

# DEEP EAST TEXAS CHAPTER NO. 6 NEWS

April 23, 1997

Texas Society of Professional Surveyors

Vol. 2, Issue 2

## **President's Column:**

In case you have not heard yet, your chapter is in the process of installing a NGS Calibrated Baseline. The baseline is located on the west side of the Drainage District No. 6 retention pond site on Dishman Road in west Beaumont. An entrance gate has been installed with a combination lock to allow members easy access. It will consist of four concrete monuments with brass disk set at 0 m, 150 m, 430 m and 1000 m. This will provide six distinct distances when measured in either direction and a combined total of twelve distances when a complete calibration test is performed.

The plan is to have the monuments installed Saturday, April 26th or May 3rd, depending upon the weather. According to NGS specifications, it is necessary that the concrete is allowed to cure and settle in the ground for four months prior to initial calibration. Area volunteers will then travel to Houston sometime in September to attend a two day NGS training seminar to learn the calibration procedures. They will then return with the specialized equipment, on loan from NGS, to perform the initial calibration. NGS will check the field data and publish the results.

We are working with NGS as well as the Gulf Coast Chapter and the student chapter at Texas A&M - Corpus Christi in this project. Locally, the all volunteer project is a cooperative effort between chapter members and area surveying and engineering companies. Our members are donating their time to install, attend the training seminar, and perform the initial calibration of the baseline. Among those companies who have members and/or employees participating are Howell & Davis, Schaumburg & Polk, Mark W. Whiteley, Shine & Johnston, Carroll & Blackman, Transit & Level Clinic and Wortech Land Surveyors. Other companies are supporting the effort with financial donations.

This is a much needed project for our chapter area. The support and enthusiasm shown by

our members has been overwhelming. It is especially encouraging to see so many area surveyors working together on this project. A special thanks to Steve Boucher, Bill Westbrook and Ron Davis for taking the lead in this project.

-----◆-----

## **Minutes of Meeting:**

The Chapter held its quarterly meeting January the 21st at Patrizzi's Restaurant in Beaumont. Guest speaker was Jefferson County Judge Carl Griffith. Judge Griffith reported that the economic outlook for Jefferson County was very promising. Area industries are planning over a billion dollars in expansion projects over the next couple of years. He also reported that numerous small to mid-size companies have been exploring opening or relocating their businesses to the area.

Members were also brought up to date on current TSPS activities on the state level. Discussions were held on the various proposed legislative bills being recommended by TSPS. In addition, members were polled as to their position on the one-pay dues system currently in place. Results of the poll were forwarded to the Chapter Activities committee.

-----◆-----

## **FEMA Workshop Held April 4th**

The chapter hosted the FEMA Workshop at the Hilton Hotel in Beaumont on April 4th. It was sponsored by TSPS and well attended by over sixty people, including surveyors, engineers and emergency management officials from both Texas and Louisiana. Eight CEU's will be awarded to Texas surveyors.

It appeared from the comments received that this was a very good seminar. Jack Quarles ☞

and Vicki Carter of FEMA were excellent speakers and well prepared. The topic and subjects presented were very timely and informative.

Check out their website: <http://www.fema.gov>

The chapter is already looking at topics for the seminar next year. If you have any suggestions or requests, please call us at (409) 866-9769 or fax at (409) 866-7075.

-----◆-----

### **Trig\*Star 1997:**

Trig\*Star competition is underway now. The program is designed to motivate students in their math studies while promoting the surveying profession. Our chapter will be conducting the regional test for high school students in our chapter area. The chapter will award cash scholarship of \$150 to the first place winner and \$75 to the second place winner. The math teachers of the winning students will receive the same amount in the form of a teaching excellence award.

The regional winner will advance to the statewide competition with the opportunity to advance to the national competition. Winner of the national competition receives a \$1000 cash scholarship. The winners of the last two national competitions came from Texas!

