

# The Bois d'Arc Post

The Official Newsletter of Dallas Chapter No. 5  
Of the Texas Society of Professional Surveyors





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May 2019

## CHAPTER 5 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



**President:** JT Truong, RPLS



**Vice President:** Tyler Carter, LSI



**Past President:** Shaun Piepkorn, RPLS



**Secretary/Treasurer:** Bill Swope, CP

### DIRECTORS



**1<sup>st</sup> Year Director:** Andy Dobbs, RPLS



**1<sup>st</sup> Year Director:** Lawrence Ringley, RPLS



**2<sup>nd</sup> Year Director:** Travis Crocker



**2<sup>nd</sup> Year Director:** Jeremy Ruckman, RPLS



**Chapter Representative:** Philip Adams, RPLS

### COMMITTEES & MEMBERS

**Education:** Bill Swope, CP; Jim Gillis, RPLS; Heather Welch-Westfall, RPLS; Jeff Whanger, PE, SIT, GISP, CFM

**Membership:** Shaun Piepkorn, RPLS; Bill Swope, CP; JT Truong, RPLS

**Newsletter:** Bill Swope, CP

**Nominating:** Shaun Piepkorn, RPLS; JT Truong, RPLS; Jim Gillis, RPLS

**Programs:** JT Truong, RPLS; Bill Swope, CP

**Public Relations:** Shaun Piepkorn, RPLS, JT Truong, RPLS; Bill Swope, CP

**SkillsUSA:** Shaun Piepkorn, RPLS

[Chapter 5 Facebook Page](#)



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The Official Newsletter of Dallas Chapter No. 5 of the Texas Society of Professional Surveyors

May 2019



## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

The Internet has made the world both smaller and larger. With the advent of new technology, some things in life have become easier. By having devices such as Google Home and Amazon Alexa, we can purchase things without having to leave our couch. Endless knowledge is at our fingertips, just a few clicks or taps away.

However, with all the knowledge and technology that seemingly brings everyone around the world closer it may also be pushing others away. I understand that recent events that have happened to our board and with the new legislation and confusion over what it all entails may have burnt some people out and challenged the faith we have in the system, TSPS itself, or even one another. I have been a part of emails and conversations where the main topic seems to be frustration over what seems to be a lack of communication with each other. It is strange how quickly we can send an email or text without having to have a real conversation or even to really listen to one another.

When was the last time you have had a true conversation with a colleague about something that troubled you? Has anything else been done outside of discussion? I'm as guilty as the next person, and I think we all deserve to have a chance to speak, to be heard, and most importantly, to listen.

For me, TSPS has always been about fellowship. Over the years of being a member and finally as Chapter President, I'm blessed to be able to pick up the phone, or send an email or text, and with confidence, I can ask anyone just about anything. Survey related or not. I am convinced it is because of the extra time I spend with my colleagues many of whom I also call friends. Happy hours, lunches, dinners, or even random phone calls during the day, these small interactions over years has built a bond that grows more and more as time goes on. Business aside, there is more to life than just numbers. I'd like to be there for my friends and colleagues when it counts.

"To make a difference in someone's life, you don't have to be brilliant, rich, beautiful, or perfect. You just have to care enough and be there." – ANONYMOUS

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cliff' followed by a small number '86514'.





# The Bois d'Arc Post

The Official Newsletter of Dallas Chapter No. 5 of the Texas Society of Professional Surveyors

May 2019



## OP-ED

### *I'm Not a Surveyor, but...*

By Bill Swope, CP

With the recent Sunset Advisory Committee recommendations and the legislation that is now moving through the system I've been asked a lot lately about my opinion on the matter by a number of folks. Primarily, I think, due to my involvement with others in the North Texas land surveying community and our efforts to save an independent land surveying board but also, I've been told, because I'm not a surveyor and may offer a different perspective.

I've been involved in photogrammetry since approximately 2007 and because of that, and the lack of regional or state run photogrammetric organizations, I have also been involved with several state land surveying associations. I've been a member of the Arizona Professional Land Surveyors (APLS), the California Land Surveyors Association (CLSA), the United Surveyors of Arizona (USofAZ), and now the Texas Society of Professional Land Surveyors (TSPS). That is a lot of acronyms, and I've been privileged to see, and learn a lot along the way.

A common issue that has been present in each state, and with each association, has been, in my opinion, **apathy**. Every chapter, section, or committee I've been involved with has suffered from the effects of what seems like a perpetual cycle of many folks complaining, but very few folks doing anything about the issues they have a problem with.

