

# SURVEY NOTES

Volume 17 Issue 4

April 2011

CALIFORNIA LAND SURVEYORS ASSOCIATION, SAN DIEGO CHAPTER  
5519 Clairemont Mesa Blvd, Mail Box 261, San Diego, California 92117  
[www.sd-surveyors.org](http://www.sd-surveyors.org)

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## Chapter Meeting – April 20, 2011

### Guest Speaker:

## Tina Escurel, MBA Cash Flow Management and Debt Collection

Tina is a Senior Account Executive at Transworld Systems, Inc., a local company that has been providing businesses with better tools for recovering bad debt and past due accounts since 1970.

### Location:

## Best Western Seven Seas Lord Jim Room

411 Hotel Circle South, San Diego, Ca. 92108  
(619) 291-1300

5 p.m. Board Meeting • 6 p.m. Social/Networking • 6:30 p.m. Dinner  
6:45 p.m. Program

Please RSVP through our CLSA San Diego Chapter website ([www.sd-surveyors.org](http://www.sd-surveyors.org)) no later than Tuesday, April 19, 2011.

Please click on the "Dinner Reservations" button and fill in all of your reservation information there.

**If paying with a credit card, please remember to bring in a copy of your receipt for check in.**  
*Those who do not make a reservation cannot be guaranteed a meal.*

**Dinner Cost: \$28 (\$18 for LSIT or Surveying Student)**

**Menu (Buffet Style): Teriyaki Chicken Topped with Pineapple or Oriental Beef Stir Fry,**  
Veggies, Fried Rice, Mixed Green Salad With Ranch & Honey Mustard Dressings, Fresh Fruit, Hot Rolls & Butter, New York Cheese Cake, Coffee, Tea or Decaf.

## Chapter Message

Dear Chapter Members,

The 2010 Executive Board would like to explain the circumstances regarding our current Chapter financial situation. During the 2010 year our General Fund experienced a downward fiscal slide.

In the beginning of the year the Board funded the Education Scholarship Certificate of Deposit accounts with an additional \$3000, taken out of General Fund dollars. At that time the General Fund was

significantly flush and the decision was made in order to achieve our overall goal, to have a investment account large enough to self-fund our Chapter Scholarships.

*Continued on Page 2*

## Chapter Message continued

Following that decision our General Fund declined due to several significant reasons, the first being poor attendance at Chapter Meetings, secondly a decline in returning members and membership dues, third a decline in advertising revenue, and finally unpaid representative travel reimbursements.

The effects of a poorly attended meeting by our members include the Chapter funding the difference between our attendance revenue and the cost of putting on the meeting. Over the past few years the Chapter has attempted to provide a quality meeting venue, while keeping the meeting cost as low as possible. This meeting scenario means each meeting is floating on a fine line between breaking even and becoming a loss. It only takes a few meals below the meeting minimum to cause the Chapter to incur a loss. Additionally the Chapter subsidizes the cost for its L.S.I.T. members, which also accounts towards causing a meeting loss. The Executive Board has initiated a new fiscal policy to help keep meetings profitable and any unnecessary meeting subsidies down. We ask each member to help by attending our Chapter

Meetings in the future.

The 2010 year also brought with the current National economic crisis to our Chapters front door. We have experienced a decline in total memberships. The direct effect is evident in our loss of a Chapter Representative this year. When our membership declines, our initial revenue stream is affected. We encourage each member to seek out lost or past members and help us by increasing our membership total for the coming year.

During the previous years it was decided to lower our Newsletter advertisement costs, this significantly dropped our advertising revenue to less than half of the previous year. The Newsletter, in its new format, is currently encouraging new advertisements and has restructured its fee schedule to help increase newsletter advertisement revenue in the future.

Finally, due to the overwhelming amount of additional work our 2010 Board placed on our 2010 Treasurer, some of the 2010 travel reimbursements have not yet been paid by the State CLSA. Since travel for 4-6 representatives can be costly, this accounts for a significant difference in

the normal General Fund balance. The Chapter is currently working on getting these reimbursements paid by the State CLSA.

