



asprs

THE IMAGING & GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION SOCIETY

~The Rocky Mountain Compiler~

Issue 2

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

Don't Miss *GIS in the Rockies* 2004

October 6-8, 2004

Plaza At the Mart

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The 17th annual GIS in the Rockies conference is just a few months away and the Board of Directors is very excited about the exceptional program scheduled for this year. The 2004 theme "Worlds of Opportunity" reflects the growing excitement the geospatial industry offers and the range of topics it includes. GIS in the Rockies is touted as the premier geospatial information and technology event west of the Mississippi. There are few other regional conferences in the US that present such a unique blend of geospatial and technical expertise. The Conference will be October 6-8, 2004 at the Plaza at the Mart, a facility at the Denver Merchandise Mart. Early registration discounts are offered until July 31, so register now at www.GISintheRockies.org

The three-day format will be packed with workshops, seminars, technical sessions, and exhibitions open on Wednesday and Thursday, followed by technical tours, a golf outing and a geo-caching event on Friday. Technical Sessions and workshops confirmed so far are listed below. Check the GIS in the Rockies web site for the full preliminary program and the updated schedule. Most conference workshops

are held within the conference venue and as part of the regular Wed./Thur. conference sessions.

Registered attendees can take in as many workshops as they wish (space permitting). The technical tours this year include Spectrum Mapping, Schriever Air Force Base, NAVTEQ and The National Renewable Energy Laboratory. In addition, vendors are offering pre-conference workshops on Tuesday, Oct. 5. Some of these carry additional registration fees. Attendees must register for the pre-conference workshops independent of their conference registration. See web site for details.

On Wednesday, October 6 the doors open for registration at 7:30 am. Exhibit hours will be from 10:00 am – 7:00 pm with concurrent technical sessions running from 8:30 am - 5:00 pm. Workshops will also be spread throughout the day. On Thursday, October 7 the exhibit hours will be 8:00 am – 3:00 pm. Concurrent technical sessions will run from 8:30 am – 5:00 pm. Top vendors in GIS, Remote Sensing, GPS, Photogrammetry and Surveying will be available in the Exhibit Hall to

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answer all your questions and show you their latest and greatest products and services.

A sit-down lunch will be provided on Wednesday and Thursday. The Board is very pleased to have Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper as the Wednesday keynote luncheon speaker. The Wednesday evening social from 5:00-7:00 pm will offer great opportunities to meet and network with colleagues. Food, beverages and a chance at winning great door prizes will be part of the fun.

A poster session open to both students and industry professionals will be on display Wednesday and Thursday. You do not have to be a registered participant at the Conference to display a poster. Intermap is providing \$350 for cash prizes for a student poster contest.

New this year, GIS in the Rockies will be offering a job fair running from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm on Wednesday and 8:00 am – 3:00 pm on Thursday. If you are job hunting or searching for qualified employees, be sure to watch the GIS in the Rockies web site for updated information on this event.

GIS in the Rockies 2004 Technical Tracks include the following:

- GIS Fundamentals
- GPS, Surveying and Filed Data
- Imagery and Remote Sensing
- Emerging Standards/Open GIS
- Resource Conflict Management
- Surveying, Cartography and Geodesy
- Professional Development
- Enterprise GIS
- Regional Cooperative Efforts
- Public Policy
- Frontiers of Technology
- Vendor Showcase

GIS in the Rockies 2004 Workshops:

- GIS Coordinates
- Utilizing ArcPad for Proposed Energy Development Sitings
- GPS Vertical Heights & Elevations
- Field Data and GPS
- Determination of Elevations & Datums
- Map Projections
- Running Lean and Making Changes
- Eliminating the High Cost of Low Attitudes
- Linking Local Road Centerlines Statewide Database
- Introduction to Hyperspectral Remote Sensing
- Intro to Programming ArcObjects with VB.NET

The detailed preliminary program and other conference information can be found at <http://www.GISintheRockies.org>

Rocky Mountain Compiler

Record Attendance at ASPRS 70th Anniversary Conference

ASPRS celebrated its 70th anniversary at the 2004 Annual Conference in Denver, Colorado, May 23-28 with a record attendance of nearly 1,900! This figure reflects a 65 percent increase from the previous year's event. This year's conference, "Mountains of Data, Peak Decisions," was launched with a futuristic keynote address by Dr. Ahmed K. Noor, professor of Aerospace Engineering, Old Dominion University. His description of coming technology was exciting and thought provoking.

