



# SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

- 8:00 am - 4:50 pm Know When to Hold 'em and Other Procedural Pitfalls
- 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Foresight Party

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

- 8:30 am - 4:50 pm CST Exam
- 8:30 am - 11:20 am Adverse Possession Like You've Never Seen it
- 8:30 am - 9:20 am How Accurate are Drone Surveys - and How to Prove it
- 8:30 am - 10:20 am History of Plats and the Land Division Act
- 9:30 am - 10:20 am Requirements of the PA 132, as Amended and Certified Surveys for MDOT
- 10:30 am - 11:20 am Navigating the Legal Landscape: Establishing and Structuring Your Small Business
- 10:30 am - 11:20 am Four Winds Casino – South Bend, Indiana
- 1:00 pm - 4:50 pm Deeds and Descriptions: Do's, Don't, and Depends
- 1:00 pm - 1:50 pm The Power of Contracts: Safeguarding Your Business and Mitigating Risks
- 1:00 pm - 2:50 pm Computations, Analysis and Error Propagation for the Surveyor
- 2:00 pm - 2:50 pm Engaging Michigan Surveyors in the Hunt for Big Trees
- 3:00 - 4:50 pm Datums and Reference Frames: The Past, Present, and Future of the NSRS
- 3:00 pm - 3:50 pm Ferris State University Presentations
- 4:00 pm - 4:50 pm Michigan Tech University Presentations
- 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm Exhibitor Reception
- 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm Young Surveyor Network Reception

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

- 8:30 am - 11:20 am Making Tracks - Railroad Problems
- 8:30 am - 10:20 am Cadastral Surveying
- 8:30 am - 10:20 am Field-to-Office Communication
- 10:30 am - 11:20 am Small but Mighty - Strategies for Keeping HR Strong When Stretched Thin
- 10:30 am - 11:20 am Equipment Maintenance
- 1:00 pm - 3:50 pm Shallow Water: Lagoons, Ponds, Canals & Small Streams
- 1:00 pm - 1:50 pm The Thriving CEO Blueprint
- 1:00 pm - 1:50 pm Legal Description Interpretation
- 2:00 pm - 2:50 pm The New Michigan State Plane Coordinate System (SPCS2022)
- 2:00 pm - 2:50 pm Nobody Cares About You, More Than You!
- 3:00 pm - 3:50 pm UAV Based LiDAR for Pre-Construction Planning, Mapping, and Documentation
- 3:00 pm - 3:50 pm Land Surveyor Technician Training: MSPS Program Development Update
- 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm Annual Membership Meeting
- 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm Member Recognition Reception

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

- 8:30 am - 10:20 am Business and Surveyor Ethics: From AI to you and I
- 8:30 am - 10:20 am Workplace Violence and Field Work Safety
- 8:30 am - 11:20 am Safe Excavation Practices

# SEMINAR

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER



**Kris Kline**  
2Point, Inc.

Kristopher M. Kline, president of 2Point, Inc., has a Bachelor of Science degree (class of '84) in general science from Bridgewater College in Bridgewater, Virginia. He has been involved in the surveying profession since graduation. Kris has presented several keynote addresses for state conventions. He has published 3 books and has published more than 50 articles in Point of Beginning Magazine.

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

8:00 am - 4:50 pm | 8 CEUs

### **Know When to Hold 'em and Other Procedural Pitfalls** **Kris Kline**

At the core of our profession is the boundary monument; most retracement disputes involve a choice to hold an existing monument, set a new monument, or choose between several existing monuments. This seminar is an in-depth discussion of basic theories and specific principles that form the basis of this critical decision, including the rules of construction, variations associated with riparian boundaries, and problems associated with 'office surveys'. Standards of research and a segment on modern survey retracement is included.

# CONVENTION SESSIONS

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

8:30 am - 11:20 am | 3 CEUs

### **Adverse Possession Like You've Never Seen It** **Kris Kline**

State specific discussion of Adverse Possession and Prescriptive Easements, with relevant local case law. Specific topics include: Tacking; Claims against the state; Claims made under mistaken belief; Effects of ordinances on adverse claims; Effects of a survey on a prescriptive claim; and Neighborly Accommodation.

