



# **RHODE ISLAND SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS**

Presents

## **53rd Annual Meeting & Conference**

**&**

## **The New England Surveying Societies (NESS)**

### **Friday - November 10, 2023**



801 Greenwich Avenue

Warwick, RI 02886

# RHODE ISLAND SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS

## 53rd Annual Meeting and Conference

Friday - November 10, 2023

CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL

Warwick, Rhode Island

## Schedule of Events

7:30 AM	Registration Opens with Continental Breakfast	
8:00 - 4:45	Exhibits Open	
8:00 - 11:30	<b><u>Seminar I</u></b> *Narragansett/Ocean Room	<b>Jan Van Sickle</b> <b>Geodesist &amp; Principal Scientist R&amp;D at Maxar</b> <i>Presentation:</i> Best Practices for GPS/GNSS Coordinates and Reference Frames (Part 1)
9:45 - 10:00	<b>Break</b>	
11:30 - 2:00	Exhibits / Free Time / Plan Contest Voting	
12:00 - 2:00	Lunch Buffet- 50/50 Raffle-Membership Meeting-Induction of Officers-Awards	
2:00 - 4:45	<b><u>Seminar I</u></b> *Narragansett/Ocean Room	<b>Jan Van Sickle</b> <b>Geodesist &amp; Principal Scientist R&amp;D at</b> <i>Presentation:</i> Coordinates and Reference Frames (Part 2) Surveyors and GIS
3:00 - 3:30	<b>Break</b>	
3:30 - 4:45	<b>NESS Meeting</b>	<i>Anyone is welcome to attend the NESS Meeting</i>
4:45 - 5:15	Door Prizes / Certificates	
5:00 - 7:00	Cocktail Reception w/Hors d'oeuvres & <b>Scholarship Auction</b>	

*Event Schedule subject to change. Final Schedule will be posted in Event Program on 11/10/23*

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**Warwick, Rhode Island**

**Jan Van Sickle**

**Geodesist & Principal Scientist R&D at Maxar**

## **Biography:**

Jan Van Sickle is currently a Geodesist and Principal Scientist R&D at Maxar (formerly Digital Globe). He has many years of experience in GIS, GNSS, surveying and mapping. He began working with GPS in the early 1980s when he supervised control work using the Macrometer, the first commercial GPS receiver. He created and led the GIS department at Qwest Communications for the company's 25,000-mile worldwide fiber optic network. He also led the team that built the GIS for natural gas gathering in the Barnett Shale. He assisted the supervision of the first GPS control survey of the Grand Canyon. He led the team that collected, processed and reported ground control positions for more than 120 cities around the world for the ortho-rectification of satellite imagery now utilized in a global web utility. He managed control for the BIM of the White House and the creation of the worldwide T&E sites for two major earth observation satellites (Geoeye I and Geoeye II). He conducted a spatial accuracy comparison study for Maxar in Durban, South Africa, Seoul, South Korea and Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. He has provided technical assistance in the reconstruction of the geodetic network of Nigeria. He has managed the gravity/magnetic and hyperspectral/multispectral analysis of Borzon VII a concession block in the South Gobi in Mongolia. He created an imagery-based system of deriving road centerlines that meet the stringent Advanced Driver Assistance specifications and developed a method of forest inventory to help quantify that depleted resource in Armenia. He has led nationwide seminars based on his three books, GPS and GNSS for Land Surveyors, Basic GIS Coordinates and Surveying Solved Problems. He has been a featured speaker at many conferences including GITA conference and the Institute of Navigation (ION) Annual Meeting. He delivered the keynotes at the 2010 ESRI UC in Imagery and Remote Sensing, the 2021 URISA/NSPS keynote and the 50th Texas Society of Professional Surveyors Conference. He was a Senior Lecturer at Penn State University.

Jan earned his Ph.D. in geospatial engineering from the University of Colorado. He is a ASPRS Certified Photogrammetrist and Lidar Mapping Scientist.

