for the shortage..." Now you and I both know what the reasons are so it's quite apparent the author hadn't talked to a real surveyor. Imagine that? We've been talking about outreach for years and here's a perfect example of yet another sector of the population that hasn't heard from us regarding our plight. Many of us are baby boomers, approaching retirement or at the very least thinking about it. We all know of the declining number of licensees within our profession. I'm not sure if there's a correlation, but I've had more notifications of the death of surveyors over the past several years than the last 20 combined. Our Executive Secretary points out that we are at the "edge of a precipice" in our profession. No kidding!

So, let me get back to the theme of our conference coming up in January and the title of this editorial. I've been discussing outreach, professional development, professional practice and mentoring within the pages of our magazine for some time. I don't think it's necessary to revisit those subjects so soon after they've appeared in our magazine, but the theme of the conference got me thinking about something regarding change. The massive change that is looming after all of us "boomers" hang up our tripods and move on to other pursuits in retirement; it's called the loss of institutional knowledge, something many of us have experienced first-hand with the changed work places with which we've grown accustomed to working. The "old guard" who were familiar with the systems and processes that built our infrastructure are gone. Finding old records has now become an extremely laborious and frustrating process with many wrong turns and dead-ends. Think of how difficult it is to do title research now. I'm not talking about simple conveyances with an unencumbered title chain, but complex conveyances that are full of multiple conveyances of rights-of-way, grants of easements, partitions, scrivener errors, and so on. If you think for a moment that a title plant will get your complicated title report right on the first try, well, then you've been smoking something that is now legal in Oregon!

Some of you know that I work a lot with the Bonneville Power Administration on infrastructure projects. Oftentimes a proposed transmission line project will parallel a much older existing line. This means all the old records associated with the survey of that line become critically important. Old right-of-way plats, structure lists, L-line reports, POT-BM lists (a record of the monumentation established along the transmission centerline to perpetuate its location), acquisition documents, original

field notes and so on come into play and may offer up a critical missing element in unraveling a puzzle created when your field investigation doesn't jive with the records. Where do you turn to sort out such a mess? Someone with institutional knowledge can be an invaluable help. Did you know that the federal records center has most of the original field notes from the original transmission line surveys done in the late 30's through early 60's? Those records contain ties to cadastral monumentation that may have long since disappeared, making those records invaluable in your recovery efforts.

I recently attended a PLSO Pioneer Chapter meeting in Warrenton where Vance Swenson, the Clatsop County Surveyor, gave a presentation on where old survey records might reside. Having worked in Clatsop County for some time, I can personally attest to how important it is to know someone who knows where those repositories are and can make a thumbnail assessment of the quality of the work you might discover. Believe me when I tell you that important records can be found in many places, some of them even in private hands that only word of mouth might uncover. Institutional knowledge can be a critically important aid in the research process.

What about right here in Multnomah County? How many practicing surveyors in the Portland-Metro area know of the origin of all the brass screws in sidewalks throughout Eastmoreland, the neighborhood where I grew up? If they do, it was probably via word-of-mouth, especially if you are an out-of-town surveyor. Here again, who will be around to share this local knowledge once the "old guard" are gone?

I think you get my point. Part of the "Challenge of Change" has to do with meeting it; that means carrying forward all the knowledge that's come before us. Isn't that what the conference should be all about? Information sharing? In an effort to meet the "Challenge of Change", many of the conference presentations will revolve around sharing knowledge gleaned from our own experiences. Some of that knowledge serves as a warning for changes that are coming. Other presentations share ways to deal with the changes that are already upon us. I can't emphasize enough the importance of conference attendance, not just for the viability of the organization, but for the viability of your career as a professional. It is commonly understood that our conference represents the best way to satisfy meeting the PDH requirements for maintaining your license. There are quite a few folks who've put in a fair bit of their own time and effort to make this opportunity available to you. Take advantage of it. I'll see you at the conference. ▽



# Are You Up to the Challenge?

By Aimee McAuliffe, PLSO Exec. Secretary

The 2017 Annual Conference will be here before we know it! Set for January 18–20 at the Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel, this year promises to be informative and fun. The host hotel is conveniently located near the airport for those that would like to fly in and pick up the free shuttle from the airport (Alaska Airlines is running around \$200 right now from both Klamath Falls and Walla Walla).

Our members have told us that the Annual Conference is an important reason why they join. You appreciate the opportunity to earn PDH's and network within your professional community. We appreciate your participation and support in creating a community that can rely on each other and help grow the future of our profession through your attendance and participation in the Education & Outreach Auction.

As we look to the future, PLSO and its members are on a precipice together. Technology is constantly changing, career paths are diverging, and social culture is adapting to both. As the twenty-first century continues, PLSO's goal is to be sure that our programs meet your professional needs. A central theme of this year's Annual Conference is "Challenge of Change" in recognition of our current professional environment and what we need to do for tangible benefits. Change is constant, but you are surveyors! You "got" this.

