

## **MALSCE News**

A monthly Massachusetts Association of Land Surveyors and Civil Engineers member newsletter.

January 2016

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### **Featured Article**

#### ***Common Research Mistakes Surveyors Make (Probate Records)***

by Knud E. Hermansen, PLS, PE, PhD, Esq.

In previous articles I have explained four of the five common mistakes made by surveyors in researching the records...In the final article, I will discuss probate records.

...Probate records will often contain maps of the decedent's property and descriptions of the property that are not found in the deeds. In some states, partition maps dividing up a decedent's property among the heirs or devisees are filed in the probate records and are found no where else.

[Read more...](#)

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## **MALSCE thanks its 2015-2016 Sustaining Members**

The MALSCE Board of Directors would like to thank the following companies for their support as 2015-2016 MALSCE Sustaining Members:

## **Submit Your Nomination for 2015 Surveyor of the Year**

The MALSCE Awards Committee invites MALSCE members to furnish the name of any fellow member they feel the committee should consider as a recipient of the 2015 MALSCE Surveyor of the Year Award. This annual award recognizes a professional land surveyor who has provided outstanding leadership for the profession. Current membership in MALSCE is also required to be recipient of this award. A list of past award recipients is posted on the [MALSCE website](#). Past Surveyor of the Year Award recipients are not eligible to win again.

The nominations submission deadline for the MALSCE Surveyor of Year Award is Monday, February 15, 2016. For more information and a copy of the award nomination form, [click here](#).

## **MALSCE Updates**

### **MALSCE 2016 Convention Update**

MALSCE is pleased to announce Donald A. Wilson, President, Land and Boundary Consultants, will be the featured presenter for the convention's Saturday business session during which he will present an all-day seminar entitled "Boundary Retracement Using Modern Tools."

While we wait for the soon-to-be-released MALSCE Convention brochure, you can learn more about the

Carlson Software  
Eastern Topographics  
Eljen Corporation  
Keystone Precision Instruments  
Maine Technical Source  
Spiller's

For more information about these companies, visit MALSCE's [homepage](#) where you will find their logos prominently displayed. Clicking on a Sustaining Member logo will redirect you to that company's website.

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## Register today for these Upcoming MALSCE Events

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### Survey Mathematics for Survey Technicians

**Friday, February 19, 2016**  
Clark University, Metrowest Campus, 333 Tumpike Road, Southborough, MA  
**8:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

\$200 Members, \$250 Non-Members

**Featuring:**

Joseph M. McNichols, PLS,  
McNichols Surveying

This day-long seminar will cover surveying mathematics and adjustments capable of being solved using a hand calculator. It is intended to be presented as a preparation for the PS examination in April 2016. Those planning to sit for the exam, as well as individuals who would like to refresh or improve upon their current knowledge of survey mathematics, are encouraged to attend this seminar.

For more information, [click here](#).

**Registration Deadline:**  
**February 8, 2016**

[Register Now](#)

### Spring 2016 PLS & SIT Refresher Courses

**Friday, March 19, 2016**  
Hotel 1620 at Plymouth Harbor

Convention's featured sessions and activities and how you can register now for the convention by clicking on the "read more" button below.

[Read more...](#)

## Book your overnight rooms for the 2016 MALSCE Convention

Until Friday, February 18, 2016, a block of overnight rooms for 2016 MALSCE Convention exhibitors and attendees has been reserved at the Hotel 1620 for the nights of Thursday and Friday, March 17 and 18. To reserve your overnight room call the hotel at 508/747-4900 and ask for reservations. When booking your room through the reservation department be sure to mention that you are attending the Massachusetts Association of Land Surveyors and Civil Engineers 2016 Convention in order to receive the discounted MALSCE overnight room rate of \$109 per night plus tax (single or double occupancy).

While waiting for the soon-to-be-released convention brochure, you can learn more about the convention's featured sessions and activities, as well as more details about reserving a room, [click here](#).

All overnight room reservations must be guaranteed by a major credit card or check for the first night's accommodation. Cancellations within seventy-two hours of your reservation, or arrival on a date later than originally specified, will be charged a cancellation fee equal to one night's room rate, per room.

Don't miss this chance to stay in historic Plymouth, MA while attending the 2016 MALSCE Convention.

