



THE IMAGING & GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION SOCIETY

~The Rocky Mountain Compiler~

Issue 1

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Issued Quarterly

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Region of ASPRS, serving Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico

President's Message

Greetings, Rocky Mountain Region Members!

I am pleased to report that the 2008 ASPRS-RMR Board has transitioned into our positions smoothly. We are making tremendous progress toward the Membership Enhancement and Engagement Program (MEEP) I introduced last year as Vice-President and Membership Chair, to address the challenge of our expansive Region stretching from the Canadian border to the Mexican border. **Matt Cross**, one of our Regional Directors, is managing the program for the Region. Listed below is contact information for Matt and your state representative. If you reside outside the Front Range area of Colorado and cannot participate regularly in our activities, please contact your local representative and introduce yourself. There are many ways to become involved in ASPRS-RMR and your State Liaison is a local member ready to facilitate your welcomed participation. We also have several additional activities on tap for the remainder of the year.

Allen Cook, our National Director, reports on two exciting initiatives and **Tina Cary**, celebrating the 10th Anniversary of Cary and Associates, announced a Scholarship Match Challenge to assist the Region in endowing our scholarship program. When successful, this will enable the Rocky Mountain Region Scholarships to last into perpetuity and is a strategic goal for the ASPRS-RMR Board this year.

The next big events are the Annual Conference in Portland, Oregon April 28 – May 2, 2008 (<http://www.asprs.org/portland08/index.html>), followed by the 2008 ISPRS Congress in Beijing, China July 3 – 11, 2008 (<http://www.isprs2008-beijing.org/>). We are also very pleased to serve as the Region host for PECORA 17 November 17 – 20, 2008 in Denver (<http://www.asprs.org/pecora17/>). For more information and volunteer opportunities, please read "Pecora 17: The Future of Land Imaging.....Going Operational" in this issue from **Carol Mladinich**, the Local Committee Chair.

ILMF, the International LiDAR Mapping Forum (<http://www.lidarmap.org/>) was a huge success with over 580 delegates from 32 countries in attendance. If you missed it this year, you'll most likely have an opportunity to attend next year; Denver was so popular, the organizers were quite receptive to the idea that we host the ILMF here again. And on a smaller scale and for strictly social and networking

Inside This Issue

-
- | | |
|----------|--|
| 3 | Annual Dinner Roundup |
| 4 | RMR Announces Scholarship Award Recipients |
| 5 | Welcome New Members! |
| 5 | 2007 RMR Board of Directors Election Results |
| 5 | Pecora 17: The Future of Land Imaging
Going Operational |
-

purposes, we'll host our 2nd Annual "Leaves On" Social this summer at Film on the Rocks at the Red Rocks Amphitheater in Denver. Check your e-mail inbox for the announcement in early summer. It's a wonderful way to socialize with your colleagues and enjoy a fantastic venue and unique Rocky Mountain experience. And if you missed our Annual Dinner "Leaves Off" Social in January, check out "Annual Dinner Roundup" by our Secretary **Shaun Callaghan**.

We are so delighted that our very own **Roger M. Hoffer** was selected as an ASPRS Honorary Member. There are only 25 Honorary Members and it is the highest honor awarded by ASPRS. If you missed the press release, you may catch it here: <http://www.asprs.org/news/releases/2008-01-hoffer.htm>. Roger has been instrumental in putting so many remote sensing initiatives in motion in the Rocky Mountain Region. Did you know that he and **Nancy Tubbs** cobbled together the idea for the first "GIS in the Rockies" conference around his kitchen table? Though he is retired, Roger's legacy continues as CSU is the new host of the ColoradoView. See the announcement "Colorado Joins the AmericaView Consortium with ColoradoView" below, and watch for more details in future newsletters as the program develops.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or suggestions. It's a pleasure to serve as your President.

Kindest regards,
Victoria Provenza
 ASPRS-RMR President 2008
Victoria@ProSpatial.com

ASPRS-RMR State Liaisons

As part of the Membership Enhancement and Engagement Program (MEEP), initiated in 2007, ASPRS-RMR has State Liaisons. Board member **Matt Cross** is managing the MEEP program for 2008.