Rocky Mountain Region President **Brian Soliday** coordinated a special flag presentation to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the Society. Joining him to present the flag were national past presidents who are members of the Rocky Mountain Region.



Rocky Mountain Region President Brian Soliday; national Past Presidents Stan Morain, Maury Nyquist and Roger Hoffer (Tina Cary missed the presentation due to car trouble); Executive Director Jim Plasker.

Fourteen workshops were offered on a wide array of topics including "The National Map Hazards Data Distribution System;" "Performance, Accuracy, and Economics of Imaging Sensors, Lidar and IFSAR for Surface DEM Generation;" plus two workshops on *Preparation for ASPRS Certifications*. User group meetings were held by PCI Geomatics, DigitalGlobe, ESRI, Z/I Imaging Corporation and INPHO.

Over 430 technical papers covered many diverse topics, providing educational opportunities to all in the industry. Over 90 percent of the attendees completing the evaluations rated the technical papers in the good to excellent range. Comments included "continue the mix with industry and government," "great variety of topics" and "please continue the educational track – it was excellent!"

This year, each conference day was opened with a general session. The plenary session on Wednesday, May 26, led off with incoming ASPRS President **Dr. Russell G. Congalton**, followed by **Keith Lenard** of The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. The Thursday plenary session featured

two presentations, the first by **Lynne Sherrod** of the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust, Arvada, Colorado and the second by **Steve Lee**, Research Scientist from the University of Colorado, who discussed *What's New on Mars? A Mars Exploration Rover Mission Update*.

An Exhibit Hall of more than 80 booths showcased the latest in products and services of suppliers worldwide. Traffic in the Exhibit Hall was constant. "The ASPRS conference was very successful for us," said **Wendy Watson**, Vice President of Product Management & Marketing for Leica Geosystems GIS & Mapping. "The turnout was fantastic and appeared to flow smoothly between booths. We were happy to meet and talk with the diverse group of professionals in attendance." Another exhibitor was extremely pleased and walked away with several promising leads, so much that they are anxious to lock in their space for the Baltimore 2005 exhibit hall. "The ASPRS 2004 Annual Conference in Denver was a major success. The exhibit hall, user group meetings, presentations and hospitality night combined to provide a unique opportunity to meet with a substantial number of people who are literally shaping the future of remote sensing technology" said **Jim Kelley**, Vice President Global Services, RSI.

This year's conference introduced a new series of presentations on *Career Development*. These were designed to interest young people in the conference and the Society and to aid current ASPRS members in furthering their careers. These sessions were very well attended with most being standing room only.

A Classified Symposium consistent with the overall conference theme took place on Friday, May 28 at Northrop Grumman, Aurora, Colorado and provided an innovative perspective on integration and analysis of satellite imagery and geospatial data. Technical Tours to Spectrum Mapping, Digital Globe and Jeppesen took place on Thursday and Friday.

The ASPRS tradition of honoring members who have contributed greatly to the field and to the Society continued this year with Memorial Addresses for **Tamsin Barnes** and **Amrom Katz**. ASPRS Executive Director **James Plasker** and ASPRS Fellow **Ronald J. Ondrejka**, respectively, gave these presentations. Tammy, a member of the Rocky Mountain Region, was the first woman to hold the office of President of ASPRS.

Numerous awards were made throughout the Conference to many deserving recipients, including ASPRS Fellows, student scholarships, and ASPRS Region awards. Rocky Mountain Region was well-represented.



Pres. Don Lauer presented a Fellow Award, one of the Society's highest honors, to Rocky Mountain Region member Amy Budge.



This year's winners of the Talbert-Abrams Award are Rocky Mountain Region members Gene Dial and Dr. Jacek Grodecki of Space Imaging.

In addition to all of the conference activities, ASPRS celebrated the retirement of the mortgage on the Society's National Headquarters in Bethesda, Maryland at the Opening General Session. The remarkable accomplishment of retiring a debt of over \$726,000 in only 15 years was accomplished through the generous support of ASPRS individual and sustaining members.