When I came to work in Arizona for my current employer in 2014 I began attending APLS meetings. My experience has taught me that these type of association meetings are great for meeting new people and making new business contacts, in addition to offering a sense of community, solidarity, and the familiarity of being around people who have a common professional interest. Not to mention the opportunities to earn CEU's and training to further one's career. But I immediately noticed that attendance was down, and that this affected the chapter's ability to conduct business. There was discord and discontent amongst many of the members along with the feeling that no one was listened to and that any complaints or ideas were routinely disregarded. Over time, these mounting and undealt with frustrations led those who were wanting change to start a new land surveying association, USofAZ. Both organizations still exist, and both serve an important function. But I only refer to this to make a larger point that without having a committed, connected, and engaged membership just about any professional association, or any other type of volunteer based community, cannot survive.

Which brings me back to TSPS and some of my thoughts with regard to what is happening now.



# The Bois d'Arc Post

The Official Newsletter of Dallas Chapter No. 5 of the Texas Society of Professional Surveyors

May 2019

I'll be honest, I was disappointed that there wasn't more of an effort put forth by TSPS to fight for an independent, and effective land surveying board. I understand it is not TSPS's mission to do so, but with the nationwide push for deregulation at any costs (look up the Institute of Justice sometime) I felt, as did others that Texas could, and should, serve as a model for how things should be done, rather than simply acquiescing and following along with the recommendations. Land Surveying has very specific state laws and statutes and may be one of the few professional services industries that will suffer the most with the deregulation at all costs mindset. And then there is that pesky public safety concern that seems to get swept under the carpet quite a bit, and only seems to get paid lip service by politicians. And as we've seen just recently, attempts are being made to dumb down the education requirements without offering any real alternative paths to licensure. So there is still much work to be done, and it can be easy to see why a lot of people become frustrated and drift away from the association.

But I also see this time of change and confusion as a point of great opportunity. As does Kenneth Gold who encouraged members at the January TSPS Board Meeting to "Rally around the flag, and not desert it". He reminded everyone present of times in the past when TSPS and its membership had been challenged with issues that seemed insurmountable but had come together to meet the challenges, survive, and grow stronger. At this time there are only about forty percent of the land surveyors in Texas that are members of TSPS, give or take. And while I hear from some people that TSPS doesn't do anything, I rarely see the people who make those type of comments at a monthly meeting, or volunteering to be part of a committee, or even offering any sort of solutions when there are ample opportunities to do so.

Years ago I read in the liner notes of a Steve Earle album something that has stuck with me. He said something to the effect of, "If you don't vote, don't bitch". I'm paraphrasing, but I think the sentiment is clear. If you want something to get better you have to take care of it, tend your garden, maintain your infrastructure, however you want to express it one has to be **involved** with something for it to flourish and become better. Apathy, is not the answer.

I'm not a surveyor but I see the value in TSPS and I'm encouraging each and every one of you to take a moment and consider how you can help out, and how you can make things better. Chapter 5 has done a lot in the last year and if you don't know it or realize it you haven't been paying attention. We have our own web-site now and while it's just getting started there is already a lot of great information about upcoming events, our chapter, and our community efforts, among other things. We plan to add a section about the financial assistance we offer to students in the area, resources for surveyors, and information about other professional associations in the area. We have some great programs for our upcoming meetings, our annual golf tournament is just a month away, and another outstanding seminar has been planned for later this year. We have some other new events in the planning stages in order to try to help create a better sense of community for our chapter members and families, and so are looking into a chapter picnic later this year and the launch of the North Texas section of the Land Surveyors



# The Bois d'Arc Post

The Official Newsletter of Dallas Chapter No. 5 of the Texas Society of Professional Surveyors

May 2019

Craft Beer Guild, which met for the first time on May 1<sup>st</sup> at Guitars and Growlers in Richardson. And more of these types of social outings are to come.

We have a lot that we are trying to accomplish with Chapter 5, and with TSPS as a whole. We need your help. So I implore you to not take what you have for granted but rather to ante up and ask yourself have you done enough? Have you volunteered for a committee, have you brought a non-member to a meeting, or helped check people in at a monthly meeting (you get a free lunch)? Have you wondered what would happen if TSPS and Chapter 5 weren't here? I hear the laughter and guffaws at that last statement, but have you really thought about that? I have, and I know that if you don't take care of what is yours, no one else will.

I'm not a surveyor but I've dedicated myself to helping out where and when I can. I'm not a surveyor but I understand the importance of what TSPS offers and realize how much better it could be if everyone did just a little bit more than they are now. I refuse to look at the recent and current events as anything but an opportunity to make things better and pledge to do my part. I'm hopeful that there will be a lot more of you that will consider joining me and can give a little bit of your time to help make **the only** organization that supports land surveying in the State of Texas a success.