As per usual, the conference will open Wednesday morning and offer a wide range of continuing education programs, including David Doyle. This year's first lunch keynote speaker is Curt Sumner, Executive Director of the National Society of Professional Surveyors. Mr. Sumner works hard on the front lines for land surveyors and will be able to address national trends and issues. Oregon Young Surveyors Network will host an Open House Meet Up at Buffalo Wild Wings following the Vendor Reception as well. Thursday is a full day featuring such speakers as Michael Pallamary, PLS, and Dr. Richard Elgin. Be sure to attend the Annual Meeting and Awards luncheon to see who is being honored for Surveyor of the Year before capping off the night with our most important event of the year – the Education & Outreach Auction. Last year, PLSO raised over \$12,000 for scholarship and outreach programs and we're hoping we can beat it in 2017! Friday wraps up with another opportunity to earn PDH's, including Royce Hill on Donation Land Claims. This is not an event you want to miss! For a quick look at the entire seminar schedule or to read session descriptions and speaker bios, be sure to go online to [www.plso.org/2017Conference](http://www.plso.org/2017Conference).

## A few practical pointers:

- Register for the conference before December 30. Early birds are rewarded with reduced registration pricing. Your early registration helps us gauge our numbers in

a timely fashion, secure sufficient rooms, enable hotel staff to serve us better, and ensure a smoother running and more enjoyable conference for all.



- If you're planning on making life easier by staying at the conference, be sure to book your room early! To receive the discounted rate, call Elizabeth Long in Sheraton's local Group Reservations at 503.335.2857 and mention PLSO. Single/Double Rate: \$129; Triple: \$149; Quad: \$169. If there are issues getting the discounted rate or a room in general, don't just let it slide. Contact me at [execdirector@plso.org](mailto:execdirector@plso.org).
- Not sure which seminars you want to attend? Print out the seminar grid before visiting the seminar descriptions page. Circle the classes that you want to attend on the grid as you find out what each session is about. You will find the seminar information at [www.plso.org/2017Seminars](http://www.plso.org/2017Seminars).
- If you would like to get to the Oregon Young Surveyors gathering, make sure you RSVP for their Open House Meet Up. Go to [www.plso.org/Young-Surveyors](http://www.plso.org/Young-Surveyors).
- PLSO likes to respect and acknowledge our members that have passed away. If you know any members that have passed, please let me know at [execdirector@plso.org](mailto:execdirector@plso.org) so that I may make sure they are included.
- Participate in the 2017 Map Contest and win a free registration to the 2018 Conference. For more information, go to [www.plso.org/mapcontest](http://www.plso.org/mapcontest).
- Do you have a student that is interested in surveying? Sign them up for the Conference Student Program, coordinated by Jason Martin. Email PLSO for details, or support student outreach by sponsoring a student when you register to attend the conference.
- If you are interested in helping build the future of our profession, please consider donating a new item to the Silent Auction. Email me at [execdirector@plso.org](mailto:execdirector@plso.org) or download a form at [www.plso.org/Education-&-Outreach-Auction](http://www.plso.org/Education-&-Outreach-Auction).

This great event is only possible due to hard work by an amazing team. Special recognition goes to Conference Committee Volunteers: Jered McGrath (chair), Shaun Fidler, Chris Glantz, Ray Griffin, Gary Johnston, Jason Martin, and Scott Reaves. We are also thankful for the specialized assistance provided by Tim Kent and Paul Landau. Gentlemen, thank you for all your hard work and donated time.

*Continues on the bottom of page 4* ▶

# Chairman Comments

By Leland Myers, PLS

Your Board of Directors had an issue presented to it by J.T. Haglund regarding pursuing federal funding in the Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) program. His intent was for the PLSO and other private and public groups to develop a strategy to facilitate action that ensured the protection of Public Land Corners in the future. As we all know, our government agencies (Forest Service, BLM, etc.) are not able to react in a timely manner to issues like corner preservation/restoration due to funding procedures. J.T. is seeking help to find the best way to cause the government to follow existing rules for protecting monuments. Discussion ensued on the importance of the project and how to work within the BLM/Forestry/BIA infrastructure to make sure the public office understands that boundaries are valuable. I hope we haven't heard the last word on this important issue as it so happens I have personal experience with it.

In 1990 I witnessed the consequences of a major forest fire. I had a cadastral survey contract with the Malheur National Forest on the headwaters of the John Day River above Prairie City. Almost daily, my son, who was working with me, and I would watch thunderheads build all around us. We eventually had several lightning-caused fires all around us. One day while we were eating lunch a mile apart from each other we saw major smoke columns coming up behind us. It was very spooky to see rapidly spreading fire approaching from different directions. We decided to pull out of the job that evening for about a month while the fire suppression crews fought what became known as the Snowshoe Complex Fire. I don't remember exactly how big the fire ended up being, around 40,000 acres I think, but I do know it burned through all the area I had under contract.

This survey included numerous alternate sections that were a grant for the construction of The Dalles-Boise Military Road. It was interesting reading about the fraudulent activities that transpired in the construction and land grants. Our contract also included work along several miles of Strawberry Mountain Wilderness boundary. Much of the

area was high elevation and had a lot of Alpine Fir, a species that is very resinous with dense limbs nearly all the way to the ground. This fire burned with such high intensity that it killed nearly all the Alpine fire. You could tell the direction of the fire movement by finding some of my survey stakes that were very charred on one face and the other was like a new stake with no fire damage at all.