Several social events rounded out this premier conference for 2004, including a 70th anniversary party in the Exhibit Hall, an Exhibitors' Reception, and an evening at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. The museum evening included two showings of the IMAX film "Lewis & Clark: Great Journey West," as well as a stilt walker taking "aerial pictures," a roving dinosaur, a magician, and "Hawkquest," a raptor rehabilitation group showing off several striking birds of prey. In addition, the entire museum was open throughout the evening.

2004 Annual Convention Report – from the Chair

The 2004 Annual Conference in Denver is behind us now, but what a good time it was! While we don't have all of the data yet, absolutely everything we have says it was a very successful conference. To us, the best measure is feedback from participants, and that was freely offered from beginning to end and always in complimentary terms!

The Adam's Mark was an excellent host, with a good arrangement of facilities, and great location. The Exhibit hall was subscribed above target, and feedback from Exhibitors was very positive. The workshops were well attended, with only one cancellation. Technical Tours were good, but participation suffered a bit from being on the last day (and coming up on a long weekend). The Classified Session was exceptional, and participation was on target (75, the same as the session the Region hosted in 2002 at PECORA). The Technical Program was outstanding, with many Special Sessions and excellent participation. Overall, the Conference Registration concluded with nearly 2000 attending, which is well above our budgeted numbers, and in line with our highest estimates.

All in all, the 2004 Conference was excellent, and that is entirely due to a lot of advance planning and work by the Conference Planning Committee, working with ASPRS Staff, and supported by a much longer list of authors, moderators, session organizers and volunteers. As Chairman, I am grateful to all for the talent and effort put forth for this conference! Should you get the opportunity, please thank the individuals listed:

ASPRS Staff, and especially **Anna Marie Kinerney, Kim Tilley** and **Rae Kelly**

2004 Committee: **Allen Cook, Roger Hoffer, Jeff Liedtke, Marceil James, Tina Cary, Sheila Pelczarski, Ken Turnbull, Brian Soliday, Stella Todd, Allasane Toure, John Parker, Matt Bobo, Ian Wells, Keith Elliott, Scott Loomer** (Keith and Scott chaired the Classified Session Technical Program, and are Potomac Region members).
- **Allen Cook** (Conference Chair, and ASPRS – RMR National Director)

A Pat on the Back for This Year's Technical Program

A pat on the back is in order for this year's Technical Program Co-Chairs, **Roger Hoffer** and **Jeff Liedtke**. It is believed that this was the largest (and best) technical program ever at an ASPRS

Conference, with a total of 525 presentations in 138 Technical Sessions, in addition to the classified sessions.

One of the things that made this conference such a success, in relation to the technical program, was the fact that there was a total of 61 "Special Sessions" organized by various individuals and committees or Technical Divisions of ASPRS. These special sessions included 16 on "Lidar" (organized by **Martin Flood**, Chair of the ASPRS Lidar Committee), 10 sessions on "Multi-temporal Image Analysis" (organized by **Pol Coppin**), and 9 on the "National Spatial Data Infrastructure" (organized by **Al Stevens** and **Kari Craun**). A new feature this year was a set of four special sessions on "Career Development", organized by **Michael Hodgson**, Chair of the Education Committee, in cooperation with the Denver Local Organizing Committee. These sessions were of considerable interest to the ASPRS conference attendees and very well attended (standing room only – even on the last afternoon of the conference). Another special session that created a great deal of interest was "Is Digital Aerial Photography Admissible?" organized by **Charles E. Olson, Jr.**

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to all those individuals who worked so hard to develop the various special sessions. They were very organized and created considerable interest in the various topics. We believe that these sessions were a significant contribution in making this technical program so successful!

Many comments were received concerning the overall excellence of the technical program. Several people stated that they believed the quality of the papers at this year's conference was very good. There were some complaints that 15 minutes was too short for presentations. Although it is clearly not much time, an organized presentation can be made and information can be effectively conveyed within a 15-minute time frame. The speakers and the moderators were presented with very explicit instructions concerning the amount of time available for each presentation, and guidelines for keeping the technical sessions on time. The definitive instructions to the speakers and moderators, as well as the signs for the moderators to use, helped keep the technical sessions organized and on time.

This year a major difference in the 2004 Conference was that we had a Plenary Session every morning during the three days of the technical sessions. The first plenary presentation by **Dr. Ahmed Noor** on emerging technologies, and the last plenary presentation by **Dr. Steve Lee** on "What's New on Mars? A Mars Exploration Rover Mission Update" was particularly interesting and well received by all.