Jan is a licensed professional Land Surveyor in Colorado, California, Oregon, Texas, North Dakota, and West Virginia. Website [www.janvansickle.com](http://www.janvansickle.com)

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Jan Van Sickle

## Geodesist & Principal Scientist R&D at Maxar

### AM Seminars

8 am – 9:45 am - Best Practices for GPS/GNSS

Global Positioning System (GPS) is now a part of a growing international context—the Global Navigation Satellite System, GNSS. One definition of GNSS embraces any constellation of satellites providing signals from space that facilitate Positioning, Navigation, and Timing (PNT) on a global scale. Current use of the term typically includes global systems such as the Russian Federation’s GLONASS, the Galileo system administered by the European Union (EU), the Chinese Beidou Navigation Satellite System (BDS). It can also include regional systems such as the Indian NavIC System and the Japanese Quasi-Zenith Satellite System (QZSS). In a sense GNSS surveying is GPS surveying because the measurement principles, procedures, and applications originally developed for GPS surveying apply. That is not to say that they remain unchanged. Developments in GNSS hardware, software, and procedures are accelerating. Keeping up is a real challenge. The extraordinary range of GNSS equipment and software requires the user to be familiar with an ever-expanding body of knowledge. My hope in offering this seminar is to contribute some small assistance in that process.

10 am – 11:30 am - Coordinates and Reference Frames (Part 1)

Coordinates? Press a few buttons on a computer and they are automatically imported, exported, rotated, translated, collated, annotated and served up in any format you choose with no trouble at all. There really is nothing to it. Why have a seminar about coordinates? It’s a good question really. Computers are astounding in their ability to make the mathematics behind coordinate manipulation transparent to the user. This seminar is not much about that sort of mathematics. But it is about coordinates and coordinate systems. It is about understanding how these systems work, and how they sometimes don’t work. It is about how points that should be in Rhode Island end up in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean even if the computer has done nothing wrong. And that is, I suppose, the answer to the question from my point of view. Computers are currently very good at repetition and very bad at interpretation. People are usually not so good at repetition. We tend to get bored. But we can be very good indeed at interpretation, that is if we have the information in our heads to understand what we are interpreting. This seminar is about providing some of that sort of information on the subject of coordinates and coordinate systems.

### PM Seminars

2 pm – 3 pm - Coordinates and Reference Frames (Part 2)

3:30 pm – 4:45 pm – Surveyors and GIS

Our software, our tools even the scope of our work is expanding fast. Dynamic reference frames and epochs, DevOps, SLAM, UAS data, Mobile Mapping, NATRF, just to mention a few. We can contribute to all of them, but as the Red Queen said in Alice in Wonderland, “. . . it takes all the running you can do, to keep in the same place.” So, let’s help each other do that because we are in this together.



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CROWNE PLAZA, Warwick, RI



#### Registration Information:

- Please Note the for this years convention IN PERSON at the CROWNE PLAZA
- A luncheon buffet will be served w/ awards, 50/50 raffle etc. and there will be no evening banquet.
- A Continental Breakfast, Lunch, am & pm snack breaks are included in your Full Day Registration
- Limited seating for Seminar. You must register to attend, no walk ins.
- Registration **Deadline is November 3,2023 Late Fee of \$10** will be added if received after 11/03/23
- Active Members of CALS, MALSCE, MSLS, NHLA, NYSAPLS, and VSLS can attend for the RISPLS Member rate—Check appropriate box on next page registration.
- Make reservations early to eliminate late fee, reserve seating and to be able to pick up your attendance certificate at the end of the meeting.
- Be sure to stay after picking up your certificates as we will be holding the annual Scholarship Auction w/ cocktails & hor d'oeuvres immediately following.
- All Reservations are non refundable and non-transferable.
- **CHECK OR CREDIT CARD NOW ACCEPTED** (CC payments a 3.5% transaction fee will be added to your total)
- Please make checks payable to **RISPLS** and mail with completed Registration Form to:

**RI Society of Professional Land Surveyors (RISPLS)**

**410 Tiogue Avenue, Coventry, RI 02816**

Email any questions contact Sherri at the RISPLS office 401-294-1262 or rispls@hotmail.com

- **All Donations are welcome for our Annual Scholarship Auction** that will be held during the Cocktail Hour

Each year a benefit auction is held to raise funds for scholarships to students enrolled in approved surveying and engineering programs. Items are donated by members, friends, exhibitors, suppliers and others in the surveying community. We welcome all items, both new and used. Past items have included surveying software, books, maps instruments, gift baskets, boat trips, gift cards, wine, handmade items and more. If you or your company would like to donate, please bring the item(s) the day of the convention.



