



Euclide¹ is European Surveyor of the Year 2015

The CLGE tradition of the 'European Surveyor of the Year' is still going strong. At the fourth 'Day of the European Surveyor and GI', which is held annually, the winner's honour for 2015 went to Euclide. CLGE announced this year's recipient during two main international events. Additional celebratory events marking the Day of the European Surveyor and GI were also held in other member countries. An event of particular note took place in Slovenia and was named 'Solemn Academy' to commemorate the occasion.

Matjaž Grilc, Geodetic Engineer, CLGE Delegate for Slovenia



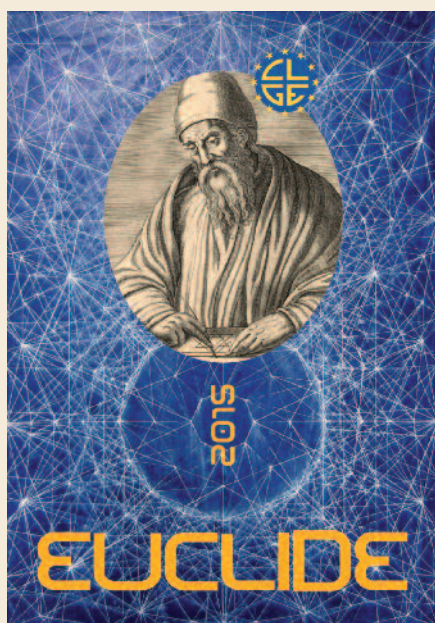
*Mr Maurice Barbieri, President of CLGE and Dr Demetris Demetriou, President of CARSE, during the welcome reception in Limassol (CY)
(photographer: Vasile Chiriac)*

European Surveyor and Geoinformation at a reception attended by many prominent and distinguished guests. The reception was hosted by the President of the CLGE, Mr Maurice Barbieri and attended by VIP guest, the President of EuroGeographics, Ms. Ingrid Vanden Berghe. The assembled group included representatives from the International Union of Notaries (UINI), CLGE member states, a number of additional surveyor and GI associations and representatives from associations of local surveyors. The main reception followed a welcome speech from the President of CLGE president, who together with the EuroGeographics president announced the European Surveyor of the Year and unveiled the poster created especially for the occasion for CLGE. During the presentation in Brussels a number of current CLGE projects were reviewed. The official start of the Europe-wide project 'Blue Parking' generated a great deal of interest. This project will be introduced by CLGE member associations in a number of European states and its results are of significance for disabled persons and others who need to have information relating to disabled parking places.

LIMASSOL (Cyprus) – CLGE General Assembly

In addition, this fourth 'Day of the European Surveyor and GI' was celebrated at an evening reception during the General Assembly of the CLGE. This took place in the coastal city of Limassol in the Republic of Cyprus. It was hosted by the CARSE President, Demetris Demetriou, who gave an overview of surveying in Cyprus together with the President of CLGE, who officially opened this year's celebration. A highlight of the reception was live classical music performed by a number of very talented local young musicians.

All of these activities would not be possible without our long term sponsor, Trimble, who support all CLGE events. We would like to take



CLGE Poster available for download on www.clge.eu

Euclide was one of the greatest mathematicians of Ancient Greece and the founder of modern geometry. His fundamental work was comprised of a collection of 13 books entitled 'Elements', which referred to a systematic study of all knowledge relating to geometry and number theory at that time. His name subsequently gave rise to the eponymous term 'Euclidian geometry', which we still use to this day. His proofs, theorems and methods form the basis of much of the mathematics on which modern surveying, and in particular computations, rely. After Mercator (2012), Galileo (2013) and Struve (2014) the CLGE decided Euclide would be a fitting subject for this year's distinguished person of importance to the surveying profession.

Reception at the House of the European Surveyor and Geoinformation

The announcement of the European Surveyor of the Year took place on Monday 16th March 2015 in Brussels (BE), at the House of the

this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude for their ongoing support.

SEŽANA (Slovenia) – Slovenian Land Surveying Day, April 2015

The Day of the European Surveyor and GI is not only celebrated in Brussels and during proceedings of General Assembly of CLGE, but also in almost every CLGE member state. These celebrations take the form of a variety of different events. Of particular interest this year was Slovenia's event; a 'Solemn Academy', which was organised on the eve of the National Assembly and was dedicated to the European Surveyor of the Year 2015, Euclide. This



Mr Maurice Barbieri, President of CLGE president and Ms Ingrid Vanden Berghe, President of EuroGeographics, unveil the Euclide poster (photographer: Quentin Van der Venet)

'Solemn Academy' was organized in Sežana, a city situated on the Slovene-Italian border, and was attended by many esteemed guests. The event was hosted by Blaž Mozetič, President of the Association of Surveyors of

Slovenia and the welcome speech was given by Irena Majcen, Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning.

The Slovenian Land Surveying day was given the title "Land surveying (R)evolution" under whose heading different professional topics were presented with regards to surveying opportunities, challenges and trends faced by today's surveyors. These same challenges were mentioned by our keynote speaker, Daniel Steudler of Switzerland, a renowned expert in the field of cadastral systems and the co-author of "Cadastre 2014" and "Dimension cadaster".

Best Practice: the 5th Baltic Surveyors Forum, a regional tradition inspired by CLGE

39

Delegations from the Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian Associations of Surveyors convened in the small borough of Värskä, Estonia on March 5th, to review the progress achieved since the last meeting and to discuss new topics that have emerged. These included the introduction of BIM technology, the progress of the Rail Baltica project, the conversion to EVRS, and issues related to instrument calibration. Representatives from the neighbouring Scandinavian states of Finland, Sweden and Denmark participated as guests.