*Bill Swope, CP is the Business Development Manager for Texas for AeroTech Mapping and resides in Frisco, Texas with his wife Regan and son Owen. Bill is a first year TSPS State Director, and Chapter 5 Secretary/Treasurer along with being the Education Committee Chair, and Newsletter Editor.*





# The Bois d'Arc Post

The Official Newsletter of Dallas Chapter No. 5 of the Texas Society of Professional Surveyors

May 2019

## Members in Action



### Troop 1171 Survey Merit Badge

By Chris Freeman, RPLS

I initially was referred to a Troop 1171 Scout Leader by Chapter 5 member Stephanie Beckham, of Dallas Aerial Surveys. She knew the Leader, and the Troop had utilized her property in Limestone County several times for camping and other Scout activities. I arranged to attend a Troop meeting in January to discuss Surveying, demonstrate the use of survey instruments, discuss career opportunities, and offer to assist in a Survey Merit Badge activity if there was interest. The meeting went well, and 20 Scouts signed up for the Survey Merit Badge.

The exercise was scheduled for mid-February. The Scouts arrived on Friday night and set up camp, but I was not able to arrive until Saturday morning. Two main exercises were to be completed: 1.) a closed traverse in which the Scouts measure the sides and interior angles of a polygon, and 2.) a closed level loop assuming an elevation of one of the aforementioned traverse points.

The exercise commenced at approximately 10 a.m. under relatively calm but cold and cloudy conditions, with intermittent light mist. I met the 20 Scouts and 4 adult leaders on site, a clearing surrounded by timber and thick underbrush. The group was divided into 4 survey teams. Instructions were given on field book note keeping, setting up the instruments, turning and recording angles, performing rodman duties with the prism poles for measuring the backsight and foresight distances or holding the level rod during the bench loop. The team utilized a Topcon GTS-226 electronic Total Station and a Sokkia C3i Differential Level.



For the traverse exercise, the teams each turned an interior angle and measured two legs of the polygon from their observation station. A compass reading was taken at the first setup to provide a *Basis of Bearing*. After moving up to the next station, the new team checked the distance recorded in the field books (donated by long-time TSPS partner Geomatic Resources) by the previous team to ensure no blunder had been recorded. When a team was not actively involved with the measuring at a particular station, they observed the working team, recorded results, and entered sketches in their notes.

At one point during the chilly morning, firewood was gathered and a fire started, bringing welcome heat to the survey teams (*hey, who has the bag of marsh-mellows?*). The closed traverse was completed with a Linear Error of Closure of 0.03 feet. The perimeter distance measured was 611.92 feet. The precision



# The Bois d'Arc Post

The Official Newsletter of Dallas Chapter No. 5 of the Texas Society of Professional Surveyors

May 2019

for the survey was 1/20,000, a decent survey for first-time surveyors. The area measured was 22,293 square feet.



Upon completion of the traverse exercise, the teams switched gears to run a closed bench loop. After a quick lesson on how to set up the instrument, focusing, reading the rod, and keeping level notes, the teams were ready to go. Assuming an elevation of 100.00 at Point #1, the teams took turns reading the level rod backsight and foresight readings, and recorded the observations in their field books. Some teams had other team members check the rod reading before finalizing their reading. The teams turned on each of the points, returning to the starting station at Point #1. After a quick tally with the calculator, the results showed that the loop closed flat with the original starting elevation. How about that?! Looks like we may have some future survey talent out here! Really, the Scouts were smart and inquisitive, as well as quick learners.

Logistical support for the activity was provided by the Beckhams, assisting with transporting the survey equipment back to an area inaccessible by vehicles. Stephanie also provided the Scouts with a couple of bags of freshly baked chocolate chip and oatmeal cookies, always welcome by a busy survey crew on a chilly Texas morning. The equipment utilized for the activity was loaned out for the weekend by the North Lake College (Dallas County Community College District) Construction Technology program, with whom TSPS Chapter 5 has a long and strong relationship. And the equipment had just been calibrated by another TSPS supporter, GeoShack (paid for by Chapter 5 at a reduced fee).

I made a follow up visit to the Scouts at their March Troop meeting to discuss the results of the survey and answer any questions. We also discussed deed research, and I brought a couple of the deeds from the subject property so the Scouts could understand a metes and bounds legal description. As part of the Badge requirement, the Scouts prepared a scaled drawing of the traverse. The feedback from the Scouts was that they enjoyed the exercise. For one Scout, the Survey Merit Badge was the last badge he needed to earn Eagle Scout status.





