

National Association of County Surveyors

NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY SURVEYORS – ISSUE NO. 11

Spring 2007

OFFICERS 2006 – 2008

Kenton C. Ward
President
Hamilton County, Indiana
KCW@co.hamilton.in.us

Scott D. Zeigler
Vice President
Noble County, Indiana
szeigler@ligtel.com

Warren D. Ward
President-Elect
Grand County, Colorado
wward@co.grand.co.us

Gail Oliver
Past-President
St. Johns County, Florida
goliver@co.st-johns.fl.us

R. Charles "Chuck" Pearson
Secretary/Treasurer
Clackamas County, Oregon
chuckpear@co.clackamas.or.us

Frank Morelli
Northeastern States Director
Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania
frank.morelli@phila.gov

George Van Til
Central States Director
Lake County, Indiana
surveyor@cyberz.net

Vaughn E. Butler
Western States Director
Salt Lake County, Utah
vbutler@co.slc.ut.us

Robert W. Wigglesworth
Southeastern States Director
Alachua County, Florida
rwiggles@co.alachua.fl.us

Message from the President

By Kenton C. Ward

The annual meeting was held at the ACSM Conference in St Louis on March 11th. Although the attendance was light this year, our Vice President Scott Zeigler put together a great program. The meeting is always a great time to get together with fellow County Surveyors to talk about subjects of mutual concern and to see old friends and make new ones. Please check out the NACS webpage at the NACo website, www.naco.org/nacs, for the agendas and some of the presentations. They are on the page for Conferences and Events. Next years ACSM Conference will be March 4 – 8, 2008 in Spokane, Washington. Be sure to save the date.

At the Annual Meeting this year long time member Vaughn Butler, retired County Surveyor from Salt Lake County, Utah received a Life Membership for all of the time he has devoted to NACS. Please look for the article about Vaughn in this newsletter.

One of the items to come up this year in the annual business meeting was the amendment to the bylaws for Corporate memberships. The amendment passed and we now have our first Corporate member, Hub Tack Document Resources. The Board of Directors set the annual dues for the Corporate membership at \$250.00. Look for the article about the company in this newsletter.

The annual ERSI User Conference and Survey Summit will take place in San Diego again this year. The NACS will participate in the Survey Summit as a Gold Sponsor again this year. The Survey Summit will be held June 16 – 19th and the User Conference will be held June 18 – 22nd. As part of the sponsorship NACS receives 5 registrations for both events. At this time 4 of the registrations have been given out to



members. If you or one of your staff is interested in the last registration please contact me at kcw@co.hamilton.in.us.

In the last newsletter was an article which was reprinted from NACo's "County News", January 15, 2007 regarding the call from the Library of Congress asking NACo members to contribute cartographic products. At the NACo Legislative Conference in Washington DC which was held in early March, the GIS Subcommittee was given a tour of the map room at the Library of Congress. Reid Demman, Surveyor, Salt Lake County, Utah and myself had the rare opportunity to get a behind the scenes look of the map room and the storage area. For me it was like being a kid in a candy store. Maps dating back to the 13th century and globes dating back to the 17th century. It was quite an experience. Please remember that we have an opportunity to contribute to this collection.

The Annual NACo Conference is fast approaching. The Conference will be held in Richmond, Virginia on July 13th through the 17th. As usual the conference will have the GIS Subcommittee meeting. This meeting always has good speakers and information as to what other counties are doing with their GIS. If you have a chance to go to the Conference don't miss this meeting.

Well that's it for now, I'll see you all in Richmond in July.

Section Corner Funding

In an effort to help various states promote and fund Section Corner perpetuation we need your help. Please send an email to Kenton Ward at kcw@co.hamilton.in.us explaining what your state has in place for this program. Needed are the details of the program including any fees. Information collected will be placed in the next newsletter.





Warren Ward, Grand County Surveyor, Colorado

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Hello county surveyors,

A county surveyor's concerns are of interest to everyone.

We were treated with an exciting and informative day of presentations at the County Surveyor Forum in St. Louis on May 11, 2007.

The problem is that county surveyors were the only people in the audience!

As I listened to a presentation about Missouri, it occurred to me that I had just found the answer to a question that was being asked by a private surveyor from Montana.

As I listened to the presentation on the California Spatial Reference System, I realized I was getting information that would be very useful to a number of GPS gurus in Colorado.