Contact Mitch Brackin at (409) 833-3363.

-----◆-----

### **Technicians Certification Exams:**

Applications for the Technician Certification exams are currently being accepted. The deadline is April 30th. The exam will be administered locally in May.

Contact Joe Breaux at (409) 892-0421 or by pager at 1-800-3208 #0244.

-----◆-----

### **Upcoming Events:**

Mark your calendar as a reminder of the following chapter events:

#### **May 10 -- Chapter Skeet Shoot**

101 Gun Club - Kountze  
Begins at 10:00 AM  
Entry fee \$20 (prizes to be awarded)  
Contact: Charles Lawley (409) 892-0865 or  
Ron Davis (409) 835-3445

#### **June 14 -- Chapter Golf Tournament**

Sunset Grove CC, Orange  
Tee Time: 8:00 AM (*4 man scramble*)  
Entry fee \$50 per person (includes green fee, cart, lunch, trophies, etc.)  
Contact: Randy Johnston (409) 385-2327

#### **July 15 -- Chapter Quarterly Meeting**

Stinger's Family Restaurant - Silsbee  
Social: 6:30 PM      Dinner: 7:00 PM  
Speaker: Mark Hanna, TSPS Legal Counsel

#### **August 19 -- Annual Chapter Board of Directors Meeting**

-----◆-----

### **Websites of the Quarter:**

<http://www.lsrp.com/>

Land Surveyors Reference Page - lots of good information and links to other surveying related websites.

<http://www.usgs.gov/> -- U.S. Geological Survey

<http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/> -- National Geodetic Survey

You can access these pages directly from the chapter website at:

<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/rworthey>

-----◆-----

**Special Offer For New Members:**

You can become a full member of TSPS now by completing the membership application and paying your chapter dues only. The state dues will be waived for the first year. In other words, become a chapter member and automatically become a state member free for the first year.

This is especially good news for registered surveyors who must attend the continuing education seminars. By becoming a member now, you will get a reduced rate on TSPS sponsored seminars!

It is also a good way for the surveying technicians to get acquainted with TSPS and their peers. TSPS offers many educational opportunities for those wishing to obtain their Texas registration. In addition, many members are willing assist others in their studies.

**Chapter Dues:**

Registered member	\$15.00
Associate/Affiliate member	\$10.00
Student	\$ 5.00

For more information contact Richard Worthey at (409) 866-9769.



**Welcome New Chapter Members:**

- William Lee James
- Terry Alan Klock (Schaumburg & Polk)
- William Steven Hamilton (City of Nederland)
- Billy Joe Howell (Howell & Davis)
- Charles Harold Story (Carroll & Blackman)



**Financial Assistance Request:**

As you can see from reading this newsletter, your chapter is active in many areas. Not only in promoting the surveying profession, but providing positive programs and goals that benefit all area surveyors. Many members are volunteering their time. Others are providing financial assistance. Some are providing both.

With this increased activity there is of course an increase in costs. That is why we are asking for financial support to help defray the cost of these programs.

Currently, chapter expenses include the NGS Calibrated Baseline project, Trig\*Star, Texas Surveyors Foundation, Inc. program and publication of this newsletter.

Anyone wishing to donate financial assistance should make their check payable to:

TSPS Chapter No. 6  
c/o W.J. Breaux  
P.O. Box 5492  
Beaumont, TX 77726-5492



**TSFI BBQ and Auction:**

The annual Ray Wisdom BBQ and TSFI auction will be held in Austin on Saturday, June 7, 1997. The Board of Trustees of TSFI is requesting each chapter donate at least on unique item of interest to be auctioned off at the BBQ. The item does not have to be surveying related. Anyone interested in donating an item, please contact Gilbert Johnston at (409) 385-5266.

President - Richard Worthey Vice President - Charles Lawley Secretary/Treasurer - Joe Breaux Director-at-Large - Steve Boucher Director-at-Large - Gilbert Johnston
---

