

FieldNotes...

AWARD
WINNER

The Monthly Newsletter of the **Maine Society of Land Surveyors**

Volume 31 Number 10

November, 2024

Maine Society of Land Surveyors
Post Office Box 420
Readfield, Maine 04355

(207) 882-5200
www.msls.org



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Busy Time



'Tis that time of the year when things really get busy at MSLS!

Surveyor of the Year

The MSLS Maine Surveyor of the Year recognition may be awarded yearly to a Maine licensed surveyor who has made significant contributions to the Society, the profession of land surveying, the people of Maine, and their community. You may nominate someone by contacting your Chapter Director or any MSLS officer. Nominations will be reviewed by and the selection of the award recipient is made by majority vote at the December 10 Executive Committee meeting to be awarded at the 2025 Annual Conference banquet.

Annual Conference

We are returning on January 30th and 31st to the popular Regency Hotel in Portland's Old Port this year. Final arrangements are being confirmed on program speakers. Look for more information later this month and early January. This is MSLS's highlight event of the year featuring knowledgeable speakers, excellent exhibitors, opportunities to network, and social time with fellow surveyors. Anyone for another fun filled pub crawl on January 29th again or for the first time?

Association Management Software (AMS)

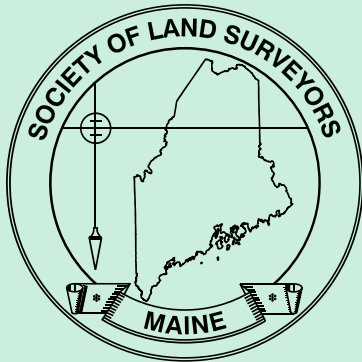
Our new website featuring interactive and service oriented features and a members only area has now launched! Members received an email inviting them to register on the website to access their personal account a couple weeks ago and a follow up email went out this past week to anyone who did not open the first email. Please take a look!

2025 Membership Dues

Membership notices for 2025 will begin going out this month. Once you receive your first notice you can pay with a credit card through our website. We will no longer be processing credit cards with PayPal but a new more secure payment processor associated with our AMS system. Payments by check are of course still welcome.

MSLS Contact Information

Cassandra Quintal, President	215-4831 president@msls.org
Levi Ladd, Vice President	416-5644
Kevin Farrar, Secretary	215-6340
Jimmy Courbron, Treasurer	200-1678
Ellen Brewer, Director At Large	767-0821
Jon Stewart, Director At Large	947-0019
Keith Morse, Androscoggin	754-5937
Spencer Caron, Crown of Maine	532-7313
Karl Olson, MidCoast	882-7008
Wayne Wood, Narragansett	657-3330
<i>Pending update</i> , Penobscot	
Stephen Gould, Somerset	474-6223
Matt Ek, NSPS Director	831-9470
Donald Dostie, Immediate Past President	577-5840
Daniel Bernier, Esq., Legislative Monitor	877-8969
Bruce Bourgoine, Executive Director	882-5200 director@msls.org



Legislative Committee
(Levi Ladd - Chair & Daniel Bernier, Esq.)

Nominating & Membership Committee
(Donald Dostie - Chair)

Budget & Finance Committee (Jimmy Courbron)

Board of Licensure (Levi Ladd - Liaison)

NSPS (Matt Ek, NSPS Director)

SVT at UM (Stephen Gould - Liaison)

GIS (Greg Copeland - Liaison)

FEMA (Mark Carpenter - Liaison)

DOT (Guy Ladd - Liaison)

Education Committee - (Deborah Briggs - Chair)

Scholarship Committee
(John Lloyd & Stephen Gould - Co-Chairs)

Historical Committee - (Tom Blake - Chair)

Benevolent & Betterment Benevolent Fund Com't
(Matt Ek - Chair)

Program Committee
(Steve Gould & John Lloyd Co-Chairs)

Publications, FieldNotes and Website
(Bruce Bourgoine)

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

White Duck Pub – Winthrop, ME
November 13, 2024

Members Present

Officers -	
President	Cassandra Quintal
Vice President	Steve Gould for Levi Ladd (proxy)
Secretary	Kevin Farrar
Treasurer	Jimmy Courbron
Directors -	
Androscoggin	Keith Morse (zoom)
Narragansett	Wayne Wood
MidCoast	Karl Olson
Somerset	Steve Gould
Crown of Maine	Spencer Caron (zoom)
At Large	Jon Stewart
NSPS Director	Wayne Wood for Matt Ek (proxy)
Executive Director	Bruce Bourgoine
Guest	Judd Vear (City of Portland)

The meeting was called to order by President Quintal at 6:04. She asked for agenda changes, hearing none the meeting proceeded.