When we pulled off the job, we had nearly completed the traversing and had about a fourth of the project re-monumented. I used 60-penny spikes for my hubs and fortunately we found all but one of the more than 500 hubs that had been set. I strongly suspect the one had been pulled by wildlife before the fire. Some of the hubs stood an inch or so out of the ground because the duff had burned away, but they were all firmly set. In some cases, the guard stakes were still in place even in areas of intense burning. A majority of the original corner evidence had been found before the fire. In some instances, the scribing on some of the stones was improved by the heat and the burning of duff, and on some of the corners that I had monumented the aluminum signs had melted and dripped to the ground.

We were back on the project while mop-up crews were still putting out hot spots. We stomped out a few smokes ourselves. It was interesting to be posting line with smoke still rising. It is too bad we couldn't know in advance where fires were going to burn so that we could prepare the area, sort of as it worked out on my project. It is interesting how much corner evidence is still detectable immediately after a fire, but it is soon lost due to mother nature and reclamation efforts by other contractors in the area who are not aware of the importance of survey evidence.

Have a happy new year, and I hope to see you at the conference. ▽



Continued from page 3 ▸

I would also like to acknowledge the companies that are sponsoring our meeting this year. Make sure you let them know how grateful we all are for supporting the profession! At the time of writing this column, our 2017 sponsors include:

- Klein & Associates, Inc.
- David Evans & Associates, Inc.
- Otak
- Tenneson Engineering Corporation
- The Crew
- Ferguson Land Surveying
- CMT Surveying and Consulting
- KPFF
- Premiere Northwest Insurance
- Clark College

Join us in Portland this coming January 2017! ▽

# Visionaries

By Paul Landau, PLS

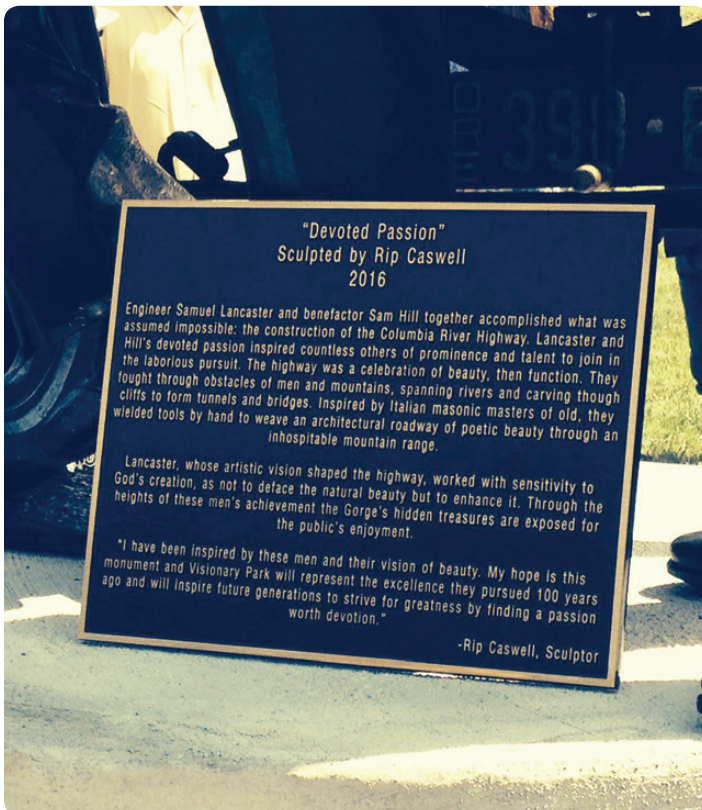
On June 7, I attended the unveiling ceremony of the "Visionaries" sculpture in Troutdale, Oregon. As mentioned in the last issue, this effort honors the work of Sam Hill and Sam Lancaster for the construction of the Historic Columbia River Highway, one hundred years ago this year.

With approximately 100 people in attendance on a very warm day, artist Rip Caswell thanked everyone for coming out and those who helped in the creation of the sculpture, including PLSO.

I managed to get a few decent pictures, the models for the work were in attendance, so you can see what they looked like. I introduced myself to Rip and he mentioned that there will be some signage coming that lists the contributors.

While the brass cap I created is not in the most advantageous spot, it does have our name on it. It takes a bit of looking, just like most corners we need to find.

"Visionaries" is located at 820 E. Historic Columbia River Highway, between the old Sandy River bridge and downtown Troutdale. ▽





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January 18 – 20, Portland Oregon

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**WOW!**

It is that time again, the PLSO Conference with *the* Map Contest and our famous Survey Olympics. We are looking forward to seeing more associate members involved in the Map Contest. Remember it's not about the PLS, it is about those who work with us and produce these wonderful products with our review and instruction. Let them be rewarded for the hard work. Go Mappers!

We will have the Best Pace Reward, open to all ages.

Don't forget the Height of a building or object award. This is also popular event with all ages.

Finally the Angle Award. Who can guess the correct angle and how close! Us older Surveyors should be good at this! So Come all and enjoy the fun!

CMT, get your maps ready to submit!

Look forward to seeing you all there.

