

# A brand-new Trig Star Scholarship Award

A new chapter in Trig Star competition

ACSM BULLETIN

AUGUST 2007 NUMBER 228

High school seniors who took part in the Trig Star contest at any time in high school are eligible to apply for the Trig Star Scholarship. With this expanded program award, the Trig Star Committee hopes to identify and reward high school students who may not be the contest winners, but, more importantly, are stimulated by the contest to pursue a career in surveying and mapping.



The Trig Star contest, now over twenty years old, has done a great job identifying the best and brightest in our high schools at solving complex trigonometry problems—problems surveyors encounter every day on the job. However, most Trig Star contest winners do not contemplate a career in surveying and mapping, using instead their math skills for other pursuits. The Trig Star Scholarship Award is a way to assist those contest participants who plan to pursue a career in surveying and mapping. High school students who participate in the Trig Star contest are encouraged to consider a career in surveying and mapping; the new

Trig Star Scholarship Award is intended to serve as direct encouragement.

All who participate in the local Trig Star contest are eligible to apply for the award. The award is funded from a dedicated Trig Star Scholarship Fund, managed by the NSPS Foundation. The fund has grown since its inception, thanks to generous donations from NSPS members Larry Doss, John Fenn, and many others. The NSPS Board of Governors and Board of Directors also contribute to the fund annually at their fall meetings. The 2007 Trig Star Scholarship Award is the first award from the fund.

Kendra Rose Levanen (see p. 11) became the first Trig Star Scholarship Award recipient as a result of the recommendations, essay, and high school transcripts she submitted in response to the scholarship application. She is an example of a student who can be attracted to our profession through the Trig Star contest. Her current math teacher, Janet Espeseth, said that at Flathead High School, Kendra “placed 7<sup>th</sup> in the Trig Star exam, which is an impressive standing considering the company she was keeping.”

But, more important to the Trig Star Committee and our profession was Kendra’s desire to pursue a career in Land Surveying. Kendra will begin her chosen career path this fall as a freshman at Flathead Valley Community College. She is one of ten children, so her Trig Star Scholarship award will no doubt be a big help. In addition to this first year assistance (the Trig Star Scholarship provides \$5,000 for the first year only), Randy Thomas, long-time Montana State Trig Star Contest Coordinator, will help Kendra work toward qualifying for further second-year scholarship opportunities managed by the Montana Association of Registered Land Surveyors (MARLS).

Think of Trig Star as one of the tools in the toolbox of promotions available to surveyors interested in recruiting future surveyors from the next generation. The new Trig Star Scholarship Award provides assistance to those who chose the profession. Local sponsors are currently the way the program is delivered to the local high school. Please consider sponsoring Trig Star at the local level. Donations to the scholarship fund will also help ensure that the Trig Star Scholarship is awarded long into the future. More information about Trig Star is available on the NSPS web site at: [http://www.npsmo.org/trig\\_star/index.shtml](http://www.npsmo.org/trig_star/index.shtml).

John Chagnon  
Trig Star Committee

## ACSM Bulletin

**The Publisher:** The American Congress on Surveying and Mapping (ACSM) and its member organizations—AAGS, CaGIS, GLIS, and NSPS; NSPS Foundation, Inc.; Sustaining Members; and Associate Councils.

**Editorial Policy:** The American Congress on Surveying and Mapping publishes the ACSM Bulletin to provide current scientific, technical and management information in the fields of surveying, cartography, geodesy, GIS, and photogrammetry, and to communicate news on developments in the geospatial data industry of interest to the member organizations of ACSM. ACSM is not responsible for any statements made or opinions expressed in articles, advertisements, or other portions of this publication. The appearance of advertising in the ACSM Bulletin does not imply endorsement or warranty by ACSM of advertisers or their products. Submit articles, press releases, and all other matter for consideration for publication to Ilse Genovese, Editor, ACSM Bulletin, 6 Montgomery Village Ave., Suite 403, Gaithersburg, MD 20879. E-mail: [ilse.genovese@acsm.net](mailto:ilse.genovese@acsm.net). Phone: 240/632-9716, ext. 109; Fax: 240/632-1321.

**Restrictions and permissions:** Permission to photocopy is indicated by the fee code that follows. Articles to which ACSM does not own rights are so identified at the end of the article. Permission to photocopy for internal or personal use may be obtained by libraries and other users who register with the Copyright Clearance Center (CCC) by paying \$2.50 per copy per article directly to CCC, 222 Rosewood Dr., Danvers, MA 01923. This consent does not extend to copying for general distribution, advertising or promotional purposes, creating new collective works, or resale. Other requests to photocopy or otherwise reproduce material in this magazine should be addressed to the Editor, ACSM, 6 Montgomery Village Avenue, Suite 403, Gaithersburg, MD 20879. Phone: 240/ 632-9716, ext. 109. Fax: 240/ 632-1321. Fee Code: 0747-9417/97 \$2.50. © 2007 American Congress on Surveying and Mapping. Internet: <http://www.acsm.net>; <http://www.acsmcongress.org/webmazine/>.

**Circulation and copyright:** ACSM Bulletin (ISSN 0747-9417) is published bimonthly—February, April, June, August, October, and December—by the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping (ACSM), 6 Montgomery Village Avenue, Suite 403, Gaithersburg, MD 20879. Copyright 2007 American Congress on Surveying and Mapping. Periodicals postage paid at Gaithersburg, Md., and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to ACSM Bulletin, Member Services Department, 6 Montgomery Village Avenue, Suite 403, Gaithersburg, MD 20879.

**Subscriptions:** The 2007 subscription rate is \$92 (U.S. addresses) or \$110 (foreign addresses). Single copies are sold to non-members at \$8 per copy, plus handling and postage. Membership dues include an annual subscription to the ACSM Bulletin (\$40), which is part of membership benefits and cannot be deducted from annual dues. Single copies are sold to members (U.S. and foreign) at \$6 per copy, plus handling and postage.

**Online content:** Current issue content at [www.acsm.net/bulletincontent/](http://www.acsm.net/bulletincontent/). Selected full articles published at <http://www.acsmcongress.org/webmazine/>; at <http://www.aagsmo.org/news/>; and at <http://www.glistmo.org/publications/>.

**Online advertising options:** [www.acsm.net](http://www.acsm.net); [www.acsmcongress.org](http://www.acsmcongress.org); [www.aagsmo.org](http://www.aagsmo.org); [www.glistmo.org](http://www.glistmo.org)