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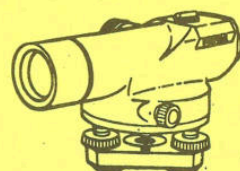
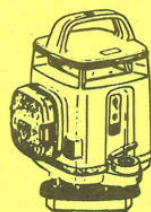
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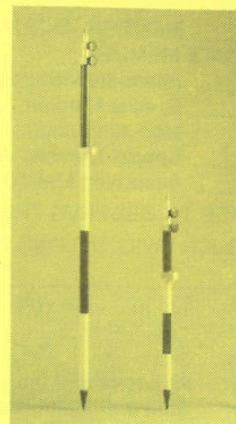
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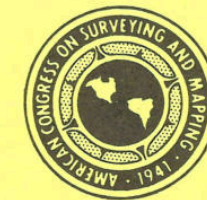
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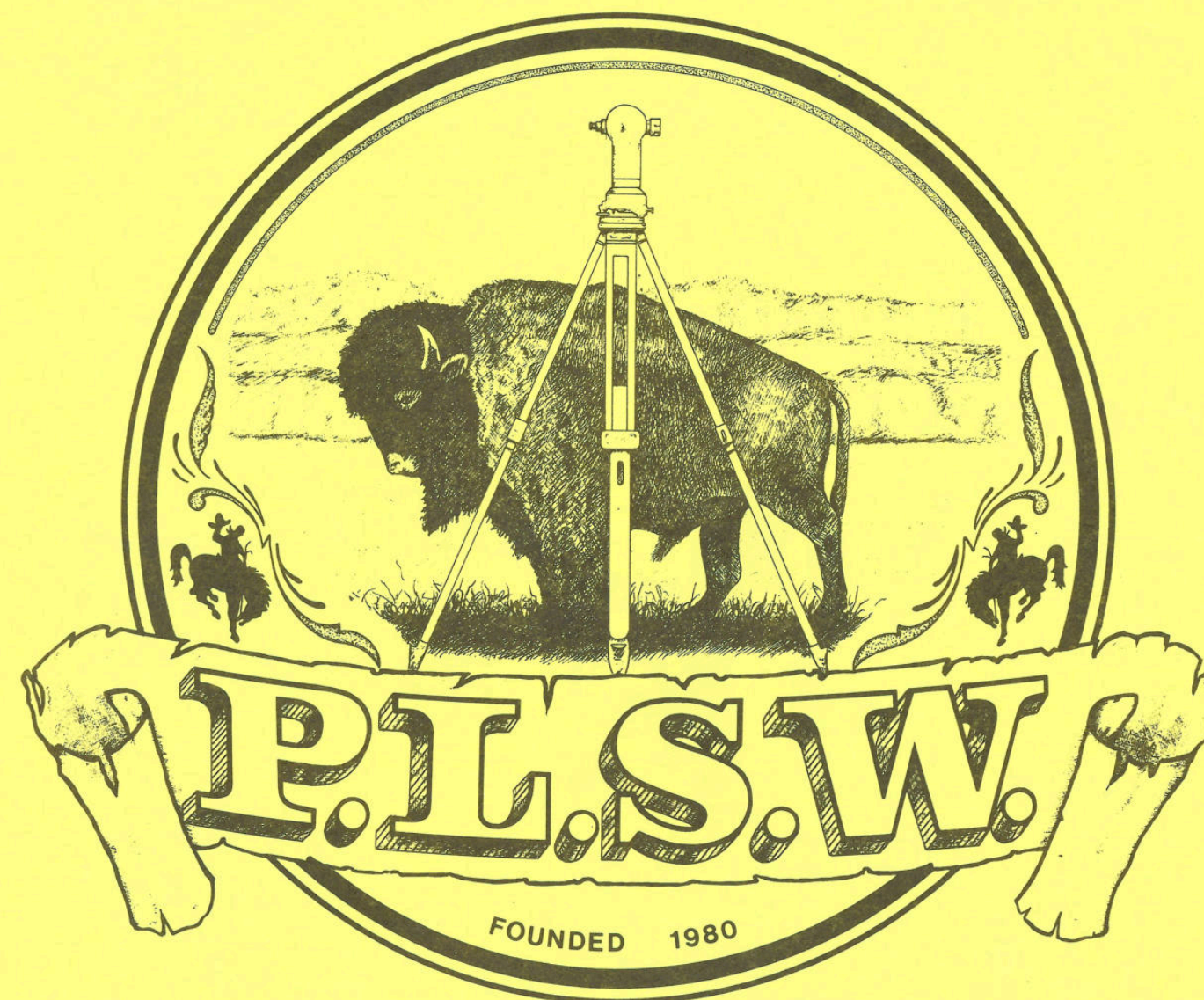
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VOLUME 3 NO. 3

OCTOBER 1991



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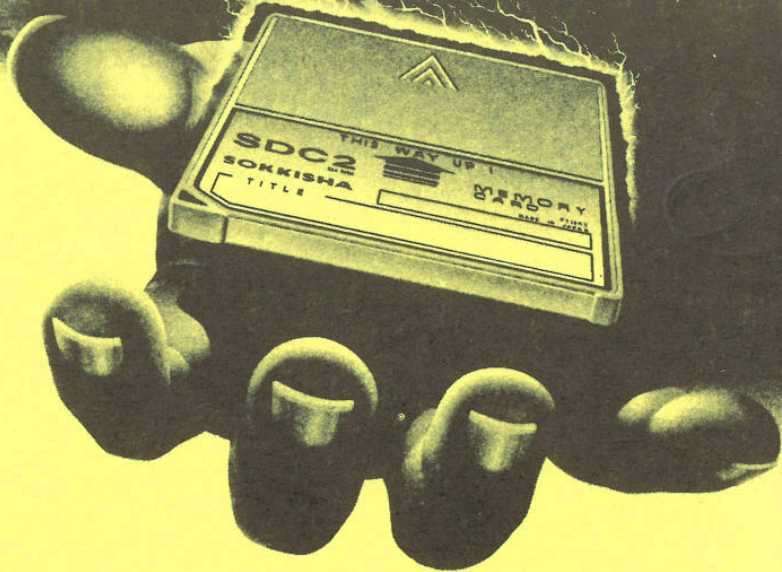
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States other than Wyoming in which you are registered: _____

Additional information or comments (optional): _____

CLASS OF MEMBERSHIP APPLIED FOR: (check one only and please submit dues with application, prorated for the remainder of the calendar year)

_____ MEMBER, ANNUAL DUES \$75 (Persons duly registered, PLS or PE&LS, in Wyoming.)

_____ AFFILIATE MEMBER

_____ Associate Member, annual dues \$50. (Persons employed under the direction of a PLS and working toward PLS registration in Wyoming.)