# The Bois d'Arc Post

The Official Newsletter of Dallas Chapter No. 5 of the Texas Society of Professional Surveyors

May 2019

For me, I was able to share my profession with a great group of young men, and hopefully the Scouts learned more about our profession. They all seemed to enjoy the traverse and bench loop exercise. Maybe next time having a UAV available to demonstrate would further excite a group of Scouts. Their Leaders also expressed a lot of interest in the activities, so we accomplished some exposure to several adults, too. The time was well worth it for me, and I encourage my fellow colleagues and TSPS members to seek opportunities to share what we do with the public, and the Scouts are an ideal group.



*Chris Freeman and his adopted Boy Scout Surveyors relax after a good days work.*



# The Bois d'Arc Post

The Official Newsletter of Dallas Chapter No. 5 of the Texas Society of Professional Surveyors


May 2019

## Chapter 5 Website - <http://www.tpschapter5.com>

Chapter 5 has a new website thanks to the hard work of Lawrence Ringley and Mark Stabb with Ringely and Associates, Inc., in McKinney. The new web-site has information about the chapter, our events, and our newsletter. In the future we will be adding information about our John Pierce Education Assistance Fund and we are considering other information or features to have online. As with everything else we do here at Chapter 5 we are interested in hearing not only your comments, but also are open to suggestions about what we should add to our page as we continue to develop the page and add content. So take a few minutes to have a look when you get a chance and be sure to let us know your thoughts and suggestions. And be sure to give a **BIG** thank you to both Lawrence and Mark, this is exactly the type of thing that can help the chapter and TSPS grow and become a reliable resource for our members.

Contact either JT Truong at 469-317-0250 or [jtruong@txasc.com](mailto:jtruong@txasc.com); or Bill Swope at 469-416-6854 or [billswope@atmlv.com](mailto:billswope@atmlv.com).

**TEXAS SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS DALLAS  
CHAPTER 5**More...



**NEXT MEETING**  
TUESDAY, APRIL 9TH AT 11:30AM AT MAGGIANO'S NORTH PARK CENTER  
GUEST SPEAKER: TRAVIS ATTANASIAO PE, CFM CITY ENGINEER FOR CITY OF HASLET  
[RESERVE YOUR SEAT NOW!](#)

## Chapter News & Events:

### Chapter 5 May Meeting - Maggiano's - Willowbend

May 14th, 11:30a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Guest Speaker: Paul Knippel PE Director of Engineering Services for City of Frisco

Click [Here](#) to reserve your seat now!

### 2019 TSPS Dallas Chapter 5 Annual Golf Tournament:

Click [Here](#) to go to the sign up page

### 2019 TSPS Dallas Chapter 5 Seminar:

Click [Here](#) to Register or Download a copy of the Registration Form below.

2019 Registration Form (pdf). [Download File](#)



# The Bois d'Arc Post

The Official Newsletter of Dallas Chapter No. 5 of the Texas Society of Professional Surveyors

May 2019

## Member Profile



### Oscar Soto; 1519, LLC

By Bill Swope, CP

Oscar Soto is proof positive that connecting with students at a young age, and informing them about Land Surveying as a career, is the best way to grow the profession. "I was introduced to surveying by Shaun Piepkorn via SkillsUSA and it stuck with me ever since then." SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers, and industry leaders working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce, and concentrates on educational opportunities that support career and technical education (CTE). Oscar was part of the Duncanville High School team that placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the SkillsUSA Texas State Land Surveying Competition in April of 2018 in Corpus Christi.

Since then Oscar has had his first job in surveying with JQ, but eventually settled in with 1519, LLC in Farmers Branch working, curiously enough, for the man who got him into surveying in the first place, Shaun Piepkorn. "I consider Shaun my surveying mentor. One piece of advice Shaun gave me is that I shouldn't feel intimidated as a young surveyor. If I do, it's because I'm not asking enough questions", said Oscar.

A CST Level 2, Oscar was born and raised in the Dallas area and enjoys the history that is as much a part of land surveying as the legal aspects. But it is the misunderstanding that most of the public has about the profession that is something that bothers Oscar, as it does many surveyors. "I really dislike it when one is surveying with a total station or level, and people think we are just taking pictures", he said. "A majority of the time they (people) confuse land surveyors with engineers – granted they are similar professions – but it gets tiring and redundant."

When not at work Oscar relaxes by reading books, watching YouTube, or with his other passion, tweaking one of his watches. "I'm a watch enthusiast, so I really enjoy collecting and talking about watches", he said. But it is his interest in land surveying that has brought him and his dad closer as they recently discovered they had several family members and friends who are surveyors also. Says Oscar, "I have a personal goal of trying to become the youngest RPLS or SIT in Texas." Good luck, Oscar, it seems as though you are already on your way to meeting your dreams and goals.