As I listened to the Update From the BLM,

Sound familiar?

For many years, I have taken information from NACS back to Colorado, and found a willing audience.

This year, I pledge to make an extra effort to inform and invite all my Colorado friends to the NACS County Surveyor Forum. Our Forum deserves to be presented to every surveyor in the U.S.

See you there.

***The National Association of County Surveyors
Annual Membership Minutes
March 11, 2007
St. Louis, Missouri***

Members in Attendance

John Canas, Orange County, CA	Life Member
David Claypool, Ramsey County, MN	
Reid Demman, Salt Lake County, UT	
Gwen Gee, Santa Clara County, CA	
Tom Hamilton, Lincoln County, OR	
Bob Hovden, Multnomah County, OR	
Steven Keisel, Salt Lake County, UT	
Mark Ober, Noble County, IN	
Chuck Pearson, Clackamas County, OR	Secretary/Treasurer
Steven Steinhoff, Los Angeles County, CA	
George Van Til, Lake County, IN	Director
Kenton Ward, Hamilton County, IN	President
Warren Ward, Grand County, CO	President-elect
Ron Whitehead, Washington County, UT	
Robert Wigglesworth, Alachua County, FL	Director
Michael Whitling, Monroe County, FL	
Scott Ziegler, Noble County, IN	Vice-President

Call to Order

President Kent Ward called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM at the America's Center in St. Louis, MO.

Members and guests were introduced.

Agenda

There were no additions or deletions to the printed agenda.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the April 23, 2006 meeting of the National Association of County Surveyors held in Orlando, Florida were approved as distributed.

Officer's Reports

President Ward presented an oral report in which he outlined the key accomplishments of NACS:

- Continues to work with NOAA's National Geodetic Survey on their "Measuring Up" project to determine if they are meeting the needs of County Surveyor's nationwide.
- Has contacted the Executive Director of the National Association of County Engineers for assistance with new members. NACE will provide us with whatever contact information they have that may assist us.
- Announced the ESRI "Survey Summit" this June in San Diego. NACS has a limited number of complimentary registrations for distribution to members.
- Future Goals
 - Membership increase.
 - Corporate membership.
 - Assure that the newsletter is published quarterly.
 - Will obtain a tabletop display to use at various conferences and other venues to promote membership.
 - Continue the BLM new manual review committee.
 - Continue our relationship with NGS.

Warren Ward, President-Elect, presented an oral report.

- New BLM Manual – received information from Bob Dahl that they may be looking for an endorsement.
- Reported on the RR abandonment issue being faced in many states. Warren will contact NSPS and offer our support/involvement.

Scott Ziegler, Vice-President reported;

- That he will work on obtaining new members in Missouri.
- Will have the NACS Forum Agenda prepared earlier to assure its printing in the ACSM program.

Chuck Pearson, Secretary/Treasurer, submitted a written report (copy attached)

George Van Til, Director

- Will be attending the ESRI Survey Summit.
- Passed out the results of a major study of county government in Lake County, Indiana where the County Surveyors Office was the only "plus" reported.

Bob Wigglesworth, Director, reported:

- He is in touch with state organizations to increase membership.
- County Surveyors in Florida are talking more together than in the past.

There was no old business.

New Business

The budget was distributed and approved (copy attached).

Proposed by-law changes creating a "Corporate" membership and allowing the Board of Directors to set dues were approved.

A "Life Membership" plaque for Vaughn Butler, past president of NACS was presented. Vaughn has retired as the Salt Lake County Surveyor. Accepting the award on behalf of Vaughn was Reid Demman, the new Salt Lake County Surveyor.

President Ward invited all members to the next annual meeting held in conjunction with the ACSM Conference in Seattle, Washington in 2008.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 PM

Respectively submitted

R, Charles Pearson
Secretary-Treasurer, NACS

PHOTOS FROM ST LOUIS



THE ARCH



REID DEMMAN ACCEPTS THE NACS LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD ON BEHALF OF VAUGHN BUTLER, RETIRING SALT LAKE COUNTY SURVEYOR, UTAH, FROM NACS PRESIDENT KENTON C. WARD.



LEFT TO RIGHT, CURT SUMNER, KENTON C. WARD AND R. CHARLES PEARSON NETWORKING AT THE CONFERENCE.