MEEP Manager - **Matt Cross**
 720.514.1138 mcross@mbakercorp.com

Wyoming - **Curtis Clabaugh**
 307.777.4086 curtis.clabaugh@dot.state.wy.us

Montana - **Cody Benkelman**
 406.270.1176 benkelman@yahoo.com

New Mexico - **Clyde Hubbard**
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Rocky Mountain Compiler

Colorado Joins the AmericaView Consortium with ColoradoView

Colorado recently became the 33rd State to join the AmericaView consortium (<http://www.americaview.org>). AmericaView (AV) is a nationwide program that focuses on satellite remote sensing data and technologies in support of applied research, K-16 education, workforce development, and technology transfer. AmericaView is administered through a partnership between the US Geological Survey and the AmericaView Consortium. The Consortium is the federal government's primary partner in achieving the AV Program vision and goals.

The USDA UV-B (ultraviolet-B) Monitoring and Research Program, housed within the Warner College of Natural Resources at Colorado State University (CSU), will host ColoradoView. Key participants in the initial effort are **Dr. Wei Gao**, Director of the UV-B Program and the Center of Remote Sensing and Modeling for Agricultural Sustainability, **Dr. Thomas Stohlgren**, USGS Invasive Species Science Branch Chief and Senior Scientist with the CSU Natural Resource Ecology Laboratory, and **Dr. Michael Lefsky**, Assistant Professor in the CSU Department of Forest, Rangeland and Watershed Stewardship. Temporary email address: coloradoview@uvb.nrel.colostate.edu.

National Director's Report

ASPRS EXCOM met in San Francisco February 9 for our winter meeting. While there is always a full-day's agenda for these meetings, I will summarize for this newsletter by saying that the Society continues to be in very good shape financially and administratively. The Region Summer newsletter will be after the Annual Conference (Portland, later this month), and I will have more to report at that time. There are always changes and items to report, and new developments that could impact us or benefit us.

There is a new initiative that is rapidly taking shape, to develop a television documentary on the past, present and future of mapping and photogrammetry. Initially proposed by **Alan Voss** and **Uwe Zitzow** (both retired from TVA), the idea is to develop a Ken Burns/PBS style documentary with the following premise:

With the digitization and democratization of geospatial technologies, the human view of the world is changing, potentially providing a fundamental change in the way we see and interact

with our physical world. This project purpose is to increase general public awareness of, and appreciation for, this advancing enterprise. The project will combine contemporary technology and applications, future development, and historical perspectives and stories to create compelling media products.

Closely linked to this is the effort to identify and collect oral histories (audio and video) from those members of our profession who experienced and created the technologies we use today. Now mostly retired and disappearing rapidly due to advanced age, we recognize the importance of capturing their stories and experience while they are still with us.

To support this important initiative, the Rocky Mountain Region has identified \$1,000 from this year's budget to match donations from individuals and Sustaining Members in the Rocky Mountain Region. All proceeds will be directed to the ASPRS Foundation. In addition, we are soliciting contact information for retired and inactive members residing in the Region, so we can begin planning for Oral History interviews. These will be conducted by ASPRS student members or current members, at a mutually arranged location. In addition, we are working to make arrangements with the *Wings Over the Rockies Air and Space Museum* – they now house many artifacts from the former Aerial Photography Interpretation School at Lowry AFB. (My apologies if my information is not quite accurate, this information is quite recent, and still developing).

The RMR Board is very excited about this initiative, and we welcome your support in making this happen. More details will be available, following the Portland Conference. If you wish to donate funds or participate in this initiative, we welcome your help. Please contact any RMR Board member for more information!

Allen Cook

National Director, Rocky Mountain Region
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 720.963.6931

ASPRS 2008 Annual Meeting Is Only Weeks Away!!

