

1970 - 2023



**RHODE ISLAND SOCIETY
OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS**

Presents

53rd Annual Meeting and Conference

And

The New England Surveying Societies

(NESS)

Friday - November 10, 2023

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Presidents 2023 Welcome Message:

Welcome to all our members and guests to the Rhode Island Society of Professional Land Surveyors 53rd Annual Meeting & Conference. I encourage all of you to find time throughout the day to introduce yourself and get to know each other.

We welcome today's exhibitors and vendors for their support and participation in today's conference. Please visit them and learn how they can assist you and what opportunities they can offer to you.

I additionally welcome all the New England Surveyor Societies (NESS) that have joined us today. We are fortunate to have the NESS coalition of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Hampshire, New York, Vermont and Rhode Island to discuss the latest issues we all face and work together to understand how each of us see these issues and the steps we each take to address them. Thanks to these organizations and their representative members, for their attendance today and continued leadership for our future in the Land Surveying profession.

This year RISPLS attempted to have legislation passed to protect us from liability for the Right of Entry onto abutting properties for the purposes of conducting our obligations to complete our projects in a thorough manner. This legislation was proposed to similarly mimic laws that are in effect in some of the NESS states. So far, this legislation has met obstacles and a fair amount of resistance. More will be discussed regarding this in the next few months. This effort would not have moved as far as it has without the motivation and efforts of Neal Hingorany and Marc Thayer. Thank you for your continued effort.

Today we have three seminar topics being presented by Jan Van Sickle. The topics are Best Practices for GPS/GNSS, Coordinates and Reference Frames, and Surveyors and GIS. The information Jan will be presenting will provide additional insight and information as he shares his expert knowledge that will help us with your practice and will make us better Land Surveyors with a more in-depth understanding of these topics.

Thank you to Sherri Andrukiewicz for your continued dedication to our society and for the time you provide to make the annual meeting a truly successful day. Please let Sherri know that you are thankful for her time and efforts.

Thanks to the Board of Directors and Executive Board Members for continuing the progress of the Rhode Island Society of Professional Land Surveyors, I appreciate all your time and effort. To the rest of our members, thank you for participating in our General Membership meetings and this conference. Please consider getting further involved in the RISPLS, helping to expand our membership or join the Board so that RISPLS can continue to prosper and pursue new ideas and objectives.

Thank you all. Please feel free to reach out with any concerns.

Respectfully,

David T. Bray, PLS



Acknowledgments

RISPLS would like to express sincere appreciation to the following dedicated people who have expended resources and a great deal of time and talent to make this convention a success:

- The 2023 RISPLS Officers & Board of Directors: David Bray, Ed O'Brien, Samuel Suorsa, Roger Briggs, Neal Hingorany, Steve Kubiak, Marc Thayer and Eric Colburn for contacting the speakers for our convention & GMM seminars throughout the year;
- Roger Briggs for providing the 2023 Treasurer's Report;
- Neal Hingorany for providing the 2023 Secretary's Report;
- Eric Colburn for providing and updating the RISPLS Website .
- Sherri Andrukiewicz for organizing the details and preparing of paperwork involved for a successful convention. .
- A Big Thank You to our RISPLS Exhibitors, Sponsors & Members who attend year after year and Support the RISPLS efforts all throughout the year! Even in the recent Virtual Meeting Years!
- Thank You to ALL of our RISPLS Officers & Board of Directors for volunteering your time each month !

Thank you!

Rhode Island Society of Professional Land Surveyors

PAST PRESIDENTS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Years</u>
Robert J. Curran, PLS	1971-1972
Kenneth W. Anthony, PLS *	1973
Robert B. Annis, PLS	1974
John J. Bristol, PLS *	1975
Patrick D. McCormick, PLS*	1976
Michael N. Garrett, PLS	1977
Harrison H. Seveney, Jr., PLS	1978-1979
Elston W. Stanley, PLS *	1980
George E. Corrente, PLS	1981-1982
Louis Federici, PLS	1983-1984
Thomas D. Drury, Jr., PLS	1985
Robert A. Murray, PLS	1986
Joseph Frisella, PLS*	1987
Roger W. Anthony, PLS*	1988-1989
Richard T. Bzdyra, PLS	1990-1991
Richard S. Lipsitz, PLS	1992-1993
Joseph P. Toscano, Jr., PLS	1994
Alfred W. DiOrio, PLS	1995-1996
Thomas Drury, PLS	1997-1998
Richard Nudenberg, PLS	1999-2000
Richard Nudenberg, PLS	2001
Daniel R. Cotta, PLS	2002-2003
David Hilbern, PLS	2004-2005
Robert Cournoyer, PLS	2006
John L. Libby, PLS	2007-2008
Richard Nudenberg, PLS	2009
Harry A. Miller, PLS	2010
Edward O'Brien, PLS	2011-2020
David Bray, PLS	2021-2023