Legislative Committee (Levi Ladd) – Dan Bernier was on via zoom. He said that Democrats will maintain control of the Senate and House in Augusta but will have tighter margins. Committees will be assigned in December. The first list of bills being monitored will come out around late December.

Secretary Report (Kevin Farrar) – The minutes from the abbreviated ExCom meeting at UMaine’s Alumni House in Orono were accepted as printed. Motion to accept was made by Wayne Wood, seconded by Karl Olson and approved unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report (Jimmy Courbron) – [Jimmy reports that](#) there is \$31,577.04 in the Checking Account. The scholarship fund currently stands at \$245,161.86, a gain of about \$2500 over the last report. There is \$2654.72 in the Bereavement and Betterment fund. Bruce asked if the checking account balance includes the PayPal transfer, Jimmy said he thought it did. Steve Gould asked if there was a way to move scholarship funds to the B&B fund, as a “loan” so that we can start making use of the B&B fund. Jimmy didn’t think there was a way, from his perspective as treasurer, without a policy change, thinking it would require a motion by the general membership. Moved to accept the Treasurers Report by Wayne Wood, seconded by Secretary Farrar, approved unanimously.

Executive Dir. Report (Bruce Bourgoine) – Bruce’s written report is below. Bruce asked to be authorized to purchase a “zoom kit” to fix the problem we are having tonight with our “zoom” attendees being able to connect and hear us clearly. Karl asked about the Sebago Tech owl. Jimmy moved to authorize Bruce to shop for a better speaker and microphone system for remote meetings. Seconded by Karl, passed unanimously.

<i>From:</i>	<i>Bruce Bourgoine, Executive Director</i>
<i>Regarding:</i>	<i>September & October 2024 Report</i>
<i>Date:</i>	<i>November 10, 2024</i>

Here are the items focused upon during September and October: Association Management Software (AMS) eight training modules of varying lengths via video and follow up conference call completed in consultation with MemberClicks onboarding specialist. Most website content written and database settings work begun.

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Coordination with Penobscot/Hancock Chapter for Fall Meeting planning promotion, and on-site support.
 Routine matters of ExCom meeting preparation, deposits, broadcast e-mails, website updates, FieldNotes publication,
 and handling external and member communications as required.
 Looking ahead, the following items will be of intermediate focus:
 Continue AMS software for mid-November website launch and member modules access.
 Looking further ahead, the following items will be of long-term focus: Annual Conference Planning

Nominating & Membership Committee (Don Dostie) – Written report is below.
 October 2024 Report

		Oct	Aug	+/-
AS	Associate	15	20	-5
CH	Charter	0	0	0
CO	Complimentary	2	2	0
HO	Honorary	7	7	0
LC	Life Charter	2	2	0
LF	Life	10	10	0
MB	Regular	165	186	-21
OC	Out of State Charter	1	1	0
OR	Out of State Retired	0	0	0
OS	Out of State	16	15	+1
RC	Retired Charter	1	1	0
RT	Retired	40	41	-1
ST	Student	16	16	0
SU	Sustaining	7	7	0

		281	307	-26



Note – All non-payments (2024 dues) have been moved to prospect status in the new AMS database.

Education Committee (Deborah Briggs) – No report.

Scholarship Committee (John Lloyd & Steve Gould) – Applications have been sent.

Benevolent & Betterment Fund Committee (Matt Ek) – No report.

Historical Committee (Tom Blake) – No report.

Program Committee (Steve Gould & John Lloyd – MSLS Annual Meeting) – Meeting date is January 30-31st at The Regency in Portland’s Old Port. Steve said that Tommy Brooks from Alabama will be the main speaker. His presentation will focus on easements. Also, as a possible fun presentation, there is an axe maker in Portland who may speak about axe making.

Pending General Membership Meeting Planning – Just covered

LIAISONS –

Board of Licensure (Levi Ladd) – The last meeting was held on October 22nd. There were two complaint hearings. One was dismissed due to lack of evidence and the second resulted in a consent agreement with a violation warning. The next meeting is scheduled for December 17th.

