



Land Surveyors' Association of Washington Historical Society

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING
SATURDAY MARCH 8, 2008
CONVENTION CENTER - SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

Call to Order: Chairman Denny DeMeyer called the meeting to order at 7:23 A.M. We met in Room 201 A, B & C of the Spokane Convention Center which is attached to the Double Tree Hotel. The accommodations were much better than in previous years and allowed for a lot of interaction and conversations as we ate our breakfast.

Attendance sheets were passed around for the members and guests to sign in. Those in attendance were: Pat Beehler WA, Jerry Olson WA, Dave Steele WA, Terry Trantow WA, Don Semrau WA, Earl F. Burkholder NM, Bill Glassey WA, Bruce Hedquist CA, Bud Condrey WA, Jim Kimberling OR, Bryan Mead WA, Chris Renaldo ID, Larry Meriam AB, Denny DeMeyer WA, Jack Nisbet WA, Michael Gilroy WA, John Thalacker WA, Walt Dale WA, Tim Kent WA, Lynn Savory TX, Greg Tuttle AZ, William Snyder IL, Randolph Sleight WA, Peter Hodges WA, John Linzee WA, John Thatcher OR, Howard Richardson WA, John Armstrong BC, Steven Mailliard WA, Brent Johnston WA, Dean Yonque ID, Frank Thousand WI, Alex Sellman WA, Julian "Jud" Rouch IN, Michael Given PA.

Guest Speaker: Chairman DeMeyer introduced Jack Nisbet for his presentation about David Thompson. Mr. Nisbet gave a wonderful overview of David Thompson. He used maps, pictures and journal entries to show and illustrate the complexity, hardships and the results of Thompson's explorations. Mr. Nisbet brought copies of his book "The Mapmakers Eye: David Thompson on the Columbia Plateau". At the end of the meeting he sold several books to those who were interested in purchasing it.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The minutes of the March 4, 2007 meeting in Tacoma, Washington at the Sheraton Hotel were published and presented for approval. There being no changes, the minutes were approved as published.

Treasurer's Report: Balance on hand as of 12-31-2007 was \$5,418.23 in checking, and \$11,015.20 in savings. The report was accepted.

Updates on Continuing Activities:

- 1. Galena road/Yellowstone Trail: Randy Sleight.** Randy gave a brief update on his continuing research into the history of the roads. He also reminded the group about the book on the Yellowstone Trail. The "Yellowstone Trail" is an early transcontinental road that went from Boston to Puget Sound, and was also known as the "Red Brick Road".
- 2. GLO Surveyors' Grave Sites: Tim Kent.** Tim is putting together a listing of the location of the grave sites for the GLO surveyors. Tim indicated that there are around 280 grave sites in Washington. He noted that the grave of GLO Surveyor Thomas Frost, died 1855, is in the Union Cemetery in Tumwater. (note; contact Pat Beehler for directions if you want to visit the Frost grave)
- 3. LSAW Historical Society Website:** Tim Kent & Denny gave an update on the progress of our website. <http://www.lsayhistorical.org>
- 4. International Boundary:** Denny announced that the 100th anniversary of the International Boundary Commission will be observed Saturday, June 7, 2008 at the Peace Arch.

5. **Burke & Wills Expedition, Australia:** The 150th anniversary of the ill fated "Victorian Exploring Expedition" will be observed at the FIG meeting in Australia. Denny and Delores plan on attending the event. Denny gave a brief explanation of the expedition. The websites are, <http://www.burkeandwills.net.au/index.htm> and <http://www.burkandwills.org>
6. **David Thompson Bicentennial:** The issue of where to spend up to \$1,000.00 of our funds for this year's Thompson programs was discussed. It was moved and seconded to allocate \$504.00 US for sponsorship of the canoe event of the Thompson Brigade, passed. It was also moved and seconded to send \$250.00 to support the Thompson Bonners Ferry Conference in Montana, passed.
7. **Solar Instruments Seminar:** Tim Kent announced he is going to conduct two seminars on the operation and use of Solar Instruments. The first will be in Portland, OR on May 17th, and the second will be held in Klamath Falls at OIT in September.

New Business:

- 1) **Joe Colcord Papers:** Randy Sleight brought up the preservation of historical papers and records that are being destroyed by family members when surveyors die. Dave Steele reminded the group that the DNR will assist in acquiring and preserving old survey records.
- 2) **Al White Papers:** Tim Kent related his interaction with Al White and the family in his attempt to preserve valuable papers.
- 3) **National Museum of Surveying:** It was moved and seconded to donate \$1,000.00 to the museum as our 2008 contribution, passed.
- 4) **Increase of Annual Membership Dues:** A motion was made and seconded to increase the annual dues for the LSAW historical society from \$25.00 to \$50.00, passed.

Good of the Order:

- 1) One of our guests from out of state, Earl Burkholder, noted some historical items that he was aware of.

Election of Officers. This being the time and place designated for the election of the officers of the society, Denny opened the floor to nominations. Mr. DeMeyer was nominated to serve as Chairman; he accepted the nomination and was elected. Pat Beehler was nominated to continue as Secretary-Treasurer. There were no other nominations, and he was elected by unanimous ballot.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 AM.

Respectfully Submitted



Patrick J. Beehler, PLS LSAW
Secretary-Treasurer