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**Registration Information:**

Name:		
Name on your identification badge to appear as:		
Company (will appear on Badge)		
Street Address		
City	State	Zip Code
Phone Number		
Email Address		

**Full Day Registration Seminar (Access to ALL & includes lunch & breaks)**

Members: \$285.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Members: \$300.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**Luncheon & Award Ceremony Only** \$ 160.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Members: \$175.00 \_\_\_\_\_ (11:30-2pm)

**Exhibit Hall Only (no lunch):** Members:\$75.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Members:\$100.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Students FREE \_\_\_\_\_ Students with an ID can attend Seminar & Exhibits FREE! **(Must RSVP Below)**

- Active Members of CALS, MALSC, MSLS, NHLA, NYSAPLS, and VSL can attend for the RISPLS Member rate

**Attending / Sponsorships / Payment**

**Seminar I** AM & PM  Jan Van Sickle (all day) **(7 PDH)**  
**Geodesist & Principal Scientist R&D at Maxar**  
 Best Practices for GPS/GNSS

**SPONSORSHIPS**

**SPONSOR A STUDENT :** STUDENT LUNCH \$100.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**SPONSORSHIP FOR CONFERENCE BREAKOUTS:** \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Enclosed** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ *\*Late Fee of \$10, if received after November 3, 2023*

All Reservations are non refundable and non-transferable. Please make checks payable to RISPLS and mail with completed reservation form to:

**RISPLS, 410 Tiogue Ave, Coventry, RI 02816 / Email Questions to Sherri at: rispls@hotmail.com**

OR pay with (check one)  VISA  MASTER CARD (\$3.5% transaction fee will be added)

NAME ON CARD: \_\_\_\_\_ (3 digit on back of card)

CARD NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ EXP DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

BILLING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_



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### **SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE:**

**RISPLS** has sponsorships available for the conference  
Breakfast, Lunch, Breakouts, Gifts and Student Lunch.

**Please reserve your Personal or Company Sponsorship today!!**

Friday Continental Breakfast	\$100.00
Friday Morning Break	\$100.00
Friday Luncheon	\$200.00
Friday Afternoon Break	\$100.00
Give Away Gifts to all Attendees	\$150.00
Friday Evening Hors d'oeuvres	\$250.00
SPONSOR A STUDENT LUNCH	\$100.00

If you or your company are interested in a sponsorship, please indicate on the Registration page and include with your payment.

Sponsorships will be recognized in the Convention Program and on display during the day.

RISPLS appreciates your sponsorship contributions to help make our Convention a success!!  
Thank you !

**\*\*Donations any size are always accepted for our Annual Scholarship Auction \*\***



# 2023 RISPLS PLAN CONTEST

## CONTEST RULES

1. Must be a plan of RI, dated between November 2022 and November 2023.
2. Entries must be un-mounted blue or black line prints.
3. Plans must be 1 sheet (no multiple sheets or sets)
4. Each entry must be accompanied by an entry form.
5. No plans will be accepted after the submission deadline (10:00 am November 10, 2023)
6. Check Awards will be mailed.
7. All decisions are final. Award-winning entries and the results will be displayed at the Convention.
8. All entries will become the property of RISPLS, Inc., and will be disposed of after award presentation.

### Awards

Awards will be presented to the first place winners and announced for the second and third place winners in each category.

First Place-----\$100.

Second Place-----\$ 50.

Third Place -----\$ 25.

### Judging

All entries will be checked for compliance with the Procedural and Technical Standards for the Practice of Land Surveying in the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations as adopted by the Board of Registration. No plan will be judged if it does not comply with said Standards.

The plan shall be judged and voted on the following:

- Overall appearance, neatness, balance and consistency.
- Lettering - clear and unmistakable.
- Completeness (deed reference, plan references, areas, old property lines, monuments, etc)
- Qualifying notes or statements (clearly and unmistakably stated)  
Signatures and seals.

### Plan Categories

Plan Categories (Property Line, Subdivision, Site Plan) will be judged using either mechanical or freehand methods.

## Entry Form (please print)

Title of Plan:	Category:
Name of Preparer:	Company Name:
Company Address	Company Phone#

Please submit plan to: RISPLS , 410 TIOGUE AVE, Coventry RI 02816 by 11/3/23

Or bring with you to the Convention 11/10/23



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**CROWNE PLAZA**

**801 Greenwich Ave, Warwick RI 02886**

**Telephone: 401-732-6000**

**Check out their website at [CROWNEPLAZA.COM](http://CROWNEPLAZA.COM)**

If you plan on staying overnight, please make your reservations early and mention that you are attending the RI Society of Professional Land Surveyors Event on 11/10/23 to be put on the proper group block of rooms.

