



THE IMAGING & GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION SOCIETY

~The Rocky Mountain Compiler~

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President's Message

The Autumnal Equinox signals the final push to the end of the calendar year before business and school winds down for the holiday season. Several initiatives are underway to help facilitate your participation in various activities in our region for your benefit, and the benefit of the ASPRS Rocky Mountain Region (RMR).

First, I'm pleased to welcome 15 new ASPRS members to the Rocky Mountain Region, which helped us win Region of the Month in September! We look forward to meeting you at one of the many upcoming Society functions.

We are accepting nominations for several 2010 ASPRS-RMR Board of Director positions – please refer to the notice in this newsletter for more details. This is an excellent opportunity for you to help guide the Society to a leadership position in the geospatial industry and help craft benefits for your friends, colleagues and fellow members in the Rocky Mountain Region. Please contact me or any other ASPRS-RMR Board member with your nominations. Our contact information is on our website at www.asprs-rmr.org.

One of the region's priorities for 2009 is to establish student chapters in the various universities and colleges in the region. Student chapters represent the future of our industry and ASPRS members are encouraged to become

involved in mentoring their student chapters and sharing their experiences and advice to help guide our future leaders. Three student chapters in the Rocky Mountain Region are expected to be approved at the ASPRS Fall meeting in San Antonio, including New Mexico State University (NMSU) in Las Cruces, Denver University (DU) in Denver, and an expansion of the Montana State University chapter to encompass several colleges and universities in the State of Montana. The NMSU student chapter is led by **Dr. Michaela Buenemann** and is associated with the Rio Grande Chapter, the DU chapter is being led by **Dr. Sharolyn Anderson**, and the State of Montana Chapter is being initially led by **Dr. Rick Lawrence**, who will transition leadership to appropriate champions in the next month. All these chapters are supported and backed up by the Rocky Mountain Region Board of Directors.

Associated with student chapters, ASPRS-RMR is offering two scholarships this year to worthy

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students in the RMR at either the graduate or undergraduate level. Applications are being solicited now, and these scholarships will be awarded by the end of the calendar year, and presented at the annual ASPRS-RMR dinner event in January. Please refer to the announcement in this newsletter for more details about scholarships.

The GIS in the Rockies conference was held September 15 – 17, and preliminary feedback is that it was a successful and very beneficial conference. Attendance was over 400 participants with 35 exhibitors -- quite an accomplishment in this economy! Two high-level keynote speakers kicked off the conference proceedings, **Karen Siderelis**, Geospatial Information Officer for the Department of the Interior reporting to Secretary of the Interior **Ken Salazar** (who sent personal greetings to the conference participants), and **Michael Locatis**, Colorado State Chief Information Officer reporting to Governor **Bill Ritter**. These esteemed representatives, and the level of participation of organizations, businesses and participants in the region, demonstrates that GIS in the Rockies is recognized as a premier event in the region and an important geospatial venue. A summary of the conference appears later in this newsletter.

As outlined in previous newsletters, we wish to conduct Technical Tours that are open and available to all members in our widespread region. Companies and institutions are exploring webinars for this purpose. On October 14th, QCoherent Software hosted a webinar addressing their new LiDAR server technology. If your organization wants to host a Technical Tour, contact any Board Member.

And back by popular demand, Career Night Redux will be held at the Tivoli (Auraria Campus, Denver) on November 30. This event will be sponsored by ASPRS-RMR, RM-GITA and Rocky Mountain URISA. Professionals active in the geospatial arena will discuss the state of the industry, and companies interested in hiring for a variety of positions will be on hand to discuss requirements and qualifications, and to receive resumes.

In summary, we ask for your input on existing regional initiatives and suggestions for additional activities to benefit our members. Please contact me or any ASPRS-RMR Board member to express any ideas or volunteer for a particular activity to help the region. Also, we ask ASPRS-RMR members to consider volunteering for a position on the Board of Directors. You will be richly rewarded in terms of professional satisfaction, expanding your network of

contacts, and having fun with kindred spirits in an engaging environment.