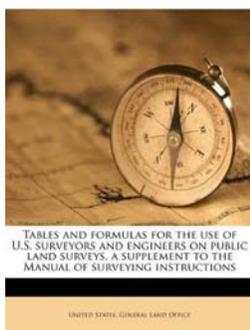
It is important to note this organization is a volunteer organization. Through volunteerism we are able to manage and operate our Chapter, including the Executive Board and committees. Difficulties, mishaps and short comings are going to occur. The current Executive Board has passed new fiscal policies in order to curtail any future unnecessary expenses and to rebuild our General Fund. The Executive Board is also looking for new revenue streams and means to add income, as well as continue our successfully Chapter events, including the Land Surveyor Review Course, The Chapter Golf Tournament, and our continuing efforts to support the Cuyamaca College Surveying Program. If you have any ideas or would like to be heard please attend our next Executive Board meeting or contact one of the Executive Board Members.

Sincerely,

2010 CLSA San Diego  
Chapter Executive Board

Book to Have:

Tables and formulas for the use of U.S. surveyors and engineers on public land surveys, a supplement to the Manual of surveying instructions by United States. General Land Office



## New Book from one of our Favorite Authors!

### The Curt Brown Chronicles

Curtis M. Brown is best known for his textbooks, *EVIDENCE AND PROCEDURES FOR BOUNDARY LOCATION* and *BOUNDARY CONTROL AND LEGAL PRINCIPLES*. In 1988, author Michael J. Pallamary and Mr. Brown published a local history book entitled *The History of San Diego Land Surveying Experiences*.



The Curt Brown Chronicles presents Mr. Brown's compiled lectures and papers as systematized by author and lecturer [Michael J. Pallamary, PLS](#).

[Michael Pallamary](#) is a Professional Land Surveyor with offices in La Jolla, California. He is the author of *The Lay of the Land* and the co-author of *Advanced Land Descriptions* with the late Paul Cuomo and Roy Minnick. Mr. Pallamary is also a founding member of the Land Surveyors Advisory Council on Technical Standards ([www.lsacts.com](http://www.lsacts.com)) He has been surveying real property since 1971.

The Curt Brown Chronicles is available from [Authorhouse](#), [Amazon](#), and [Barnes and Noble](#) in hardcover for \$65.00, softcover for \$55.00 and as an e-copy for \$25.00. 720 pages - ISBN: 9781452090511.

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*"If there ever was a figure in the land surveying arena who deserves to be chronicled, it is without a doubt Curtis Brown, a real pioneer in bringing rules of law and proper procedure to the profession. Mike Pallamary has done a remarkable job in helping to continue his legacy."*

Donald A. Wilson, LLS, PLS, RPF

This editor agrees! I received my copy of the book a few weeks ago and could not put it down. I have read the entire text cover to cover and truly believe Curt "had it figured out". Mike has done a fantastic job compiling these writings and lectures. All of us in San Diego and beyond should add this book to our library immediately!

I personally want to thank Mike Pallamary for being a huge inspiration and professional mentor. His countless and undisputed devotion to our profession knows no bounds. I can only hope my career amounts to a mere fraction of his accomplishments. Cheers to another great one!

Many Thanks!  
Casey Lynch

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**David Paul Johnson, PLS**

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- when it has to be right

## Servco-The Next 80 Years By Casey Lynch

What is in a name? Some say everything comes down to name recognition, to others a name is only as good as what stands behind it. For the previous 80 years one company has been known for their quality service and dependability. Surveyors Service Company (Servco) was founded in 1926 and has been well known in the surveying and construction industry for a broad selection of products, competitive prices, on time delivery and excellent customer service. I recently sat down with Stan Mahler, former President of Servco, and now Manager of the Solutions Centers West, to discuss how Servco was acquired by Leica Geosystems. Stan informed me that the acquisition was the perfection of an increasingly common industry trend. They may be operating under a new company name, they will answer the phone differently, but the people working

for the company are still the same and are there to provide the highest degree of service.