**PLSO! PLSO! PLSO! GO! GO! GO!**

## Portland for a Change

*By Christopher Glantz, PLS*

I read a quote recently from John F. Kennedy where he said, "Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future." That's a powerful statement from one of the most influential presidents we've had. In my view, I feel like what he is saying should ring true within each one of us, that we should be continually looking to the future for ways to better ourselves and our profession, a profession which has taken care of

so many of us. I for one am guilty of relying on the past and the present. I've been caught up in my day to day activities or something I think I could have done better, which has blinded me to what the future holds and all of the opportunities that may be out there. The really cool thing about the future is that it is forgiving and it is always ahead of us, just like the 2017 PLSO Conference.



We on the conference committee would like to formally invite all of you to the 2017 PLSO Conference, to be held January 18 – 20, in Portland, OR. As you may have already read, our theme this year is “Challenge of Change.” The conference committee struggled this year to find something that was a bit different than what we have done in the past. Let’s say it was a “challenge” to “change.” We want to bring the Oregon land surveying community something different, but not too different that people wouldn’t recognize why we’re there. One of the bigger changes is that we’re in a different venue again for the third year in a row, which I’m pretty excited about. The Sheraton Portland Airport will be hosting us this year. I like exploring new places, and I hope all of you feel the same.

The conference schedule was posted on the PLSO website in early November and I hope that everyone had an opportunity to take a look. I’m excited for our lineup of speakers this year, and I’m ready to sit back and soak it all in.

It’s a challenge every year to put together speakers and events that people enjoy, but I feel like we have a good group of sessions for all of you. We’ve brought some old favorites back, such as Mike Pallamary who will be here educating us about how to better run our business and discussing some of the Curt Brown chronicles. We also invited Dr. Richard Elgin who will discuss marketing and how you can improve your office practices. Another big name we brought back, out of retirement I believe, is Dave Doyle who is going to talk to us about transformation, datums, and geodesy. I can still remember the first time I heard Dave Doyle speak. I never knew someone could get so excited about datums, realizations, and geodesy. Talk about things changing, the whole earth is changing by the day.

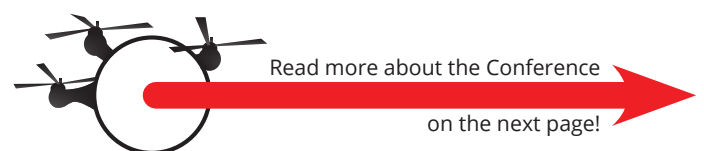
Althea Rizzo from the Oregon Office of Emergency Management was such a big hit last year that we decided to invite her back to talk about Geological Hazards and what the future may have in store. Royce Hill, from the BLM, will be reviewing Donation Land Claims, and there are many more speakers from around our great state that will give us some wonderful things to discuss and learn about.

We also want to encourage everyone to attend the auction dinner to be held Thursday evening, January 19th, as well as checking out what we have to offer at the silent auction. Last year we raised nearly \$13,000, which is pretty good, but I feel like we can do better.

Another change this year is that the Oregon Young Surveyors (OrYSN) will be holding their first annual PLSO Conference OrYSN Meet Up. The OrYSN group is planning a fun meet up for all of the young (and young at heart) surveyors out there. The goal of the meet up is to allow the group and its members an opportunity to grow their professional network. The group is welcoming everyone who wants to help promote this wonderful profession that has been good to all of us.

We also want to challenge each and every one of you Corporate members to bring an Associate member, because they are the surveyors that need to be at the conference. They will benefit the most from the classes and the experience. You’ll get to know your employees on a much more personal level and they will appreciate the time you are spending trying to further their careers. When I was a student and a young professional, I thought it was the coolest thing when my boss or leader wanted to include me in a conference. I felt like they were really taking some interest in me professionally by helping me learn about the industry. Plus, Shaun Fidler is going to donate \$10 per Associate member that attends. I’m hoping that we can have him write a check that is big enough to make him feel a little uncomfortable. So please do your profession a favor and bring those folks you want to invest in.

I feel the conference is one of the most important things we do as an organization. It allows everyone an opportunity to come together as a family and learn. Learn about our friends, learn something about surveying, learn something about someone new, and hopefully learn something about ourselves. The conference gives an excuse to not think about our busy lives for a couple of days and have fun with some old friends and hopefully some new ones. We have an opportunity to look to the future and see what changes we have ahead of us and how to best handle them, not to mention who we might want with us on that journey. I hope to see you all there! ▼





# 2017 Annual Maps Contest

Each year PLSO holds a map contest at its Annual Conference. Show us your skills in Portland this January for a friendly competition between surveyors. All entries will be displayed at the 2017 Conference. Winners will receive bragging rights and prizes as follows:

**First Prize** One Full Registration for 2018 Annual PLSO Conference

**Second Prize:** \$200 Gift Card

**Third Prize:** \$100 Gift Card

## Contest Guidelines

### Types of maps that may be submitted:

- Record of Survey
- Subdivision and Condominium
- ALTA
- Topographic
- Exhibit
- Public Land
- 3-D Model

### Please submit one rolled paper copy

- Maximum size: 24"x36"
- No Identifying name, stamp, or firm name to be included on the map
- Title and Narrative must be included (noted for out of state entries)

**Limit:** three maps, four sheet max per firm. Entries will not be returned.

## How to Enter

Complete the entry form below and mail it with your map(s) to: PLSO Survey Map Contest, P.O. Box 230548, Tigard, OR 97281

Name _____	Phone _____
Company _____	Email _____
Address _____	City _____
State _____	Zip _____

Maps Must Be Received by 5 p.m. Friday, January 13, 2017.