NSPS (Matt Ek, Director) – Matt attended the NSPS fall meeting in Albuquerque, NM on October 21-23.

SVT at UMaine (Rich Vannozzi) – No report.

Central Maine Community College (Cassandra Quintal) – A CST exam will be held at CMCC in the beginning of April.

GIS (Greg Copeland) – No report.

FEMA (Mark Carpenter) – Judd said that North Carolina has put the Certified Floodplain Mapper modules on-line. The next question will be whether the test can be taken on line or if it still needs to be proctored.

MDOT (Guy Ladd) – No report.

Registries (Kevin Sargent) – No report.

Chapter Reports –

Androscoggin Chapter (Keith Morse) – Keith emailed the following report:
The Androscoggin Chapter will be meeting Wednesday, November 20th at Terradyn Consultants Survey Office in Auburn, Me. We are hosting John Skelly from the MDOT to discuss the intricacies of Driveway and Road entrance rules and permits. See Attached agenda information.

Narraganset Chapter (Wayne Wood) – Marc Carpenter sent the following report:

The next Chapter meeting will be this Thursday, November 14th at 5:30 PM, at the office of R.W. Eaton Associates, 58 Pleasant Street, Westbrook <http://www.rweatonsurveyor.com/>.

Speaker, Jim Nadeau, PLS will be presenting: Increasing Your Professional Value - Determining the appropriate fees for land surveying services requires an organizational belief that such services are both important and unique. This program will share strategies to increase individual and organizational worth, convey competence to a prospective client, and explore ways to create a more profitable business model

Please visit the Chapter website for meeting details and other useful information. <http://www.narragansetsurveyors.org/>

Thank you, Mark L. Carpenter, PLS - Chapter Secretary



Crown of Maine Chapter (Spencer Caron) – They are trying to plan a meeting.

MidCoast Chapter (Karl Olson) – Meet on Friday at 8am at Moody’s.

Penobscot/Hancock Chapter (Rich V) – No report

Somerset Chapter (Steve Gould) – No meeting, no report

Unfinished Business –

AMS progress update (Bruce Bourgoine) – Bruce said that the new website is in transition. He said it’s been a tough transition getting from the old site to the new one. Hopefully everyone will get an email in the next week or so inviting them to create a profile/password on-line. The main initial feature to members will be the ability to track CEU’s. Members who were “cut” from MSLS membership due to lack of dues payment are now listed as prospective members in AMS. Bruce said that MSLS will be able to allow Chapter’s to list their own events on the websites calendar. Spencer asked if he can change the existing info in member profiles. Bruce said yes. Spencer asked about FieldNotes and whether we can have archived editions. Bruce said that once the system is up and running, he’ll add that.

Fall meeting review – Bruce said that MSLS did meet its budget for the meeting. There were 80 paid members and the meeting venue was easy to work with.

New Business -

Awards process for Annual Meeting – Bruce said that any member can nominate someone for surveyor of the year. Honorary Membership Proposal – There was a discussion about awarding an honorary membership. Discussion to be continued at next meeting.

Budget initial general goals and guidance – We are projected to finish the year about even on budget. Jimmy plans to provide a first draft of the 2025 MSLS budget at the next meeting.

Next ExCom meeting date and place - Dec 10th – At Sebago Tech on a Tuesday at 5pm. Dinner to follow at a local restaurant (Maine Mall area).

Consent Agenda -

November 13, 2024

From Whom	MSLS Committee	Amount
Bruce Bourgoine	Executive Dir. Expenses ~ October	\$248.09
Bruce Bourgoine	Executive Dir. Services ~ October	\$2,125.00
Lincoln County Publishing	FieldNotes & Fall Mtg book	\$407.16
Matt Ek	NSPS Travel	\$1,722.83
White Duck Pub	Meeting Room Rental	\$200.00
Total		\$4,703.08
Additions at meeting –	None	
Grand Total		\$4703.08

It was moved to accept the Consent agenda by Wayne, seconded Jimmy and passed unanimously.

Moved to adjourn at 7:17, by Wayne, seconded by `` Secretary and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted
DRAFT
Kevin Farrar – MSLS





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Thoughts on Professional Practice and Education

Article 13: Pursuit of Graduate Education
by **Knud E. Hermansen**†
P.L.S., P.E., Ph.D., Esq.

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

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



degree. If you are content with your position in the profession, your future, and your prospects, you do not need to consider graduate education.