8:30 am - 9:20 am | 1 CEU

### **How Accurate are Drone Surveys - and How to Prove it** **Logan Campell**

Drones are used more and more in land surveying, but many questions about accuracy remain. Especially in a world where inexperienced users often create bad data with drones, the actual users of drone data are rightly concerned with their accuracy. This presentation will cover exactly how accurate drone surveys can be, how to get there, and most importantly, how to measure and prove it to data users down the line.

8:30 am - 10:20 am | 2 CEUs

### **History of Plats and the Land Division Act** **Nick Clever**

This presentation will cover the progression of Michigan plat law from prior to statehood into the 21st Century. It will discuss how those laws laid the foundation for what became The Plat Act of 1929 which in turn established the precedent for the Subdivision Control Act in 1967, now the Land Division Act. Discussions will highlight the differing requirements for approvals, mapping, monumenting, offering the lands for sale and for vacating, correcting and revising plats under the various laws. Comparisons will note some of the differences between plats of record made prior to the Land Division Act and current plats of record made under the Land Division Act. Time permitting, Nick will receive questions related to the Land Division Act and questions related to the other programs that the Office of Land Survey and Remonumentation administers.

9:30 am - 10:20 am | 1 CEU

### **Requirements of the PA 132, as Amended and Certified** **Surveys for MDOT** **Cory Smith**

During the first half of this session, there will be an in-depth look at the changes to the Act as amended and what it means for surveys and surveyors. The second half of this session will include an in-depth review of the additional requirements for Certified Surveys for Right-of-Way acquisition and excess sales for MDOT.

# CONVENTION SESSIONS CONTINUED

**10:30 am - 11:20 am | 1 CEU**

**Navigating the Legal Landscape: Establishing and Structuring Your Small Business**  
**Rose Coonen**

This session focuses on the legal aspects of creating and structuring a small business. Participants will gain insights into the advantages, disadvantages, and legal implications of each structure. From registering a business name to how to protect your assets, and equip entrepreneurs with knowledge on establishing a legally sound foundation, and making sure their team is legally compliant. Participants will possess the tools necessary to navigate the legal complexities and set their small business on a path to success.

**10:30 am - 11:20 am | 1 CEU**

**Four Winds Casino – South Bend, Indiana**  
**Mike Freeman & Suzannah Deneau**

This presentation will give a history of the Band in Michigan and Indiana and the work needed to develop a casino campus. Owned and operated by the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, the South Bend casino is the 4th casino build by the Band and the first tribal casino in Indiana. The project includes 1850 slot machines, 317 hotel rooms, a 12,000 square foot spa, 17 conference rooms and 4 restaurants.

**1:00 pm - 4:50 pm | 4 CEUs**

**Deeds and Descriptions: Do's, Don't and Depends**  
**Kris Kline**

This session considers elements of a deed, reservations and exceptions in reference to a plat. We will cover rules of construction, calls for adjoiners, and the critical link between monuments and deeds. This session provides guidelines for providing concise descriptions without introducing ambiguities or unnecessary complexity. This session also considers various types of deeds, including boundary descriptions, deeds of easement and riparian boundaries.

**1:00 pm - 1:50 pm | 1 CEU**

**The Power of Contracts: Safeguarding Your Business and Mitigating Risks**  
**Rose Coonen**

This session will delve into the critical role of contracts in protecting and enhancing business success. We will highlight the importance of clear and comprehensive contracts in establishing and maintaining strong business relationships and emphasize the potential risks and consequences of operating without proper contracts. Participants will understand the value of contracts in mitigating risks, resolving conflicts, and fostering trust with clients, vendors, and stakeholders, empowering them to safeguard their business interests and propel them towards long-term success.

