



AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15

8:00AM.....	MSS Off-Site Event - Golf
3:00PM - 6:00PM.....	Conference Check-In
3:00PM - 5:00PM.....	MSS Board of Directors Meeting
4:00PM - 6:00 PM.....	Raffle Setup (Item Drop-Off)
5:00PM - 6:30PM.....	Early Exhibitor Setup
5:00PM - 7:00PM.....	President's Appreciation Dinner (By Invitation Only)
7:00PM - 9:00PM.....	Welcome Reception

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16

6:00AM.....	Conference Check-In Open
6:00AM - 7:00AM.....	Exhibitor Setup
7:00AM - 8:00AM.....	Breakfast
8:00AM - 10:00AM.....	General Session

• Three Surveyors, Three Attorneys, and Only Three People

- **Panelists:** James Demma, Esq., Miles & Stockbridge; John Dowling, Azimuth & Rood; Kevin Norris, Kevin Norris Law
- **Description:** The session will cover a range of topics that have been decided in advance by those in attendance, ensuring that the content is tailored to the interests and needs of the those in attendance. Participants will have the opportunity to engage with the speakers, ask questions, and discuss real-world scenarios, making this an interactive and informative experience.
 - When registering for this session, if you have a question for the panel, please send an email to Khea@marylandsurveyor.org
- *This session qualifies to meet the requirements of COMAR 09.13.08.03(B) for ethics, law and standards of practice.*
- **Credits:** 2 CPC/PDH

10:00AM - 12:00PM.....	General Session
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• Licensing Board Town Hall

- **Speaker:** TJ Frazier, Chair, Maryland Board for Professional Land Surveyors
- **Description:** This session features a public meeting of the state licensing board for surveying. It will include a report on current and recent board activities, including revisions to the COMAR impacting the profession. It will provide an overview of issues being addressed by the board, and answers to your questions on CPC requirements or other regulations, what happens when a complaint is filed, and recognition of newly licensed surveyors in Maryland.
- *This session qualifies to meet the requirements of COMAR 09.13.08.03(B) for ethics, law and standards of practice.*
- **Credits:** 2 CPC/PDH

12:00PM - 1:00PM.....	Lunch, Installation of MSS Officers, & Awards
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1:00PM - 5:00PM.....	Session
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• Fundamentals of Surveying Preparation - Part 1

- **Speakers:** Dave Comer and Sam Sandler, Icivil; Nick Wheeler, GPI; Dave Moyle, JMT; Nick Alexander, Wallace Montgomery
- **Description:** This 2 Day class will cover different areas of knowledge needed to help prepare for the Fundamentals of Surveying (FS) Exam. Areas of focus will be the following: Calculator basics, Surveying processes and methods, Mapping processes and methods, Boundary law and real property principles, Surveying principles, Survey Computations, Business concepts, and Applied Mathematics. You will need for the class a NCEES approved calculator, paper and pencils, and a thumb drive.
- **NOTE: No credit awarded. This is intended for unlicensed personnel.**

1:00PM - 3:00PM.....Concurrent Sessions
• How the Counties got their Boundaries

- **Speaker:** Patrick Simon, Retired
- **Description:** Maryland's county boundaries have been shaped by centuries of political decisions, geographic considerations, and historical events. This session delves into the origins and evolution of Maryland's county lines, exploring how colonial charters, wars in England and locally with Puritans and Virginians influenced their establishment. Participants will examine maps, legal documents, and key moments that led to the formation of the state's 23 counties and Baltimore City. We will also discuss boundary disputes, changes over time, and the impact of these divisions on governance and local communities. This session offers a fascinating look at the forces that defined the Old Line State's County borders.
- **Credits:** 2 CPC/PDH

