

PSLS 2019 Speaker Bios

Mark Amirault

Mark is responsible for providing insurance coverage and review to all facets of the design community. Mark is a frequent presenter of continuing education sessions on insurance, risk management and business topics for the design community. In 1999, he received his BS from the Carroll School of Management at Boston College. Prior to joining the Klein Agency, Mark was a marketing representative responsible for completing RFPs for a large custodial bank and was then an insurance underwriter with a focus on small to mid-size contractors. He joined the Klein Agency in 2006, and after a year working at Klein's headquarters in Maryland, he opened the Philadelphia office in 2007.

Bryan Baker

Bryan Baker is the North American UAS Sales Manager for Leica Geosystems Inc. He is an ASPRS Certified Mapping Scientist for UAS (CMS-UAS) with over 30 years of experience in the geospatial profession focusing on sales management, software and application development, training, and technical support in land surveying and GIS. Bryan is also an instrument-rated, commercial pilot and a field representative for the FAA Safety Team in the Arizona District.

He has been involved with developments in the UAS industry since its beginning, both with regard to Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations and the application of professional systems. In addition to his Commercial Pilot Certification, Bryan also holds a FAA UAS Section 333 exemption and UAS Remote Pilot Certificate with several UAS waivers.

Andrew Bennett, PE

Andrew Bennett, PE is employed by Pennoni Associates Inc. and has been a licensed engineer in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for over 20 years. He graduated with a B.S. from Lehigh University in 1988 and a M.S. in Civil Engineering in 1993. He has performed site design, stormwater analysis, and erosion and sedimentation control design on a variety of projects, including small and large residential subdivisions, commercial developments, and manufacturing facilities. In addition, he has performed stormwater and erosion and sedimentation control design for in excess of 15 other engineering firms. Mr. Bennett has taught an internal company stormwater design course for over 10 years.

Brent Birth

Bio coming soon...

Dimitrios Bolkas, PhD, PEng

Dimitrios Bolkas, Ph.D., is currently an Assistant Professor of Surveying Engineering at the Pennsylvania State University, Wilkes-Barre Campus. He has a diverse geodetic and geoscientific experience that includes terrestrial, mobile, and airborne laser scanning, digital elevation models, unmanned aerial systems, GNSS networks, geoid and gravity-field modeling. His main research interest is on building methods to increase, understand, and assess quality/uncertainty in 3D geospatial datasets. In addition, his research develops new methods and techniques to enhance functionality of 3D geospatial data and models. His work has appeared in several peer-reviewed scientific journals and presented in various international scientific meetings.

Michael Brinkash, Sr, PLS

Michael F. Brinkash, P.L.S., President of Brinkash and Associates, Inc. began surveying part-time in 1969 while a junior in High School and after graduation (1971) worked in surveying full time while taking correspondence courses in Surveying and Engineering. He enlisted in the United States Army Reserve in 1972, followed by 6 months of active duty and was honorably discharged in 1978. In October 1977, he was licensed to practice land surveying professionally in PA and licensed in NY in 2009. By 1978 he was sole-proprietor of a land surveying business and from 1981-1998 he was partner in the land surveying business of Gasperetti & Brinkash. From 1999 to present day, he has been the President of Brinkash and Associates, Inc.; offering surveying and engineering services.

From 1987-88 he served as the PSLS Representative to the National Society of Professional Land Surveyors (NSPS) Board of Governors. 1989-90 he served as President of the Pennsylvania Society of Land Surveyors (PSLS). In 1991 he was the recipient of the PSLS Surveyor of the Year Award. In 1997, he authored and published, *County and Municipal Boundary*

Descriptions, a 472-page professional textbook and donated the copyrights to the PSLS. In 2011, he was appointed to serve on the Pennsylvania State Registration Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists. From 2015-16 he served as President of the State Registration Board. From 2011 to present, he has been a member of the Pennsylvania State Registration Board and the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES).

Jim Carlson

From 1987 to present, Jim Carlson has been in direct sales, marketing and training for Carlson Software. Prior to that he worked for 10 years in manufacturing and construction, for Bennett Heat Treating. He was the Quality Control manager at Harris Structural Steel, a large steel bridge fabricator and also worked at the NJ DOT prior to joining Carlson Software. In 1987, he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Manufacturing Technology from Kean University. In 2010, he graduated from Wentworth University of Technology with a certificate in Professional Land Surveying.

Jeff Chiampi

Mr. Chiampi is a Lecturer of Computer Science and Mathematics at The Pennsylvania State University Wilkes-Barre campus. He holds master degrees in Business Administration and Software Engineering. He regularly teaches courses in computer science, game development, and information sciences and technology. Before coming to Penn State Mr. Chiampi worked in the information technology industry for over 10 years. His primary research interest is the application of Virtual Reality (VR) on engineering education. He recently received funding to create a VR lab to investigate the extent VR can be used to augment surveying education.