## 2016 MALSCE Plan Contest - Enter Today!

The MALSCE Convention Committee invites you to enter the 2016 Plan Contest! Award-winning plans will be displayed at the 2016 MALSCE Convention and noted in the MALSCE member newsletter, MALSCE News. First place winners in each category will compete in the Plan of the Year competition, held during the convention. All awards will be presented at the Awards Luncheon on Saturday, March 19, 2016.

### Plan Contest Rules:

- Each entry must be accompanied by an entry form and fee.
- Plans must be one sheet. (no multiple sheets or sets).
- No plans will be accepted after the deadline of March 4, 2016.
- Must be a plan of land in Massachusetts,

180 Water St, Plymouth, MA 02360  
**Registration: 7:45 AM**  
**Program: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

\$260 Members, \$310 Non-Members

The two-day 2016 MALSCE Convention offers day-long review courses for Surveyor in Training and Professional Land Surveyor candidates who will be taking the Fundamentals of Surveying Exam or the Professional Land Surveyor Exam in Spring 2016. For those who are interested, there will be a Friday-only Convention registration option so you can plan to attend both days.

For more information, [click here](#).

**Registration Deadline:**  
**March 11, 2016**

[Register Now](#)

## 2016 MALSCE Convention

**Friday & Saturday**  
**March 18-19, 2016**

Hotel 1620 at Plymouth Harbor  
180 Water St, Plymouth, MA 02360

**Saturday Lecturer:**  
**Donald A. Wilson, PLS**  
**Boundary Retracement Using Modern Tools**

**Registration Fees:**  
Full Conference:  
\$300 Members, \$375 Non-Members  
Friday Only:  
\$200 Members, \$250 Non-Members  
Saturday Only:  
\$200 Members, \$250 Non-Members

For more program details about the 2016 MALSCE convention, [click here](#).

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## Affiliate Programs

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## Engineers and Land Surveyors Day at the State House

Tuesday May 10, 2016

dated between March 2014 and February 2016.

- Entries can be PDFs or hard copies of the drawings.
- One plan, per drafter, per category. Firms are allowed to enter plans in the same category by different drafters.
- Color submittal is allowed for non-registry plans.
- All entries will become the property of MALSCE.

Download an [entry form](#) to read the full contest rules and submission instructions.

## MALSCE Convention Sponsorship, Advertising & Exhibiting Opportunities

As is customary at the MALSCE convention, organizations are invited to participate as an exhibitor, advertiser, and/or sponsor. Interested parties should feel free to choose or combine the options that best fit their needs to maximize their exposure.

### Convention Exhibit

Exhibitors are given the opportunity to meet and interact with the convention attendees on a face-to-face basis. As an exhibitor, you're entitled to an exhibit area on the floor of the Grand Ballroom. Attendees will frequent the area between presentations and during breaks, giving vendors plenty of face-time to make connections and spread the word.

### Convention Booklet Advertising

Booklets including convention details and session handouts will be printed prior to the convention. All exhibiting organizations will be listed in the book. For an additional fee, exhibitors can enhance their exposure by purchasing advertising within the book. Advertisements must be submitted as black and white high resolution JPEG, TIFF or PDF files and received by February 26, 2016. All convention attendees will be given a booklet.

### Sponsorship

Those purchasing a half page or full page ad in the convention booklet will be listed as Convention Sponsors and will have their organization names posted on signs at the convention. In addition, we are looking for meal sponsors.

For pricing, and other details, follow the "Read more..." button.

[Read more...](#)

Meeting at the Aldrich Center at  
The Engineering Center  
One Walnut Street, Boston, MA

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## Help Wanted:

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**Hill-Engineers, Architects, Planners, Inc.** is seeking a registered land surveyor, experienced with property line retracement, division of land, and construction surveying, with capabilities in boundary research, computations, and AutoCAD drafting. The position involves managing survey projects, including marketing for new projects along with overseeing and completing current projects. We are looking for a client-focused professional, possessing an entrepreneurial spirit to help grow our business. The successful candidate will be an open-minded team player with strong communication skills.