Jeff Liedtke, 303-517-9594
ASPRS-RMR President

ASPRS-RMR National Director's Report

ASPRS National Board Approved Guidelines for Procurement

In early September the ASPRS National Board approved Guidelines for Procurement of Professional Aerial Imagery, Photogrammetry, LiDAR and Related Remote Sensor-based Geospatial Mapping Services by a vote of 22 voting yes, none voting no and 5 not voting. I, like all other voting Directors, am in favor of the measure. To be clear, this was a multi-month effort involving several ASPRS members on an Ad Hoc Committee. I would like to congratulate the Committee on a complete and well-organized document that will serve the geospatial community well. With that said, during my final review I took exceptions to a few of the terms used and inferred definitions in the Guidelines. My concerns, addressed in the final approved version, were as follows:

Concern: Does the term "firm" include or exclude University Laboratories, Government Laboratories and Public Agencies that occasionally deliver mapping services? I suggested providing a definition of "firm" in the Glossary. This would be helpful for the reader to understand the scope of who provides these professional services. Revision: The term "firm" was changed to "provider" to be more inclusive.

Concern: When custom software and Commercial Off-the-shelf (COTS) software products are delivered as a component of professional services, are they within the scope of these guidelines? Revision: In the view of the Committee, if the procurement is for services as defined by Table 1 of the Guidelines and various products are part of the deliverables as incidentals, then it is still a services procurement. I agreed with the premise that "products can be part of a services contract" (e.g., hardware). However, Table 1 appeared to refer to derived data products and not licensed software, particularly the description of ownership in the table under the "product" column. The Committee revised the Guidelines to address this additional concern. The Committee concurred that "data" may be too restrictive a term. The Guidelines originally stated that "In most cases, the provider owns the data and they are offered under license to the client." The

Guidelines were revised to read "In most cases, the provider owns the source information and deliverables are offered under license to the client."

I encourage all of you to be aware of these Guidelines and their intended purpose since these will influence professional mapping service procurements for years to come. I have excerpted an introductory portion of the Guidelines below to provide a context for the background on why these were developed (see section I. Background and Intent online at http://www.asprs.org/society/divisions/ppd/guidelines/ProcurementGuidelines_SubmittalforBoardApproval_081409.pdf).

The American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS) is the leading scientific professional organization representing the photogrammetry and remote sensing profession. These Guidelines represent the best effort of the ASPRS at defining and clarifying the key issues that affect procurement of professional photogrammetry and remote sensor-based geospatial mapping services. These Guidelines were prepared by the ASPRS Procurement Guidelines Committee, an ad hoc committee appointed by the ASPRS leadership. The committee includes two representatives from the ASPRS Professional Practice Division, an ASPRS representative from the federal government, an ASPRS representative from state government, two representatives from the Management Association for Private Photogrammetric Surveyors (MAPPS) and two representatives from the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping (ACSM). These Guidelines were formally approved by the ASPRS Board of Directors. These Guidelines supersede the now outdated ASPRS document originally adopted in 1986, entitled "Guidelines for Procurement of Photogrammetric Services from Private Professional Sources." By better defining specific aspects of photogrammetric mapping and related remote sensing services that are professional in nature, these Guidelines aim to support public and private end users who need to procure geospatial mapping services. The intent of these Guidelines is to provide public agencies, researchers, private entities and other organizations with a resource that they can use as a guide to help determine the best approach and methodology for procuring photogrammetry and related remote sensor-based geospatial mapping services.

The specific goals of these Guidelines are to:

1. Provide a clear and updated definition of which remote sensor-based geospatial mapping services are considered by members of this profession to be professional level services.

2. Endorse qualifications-based selection (QBS) procurement consistent with similar professions where services are professional in nature and affect public well being.
3. Recognize existing state and federal laws regulating this profession and distinguish between:
 - a. Licensed activities that are defined by state law; and
 - b. Professional services that may not require a license, but are professional in nature as determined by the ultimate use of the services, level of skill required and accepted standards of practice.
4. Distinguish between professional services and technical services or products that may fall outside the scope of that definition.
5. Provide broad-based definitions and guidance that will apply to both current and future technologies.

Please contact me at jyoung@lizardtech.com if you have any questions about the Guidelines.

