

2762

**Blackburn, Thomas**

**From:** Kocher, Terrie  
**Sent:** Friday, August 28, 2009 11:13 AM  
**To:** Blackburn, Thomas  
**Subject:** FW: continuing education

-----Original Message-----

**From:** John Failla [mailto:jfailla2002@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 27, 2009 4:00 PM  
**To:** ST, ENGINEER  
**Subject:** continuing education.

I'm saddened to see that Pennsylvania has succumb to the wants of a few seminar promoters or hawkers. I have been to required seminars since 1975. I have never found one interesting. The only thing I do find is out-of-pocket expenses. Only loved by employees who get an extra couple days vacation and simply blame the state. Someone should have asked the main players...what changes have taken place in land surveying in the past one hundred years?

The answer is **none**. The only changes have been the instrumentation thereof. Unlike physicians, CPA's, dentists, architects, engineers..and the like; their profession has changes almost yearly. **We do not.**

I remember in Nebraska and maybe where this garbage started from people that have nothing to do.....in 1957, Nebraska instituted the State's registration law and claimed that anybody who owned a 100 foot chain and surveyed once and can spell the word is now a registered land surveyor. After a very short time, good surveyors in Nebraska decided with real first hand knowledge, that most of these surveyors had no clue what they were doing.

So, the state was very undecided as to what to do. After all, the State couldn't simply tell these people they were too stupid to be classified as a registered land surveyor. How could that be...they owned a 100 chain and even had chaining clamps...what more would they need in evidencing their competence? Meanwhile, the State of Nebraska decided that these people, that walked around with their 100 chain as their credentials, must go to some type of school. After all, it would be very embarrassing to these "chainers" if the State

just took their license away for incompetence which would surely lead to a lawsuit. So, the State of Nebraska decided that everyone should go to school so these fools that had no clue how to survey wouldn't feel bad since they would be part of a group of their peers. I knew a few of these people and I always found it funny they even found their way to the seminar. No, I'm far from the best of land surveyors even though I have tested in and registered in eight states I have met some real good, honest surveyors.

Hopefully, the powers that are, that have nothing to do, might see their way clear to at least stay with most states in that registrants 65 and over will be exempt from continuing education.

I have given seminars to Georgia attorneys' (sanctioned by the State Bar) for four hours of continuing education. The difference is that they need it. After they complete our class they never write a legal description again basically they found out that they have to mathematically close. That's what scares the hell out of them.

Have a nice day. I am a friend of the board...but not in this.

John L. Failla.

Surveyor

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PS You do a great job in disciplinary action. Keep up the good work.