Steve Cummings

Steve Cummings has been in the construction industry his entire career, working as a structural designer, manufacturing plant manager, construction project manager, and software sales and technical support. Prior to BIM being coined, he built a system for budgeting production homes using actual products and costs for Pulte Homes. He served as a trainer for Keymark, one of the first 3-D modeling software packages for residences and small commercial projects. More recently, he designed trusses and panels using 3-D modeling with other disciplines' input (clash analysis) to prevent having to cut big holes in trusses or panels for HVAC and plumbing. He is currently developing BIM approaches for civil networks and road work.

Gregory Clark, PLS

Greg Clark was licensed in 1980 to practice Land Surveying in Pennsylvania. Early on, Greg worked for a surface mining company in reserve analysis, permitting, and boundary surveying. In 1985 he began private practice offering Surveying services in northwest PA. Greg gives much credit to those early mentors leading to his primary focus on Boundary Retracement surveying. Whether the history and mystery of retracement takes one back twenty years in time or 200 years, each has its unique circumstances and bits of evidence to consider. On many occasions Greg has provided expert testimony in court regarding land boundaries.

Greg Clark has taught continuing education classes in Basic Surveying at Clarion University and has presented surveying related topics at Northwest PA GIS Conferences in recent years. He is the author of several Boundary Surveying related articles, one of which, titled "Sufficient Evidence", was recently recognized as "Best Original Feature Article" by NSPS.

John Cooke

John Cooke has been continuously affiliated with Autodesk Civil/Survey applications since 1989 and has an extensive background in the development, implementation and training of Autodesk AEC Civil Engineering, Surveying, GIS and BIM solutions. He has provided training to thousands of individuals nationwide, assisted numerous clients in implementing Civil software, CAD standards and practices, and provided project consulting to many clients in unusual or challenging project applications. His experience level covers a spectrum from wide-area network-based systems for large international clients to individual data collection and mapping stations for survey sole practitioners. Operating CivilTraining, LLC, Mr. Cooke continues to provide training and consulting services to national clientele and participates in development efforts for engineering and survey automation within Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc. and The Davey Resource Group, including the creation of custom software for stream restoration based on AutoCAD Civil 3D.

Francis W. Derby, PhD

Dr. Derby is currently Associate Professor of Engineering and Chair of the Surveying Engineering and Technology Programs at Penn State University. He has taught traditional courses in surveying as well as introductory and advanced courses in GIS, Photogrammetry, Unmanned Aerial Mapping Systems and Terrestrial Laser Scanning. His previous work experiences include land surveying activities in Africa, United Kingdom, South America and the Caribbean. He has previously worked for the Commonwealth Secretariat of Great Britain as technical advisor to the government of the Commonwealth of Dominica on infrastructure development. He also consulted for the World Bank on various projects in Peru and Tanzania as Cadastral Advisor and Land Records Specialist. Dr. Derby has mentored several faculty members through promotion and tenure at Penn State University. He is an active member of the American Association of Geodetic Surveying (AAGS), American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS), Pennsylvania Society of Land Surveyors (PSLS), and the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE). He is a manuscript reviewer for the journal of Surveying and Land Information Systems (SaLIS), the Journal of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), and the American Society of Engineering Educators (ASEE). He is also a grant reviewer for the National Science and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) of Canada.

Dave Doyle

Dave Doyle has been involved in geodetic surveying since 1967. He joined the National Geodetic Survey in 1972 and functioned in numerous positions dealing with national adjustments, datum transformation and outreach to the surveying and geospatial community. He held the position of chief geodetic surveyor for 12 years prior to his retirement in 2013. He now owns Base 9 Geodetic Services which provides consultation to public and private agencies and companies as well as teaching seminars on the fundamentals of geodesy and the National Spatial Reference System. He is a Past President of the American Association for Geodetic Surveying, and is an active member of the DC, Maryland and Virginia professional surveyors' associations. He has published more than 30 technical articles on geodesy and was honored as the Maryland Surveyor of the Year in 2008 in addition to numerous other service awards from state and national surveying associations.

Kenneth Fronheiser, PLS

Bio coming soon...

Charles Ghilani

Dr. Charles Ghilani is a professor emeritus at Pennsylvania State University. He received his Ph.D. in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1989. He has been involved as an instructor in surveying/geomatics education for more than 35 years and has presented workshops on statistics, least squares adjustments, state plane coordinates, and GNSS to surveying practitioners across the country. He has written over one-hundred papers and is the author of **Adjustment Computations: Spatial Data Analysis** and **Elementary Surveying: An Introduction in Geomatics**. He is a past president of the Surveying and Geomatics Educators Society (SaGES) the American Association for Geodetic Surveying, (AAGS), and the editor of *Surveying and Land Information Science*. He is an AAGS Fellow and has received numerous university and professional awards including the Earle J. Fennel Award from ACSM in 2001, Milton S. Eisenhower Award for Distinguished Teaching at Penn State in 2013, and honorary membership in the Pennsylvania Society of Land Surveyors in 2015.