Supported by:  
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## Support Needed for the Education and Outreach Auction

The annual PLSO auction provides a special opportunity for individuals, companies and vendors to support two very important PLSO efforts: 1st—The PLSO Scholarship Fund; 2nd—Outreach. Scholarship funds are transferred to the Oregon Community Foundation which administers the annual award of PLSO scholarships. Outreach includes events such as: recruiting prospective surveyors by sponsoring attendance at college/career fairs; educating young people about surveying by conducting programs such as TwiST and TrigStar; promoting career information through the Young Surveyors Network; and sponsoring survey

student activities at the annual conference. PLSO members are asked to support these endeavors by donating items and joining the bidding at the auction.

As in past years, the silent auction will be conducted throughout Thursday, January 19. That evening, a small group of select items will be sold at live auction following dinner (dinner is included with your registration). Background music will be provided during the social hour and dinner by a trio featuring Erin Parra.

Some notable donations that have already been planned or pledged to the 2017 auction include:

*Continues on page 9* ▶

# Surveying Instrument Road Show



## \$150 or \$1,500 or \$15,000?

**Bring your old or unusual surveying equipment and find out!**

Have you collected some old or unusual surveying equipment and want to get an idea of its value? Or perhaps you have an item that you want to know more about. Bring them to the 2017 PLSO Conference and find out!

Nationally recognized expert, researcher, author, and collector of early American surveying equipment, Dr. Richard Elgin, will convene a session of his "Surveying Instrument Road Show" following classes and prior to dinner on Thursday, January 19.

Convention attendees are encouraged to bring items for comment and evaluation. Compasses, transits, levels, and other pieces are welcome. Bring that "what is it piece" and see if Dr. Elgin can identify the device. Learn from Dr. Elgin's knowledgeable assessments and hear his tips about collecting antique surveying equipment.

## About Dr. Richard L. Elgin

Dick is a practitioner, having owned and operated a surveying company for 24 years; a researcher, having co-developed celestial observation software packages in the 1980's and 1990's; an educator, having taught surveying at Missouri University of Science & Technology; and an author—his most recent book being "The U.S. Public Land Survey System for Missouri." For many years he has collected, researched, and written articles about early American surveying equipment. His collection numbers about 700 instruments and includes the full range of American compasses (from the late 1700's through the early 1900's); transits (from the 1830's through solar transits); levels, sextants and one of the five W. & L.E. Gurley dividing engines. He is an expert on the early preeminent instrument maker, Goldsmith Chandlee, his life and compasses.

**Whether you have an item or are simply interested in survey equipment history, be sure to include this event on your conference schedule for Thursday, January 19.**



- ▶ • One year's display of the Buff & Buff Transit from PLSO
- One year's display of the 2009 BLM Survey Manual autographed by BLM officials from PLSO
- A large assortment of unique wines donated by the PLSO Board
- Custom salmon spinning rod and reel sponsored by the Willamette Chapter & by John Wise
- Flat screen TV donated by Carlson Software
- An assortment of Rogue Distillery products from US Survey Supply

A link to an auction donation form can be found on the conference page at the PLSO website. The blank form can be printed then scanned and sent by email to the executive secretary at [office@plso.org](mailto:office@plso.org).

Donors are requested to refrain from offering heavily used and/or outdated survey equipment and supplies. Those donations have received little or no interest from bidders at previous auctions. If you have further questions, either about a donation or the auction, please contact Gary Johnston at [garyjanej@gmail.com](mailto:garyjanej@gmail.com). ▼



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I've lived three places in my life: Albuquerque, New Mexico; Orlando, Florida; and Portland, Oregon. Each has its own charms, but the Pacific Northwest has by far stolen my heart and I absolutely love every minute of every day here.

*JB*  
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# I'm Proud to be a Surveyor

By Kelly Miller, RLS, EIT

As I'm sure most of you can attest, 2016 has flown by. With Fall and Winter coming, hopefully time will slow down a bit to catch up and plan for the year to come. 2016 has been a very productive year for the Oregon Young Surveyors Network (OrYSN). So what have we been up to? As you'll find below, we have accomplished many tasks, but there is still a lot of work to be done.

Starting in April, 2016, the OrYSN has been holding regular meetings on the first Monday of every month. These are recurring phone conference/GoToMeetings in which we've been discussing visions and goals for the group, as well as hearing about everyone's work and discussing any projects or work we've encountered. A small group of 3-5 people have been regularly attending.

We have also held two in-person meetings in Portland in June and October. Our plan is to have face-to-face

meetings quarterly or semi-annually. These meetings have been great networking opportunities and have allowed us all to create new professional relationships across the state. We plan to move these in-person meetings around the state as more people become interested.

Two of the main items we have accomplished at these meetings have been coming up with a Mission for the OrYSN and a plan to reach out to other young professional groups and colleges and universities across the state. The mission statement is an elaboration on the national YSN statement, which can be found on the NSPS website.

As of the June 2016 PLSO Board of Directors meeting in Redmond, the OrYSN has become an official committee within PLSO. This will allow our group to interact directly with the state board and the chapter directors to discuss opportunities where we may be

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YSN members at the September meeting in Phoenix.

able to augment current activities. Being an official committee will also allow us to have a voice at the state level and empower young members to hopefully be more involved in their respective chapters.

