

**Board of Directors  
2004 - 2005**

**Patrick Hannon, C.S.T. II**  
*President*  
313.601.1952  
PatrickJHannon@cogeco.ca

**Matt Chrzan, C.S.T. II**  
*Vice-President*  
810.341.7500  
mchrzan@roweincorp.com

**Mark Stephens, C.S.T. II**  
*Secretary/Treasurer*  
810.732.7870  
mstephens@gcdcwms.com

**Beth Braun, S.I.T.**  
*State Board Representative*  
810.341.7500  
bbraun@roweincorp.com

**Steve Clifford, C.S.T. II**  
*Director*  
810.664.9411  
sclifford@roweincorp.com

**Ted Miller**  
*Director*  
810.341.7500  
tmiller@roweincorp.com

**Jim Fink, C.S.T. III**  
*Immediate Past President*  
810.341.7500  
jfink@roweincorp.com

**Teresa Bovee**  
*Mid Michigan  
Chapter Representative*  
989.772.2138  
tbovee@roweincorp.com

**Dane Clark**  
*Saginaw Valley  
Chapter Representative*  
810.341.7500  
dclark@roweincorp.com

**William Strable, C.S.T. II**  
*Southeast  
Chapter Representative*  
248.344.2077  
wfstrable@advancedgeomatics.com

**Chapters Not Represented:**  
*Central  
Southwest  
Northeast  
Northern  
Upper Peninsula  
West Central*

# Field Notes

Volume V, Issue IV

October 2004

## Help Needed

by Patrick Hannon, C.S.T. II  
STC President

You may have noticed that you haven't received ballots yet this year.

Three months ago, the STC Board created three additional Directors seats so that more folks could participate on the board. With the two Directors seats that are elected each year, and the STC Representative to the Society Board that is elected annually, that makes a total of six positions available for election. Just like a football team, if all the positions aren't filled, the team gets stomped.

Being elected to and serving on the STC Board for the last six years has been a great experience for me. I am honored to serve with a group of people dedicated to their profession. Each of us share our own experiences to help shape an association to be a place where all of us can not only learn how to be better technicians, but also to allow us to be proud of what we do.

Other than sleeping - our jobs take up more of our time each week than any other activity. And during construction season, sometimes our jobs don't finish second in that race.

I was reading the editor's article in POB this morning about how most surveyors don't feel what they do is exceptional. The article also stated that most postings on the POB-hosted website rpls.com relate to

shared experiences of the average surveyor. But in order to be able to read about those experiences, people have to be available to share them.

This association is a way to feel good about what we do. But in order to take from the association, the association needs people to give to it. I have not met someone who didn't have a story to tell, or a difficult situation they had to solve. It's the variety of experiences and talent of its members that have made MSPS a great organization.

Unfortunately, the STC Board is running short on variety and talent. For the six positions available, we have had two people who have shown interest. With only two people to fill five Directors seats, there obviously isn't need for an election. Then there's the STC Representative to the Society Board. This is a vital position within the organization as it serves as the link of communication.

So I am respectfully requesting that our Professional Members urge any of their technicians who are interested in serving their Society to volunteer to serve. And I am urging our Technicians to give some of your time back to your profession. Contact me at [patrickjhannon@cogeco.ca](mailto:patrickjhannon@cogeco.ca) or Jim Fink at [jfink@roweincorp.com](mailto:jfink@roweincorp.com) to tell us you're interested in joining the team.

Our association is our members. Without our members, there is no association.

**December Meeting**  
December 20, 2004 - 6:00 p.m.  
AmericInn - Flint, MI  
SW quadrant of US-23 and Hill Road

## Online CST Testing

by Mark Stephens, C.S.T. II

It is now possible to take the Certified Survey Exam (CST) on the Internet. The test is administered online by Vincennes University, which is located in Indiana. The university provides Internet-based testing for many other programs around the nation. The university through programming has been able to create a copy of the exam, complete with graphics. The results of the exam are available immediately after completing the exam.

Scheduling an online test for groups or individuals wishing to take the exam can be arranged by contacting CST staff of the American Congress on Surveying & Mapping (ACSM). The exam can be taken at any supervised workstation with a dedicated high speed Internet access so as long the computer meets all of the hardware requirements. In addition the site must have a suitable environment for taking and proctoring the exam.

Currently, there is a need to create a network of testing centers, coordinators, and proctors. A proctor is required by the ACSM to oversee the delivery of the exam and to protect the integrity of the exam. A professional surveyor, professional engineer, or college professor can be a proctor for the CST exam.

Questions regarding the programs can be directed to Jean Andersen of ACSM at (240) 632-9716 ext. 112.

## A Matter of Perspective

by Beth Braun, S.I.T.

Have you ever been staking a property iron or performing a construction staking job and heard (or said) "Left 0.2'...Left 0.4'....Your other Left 0.8'"? Usually this is heard as a result of someone thinking of what the next task of the day is (or reliving the events of the weekend). As the end of the year approaches everyone tends to become busier with holiday plans, vacations, parties, and family get-together. How about learning more about your profession?

There are a couple of ways to do this: (1) register now to take the CST exam at the 2005 MSPS Annual meeting and/or (2) volunteer to serve on the Survey Technician Council Board of Directors.

You can obtain the registration form for the CST exam at [www.acsm.net/cst](http://www.acsm.net/cst). The exam will be held on Wednesday February 9, 2005 at the Hyatt in Dearborn. The deadline for registration is approaching. Why not register now to take the exam and enjoy the opportunity to attend the 2005 Annual Meeting?

As you have read on the first page of "Field Notes," the Survey Technician Council is seeking new active members. All associate and affiliate members of MSPS are members of the Survey Technician Council and therefore qualified to become active by serving on the Survey Technician Council board. The council meets 6-7 times per year. Historically, those meetings have been on a Monday or Tuesday evening, but the group is very flexible. Typical activities of the council include organizing 1-2 seminars per year, assisting with speaker topics for the annual meeting, and promoting the Certified Survey Technician exam.

Today everyone seems busy, but before you dismiss involvement with the council, why not give it a try and see if your perspective changes.

"Field Notes" is published by the Survey Technician Council of the Michigan Society of Professional Surveyors. The views and opinions expressed by individual authors is not necessarily shared by the Publisher. Articles submitted to this newsletter become the property of the Publisher and may be edited to fit space limitations. All inquiries may be submitted to:

"Field Notes" c/o The Survey Technician Council

220 S. Museum Drive, Lansing, MI 48933 tel. 517.484.2413, fax. 517.484.3711

or email to [MichiganSTC@yahoo.com](mailto:MichiganSTC@yahoo.com)