*deceased members

PAST SURVEYOR OF THE YEAR

Pierre Guillemette	1983
John Bristol	1985
Robert Murray	1987
Richard Bzdyra	1991
Alfred DiOrio	1992
John Mensinger	1993
Lori Simmonelli	1994
Ellsworth Stanley	1995
Thomas Drury	1996
Donald Davis	1997
Roger Anthony	1998
Joseph W. Frisella	1999
Richard H. Nudenberg	2000
Louis Federici	2001
Michael Gaston	2002
Dan Cotta	2003
Dave Hilbern	2004
John Libby	2005
James Reddington	2006
None	2007
Matt Cotta	2008
Edward O'Brien	2009
None	2010
David D. Gardner	2011
Daniel Cotta	2012
John Rockwell	2013
Michael McCormick	2014
Robert Clift	2015
Harry Miller	2016
David Bray,	2017
Arthur Hayward Jr	2018
Christopher Palmer, PLS	2019
Eric Colburn, PLS	2020
Roger Briggs, PLS	2021
Mark Boyer , PLS	2022

PAST TECHNICIANS OF THE YEAR

<u>Name</u>	<u>Year Elected</u>
Michael McCormick	1992
Vern Taylor	1993
Robert St. Angelo	1995
Arthur Boisvert	1996
Joseph Skymba	1997
Everett Lewis	1998
Kevin Bryden	1999
Geoffrey S Hoogasian	2000
Paul F. Finn	2001
Patrick McCourt	2002
Mark Cusson	2003
Matt Cotta	2004
Michael Darveau	2005
Patrick Grant	2006
None	2007
None	2008
Steve Kubiak	2009
None	2010
None	2011
None	2012
Samuel Suorsa	2013
None	2014
Mark Briggs	2015
Christopher Shaw	2016
None	2017
Christopher Palmer	2018

Rhode Island Society of Professional Land Surveyors
2023/2024 Slate of Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
PRESIDENT David Bray, PLS	DBRAY@CWLTD.NET	
VICE PRESIDENT Samuel Suorsa, PLS	SRSUORSA@GMAIL.COM	
SECRETARY Neal Hingorany, PLS	NHINGORANY@NEI_EDS.COM	
TREASURER Roger Briggs, PLS	ROGER.BRIGGS@DOT.RI.GOV	

Board of Directors

PAST PRESIDENT Edward J. O'Brien, PLS	EJOBPLS2000@COX.NET
Eric Colburn, PLS	ECOLBURN@FOSTERSURVEY.COM
Stephen Kubiak, PLS	SAKUBIAK@GMAIL.COM
Marc Thayer, PLS	MTHAYER314@OUTLOOK.COM

RISPLS OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION:

RI SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS
410 TIOGUE AVENUE
COVENTRY RI 02816
PHONE: 401-294-1262
EMAIL: RISPLS@HOTMAIL.COM
WEBSITE: RISPLS.COM
RISPLS is on FaceBook too

Sherri Andrukiewicz, RISPLS Executive Assistant

RHODE ISLAND SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS

**53rd Annual Meeting and Conference Schedule
November 10, 2023**

Schedule of Events

7:30 AM	Registration Opens with Continental Breakfast	
8:00 - 4:45	Exhibits Open	
8:00 - 11:30	<u>Seminar I</u>	Jan Van Sickle
	*Narragansett/Ocean Room	Geodesist & Principal Scientist R&D at Maxar
	<i>Presentation:</i>	
	Best Practices for GPS/GNSS	
	Coordinates and Reference Frames (Part 1)	
9:45 - 10:00	Break	
11:30 - 2:00	Exhibits / Free Time / Plan Contest Voting	
12:00 - 2:00	Lunch Buffet- 50/50 Raffle-Membership Meeting-Induction of Officers-Awards	
2:00 - 4:45	<u>Seminar I</u>	Jan Van Sickle
	*Narragansett/Ocean Room	Geodesist & Principal Scientist R&D at
	<i>Presentation:</i>	
	Coordinates and Reference Frames (Part 2)	
	Surveyors and GIS	
3:00 - 3:30	Break	
3:30 - 4:45	NESS Meeting	<i>All are welcome to attend the NESS Meeting in luncheon room</i>
4:45 - 5:15	Door Prizes / Certificates	
5:00 - 7:00	Cocktail Reception w/Hors d'oeuvres & Scholarship Auction	

Event Schedule subject to change. Final Schedule will be posted in Event Program on 11/10/23

2023 RISPLS SCHOLARSHIP AUCTION

The Annual Scholarship Auction is our main fundraiser each year for our Scholarship Fund.
So please join us after the completion of today's all day seminar.