During the late 1980's and early 1990's manufacturing firms started moving towards consolidation of manufacturing, distribution, sales and service. Through the merger of common industry manufacturers, distributors and service firms, such as Servco, one company can offer highly competitive prices while maximizing their ability to provide a broad range of services to their customers. Today, now known as **Leica Geosystems Solutions Center**, this merged entity has created a complete package, and coined the phrase: "Local Presence, National Reach, Global Resources".

So what does this mean for us, the consuming surveyors? For starters, we should become

acquainted with the new name and its meaning. If you pick up the phone today and call any Servco number, you will be greeted with "Leica Solutions Center, how may I help you?" **Leica wants you to know, please, do not hang up!** You have the right number! Now you can ask the lingering question: "What the heck is a solutions center?"

Leica Solutions Center is in fact a benchmark platform for customer service. Taking cues from the long standing reputation and integrity of the Leica brand, the Solutions Center is your one stop ultimate service orientated retailer. The idea is to provide you with the opportunity to utilize their entire "product basket", including supplies, rentals, instrument sales, technical support and service. The difference is that you can rest assured Leica is there for you, as they have always been, providing the "Servco" style customer service day in and day out.



Leica Geosystems Solutions Center, Costa Mesa, CA.

For more information or to contact our local Solutions Center please call any former Servco number or toll free at 800-938-0606 or visit [www.leica-geosystems.us](http://www.leica-geosystems.us).

**Board Members****Present:**

Justin Pallamary,  
President  
Blake Torgersen,  
Vice President  
Paul Goebel,  
Treasurer  
Tony Nothdurft,  
Secretary  
Casey Lynch, Past  
President  
Andy Karydes  
Anne Hoppe  
Dave Ambler

**Other Committee  
Members Present:**

Mike Butcher  
David Johnson  
Jack Gechter  
Karen Koklich

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**March 16, 2011

Meeting held at Best Western Seven Seas – Mission Valley

Justin Pallamary opened the meeting at 5:14. The minutes from the February meeting were presented for approval. A MOTION was made to approve the minutes. The motion was SECONDED. Motion PASSED.

**Presidents Report – Justin**

- Agenda set most of the meeting aside to discuss and rectify the Chapter's current financial situation.  
Background:  
Our general fund has trended downward because of several reasons identified:
  - During April of 2010, \$3000 was transferred to the education fund.
  - Many of our monthly general meetings were subsidized by the general fund, with the joint Orange County meeting and Christmas meeting being the most costly.
  - Membership dues have been lagging behind the numbers of past years
  - Newsletter advertising has been down with some of the revenues not being realized because of fee changes that were not applied to existing ads.
  - Representative travel costs have not been fully recovered from the state office.
  - The rate of the downward trend of the general fund was not fully realized by the board until the end of the year when the last treasurer's report was completed.

## Courses of Action:

1.) Chapter Representatives will solicit reimbursement from the State CLSA at the next meeting for the late requests for travel expenditures. New policy, Chapter President shall appoint one Chapter Rep. as the Chair who will track the other Chapter Reps. who attend the state Board meetings and is responsible for sending a list of the Chapter Rep attendees to the treasurer within a week of the meeting. The treasurer will notify the board of the date the request for reimbursement is sent to the state at the next Chapter meeting for inclusion in the minutes. Anne Hoppe has been appointed chair of the Representatives.

2.) Meetings will be less subsidized. The Vice president shall submit meeting plan with costs at previous board meeting for approval prior to locking in arrangements.

3.) Handling fee for online registration may be included in cost of meetings. Will request fee schedule and invoicing process used by our webmaster to be more informed on his costs.

4.) Newsletter editor Casey Lynch has revised the fee schedule for advertisements, has identified the unpaid invoices and is currently soliciting new vendors and working at recouping lost revenues.

5.) A Motion to require a written request to board for approval of any expense over \$50 was made by Casey Lynch and seconded by Blake Torgersen, **Motion Passed.**

6.) A Motion to put proceeds from Raffles into General Fund was made by Dave Ambler and seconded by Casey Lynch, **Motion Passed.**

- We are searching for ways to increase our revenue, and are looking for ideas.  
A few ideas that have surfaced are; Fishing Trip (3/4 day boat); Poker Game; Paintball.
- It was mentioned that the Board should consider having the board meeting on a separate night from the general meeting in order to get through the numerous items to discuss. Searching for an available location to hold meeting.