_____ Special Member, annual dues \$50. (Not meeting above qualifications but with a particular interest in, or association with, the profession of land surveying.)

_____ Special Member, student, annual dues \$15. (Pursuing a post secondary academic course of study, and currently enrolled.)

_____ Sustaining Member, annual dues \$100. (Persons, institutions or corporations desiring to assist PLSW financially.)

I AGREE TO OBSERVE THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS OF WYOMING AND THE CHAPTER TO WHICH I WILL BELONG AND TO SUPPORT SAID ORGANIZATIONS IN THEIR ENDEAVORS.

(APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE)

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(For Affiliate Member applicants only.)

NOTE: All portions of the state have chapters with the exception of Fremont, Teton, Sublette and north Lincoln Counties which are designated as Area 3. Chapter dues or assessments may vary in amount. Applications are considered by the Board of Directors at quarterly meetings. Send completed application to PLSW, c/o R.L. Hudson, Sec./Treas., P.O. Box 784, Thermopolis, Wyoming 82443.

BLM Update

This letter is to inform you of official cadastral surveys in Wyoming and Nebraska that have been accepted from April 1, 1991, through June 30, 1991, and are now available in the Survey Records Office, Wyoming State Office, Bureau of Land Management, 2515 Warren Avenue, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001.

The accepted surveys are listed below by township, range, meridian, and acceptance date.

Sixth Principal Meridian, Nebraska			
Township and Range	Meridian	Accepted	
T. 24 N., R. 9 E.	Dep. Res.	6 P.M.	06/19/1991
T. 31 N., R. 5 W.	Dep. Res. & Subd.	6 P.M.	06/19/1991
Sixth Principal Meridian, Wyoming			
T. 40 N., R. 70 W.	Subdivision	6 P.M.	06/19/1991
T. 25 N., R. 84 W.	Dep. Res. & Subd.	6 P.M.	06/19/1991

As other surveys are completed, I will advise you of their acceptance. You may circulate this letter among the membership of the Professional Land Surveyors of Wyoming.

John P. Lee, Chief, Branch of Cadastral Survey

(Continued from page 13)

concerns with ACSM. At the last meeting of the Board in Baltimore an agreement was reached with NSPS (MO) with regards to THEIR money being held by ACSM. After many months of posturing by both sides, an agreement was reached with only one thing left open; a legal review. The agreement was to be completed by April 15. What happens next? ACSM breaks the agreement and its word. The staff did not even begin the review process until April 10 and hence the April 15 date went by without any finalization of the agreement. NSPS left Baltimore with the understanding that an agreement was in hand and that we could all press ahead with the important things in life. ACSM broke the agreement because of the dilly-dallying with the agreement by the staff and officers!!! NSPS did file incorporation papers on May 2, but that was 3 weeks after ACSM broke the agreement. Even after that date, neither NSPS (MO) or NSPS INC made any moves to jeopardize ACSM, but ACSM uses that incorporation action to excuse its breaking of an agreement and continues to blame NSPS for all of the ills of the organization.

Now we have the President of ACSM calling for a referendum on the incorporation of NSPS. No one within NSPS has even remotely suggested that incorporation should have a negative impact on ACSM and, in fact, they have consistently stated that their goal is the preservation of ACSM. I find this call for a referendum by the President truly amazing in view of the fact that ACSM has gone on record by accepting a legal opinion stating that the desires of the membership don't count for anything other than being information for the Board. This opinion was "sought" after the membership "spoke" at an official membership meeting one year and some of the officers did not like what they did, so they had the staff find a legal opinion that suited their needs. It's high time that the officers and Board and staff start listening to the directives of the Board and members, rather than running their own personal agenda. Never before has ACSM had a voluntary referendum of the membership, even on matters more critical to the organization than the incorporation of NSPS. We hire staff and buy a building that are running us into bankruptcy, but we don't even want to tell the members the true cost of these items which are driving us to the verge of bankruptcy. And now we want to have a referendum on an administrative matter? GIVE ME A BREAK!!

NSPS has not made any secret of its deliberations in the past few years and, in fact, has made sure that all of their meetings have been open and publicly announced. I found it very interesting that when the President of ACSM accused NSPS of incorporating in secret, he simultaneously put together a complete "chronology" from his "personal files" that outlined the complete series of events and deliberative meetings that lead up to the actual incorporation. Amazing, and yet he claims to know nothing and to have been kept in the dark all along. Also, the NSPS President's report submitted to the ACSM Board in Baltimore clearly notified ACSM in

"black and white" that NSPS had decided to incorporate. What more do people want??

And now we have the final "kicker" being suggested by the President of ACSM that is to have a "membership at large" category or a fourth MO. Both of these ideas are foolish when the clear motivation is an attempt to punish NSPS. In the first place there is no reason for the "at large" category since anyone can be a member of the other two MO's merely by expressing an interest in the field. NSPS is the only MO that sets professional standards for being a member! The idea of a fourth MO is GREAT if it is properly formulated and the motives for formation are valid. A new and distinct interest field is fine, but GIS/LIS is not an answer. We have already concluded that GIS and ACA go together and LIS goes with AAGS/NSPS. If the purpose behind a new MO is a person's personal vendetta against a present MO, then failure of the new MO and ACSM is a foregone conclusion.

I have had the President of ACSM tell me face-to-face that he does not like NSPS. Does this tell you something about some of the writings that have been emanating from Boston?? It is high time that the President of ACSM put aside his personal feelings of animosity and start working for the good of the organization!!!