The ASPRS 2008 Annual Conference, "Bridging the Horizons: New Frontiers in Geospatial Collaboration" will be held in Portland, Oregon April 28 – May 2 at the Oregon Convention Center. The Opening Keynote, "Turning Point: The Future Direction of the Geospatial Industry," is being done as a panel this year, and two members of ASPRS-

Rocky Mountain Compiler

RMR are on the panel, **Tina Cary** and **George Southard**.

This year's conference has a wide variety of User Group Meetings, Workshops and Technical Sessions on all aspects of imaging and geospatial information, as well as social events for networking. For more information, visit www.asprs.org/portland08.

Annual Dinner Roundup

The 2008 Rocky Mountain Region's Annual Dinner and Board Meeting was once again a huge success. The event was held at the Wellshire Country Club in Denver, Colorado, on the evening of January 12th, 2008. Attending were the previous year's board members, the new board and other distinguished guests from the community at large, including past presidents of the National ASPRS, Rocky Mountain Region's past presidents and numerous members of the industry and their friends and family. All in all, 40-plus attendees were at the meeting.

The ceremonies were opened by the outgoing president, **Terry Ryan**, as he welcomed the guests. He recapped the successful year of 2007 that he oversaw as president and recognized several goals that were met in the region from increased membership to beginning additional outreach programs.



Outgoing President Terry Ryan recapping the accomplishments of ASPRS-RMR in 2007.

Roger Hoffer and **Tina Cary**, both national past presidents of ASPRS, presided over the presentation and acceptance of the new officers of the Rocky Mountain Region's board. A short but enjoyable speech was given by Roger about the history of the ASPRS, from its humble beginnings to the strong and active organization it is today. Tina and Roger performed the swearing-in ceremonies

for incoming President **Victoria Provenza**, Vice-President **Trent Casi**, Treasurer **Linda Meyer**, and Secretary **Shaun Callaghan**. Victoria gave a preview to the upcoming year, expressing her desire to continue with the existing outreach programs, growing the membership and chapters of the students in the region, and working with the individual states' members and industry to further the mission of the ASPRS in those areas.



From left, Trent Casi, Roger Hoffer and Tina Cary.

A Pecora report was given by **Carol Mladinich**, the Local Host Committee Chair. She gave an update on the conference and invited members to volunteer for the Local Host Committee.

The widely anticipated presentation of the ASPRS Rocky Mountain Region's scholarship awards followed. Scholarships were given to two students from the University of Denver for their exceptional research in the area of remote sensing and photogrammetry. The First Place award was given to **Ben Tuttle** and the Second Place was given to **Ryan Abeloe**. They each provided fascinating descriptions of their research projects [see "RMR Announces Scholarship Award Recipients" elsewhere in this newsletter]. The supplemental software scholarship donations were valued at over \$3,000 each. Thank you to all who submitted abstracts of research.

The new President closed the meeting and thanked everyone for their time and attendance.

We look forward to an enjoyable and successful 2008 in the Rocky Mountain Region!

Shaun Callaghan
ASPRS – RMR Secretary

Rocky Mountain Compiler

RMR Announces Scholarship Award Recipients

The ASPRS-RMR awarded two scholarships this year with a total value exceeding \$6,000. The first place winner was **Ben Tuttle** from the Geography Department at the University of Denver. Ben's research on "Sensor Calibration and Geolocation Accuracy Assessment of DMSP-OLS Data" will substantially improve the understanding of the quantity of lighting required to achieve detection at night from the USAF Defense Meteorological Satellite Program (DMSP) Operational Linescan System (OLS), of interest to the Earth Observation Group at NOAA-NESDIS National Geophysical Data Center. Ben plans to present his findings at the 2009 ASPRS Annual Meeting in Baltimore.

The second place winner was **Ryan Abeloe** from the Geography Department at the University of Denver. Ryan's research on "Vegetation Analysis of Valle Chacaburo, Chile to Determine Where the Endangered Huemul Deer Can be Reintroduced into its Former Native Habitat" will utilize high-resolution satellite imagery and aerial photography. The results will significantly benefit the efforts of the nonprofit organization, Conservacion Patagonica, to restore huemul to their native habitat where they once thrived.

