



# SDSPLS 38<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Access Convention Handouts at  
**[sdspls.org](http://sdspls.org)**

## Wednesday, January 6, 2021 (Central Standard Time)

10:00 am to 11:30 am	<b>Annual Membership Meeting</b>
1:00 pm to 1:05 pm	<b>Welcome to the SDSPLS 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention</b> SDSPLS 2020 President Travis Jacobson, PLS
1:05 pm to 1:50 pm	<b>No Access! Or ‘You Can’t Get There From Here’</b> Wendy Lathrop, PLS, CFM with Cadastral Consulting, LLC
1:50 pm to 2:00 pm	Break
2:00 pm to 2:50 pm	<b>Data Collection Field to Finish: How Sharp is Your Field Pencil?</b> Ladd Nelson with Carlson Software
2:50 pm to 3:00 pm	Break
3:00 pm to 3:50 pm	<b>Using GNSS in 2021 and Beyond</b> Steve Richter with Frontier Precision
4:00 pm to 5:00 pm	<b>LDP Zone Design Update</b> – Linda Foster

## Thursday, January 7, 2021 (CST)

9:00 am to 10:30 am	<b>Record Research: Paper vs Ground Truth – Part 1</b> Wendy Lathrop, PLS, CFM with Cadastral Consulting, LLC
10:30 am to 10:40 am	Break
10:40 am to 12:00 pm	<b>Record Research: Paper vs Ground Truth – Part 2</b> Wendy Lathrop, PLS, CFM with Cadastral Consulting, LLC
12:00 pm to 12:30 pm	Lunch Break
12:30 pm to 2:30 pm	<b>Running a Successful Surveying Business – New Challenges and New Markets</b> Michael Pallamary, PLS with Pallamary & Associates
2:30 pm to 2:40 pm	Break
2:40 pm to 4:00 pm	<b>The Land Surveyor’s Professional Obligations – The Future of the Field Surveyor</b> Michael Pallamary, PLS with Pallamary & Associates

## Friday, January 8, 2021 (CST)

9:00 am to 10:30 am	<b>The Elusive Existent Corner</b> Geodesy, Datums, and Coordinate Fundamentals
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	Rod Breitling, PLS & Dave Zenk PE LS
10:30 am to 10:40 am	Break
10:40 am to 12:00 pm	<b>Mentorship as a Form of Leadership</b> Gordon Decker
12:00 pm to 12:30 pm	Lunch Break
12:30 pm to 2:00 pm	<b>Drone Data and Your Survey Business</b> Dalton Kelley with RDO Integrated Controls

**PDH Certificates will be emailed the week of January 11<sup>th</sup>.**

**If you need a previous year's certificate, please email: [Directorsdpls@hotmail.com](mailto:Directorsdpls@hotmail.com) with "PDH Request" in the subject line**

## Course Descriptions

### **No Access! (or, "You Can't Get There From Here") - Landlocked Parcels – Wendy Lathrop**

Landlocked parcels are a headache for property owners and surveyors alike. There is a distinction between having legal access and having physical access, and the difference isn't always easy to resolve. What is (or isn't) in the written record and what is (or isn't) on the ground may lead us to frustration or to resolution. In reviewing some of the possible approaches to solutions, we will see that it's also true that "You can't always get what you want" and that sometimes it is the courts that will decide what you need.

### **Data Collection Field to Finish: How Sharp is Your Field Pencil? – Ladd Nelson**

True Field to Finish is one of the most powerful tools a Land Surveyor can use to reduce the office time required to produce a finished product. But it remains one of the most underutilized. This session will cover the complete field to finish process including pre-collection office and field setup, field collection coding techniques and office processing for surveying maps made easy. We will use Carlson SurvPC and Carlson Survey to demonstrate the complete solution.