• Session TBD

- **Speaker:** TBD
- **Description:** TBD
- **Credits:** 2 CPC/PDH

• The Importance of a Good Deed Composite

- **Speaker:** Jeff Elkins, VanMar Associates
- **Description:** Boundary Surveys can be extremely difficult to estimate the time and cost of what it will take to complete the tasks requested and required to perform them correctly. Site conditions, accessibility, required equipment and supplies, personnel and scheduling, are only some of the factors involved; and does the client want or need a Plat of Survey to go with the completed field product? In weighing the factors involved with a Boundary Survey, it is common sense and good practice to include the preparation of a Deed Composite. The Deed Composite is not only the result of the Land Records research, it becomes an extremely valuable tool to assist the field crew in searching for property evidence calls; helping determine senior/junior rights; assisting in determining best evidence calls and line calls; observing dates of surveys and descriptions; and if done properly, can even assist the surveyor in determining the boundary and in writing the legal metes and bounds description. A good Deed Composite can save the surveyor time and cost in their survey from having to constantly read over the deeds and plats again and again and be used as a valuable tool to assist in completing each component of their survey.
- **Credits:** 2 CPC/PDH

3:00PM - 5:00PM.....Concurrent Sessions
• Aerial Mapping for Small Firms

- **Speaker:** James Shaw, JMT
- **Description:** Drone-based LiDAR and photogrammetry can dramatically accelerate your fieldwork, cut labor costs, improve accuracy, and reduce liability - giving small surveying firms the same competitive edge as larger ones. While many big firms have already adopted this tech, many small teams are still leaving money on the table. In this session, we'll break down the ROI, FAA regulations, required skills, software options, and real-world use cases. You'll leave with a clear roadmap for integrating drone mapping into your business profitably and sustainably. If you're ready to scale your profits without scaling your crew, this session is built for you.
- **Credits:** 2 CPC/PDH

• ALTA Surveys for Lease Parcels

- **Speaker:** Bryan Haynie, Century Engineering, Inc.
- **Description:** In this session we will review the minimum standards for ALTA Surveys, discuss the difference between an ALTA for an entire property vs. an ALTA for a lease area and additional survey items that your client may need in addition to the ALTA Survey.
- *This session qualifies to meet the requirements of COMAR 09.13.08.03(B) for ethics, law and standards of practice.*
- **Credits:** 2 CPC/PDH

• I-95 VA, 144mi Corridor Boundary Survey

- **Speakers:** Sam Dougherty and Mark Lawson, AECOM
- **Description:** AECOM's Sam Dougherty, Prof. L.S. and Mark Lawson, PLS will review the strategies, challenges, successes, and lessons learned on the I-95 Corridor Boundary Survey, a 144-mile-long Railroad Right of Way survey starting in the District of Columbia and ending in Petersburg, Virginia.
- **Credits:** 2 CPC/PDH

6:00PM - 9:00PM.....Casino Night

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17**7:00AM.....Conference Check-In Open****7:00AM - 8:00AM.....Breakfast****8:00AM - 10:00AM.....General Session**

- **Roads: Private Way or Public Thoroughfare?**

- **Speaker:** Joel Leininger, S.J. Martenet & Co, Inc.
- **Description:** Have you ever been asked to certify whether the roads adjoining your survey are public? How does one go about expressing an opinion on roads and still stay within our obligations under the Code of Ethics? (Remember, COMAR 09.13.01 requires us to express professional opinions "only when that opinion is founded upon adequate knowledge of the material facts and a background of technical competence in the subject matter." That applies to "peripheral" matters [like road labels] on our plats as well.) So who makes the public/private call? The county? The state? The landowner? The title company? In all likelihood, for most deals, the answer is you, whether you realize it or not. If you've been labeling roads as public simply because "everyone uses them," come find out why that's a poor rationale, what the real scoop is, and learn how to monetize a legitimate investigation into the issue. It's an area where surveyors are uniquely qualified to weigh in, but many don't consider it a serious matter. Yet label that road as private, and watch how fast the deal unravels. And if we are found wrong, having called something incorrectly without serious investigation, we could be facing lawsuits or licensing board inquiries. All avoidable by knowing the doctrines concerning ways. * It is highly recommended that you bring with you a copy of "Rights, Ways, and Rights of Way". The book is being offered at a \$10 discount for anyone who is taking the class. Please be sure to indicate that you would like a copy of this book on your registration form when you select this session. We will have the book for you to pick up at the registration desk.
- **Credits:** 2 CPC/PDH