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

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

The first graduate degree is generally a master's degree (e.g., Master of Science, Master of Arts, Master of Business Administration). The master's degree tends to focus on a specific discipline. There is little, if any, requirements when obtaining a master's degree for

earning non-discipline specific courses to provide for a 'rounded' education. Thirty credits are generally required for a master's degree. Some of the credits may be awarded for research and thesis. The thirty credits may be composed entirely of surveying or surveying related coursework.

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

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

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

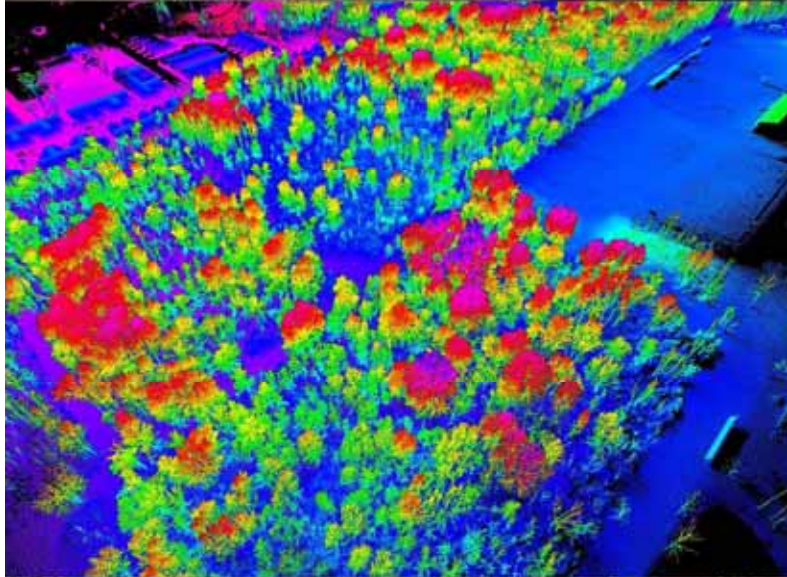
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MSLS 2024 Fall General Membership Meeting Minutes

UMaine Alumni Center – Orono, Maine

October 25, 2024

Officers Present:

President	Cassandra Quintal
Vice President	Levi Ladd
Secretary	Kevin Farrar
Treasurer	Kevin Farrar (proxy)

Also in attendance were several chapter directors, committee chairs and about 40 MSLS member.

Secretary’s Report (Kevin Farrar) – The minutes from the 2024 MSLS Spring Business Meeting, held on April 12th at the Elks Lodge in Rockland begin on page 5 in the meeting materials. It was moved to accept the minutes as printed by Wayne Wood, seconded by Keith Morse and passed unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report (Jimmy Courbron) – As of October 21st there is \$29,240.13 in the checking account, \$2,654.61 in the Betterment & Bereavement (savings) Fund \$242,545.44 in the Vanguard Scholarship account. It was moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report by Wayne Wood, seconded by Karl Olson and passed unanimously.

Executive Director’s Report (Bruce Bourgoine) – Bruce thanked the Penobscot Hancock Chapter for hosting the meeting and said that he has been working to get the new “association management software” (AMS) in conjunction with a new MSLS website up and running. He plans to launch in November. He said that members will get an email asking them to select a password and create an account for online access. He mentioned that there will be a member only area as well as way for members to track their “continuing educational units” (CEU).

Legislative Report (Levi Ladd) – Nothing to report yet as the Legislature is out session. The first list of bills that MSLS will be tracking should be out in December.

PRESENT LIAISSONS & COMMITTEE REPORTS



Board of Licensure (Levi Ladd) – The last meeting was held on October 22nd. There were two complaint hearings. One was dismissed due to lack of evidence and the second resulted in a consent agreement with a violation warning. The next meeting is scheduled for December 17th. President Quintal asked for volunteers to become Board members

NSPS Director’s Report (Matt Ek) – Matt is currently at the NSPS fall business meeting in Albuquerque, NM.

SVT at UMaine (Rich Vannozzi) – Rich tabled this item for later in the meeting.

President Quintal thanked the following people for sponsoring the registration fees for students. Carlton Brown – UMaine, Davis Chittum, Spenser Caron – Northern Maine Surveyors, Russ Sossong – RDS Engineering & Land Surveying, Tim Roix – BRSA, and Ted Porter – Porter’s Land Surveys, Inc.

