



President's Message

July 2009

Dear MARLS Membership,

As we head into summer some of us are staying busy, while others are just trying to wait out the slow times. We keep hearing about the stimulus money and the work that it will generate, but the carrot seems to always be one additional week out. We all need to expand our project and client searches and keep the fiscal belts tightened to survive.



We have just completed what appears to be a productive legislative session. I believe that MARLS came out on the better end of the bills that appeared, disappeared and were enacted. I was especially pleased with the enactment of the Monument Preservation Bill. This bill has been a MARLS-backed bill for quite some years now and has finally made its way to the Governor's desk. I especially want to thank Rick Gustine, Joe Roberts and Senator Dan McGee for their tireless work on our behalf. I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everybody who took the time to go to Helena, participated in the MARLS discussion forums, contacted their legislators or who called our MARLS representatives.

Another successful year of Trig Star has concluded in Montana. There were a few students who were able to complete the exam with perfect scores. The Western Chapter added an additional school this year. I hope that all of the chapters continue to keep things moving forward with assistance from their entire chapter. I can't thank Randy Thomas enough for continuing to head the Trig Star program in Montana. Randy is a great asset and represents our state well at the national level.

This issue of the Treasure State Surveyor was brought to us by Andy Stensrud our new editor. We look forward to his continued leadership as the editor. Please send Andy articles, anecdotes, stories, poems, photos and reviews; let's make his job easier and participate in the future of the TSS. Thanks go out to Ron Milam who can now return to his retirement.

You may have noticed Kay has been working to create a more modern MARLS website; it is a work in progress. If you have kudos for her work, pass them along; likewise if you have any constructive criticism about the site, she would appreciate those as well.

Thanks to EVERYBODY who is a member of MARLS. Without the hard work and participation of everybody involved, this would not be as great of an organization as it is.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kurt Luebke".

Kurt Luebke
MARLS President