And finally, the actions of the officers and staff of ACSM are absolutely reprehensible. They have been acting since Baltimore far outside of their assigned scope of duties with no authority from the Board. The officers have held "secret" meetings that no one on the Board knew about until long after the meeting took place. And to top it off, it wasn't even the full Executive Committee that does have some authority to act. Just a few officers that the President knew would not argue with him. The EXCOM's authority is limited by the Board to routine administrative matters, but the Officers by themselves are not even given that authority. No minutes of these meetings have been distributed, and yet decisions made at these secret meetings have taken precedence over official actions of the Board of Directors taken in an open meeting. You tell me, who operates in secret???

It is time for ACSM to get its act together and stop looking like a bunch of "jerks" in the eyes of its members. This year we lost 30% or more of our members and I think we can expect a lot more to drop out unless we get our house in order. That starts with all of us on the ACSM Board keeping our agreements and with the staff doing what they are told to do and when they are told to do it by the Board. Convenient excuses have got to stop now!! Atlanta is going to be a real critical meeting where ACSM is going to be saved or lost. I hear from many people that they are going to withhold payment of their dues for 1992 until they see the outcome of the meeting in Atlanta. As a concluding personal note, I must say that I would not have renewed this past year if I was not a member of the Board. The only reason I stayed a member was in the feeble hope that my vote on the Board might make a difference for the ultimate survival of ACSM. Based on the way things have gone this past 8 months, I probably wasted my money.

Editorial Potpourri*

- Chapter Minutes – Other chapters can benefit from hearing about your activities and maybe even help your organization. Send us a summary of your organizations activities by 20 DEC 1991. Summaries need not be typed.

- Join PLSW Now – If you are not a member of PLSW, you will not receive *Lines and Points*. Only PLSW members, advertisers and other state newsletters will receive this newsletter. Join NOW. An application is included in this issue. If you are a member, recruit a new member. Part of PLSW membership dues makes this publication possible.

- Support Your Advertisers – The advertisers in this issue help make this publication possible. Support them.

- State Board of Registration is still considering Continuing Education Units and will be meeting in December. Let them know how you feel.

- Sustaining Members of PLSW –

Dell Cazier	Cheyenne, WY
Aero-Metric Engineering, Inc.	Ft. Collins, CO
Geotronics of North America, Inc.	Novato, CA
Brunson Instrument Company	Denver, CO

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

- PLSW Board Meeting – The next meeting of the PLSW Board of Directors is scheduled for 14 DEC 1991 in Gillette. Make sure you are represented.

- New Members of PLSW–

Steven M. Castle	Casper	M
George J. Dale	Laramie	M

Welcome and congratulations to our new members.

- FAX Receiving – *Lines and Points* can now receive your important materials by calling (307) 235-5604.

Front Cover Artwork
By Ray Blaha – Casper

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PLSW (Professional Land Surveyors of Wyoming) is a state-wide organization of Registered Land Surveyors licensed to practice in the Equality State of Wyoming. PLSW is dedicated to improving the technical, legal, and business aspects of surveying in the State of Wyoming. PLSW is affiliated with the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping and the Western Federation of Professional Land Surveyors.

Lines and Points subscription \$50/year

Advertising Information

Camera ready advertisements with payment should be mailed to PLSW, Box 904, Casper, WY 82602.

Advertising rates are as follows:

	Year	Issue
Full page	\$300	\$80
Half page	\$175	\$50
Quarter page	\$100	\$30
Business card	\$ 30	\$10
Classified	40¢ per word/issue	
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HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Joseph (Joe) Popp was designated an Honorary Member of Professional Land Surveyors of Wyoming at the September meeting of the Board of Directors. Joe is a charter member of Professional Land Surveyors of Wyoming and has long been an outstanding professional in the fields of surveying and engineering.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING SUMMARY

The summer meeting of the Board of Directors was held in Rock Springs on Saturday, September 7, 1991, at the Park Hotel. The meeting was hosted by the Southwest Chapter and whose president, Craig Shauers, made the arrangements for the time, place and format of same. The Southwest Chapter was represented by five members.

The meeting was preceded by a luncheon at noon with eleven members present including Paul Scherbel, honorary member of PLSW and member of the state board of registration.

President Becky Braman called the meeting to order at 1:04 P.M. with directors from the South Central, Northeast and Central Chapters being absent.

Minutes, of which these summaries are a part of, for the 1991 annual state meeting in Cody and board meetings in Cody and Casper, were approved and are now available to members upon request from the Secretary Treasurer or your Director.

The treasurer's report, consisting of the current checking and savings account balances as well as the budgeted spending for the first six months of 1991, was presented and accepted.

Reports were presented from the following committees; Membership, Nominations, Education, Scholarship, GPS "Supernet" and "Handbook".

Highlights from these reports included the matter of the election of 1992 officers wherein nominations are being taken by directors with the ballot to be finalized at the December meeting and mailed to all eligible members shortly thereafter; the possibility of a second annual scholarship and the presentation of the proposed handbook covers and tab dividers..

The tentative date for distribution of the handbooks has been set for the 1992 annual state meeting in Sheridan.

Becky, who is now the Wyoming Governor of the NSPS Board of Governors, reported on the July meeting held in Colorado and stated she will be representing us at the upcoming meeting in Atlanta.

A letter, from WFPS delegate John Steil, was distributed in which he and Scott Pierson make a generous offer to the members of PLSW. Additional informa-

tion on this matter will appear in the upcoming (this) edition of "Lines & Points".

The matter, as old business, of individual member's usage of the PLSW logo was discussed and resulted in a motion being carried wherein Becky will prepare an article for "Lines & Points" setting forth the procedure to be followed. A listing of PLSW items, available from various chapters, will also be included in the upcoming issue.

One new member, one sustaining member and one student member had their applications approved. Additionally, a nomination from the South Central Chapter for honorary membership of Joe Popp was approved by unanimous vote. Congratulations, Joe!

Harvey Copeland brought up a matter concerning official PLSW endorsement of political candidates. All board members present indicated that it is probably best left on an individual level; i.e., PLSW will not be endorsing candidates for political office at any level, but subject to further study.

The remainder of the meeting concerned the upcoming meeting of the state board of registration wherein the matter of continuing education requirements will be set forth. Paul Scherbel, as a member of that board, made a presentation setting forth the background of this matter and discussed the various methods under consideration by which registrants could compile the "50 points" every two years.