Jeff Young

National Director, Rocky Mountain Region

Reach Out and Recruit New Student Members

This year, ASPRS is launching the "Reach Out and Recruit" campaign to encourage academic members and member champions in every Region to recruit new student members. With the start of the new school year, ASPRS is encouraging the academic members to talk to their students and fellow faculty members about the Society and the lifetime benefits of joining ASPRS for their career.

Students receive numerous benefits by joining ASPRS, including:

- Discounted membership rate of only \$25* per year for eligible students
- A monthly subscription to PE&RS, a valuable information resource – valued at \$330
- Eligibility for over \$40,000 in scholarships and awards given annually at the National and Regional levels
- ASPRS Rocky Mountain Region offers scholarships valued at \$1000 to \$1250 each**
- Publication discounts on all books sold through the ASPRS Bookstore. Members save 25-40%.
- Career opportunities with ASPRS Sustaining Members are emailed directly to their desktops
- Substantially reduced conference registration fees to attend national and regional meetings

- ASPRS Webinar Workshop Series – For details: <http://www.asprs.org/webinarseries/index.html>
- Opportunities to serve as Conference Assistants in exchange for complimentary conference registration
- * Standard Student membership fee is \$45; ASPRS-RMR will reimburse students \$20 toward their membership fee
- ** Please visit the RMR website (www.asprs-rmr.org/news.html) for further details

Academic members can highlight the Provisional Certification Program whereby students in accredited colleges and universities may apply and take the ASPRS certification exams prior to graduation to become pre-certified, pending completion of the required experience. (Further details about this exciting program can be found at <http://www.asprs.org>.)

The ASPRS membership application form can be found at <https://www.asprs.org/application/>

RMR 2010 Scholarship Announcement

In its continuing efforts to support and build awareness for the Remote Sensing and GIS sciences, the Rocky Mountain Region of ASPRS is proud to announce its academic scholarships for 2010. The ASPRS-RMR offers scholarships to deserving undergraduate and graduate students every year. There will be at least two scholarships awarded, of at least \$1000 each. The scholarships are intended for students throughout the Rocky Mountain Region (Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, and Wyoming) who demonstrate excellence while pursuing careers in the fields of Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) or related disciplines. Both undergraduate and graduate students of any third-level educational institution within the four-state region who are pursuing careers in these disciplines are encouraged to apply.

Application deadline is November 20, 2009. Download the application from <http://www.asprs-rmr.org/news.html>

Awards will be presented at the ASPRS-RMR Annual Dinner Meeting in January 2010. We've consistently offered thousands of dollars in annual scholarships and this year will be no different! Preference will be given to those studies that apply sound scientific principles to practical applications and/or to those presenting their work at an ASPRS-sponsored conference. Awards at both the undergraduate and the graduate levels are based on

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academic merit; that is, the application form does not request any personal financial data.

For more information, please contact **Ramesh Sivanpillai**, Vice-President, ASPRS-RMR at 307.766.2721 or at sivan@uwyo.edu (preferred).

ASD Inc. and IEEE GRSS Announce Call for Posters

Art, Science and Applications of Reflectance Spectroscopy Symposium to Be in Boulder in February 2010

ASD Inc. is accepting poster abstracts for the Art, Science and Applications of Reflectance Spectroscopy scientific symposium taking place in Boulder, Colorado, February 23-25, 2010. The symposium highlights advances in the use of reflectance spectroscopy, new and different applications and techniques, and provides an opportunity for a diverse community to gather and interact. The symposium is co-sponsored by the Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society (GRSS), a member organization of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE).

Poster session participation and attendance at Art, Science and Applications of Reflectance Spectroscopy is open to all interested individuals. Both undergraduate and graduate students are particularly encouraged to participate in the conference as part of the Student Poster Competition. Five finalists will receive a certificate recognizing their achievement, and three prizes will be presented: First Prize \$500, Second Prize \$300, Third Prize \$200.

Poster abstracts are due no later than December 1, 2009, with the proceedings paper due by January 15, 2010. The proceedings CD ROM, including both invited plenary session papers and accepted poster papers, will be provided to all symposium attendees. The proceedings will also be available online following the symposium.