Hill has provided a resource of consulting services to business and industry since 1949. The company has grown successfully, from a single person company to a corporation of 40 professionals. Hill is located in Dalton, MA in the heart of the scenic Berkshire Hills of western Massachusetts, renowned for world class cultural, environmental, and recreational activities. Our classic New England towns offer safe, affordable living with excellent school systems and educational opportunities. Hill offers a work environment that encourages inventiveness, resourcefulness, and continuous professional development. Become part of the largest A/E firm located in the beautiful Berkshires with over 60 years of experience in engineering, architecture and land surveying.

Check us out  
at [www.hillengineers.com](http://www.hillengineers.com). Send  
resumes to [dharris@hillengineers.com](mailto:dharris@hillengineers.com).

## Ryan Biggs | Clark Davis Engineering & Surveying, P.C.

Capital Region based Ryan Biggs |  
Clark Davis Engineering &  
Surveying, P.C. currently has an

## MALSCE Proprietors' Council Members Gather for January 22nd Luncheon

On Friday, January 22nd MALSCE Proprietors' Council members held their third luncheon meeting of the current fiscal year at the **Aldrich Center**, which is located at The Engineering Center in Boston. Proprietors' Council Chair **Michael A. Feldman**, Feldman Land Surveyors, presided over this luncheon meeting which featured a discussion of the planned sessions for the 2016 MALSCE Convention, which council members are working to support by sending staff members and helping to recruit convention sponsors and advertisers. The luncheon also featured discussions about the SBA 504 Loan Process and prevailing sick and vacation time policies and a presentation entitled "When a Survey Firm Becomes the Client - Buying and Redeveloping a Building in Boston" during which Michael Feldman shared the experience of acquiring a new company headquarters.

With member benefits that extend beyond the current fiscal year there is still time to join the MALSCE Proprietors' Council. To learn about all Proprietors' Council member benefits and to join the council, [click here](#).

## MALSCE Professional Development Committee needs your help

The MALSCE Professional Development Committee seeks to identify, develop and provide educational programs that are intended to address the professional development needs of MALSCE members. Recent and upcoming PD Committee-sponsored programs include How to Fix a Boundary Line and How NOT to, Massachusetts' New 250 CMR, Professional Land Surveyor and Surveyor-in-Training Refresher Courses, Legal Perspectives on Land Surveying Issues VII, and 2016 ALTA Standards. The PD Committee, which is comprised of MALSCE member volunteers who take turns at managing the various committee-sponsored seminars, is looking for new members. If you are a MALSCE member and would like to serve on this essential MALSCE committee contact [MALSCE Past-President Rich Gosselin](#).

[Read more...](#)

**Surveying News**

opening for a Licensed Land Surveyor. Must have experience in the field as a Part Chief and supervision of survey crews, production of maps using both AutoCAD and MicroStation software, and communications with clients and preparation of contracts.

Excellent benefits. Salary commensurate with experience. Send resume and cover letter to Everett Quackenbush, Jr., PLS - [equackenbush@ryanbiggs.com](mailto:equackenbush@ryanbiggs.com).

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*For a limited period of time, including a help-wanted advertisement in MALSCE News is being offered as a free MALSCE member benefit. If your company has a job opening that it would like to promote, please forward a brief job description (i.e., less than 200 words), which can include a hyperlink to a more detailed job overview/application process, to Will Ognibene at [wognibene@engineers.org](mailto:wognibene@engineers.org).*

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## 2016 ALTA/NSPS Standards - effective February 23, 2016

For more information, please see the [NSPS web site link](#) on the new standard.

The Survey will be known as an ALTA/NSPS LAND TITLE SURVEY. The title has been revised to reflect the name: National Society of Professional Surveyors (NSPS), which is the legal successor organization to the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping (ACSM). All references to ALTA/ACSM Land Title Surveys must be changed to ALTA/NSPS Land Title Surveys.

[Read more...](#)

### MALSCE Sustaining Members

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MALSCE News is a monthly publication of the Massachusetts Association of Land Surveyors and Civil Engineers that is produced by William Ognibene, Abbie Goodman, and Richard Keenan with thanks to MALSCE President Sean Ewald and Knud Hermansen. This newsletter highlights the program and activities of MALSCE and reports on national and local matters of interest to land surveyors and civil engineers. While we cannot promise to print all news items that we receive, if you have one to share with your fellow MALSCE members please forward it to Rich Keenan at [keenan@engineers.org](mailto:keenan@engineers.org).

→ Contribute News

**Questions or comments?**

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