The 2008 ASPRS-RMR cash awards were supplemented this year by software from ITT Visual Information Solutions and ESRI.

In support of the award winners' research activities, ITT Visual Information Solutions contributed one ENVI+IDL Student license and one ENVI Feature Extraction Educational license to each of the first and second place recipients. ITT routinely supports educational programs that encourage careers in image processing and image science. Learn more at http://www.itvis.com/academic/index_new.asp.



ITT

ASPRS-RMR is pleased to acknowledge ITT Visual Information Solutions and ESRI. Both companies donated software to our scholarship winners.

ESRI was pleased to join ASPRS in this academic scholarship recognition by contributing the following licenses to the 1st and 2nd place scholarship recipients: ArcView Individual Educational license,

with 3D Analyst, Spatial Analyst, Geostatistical Analyst, Network Analyst and Maplex. Also included were the "GIS Tutorial" and the "Designing Better Maps" books. Learn more at <http://www.esri.com>.



From left, outgoing president Terry Ryan, Second Place Winner Ryan Abeloe, incoming president Victoria Provenza, First Place Winner Ben Tuttle.

Welcome New Members!

New members for the period November 2007 – February 2008:

Caitlin M. Bernier	Amanda Berry*
James Britt	Jacob H. Darlington
Brad Davis	Sonja Ellefson
Mike Fox	Tilottama Ghosh*
Philip Harris*	W Brant Howard
Brandon L. McKenzie	Kay Miller*
Charles A. Nettleman*	Kendall A. Rhodes
Renee Walmsley	Kristina Yamamoto*

*Student member

2007 RMR Board of Directors Election Results

Please join us in welcoming the new members of the Rocky Mountain Region 2007 Board of Directors. The Board of Directors information is provided on the [region website](#) for your reference, in an effort to encourage your communication and participation in regional events. We want to thank the membership for voting! We hope to hear from you!

Office of President: **Victoria Provenza**
 Office of Vice-President: **Trent Casi**
 Office of Secretary: **Shaun Callaghan**
 Office of Treasurer: **Linda Meyer**
 National Director: **Allen Cook**
 Regional Director (At-Large): **Rick Lawrence**

Rocky Mountain Compiler

Office of Regional Director ("GIS in the Rockies" Committee): **Kendall Rhodes**
 Office of Regional Director ("GIS in the Rockies" Committee): **Sharolyn Anderson**
 Office of Regional Director (Communications / Newsletter): **Matt Wood**
 Office of Regional Director (General): **Matt Cross**
 Past President: **Terry Ryan**

Congratulations, all!!

Contact information can be found at www.asprs-rmr.org/officers.html

Pecora 17: The Future of Land Imaging Going Operational

The William T. Pecora Memorial Remote Sensing Symposium (<http://www.asprs.org/pecora17/>) is making its return to Denver, November 17 – 20, 2008 at the Adams Mark Hotel. This conference extends the Pecora Remote Sensing Symposium (<http://remotesensing.usgs.gov/pecora.php>) tradition of emphasizing the applications and benefits of land imaging data. In addition, given the recent release of an Office of Science and Technology Policy report, (http://www.ostp.gov/pdf/fli_iwg_report_print_ready_low_res.pdf), recommending the United States maintain a core operational capability for land imagery through the creation of a US National Land Imaging Program, a special focus of Pecora 17 will be on the challenges of migrating satellite programs from research missions to operational capabilities. There will be workshops and a classified session on November 17th.

The Call for Abstracts is open until April 11th.

Nominations for this year's Pecora Award are open until April 30th. The procedure is described at <http://remotesensing.usgs.gov/nominatioprocedure.php>, and the application form itself is available at http://remotesensing.usgs.gov/PECORA_2008.pdf.

There will be many volunteer opportunities (especially for student members) associated with the symposium to ensure its smooth running.

More information will be forthcoming on the Pecora and RMR websites as more details become known.

