



## What Has MSS Done for You Lately?

*Here are just a few highlights of accomplishments and activities of the Maryland Society of Surveyors in the past year.*

- **Won enactment of a "Reasonable Access" bill in the Maryland State Legislature, winning unanimous passage in the State Senate and State House, as well as signature into law by Governor Moore, providing surveyors and their crews an exemption from civil and criminal trespass laws.**
- Hosted a record setting dinner, honoring Jim Demma, to raise more than \$10,000 for the MSS Political Action Committee to support efforts to pass legislation that benefits the profession of surveying and protecting the public health, safety, and welfare
- Hosted a successful annual conference at the Princess Royale Hotel in Ocean City in October 2023 providing more than 50 hours of continuing education for CPC credit
- Began planning the 2024 annual conference to be held at the Ashore Hotel in Ocean City on October 16-19, 2024
- Hosted a hybrid 2024 Spring Technical Conference with virtual and in-person continuing education sessions, providing an opportunity for members to earn 12 CPC credits
- Continued to make available for purchase three (3) books published by MSS – *Law of Land Boundaries* (2018 Supplement) by James Demma, *Institutes of Boundary Retracement* by Joel Leininger, and *Statutory Laws of Maryland Relating to Land Surveyor* by James Demma
- Provided on-demand Continuing Professional Competency (CPC) education through an archive of sessions offered at recent virtual MSS conferences
- Provided education scholarships for future surveyors through the MSS Educational Trust
- Assisted future surveyors with licensing examination preparation and mentoring
- Worked with the Maryland Geological Survey and other partners on an inventory and preservation of Mason-Dixon boundary stones
- Worked with the Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC) to improve its surveying program, including implementation of on-line delivery options and a Soil Erosion and Sediment Control class to prepare students for licensure as professional land surveyors
- Represented the interests of surveyors before the Maryland State Geographic Information Committee (MSGIC) and coordinated on activities, legislation, and policy issues
- Helped inform the Maryland GIS community of surveying issues at the TUGis conference
- Published editions of *The Maryland Surveyor*, the MSS e-newsletter, to keep members informed of news affecting the practice of surveying
- As a Sustaining Member state society of NSPS, members of MSS get full benefits of individual and organizational membership in the national society, including an effective government affairs program that pro-actively represents surveyors in Congress and federal agencies, funding the USGS 3DEP national LiDAR program, and fully funding the NOAA Digital Coast program, advocacy on workforce development, preservation of professional licensing, and improvement in the maintenance and re-establishment of boundary survey monuments impacted by hurricanes, wildfires, tornadoes, and other emergency events
- Hosted a CST Exam Prep class and administered the CST Exam
- Began implementation of a Youth Initiative to attract young Marylanders into a career in surveying
- Promoted a career in surveying at elementary and high school career days and educated school counselors on the opportunities in a career in surveying in an exhibit hall booth at the Maryland School Counselors Association conference