Paul stated that the board has been dealing with an increasing number of complaints resulting from "many" registrants not being knowledgeable in various aspects of land surveying and that additional complaints equate to additional costs to the board and, ultimately, to all registrants.

After a vigorous discussion by all members in attendance, it was the majority opinion that this proposal will not improve the situation regarding complaints to the board of registration.

By formal motion and vote, your board will be sending President Becky Braman to the board of registration hearing on Monday, September 9, with a recommendation from PLSW for a transition period with a reporting requirement to be established at this time and that the results of these reports be used as a basis for a specific "number of points" requirement later.

The next board meeting will be held on December 14 and will be hosted by the Northeast Chapter. This meeting will be, to a large extent, a budget and ballot meeting, in preparation for the 1992 annual state meeting to be held in conjunction with the Wyoming Engineering Society convention at Sheridan in February.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:24 P.M.

Dated this 14th day of September, 1991.

R.L. Hudson

Secretary/Treasurer

NSPS Ballot Response

September 7, 1991

Dear Mr. Mozzachio and Mr. Dailey:

Thank-you for the kind consideration of the ballot requesting my opinion with regard to the relationship between ACSM and NSPS. With all due respect, I must note that because of past actions of yourselves and your NSPS inner-circle colleagues, I have sincere doubt that the ballots will be (1) taken seriously by a large enough segment of the NSPS membership and (2) fairly tallied by the NSPS leadership.

The foundation of my concern can be seen in the following few examples of the above noted actions:

- Ignoring the popular mandate, you and/or your colleagues have directly and indirectly nullified two elections and one action of the Forum for Women in Surveying. Moreover, all three instances served to increase the insularity of the NSPS inner circle, since the two elected women would have been recruitment-oriented, and since the action item would have changed the group's name to embrace equal opportunity.
- Again ignoring the popular mandate, you exhibited cronyism when you yourselves were rejected by vote of the membership: your inner circle then ran one of you unopposed and allowed the other to remain in ex-officio power. Moreover, in overestimating your own popularity, you have placed blame for the non-profitable Cleveland convention on others.
- Fostering mediocrity and again exhibiting cronyism one of you recently featured your inner circle on the technical program of a national convention. In doing so, you revisited several now tired topics of the mid-eighties, and you rejected or ignored technical items that would have been pertinent to the time and location. It should also be noted that your inner-circle colleagues misspelled "professional image," "squeaking," "consistently," and other words in major correspondence over the past year.
- Perpetuating xenophobia, you and your colleagues recently failed to welcome five new volunteers to NSPS service. The five persons had come forward in response to your colleagues' request last year for new people on the steering committee of the Forum for Women in Surveying. Nullifying your own request, you ignored the volunteers and allowed your inner circle to state, "We don't know these [new] people."
- Distorting the facts, you failed to inform the NSPS membership of the multi-thousand dollar cost overrun for the "Matter of Degrees" film, and your inner circle recently spread a rumor in the insurance industry that ACSM was in demise. Withholding information and disseminating false information constitute grave disservice to the surveying community.

By ignoring popular mandates, by exhibiting cronyism, by fostering mediocrity, by perpetuating xenophobia, and by distorting facts, you have destroyed my faith in your leadership, and I am unable to endorse your

tion such as ACSM. Yes, I would like to see increased participation of and services for surveyors, but in a much more modern and progressive manner than you and your colleagues have proposed.

Regardless of the direction in which you take NSPS, I would like the historic record to bear my thoughts. By copy of this letter to ACSM headquarters, I hereby respectfully request that the executive director copy it to each member-organization board representative.

Again, thank-you for the opportunity to express my observations.

Sincerely,

Wendy J. Woodbury Straight, LS

cc: ACSM executive director

ACA, NSPS, AAGS board members

August 13, 1991

An open message from David Lee Ingram, Director ACSM To whom it may concern:

For many months my word processor has stayed silent through all of the "crap" emanating from the ACSM officers and staff concerning the incorporation of NSPS and the financial woes of ACSM, but no more. The half truths and misinformation that have been promulgated by the officers, most notably the President, must now be addressed with some straight forward, honest observations. I don't hardly know where to begin so this epistle may tend to ramble, but there is a lot of ground to cover, so here goes.

The problems of ACSM are deep seated and go back many years and can generally be attributed to the negligence of the Board of Directors over the past few years. From an administrative point of view, the Board has failed to properly monitor the actions of the officers and staff and many deep holes have been dug that we can't find a way to climb out of. Several Board members in the past have specifically asked for investigations to see just what these "holes" are and who dug them, but recent officers have refused or thwarted these efforts to find the truth and the staff is always extremely slow or non-responsive to requests for information by members of the Board. The Board generally sits at its meetings and accepts whatever we are told without question and time and time again wish that we had been more diligent.

Financially, ACSM is in a disastrous mess. We are barely squeaking along from month to month, but we have been advised that September is going to be a real problem. What got us into this mess? Irresponsible management in the past and lack of oversight by the Board. The Board would always take at face value information handed to it and it turns out that the information may have been less than accurate. And yet what does the Board do knowing the severe problems we are encountering? At the last meeting of the Board, we pass a resolution authorizing the Executive Director to go to the bank and borrow money as needed with no limit placed on his borrowing authority. I ask you, does this sound like proper oversight by the Board in times of financial crisis?

Now, changing the subject to the matter of NSPS's



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Accuracy vs. Cost of Base Maps: Some Real-World Lessons

When professional GIS service firms plan and negotiate a GIS with their clients, they often are faced with the same predicament. The trick is deciding where on the curve clients will receive the greatest value for their dollar and still have their needs met.

Consider the decision that planners and engineers at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio faced in 1985 as they planned GIS accuracies for a base-wide comprehensive plan. Wright-Patterson wanted 1"=50' scale accuracy and 1-foot contours, a very accurate, very detailed but expensive option.

The first thing base planners and engineers did was ask themselves an important question: What are the primary applications for the GIS?