**1:00 pm - 2:50 pm | 2 CEUs**

**Technician Track**  
**Computations, Analysis and Error Propagation for the Surveyor**  
**Joe Fenicle**

During this presentation, there will be a review of elementary statistical concepts and some more complex issues dealing with error propagation.

**2:00 pm - 2:50 pm | 1 CEU**

**Technician Track**  
**Engaging Michigan Surveyors in the Hunt for Big Trees**  
**David Macfarlane**

Trees are the largest type of plant, and the biggest trees are among the most amazing and majestic organisms on Earth. In this talk, David will expound on the virtues of big trees, discuss the biggest trees across the globe and in Michigan, talk about new advances in tree measurements, and how surveyors can play, and have historically played, an important role in finding the biggest trees.

**3:00 pm - 4:50 pm | 2 CEUs**

**Datums and Reference Frames: The Past, Present, and Future of the NSRS**  
**Jacob Heck**

NGS is in the process of modernizing the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS), replacing the existing horizontal and vertical datums with a suite of terrestrial reference frames and a new geopotential datum. The NSRS provides a common reference so geospatial data can be collected and compared at different times by different people. A set of coordinates does not tell much without including what those coordinates are referenced to, but by specifying information about the reference system used, the data are much more meaningful. Jacob will discuss basics of datums and reference frames, and how they are created and how they connect at national and global levels.

**3:00 pm - 3:50 pm | 1 CEU**

**Ferris State University Presentations**

This session will focus on the students at Ferris State University, who will be sharing details about their present undertakings and future projects.

**4:00 pm - 4:50 pm | 1 CEU**

**Michigan Tech University Presentations**

This session from Michigan Tech University will provide insights on the projects that students are currently working on, as well as a glimpse into their future initiatives.

# CONVENTION SESSIONS CONTINUED

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

8:30 am - 11:20 am | 3 CEUs

### **Making Tracks - Railroad Problems**

**Kris Kline**

Numerous lawsuits emphasize the problems facing the surveyor who attempts to determine the limits and nature of property rights associated with rail lines. This session focuses on Railroad easements and rights of way with specific focus on understanding how the courts determine the location and ownership of a rail corridor. This session includes hands-on problems for the attendee.

8:30 am - 10:20 am | 2 CEUs

### **Technician Track**

### **Cadastral Surveying**

**Joe Fenicle**

During this presentation, there will be a review of the Public Land Survey System, where it came from and where it is today. This will include a discussion on the center of section.

8:30 am - 10:20 am | 2 CEUs

### **Technician Track**

### **Field-to-Office Communication**

**Joel East**

When performing boundary surveys, communication between the Survey Crew Chief and the Licensed Surveyor who is evaluating the evidence is an important step in ensuring accurate results. This can range from accurately describing the type of boundary evidence uncovered to reporting the surveying method used to collect the boundary evidence. This session will review such things as understanding what tool is right for the project, when a Field Surveyor's due diligence has been met in looking for boundary evidence, and the effective communication of that information back to the office.

10:30 am - 11:20 am | 1 CEU

### **Small but Mighty - Strategies for Keeping HR Strong When Stretched Thin**

**Lisa Struck**

Whether you're an HR department of one or part of a small team, you know how difficult it can be to focus on big picture people issues while also managing day-to-day details that keep the company running smoothly. In this session, the presenter will share ten hacks for extending your impact and making your HR Department look and feel bigger than it really is.

10:30 am - 11:20 am | 1 CEU

### **Technician Track**

### **Equipment Maintenance**

**Joe Jurcevic & Graham Clark**

This session will focus on the care and maintenance of field instruments, including data collectors, total stations, scanners, and more. Topics to be reviewed and demonstrated include general maintenance guidelines, proper transportation of equipment to and in the field, cleaning of optics, evaluating dropped instruments, etc. While the specific equipment the presenters will be working with are Trimble based, the foundational maintenance tips can be applied to any manufacturer.