Central Maine Community College (Cassandra Quintal) – Cass says she will launch a 5 week course in the spring. She also has about 35 students in the building trades program, teaching them about basic deed information.

MDOT (Guy Ladd) – No report.

FEMA (Mark Carpenter) – Mark’s report is on Page 7. There is also a map of active FEMA study areas in Maine in the program book on Page 8 and reads as follows:

FEMA Liaison

The Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRMs) have gone effective in Cumberland County on June 20, 2024 and York County on July 17, 2024.

Message from Sue Baker, Maine Flood Insurance Program Coordinator – There are a number of projects in the works. The next page is the latest status map from FEMA. Note that the dates are projected and still subject to change.

Publications – “Welcome to the Flood Zone” is a monthly publication intended to guide, assist and educate all interested parties in regards to flood zone issues, including the transition from the currently used paper Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) to the Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRM’s), flood insurance, FEMA submissions and risk management. Our newsletter also shares information about land surveying and real estate.

www.nadeaulandsurveys.com/page/welcome-to-the-flood-zone

Respectfully submitted

Mark Carpenter, PLS, CFM

Maine Registries (Kevin Brake) – No report

Trig-Star (John Schwanda) – John said that he is retiring and is looking for someone to take this program over. He added that he was going to write an article for FieldNotes outlining what it would take to run this program.

Nominating & Membership Committee (Don Dostie) – No report.

Education Committee (Deborah Briggs) – No report.

Scholarship Committee (John Lloyd) – Applications will go out in November and in December the committee will make scholarship decisions.

Benevolent & Betterment Fund Committee (Matt Ek) – Matt is not in attendance.

Historical Committee (Tom Blake) – The report is on Page 7 and is below:

There have been a few survey record acquisitions in recent months that I would like to add to our database. Please send any surveying records information to historical@msls.org.

Thomas P. Blake – Historical Committee

Program Committee (Steve Gould & John Lloyd) – Bruce said that John Lloyd has a speaker lined up for the 2025 MSLS Annual Meeting that will be held January 30th and 31st at The Regency in Portland.

PRESENT CHAPTER REPORTS

Androscoggin Chapter (Keith Morse) – Last met on September 12th and scanned some old Franklin Company plans.

Crown of Maine (Spencer Caron) – No meeting since spring. They plan to have a meeting before winter.

MidCoast Chapter (Karl Olson) – They met in September.

Hancock/Penobscot Chapter (Rich VannoZZi) – They had been focused on this meeting and do plan to start meeting regularly.

Narragansett Chapter (Wayne Wood) – Report on the meeting held on September 26th at the Portland Observatory is on Page 9.

Somerset Chapter (Steve Gould) – No report.

Unfinished Business – None

New Business - None



Moved to adjourn by Wayne Wood, seconded by Bruce Martinson and passed unanimously. Adjourned at 11:45AM.

Photo Notes:

Page 9 Chad Snoke of Geopro Consultants, LLC speaking on the Federal Aviation Administration's requirements for airport surveying in one of the morning's case study sessions.

Page 10 Jon M. Stewart of Plisga and Day Land Surveyors and MSLS Director at Large presented *Rainbow Recording – What changes are coming to your registry of deeds?* in one of the afternoon's sessions.



Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Buchanon Alumni House
UMaine – Orono, ME
October 25, 2024

Members Present

Officers -	President	Cassandra Quintal
	Vice President	Levi Ladd
	Treasurer	Kevin Farrar (proxy)
	Secretary	Kevin Farrar
Directors -	Narragansett	Wayne Wood
	Androscoggin	Keith Morse
	MidCoast	Karl Olson
	Crown of Maine	Spencer Caron
	Penobscot	Rich Vannozzi
	At Large	Ellen Brewer
	At Large	Jon Stewart
	Executive Director	Bruce Bourgoine

This is an abbreviated meeting to address items not covered at the general business meeting. The meeting was called to order by President Quintal at 11:48.

Secretary Report (Kevin Farrar) – The minutes from the Executive Committee meeting held on September 11th at The Cabana in Wales were accepted as printed. Motion to accept was made by Wayne Wood, seconded by Levi Ladd and approved unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report (Kevin Farrar, proxy) – As of October 21st there is \$29,240.13 in the checking account, \$2,654.61 in the Betterment & Bereavement (savings) Fund \$242,545.44 in the Vanguard Scholarship account. It was moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report by Karl Olson, seconded by Keith Morse and passed unanimously.