In late September, Chris Glantz and I attended the national YSN meeting in Phoenix, in conjunction with the NSPS Fall Business Meeting. There were 15 individuals in attendance representing 12 states. The focus of the meeting was to get updates from all of the states and discuss how individual groups were gaining momentum. While I have felt that we are still getting a slow start in OR, we are very active compared to many other states. We also took an afternoon to attend NSPS committee meetings. I chose to attend the PR committee meeting and they have been making great strides in creating new educational brochures and updating the NSPS website. The NSPS members present were energized by our attendance and are excited that we are stepping up to help shape our own futures.

So you may be wondering why should I commit my time and energy for the OrYSN? What can be in it for me? Well, I personally have gained so much from this group already, only being active for the past year. I have expanded my professional network and am making lasting relationships with many of the engaged members. I have developed more leadership skills by helping to run meetings and attend board meetings. The most impressive result I have taken away is a new found sense of excitement in this wonderful profession! It's easy to keep your head

down and do great work every day in your own little bubble, but to see others that are just as passionate about their careers as I am is empowering. I'm so proud to say that I am a surveyor and am excited for where we are going because I now am meeting others who are going to shape this profession with me.

We are actively looking for more interested individuals to join the OrYSN. Members are defined as those under the age of 35 or within 10 years of graduation of a surveying degree. We will happily accept those outside of the aforementioned parameters, but those individuals will be classified as 'Supporting Members.' We will be holding an OrYSN event at the PLSO Conference in January on Wednesday night, so be on the lookout for more information as the date nears.

Feel free to contact Chris Glantz (chrisglantz@gmail.com) or Kelly Miller (klmiller@bpa.gov) if you would like to know more, have questions, or would like to get the monthly meeting invites. You can also sign up on the NSPS website under About>NSPS Young Surveyors to be added to the national list.

Here's to a prosperous 2017! 🍷

## Mission of The Oregon Young Surveyor Network

### Educate

Empower young surveyors, together with PLSO and NSPS, to promote and educate the surveying profession and the public.

### Connect

Empower young surveyors, together with PLSO and NSPS, to create a community where ideas and experiences can be shared to contribute to the advancement of the profession.

### Involve

Empower young surveyors, together with PLSO and NSPS, to shape the future of surveying through involvement in professional organizations.

# October Highlights

By John Thatcher, PLS

The Western Federation of Professional Surveyors (WFPS) held a Board of Directors meeting on October 1, 2016 at the Wild Horse Pass Hotel in Phoenix, AZ. Delegates from 12 western states were in attendance.

WFPS areas of focus:

## Developing and Maintaining Programs to Promote the Profession

WFPS is committed to promoting the land surveying profession. To that end, WFPS is currently developing the following programs:

### Youth Outreach – Land Surveying as a Career

WFPS has budgeted funds to develop an after school/community program. The program will include 10 hours of curriculum that can be used by state associations and their chapters to promote land surveying as a career. The initial outline of the program is complete. If you are interested in serving on the committee that is developing this program, please contact the WFPS Executive Office at (707) 578-1130 or [admin@wfps.org](mailto:admin@wfps.org).

Continuance of the Teaching with Spatial Technology (TwIST) program which provides teachers with resources to promote land surveying within their classroom. All state associations are welcome to participate in this annual event. The 2017 TwIST program will be held the third week in June. All state associations are welcome to sponsor teachers to this training.

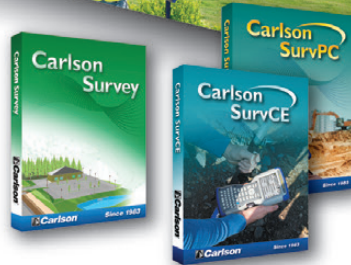
### Public Awareness—Elevator Pitch Contest

The winner of the Elevator Pitch Contest was Richard Heieren of Alaska. Richard generously donated the reward to the WFPS Scholarship fund.

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WFPS will be writing an article which will include several of the submissions received. The article will be disseminated to the state associations and can be used on their website or magazine.

**Providing Resources to Benefit State Associations**

WFPS is dedicated to providing resources to state associations. Following are a few of the resources currently being developed:

**1. Speakers Bureau**

This new resource developed by WFPS will provide state associations the ability to search for a speaker by name, geographic location, or by topic. The database will include a photo of the speaker, a bio, price range, and testimonials. The search engine is available on the WFPS website—WFPS.org. State associations are encouraged to submit recommendations for the speakers bureau.

**2. Quarterly Book Reviews**

Looking for content for your magazine or newsletter? WFPS will be providing a quarterly book review that state associations can publish. Book reviews will be provided this month to the state associations.

**3. Webinars**

WFPS is developing a webinar program to provide educational opportunities and a service to the western state surveying associations. This program will provide the western state associations non-dues revenue and an opportunity to provide a valuable service to their members. More information regarding this program will be available in the coming months.