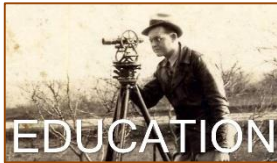


# The Bois d'Arc Post

The Official Newsletter of Dallas Chapter No. 5 of the Texas Society of Professional Surveyors

May 2019

## COMMITTEE REPORTS



The Education Committee has awarded financial aid to two students for the 2019 Winter Term. Chapter President JT Truong and chapter Secretary/Treasurer Bill Swope presented checks for \$300 on May 9<sup>th</sup> to Alladin Shareif and Zach Buchanan who attend classes at North Lake Community College.



Alladin, JT, and Zach

Alladin is a second time aid recipient from Chapter 5. Congratulations to these outstanding students and future surveyors!

New Members since the December Newsletter:

1. Zach Buchanan – Survey Consultants, Inc.
2. Jamie Gustina – Cobb Fendley & Associates
3. Sean Compton – JQ Engineering
4. Judy Millien – SAM, LLC
5. Chris Long – Criado and Associates
6. Rudy Reyes – CEI Engineering Associates, Inc.
7. Jeffrey Lenherr – Huitt-Zollars, Inc.



### Nominating

Nominations for the 2019-2020 term are due to the Chapter Executive Board by Tuesday, May 28. We will need nominations for the following positions:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Secretary/Treasurer
4. Two Year Director
5. Two Year Director

The carry over officers will be:

Past President: John Truong, RPLS

One Year Director: Andy Dobbs, RPLS

One Year Director: Lawrence Ringley, RPLS

If you would like to nominate someone for one of the available positions or if you are interested in running for an available position, please email Shaun Piepkorn at [shaun.piepkorn@1519LLC.com](mailto:shaun.piepkorn@1519LLC.com).



# The Bois d'Arc Post

The Official Newsletter of Dallas Chapter No. 5 of the Texas Society of Professional Surveyors

May 2019

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

The Public Relations Committee is working to find a variety of new and unique ways to promote Chapter 5, the TSPS, and surveying in general. Chapter members are encouraged to bring any ideas, suggestions, or comments to the Committee Chair for consideration. It's your chapter, so don't be afraid to speak up and be heard! Reach out to Shaun Piepkorn at [shaun.piepkorn@1519llc.com](mailto:shaun.piepkorn@1519llc.com) or 214-484-8586.

SkillsUSA State Competition was held in Corpus Christi April 4-7. Unfortunately, no teams from Chapter 5 placed as one the top three teams. This is the first time since I have been involved with SkillsUSA that this has happened. SkillsUSA will start again in the fall school semester and Chapter 5 will need to provide volunteers and equipment for Duncanville High School and Wylie East High School.



Secretary/Treasurer Bill Swope reports the following information with regard to the chapter's finances as of May 10th, 2019:

General Fund: \$11,577.02

Scholarship Fund: \$12,483.00

**Total: \$24,060.02**

## **Chapter 5 Committees and Your Help**

The TSPS and Chapter 5 need your help! We are in need of members to help fill out the committees we have for our chapter for 2019. As a volunteer association we rely on our members to ensure that the association is thriving and is there as a resource for all of us. To do that we need more members to help fill out our committees and help do the work to make our chapter successful. So please consider joining a committee of your choice and give back a little to your profession. A little help goes a long way!



# The Bois d'Arc Post

The Official Newsletter of Dallas Chapter No. 5 of the Texas Society of Professional Surveyors

May 2019

## Items of Interest



### Workforce Program—Surveying Technician

By Chris Freeman, RPLS

Richland College, Garland Campus, is a community-based campus that specializes in Workforce Development and Training. All programs must lead to employment and be approved as a high-demand occupation by Texas Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas or Texas Workforce Commission in Austin. The training includes technical and work skills to prepare the young adults starting a new career and incumbent workers upgrade their skills to remain vital in the workplace. The majority of the training is paid for with grants, so there is no cost to the participants. There are some open enrollment classes that are available to the public at cost.

Each year the community campus at Richland College, part of the Dallas County Community College District, trains over 4,000 individuals that are entry level young adults (ages 18-24) and local workers.

Richland College attends several community events, listening to the needs of the local employers. The campus is always recruiting for new students and listening to employers who hire current students, creating programs that need assistance with the labor shortage. Every program or class offered through Richland is employer-driven. A meeting held at the Richardson Chamber of Commerce discussed the lack of skilled labor in demand occupations and how could this gap be filled, or what training opportunities could be offered to assist in filling the gap in labor.