Items will be donated & dropped off throughout the day as guests arrive and will be on display, so be sure to check out the table often. We always have had a wide variety of items that include equipment new & used, gift baskets, gift cards, services, adult beverages, antiques and more.....

The Scholarship Auction will be held after the seminar is completed in the foyer area. A Cash bar will be set up for Cocktails and Hors d'oeuvres will be set out for 4:45pm.

The Scholarship Auction will begin at about 5:15 pm

RISPLS would like to Thank all of those who made a monetary donation to the Scholarship Fund while renewing their RISPLS memberships.

No matter the amount, it all helps toward education scholarships!

All donations will go towards the
Pierre H. Guillemette Scholarship Awards
that are given each year to deserving student(s) of Land Surveying.

However if you would like to make a donation to our scholarship fund,
please make check payable to :

RISPLS

410 Tiogue Avenue, Coventry RI 02816

In the check memo, please write : *Scholarship Fund*

RHODE ISLAND SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS

53rd Annual Meeting and Conference

November 10, 2023

Jan Van Sickle

Geodesist & Principal Scientist R&D at Maxar

Biography:

Jan Van Sickle is currently a Geodesist and Principal Scientist R&D at Maxar (formerly Digital Globe). He has many years of experience in GIS, GNSS, surveying and mapping. He began working with GPS in the early 1980s when he supervised control work using the Macrometer, the first commercial GPS receiver. He created and led the GIS department at Qwest Communications for the company's 25,000-mile worldwide fiber optic network. He also led the team that built the GIS for natural gas gathering in the Barnett Shale. He assisted the supervision of the first GPS control survey of the Grand Canyon. He led the team that collected, processed and reported ground control positions for more than 120 cities around the world for the ortho-rectification of satellite imagery now utilized in a global web utility. He managed control for the BIM of the White House and the creation of the worldwide T&E sites for two major earth observation satellites (Geoeye I and Geoeye II). He conducted a spatial accuracy comparison study for Maxar in Durban, South Africa, Seoul, South Korea and Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. He has provided technical assistance in the reconstruction of the geodetic network of Nigeria. He has managed the gravity/magnetic and hyperspectral/multispectral analysis of Borzon VII a concession block in the South Gobi in Mongolia. He created an imagery-based system of deriving road centerlines that meet the stringent Advanced Driver Assistance specifications and developed a method of forest inventory to help quantify that depleted resource in Armenia. He has led nationwide seminars based on his three books, GPS and GNSS for Land Surveyors, Basic GIS Coordinates and Surveying Solved Problems. He has been a featured speaker at many conferences including GITA conference and the Institute of Navigation (ION) Annual Meeting. He delivered the keynotes at the 2010 ESRI UC in Imagery and Remote Sensing, the 2021 URISA/NSPS keynote and the 50th Texas Society of Professional Surveyors Conference. He was a Senior Lecturer at Penn State University.

Jan earned his Ph.D. in geospatial engineering from the University of Colorado. He is a ASPRS Certified Photogrammetrist and Lidar Mapping Scientist.

Jan is a licensed professional Land Surveyor in Colorado, California, Oregon, Texas, North Dakota, and West Virginia. Website www.janvansickle.com

RHODE ISLAND SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS

53rd Annual Meeting and Conference

November 10, 2023

Jan Van Sickle

Geodesist & Principal Scientist R&D at Maxar

AM Seminars

8 am – 9:45 am - Best Practices for GPS/GNSS

Global Positioning System (GPS) is now a part of a growing international context—the Global Navigation Satellite System, GNSS. One definition of GNSS embraces any constellation of satellites providing signals from space that facilitate Positioning, Navigation, and Timing (PNT) on a global scale. Current use of the term typically includes global systems such as the Russian Federation’s GLONASS, the Galileo system administered by the European Union (EU), the Chinese Beidou Navigation Satellite System (BDS). It can also include regional systems such as the Indian NavIC System and the Japanese Quasi-Zenith Satellite System (QZSS). In a sense GNSS surveying is GPS surveying because the measurement principles, procedures, and applications originally developed for GPS surveying apply. That is not to say that they remain unchanged. Developments in GNSS hardware, software, and procedures are accelerating. Keeping up is a real challenge. The extraordinary range of GNSS equipment and software requires the user to be familiar with an ever-expanding body of knowledge. My hope in offering this seminar is to contribute some small assistance in that process.

