

CHAPTER NEWS

MIDDLE RIO GRANDE

The Middle Rio Grande Chapter of NMPS meets the second Tuesday of every month at Villa de Capo Restaurant, 8th & Central SW in Albuquerque. Dinner is at six P.M, a short business session is conducted at 6:45, and an invited speaker gives a presentation between 7 and 8 for which one PDH is credited. January's speaker was Linda Adamsko who is in charge of disposal of surplus real property for the City of Albuquerque.

This month Ms. Cheryl Glauner, an AutoCAD and website design teacher at West Mesa High School in Albuquerque has agreed to address our meeting. Tom Patrick, P.S. and Tom Mann, P.E. mentored with Ms. Glauner's students last semester.

Due to proximity of the State NMPS Conference, the Middle Rio Grande Chapter of NMPS will forgo its March meeting.

Philip W. Turner, PS
President

NORTH CENTRAL

The North Central Chapter of NMPS held the first meeting of the year in January and anticipate one in February as well. Per the vote at the January meeting there will be no meeting in March, since the membership will be going to the convention.

Regular meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, 7:00 at Peppers in Santa Fe.

SOUTHERN RIO GRANDE

Minutes of Southern Rio Grande NMPS Chapter Meeting (Unapproved - 01/19/02)

Date: January 16, 2002. Dinner at 6:00 p.m. & meeting 7:10 p.m. to 8:05 p.m.

Place: My Brother's Place, Las Cruces, New Mexico

Present: Virginia Beck, President; Earl F. Burkholder, Secretary; Kery Greiner, Treasurer; Thom Maestas, Steve Frank, Justin Miller, Roxanne Nimmer, Christine Ochs, Ron Logan, David Blanchard, James Reilly, Judd Rouch, Coyote Sparrow, Jerry Cutts, Fred Roeder, Rich Dieckmann, and Chris Jones.

President Beck called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. The previous meeting was the joint Christmas Party with the El Paso Chapter of TSPS and no minutes were taken. The minutes of the November 14, 2001 meeting were distributed via email and no one had a copy present.

The Treasurer circulated a written report showing a balance \$91.86. Former President Nimmer gave a check of \$50 (new balance \$141.86) from the Great American Land and Cattle Company as a refund of the deposit for the Christmas party. Expenditures since the last meeting include \$180.70 spent for door prizes for the Christmas party.

Report from NMSU: Three students were present (Chris Jones, Coyote Sparrow, & Rich Dieckmann). They noted the NMSU Student Chapter of ACSM/NMPS is planning a golf tournament on March 14th in Albuquerque, the day before the NMPS Annual Meeting, as a fund raiser to support sending a group of students to the "Roman Surveying" competition which will be held at the international surveyors (FIG) meeting in Washington, D.C. in April.

Report from government agencies: Thom Maestas reported that email service (external to the agency) has been shut down due to the Secretary of Interior not complying with a federal judge's order to ensure greater accountability with Bureau of Indian Affairs Trust Funds (apparently \$100 million dollars has been "lost").

The BLM is affected because they do a significant amount of survey work for the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Employees are not permitted to use personal computers and email accounts to conduct government business by threat of being held in contempt of court. It may be a year or more before they are back "on line."

New business items:

1. The computer problems experienced by Dona Ana County affect operations of many local professionals — including surveyors. It would be good to get someone from the county data processing department (several have left for other jobs) to help us understand the problem and how we can continue using the resources which are available. Dave Blanchard and Steve Frank each agreed to help by making contacts with persons in the know.
2. President Beck introduced the idea of having a Bar-B-Que as one of the monthly meetings. It was generally agreed fall is best after heat/humidity of summer have passed. September was mentioned as the best month to have it.
3. President Beck also suggested every other meeting could be a speaker meeting of some sort. Possibilities include equipment vendors, guest from the registration board, and/or representatives from the city/county to discuss (for example) easements and right-of-ways.
4. The dinner tab for students present was picked up by regular NMPS members in attendance. As a general item, it was agreed local chapter members would pay for two students attending the chapter meetings — so long as it was not always the same two students. As student chapter advisor, Burkholder will bring it up for discussion at the student chapter meeting and see if some way of designating "freebies" can be arranged. Steve Frank noted the students have food once a month (every other meeting) and don't charge "guests."
5. Recruiting is an important topic. President Beck discussed efforts to visit local schools. Justin Miller has gone out to talk about the maze a number of times, Dr Reilly and Steve Frank made some school visits several years ago (it was agreed faculty are not the best recruiters), an effort should be made to present surveying as a career option at high schools throughout the state, and Christine Ochs and Roxanne Nimmer agreed to help President Virginia Beck develop something. Burkholder noted several students at NMSU are developing recruiting ideas for the El Paso schools. He will have Arlene Perez contact Virginia Beck.
6. Let's have some fun. President Beck suggested the chapter meeting could be livened up with story hour, a play, karaoke, poem reading, etc. She suggested Fred Roeder might write use a skit which could be developed and performed at the bar-b-que. The possibilities are endless.
7. Steve Frank mentioned the national level effort to document and monument the center of population for each state. He has researched it for New Mexico and discovered the point is in one of the national forests. Setting a survey marker could be developed as an interesting public service exercise. We'll discuss it more at next meeting.
8. Dr Reilly introduced a guest of honor for the evening. Judd Rouch is a Past President of ACSM and Chair of the USA delegation to the Surveyors Federation Internationale (FIG). He is passing through on his way to attend the Arizona surveyors annual meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Earl F. Burkholder - Secretary
Southern Rio Grande Chapter NMPS