Dan Gillins, PhD, PLS

Bio coming soon...

Christopher Guagliardo, PLS

Chris has spent over 20 years surveying both in the field and office. He is well versed in the use of Robotic Total Stations and GPS. Chris is a Certified Trainer with Trimble. He currently works for Keystone Precision Instruments in the companies Crofton, Maryland office but serves the support needs of KPI from Maryland to Maine.

Amy Hopkins, PLS

Amy Hopkins is a Professional Land Surveyor licensed in Pennsylvania and New York. She currently serves as the PLS Secretary and was instrumental in developing a mentoring program for the Society. Amy is the owner and managing member of Urban Terrain, LLC, a woman, veteran owned business. She has over 28 years of surveying experience and

received her survey training while on active duty in the United States Marine Corps where she served as a Geodetic Surveyor. Amy was honored in 2016 as the Surveyor of Year.

Jeff Jalbrzikowski, PS, GISP

Jeff Jalbrzikowski, P.S., GISP, is the Appalachian Regional Geodetic Advisor with the National Geodetic Survey. He began his geospatial career when he enlisted in the U.S. Army as a Field Artillery Surveyor. He's had stints with a land development firm performing construction and boundary surveys, as a cadastral surveyor with the BLM, as a GIS technician with multiple employers, and as a land and hydrographic surveyor with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Pittsburgh District. Jeff is a licensed surveyor in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia, and is a certified GIS Professional.

Donald Kamp, PLS, PP, CP

Donald Kamp, PLS, PP, CP is a licensed Professional Land Surveyor in PA, NJ and DE; a licensed Professional Planner in NJ, and a Certified Photogrammetrist (ASPRS). His experience includes executive and senior management positions with Engineering, Surveying and Mapping firms, as well as the Bucks County Redevelopment Authority. His roles have included business development, project planning, estimating and day-to-day supervision and management of surveying operations and personnel. He is a Past President of PSLs, and for many years has served on the PSLs Education and Exam Committees.

Gary Kent, PS

Gary Kent is in his 36th year with Schneider Geomatics in Indianapolis. He has chaired both the NSPS and ALTA committees on the ALTA/NSPS Standards since 1995. Gary is a past-president of ACSM and ISPLS and from 1999-2006 he taught boundary law, legal descriptions, property surveying and land survey systems for Purdue University. He has served on the Indiana State Board of Registration for Professional Surveyors since 2004 and is frequently called as an expert witness. Gary has presented programs in all 50 states and he writes a column for *The American Surveyor* and contributes to *NSPS News and Views*.

Jim Larkin

James (Jim) P. Larkin, is a Liaison Representative for Pennsylvania One Call System, Inc., a 501(c)(6) not-for profit whose purpose is to prevent damage to underground facilities. In 2017, Pennsylvania One Call received more than 888,000 notifications of intent to excavate and sent more than 7 million messages to over 3500 underground utility owners. Pennsylvania One Call provides notification services to almost 1,500 municipalities, townships and nonprofits at no cost.

Jim is a graduate of Purdue University Global where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Magna Cum Laude. Jim has diverse industry experience as an Account and Client manager for Hewlett Packard and Electronic Data System as well as beginning his business career as a Computer Programmer for the Commonwealth of PA. Jim also worked in the construction industry as a Journeyman Boilermaker prior to his collegiate studies.

Sal Marsico, JD

Bio coming soon...

Aaron McWilliams, PE

Aaron McWilliams is a reference archivist at the Pennsylvania State Archives. He is responsible for handling research inquiries at the Archives and frequently represents the agency at events. His areas of expertise include Pennsylvania state land records, Pennsylvania's Revolutionary War militia, and genealogy. Prior to joining the Pennsylvania State Archives, Aaron worked as a reference archivist at the Maryland State Archives and as a professional genealogist.

Robert Miller

Bio coming soon...

Stephen M. Moore, PLS

Stephen M. Moore, PLS is the Geodetic Surveys Manager with PennDOT Photogrammetry and Surveys Section. He is currently responsible for planning, processing, and publishing all statewide high-order geodetic and vertical surveys for the PAMS survey control database. Other responsibilities include, operating and managing a GPS CORS network which

supports the NGS CORS and private partners. Stephen spent over 10 years teaching survey courses as an adjunct professor at HACC, and his passion for learning and sharing new technologies continues to grow.

Brian Naberezny

Bio coming soon...