The base wanted accurate detailed mapping because it consists of a relatively small area - approximately 8,000 acres - that undergoes constant change. On an air base, populations can change dramatically overnight, new facilities must be constructed, old ones demolished and still others expanded. In the past, Wright-Patterson had found that acquiring accurate, detailed maps for such engineering design projects was difficult, expensive and time-consuming. Because planners and engineers had a strong case and a well-defined application for highly accurate detailed mapping, the base was able to justify the cost of 1"=50' scale mapping with 1-foot contours.

Having this accurate detailed mapping available at the fingertips of base planners and engineers has greatly enhanced their ability to respond quickly and cost-effectively to their needs. Staff now are able not only to plan and conceptualize projects with the GIS, but they also can accomplish virtually final designs for many engineering projects.

On the other hand, Butler County, Ohio, wanted to create an appraisal GIS for facilitating property-related transactions - updating property maps with changes and additions resulting from splits and transfers. The county was not seeking a highly accurate tax map that could be used for identifying overlaps and other discrepancies; instead, it wanted to use the GIS to provide a visual record of the county's property-related information. (The county did not have sufficient engineering projects and applications at the time to justify the cost of engineering accuracies for the new mapping.)

To Butler County, the relatively accurate relationship of one property to another was essential; however, for the application absolute accuracy of the properties - their precise location on the Earth - was not a priority. In fact, plus-or-minus 10-foot absolute accuracy was quite adequate for its needs. As a result, Butler County agreed to 1"=400' scale and 1"=100' scale orthophotos and limited digital planimetric detail: transportation features, drainage and building symbols.

According to National Map Accuracy Standards, this accuracy and level of detail would yield the plus-or-minus

10 feet of absolute accuracy acceptable to the county. Even though this option was relatively inexpensive compared to other options, the GIS is meeting expectations and providing the county with an appropriate GIS foundation.

The cost was about one-tenth as much per acre as the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base mapping.

With such a range of differences in costs, accuracy and level of detail, one must determine what the primary applications for the GIS will be.

For design applications, engineers usually need plus-or-minus 1 foot of horizontal accuracy and plus-or-minus 0.5 feet of vertical accuracy, which is expensive. For many common appraisal applications, property surveyors and appraisers may meet their needs with less absolute accuracy, which can cost much less.

A more difficult, but increasingly common decision today occurs when there are multiple users and applications for GIS - engineers, planners, property assessors, environmental scientists and others. To map an entire county at 1"=50' or 1"=20' scale may make the engineers happy, but the planners who may need only plus-or-minus 20 feet of accuracy might need only 1"=800' scale mapping.

When a GIS must be designed for members of a consortium, everyone's needs must be met at the least possible cost.

At some point, deciding on 1"=20' or 1"=50' scale mapping accuracies often becomes a moot issue because many local governments and other clients simply don't have the budgets to pay for these accuracies.

What usually happens is that a GIS is developed with 1"=100' scale or 1"=400' scale accuracies, and engineers are encouraged to scan in plan and profile data where it is available so it can be displayed in relationship to the base map. Slowly over time, the engineers can create digital data in a scale that meets their needs.

Clients planning a GIS often are asked if they want absolute accuracy, the location of objects relative to an absolute point on the Earth, or relative accuracy, the relationship of objects only to each other without regard to a specific point on the Earth. Usually, the latter is less expensive.

In the long run, the question "What do you want the GIS to do for you?" must be answered before accuracy - and consequently costs - can be discussed.

Wallace E. Smith is a partner and certified photogrammetrist with Woolpert, Dayton, Ohio.



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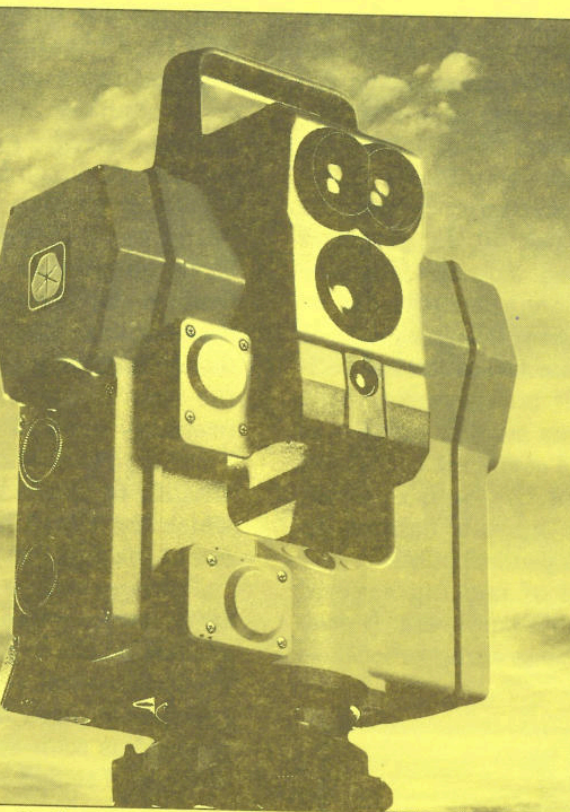
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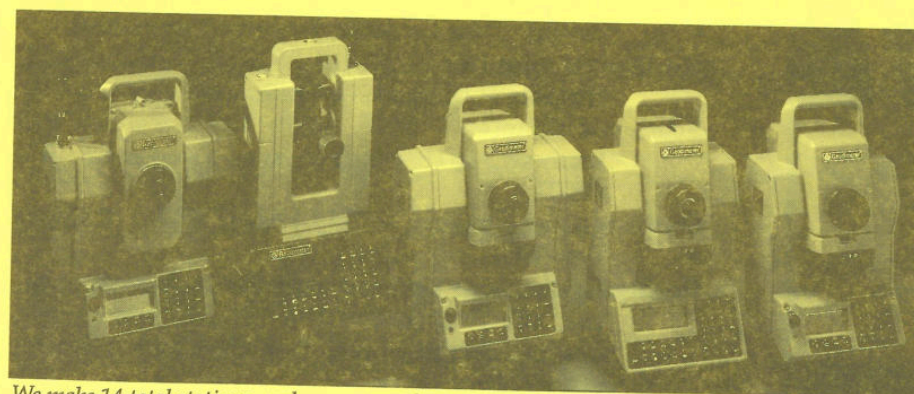
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STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS

TID BITS by Christine Turk

The publication of proposed Rules and Regulations regarding a requirement for continuing professional development resulted in many letters from registrants as well as a packed house for a public hearing on September 9, 1991. While the majority of the testimony at the public hearing was in opposition to the proposed rules, many of the comments received in the mail have been in favor of the ideas embodied in the proposal. There have also been many helpful suggestions for changes in the reporting details associated with the implementation of such regulations. The Board has also received correspondence from some PLSW chapters on this subject, which is particularly helpful. Perhaps the general philosophy behind the proposed rules was not clearly communicated. Note that the concept is one of continued professional development as opposed to just continuing education. Other aspects of professional development, such as active technical society participation, development of management skills and self study will be considered as available means to fulfill the requirements. When the comment period has ended and the hearing transcript has been received, the Board will consider the issue again in light of the response from registrants and the general public.