1:00 pm - 3:50 pm | 3 CEUs

### **Shallow Water: Lagoons, Ponds, Canals & Small Streams**

**Kris Kline**

This riparian session concentrates on smaller bodies of water (natural and artificial) in the context of underlying title, rights of navigation, & regulation.

1:00 pm - 1:50 pm | 1 CEU

### **The Thriving CEO Blueprint**

**Paula White**

This session will discuss financial foundations and moving from chaos to clarity in your business.

1:00 pm - 1:50 pm | 1 CEU

### **Technician Track**

### **Legal Description Interpretation**

**Cory Smith**

During this session, participants will learn how to identify the different types of possible legal descriptions or a combination of multiple legal descriptions and how each one changes how we approach a boundary scenario in the field or in the office.

2:00 pm - 2:50 pm | 1 CEU

### **The New Michigan State Plane Coordinate System (SPCS2022)**

**Bob Burtch**

This presentation will discuss Michigan's decision to change the current State Plane Coordinate System (SPCS) configuration to a low distortion projection system.

# CONVENTION SESSIONS CONTINUED

2:00 pm - 2:50 pm | 1 CEU

**Technician Track**

**Nobody Cares About You, More Than You!**

**Michael Burns**

The discussion will revolve around the true place of your safety in workplaces and why it falls as far as it does. The presenter will also discuss ways to change safety culture to turn this trend around, various training methods that can be used, and where to begin, as well as discuss the benefits of a safety program.

3:00 pm - 3:50 pm | 1 CEU

**UAV Based LiDAR for Pre-Construction Planning, Mapping, and Documentation**

**Jeff Schepers**

In this discussion we will look at the practical uses of aerial LiDAR from a UAV. UAV Based LiDAR accuracy and time savings is paving the way for widespread use and integration into everyday projects. We will look at how it can improve designs, allow for more accurate planning, and provide Pre-Construction documentation for defenses against claims.

3:00 pm - 3:50 pm | 1 CEU

**Land Surveyor Technician Training: MSPS Program Development Update**

**Chris Beland**

This session will provide an update on the success of the initial Surveyor Boot Camp and highlight the next round of training offerings and plans for 2024 and beyond.

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

8:30 am - 10:20 am | 2 CEUs

**Business and Surveyor Ethics: From AI to you and I**

**Andrew Wible**

This interactive session will look at new ethical issues related to AI and other emerging digital technology and explore how it affects professional and business ethics. Similarities and differences will be presented as well as a discussion around handling new technology.

8:30 am - 10:20 am | 2 CEUs

**Technician Track**

**Workplace Violence and Field Work Safety**

**Michael Wierenga**

No one can realistically expect to eliminate the potential for workplace violence. These events continue to occur with increasing regularity and severity. However, with training to recognize the indicators and preparation to react appropriately, any company, organization or individual can minimize the devastation from these tragedies. This session is designed to improve customer relations while increasing employee confidence and safety by recognizing the indicators of potential physical and environmental violence and by learning the skills, principles, and techniques for controlling the interaction and de-escalating the conflict whether in an office environment or working out in the field. We will discuss the proper reaction and appropriate response before it is too late.

8:30 am - 11:20 am | 3 CEUs

**Technician Track**

**Safe Excavation Practices**

**Jef Johnson**

The MISS DIG 811 presentation will cover safe excavation practices, Public Act 174 (also known as PA 174 or the MISS DIG 811 Law), and the MISS DIG 811 process. It will include placing a ticket, checking Positive Response, scouting a job site before excavation begins, safely hand-exposing facilities, and emergency procedures along with defining the three work zones in Michigan. The presentation also covers the MPSC's role, penalties for violating PA 174, and exemptions to PA 174.

**Audiovisual recordings and photographs will be taken during this event, which may be used for promotional and other purposes in all forms of media, including the internet. By attending this event, you are consenting to being recorded and photographed and to the use of your likeness and voice in any media in perpetuity by the Michigan Society of Professional Surveyors, and anyone acting under its authority or permission for promotional purposes or for whatever other purpose it sees fit.**