Scott Reeser

Scott R. Reeser, PLS, has almost 30 years of experience in surveying and design. Mr. Reeser is a graduate of the Penn State University Surveying Program, where he earned an Associate Degree in Surveying Technology. He has been a licensed Professional Land Surveyor in Pennsylvania since 2008, and also holds surveying licenses in New York (2012), West Virginia (2013) and Colorado (2014).

He is a member of the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Land Surveyors, where he serves on the Executive Committee and Education Committee. He is currently serving the Society as President.

Throughout his career he has worked for various engineering, surveying and civil consulting firms; gaining experience in multiple facets of surveying, engineering and land use consulting. His diversified experience has allowed him to work on projects that serve different market sectors including the general public, state and local government, private developers, public utilities and private utilities. Currently Mr. Reeser is the Director of Surveys at Hunt Engineering Company, based in Malvern, PA.

He has been a frequent presenter of varied topics at the annual Pennsylvania Society of Professional Land Surveyors conference and has also been a presenter at the New York Association of Professional Land Surveyors annual conference. His expanding list of presentation topics includes: writing legal descriptions, communications in the workplace, survey registration law, survey math professional ethics and historical subjects.

Heather Ross

Heather Dohn Ross works in the Donald W. Hamer Center for Maps and Geospatial Information of the Penn State University Libraries where she has worked for over 17 years. She has long fostered an appreciation of maps born from a childhood of sailing and reading nautical charts and maps, and atlases. She holds a BS and MS in Experimental Psychology from Syracuse University.

Jon Sever

Mr. Jonathon Sever is the NJ & PA account manager for FARO Technologies in their Construction BIM group. In this role, Mr. Sever works with potential customers to help them find a laser scanning solution that fits their needs. Mr. Sever is the former Newark Delaware HDLS project manager for Pennoni Associates survey group; where he managed and performed various HDLS projects that included BIM modeling for Pennoni's various internal and external AEC clients. Mr. Sever has been involved in the AEC market for over 20 years and has been published in various trade publications such as XYHt, POB, Lidar Magazine and Plant Engineering Magazine for various scanning related projects.

Thomas Seybert

Bio coming soon...

Thomas Smith, PE, PLS

Mr. Smith received a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from The Pennsylvania State University in 1974 and a Master of Civil Engineering from Villanova University in 1986. He is a licensed Professional Engineer and Land Surveyor in Pennsylvania. He has over 40 years of experience in civil engineering practice working in municipal engineering and in private practice. He is principal of Bercek and Smith Engineering, Inc. of Royersford, PA, reflecting ownership of his Civil Engineering and Land Surveying business for 28 years. He has extensive expertise in Floodplain studies, Stormwater Management and design of Subdivision and Land Development projects. Mr. Smith is a major contributor to the Virginia Tech, Penn State Urban Hydrology computer model, having been a guest instructor for 30 years. He has authored the computer modules for Rational Hydrographs, Basin dewatering, swale design and has contributed to the overall development of the software since its inception.

John Smoker, PLS

As Manager of Land Surveying, John is responsible for overseeing the Land Surveying Department and all of the surveying projects. His duties include administration, marketing, project review, project scheduling, staffing, quality assurance/quality control, supervision of the survey crews along with his senior survey technician, coordination between departments, and coordination with our clients.

John started working for Mackin as a Rod & Chain Person and has worked his way up through the ranks, while obtaining his Professional Land Surveyors License. John is a member of PLS (Pennsylvania Society of Land Surveyors) and a member of NSPS (National Society of Professional Surveyors).

Bernie Telatovich

Bio coming soon...

David Widmer, PLS

Mr. Widmer was licensed as a Professional Land Surveyor by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 1985. In 1991 he was appointed as one of the first surveyor only members of the State Registration Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors and served on the Board for 18 ½ years. Mr. Widmer was elected to the Board of Directors of the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) in 2009 and served as the Northeast Zone Vice President, National Treasurer and the Council President in 2014-15. He served 7 years on the NCEES Board of Directors. Mr. Widmer also served two years as a Governor of ASCE's Utility Engineering and Surveying Institute (UESI). In October 2017 he was appointed by Judge John Spataro as a Boundary Line Commissioner to investigate and locate the boundary line between Butler and Lawrence Counties in western PA.

Benjamin Vander Jagt

Benjamin Vander Jagt is the founder of PixElement, a Midwest startup that provides cloud-based 3D reconstruction and mapping software for land surveying, construction, and mining applications. They have partnered with Carlson to bring CPC to market. Ben is a land surveying graduate (Ferris State University, Michigan) although he spends most days now in front of screen writing software...the very thing he set out NOT to do. Ben is also the chair of the UAS Division within ASPRS (American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing), and is actively looking for ways to align land surveying professionals with ASPRS and vice versa.

Esra Yilmaz

Bio coming soon...