I plan to cover a variety of field coding practices, some SurvPC features, Carlson Survey field-to-finish operations, coordinate system projections, surface modeling basics, layering standards, etc. The data set I plan to cover will be broken into two main sections... a roading component and a "site" component and then "morphed" together into a single overall project (the project being the Indian Lake County Park in Southern Wisconsin where the Madison-area surveyors typically have their annual summer meeting).

### **Using GNSS in 2021 and Beyond – Steve Richter**

In this session we will discuss the latest developments in GNSS measurement. Satellite constellation updates as well as updates on equipment technology will be discussed. We will discuss the impacts to the surveyor with legacy GPS and GNSS equipment. GNSS correction techniques will also be touched on. This includes Satellite corrections and updates to the Trimble VRS Real-Time system. Please join us for this informative session.

### **Record Research: Paper versus Ground Truth – Wendy Lathrop**

What does the record say as compared to what is actually on the ground? Title searchers and surveyors both have an interest in public records relating to particular properties. However, the same documents may have different significance to each of these professionals. The most current recorded document does

not always accurately describe the property on the ground. But sometimes the written record can reveal clues about additional evidence that we should be seeking out.

Using real-life examples, we will explore difficulties with chains of title, what physical and record calls tell us about the history and location of a property and its markers, and how to better preserve the evidence in our own written descriptions.

### **Running a Successful Surveying Business – New Challenges and New Markets – Michael Pallamary**

There are many challenges to operating a business in today's business environment. Technology has changed the tools surveyors use while, at the same time, these same tools have altered the way business is done. Many untrained and uneducated people fancy themselves as Land Surveyors due to the availability of GPS equipment and electronic mapping programs, making it difficult for Land Surveyors to distinguish themselves as a profession.

As field crews diminish in size and expertise, absent a traditional apprenticeship process, new markets must be explored, in order to survive. Some of the benefits are the ability to work remotely, something that has become critical due to the coronavirus.

Mr. Pallamary will discuss these options as well as ways to move into, and to create new markets.

### **The Land Surveyor's Professional Obligations - The Future of the Field Surveyor – Michael Pallamary**

Curt Brown once said:

*“Professional stature cannot be attained by self-proclamation. The lazy say, ‘give me the prize without the training, the wages without work, the reward without the quest, heaven without probation, a profession’s prestige without a profession’s skill.’ If the land surveyor is to have professional standing, that standing must be earned and bestowed upon him by others.”*

Modern tools and technology have created an environment wherein too much reliance is placed on the readings and measurements from this equipment. As with cell phone obsession and detached human interaction, the profession suffers from a detachment from one's professional obligations. In many instances, the one-person survey crew is ill-equipped and untrained in client and public interaction.

Mr. Pallamary will discuss various methods to educate field personnel while, at the same time, capitalizing on promotional opportunities.

### **The Elusive Existent Corner – Rod Brietling**

In this session, we will discuss the Certified Land Corner Record (CLCR) that has ties to physical features that are no longer in the field. The physical features are gone! This corner is now obliterated rather than existent. We will discuss an appropriate method to perpetuate this corner, possibly forever.

This session is a general discussion for those studying for the FS Exam, applicable to both LSIT's and the PLS alike. (discussion topics include: CLCR, projections, coordinates systems (both present and future), trends in in the field, NGS Coordinate Conversion & Transformation Tool).

### **Geodesy, Datums, and Coordinate Fundamentals – David Zenk**

This session will focus on datums, coordinates, and conversion tools. Session begins with geodesy, astronomy, datums, and their relationships including key vocabulary terms. Then discusses various "height" systems. The relatively simple mathematics of a conformal projection will be shown with an example. Finally, a look at the NGS' NCAT Coordinate Conversion Tool and the proposed SPCS 2022 scale factor map for South Dakota.

### **Mentorship as a Form of Leadership – Gordon Decker**

Mentoring is important for everyone in the industry. We can either be intentional in our mentorship or we can let it happen informally through our day to day interactions, and the benefits of effective mentorship are both measurable and intangible. We'll look at several aspects of mentorships as a form of leadership, and we will discuss action steps that can be taken immediately in the future.