The Board is in the process of making several changes to the examination for land surveyors. A decision has been made to modify the grading process so

that the person who composed the examination is not involved in the grading. Board members who are registered land surveyors will prepare a grading plan for the description writing problem as well as an answer sheet for the multiple choice problems. The National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) has recently completed a task analysis which will soon result in new test specifications for the national exam to be effective with the October 1992 exam administration. The results of the task analysis that are specific to Wyoming are available to us, and the Board intends to use that data to revise the Wyoming portion of the exam. Part of the revision being considered is to eliminate the Take-home Examination and incorporate the questions currently used in the Take-home Examination into the 2-hour State Specific Exam. The Board will be asking for volunteer help of a group of land surveyors from around the state to participate in a workshop on this subject, probably around the time of the WES meeting in February. The Board will be working with PLSW and WACES to obtain the appropriate help in this project, which the Board hopes to have completed in time for use at the October 1992 exam administration.

Renewal notices for expiration dates of December 31, 1991, were sent out October 1, 1991, to the last known address on file in the Board office. According to the law, if you have not renewed by December 31, 1991, your registration will be considered expired. Return your renewal as soon as possible in order to avoid penalties and loss of registration.

PLSW AUTHORIZED MERCHANDISE

Since there has been some confusion about what merchandise PLSW has authorized and where the items can be obtained here is a list of what is available:

Southwest Chapter – Hats \$8.00; Lapel pins \$7.00; Tie tacs \$8.00; Patches \$5.00. Contact Dick Griffin, P. O. Box 1059, Rock Springs, 82901

Northwest Chapter – Decals \$4.00. Contact Rick Hudson, P. O. Box 784, Thermopolis, 82443

Southeast Chapter – Field Books \$6.50. Contact Bill Braman, 1816 Central Ave., Cheyenne, WY 82001

South-central Chapter – Key chains \$5.00. Contact Don Davis,

Northeast Chapter - Ceramic cups \$5.00; Jackets - contact the chapter for the options and prices. Contact Bob St.Claire, P. O. Box 2366, Gillette, WY 82716

Please note that the PLSW logo is only to be used with the approval of PLSW State Board of Directors.

A Letter From A Soviet Surveyor

by Dennis R. Hebert

Reprint from Sep 91 "L'arpenseur Louisiane"

Sergei B. Shuleikin is employed by the Sojuz Mine Surveying Trust located in the Town of Lenina of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic which is situated in the West Siberian Plain Region (2000 kilometers east of the Urals). Shuleikin has a dream to work as a surveyor in the United States and that he was interested in corresponding with Americans concerning the employment systems in this country. I sent Shuleikin the Compendium of Louisiana and Federal Laws Relating to Land Surveying to give him some background information concerning surveying in Louisiana. The following letter from Shuleikin will enlighten us regarding the U.S.S.R. degree requirements for practicing surveying in their country.

4 June, 1991

Dear Mr. Hebert,

I was very pleased to receive yesterday the book, "Compendium of Louisiana and Federal Laws Relating to Land Surveying". The book gives a lot of new information on surveying and surveying laws to me. I find no suitable words to express my thankfulness to you.

I can now compare surveying in the United States and the Soviet Union and see some differences between the U.S.S.R. and the U.S. regarding surveying. As you may be aware, a degree in surveying is required to practice in the Soviet Union. We have the All-Union survey standard, so we need not to pass any extra exam to be registered. The registration of surveyors is the province of the U.S.S.R. government. I should like to stress that it is absolutely impossible to practice surveying for the person who has no surveying degree. Education is free in Soviet Union and we have a lot of surveying schools and institutes which offer the degree in surveying (land and mine). For example, there is a secondary surveying school and an institute in the city, Kemerovo, which offer degrees correspondingly in land and mine surveying.

And again, thank you for your letter. Please accept my warmest best wishes. Write when you get a chance, I shall be glad to answer all your questions.

Sincerely,

Sergei B. Shuleikin

P.S. Forgive my English.



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Memorandum for the Record

The world would be a better place if we all had perfect memories. Our society would be more harmonious if the media did not have irresponsible journalists who love to spread misinformation. ACSM would be more peaceful if all professional surveyors would remain as professional when they become reporters. Before the misquoting of my installation speech in Baltimore gets more out of hand, let me correct the false reports which have now appeared in print for the third time.

FALSE: "NSPS members are not a group of uncouth lumberjacks". (Nick Mozzachi, 8/21/91)

FALSE: President Gunther Greulich "made mention of his belief that surveyors were nothing more than plaid-shirted lumberjacks". (Al Matherly, Interior Angle, KY, Spring/Summer 1991)

FALSE: "The expression 'uncouth lumberjacks' happens to be (that of) Gunther Greulich, our ACSM President. While I cannot vouch for the exact wording, he used similar words with the same meaning". (Bob Prescott, NY, 9/16/91)

Since I read from my prepared speech, here is what I really said:

TRUE: "Image and identity are still our prime concerns for land surveyors. We cannot act, speak or write like crude lumberjacks and expect to be treated like sophisticated professionals".

Please, newsletter reporters, editors, et al, next time you quote, please do it accurately. When in doubt, please verify. A wrong word or two can make all the difference. A complete copy of my speech is available upon request.