Executive Dir. Report (Bruce Bourgoine) – Tabled until the general membership meeting.

Reference is made to the Fall meeting minutes for all other reports.

Consent Agenda -

<i>From Whom</i>	<i>October 25, 2024</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<i>Lincoln County Publishing</i>	<i>MSLS Committee</i>	
<i>BSC Group</i>	<i>September FieldNotes</i>	<i>\$63.69</i>
<i>Bruce Bourgoine</i>	<i>Reimbursement – duplicate payment</i>	<i>\$160.00</i>
<i>Bruce Bourgoine</i>	<i>Executive Director Expenses</i>	<i>\$85.54</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>Executive Dir. Services ~ September</i>	<i>\$1,987.50</i>
		<i>\$2,296.73</i>



Karl Olson moved to accept the consent agenda, seconded and passed unanimously.

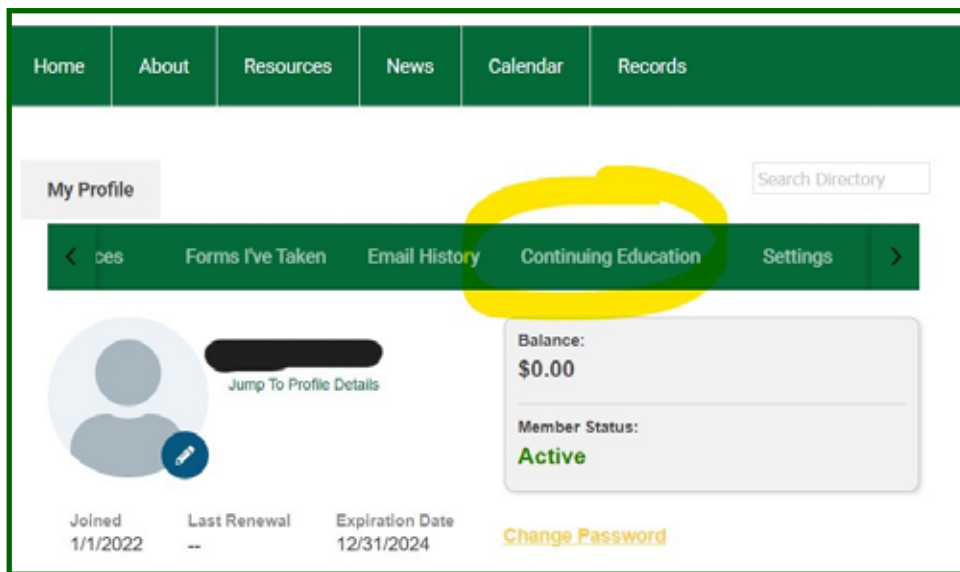
Next meeting November 13th at a location to be determined at 6pm.

Wayne Wood moved to adjourn at 11:52, seconded by Karl Olson and passed unanimously.

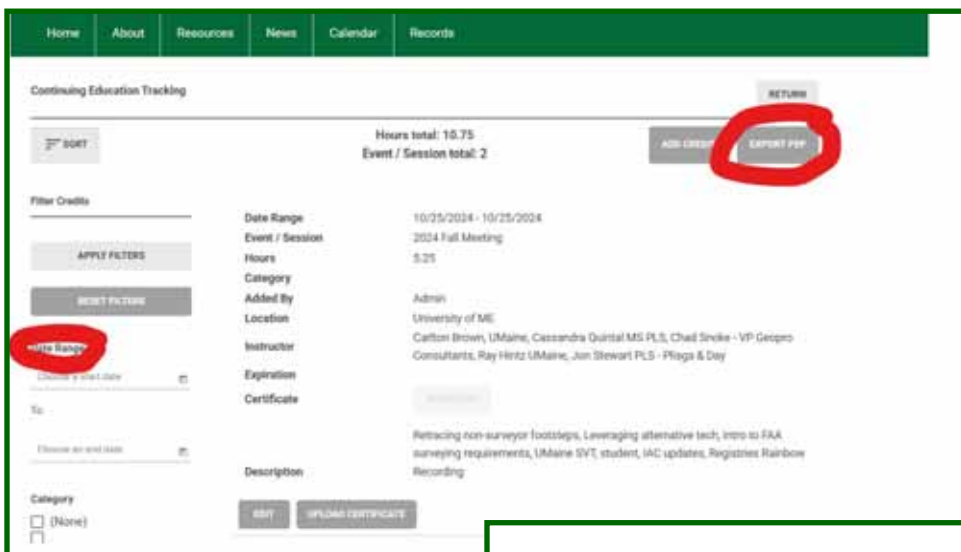
Respectfully Submitted
DRAFT
Kevin Farrar – MSLS

Where Are My Fall CEUs?