At this meeting Celes Oppedahl, Dean of Workforce for Richland College, met and spoke to Philip Adams, President of Adams Surveying Company. The focus of the conversation was about finding the right individuals who want to work, and have an interest in this hands-on opportunity. Richland College has successful programs in construction and manufacturing industries, and Philip came to the college to speak to the group about the surveying industry and the need for skilled labor in that field.

In July of 2018, the Surveying occupation became an approved training program by Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas, which led to the creation of the program. The start of the process involved research, benchmarking, and speaking to several industry leaders. There was in-depth conversation on what would make a good hire for companies and the curriculum required for the students to be successful in learning the trade and sitting for the NSPS Certified Survey Technician Level 1 Certification Exam. To attract the young adults to a new program and remain current with technology, the FFA Drone Pilot curriculum was added.

The initial pilot class started December 2018 and completed April 2019. The certification exams are the next step in the program. This program was paid by the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA)





# The Bois d'Arc Post

The Official Newsletter of Dallas Chapter No. 5 of the Texas Society of Professional Surveyors

May 2019

Young Adult funding, to train individuals 18-24 in career opportunities. There were many lessons learned, one that it would be a stronger more effective training with actual equipment to use during the survey classes.

Students used AutoCad in the office area, utilizing old surveying drawings and material. The actual surveying class was all lecture, with limited ability to collect points and do surveying work. Since the program was new, and training paid by the grant, there was no current budget to purchase equipment. There was discussion in loaning equipment that never came to completion.

The current class has completed, and a new class is to start within a month. There has been approval to start a pre-apprenticeship program with the local Garland Career and Technical School, to start with summer interns and complete the training in two years to be a journeyman in surveying.

Due to the interest and need in surveying, individuals have requested open enrollment classes, and the college has \$500 in financial aid they can apply for the training.

The potential for a consortium of surveying companies could request a Skills Development Fund grant from Austin to train new hires and current workers in the field with advanced training in the Level II, Level III, or Level IV certifications. Drone and other technical training can also be added to benefit the industry.

Current teachers in the program teach the credit classes at a sister college, so the material taught in surveying will be reviewed for articulation, providing credit hours for students interested in pursuing a degree in Surveying.

Surveying is a new and exciting opportunity with several methods for training and providing opportunities to the DFW area for a future skilled workplace for Surveyors. Assistance with equipment that will provide a hands-on approach to training will enhance and elevate the program higher, with stronger results.

## **USED SURVEY EQUIPMENT NEEDED**

Do you have used but operable survey equipment sitting around? The start-up Work Force Training Program at Richland College, Garland Campus, is in dire need of equipment for students to utilize in their training/education to enter the surveying profession. Tripods, automatic levels, level rods, prism poles, chains/tapes, transit, total station, plumb bobs, etc., anything that will enable the students to incorporate field exercises with their classroom instruction will be welcome. If you have a donation, please contact Philip Adams (469-317-0250) or Chris Freeman (214-979-1144). If you have equipment



# The Bois d'Arc Post

The Official Newsletter of Dallas Chapter No. 5 of the Texas Society of Professional Surveyors

May 2019

that may need some minor repair or calibration, consider donating it and perhaps Chapter 5 can spend some monies to get the equipment operable. This is a great opportunity for our local Chapter, firms, and members to support and utilize to train entry level personnel.

## TSPS Supporter Education Donations

Chapter 5 got great news that Leica, through their local dealer and longtime TSPS supporter Geomatic Resources, will be making a substantial survey equipment donation to both the North Lake College Construction Technology department and also to the Richland College Work Force Program at the Garland campus. Both colleges are part of the Dallas County Community College District system. As an Adjunct Faculty at North Lake College (NLC) since 2005, I have taught several college level survey classes to hundreds of students, many of them employed at local survey and engineering firms across the Metroplex. The survey equipment consists of transits, automatic levels, low total stations, and assorted rods, tapes, chains, etc. The soon to be had donation appears to include very modern total station, data collector, and GPS receiver with accompanying software. This should be a great boost to the program and could lead to additional courses being offered.

Equally, another equipment donation is to be made by Leica to the upstart Work Force Program at Richland College-Garland campus. This program began this past winter following efforts from Chapter 5 member Philip Adams to initiate a program to train personnel that would enter as Entry Level employees at local survey/engineering firms. But instead of coming in cold, they would come with classroom instruction in basic survey calculations and procedures, First Aid/CPR/OSHA Training, CAD training, and even UAV training. Unfortunately, this first class was conducted without any survey equipment that should be used to teach simple level loop and traverse field procedures and calculations. This donation will go a long way to expose potential workers to better understand the classroom lessons by also learning everyday survey field data skills. I was fortunate to have the opportunity to be one of the classroom instructors, but I saw that without equipment the students would not fully benefit and understand the classroom lessons. I Can't tell you how many times I heard, "man, I wish we had some equipment to use".