HubTack Puts Certified Corner Records on the Web

HubTack, Inc. is making it easier for surveyors and engineers to obtain land records including certified corner records, county highway maps, and GLO plats, by making these documents available on the web.

Using HubTack's service, a surveyor can view a township grid and quickly identify what corner records are available without phone calls, faxing, or purchasing documents. Having instant access to this information will allow surveyors to save time and estimate jobs more accurately.

HubTack is a subscription-based service that gives surveyors access to records anytime, from any computer – in their office, their home, or in the field from a laptop or PDA. An interactive township grid displays the available corner records so the surveyor can view the last recording date of the document prior to downloading.

HubTack also allows surveyors to enter a job or project code for each document downloaded, making it easy for surveyors to bill customers for costs associated with proposals. Document acquisition costs, which are typically viewed as an unrecoverable expense, can now be billed, making jobs more profitable.

HubTack is the brainchild of Jim Allen, HubTack's VP of Strategic Planning, and a professional land surveyor with 40 years of surveying under his belt. According to Allen, "HubTack's mission is twofold: to make business easier and more profitable for the surveyor, and to improve the accuracy of the documents filed." HubTack reviews every document for accuracy before posting it to the web site. If we find an error, we contact the surveyor and encourage him to provide corrections.

For more information about obtaining certified corner records and other documents on line, visit www.hubtack.com, or call HubTack at 888-706-7394.

NOAA NEWSLETTER – “THE FORECAST”

Jeff Donald, Director of External Affairs, NOAA

As part of our on-going efforts to improve communication with NOAA's constituents and stakeholders, we have developed a brief newsletter to keep you informed of major events around the agency. We will strive to provide you with timely information focused on news that affects your operations as well as opportunities for you to share your input and expertise. NOAA values the partnerships the agency has with its constituents and we hope this newsletter will serve as a new line of communication to strengthen those partnerships.

You can download The Forecast at <http://www.externalaffairs.noaa.gov/>

Measuring Up: Is NOAA Meeting Surveyors Needs?

The National Geodetic Survey (NGS), a program office within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), has been working with the National Association of County Surveyors (NACS) and the surveying community for several years on gathering input on how to better meet local needs for accurate positioning. To monitor its progress, NOAA has developed a new performance metric to measure how well it is enabling counties to perform accurate positioning capacity at the centimeter level relative to the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS). As part of this metric, NGS monitors local usage of NOAA's products and services and obtains feedback from key stakeholders in a county who can tell us how NOAA is "measuring up" in meeting the geospatial community's local geodetic needs.

NGS representatives recently briefed NACS on the progress of this initiative at the March 2007 NACS Forum at the American Congress on Surveying & Mapping (ACSM) Conference in St. Louis, Missouri. As a follow-up to that meeting, NGS will also be providing feedback through regular contributions to the NACS newsletter.

To date, NGS has received feedback from over 350 geospatial representatives (GIS administrator, County Surveyor, County Engineer, etc.) in counties across the country. A Web survey or "County Scorecard" developed in collaboration with NACS was used for this purpose. This County Scorecard consists of 23 questions specifically focusing on infrastructure, models and tools, capacity building and outreach, and overall satisfaction. The current focus has been on obtaining feedback from NACS members as well as other geospatial representatives from counties located in states participating in NOAA's Geodetic State Advisor Program. The Geodetic State Advisor is a jointly funded NOAA employee that resides in the state to provide liaison between NOAA and the host state's geospatial community. This Geodetic State Advisor guides and assists state and local geodetic and surveying programs with his or her technical expertise.

Two distributions of the County Scorecard have been sent out so far. The first, in December 2005, was sent to 200 NACS members. The survey closed in February 2006 and we received 91 responses. That's a 45% response rate, which is outstanding for web-based surveys of this type. In June 2006, the second Distribution was sent to over 700 State Geospatial Representatives identified by NOAA's Geodetic State Advisors. The survey closed in September 2006 with over 200 responses or a 27% response rate, which is very good considering the diverse set of recipients for this survey. Currently, a third distribution is being sent out to NACS members and others who did not respond to the first two distributions. Plans for a fourth distribution are underway for several hundred more Geospatial Representatives who have been recently identified as good candidates to receive the County Scorecard. The Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) necessitates a 3-4 month wait before NGS can send surveys to these County Geospatial Representatives as the survey must be reviewed for PRA compliance by the Office of Management and Budget.