Your Fall CEUs plus all your MSLS 2024 issued CEUs can now be found on the **Members Only** area of our new MSLS website that launched on November 18. All you need to do is sign in and navigate to your profile and click on **Continuing Education**:



Members received an email inviting them to register on the website to access their personal account a couple weeks ago and a follow up email went out this past week to anyone who did not open the first email.

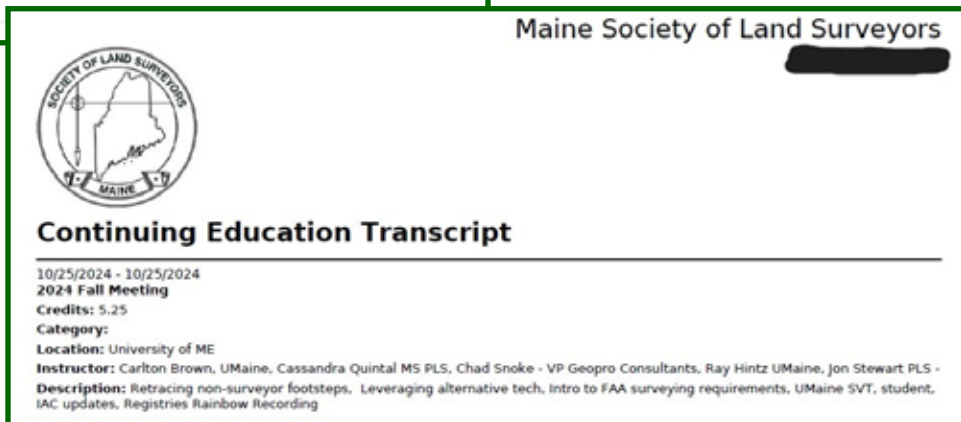


Once you are in your personal records, you can see the total CEU hours issued followed by the event details. We bid adieu to booklets and stickers or emailed certificates!

Each event shows the total number of hours and the Instructors and Description are displayed in the order that they appeared on the event's schedule with the first instructor matching the first session and so on.

To print out your complete record just click **Export PDF** in the upper right. For just a single item you can use a **Date Range** on the left of the page and then obtain a PDF.

You can also add CEUs or upload certificates obtained from other issuers. The CEU record is yours to edit. MSLS will upload one issued CEUs following an event.



PS: Kindly contact the Executive Director if you find you have CEUs missing so we can make corrections. It is possible a detail was missed in the transfer of the numerous records on file. We apologize for any oversight. Note computer screenshots above may appear different on a phone or tablet.

FieldNotes Wins NSPS Best Affiliate Newsletter

It is nice to be recognized in this year's NSPS 2024 Journalism awards which included:

Best Magazine
NALS – [Nevada Traverse \(Vol. 50 #2, June 2023\)](#)