The daily plenary session format provided for some very interesting plenary presentations and also for the “burning of the mortgage” on Tuesday. The incoming ASPRS President, **Dr. Russ Congalton**, made his address on Wednesday morning to a much larger audience than the usual attendance at the Business Meeting and Awards Luncheon. It also provided an opportunity to make a few of the major awards at times when they could be more widely recognized, which helps create more widespread interest in all of the awards that are given by ASPRS.

All in all, we believe that the technical program portion of the 2004 ASPRS Conference was outstanding – one of the best, if not the very best ever at an ASPRS conference. Thanks to the efforts of all the presenters, moderators and others who helped in organizing so many special sessions. Many thanks to all who participated!

National Director's Report

I expect everyone in the Region knew (or should have known) we hosted the 2004 Annual Conference in Denver, May 23-28. As Conference Chair and Region National Director, planning for this activity consumed virtually all my free time for the last 18 months or so. Concurrent with the Annual Conference, ASPRS was able to retire the mortgage on our National Headquarters building, many years ahead of schedule. Now that the conference is in the history books (we still have to produce a final report), we can turn our attention to other issues.

The Rocky Mountain Region is presently the most active and successful of all the regions, and that is no accident. The Region board and the 2004 Conference Planning Committee are both populated with very motivated and dedicated people, and the results are showing.

With this foundation, the Region can continue to provide leadership to ASPRS. As we strive to provide better support and involvement to our membership, we can also assist the Society as we plan for the future. Nationally, we will be placing much greater emphasis on membership (at all levels), stewardship and professional development. While each of these topics deserves greater discussion, I will just describe them briefly in this newsletter.

Membership – Continues to decline. This trend is common across professional societies, but it is reversible. The Region is working to establish new chapters across the area, (for both students and general members) in order to provide better support and participation to our members. I think we will be studying what we (as a Society) do for our members, and what they expect from us. We know that people

must see a benefit to maintaining their professional society membership, and that you have a choice in what organization to belong to. Let us know what you think!

Stewardship – We are the professionals who create and make geospatial technology what it is. It is up to us to actively defend our profession, and to mentor others into it. Whether influencing legislation that threatens to regulate us, designing software, teaching students or just plain getting the work done, we all have a part to play in our profession, and we should be involved.

Professional Development – ASPRS can be an active participant in your career, whether you are a new student or trying to stay current with all the changes. For the first time, we included a Career and Professional Development Track in the 2004 Conference Technical Program. The fact that this track was packed in most sessions tells us the topic draws considerable interest. You can be sure this topic will be included in future conferences.

Finally, I was elected (by the ASPRS National Board of Directors) to the Executive Committee at the Board meeting during the Conference. While I am still a member of the Board, this means I will have more direct involvement in ASPRS activities than before, and probably also more responsibility to be responsive through interaction with members. I am very interested in your thoughts, as we continue to develop the themes above.

Allen Cook (ASPRS – RMR National Director)

President's Message

The members and Board of the Rocky Mountain Region have been extremely busy this spring and ASPRS National has recognized the amount of work performed by the region. The RMR was provided with several national awards at the recent ASPRS 2004 Conference in Denver, including:

- Region of the Year Award - 1st place for the **third straight year!**
- Top Newsletter (Rocky Mountain Compiler) – 1st place, after placing 2nd for the last 2 years.
- Web site (www.asprs-rmr.org) - 3rd place, after placing first for 2002

A separate article will outline these prestigious awards. Additionally, because of our members' efforts in recruiting new members to the Society, the RMR was awarded the *Region of the Month* for both March and April. Congratulations to all!!

Congratulations also go out to the Denver 2004 Conference Planning Committee for organizing an incredibly successful National ASPRS Conference that was held at the Adams Mark Hotel in Denver, on May 24-28th. The committee, led by **Allen Cook**,

outperformed themselves and helped ASPRS celebrate its 70th anniversary with record attendance, reflecting a 65% increase from the previous year's event. I appreciate the participation and attendance our RMR membership showed at this conference.

As always, your RMR Board of Directors would welcome any input from the membership on what type of value we can help provide to your membership in the ASPRS professional organization. Feel free to contact any of the RMR Board with any input/ideas at <http://www.asprs-rmr.org/officers.html>. Additionally, we are always looking for other interested members who would like to work with the Board on various projects, so step up and participate!