NGS will be continuously incorporating the feedback received from the County Scorecard into its management decisions so that we can maximize the use of limited resources and improve our products and services. While NGS is pleased to report the vast majority (over 80% in both

distributions) of respondents are either “satisfied” or “very satisfied” overall with the products and services that it provides, there is a need for improvement in some areas. Your responses help NGS identify strengths, weaknesses and any gaps in the products and services provided to you. Additionally, those who have take the County Scorecard Web survey also get a feel for some of the products and services NOAA provides of which they may not have been aware.

One-third of the respondents reported dissatisfaction with the vertical positioning infrastructure in many parts of the country. NOAA has an ongoing National Height Modernization Program to enhance the vertical aspect of the NSRS and address these concerns. Through the establishment of accurate, reliable heights using GPS technology in conjunction with traditional leveling, gravity and remote sensing information, Height Modernization can provide better access to accurate and consistent height data at the local level.

Some next steps for this initiative include continuing working with NACS to collect information and improve NOAA’s geospatial products and services. NGS will also be increasing awareness of the County Scorecard, both within and outside of NOAA through publicizing results on the NGS website and making the data and results widely available to employees and management. NGS is also exploring expanding its partnership on this initiative to include organizations with ties to the GIS Community and other key stakeholders.

More information on NOAA’s positioning products and services can be found on the NGS website at www.ngs.noaa.gov . Contact Brett Howe (email: Brett.Howe@noaa.gov) for further details on how to provide your feedback through NOAA’s County Scorecard.

ELECTRONIC RECORDS FILING

Fellow County Surveyor Reid Demman, Salt Lake County, Utah is asking for information regarding the electronic filing of surveys. In the Utah State County Surveyor Statute is a provision that allows electronic filing of records of survey. However, at this time no County Surveyors in Utah are currently accepting records electronically. Reid would like to know how many of our colleagues have recordation laws in their respective states and if and how they are accepting electronic filing. This is something he would like to implement in Salt Lake County but he has been unable to get anywhere. He is looking for some input or some examples of any existing processes used by other County Surveyors.

Please contact Reid at RDemman@slco.org or call him at 801-468-2060. His address is 2001 S. State Street, Suite N-1500, Salt Lake City, UT 84190-2060.



Calendar of Events

ERSI Survey and GIS Summit	June 16 – 19, 2007	San Diego, CA
ERSI Annual Conference	June 18 – 22, 2007	San Diego, CA
NACo Annual Conference	July 13 – 17, 2007	Richmond, VA
NACo Legislative Conference	March 1 – 5, 2008	Washington, DC
ACSM Annual Conference	March 4 – 8, 2008	Spokane, WA
NACE Conference	April 20 – 24, 2008	Portland, OR
NACo / WIR Conference	May 21 – 23, 2008	St George, UT

State Association Meetings

Wisconsin Annual Summer Meeting	August 10 – 11, 2007	Minocqua, WI
Florida Annual Conference	September 12 – 16, 2007	Key Largo, FL
Missouri Annual Conference	October 4 – 6, 2007	Lake Ozark, MO
Texas Annual Conference	October 10 – 13, 2007	Arlington, TX
Kansas Annual Conference	October 26 – 27, 2007	Salina, KS
North Dakota Fall Seminar	December 6-7, 2007	Mandan, ND
Indiana Annual Conference	January 16, 2008	Indianapolis, IN
Minnesota Annual Conference	January 30 – February 1, 2008	St. Cloud, MN
California Annual Conference	February 23 – 28, 2008	Reno, NV
Idaho Annual Conference	February 26 – March 1, 2008	Pocatello, ID
Oregon Annual Conference	March 5 – 8, 2008	Location TBA

If you would like to add your states meeting dates to the calendar please send them to Warren Ward at wward@co.grand.co.us


POSITION OPENING

The Department of Public Works in Skamania County, Washington will be accepting applications for the position of County Surveyor and Rights of Way Agent until June 1, 2007. This position is a Range 22, Step A unless applicant can demonstrate a reason to be filled at a higher step. The salary range of this position is \$41,410.00 to \$49,152.00. Application and job description are available on line at www.skamaniacounty.org or the Skamania County Engineers' Office, Courthouse Annex, 170 NW Vancouver Ave., P.O. Box 790 Stevenson, WA 98648. Applicant must have a Washington State Land Surveyors License, or be able to obtain one. This position also requires four years of responsible surveying experience and a minimum of two years supervisory experience. Experience in both private and government owned property records research, state plan coordinate systems, global positioning systems, graphic information systems, and mapping is required. Please submit applications to the attention of Teri Wyckoff, Office Manager.