10 am – 11:30 am - Coordinates and Reference Frames (Part 1)

Coordinates? Press a few buttons on a computer and they are automatically imported, exported, rotated, translated, collated, annotated and served up in any format you choose with no trouble at all. There really is nothing to it. Why have a seminar about coordinates? It’s a good question really. Computers are astounding in their ability to make the mathematics behind coordinate manipulation transparent to the user. This seminar is not much about that sort of mathematics. But it is about coordinates and coordinate systems. It is about understanding how these systems work, and how they sometimes don’t work. It is about how points that should be in Rhode Island end up in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean even if the computer has done nothing wrong. And that is, I suppose, the answer to the question from my point of view. Computers are currently very good at repetition and very bad at interpretation. People are usually not so good at repetition. We tend to get bored. But we can be very good indeed at interpretation, that is if we have the information in our heads to understand what we are interpreting. This seminar is about providing some of that sort of information on the subject of coordinates and coordinate systems.

PM Seminars

2 pm – 3 pm - Coordinates and Reference Frames (Part 2)

3:30 pm – 4:45 pm – Surveyors and GIS

Our software, our tools even the scope of our work is expanding fast. Dynamic reference frames and epochs, DevOps, SLAM, UAS data, Mobile Mapping, NATRF, just to mention a few. We can contribute to all of them, but as the Red Queen said in Alice in Wonderland, “. . . it takes all the running you can do, to keep in the same place.” So, let’s help each other do that because we are in this together.

RHODE ISLAND SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS

53rd Annual Meeting and Conference

November 10, 2023

2023 EXHIBITORS

BLUESKY-GEOSPATIAL

CADNET

CARLSON SOFTWARE

GAUNTLET-42 LLC

KEYSTONE PRECISION SOLUTIONS

MAINE TECHNICAL SOURCE

TOPCON SOLUTIONS

2023 Surveyor of the Year

MARC THAYER, PLS

The Surveyor of the Year Award is given in recognition of someone who has made a superior contribution and/or performed sustained service to the Rhode Island Society of Professional Land Surveyors.

Mr. Thayer has proven himself by diligently researching the legislative issue of “Right of Entry” for Professional Land Surveyors in the State of Rhode Island and by advising RISPLS Board of Directors on these matters. He remains a stalwart protector of the profession as demonstrated by his service to RISPLS and his contributions to the organization. Mr. Thayer’s actions truly embodies the nature of why a Professional Society exist in order to safeguard life, health, and property and to promote the public welfare.

The Surveyor of the Year for 2023 is awarded to Mr. Marc Thayer for his many years of unrecognized and unheralded service to RISPLS and for his continuing support and active participation. This past year he has added mmensely toward the advancement of the surveying profession.

2023 PRESIDENTIAL CITATIONS

The Presidential Citation Award is given by the president of the association as an expression of gratitude to those who have made extraordinary and often behind-the-scenes contributions to the Rhode Island Society of Professional Land Surveyors.

Grace Carvalho

This Presidential Citation Award is given to **Grace Carvahlo** in appreciation of your efforts in the preservation and maintenance of the Land Evidence Records of the Town of Middletown, RI.

2023 Clerk of the Year

**Town Clerk's Office
Middletown, RI**

Wendy Marshall, Clerk

The Clerk of the Year Award is given as an expression of gratitude to the Clerk who has made an extraordinary and often behind-the-scenes contributions to the Rhode Island Society of Professional Land Surveyors.

This Clerk of the Year Award is given to **the Middletown, RI Clerk's Office.**

The records at the Clerk's office contain the most important information that we use to determine property lines. Access to these records is critical. Wendy Marshall and her clerks make our jobs a lot easier.

RHODE ISLAND SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS

2023 PIERRE GUILLEMETTE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS TO:

Curtis Briggs

Brian Jannarelli

Oscar Marin

Ryan Perry

Thank You !!

To all our RISPLS Members that donate throughout the year for our Scholarship Fund! It may be 50/50 Raffles, our Annual Scholarship Auction, that little extra that many donate on their RISPLS Renewal Application or when selling items and donate a percentage to the Scholarship Fund.....

RISPLS Thanks You for your Support!

Congratulations to our recently Licensed

RI Land Surveyors for 2023:

Nathan Christopher Storey, CT

John Robert Lemuel Morrison, NY

Charee Moran Jackson, RI

Shaine Robert Bonin, MA

RI BOARD OF REGISTRATION NEWS:



**State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS REGULATION
1511 Pontiac Avenue, Bldg. 68-2
Cranston, Rhode Island 02920**

**Division of
Design
Professionals**

**STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR
PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS**

2023 Annual Meeting Schedule

The following is given in accordance with Section 42-46-6 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, as amended.

Meeting time is 1pm on the 2nd Tuesday each month . This meeting is In Person.