Hugo Toll, Association of Estonian Surveyors, Former President

Värskä is located in a special area characterized by different (Seto) culture, religion and language. The number of Seto people in Estonia is around 15000, with the larger part of the historical Seto lands now being part of Russia.

The previous Baltic Forum took place in Latvia in September 2013 and this time it was Estonia's turn to host the fifth meeting. A prime topic of importance for all three countries was Rail Baltica. This infrastructure was discussed in depth from the surveyor's perspective, but there was still plenty of time for other important issues that were essential to the programme.

Twenty seven participants attended the Forum. The Lithuanian delegation was led by the President of the Lithuanian Association Jolanta Česnauskienė and its Vice President and CLGE



Värskä, the location of the 5th Baltic Surveyors Forum. Source: Google Maps.

delegate Rimantas Ramanauskas. The Estonian delegation was headed by the local Association's Chair of the Management Board and CLGE Vice-President Mairoli Kakko. Members of the Management Board and representatives of the Estonian Land Board made a significant contribution. The Latvian Association was represented by Vice President Aigars Ansbergs, accom-

panied by other Members of the Management Board, as well as City Surveyors from Jürjala.

Swedish participants included CLGE delegate Lars Jansson and former President of the Swedish Association Göran Eriksson. Mikael Still represented the Finnish Association of Geodetic and Land Surveyors. Denmark was represented by Torben Juulsager, who is also a CLGE delegate. Although the Forum was a one day only event, it had a hefty program. The first session provided a summary of the progress made to date. Martin Reiniks from Latvia spoke about legislative amendments and the recent activities of the Latvian Association. Aspects highlighted included the conversion to EVRS and an ice fishing competition that had taken place during the winter. The President of the Lithuanian Association provided a review of the developments in the country. Key

issues covered included a discussion of data formats accepted by the Registry (GIS or CAD), as well as the collaboration between the Association of Surveyors and the Lithuanian Builders Association in introducing BIM technologies.

Tiit Hion presented an outline of changes that have occurred as well as market trends in Estonia. Due to forthcoming elections, the entry-into-force of several laws was currently on hold. Looking ahead, he felt that they must prepare themselves for changes which will impact on surveying work and its place in the value chain. There followed an overview of how BIM technology and 3D data is harnessed in railroad design in the Republic of Lithuania. However, a lack of corresponding legislation and an insufficient understanding of how to use BIM technology during the end-to-end process constitute problematic areas.

Rimantas Ramanauskas started the second session with his presentation on railway surveying, and the formation and registration of units. It is noteworthy that the first railway in Lithuania was built in 1860 as a part of the Warsaw-St. Petersburg Railway. The railway Network in Lithuania currently comprises a total of 1,767 km. Andrius Monrimas' presentation delved into problematic issues faced by the Baltic states in relation to Rail Baltica. The current network of railway lines was formed during the Czarist and Soviet era when movement of freight went to and from Russia. The movement of freight north to south currently takes place by road transport. Technically speaking, the greatest issue here is the track gauge, which is different in Europe than that inherited from Russia. Mait Metsur from the Land Board delivered the next presentation, which related to Estonia and described the technical side of the aerial surveys of the currently selected construction corridor. It is a matter of national pride that Estonian surveyors have the capability and capacity to carry out work at such a high level. A series of pictures gave a good idea as to which forests the railway would be likely to run through.

Later in the program Mr. Reiniks from the Riga Technical University spoke about the Latvian experience in converting to the new LAS 2000.5 height system. This would no longer be tied to the Kronstadt datum, but to the Amsterdam Ordnance Datum, i.e. EVRS (European Vertical Reference System). A new geoid model LV-14 has also been devised. The difference between the new system and the old heights is in the region of 10 to 20cm. The conversion is not considered to be a complete success as there are differences in the transformed and measured



The participants of the Baltic Forum, in the grounds of the Vārsko Resort Hotel. Photographer: Mairolt Kakko

heights; the differences with the geoid are also different in various regions. The upshot of all of this was the good old: "Measure Seven Times, Cut Once". The next speaker was Karin Kollo who spoke of the geodetic system in Estonia and its future. Features worthy of special mention include the construction of a height network as well as the commencement of the final stages of the related surveying work. An interesting fact is that nearly 40% of existing benchmarks have been destroyed.

My own presentation focused on a Supreme Court decision at the end of 2014, which consid-

veyor's responsibility to make sure that the equipment and methods used by them are appropriate and controllable.

Regardless of a number of differences in the regulation of surveyors' activity, many common aspects were identified. As noted in the concluding statement from the Baltic Surveyors' Forum, the competence of surveyors in implementing their day-to-day work, the role of specialist associations in disseminating information concerning valid legislation and communication between state institutions and communities of practitioners continue to be of paramount importance. Furthermore, the concluding statement was that surveyors must inform all users of the changes regarding measuring height, particularly builders and designers, especially the conversion to EVRS.

During the evening program, participants visited the Seto Farm Museum, enjoyed a performance by a female folklore group, and savoured traditional dishes.



Rail Baltica map with the connection Berlin – Warsaw and its future extension via Riga, to Tallinn and Helsinki (Tunnel).

ers GPS equipment to be subject to the Metrology Act as well as to the requirements of competence of the surveyor. During the presentation, a lively discussion emerged concerning how and to what extent other countries face similar problems. The final presentation was delivered by our Latvian colleague Martins Platacis. It covered the calibration of geodetic equipment and the inspection of whether it's in good working order. It is the sur-



Seto folk singers group "Kuldatsüük". Photographer: Mairolt Kakko