**Board Members Present:**

Justin Pallamary,  
President  
Blake Torgersen,  
Vice President  
Paul Goebel,  
Treasurer  
Tony Nothdurft,  
Secretary  
Casey Lynch,  
Past President  
Andy Karydes  
Anne Hoppe  
Dave Ambler

**Other Committee Members Present:**

John Butcher  
David Johnson  
Jack Gechter  
Karen Koklich

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING** continued

**Vice Presidents Report – Blake**

- Today's meeting, Mike Butcher, Gary Hus, and Ryan Post in a panel discussion about the new "2010 ALTA Standards".
- April's meeting, "Cash flow management & Debt Collection" Tina Escurel, MBA, of Transworld Systems
- May's meeting, "LS Review Decompression"
- June's meeting, "2009 BLM Manual".
- Discussion started on Padre game meeting, suggested that we have our event on 7/27, the 4th Wednesday in July, 7:05 game time against the D-backs.

**Treasurer's Report – Paul**

- As of the end of February, General Fund - \$511.88, Education Fund - \$9850.45, Local Ed. Fund - \$1000.00 (Funds donated to be used for Local education purposes only).
- A Discussion on what to do with CD that is coming due on 4-29-11. A motion was made by Anne Hoppe and seconded by Paul Goebel to rollover the CD in April. **Motion Passed.**

**Secretary's Report – Tony**

- Quarterly report to State CLSA due this month.

**Education Committee – David Johnson**

**LS Review Class Subcommittee – Jack Gechter**

- No Report.

**Workshop Committee – \_\_\_\_\_**

- No Report

**Education Foundation \ Scholarship Subcommittee – Dave Ambler**

- No Report

**Community College Report – John Butcher**

- No Report.

**Ad Hoc Committee – Junior College Programs– Sean Englert**

- No Report

**Annual Golf Tournament Subcommittee – David Johnson**

- No Report

**Nominating Committee – Pat McMichael, Andy Karydes**

- No Report

**GIS Committee – Karen Koklich, Jimmy Elmore**

- No Reports

**Private Records Steering Committee – Sean Englert, Karen Koklich**

- No Report

**Membership Committee – Blake Torgenson, Dave Ambler, Dave Viera**

- No report

**Legislative Committee – Anne Hoppe**

- No Report

**Bylaws Committee – Sean Englert, Dave Viera, Blake Torgersen**

- No Report

**Joint Professional Practices Committee – Mike Butcher**

- No Report

**Website Committee – Jack Gechter, Anne Hoppe**

- No Report.

**Datum Committee- Paul Goebel, Mike Pallamary**

- No Report.

**Newsletter Committee – Casey Lynch**

- (See Presidents Report)

**Chapter Representatives Report –**

- No Report.

**New Business**

- Update guidelines for Curt Brown scholarship to match schedule for working with Foundation.
- Curt Brown's T-2 Sale.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:41pm

**GENERAL MEETING**March 16, 2011

Meeting held at Best Western Seven Seas – Mission Valley

Justin Pallamary opened the meeting at 7:30 pm and welcomed the members. Requested fund raising ideas from the general membership. Blake Torgersen introduced the evening speakers:

**Michael Butcher, assisted by Gary Hus and Ryan Post.**  
**Panel Discussion of the**

**2011 Minimum Standard Detail Requirements for ALTA/ACSM Land Title Surveys**

These new Standards are effective as of February 23, 2011. This is the most significant revision of the Standards since they were originally adopted in 1962. ACSM has made the New Standards with supplements that identify the changes available through their website "ACSM.net". Highlights of the discussion are described as follows:

- Significant change is in the requirement to survey the boundary along with accuracy standards and now required to show the full procedure used to determine the boundary. The previous standards were vague in this regard.
- Another change is that the client is responsible to provide/obtain access to the property for the survey, and also responsible to provide the records that affect the property necessary to determine the boundary or other requirements, not the surveyor's responsibility. However it remains to be seen how owners and title companies will respond to this when presented with the standards.
- Single unaltered certificate for ALTA's per the new standards only. Any changes to the certificate shown on the map will invalidate the ALTA and the map is no longer considered an ALTA Survey per the new requirements.
- Many requirements defer to the "standard of care" which allows the surveyor to use his professional judgment.
- Table A option 21, Professional Liability Insurance. Note amount carried.
- 