For more information, please contact:
Carol Mladinich
 RMR Pecora Volunteer Coordinator
csmladinich@usgs.gov

Rio Grande Chapter Report

The Rio Grande Chapter held a re-organization meeting on February 1st, 2008. It had been almost 1 and 1/2 years since the chapter last met. **Mike Racine** led the meeting with the purpose of rejuvenating interest in the chapter. Participation included many previous board members as well as many new participants. Attendees were excited about restarting the Rio Grande Chapter and nominees volunteered to fill all board positions. Ballots were sent out and approved by the members. The meeting was hosted at Bohannon Huston in Albuquerque and future meetings will be conducted via web conference with the Southern New Mexico members. Please visit the new Rio Grande Chapter webpage at <http://www.asprs-rmr.org/chapters/riogrande/index.html>.

GIS in the Rockies 2008

September 9-11, Budweiser Events Center

The 21st Anniversary Celebration of the GIS in the Rockies 2008 Conference is set to take place September 9-11, 2008 at the Budweiser Events Center in Loveland, Colorado. The Budweiser Events Center is part of a larger 374, 000-square-foot fairground complex called The Ranch, providing 7,200 multi-purpose and mixed-use seating options for conference attendees. During last year's conference ASPRS-RMR members honored **Dr. Roger Hoffer**, a Professor Emeritus of Forestry and Remote Sensing at Colorado State University with the 20th Anniversary Career Achievement Award because of his significant contributions to the advancement of geospatial technologies. During Dr. Hoffer's acceptance speech, he reminisced that in the beginning he and fellow ASPRS members had "conceived the idea for a conference in Fort Collins," and with this year's event it would seem we've come full circle.

The overall theme for the 2008 conference is 'Map Your Assets: Geospatial Data Collection and Validation Techniques to Support Organizational Asset Management Goals.' ASPRS-RMR members will be interested to know that the theme for our society track is, 'Remote Sensing and LIDAR Technology: The New Digital Frontier.'

Many event details are still being composed; however there are still many sponsorship opportunities available for conference attendees through **Kristi Audette** with the firm "All the Details" at 303-544-0359 or Kristi@alldetailsinc.com.

National Land Imaging Act

The USGS is currently working with ASPRS, AmericaView, and others to develop the National Land Imaging Act, which will be the Organic Act for National Land Imaging. Once passed, this Act will finally make federal land imaging an operational program and help ensure the continuity of land imaging into the future. The Act is expected to be introduced in Congress in April 2008. Stay tuned for further details.

News from Headquarters

Here we bring to your attention ASPRS national news, including URLs for press releases.

Dr. Russell G. Congalton has been named Editor-in-Chief of Photogrammetric Engineering & Remote Sensing. He succeeds **Dr. James Merchant**. www.asprs.org/news/releases/2008-01-pers-editor.htm.

Dr. Roger Hoffer has been named an honorary member of ASPRS, the highest honor the Society bestows. www.asprs.org/news/releases/2008-01-hoffer.htm

Allan Falconer, Peggy Harwood, Frank Scarpace and **Barney Schur** are the 2008 ASPRS Fellow Award Winners. www.asprs.org/news/releases/2008-02-fellows.htm.

Robert Burtch has been named the new ASPRS National Workshop Coordinator, succeeding **Dr. Congalton** www.asprs.org/news/releases/2008-03-burtch.htm.

Dr. Carolyn Merry has been elected ASPRS Vice President. Three Assistant Division Directors were also elected: **Lewis Graham**, Photogrammetric Applications; **Joseph Knight**, Remote Sensing Applications; and **Anne Hillyer**, Professional Practice; www.asprs.org/news/releases/2008-04-div-directors.htm.

First, Second and Third Place Winners of the 2008 ESRI Best Scientific Paper Award have been announced. www.asprs.org/news/releases/2008-04-esri-paper-winners.htm.

ASPRS Annual Meeting

Portland, Oregon April 28 - May 2

<http://www.asprs.org/portlant08/index.html>