Gunther Greulich, Pres. ACSM



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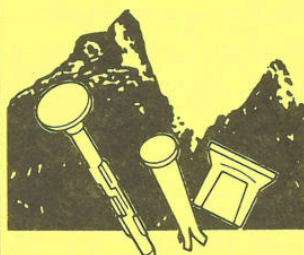
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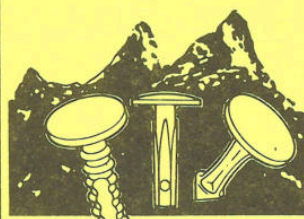
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Continued from page 9

neer's office as well. This is your evidence of an adjudicated water right.

Changes in Location and Depth

You may change a well location within the same aquifer in the vicinity of the original location or the well depth without loss of priority, provided you have obtained approval from the state board of control if the ground-water right has been adjudicated or the ground-water right has not been adjudicated but the water has been applied to beneficial use. In cases involving domestic and stock water wells that are not adjudicated but whose water has been applied to beneficial use, the state engineer may approve a change of location. If the right is not adjudicated and the water has not been applied to beneficial use, approval for the change in location may be granted by the state engineer. For all wells, the state engineer may approve a change in well location even if the water has not been put to a beneficial use.

Special water Right Conditions for Ground water

1. Remember that the permit to appropriate ground-water carries with it no guarantee of a continued water level or artesian pressure.
2. Where underground waters in different aquifers are so interconnected as to constitute one source of supply, or underground water and surface water are so interconnected as to constitute one source of supply, priorities of rights to the use of the interconnected waters shall be correlated and a single schedule of priorities shall relate to the common water supply.
3. By-product water is water that has not been put to prior beneficial use, and is a by-product of some non-water-related economic activity and has been developed only as a result of such activity such as oil and gas production, mining, etc.

1991 ACSM MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS				
AS OF 6/09/91				
M.O.	RENEWALS SENT	RENEWALS	NON-RENEWALS	% RENEWALS
ALA	1,081	754	327	70%
AAGS	493	379	114	77%
NSPS	6,015	4,607	1,408	77%
ACA/AAGS	210	138	72	66%
ACA/NSPS	192	123	69	64%
AAGS/NSPS	347	251	96	72%
ACA/AAGS/NSPS	712	405	307	57%
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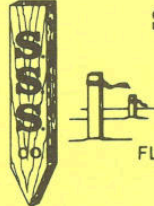
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FEE SLASHING

by Michael J. Scanlon, L.S.

Few surveying businesses have been able to avoid the devastating effects of Connecticut's current economic doldrums. In response to reduced business, many surveyors have panicked, reacting to the situation in a dangerous and inappropriate manner. I am referring to the current widespread practice of FEE SLASHING.

Fee slashing is the desperate marketing technique of quoting ridiculously low prices in the hope of securing a contract to perform services. Over the past several months, more and more firms are resorting to this last ditch effort in an attempt to keep their employees working. In many instances, the fee quoted to obtain the contract does not even cover the cost of performing the services.

It's obvious that the stress of a troubled economy has driven the survey professional to the poor business practice of competing for projects on the basis of price alone. Surveying services, although not a commodity, are nonetheless subject to the effects of supply and demand. However, it is essential that we don't confuse the sale of professional services with the sale of mere goods. Goods, if over produced, can be sold at cut-rate prices to clear out excess inventory. Professional services, on the other hand, are not produced until requested by the purchaser - there is no "survey inventory" to move. In down times, such as these, what we are really experiencing is a shrinking supply of purchasers.

It is important to recognize that, unlike purchasers of goods, purchasers of professional services are *not* motivated by *desire*. They are, almost without exception, motivated by *need*. The real value of any professional service is dictated by the purchaser's *need* and tempered by a fine balance of *fee*, *quality*, and *delivery*. No one element can be overemphasized at the expense of the others. The current diminished number of potential purchasers is not an indicator of the value of our professional service. The value of the service to the client is not reduced by the lower fee he or she pays for the service. Similarly, the *liability*, *responsibility* and *professional duty* of the service provider - in this case the surveyor is not reduced by charging a lower fee.

As licensed surveyors, we have every right to enter the marketplace and offer our services. Fee slashing, however, is a non-productive, cut-throat method of conducting business that undermines the entire surveying profession and does nothing to serve the long-term needs of the surveyor engaging in such practice. It is, perhaps, the single, most devastating disservice that can be thrust upon our profession as a whole and the meager increase in volume gained through such activity does not offset losses or long-term destruction of the surveying profession.

What must go through the consumer's mind when quoted fees range from \$500 to \$5,000 for the same project?

And what about the wasted time and investment incurred by honest proprietors who prepare realistic fee proposals, only to be "lowballed" by someone not playing by the common rules of professionalism? The great strides our industry has attained over the past few decades are being rapidly eroded by this unprofessional reaction to an already difficult situation. If we are not careful, the image of the surveyor is destined to return to that of the crusty, semi-skilled laborer once again scratching to make ends meet.

So, what can be done to bring the fee slashing war under control? Each of us can serve as a role model by engaging in high standards of practice, even during these trying times. We can talk to our peers, encouraging them to charge fair and appropriate prices for quality, timely work. And, by policing our profession, we can insist that those who engage in fee slashing are accountable for producing work that upholds our industry's standards for quality and performance. We should call attention to below standard work and report anyone violating code, ethic, or tax regulations.

As a group of dedicated professionals, we have worked too hard for too long to allow ourselves to be destroyed by a temporary economic setback. Let's pull together by setting and enforcing continued high standards of performance. The message to consumers, and to one another, is that our work has value that cannot and will not be altered by the fee charged, and that we will continue to dedicate ourselves to high standards by maintaining fees appropriate to the value and liability of any given project.

Reprint from Connecticut, Spring 1991



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CHALLENGE TO PLSW MEMBERS

Last spring, the Western Federation of Professional Surveyors adopted a resolution urging its affiliate state organizations to set aside \$30.00 per member to be used in resolving the current crisis in the national surveying association. PLSW is an affiliate of WestFed, and at their May meeting, the PLSW Board of Directors voted to endorse this WestFed resolution, with the \$30.00 for each of the 108 members or \$3240.00 to be raised by raffle, separate solicitations, special donations or whatever, but not to be taken from dues. Donations of \$100.00 each have been received from three firms, Intermountain Professional Services (Bill and Becky Braman and Jeff Jones,) Steil Surveying Service (John Steil) and Pierson Land Surveying (Scott Pierson.)