10:00AM - 5:00PM.....Session

- **Fundamentals of Surveying Preparation - Part 2**

- **Speakers:** Dave Comer and Sam Sandler, Icivil; Nick Wheeler, GPI; Dave Moyle, JMT; Nick Alexander, Wallace Montgomery
- **Description:** This 2 Day Class will cover different areas of knowledge needed to help prepare for the Fundamentals of Surveying (FS) Exam. Areas of focus will be the following: Calculator basics, Surveying processes and methods, Mapping processes and methods, Boundary law and real property principles, Surveying principles, Survey Computations, Business concepts, and Applied Mathematics. You will need for the class a NCEES approved calculator, paper and pencils, and a thumb drive.
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10:00AM - 11:00AM.....Sessions

- **Let's Talk Business**

- **Speaker:** Shaun Lewis, VHB; Rob Kundrick, GPI; Josh Ayoroa, Ayoroa Simmons; Zach Mellott, AMT
- **Description:** Join us for an engaging panel discussion featuring prominent leaders in our surveying community. Learn about different negotiation strategies and tips on how to navigate the public infrastructure market. Come with your ideas to share with the group, Let's Talk Business!
- **Credit:** 1 CPC/PDH

- **Sharpen Your Precision: Mastering Positional Tolerance**

- **Speaker:** James Shaw, JMT
- **Description:** Are you confidently meeting Maryland's COMAR standards—or just guessing? Join us for a focused discussion on position tolerance. We'll break down the 0.07 ft + 50 ppm requirement, explore how least-squares adjustments expose positional uncertainties, and empower you with the fundamental tools to analyze and report your positions with confidence. Walk away knowing exactly how close is close enough - and how to prove it!
- **Credit:** 1 CPC/PDH

- **The Maryland Geological Survey's Inventory of the Surviving Mason-Dixon Line Stones**

- **Speakers:** Wayne Aubertin, MHG and Ashley Stimpson, Popular Mechanics
- **Description:** Wayne Aubertin, L.S. and Ashley Stimpson (author of the Popular Mechanics feature) will present on the recently completed Mason-Dixon Line inventory – a volunteer-driven campaign to document and preserve the limestone monuments marking the Maryland-Pennsylvania border. This is the first full inventory of the historic line in 40 years. Wayne will present on the information that was provided to the volunteers for this effort, like historic maps and archival reports, and what additional steps and techniques he used to search, recover and document the monuments. Ashley will discuss how she came up with the idea of writing about the inventory, pitching it to the publishers and her first hand accounts of her time spent with Wayne and Eric Gladhill, L.S., searching for the monuments.
- **Credit:** 1 CPC/PDH

11:00AM - 12:00PM.....Tech Time**12:00PM - 1:00PM.....Lunch & Awards**

• **1:00PM - 5:00PM.....Session**
 • **QA/QC**

- **Speaker:** Steve Jones, CPJ&A
- **Description:** This session will discuss the differences between QA and QC and how to develop techniques and processes for performing and assembling surveys to not only be compliant with the minimum standards of practice but to also meet the standard of care.
- **Credits:** 4 CPC/PDH

• **1:00PM - 3:00PM.....Sessions**

• **Save Yourself from the Exceptions**

- **Speaker:** Eric Cooper, JMT
- **Description:** This program will review saving and excepting clauses. The class will discuss the purpose of these clauses and what rights can be part of them. We will also discuss their use and examine some of the pitfalls associated with them, including a look at a property where the exception is lost when tracing the title.
- **Credits:** 2 CPC/PDH