Brian L. Soliday (President ASPRS-RMR 2004)



Brian Soliday presents the Rio Grande Chapter's Board of Directors with a check from the RMR Board for their membership rebates. Left to Right: Brian Soliday, Michael Racine, Theresa Kuntz, Judith Van der Elst, Chandra Bales, Steve Scharf

RMR Earns Top Honors for 3rd Straight Year!

Your Rocky Mountain Region continues to lead all regions within the US by being recognized at National Headquarters as the Region of the Year for 2003. We were acknowledged at the recent ASPRS Conference in Denver and were bestowed awards in all three of the designated categories.

Region of the Year Award -- 1st place for the third straight year!

Top Region Web site (www.asprs-rmr.org) -- 3rd place

Top Region Newsletter (Rocky Mountain Compiler) -- 1st place!

The actual ceremony (including presentation of the hand engrossed certificates and Region of the Year Banner) for the Region Awards took place at the Memorial Address and special recognition was also made during the Awards Luncheon the following day (attended by many of the RMR officers) where the Rocky Mountain Region was acknowledged for their success in winning top honors for the 3rd straight

year in 2003 and continued through to the successful National Conference that we hosted in Denver.

The following are excerpts from the Awards Program:

Region of the Year Award

"The competition for the Region of the Year was once again very tough." (w/ Columbia River Region taking 2nd and The Central Region taking 3rd). "Their (RMR) constant endeavor to outdo themselves not only enhances their importance to their members but to the Society as well. The Rocky Mountain Region received this award for outstanding accomplishments in all areas of region activities, some of which include a terrific region newsletter, holding (co-sponsoring) the largest GIS and Remote Sensing Conference in the Western US (GIS in the Rockies), and many other technical meetings, tours, expanding local chapters, and awarding scholarships. The Region has also supported the ASPRS Headquarters by setting up the matching Building Fund contributions, and establishing the 2004 National Conference Planning Committee. The Rocky Mountain Region not only competed royally, the presentation of their annual report was one of the best ever received at headquarters."

Region Newsletter of the Year Award

"The *Rocky Mountain Compiler* is a very informative, easy to read, colorful, eight-page publication. This publication contains many important concerns of the region as well as for ASPRS National, such as meetings, calendar events, membership, Certification programs, and Scholarships. They do an excellent job of keeping their members abreast of all events." The Compiler is consistently a strong contender: since the inception of this award in 1980, the Rocky Mountain Region has received an award 14 different times.

Region Web site of the Year Award

The RMR "provides unique web site content and an interesting interface. It promotes the annual GIS in the Rockies Conference and highlights student activities in the region through the Region Chapters – the Colorado State University Geospatial Information Club and the Rio Grande Chapter." After winning the 1st place award in 2002 (in its inaugural year), the RMR web site has been the poster child for all other regions to imitate. **Sheila Pelczarski**, Web Site Editor, has done a tremendous job keeping the RMR web site current with job offerings, social events, technical tours and conferences.

By receiving awards in all 3 categories and taking 1st place for Region of the Year for the 3rd straight year, these annual awards are affirmation for what we all already know, ... that the Rocky Mountain Region of ASPRS is leading the way - through all our organized events and active member participation!

Technical Tour Reports

Jeppesen Tour

The Jeppesen facility is far larger than anyone expected, and very nicely appointed. After refreshments/breakfast provided by Jeppesen, tour guides **Dave Vogel** and **Mike Fox** provided a presentation on the history of Jeppesen as a company, its growth over the past decades, the foundation products and services on which it was built, and the new directions it is following. After the formal presentation, the group was split and alternated a technical tour and a building tour. The excitement at Jeppesen about what they are doing and the future of the company is obvious.

Jeppesen offers a variety of products related to flight security to customers around the world. The products include:

- Charts and navigation data
- Navigation software
- Training systems
- Pilots supplies such as; flight bags/case, flight logs and logbooks
- Custom services for corporate flights and airlines.

Most of the company's revenue is based on the production of hardcopy maps. The Electronic Flight Bag (EFB) is a new product that will revolutionize the world of aviation charts for pilots everywhere. GIS is increasingly being used in areas like Terrain Avoidance programs, runway incursion procedures, and simulated landings.