NEW LIFE MEMBER


At the NACS Annual Meeting in St Louis last March, NACS President Kenton Ward presented Vaughn Butler with an NACS Life Membership. Vaughn was County Surveyor in Salt Lake County, Utah from 1995 to 2006. Vaughn attended Salt Lake Community College and the University of Utah. He began his surveying career in 1960 serving in the Salt Lake County Surveyors Office as chainman. Vaughn is a past president of NACS and the Utah Association of County Surveyors and was a former board member of NACo and the Utah Association of Counties. He is a member of several surveyor associations on the national, regional and state levels including ACSM, NSPS and also served on several committees such as the NACo GIS subcommittee. Vaughn worked toward the betterment of not only his office but for surveying in general.

Congratulations Vaughn for a job well done.



HUBTACK, INC. IS MAKING IT EASIER FOR SURVEYORS TO OBTAIN CERTIFIED CORNER RECORDS, COUNTY HIGHWAY MAPS, AND GLO PLATS, BY MAKING THESE DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE ON THE WEB.

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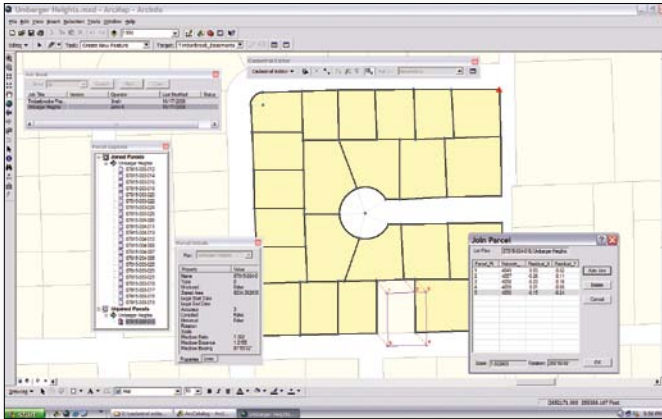


Homeland Security

Working with DHS – Homeland Security Grants are available
Visit www.dhs.gov for more information

ESRI Survey & Engineering GIS Summit 2007

Building New Opportunities



New parcels are created from recorded dimensions from a survey plan and preserved in the GIS cadastral fabric.

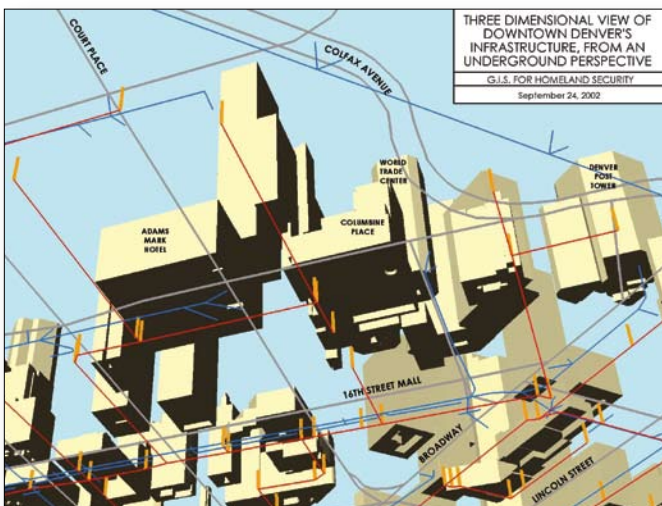


Geographic information systems (GIS) are paving the road to new efficiencies, workflows and market opportunities for surveyors and engineers. Attend the ESRI Survey & Engineering GIS Summit 2007 to explore the latest technology developments and uncover how GIS is building new opportunities for surveyors and engineers.