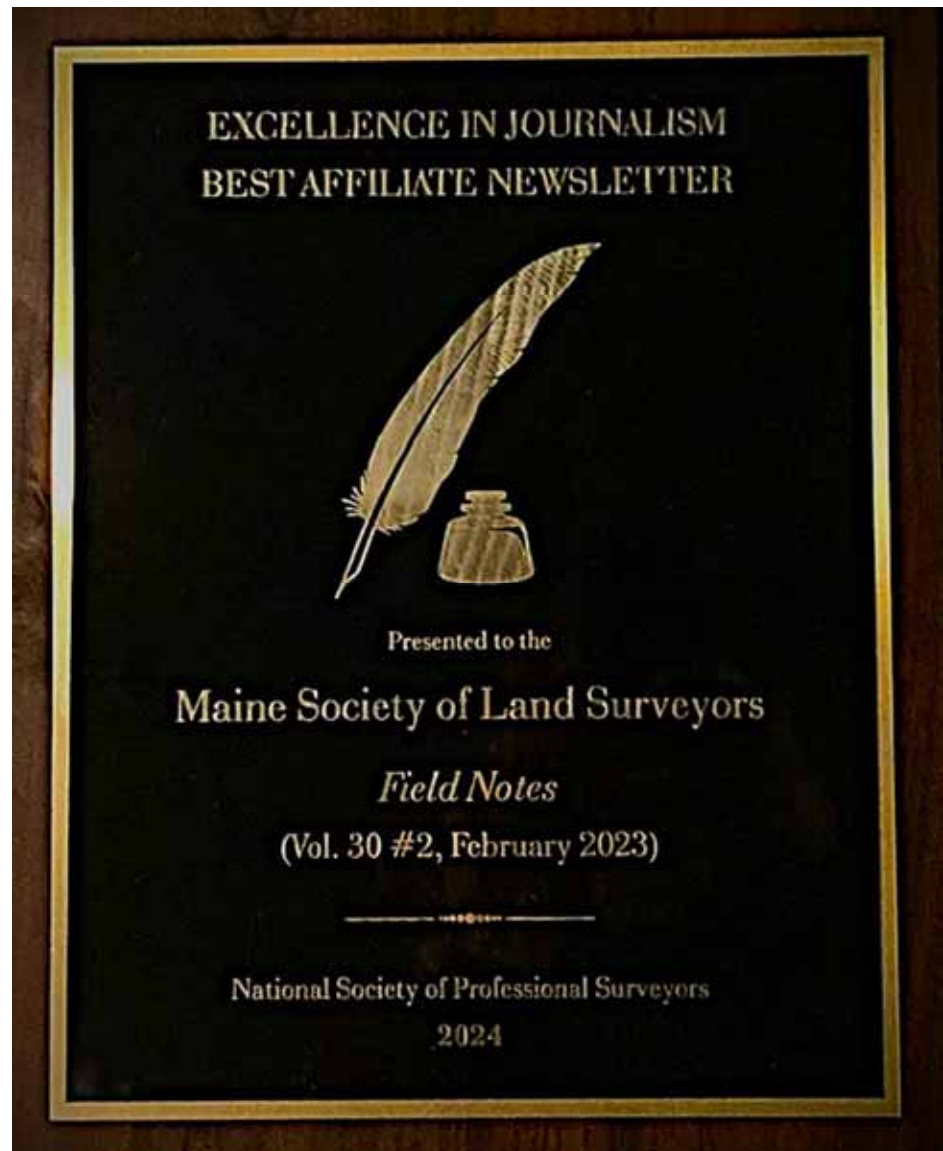
Best Affiliate Newsletter
MSLS – [Field Notes \(Vol. 30 #2, February 2023\)](#)

Best Original Feature Article
[NALS/Report on the Conundrum of California's Northeast Corner \(Vol. 50 #4, December 2023\)](#)
Laurie Pearce Price

Best Editorial
[NALS/Anatomy of a Conspiracy \(Vol. 50 #1, March 2023\)](#)
Carl R. C.de Baca

The purpose of the NSPS journalism contest is to encourage high-quality publications and content by NSPS affiliates. Entries are judged by a committee established by the Chair of the NSPS Board of Directors. It is open to newsletters, magazines, and content in either published between January and December of the previous year.

The Newsletter judging criteria considers the following: Content geared specifically to the needs of the primary audience, (members of state society). Hence, the question to ask is, "Is the content informative and does it serve the information needs of the publication's stated target audience?" [Examples of newsletter content: Minutes, President's message, Director's report, Contact information for officers, Calendar of events, Activity reports, Technical Notes contributed by members, attribution of reprinted content, etc.]



Calendar Notes...

MSLS December ExCom

December 10 at 5:00 PM

Sebago Technics, Portland. Meeting at 5:00 PM. Optional dinner to follow at a local restaurant (Maine Mall area) at about 6:30.

Zoom access to the meeting will also be available.

MSLS Annual Conference

January 30 and 31 *SAVE THE DATE - Lots of details coming soon!*

The Regency, Portland

Send Your Calendar Notes to: editor@msls.org

The Parting Shot...



Remember when cramming for a surveying exam including sending someone on a “pizza run?”

Now UMaine Dining has 15 food delivery robots known as “Kiwibots” to meet the student demand for food delivery services.

Must mean test scores are rising. Right?

“**The Parting Shot**” appears in place of where mailing information is located on postal mailed copies and is a little extra something for email recipients. Email your interesting surveying or Maine “Parting Shot” to editor@msls.org!