Recently, John Steil and Scott Pierson have offered to do without reimbursement this year for their trips to the WestFed meetings. This is very generous offer, since PLSW currently has \$2400.00 budgeted for this representation at WestFed. This amount plus the \$300.00 already received puts PLSW at \$2700.00 of the proposed \$3240.00.

As you can see this project is very important to John and Scott, and, in fact, to all of us on the Board of Directors. We would like to challenge the members to pledge toward this fund. We all know how important a national organization can be to the professional surveyor. WestFed has emerged as the strongest and best organized multi-state federation, working for the betterment of the local surveyor. WestFed is suggesting that the state organizations collect and hold these funds to allow surveying to keep a strong national representation. The funds will not leave the state coffers without approval of the state Board of Directors. Please send in your response, pledging what you can, doing what you can to meet the \$30 per member.

PLSW Key Rings
are for sale. Send \$5 to:
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Federal Court Awards \$60 Million
for Regulatory Taking

The following article is reprinted from In Perspective, a publication of the Pacific Legal Foundation.

It is not often that a court orders government to pay money to a property owner because of a regulatory taking of his property. In "Takings" cases, a favorable ruling for a property owner often means a return to the status quo. That is, the government is ordered to compensate a landowner if it wants to carry out its regulatory policy. If it chooses not to, the landowner proceeds with the reasonable use of his property. Sometimes, however, government vigorously pursues its land use

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occurs, payment *must* be made for the loss of valuable property rights.

In *Whitney Benefits, Inc. v. United States*, a federal appeals court upheld a \$60 million judgement in favor of property owners in Wyoming who were unable to mine a large coal deposit because of a law Congress passed in 1977. This judgement, plus the accrued interest since 1977, represents the largest "takings" claim ever awarded in the modern era of environmental regulation.

In 1977, Congress passed the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act. This law prohibits mining "alluvial valley floors," which are ecologically significant areas in the West containing abundant water for agriculture and wildlife. The owners of the coal—Whitney Benefits and Peter Kiewit & Sons— sued the government when they learned the statute prevented them from mining their coal.

Pacific Legal Foundation attorneys first argued and the court accepted that the owners could have mined their coal pursuant to applicable environmental regulations. Then they argued that because Congress prevented the mine from operating, it had essentially taken the coal deposit away. The court agreed and ordered the federal government to compensate the owners for depriving them of "all economically viable

WYOMING STATE
ENGINEER'S OFFICE

A continuing reprint of portions of the
"Wyoming Water Law: A summary"

Ground Water

The first Wyoming ground-water laws were enacted in 1945 and amended in 1947. A new ground-water law went into effect March 1, 1958, repealing and replacing the 1945 and 1947 laws. Major amendments were made in 1969.

Priority of Wells

1. For all wells drilled prior to April 1, 1947, the date of priority is the date the well was completed if a claim for the well was filed before March 1, 1958, as provided by the law.
2. For wells drilled between April 1, 1947, and March 1, 1958, the date the well was registered established its priority date.
3. After March 1, 1958, the priority date is the date the application for a permit to drill the well is accepted in the state engineer's office.
4. An exception to the above is a well used solely for stock and/or domestic purposes. These wells, until the enactment of the 1969 amendment to the ground-water law, were exempt from filing and held a preferred right over wells used for all other purposes.
5. Under the 1969 amendment, all domestic and/or stock wells drilled after May 24, 1969, and all wells drilled for other purposes, establish a priority as of the date the application for permit to drill is received in the state engineer's office.
6. Under the 1969 amendment, all stock and/or domestic wells drilled and used before May 24, 1969, and registered with the state engineer before December 31, 1972, established a priority date as of the well's completion and water use.

Domestic and Stock Water Uses
(Ground Water)

The law defines domestic use as household use, including the watering of lawns and gardens for non-commercial family use, where the area to be irrigated does not exceed 1 acre. The quantity of water to be pumped for family or stock, use shall not exceed 25 gpm. A well may supply water to more than one, but not more than three single-family dwellings and still be considered a domestic use provided that:

1. The yield does not exceed 25 gpm
2. The total area of lawns and gardens to be watered does not exceed 1 acre.
3. No charge, hidden or otherwise is levied for the use of the water.
4. The water is not used in conjunction with a commercial endeavor.

livestock, including any project whereby water will be piped to no more than four points of use within 1 mile of the well. Large feedlot operations or any project whereby the water will be piped to five or more points of use, or the points of use are greater than 1 mile from the well, are considered miscellaneous use.

Ground Water Permitting Procedures

The same general procedures to acquire surface-water rights apply to acquiring a ground-water right:

1. Before a well is drilled, you must file an application and have it approved by the state engineer. This requirement applies to all wells used for any purpose.
2. Forms to be filed with the state engineer are available from that office, the water division superintendent's office, or the county clerk's office.
3. A permit to construct a well will generally be granted as matter of course by the state engineer. An exception may be in a ground-water control area.

The board of control may designate a control area where:

- a. The use of ground-water is approaching a use equal to the current recharge rate
 - b. Ground-water levels are declining or have declined excessively
 - c. Conflicts between users are occurring or are foreseeable
 - d. The waste of water is occurring or may occur, or
 - e. Other conditions exist or may arise that require regulation for protection of the public interest.
4. You must begin construction of a well within a year after the permit is granted; notify the state engineer's office by submitting a notice of commencement. You must complete the well and apply the water to beneficial use before the dates specified on the permit and submit the proper notice(s) verifying compliance to the state engineer's office.
 5. If you cannot begin construction of a well, complete it, or put the water to use in the time prescribed, request in writing (to the state engineer) an extension of time. Be sure to state good cause in the request.
 6. A plat, showing the location of the well(s) and the point(s) of use and distribution system, is required at the time of filing the final proof of appropriation and beneficial use. Have this plat certified by an engineer or land surveyor licensed to practice in Wyoming.
 7. After you have filed final proof of appropriation, an inspection of the project is made by the division water superintendent, and the proof is advertised. If everything is in order and no protests are filed, you are issued a certificate of appropriation by the board of control. It is recorded in the county clerk's office where the project is located and in the state engi-