The meetings will be held at the :

State of Rhode Island
Department of Business Regulation ("DBR")
Division of Building, Design and Fire Professionals
State Building Office
560 Jefferson Blvd, Site 100
Warwick RI 02886

BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS

PLACE: Dept of Business Regulation, 2nd Conference Room, 560 Jefferson Blvd, Warwick Ri 02886

All are welcome to any public meeting held at the Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation ("DBR"). If any reasonable accommodation is needed to ensure equal access, service or participation, please contact DBR at 401-462-9551, RI Relay at 7-1-1, or email directorofficeinquiry@dbr.state.ri.us at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting.

Tel: 401-462-9530 Fax: 401-462-9532 TTY: 711 Web Site: www.dbr.ri.gov

Your RI 2023 BOR Members are:

Mark D. Boyer, PLS	mlboyer12@gmail.com
Michael J. McCormick, PLS	mjmalpha@aol.com
Daniel R. Cotta, PLS	dcotta@americanengineeringri.com
Amy N. Sonder, PLS	asonderpls@aol.com
Michael Gaston, PLS	migaston_pls@cox.net

OTHERS:

Dawn Broadfield, Board Administrator dawne.broadfield@dbr.ri.gob

53rd Annual Meeting and Conference Schedule
November 10, 2023

Agenda for General Membership Meeting

Date: Friday, November 10, 2023
Time: 12-2pm Luncheon , Awards, GMM
Location: Crowne Plaza, Warwick RI

Call to order

Reports

Secretary Report

Treasurer Report

Active Committee/Project/Reports:

<u>COMMITTEE/PROJECT</u>	<u>CHAIRPERSON BOD CONTACT</u>	
Program	Roger Briggs	Roger Briggs
Convention	Sherri Andrukiewicz	Board of Directors
Legislative	Marc Thayer	Ed O'Brien
Membership Renewal 2023 (81)	Sherri Andrukiewicz	
Newsletter	Marc Thayer	Ed O'Brien
Education	Samuel Suorsa	Samuel Suorsa
Scholarship	Roger Briggs	Roger Briggs
Professional Liaison	To be announced	
Standards	Al DiOrio	Ed O'Brien
Public Relations	To be Announced	
GIS	Ed O'Brien	Ed O'Brien
Blue Book	Doug Faulds	
NESS	Ed O'Brien	Ed O'Brien
NSPS	Ed O'Brien	Ed O'Brien
Internet	Eric Colburn	Eric Colburn
New Technology	Jamie Sardelli	

Old Business/Passive Committee/ Project Reports:

New Business:

Adjournment

NOTES: February 8, 2024 General Membership Meeting with Speaker Tony DeSisto RI Zoning Laws

THE RHODE ISLAND SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS

410 TIOGUE AVENUE, COVENTRY RI 02816

401-294-1262 WWW.RISPLS.COM

TREASURER'S REPORT

GMM MEETING - Annual Convention

November 10, 2023

Balance of accounts as of 11/01/23

Citizens Bank:

(Checking Account)	\$ 6,788.54
(General Savings Account)	\$ 460.23
(Scholarship Savings Account)	<u>\$ 3,953.12</u>
Citizens Bank Total =	\$11,501.89

Morgan Stanley (Smith Barney):

(Scholarship Cash Account) Balance as of 9/30/23

Account Value: \$24,368.36

(Scholarship Mutual Fund) Balance as of 9/30/23

Account Value: \$48,808.94

Morgan Stanley Total: **\$73,177.30**

Total Cash Accounts 11/01/23 = \$84,679.19

(Total Cash Accounts 10/05/23 = \$90,119.93

Balance Decrease \$ 5,440.74

Prepared by R.Briggs, Treas. 11/01/23

THE RHODE ISLAND SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS

410 TIOGUE AVENUE, COVENTRY RI 02816

401-294-1262 WWW.RISPLS.COM

SECRETARY REPORT

GMM MEETING- Annual Convention

November 10, 2023

11-3-2023

Attendance: Bray, Briggs, Colburn, Hingorany, O'Brien, Thayer, Andrukiewicz

Accepted Treasurer's Report - all in favor

Accepted Secretary's Report - all in favor

Talked about upcoming RISPLS Convention and Feb GMM 2-8-24 Tony DeSisto

Scholarship: Award \$ Discussion \$500 to four applicants

Program:

Convention: Nov 10 2023 In Person at the Crowne Plaza, details., Hosting NESS

Legislative: tbd. Missing/destroyed bounds, leg, Discussion. Ed, licences

Elections: Secretary Position available if a member is interested for 2024

Membership: 81 (2023)

Newsletter: misc. discussion

Education:

Professional Liaison: Board: Road Abandonments, Admin, sub req

Standards: n/a

Public Relations: GPS on BM, w/NGS

GIS: Bounds, Polylines, GIS export.....