Following the presentation, raffle prizes were awarded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM

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## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

**“What does education often do? It makes a straight-cut ditch of a free, meandering brook.”**

**Henry David Thoreau**

**Pacific Land Seminars** LS and LSIT review seminars, advanced survey topics and various Surveying seminars such as **Land Description Fundamentals, Advanced Land Descriptions, Fundamentals Of The U.S.P.L.S.S., Advanced Problems In The U.S.P.L.S.S, Boundary Control, Boundary Law. Lot Line Adjustments / Lot Line Agreements, Legal Research, Water Boundaries, Easements And Reversions, Resolving Conflicts Of Evidence, The Surveyor In Court, A.L.T.A. Surveys, Subdivision Mapping, Entitlements, Condominium Plans, G.P.S. Surveys, Photogrammetry For The Surveyor, Basic Geodesy, State Plane Coordinate Systems, Error Theory & Measurement Analysis, Ethics And Standard Of care.** Excellent source for Surveying publications. [WWW.PACIFICLAND.COM](http://WWW.PACIFICLAND.COM) tony@pacificland.com <http://www.pcpresinc.com> 562/431-1656

**Subdivision Map Act Class** – A One Day Seminar: San Diego Nov.17 2011, Burbank Oct. 27 2011. *Latest land use law news alerts.* [www.landusenavigators.com](http://www.landusenavigators.com)

**Webinars:** [Introduction to California Subdivision Law.](#) [Current Issues in Development Impact Fees.](#) [A Primer on Land Surveys.](#) [A Primer on Right-of-Way.](#) [Conservation Easement Tax Incentives.](#) [Regulations Zoning Variances: Nonconforming Uses and Structures.](#) [Air Rights in Development: Current Trends and Legal Concerns.](#) [FEMA's Critical Flood Plain Regulation.](#) [Construction Contract Bid Errors.](#) [Construction Joint Ventures: Benefits and Pitfalls.](#) [Contractor's Dilemma of Dealing With Bad Plans and Specs.](#) [Pros and Cons of Cost-Plus vs. Fixed Price Contracts.](#) [The Construction Bidding Process.](#) [Understanding the Federal Construction Bidding Process.](#) [Understanding the Development Approval Process.](#) [Design Professionals' Exposure for Design Errors and Omissions.](#) [Liability Issues for Design Professionals.](#) [ALTA Policy, Endorsements and Transaction Strategies with Title Insurance.](#) [Curing Title Exceptions.](#) [Current Issues in Real Estate Title and Title Insurance.](#) [Infill Development Fundamentals.](#) Discounts for multiple registrations. [www.lorman.com](http://www.lorman.com) (866) 352-9539.

**Trimble SurveySense webinars** [www.trimble.com/surveysense](http://www.trimble.com/surveysense)

**Autodesk webinars:** **Part 1: 3D Laser Scanning Technology Overview.** **Part 2: Road & Highway Corridor Study.** **Part 3: Improving Road & Highway Design Workflows.**  
[http://offers.autodesk.com/10/171025/email/may\\_fup.php](http://offers.autodesk.com/10/171025/email/may_fup.php)

**Esri and ACSM Survey Summit** July 9-12, 2011 San Diego <http://www.thesurveysummit.com/>

**Free SMART VENT's FEMA's TB1-08 and Elevation Certificates** with free listing upon completion on Professional Surveyor Magazine web-site. <http://us1.campaign-archive.com/?u=cdf7e9cc9a1a12b28f21f7ff4&id=5c032776df&e=d57379b7e3>

**Basics In 3D Laser Scanning** <http://www.faro.com/site/resources/details/752> **Applying 3D Laser Scanning To Bim (Building Information Modeling)** <http://www.faro.com/site/resources/details/905>

**Cuyamaca College** - Cuyamaca College offers an Associate of Science in Surveying that includes courses in Plane Surveying and Advanced Surveying, using equipment used in the field today, Survey Drafting Technology, and Boundary Control and Legal Principles. Other requirements for the degree include Engineering Graphics, Trigonometry, Introductory Physics, and courses to fulfill general education. Instructors are all practicing and licensed professionals. For additional information please contact Dr. Cyrus Saghafi at [cyrus.saghafi@qcccd.edu](mailto:cyrus.saghafi@qcccd.edu) or 619-660-4243.

