

Northwest Chapter of ISPLS Celebrates Holidays with Gala

The Northwest Chapter of the Indiana Society of Professional Land Surveyors celebrated the holidays during their chapter meeting on December 13, 2007, held at Casa Del Roma Banquet Center in Valparaiso, Indiana. This years Holiday Celebration extended invitations to all chapter members and their families, as well as ISPLS and community dignitaries. The annual meeting provides the opportunity to thank the out-going chapter president, welcome the incoming president, and present any special awards. The celebration also provided holiday entertainment from a local jazz pianist, as well as the local high school Varsity Singers. In addition, the holiday celebration wasn't complete without a visit from Santa Claus.

For the last several years, the Northwest Chapter has held an annual raffle and auction during their holiday celebration to benefit the chapters Scholarship Program. The program was established in memoriam to Ordell L. Gertsmeier to provide financial assistance to qualified and deserving students interested in pursuing a career in the Land Surveying Profession and to those pursuing a college education as a means to advance their career in the field of Land Surveying.



This year the chapter members voted to expand their giving from the proceeds generated from the raffle and auction to include the Arthur B. and Ethel V. Horton VNA Hospice Center. The center welcomes terminally ill patients who require special care. Several of the chapter's member's families have found the need to utilize the comfort of this unique facility and they felt compelled to give back.

In previous years, chapter members had primarily provided donations for the raffle and auction. This year, the chapter solicited donations from a number of local and national businesses in an attempt to increase funds generated for the raffle and auction. Items donated from businesses, together with those from chapter members, were placed in the raffle and auction. The proceeds from the raffle and auction, as well as monetary contributions from businesses, generated over \$1300.

The Northwest Chapter would like to offer it's appreciation to the many companies that made contributions: Borzych Iron LLC; Astro Wood Stake, Inc.; Aerocon Photogrammetric Services, Inc.; Air Maps, Inc.; Soil Solutions, Inc.; Berntsen International Inc.; Seiler Intrument Company; The American Surveyor Magazine; Professional Surveyors Magazine; POB Magazine; John Wiley & Sons, Inc.; and HubTack Document Resources. The generous contributions and support from those companies will positively impact the chapter scholarship program and the VNA Hospice Center.