BLUE BOOK: No Report—on the RISPLS website rispls.com

NESS: Convention meeting in the luncheon room at 3:30-4:45 pm

NSPS: 2 Weeks Ohio

Internet: Eric working on updates on the website

New Technology: n/a

Other:

RISPLS GMM

Treasurer-Program-Scholarship

Submitted by Roger Briggs, RISPLS Treasurer

Treasurer

The current Treasurer's Report is included with the program. The society's Bank Account and Investment Funds have fluctuated with the difficult economic times. However, the Board of Directors continue to meet virtually each month and conduct the necessary business to support and improve our Profession. We are all very busy with our day jobs, however each member of the Board always makes special efforts to attend meetings and contribute to the society's success.

Program

Many of our great Program seminar topics and speakers originate at the monthly meetings of our officers and Board of Director's. We have a diverse group of individuals that include many great friends and colleagues with contacts throughout the Professional Land Surveying community. Please don't hesitate to reach out to any officer or BOD member with ideas and topics for future seminars. The more members we can include with thoughts and ideas, the better our Program will be.

We are always searching for interesting topics and would love to hear from you.

Scholarship

It is great to see young students pursuing or including Land Surveying in their future. The RI Society of Professional Land Surveyors has always supported education for our profession. We are excited to offer scholarships to help students pursue studies that include Professional Land Surveying. Please encourage any student to check out our web site and fill out a Scholarship application, (<https://www.rispls.com/education/>).

BOY SCOUTS MERIT BADGE COLLEGE

Scheduled for January 6, 2024 at Rhode Island College.

Mark your calendars and we hope that you will join the RISPLS group to show students what land surveying is about.

Advertisement and Convention Sponsors

Sponsor a Student

Coventry Survey

Scituate Surveys

Friday Breakfast

Precision Keystone

Friday Morning Break

Carlson Software

Thank You !!

Membership

2023 Membership Roster

*"EVERY MAN OWES A PART OF HIS
TIME AND MONEY TO THE
BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY IN WHICH
HE IS ENGAGED.
NO MAN HAS A MORAL RIGHT
TO WITHHOLD HIS SUPPORT
FROM AN ORGANIZATION THAT IS
STRIVING TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS
WITHIN HIS SPHERE."*

-Theodore Roosevelt

SECTION VIII. Dues

Individual annual dues for each class of membership shall be determined by majority vote of the Board of Directors upon recommendation of the Treasurer. Individual annual dues are due and payable on or before the first day of January of each year. Every person failing to pay such dues within thirty (30) days thereafter shall lose all right and privilege of membership in this Society and may be eliminated from the membership roster at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Re-instatement of membership may be made within one (1) calendar year by rendering payment of all current dues and assessments. Anyone seeking reinstatement after more than one (1) year lapse of membership shall be considered a new member and must reapply for membership. Applications for membership submitted on or after October 1st of each year will be accompanied by dues to be credited to the following year. All newly licensed Rhode Island Land Surveyors will automatically be presented a one (1) year free membership to the Society.

Our 2023 Membership includes 81 Members:

48 Members 13 Associate 1 Retired 4 Sustaining 2 Corporate
10 Affiliate ___ Comp 3 Student

2024 Membership is due in January 2024

2022 RISPLS FULL MEMBERSHIP

2023 SUSTAINING MEMBERS

CARLSON SOFTWARE

480 PLEASANT STREET, STE C100, WATERTOWN MA 02472
617-757-7515 TCARLSON@CARLSONSW.COM

EASTERN TOPOGRAPHIC

PO BOX 970, WOLFEBORO NH 03894
603-569-2400 MAIL@E-TOPO.COM

KEYSTONE PRECISION SOLUTIONS

455 FORTUNE BLVD, UNIT 3, MILFORD MA 01757
888-443-9840 SALES@KEYPRE.COM

TOPCON

1700 CHERRY STREET, KANSAS CITY MO 64108
RSMITH@TOPCON.COM 816-842-1433

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR SUSTAINING MEMBERS



Rhode Island Society of Professional Land Surveyors

410 Tiogue Avenue, Coventry RI 02816

Email: RISPLS@HOTMAIL 401-294-1262 www.rispls.com



2024 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL

DATE OF APPLICATION: _____ **Check One:** ___ New Applicant ___ Renewal

Check Application Status Requested: Dues Must Accompany Application – Prices on next page/back.