**College of the Canyons** - Associate in Science Degree and Certificate of Achievement: Land Surveying. Contact [www.canyons.edu](http://www.canyons.edu) or 661-362-3300.

**Geospatial Analysis and Technology** – Seminars, courses and software training. [www.UCRExtension.net/geo](http://www.UCRExtension.net/geo) 951-827-4105.

**CSU Fresno Geomatics Engineering Dept.** Contact [www.csufresno.edu/geomatics/](http://www.csufresno.edu/geomatics/) for program and on-line courses.

**CSU Pomona Surveying Program** [http://www.csupomona.edu/%7Ece\\_surv/surveng/index.html](http://www.csupomona.edu/%7Ece_surv/surveng/index.html)

**Santiago Canyon College Surveying and Mapping Program** Associate degree and LSIT review certificate. <http://www.sccollege.edu/Departments/CareerEd/Survey/Pages/SurveyDegreePrograms.aspx>

**Rio Hondo College Surveying Mapping & Drawing** Certificate of Achievement. GIS program. <http://www.riohondo.edu/>

**Sacramento City College** <http://www.scc.losrios.edu/>

**GIS Certification** – thru URISA <http://www.gisci.org/>

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### Newsletter

Members can only receive newsletters via email.  
Request an email copy only: [clynch@burkett-wong.com](mailto:clynch@burkett-wong.com)

Notices, original articles and other relevant information are encouraged for publication in the newsletter. There are many interesting and pertinent articles in other publications. Mention of articles is encouraged, but please provide your remarks, summary in a Word doc format and a link to the article, rather than copying the whole article. PDF or JPEG format sized to approx 300 KB or less is best for graphics. Large reference files may have to be forwarded separately. Newsletter is distributed by the first Wed of the month. Send items to Casey Lynch at [clynch@burkett-wong.com](mailto:clynch@burkett-wong.com) by the last Saturday of the month.

*Information in this newsletter is not necessarily endorsed by CLSA or CLSA San Diego.*

**\* New Lower Advertising Rates Ending April, 2011 \***  
**Advertising policy approved by the Board:**

The **new lower rates** are: 1) full page one time in newsletter \$50.00. One year paid in advance \$450.00. 2.) ½ page one time in newsletter \$35.00. One year paid in advance \$325.00. 3) Business card size ad one year in newsletter \$50.00. 4) Employment offers by a member free for 1 month, extended if needed. Contact Newsletter Editor Casey Lynch [clynch@burkett-wong.com](mailto:clynch@burkett-wong.com) for newsletter advertising. 5) Web-site banner \$100.00. Other Web-site advertising charges to be determined. For web-site advertising contact Web-site Coordinator Anne Hoppe, [ahoppe@sandiego.gov](mailto:ahoppe@sandiego.gov)

## News from the CLSA

**NEW – CLSA AUCTION WEBSITE!**

**Support**

- California Land Surveyors Association Education Foundation
- Surveying Education
- Help Generate Scholarships for Land Surveying Students

**Donate**

- Sell Your Items Through the CLSA Auction Site and 10% of Your Sale Will Be Donated to the Education Foundation

**Bid**

- Purchase Items Through the CLSA Auction Site to Help Generate Proceeds for the Education Foundation



Go to <http://auction.surveypath.org/index.php>  
or go to [www.californiasurveyors.org](http://www.californiasurveyors.org) and click on Education Foundation

## San Diego CLSA 2011 Golf Scholarship Drive

It's Closer Than You Think....



If you would like to sponsor, donate, volunteer, or participate in the 2011 Golf Scholarship Drive please contact David Paul Johnson, PLS at 760-310-5054



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