Integrating Survey, Engineering, and GIS

The new program for 2007 will be expanded to include prevalent issues in engineering along with new land development and construction aspects. Participants will hear from experts who are merging geospatial technologies and share knowledge and opportunities in a GIS framework for

- ▶ Survey GIS Education
- ▶ Geodetic Control
- ▶ GPS Technology
- ▶ Integrating Surveying and GIS
- ▶ Land Management
- ▶ Engineering and Analysis
- ▶ Lidar/Photogrammetry
- ▶ Construction/As-Built Surveying
- ▶ Engineering and Surveying GIS
- ▶ Implementing GIS



3D View of Downtown Denver's Infrastructure from an Underground Perspective

ESRI Survey & Engineering GIS Summit 2007

June 16–19, 2007

San Diego Convention Center
San Diego, California



1-800-447-9778

info@esri.com • www.esri.com

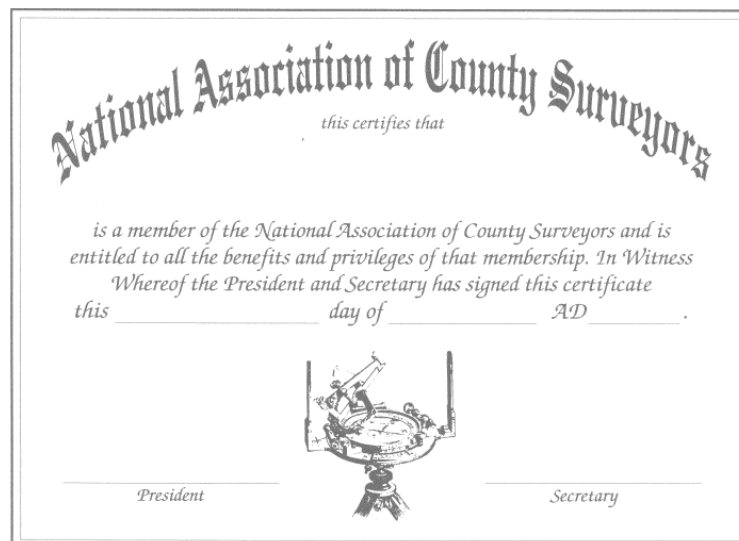
Register now online by visiting www.esri.com/surveysummit.

Membership Information

The National Association of County Surveyors was founded on the following principles and objectives:

- Raising the level of service, efficiency and character to both the general public and county governments.
 - Involvement in the legislative process when it becomes necessary.
 - Forwarding the professional growth of its members.
 - Participation in national committees dealing with issues such as GPS, GIS, GCDC, public lands, and others.
 - Additional conduit for dissemination of information
 - Voice in NACo on federal, state and local issues
-
- Individual Membership (\$50) for voting members who are elected or appointed County Surveyors
 - Associate Membership (\$25) to any person interested in the programs relating to the National Association of County Surveyors
 - Affiliate Organization Membership (\$100) for organizations of state associations of counties
 - Corporate Membership (\$250) for corporations or businesses interested in the programs relating to the National Association of County Surveyors

All paid members should have received their membership certificate.
If not contact Chuck Pearson directly at: chuckpear@co.clackamas.or.us



Visit our Web site through the NACo site at <http://www.naco.org> (select the "About NACo" link then follow the other links to the "Affiliates" area) for more information about NACS and to see a complete list of paid members.
If you need to pay your dues for 2005 a "Dues Notice" has been included.



National Association of County Surveyors

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Membership Dues are as follows:

Member:	\$50 per year
Affiliate:	\$25 per year
Association:	\$100 per year
Corporate:	\$250 per year

Name			
Title			
County			
Address			
Phone		Fax	
E-mail			

“Members” are all duly elected or appointed County Surveyors,

“Associate membership” shall be available to any person interested in the programs relating to or of interest to the National Association of County Surveyors.

“Association membership” shall be available to organizations of state associations of County Surveyors.

“Corporate membership” shall be available to any corporation or business interested in the programs relating to or of interest to the National Association of County Surveyors.

Please return your completed application and check for the appropriate amount to:

National Association of County Surveyors
R. Charles Pearson, Treasurer
Clackamas County Surveyor
9101 SE Sunnybrook Blvd, Suite 428
Clackamas, OR 97015
PH (503) 353-4499 FAX (503) 353-4481
email chuckpear@co.clackamas.or.us

Visit the NACS website at <http://www.naco.org/nacs/index.html>

It's your newsletter and articles or items of interest are welcome from the General Membership.
Please provide feedback on this newsletter to ward@co.grand.co.us

Newsletter is published by



**National
Association
of County
Surveyors**

in the Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall of each year