**New! WFPS Website**

WFPS has launched a new website. Visit us today! [WFPS.org](http://WFPS.org)


**About WFPS**

The Western Federation of Professional Surveyors (WFPS) was formed in 1979. The Board of Directors includes two delegates from each of the 13 western states. WFPS serves as a regional voice for Land Surveyors and meets quarterly to discuss practice issues affecting western state surveyors. For more information about WFPS and the state associations, visit [WFPS.org](http://WFPS.org)

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# Orville Oscar Caswell

PLS 494 May 13, 1960

Born March 9, 1928. Passed Away September 22, 2016

Orville passed away leaving a large void in the Oregon surveying profession that will likely never be filled. Orv was born and raised in Eugene. He attended Eugene High and transferred to University High and excelled in playing football at both offensive and defensive tackle positions. Before attending the University of Oregon, he worked for the Forest Service packing supplies and repairing phone lines to lookout towers and maintaining trails. While working for the State Highway Department (known now as the Oregon Department of Transportation), Orv always commented about his work there as, "this is where I learned how to pound stakes and I don't need to learn any more about pounding stakes".

While attending the University of Oregon, he was drafted into the Army where he served as a medic in the Korean War and was honorably discharged.

Upon being discharged from the Army, he returned to Eugene and worked for 9 years with John Quiner Engineering. During this time of Orv's career, he started a practice which was considered unique for the area. If he was following another Surveyors work and had any questions about it, he would either call or stop by their office and ask if they could help him understand why they did their survey in such a way. At that time in the Eugene area, that was not a common practice. Orv would do this in a very polite, professional manner that gained a lot of respect in the local survey community and encouraged



surveyors to talk to each other as comrades instead of competitors.

In the early 1960s Orv heard about a group of surveyors in the Portland area that was striving to form an organization that would promote and enhance the profession of surveying. He traveled to Portland and met with these surveyors to understand what their ideas and goals were with hopes that maybe this could become a statewide idea. He returned to Eugene and called a meeting with the local surveyors where they drafted by-laws for the PLSO which lead to the forming the Midwest Chapter and the statewide organization.

In 1966, Orv left John Quiner Engineering and started his own surveying practice. His last survey was filed at the

Lane County Surveyor's Office in 2010, spanning 50 years of surveying.

Orv served as President of the Midwest Chapter of the PLSO and in 1973 was Chair of the PLSO Board of Directors, and was awarded PLSO Life Membership. He also served as a volunteer consultant for the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineers and Land Surveyors.

Orv was an avid outdoorsman. He loved to snow ski to the point that he served on the ski patrol for Hoodoo and Willamette ski bowls. He hunted deer and elk (as he said mostly just to get away from the phone) and in his later years to get in the boat and go fishing, (he may have even put a hook at the end of the line sometimes).

## Orv, the Professional

I had the great honor and privilege to have worked for Orv for over 10 years. During this time, I witnessed and was taught how to be a professional. Orv's daily practice was not to "settle" on the easy solution when the truth was still not answered. He would commonly tell me that "when you make a decision it best be correct so when you go to bed you can fall asleep instead of lying there and worrying about what you did." This led to the running joke we had, "how many times would you go out to a job to find that one monument that could help." The most important practice that Orv taught me was "never say you couldn't find the monument and find out later someone else did." His survey practice was based upon the fact that it does not matter if you make any money on the job, as long as the work is done correctly. He was always willing to take time out of his work to help any surveyor with their survey problems. This would be a common theme during many PLSO Midwest Chapter meetings, where someone would bring up a problem they are having and ask if anyone had any ideas for a solution. This practice was a result of Orv's habit of discussing survey issues openly among other surveyors, thus raising the level of the survey profession in the community.

When I first started working for Orv, I mentioned that I was interested in the PLSO organization and wanted to know more about it. He immediately invited me to a chapter meeting where he made sure I was

introduced to all the surveyors attending and was made to feel welcome. He also made sure I didn't miss any chapter meetings from that time forward. He encouraged me to become involved in the organization and learn from it. Early on Orv told me to "keep quiet and listen to everything people had to say and I'll let you know when to start asking questions." What he was trying to teach was that when you first start out practicing surveying you may think you know it all but you are really just starting to learn. I would hope all of us have come to understand that we are always learning and will never know it all.

Orv was my mentor throughout my career. The fact that I could ask him any question and he would advise me on how to proceed will be greatly missed. It seems like I find myself on a daily basis asking the question, "How would Orv want me to handle this?" I am very proud to have known and worked for Orv and very saddened that we have lost a true professional. I hope we can all take away from this that we should always strive to become a better person and professional as we proceed in life and ask ourselves, "do the founders of PLSO approve on how we are moving forward with the organization?" ▽

Here is a link to the obituary in the Eugene Registered Guard newspaper:  
<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/registerguard/obituary.aspx?n=orville-oscar-caswell&pid=181801793>

Written by Tim Fassbender, PLS 2199



Orv Caswell (center) flanked by Don Peel and Clyde Randall



A gift from Tim Fassbender to Orv Caswell, a plaque with 50 quarters and images of Orv's first and last filed surveys in Lane County.

Read more about Orville on the next page ▸

## Taken From a Dream *By G. Robert Taylor, PLS*

Orville's family was present when he passed away in Eugene, Oregon in September, 2016. They all knew that Orv was failing as his health had worsened over the past few years. Their hearts were sad but their minds knew it was time, so that was the day that Orville Caswell died.