___ **Member/NSPS** (RI Resident) ___ **Affiliate Member** (Non-Resident) ___ **Affiliate Member/NSPS** (Non-Resident)

___ **Associate** ___ **Associate/NSPS** ___ **Student/NSPS** ___ **Retired/NSPS** ___ **Sustaining** ___ **Corporate**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Employer: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Home: _____ Telephone Business: _____

Email Address: _____

Professional Registrations: State _____ No: _____ Type: _____

State _____ No: _____ Type: _____

Other Affiliations: _____

References: (New Applicant Only)

Name: _____ Tel: _____

Address: _____

Name: _____ Tel: _____

Address: _____

STUDENTS LIST SCHOOL ATTENDING: _____

I hereby apply for membership in the Rhode Island Society of Professional Land Surveyors, Inc. and if accepted, I will uphold the Society's Bylaws, abide by the established Standards and Code of Ethics and endeavor to further the objectives of the Society.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Anyone may serve on a committee. **I wish to serve on the following Committees:** ___ Public Affairs/Education ___ Convention ___ Standards ___ Membership ___ Website ___ Newsletter ___ Scholarship ___ Program ___ GIS ___ Public Relations

MEMBERSHIP FEE \$ _____

CONTRIBUTION TO SCHOLARSHIP FUND

\$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Mail copy of this form & Payment to: RISPLS, 410Tiogue Avenue, Coventry RI 02816

CHECK OR CREDIT CARD PAYMENT:

NAME ON CARD: _____

CARD # _____

EXP DATE: _____ CODE: _____ (ON BACK)

VISA / MASTERCARD / AMEX / DISCOVER (circle one)

Note: There is a 3.5% transaction fee added.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

MEMBER:

Any Resident Rhode Island Registered Professional Land Surveyor or any Rhode Island Registered Professional Land Surveyor with an in State Business active in the practice of land surveying works is eligible to be a Member upon recommendation by the Membership Committee. Members shall have the right to vote, hold office and make or second motions.

RISPLS MEMBERSHIP-----\$200.00

NSPS MEMBERSHIP INCLUDED-----

AFFILIATE MEMBER:

A non-resident individual licensed to practice land surveying in the State of RI and/or at least in one other state, whose principal place of business is outside Rhode Island and who is a current voting member of another state's land surveying society.

Affiliate Membership ----- \$150.00

Non-Resident Option to Join NSPS ---- \$ 50.00

NSPS Membership Non-Resident Credit ---- \$ 00.00

(Write in State Association where NSPS Dues paid)_____

ASSOCIATE MEMBER:

Any individual engaged in land surveying and/or interested in the advancement of surveying and mapping not qualified under Section 1 may be eligible to be an Associate Member upon recommendation by the Membership Committee. This may include employees of another member. Associate Members shall have the right to vote, hold office and make or second motions.

Associate Membership----- \$ 60.00

Option to Join NSPS for an additional---- \$ 50.00

STUDENT MEMBER:

Any person enrolled in a course of study by an institution of higher learning, who has an interest in the profession of land surveying, is eligible for Student Membership. Persons admitted to this class of membership shall have neither the right to vote, hold office, nor make or second motions, but shall enjoy all other rights and privileges possessed by all other classes of membership.

Full Time Student Membership ----- \$ 15.00

Option to join NSPS for an additional ----- \$ 20.00

RETIRED MEMBER:

Any RI Registered Professional Land Surveyor no longer active in the practice of land surveying and who has attained the age of 65 is eligible to be a Retired Member. A Retired Member shall have neither the right to vote, hold office nor make or second motions, but shall have all other rights and privileges possessed by other classes of membership.

Retired Membership ----- \$ 20.00

Option to join NSPS for an additional ----- \$ 50.00

CORPORATE MEMBER:

Any professional firm actively engaged in the practice of land surveying and engineering in the State of RI is eligible for Corporate Membership upon recommendation by the Membership Committee. Corporate Members shall have neither the right to vote, hold office nor make or second motions, but shall enjoy all other rights and privileges processed by all other classes of membership.

NOTE: Corporate Membership shall provide a reduction of \$20 in fees for it's employees' dues, workshops and seminars. (cost of lunches will be excluded from this reduction)

Corp Membership --- \$325.00

SUSTAINING MEMBER:

Sustaining Members shall be limited to persons, firms or corporations engaged in the manufacture and/or distribution of items that promote the art and science or business of land surveying. The Membership Committee shall recommend persons, firms and corporations wishing to be admitted to this class of membership. Sustaining Members shall have neither the right to vote, hold office nor make or second motions, but shall enjoy all other rights and privileges processed by all other classes of membership. **NOTE: Sustaining Membership shall provide a reduction of 20% on advertising costs in the Quarterly Newsletter, Annual Convention Program and Exhibition Space. Sustaining Membership ---- \$225.00**

Mark Your Calendar for 2023

RISPLS BOD Meetings:

Thursday, January 4th
Thursday, February 1st
Thursday, March 7th
Thursday, April 4th
Thursday, May 2nd
Thursday, June 6th
Thursday, August 5th
Thursday, September 7th
Thursday, October 3rd
Thursday, November 7th
Thursday, December 5th

RI BOR Meetings:

Tuesday, January 9th
Tuesday, February 13th
Tuesday, March 12th
Tuesday, April 9th
Tuesday, May 14th
Tuesday, June 11th
Tuesday, August 10th
Tuesday, September 12th
Tuesday, October 8th
Tuesday, November 12th
Tuesday, December 10th

Surveyor's Week 2023 is March 17 - 23

Starts the third Sunday of March each year.