### **Drone Data and Your Survey Business – Dalton Kelley**

Accompanied by a UAV Professional from RDO, we will be discussing the advantages of adding data collected by UAV's to your current business offerings as an additional service. In this discussion we will hit on topics of current market application, return on investment and viability of adding this service to your business.

## **Meet the Instructors:**

**Rod Breitling** began teaching at Southeast Tech in 1986. He has a master's degree in Career Technical Education with an emphasis in land surveying from South Dakota State University and is a Professional Land Surveyor in the state of South Dakota. Along with his years of surveying experience in the industry, he is a former Co-Owner of Dakota Land Surveying Inc., Past President of the South Dakota Society of Professional Land Surveyors, former Owner of RB Land Surveying LLC and has received the Outstanding Contribution to the South Dakota Land Surveying Profession. Rod was honored as the ATEA's Outstanding Technical Educator for the Northern Plains Region in 1992 and in 2006 and Southeast Tech's Teacher of the Year in 2004.

**Gordon Decker** is passionate about leadership and mentorship. He has a master's degree in administration from the University of South Dakota and extensive training in the areas of leadership and professional development, both through civilian and military experiences. He comes with 20 years of experience and training in Law Enforcement and 12 years in the Army National Guard, including the last 4 years as a Commissioned Officer and 2 wartime deployments, which one was to Iraq. He then went on to work in financial services and now is the sole steward of Shield Guide Services, where he uses his experience and knowledge to help men live a better life by making better decisions in their goals, priorities, and plans.

**Dalton Kelley** is a Positioning Account Manager with RDO Integrated Controls for the past two and a half years working with customers in South Dakota and UAV customers in many other western states.

**Wendy Lathrop** is president and owner of Cadastral Consulting, LLC. She is licensed as a Professional Land Surveyor in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Maryland, and as a Professional Planner in New Jersey. She is also a Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) through the Association of State Flood Plain Managers. Wendy speaks across the US on surveying topics ranging from boundary to business to technical issues and is on the faculty of GeoLearn.

She has been writing articles for surveyors since 1983, currently as a contributing editor for The American Surveyor magazine. With Stephen Estopinal, PE, LS, Wendy co-authored "Professional Surveyors and Real Property Descriptions: Composition, Construction, and Comprehension." She also has four articles included in the American Bar Association's text, "Land Surveys: A Guide for Lawyers and Other Professionals."

**Michael J. Pallamary**, PLS is a Professional Land Surveyor licensed in the state of California and has expertise in Land Surveying, land use, standard of care; boundary line determination and analysis; boundary disputes; deed interpretation; boundary reconstruction; easement analysis and construction; field engineering; map preparation; accident reconstruction studies; ALTA surveys; construction defects (survey related); photogrammetry; settlement/displacement surveys; view easements; historical property analysis; forensic site studies. He authored several articles, which have appeared in The American Surveyor Magazine, POB, and The California Surveyor Magazine. He has been a guest lecturer and presenter for numerous state and chapter meetings across the United States and including California, Montana, Oregon, Indiana, Massachusetts and Nevada.

**Dave Zenk** is a Geodesist with the National Geodetic Survey, serving as Regional Geodetic Advisor for the Northern Plains Region (MN, ND, SD, IA, NE). He holds Bachelor of Science Degrees in Civil Engineering and Mechanical Engineering from the University of Minnesota and a master's degree in Land Surveying from Oregon State University. He has served as adjunct faculty at the University of Minnesota Geography Department and at Saint Cloud State University Geography Department. He is a past Chair of the Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium. He is currently serving as Editor of the MSPS "Minnesota Surveyor" magazine. He is licensed as a Registered Land Surveyor and Professional Engineer in the State of Minnesota.