• **Survey Monitoring - What's Moving**

- **Speaker:** Kenneth Fronheiser and Taylor Shepley, Keystone Precision Solutions
- **Description:** How much is that building moving? How often does it move? When does it move? As a surveyor, have you ever been asked that question by a client? Monitoring a building, bridge, foundation, and a wall can be a complicated task, but also reporting the data collected can be as complicated. During this presentation we will take a look at what tools are available to monitor a site not only accurately, but also efficiently. We will conclude this presentation by looking at customer stories (case studies) and how they implemented different monitoring techniques to determine... What's Moving...
- **Credits:** 2 CPC/PDH

3:00PM - 5:00PM.....Sessions

• **Annexation for Land Surveyors**

- **Speaker:** Vincent Nohe, Frederick Ward Associates
- **Description:** Municipal Annexation is a legal and legislative process in which Surveyors may be asked to provide input. For many of the Surveyors that provide that input, it seems each experience is different and many annexations have unique challenges. We will review the requirements for annexations and how and why Surveyors are asked for input. We will review the process and the documentation produced. Through an open-forum we can discuss where we find authoritative information; challenges we face throughout the process; how these types of Surveys compare with other types of Surveys we perform and what regulations must we follow; what type of Survey it is and what is not; how do we present the information to our clients, the municipalities and the residents of the municipality. As time permits we can review case studies and unique projects.
- **Credits:** 2 CPC/PDH

• **Railroad Right of Ways, National Archives Research, and Railroad Title**

- **Speaker:** John Dowling, Azimuth & Rood, LLC and Tyler Goodmanson, Taylor Research Group
- **Description:** Tyler Goodmanson will be discussing railroad right-of-way research at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) and will describe the type of information that is available. John Dowling will present on title research for railroads in Maryland and discuss some of his findings over the years.
- **Credits:** 2 CPC/PDH

5:30PM - 9:30PM.....Awards Dinner & 6th Annual Cornhole Tournament

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

7:00AM.....	Conference Check-In Open
7:00AM - 8:00AM.....	Breakfast
7:45AM - 12:00PM.....	CST Exam
8:00AM - 12:00PM.....	Session

• Maryland Survey Law Review for Exam Prep

- **Speaker:** Jeff Elkins, VanMar Associates
- **Description:** This session provides an in-depth review for those preparing to take the Maryland Law and Ethics Exam for licensure. A detailed review of the COMAR Regulations for Professional Land Surveyors, Title 9, Subtitle 13, Chapters 1-8, will be presented and discussed. A handout will be given that contains the most current COMAR Regulations, as well as topics which include: Title Elements and Terms, Adverse Possession, Trespass, Easements, Cemeteries, Condominiums, Riparian Rights and Terms, and a Real World Boundary Example which utilizes different Title Elements. The handout can be placed in a binder for study and reference, and is cross-referenced with the Black Book for Maryland Statutory Laws and other survey law reference materials, and can be utilized while taking the exam.
- **Credits:** 4 CPC/PDH

8:00AM - 11:00AM.....	Session
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• Concealed Carry Your Rights and Obligations

- **Speaker:** Donna Worthy, Worth A Shot
- **Description:** This is comprehensive session on Maryland state laws and regulations concerning the possession and carry of firearms by land surveyors. This course is designed to provide participants with a thorough understanding of relevant statutes, including concealed carry and open carry laws, property rights, trespassing considerations, personal liability and employer liability. For employees, this course offers invaluable knowledge and practical skills to navigate firearm-related decisions responsibly and lawfully in both urban and rural environments. Through real-world scenarios, legal case studies, and expert guidance, you'll learn risk management, conflict de-escalation strategies, and best practices for ensuring personal safety without violating legal boundaries. For employers, this course will provide you with an understanding of Maryland gun laws in the work place and how you can with confidence establish employer policies that are in compliance with the law and best practices to foster a safer work environment and reduce potential liabilities. Join us for a first-of-its-kind discussion detailing personal protection rights and professional responsibilities relating to gun rights in the workplace.
- **Credits:** 3 CPC/PDH