Special recognition and thanks must go to Rodney Walsh and Jamie Gillis from Geomatic Resources, who assisted me in my search for equipment for both of the survey related programs. They alerted me to a Leica used equipment donation program for educational institutions. I provided the necessary information and documentation requested by those in charge of the program, and now we have been notified of an upcoming equipment donation.

I still would like our members to look at any equipment that could be donated to either program. It is a great PR opportunity for our members, their firms, and our TSPS Chapter, and more importantly, it is an



# The Bois d'Arc Post

The Official Newsletter of Dallas Chapter No. 5 of the Texas Society of Professional Surveyors

May 2019

effort that we must invest in if we are to cultivate more young adults to enter into our profession, that so desperately needs an influx of personnel.

*A special thanks to Chris Freeman of LTRA for providing this great information for our chapter and for all the things Chris helps out with. We need more folks like yourself, Chris!*

## TJC Surveying & Geomatics Camp Registration Now Open!

**From TSPS**

The Tyler Junior College Surveying and Geomatics 2019 Summer Camp's registration is now open. The camp is free of charge, available to high school students entering grades 10-12 and will be facilitated by the faculty of the Surveying and Geomatics Program of Tyler Junior College. This is a residential camp and attendees will be staying in the Ornelas Residential dorm. Meals and entertainment activities are included.

This camp will expose attendees to the following

- Computer Aided-Drafting & Design (CADD)
- Unmanned Aerial Mapping Systems (Drones)
- 3D Laser Scanning
- Global Positioning System (GPS)
- Robotic Total Stations
- Record Research performed by Land Surveyors
- Duties of the Land Surveyor
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- Career opportunities

For more information, contact Willace Johnson at [wjoh@tjc.du](mailto:wjoh@tjc.du) or [Register Today](#).