In addition to the Poster Session, the symposium will span two full days of plenary sessions featuring 40 internationally recognized speakers from 11 countries on four continents, with expertise in Radiometry and Calibration, Hyper- and Multispectral Imaging, Planetary Surfaces, Geology, Mineral Exploration, Vegetation and Soils, Snow and Ice, Water Bodies, Archeology, Chemometrics, Quantitative Spectroscopy, Pulp and Paper

Processing, Metallurgical Processing, and more. The symposium will culminate in a gala banquet celebrating ASD Inc.'s 20th anniversary, with keynote address by **John S. MacDonald** of Day4Energy, Canada, and presentation of the Student Poster Competition awards.

Online registration is now open. Early Bird discounted rates end January 15, 2010. For more information, visit the event website: www.ReflectanceSpectroscopySymposium.com.

Nominations for Board Elections

ASPRS-RMR is currently accepting nominations for the upcoming Board Member Elections. The following positions will be open for the 2010 – 2011 term: President (one year); Vice President (one year); Secretary (one year); Treasurer (one year); Regional Director (GIS in the Rockies) (2 years); Regional Director (Communications/Newsletter) (2 years); Regional Director (General) (2 years)

Being a Board Member is an excellent way to contribute to the expansion of the geospatial community throughout the Rockies. Board membership allows individuals to lead the convergence of ideas and technologies, connect with our peers, communicate with our membership, and contribute to these kinds of collaborations.

If you are interested in running for a position, would like to nominate one of your peers, or if you have questions about being a Board Member, please contact any of the Regional Officers listed at www.asprs-rmr.org/officers.html. We will publish the nominations and announce the election in the Winter issue of the Rocky Mountain Region *Compiler* newsletter.

ASPRS/MAPPS 2009 Fall Specialty Conference in San Antonio

"Digital Mapping: From Elevation to Information"
San Antonio, Texas – November 16-19, 2009
Crowne Plaza Riverwalk Hotel

Online secure registration is available at <http://www.asprs.org/sanantonio09/registration.html>.

The conference features a variety of offerings:

- Pre-conference workshops with CEU credits for ASPRS workshops
- The MAPPS Fall Policy Conference for MAPPS members and invited participants
- Keynote and general session presentations: these include an update on the status of the

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USGS National LiDAR Initiative, an open discussion of LiDAR hot topics, and a panel discussion highlighting the National Geospatial Advisory Committee (NGAC) Forum.

- 100+ technical paper presentations
- Networking opportunities

Full details for this conference can be found at <http://www.asprs.org/sanantonio09/PreliminaryProg.pdf>. The ASPRS Sustaining Members Council and the Student Advisory Council are managing a Job Fair with the opportunity for on-the-spot interviews with companies that have job openings. Bring your resumes!

A wide array of Workshops is being offered on Monday, November 16 and Tuesday, November 17 prior to the Conference Opening. ***The most popular workshops always sell out early*** -- so don't wait, register NOW for the workshop of your choice. See <http://www.asprs.org/sanantonio09/workshops.pdf> for workshop details. (Workshops are not included in the general registration fee. Special student pricing is available.)

We look forward to seeing you in San Antonio!

News from Headquarters

Nathaniel J. Ovans was named first Provisional Certified Photogrammetrist by ASPRS.

<http://www.asprs.org/news/releases/2009-07-ovans-1st-cert-phot.htm>

The ASPRS Board has approved LAS 1.3, a new release of the open file format for lidar data storage and delivery. ASPRS has been maintaining and updating this widely used specification since its inception at the beginning of this decade. The 1.3 release adds support for waveform encoding of laser returns. The encoding of this new data extension is optional, allowing LAS 1.3 to be used as the specification in normal multi-return delivery products. <http://www.asprs.org/news/releases/2009-08-LAS-spec-approved.htm>

Welcome New Members!

