

Greetings,

This year's Conference theme was "A Commitment to Professionalism: Going for Gold." We had over 350 people attend as well as 100% vendor participation. We tee'd off with the annual Golf FUNdraiser on Friday which supported our Education Foundation, Workshop with Gary Kent on Saturday followed by the annual Bowling FUNdraiser that evening which also supports our Education Foundation. On Monday night we had "Lightening" (otherwise known as Greg Williams) back with us for the annual Auction Night. All this with a great line up of speakers made for a very successful Conference.

In the month of March we have an opportunity to celebrate our profession and more importantly our commitment to professionalism. On Thursday March 22nd, it was my great honor to receive a proclamation for National Surveyors week at the State Capital on behalf of CLSA. If you haven't done so already, reach out to your local Cities and Counties for proclamations and notify your Service Clubs, Scout Groups, etc. Write articles in your local papers and newsletters. And don't forget to occupy a Bench Mark! I encourage everyone to participate in updating our California Bench Marks for the Geoid 18 Model.

Our membership roles have been increasing and we have more members than we did last year at this time but we still have a ways to go. Central office been sending copies of each Chapters membership rolls. If you know someone who has not renewed or is not a member encourage them to do so.

A huge benefit for the member is our Chapters. Chapter meetings allow the ability to network with other professionals, learning about your profession from interesting speakers, opportunities to give back to the community, opportunities to give back to the profession, professional development, job opportunities, and the list goes on.

In order to act in a more proactive stance, Jeff Steffan has been appointed to form a task force to begin the ground work for forming a Legislative Platform for CLSA. By doing this it will allow us to act in a timely manner when the need arises. Thank you Jeff for taking this important task on

I would like to personally thank WestFED for inviting me to their conference in Las Vegas last month. The conference had over 750 attendees from across the nation. Congratulations to the Conference Chair Nancy Almanzan. It was also good to see many of my colleagues from California there.

Last but not least, I would like to thank all the Past Presidents that have given me invaluable suggestions and advice to help me transition into this position. I am confident that with them I have a most reliable resource and wealth of information.

Thank you,
Ron Nelms
President CLSA 2018