RISPLS Board of Director Meetings are the 1st Thursday of Each Month @ 5:30pm via ZOOM

Rhode Island Board of Registration Meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of Each Month

2024 RISPLS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS:

Thursday, February 8th - Thursday, April 18th

Thursday, June 20th - Thursday, September 19th

2024 RISPLS Annual Convention, Friday, November 21st



THE HISTORY OF THE RHODE ISLAND SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS



In December, 1970, a small group of land surveyors got together at the Governor Dyer Restaurant in Providence to start a discussion. Attending the meeting were Ken Anthony, Tony Caputo, Robert Curran and Pierre Guillemette. The discussion centered around the needs of the typical practicing land surveyor. At the top of their list was a need for a means where land surveyors, from all parts of the state could interface with one another and compare common needs for a professional practice. A meeting held at Camille's Roman Garden one month later enlisted the additional help of Armando Gama, Leonard Garofalo, Earl Marsh, Patrick McCormick, and Elson Stanley. These nine people formed the committee to form the "Association of Rhode Island Land Surveyors". This name was changed to the "Rhode Island Society of Professional Land Surveyors" at the first "Official" meeting, held March 30, 1971, at the Governor Dyer Restaurant. Fifty-eight persons attended that first meeting, elected officers and directors, and commented on the current state of affairs of land surveying in Rhode Island.

Issues that brought this Society together are similar to needs currently expressed as important by practicing land surveyors. Foremost was a need for a minimum standard of practice. Up until this time, practicing land surveyors obtained their expertise from many different sources and as a consequence confusion developed as to the "proper" practice of land surveying. Other issues considered were to establish a fair fee schedule, and a concern over the promulgation of the Department of Environmental Management's "Freshwater Wetlands" bill and the Health Department's new regulations for sewage disposal systems.

During 1971, "By-Laws" were prepared and established as a way in which RISPLS would be organized and respond to the land surveyors needs. Throughout the By-Laws, a major concern was the formulation of the need to supply the public with a consistent professional service. The specific purpose of the RISPLS was given in four parts. First was a statement that land surveying was to be recognized as a separate and distinct profession, secondly that RISPLS was to establish and maintain a standard of practice and ethics for protection of the public. The third purpose listed established a commitment to the advancement of our professional, economical and social interests. The fourth and final purpose made it clear that education would play a major role in making the first three goals possible, and recommended scholarships and other incentives to make a formal education in land surveying desirable.

Although a recommended fee schedule was prepared and published in December 1971, a later concern over being seen as "price fixing" caused this effort to conclude. It is interesting to note however, that the hourly professional fee rates published in 1971 are comparatively close to the wages paid to employees in this economy. During the following years, steps were taken to offer the Rhode Island practicing land surveyor services and information that would better prepare those land surveyors to serve the public in a professional and informative manner.

During 1974 and 1975 efforts towards establishing education programs were culminating in starting a night course at Davies Vocational School in Lincoln to train entry-level technician. Continuing education programs became a priority and RISPLS started holding seminars and work sessions on topics that varied from Legal aspects of land surveying to what DEM expected of our services. A night course in practical land surveying, taught by our late Pierre Guillemette, was started at Rhode Island Community College. In 1989, Chariho Vocational School started a program in their curriculum including land surveying and the University of Main at Orono started a "Surveying Engineering" Course, dedicated to land surveying. RISPLS members were a major force in getting these programs started.

More recently, RISPLS has strived to maintain and advance the land surveyors image as a separate and distinct profession by responding to legislation that in 1992 formed a Board of Registration for Land Surveyors comprised of land surveyors. We are now in the process of defining our professional activities in a manner in which that Board may keep a tight rein on land surveying professionals and in doing so develop an atmosphere of permanence to our services that will continue on into the next generation.



New England Surveying Societies

NESS

The NESS conventions should be held approximately every two years and will be sponsored & hosted by the individual state societies on a rotating basis

Suggested Hosting Schedule is below:

2023	RISPLS	RISPLS.COM
2025	NHLSA	INFO@NHLSA.ORG
2027	NYSAPLS	AMBER@NYSAPLS.ORG
2029	VSLs	KELLY@VSLs.ORG
2031	CALS	KATHY@CTSURVEYORS.ORG
2033	MALSCE	RKEENAN@ENGINEERS.ORG
2035	MSLS	DIRECTOR@MSLS.ORG