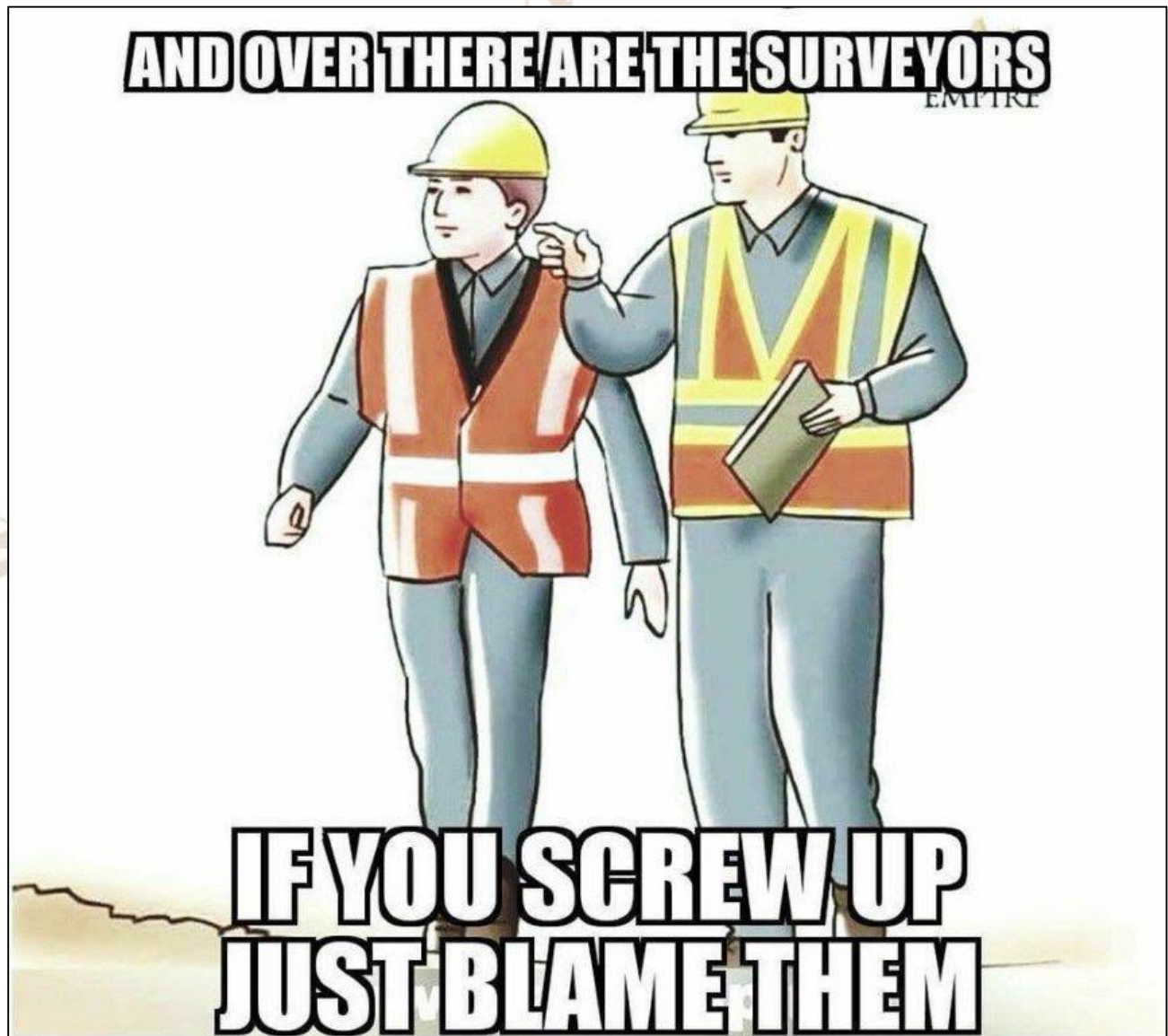


# The Bois d'Arc Post

The Official Newsletter of Dallas Chapter No. 5 of the Texas Society of Professional Surveyors

May 2019

Some Surveyor Humor...



Submitted by Chris Freeman - thanks Chris!



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## Upcoming Events

### State Level

#### Strategic Planning & Board of Directors Meeting

- 7/26/2019 and 7/27/2019; 10am
- Trisha Lund, RPLS will host the 2019 Strategic Planning meeting in Hunt, Texas on Friday, July 26th.
- Location:  
MO-RANCH  
2229 FM 1340  
Hunt, Texas 78024
- For more information contact DJ Kyle: [djkyle@tsps.org](mailto:djkyle@tsps.org) or 512-327-7871
- Register online at TSPS.org

#### 68<sup>th</sup> Annual TSPS Convention & Tech Expo

- 10/2/2019 – 10/5/2019
- Location:  
Horseshoe Bay Resort  
200 Hi Circle North  
Horseshoe Bay, Texas 78657
- **More Information to come!**
- For questions contact DJ Kyle: [djkyle@tsps.org](mailto:djkyle@tsps.org) or 512-327-7871

## Get in Print!

We need story ideas, photos, event details and anything else you think is worth letting our members and the community know about. We literally got no response to this request in our last newsletter so we are hoping some folks can step up and get involved. Contact Bill Swope with your contributions at: [billswope@atmlv.com](mailto:billswope@atmlv.com) or 469-416-6854.



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## Chapter 5 Events

### Chapter 5 Monthly Meetings\*

Chapter 5 Monthly Meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month, and the TBPLS rules now allow attendees to earn 1 CEU for attending meetings, maximum 4 per year. Meetings are held either at Maggiano's North Park Center, or at Willow Bend, notices will be sent out, but the approximate schedule is as follows:

- May 14<sup>th</sup> – Paul Knippel, City of Frisco, TX
- June 11<sup>th</sup>
- July 9<sup>th</sup>
- August 13<sup>th</sup>
- September 10<sup>th</sup>
- October (no meeting due to convention)
- November 12<sup>th</sup>
- December (no meeting, Holiday Celebration with Chapter 2)

\*Note: Dates are tentative. Speakers are to be determined.

The cost for monthly lunch meetings will be \$29.00 starting in January, 2019. The new cost includes a \$1 raffle ticket which proceeds benefit our John Pierce Scholarship Fund. You can purchase additional raffle tickets if you like.

### 2018 Chapter 5 Seminar

- October 25<sup>th</sup> 8am-5pm and October 26<sup>th</sup> 8am-12pm
- John P. Stahl, PLS will be on hand for this year's seminar with three full sessions over two days.
- Location:  
Collin College – McKinney Campus Conference Center  
2400 Community Avenue  
McKinney, TX 75071
- For more information please go to our chapter web-site for all the details, costs, and the registration form.
- <http://www.tspschapter5.com/chapter-news-and-events.html>



### Texas Young Surveyors [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

Anybody 35 years of age or younger in geospatial professions (Techs, Students, Rodmen, Instrument Men, GIS Pros, SIT's, RPLS's, etc.) are welcome to become a part of the Texas Young Surveyors (TYS) group. For information on the group and its activities you can contact DFW Coordinator Stuart Warnock at: [stuart@pioneermapping.com](mailto:stuart@pioneermapping.com).