Heidi Ochis	Harold C. Schuch
Edward M. Olexa	Brett McConnell
Erin Beth Roberts	Brian Joseph Farrell
Bryan S. Smith	Daniel Webb
Dennis McCarville	Douglas Gerull
Gilbert R. Aukerman	Mark Bradley Griggs
Steven Scharf	Anna Klimaszewski Patterson
Katrina Reyne Barney	Kristen Lee Hestir
Lisa Noel Wilson	Monique De Vries

GIS in the Rockies Report

The 22nd Annual GIS in the Rockies Conference was held at The Ranch in Loveland, Colorado on September 16th and 17th, 2009. GIS in the Rockies continues to gain recognition as one of the largest regional GIS and Remote Sensing conferences in the United States. Attendance held steady this year despite a poor economy. The Front Range GIS community makes up most of the attendance, but participants from states outside the Intermountain West also attend.

ASPRS-RMR is one of the five sponsoring societies for the conference. We supply one Board Member and several volunteers on the Planning Committee. The proceeds from the conference are split among the five sponsoring societies: ASPRS-RMR, GIS Colorado, GITA, PLSC and URISA. In the past, ASPRS-RMR has used the proceeds from the conference to support the annual scholarship program and member events.

This year marked the first year for a conference Job Fair and Student Breakfast. ASPRS-RMR and its member companies were well represented at both events. The first day of the conference opened with a Keynote Address from **Karen Siderelis**, the first Geospatial Information Officer (GIO) for the US Department of the Interior. Ms. Siderelis provided an insightful and entertaining address on the spatial initiatives with the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) and nine bureaus of the Department of the Interior. **Mike Locatis**, the Colorado State Chief Information Officer, presented the second day Keynote Address. **Mike** delivered information from **Governor Ritter** recognizing the wealth and depth of the geospatial industry in the Front Range and spoke about how the State of Colorado is incorporating geospatial technologies throughout its governmental branches.

The ASPRS Track continues to be one of the highest attended tracks at the conference. This year, the focus was on LiDAR technologies with many first time conference participants choosing to sit in on the ASPRS talks. This track offers a great opportunity for companies, organizations and students to showcase their remote sensing projects. The Call for Abstracts for the 2010 Conference will go out in the Spring, so contact one of your ASPRS-RMR Board Members if you would like to submit an abstract.

ASPRS-RMR is always searching for volunteers to represent our society on the Planning Committee, so if you would like to serve in that capacity, please contact a Board member. Serving on the Planning

Committee offers great networking opportunities and you will help shape the direction of the conference. The GIS in the Rockies Conference will be held one more year at The Ranch in Loveland and the Board is actively searching for a new location closer to Denver. If you would like to serve on the new location committee, please contact a Board member. We are requesting volunteers!

Submitted by **Victoria Provenza**
GIS in the Rockies Board Member at Large
ASPRS-RMR Past-President

The ASPRS Films Committee Needs You!

Last year, ASPRS established a Films Committee with the initial goal of producing short videos describing the history and work of the Society and its members. The committee will also capture events, advances in technology and input from today's and tomorrow's active participants as our profession moves forward.

To date, five documentary vignettes have been completed; these video shorts premiered during the ASPRS 75th Anniversary Conference, and can be found online at www.asprs.org/films. The vignettes are also available on the ASPRS channel on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/user/ASPRS>. Additional vignettes will be developed as resources permit. Donations are welcome!

In a related though separate project, Pennsylvania State Public Broadcasting (PSPB) has developed a concept for a 60-minute documentary called "The Geospatial Revolution." The ASPRS Foundation donated initial seed money to fund concept development and preparation of a trailer, which is available at <http://geospatialrevolution.psu.edu/>. Material collected for the ASPRS Films project is being made available to the Geospatial Revolution project, and vice versa.

The ASPRS Films Committee would like to interview people with stories to tell. And it turns out that, with the right questions and an attentive listener, many of us can tell interesting stories of how we got involved in the mapping profession. The early focus is to collect stories from the long-time members who have seen many changes in the technologies over the years. If you know anyone who will be attending the ASPRS/MAPPS Specialty Conference in San Antonio, or who lives in that area, and has interesting stories to tell, please send an email to films@asprs.org with the names and contact information so an interview can be scheduled for the 17th or 18th of November in San Antonio.