The rate for one night is \$139.00 per night.

All guests will receive complimentary Wireless Internet access in their guestroom as well as in the Main Lobby and Alfred's Lounge.

The CROWNE PLAZA has free on-site parking for conference attendees.

**Check In 3PM Check Out 11AM**

The Crowne Plaza holds several events, if overnight rooms are no longer available at the Crowne Plaza, they may be able to make accommodations at their sister property Holiday Inn Express .

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**THE PIERRE H GUILLEMETTE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**

The RISPLS is pleased to offer a scholarship for the 2023-2024 academic year to a deserving student of Land Surveying.

The Pierre H. Guillemette Scholarship is an annual award which is available to any Rhode Island resident who is enrolled in a course of study leading to a certificate program or degree in land surveying offered by a qualified institution of higher learning.

Applicants must submit a statement outlining their qualifications and future career goals, together with their educational transcripts, a resume and any other pertinent information that may assist the review committee in the recognition of their achievements. Depending on the merits of the various applicants, the Scholarship Committee may recommend award of either all or a portion of the scholarship to one or more qualified individuals.

Payment of your award will be made directly to you in one installment after we receive documentation that you have attended a post secondary school or technical program.

To receive your awarded funds, please send a copy of your grades for the prior semester to the RISPLS office address above. The applicant must submit a new application for each new academic year to be considered for the award of the scholarship. The scholarship award marks a continuing commitment by RISPLS toward the advancement of surveying education.

**THE PIERRE H GUILLEMETTE SCHOLARSHIP  
AWARD APPLICATION**

NAME:			
ADDRESS:			
TELEPHONE:		EMAIL:	
EMPLOYER:			
ADDRESS:			
TELEPHONE:		EMAIL:	
EDUCATION			
HIGH SCHOOL:			
COLLEGE:		OTHER:	
SURVEYING BACKGROUND:			

ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER, PLEASE EXPLAIN WHAT HAS PROMPTED YOU TO PURSUE A LAND SURVEYING CAREER AND PROVIDE SUCH INFORMATION AS YOU FEEL SUPPORTS YOUR APPLICATION.

PLEASE MAIL TO RISPLS, 410 TIOGUE AVENUE, COVENTRY, RI 02816

**\*\*\* DEADLINE: October 30, 2023 \*\*\***

**NEW ENGLAND SURVEYING SOCIETIES**  
**Hosting Schedule**



**2023 RISPLS**

**rispls.com**



**2025 NHLSA**

**nhlsa.org**



**2027 NYSAPLS**

**nysapls.org**



**2029 VSLs**

**vsls.org**



**2031 CALs**

**ctsurveyors.org**



**2033 MALSCE**

**malsce.org**



**2035 MSLS**

**msls.org**



**RI Society of Professional Land Surveyors**  
410 Tiogue Avenue  
Coventry, RI 02816

Please be reminded, when you are considering the purchase of services and equipment, these companies are RISPLS Members and support the aims and objectives of the society.

## PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

### **BLUESKY GEOSPATIAL**

*Aerial Photography, Digital Mapping, Orthophotos*  
808 State Road,  
North Adams, MA 01247  
800/359/8676  
Web Page [www.bluesky-world.us](http://www.bluesky-world.us)

### **CARLSON SOFTWARE**

33 East 2nd Street  
Maysville, KY 41056  
617/852/0246  
tcarlson@carlson.com

### **MAINE TECHNICAL SOURCE**

*Surveying Instruments & Supplies*  
110 Winn Street  
Woburn, MA 01801  
TEL:800/322/1599

### **CADNET SERVICES LLP**

100 Carl Drive, ste 12  
Manchester NH 03103  
603/296/2376  
rladd@cadnetservices.com

### **KEYSTONE PRECISION INSTRUMENTS**

1670 East Race Street  
Allentown, PA 18109  
TEL:888/443/9840  
Web Page [www.keypre.com](http://www.keypre.com)

### **Topcon Solutions Store**

288 Murphy Rd  
Hartford CT 06114  
503-231-1576