Thus begins a journey taken by the spirit of people. As Orville's spirit left his body, he turned to see the family he loved so well. He so wanted to say words of comfort to them and reassure them that his spirit was strong and he felt no pain, only a calm which had made him strong again.

He smiled with his heart full of love and turned away to find himself at a trailhead along a beautiful mountain side. There was nothing that told him what to do, but he felt an inner urging to start up that moss covered path through the woods filled with ferns and cedar and fir and vine maple which were just starting to turn their yellows and reds and oranges. Reaching the ridge top, he found a clearing. The trail continued straight, but there was also a path which lead down the side slope where he could see small columns of white smoke rising and as such, his spirit rose with them. He started down this new trail toward the smoke and wondered what awaited him. The trail had twists and turns, but it was as beautiful a trail as he had ever seen as a man.

He came upon a spirit along the path who greeted Orville and introduced himself as Hal Pavey, the gatekeeper to the Land Surveyors Camp. Orville smiled and asked "Where's the gate?" Hal smiled back and said "They never really put up a gate because we are all spirits here but that's the title I wanted so they said fine, it's yours."

Orv asked Hal what happens next and where do I go? Again, Hal smiled and said "I can tell you've a lot of questions, it seems all the surveyors are that way. I'm going to take you down to the Recall Master and he can get you going." Hal turned and in the blink of an eye a spirit appeared and he too had a smile and said "Welcome Orv, we've been waiting for you." Orville was staring at his old friend Pete Maring.

"Pete, what's going on, where are we?" asked Orville. Pete said "Come with me, Orv, and we'll head on down this trail to the Camp where you'll get to meet some other spirits you know.

Here your spirit can wish to be with any other spirit you've known. Your parents, grandparents, siblings, aunts, uncles, and cousins. You can meet your ancestors as far back as you wish.

We are all here awaiting the time when there will be a final judgement. At that time we will all know if we will stay here with these spirits in this place or if there is a different place for us."

Orville asked "When will all this happen?" Pete smiled and said "We have no time here, Orv, we are here in the moment. You simply wish yourself to be at a place and a time of your choosing. You can be 10 years old at the home you grew up in if you wish.

At that moment on the trail a group of spirits were sitting around the largest of the several campfires. This is of course only for effect as spirits at this level don't get cold or hot. They just like smoke and camp-fires. There were other small campfires around it and all seemed to be encircled by a lively bunch of spirits in a talkative mood.

At the big campfire some spirits had tin cups at their seating place. Layne Caswell had a little scotch in his cup, George Cook had something with Clamato juice in it. Bruce Shaner had a fine wine even though it was in a tin cup, and Al White had something from a bottle with a "No.7" on it. Others had empty cups because spirits really don't need to drink anything.

A few yards away was a group where everyone was standing and laughing. There were Dexter Milne, Bert Mason, and Cecil Navin, accompanied by their wives. On the other side of that smaller fire were Stephen Ford and Ozzie Shaw and they were listening to a Shaggy Dog Story from Andy Paris. Then up the hill walking toward the big campfire was Dick Skinner and he was laughing with Clyde Randall, each holding their tin cups.

As Pete and Orville approached the big fire Bruce looked up and said, "Hey, we have a new one." Layne was the first one to recognize Orville and as he stood up he yelled, "My god, its Orv, hey buddy are we ever glad to see you."

Everyone stood and while they greeted Orville, each one gave him a good will wish for his family. George told Orville not be saddened and that he would see them again, and in this place of no time and only the now it wouldn't be long.

Orville smiled at the group of people and said, "I know this isn't heaven, but it's awfully close." ▼

### Spirits List: Oregon PLS number, name.

205 Clyde Randall	489 Al White
245 Dexter Milne	494 Orville Caswell
289 Andrew Paris	522 Cecil Navin
322 Bert Mason	540 George Cook
430 Bruce Shaner	737 Layne Caswell
431 Ozzie Shaw	869 Dick Skinner

# The Lost Surveyor

By Pat Gaylord, PLS

**Q** Can you name this Conde B. McCullough historic highway bridge over the Grand Ronde River near LaGrande?



*See the answer on the next page!* 



**A** The Upper Perry Arch Bridge was designed by the renowned Oregon State Highway Department bridge engineer, Conde B. McCullough and constructed in 1924. McCullough’s bridges can be seen throughout Oregon and are well known for elegant designs and pleasing aesthetics. The bridge was constructed by the Union Bridge Company as part of the “Get Oregon Out of the Mud” campaign and extended US Highway 30 further into eastern Oregon. This crossing of the Grand Ronde River and the Union Pacific



Railroad provided a vital connection to the ports and markets in western Oregon and the Columbia River Gorge. It also provided a link for tourists to visit eastern Oregon with greater ease.

The Upper Perry Arch Bridge is one of two single arch bridges in eastern Oregon that were designed by McCullough. The bridge fell into disrepair after I-84 was constructed in the 1960’s and was in jeopardy of being replaced. Due to its historic nature it was instead rehabilitated and reopened in 2009. The \$5.4-million-dollar repair and restoration effort was awarded First Place in its category in the 2010 Daily Journal of Commerce’s Top Projects Contest. The original 1924 design and construction cost was \$53,814.43. ▽

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