Jeppesen has developed a precision (5m CE90) Airport Mapping Database (AMDB) for about 300 airports around the world. The company used high resolution remote sensing data along with photogrammetric techniques and GIS tools. The system is already in place in some aircraft. A video demonstration of a flight simulation conducted by NASA using Jeppesen's AMDB was presented.

A visit to the GIS production line showed the chain of events leading to the development of flight line plan maps, including map digitization, quality control/quality assurance, and final flight plan update within a GIS environment. We also visited a laboratory where high-spatial-resolution satellite imagery, mainly the panchromatic band, is used to extract point, line and polygon features to update airport maps with very high accuracy. Before leaving, we were introduced to a flight control terminal, a service Jeppesen provides to private pilots and airlines companies for guidance during landing and takeoff.

Due to the high level of interest, the question-and-answer period ran long. The group was mixed with U.S. and foreign visitors and all seemed to really enjoy the tour. **Dave Vogel** also announced several

remote sensing- and GIS-related job openings at Jeppesen and asked members to spread the word.

DigitalGlobe Tour

Part of the fun of going to DigitalGlobe is the scenic ride to Longmont, with its great views of the foothills, Flatirons, and Longs Peak in Rocky Mountain National Park, as well as some of Colorado's remaining farmland. After check-in and welcoming, the first stop on our tour was at Customer Service, where the company philosophy is atypical. All employees are empowered to find a solution for their customers, which means they can go to any level, rather than through a standard management protocol. All employees are highly trained; this is not just a call center. Next we got a look at Collection Planning. Here the satellite's future path is charted to accommodate customer requests as well as speculative collections. Factors involved include specific customer requests, weather and cloud cover, and particular dates needed for an area, regardless of weather.

We were allowed a peek into the Mission Control Center, not unlike a NASA space mission control room, only smaller. Computer screens are everywhere. These folks monitor and direct the satellite path and acquisitions in real time. All have previous flight experience, often with the military. They also keep an eye on the news via CNN to be able to capture imagery in an area if a significant event occurs, such as an earthquake or volcanic eruption.

Data retrieval and storage are a significant part of DigitalGlobe's operations. Many terabytes of imagery data reside on hard disk at any given time; the remaining data are stored on DLT tape. Copies of the archive are stored off-site as a backup.

Product Analysis and R&D are done in a large, semi-dark, windowless room containing many workstations running Unix and Windows operating systems. Many software packages are used here, including PCI and other company-designed software. Imagery is checked for quality while new products are being developed. Photogrammetric extraction from stereo imagery is also performed in this area. The product line is expanding to include elevation models, 3-D models, agricultural and forestry inventory/condition, land cover classifications, change detection, and other services. SPOT data are used for comparison in developing the agricultural and forestry products.

Although DigitalGlobe is now primarily a commercial operation, Defense Intelligence support is still an important part of the operation. This work is done in secure areas behind closed doors in pods scattered around the company.

We saw many examples of QuickBird images on the walls as we wandered through the company. At the end of the tour we gathered in the board room for refreshments, questions, socializing, and a virtual tour around the world with examples from QuickBird. All participants received a goodie bag containing product samples on CD, a baseball cap, snazzy pen, and key chain with compass. With our heads and hands and bellies full, we made our way back onto the bus for the scenic ride back to Denver.

Spectrum Mapping Tour

Nineteen ASPRS members from around the world survived the three-block walk to the Spectrum office in downtown Denver. This was a great opportunity to meet the tour goers, stretch our legs, and view the great city of Denver.

Once we arrived at 1999 Broadway, everyone rode the elevator up 32 floors to reach Spectrum's office. **Rob Eadie** greeted the group and provided an overview of the latest innovations in aerial mapping technology and discussed the wide range of services provided by Spectrum. Spectrum offers professional services in project consulting, custom remote sensing and GIS application development, and training. Mapping Services include fixed and rotary wing aerial photography, digital terrain models and contour mapping, planimetric feature mapping, and color/panchromatic digital ortho photography. Remote Sensing capabilities include LIDAR terrain mapping, hyperspectral image mapping, digital color and CIR camera image mapping, and land cover classification.

After the overview, the group was divided into smaller groups to allow for more interaction with the tour guides and technicians providing the demonstrations. **Rick Vincent**, **Rob Eadie**, and **Alistair Stuart** guided the groups to three separate live demonstrations showcasing specific highlights of specialties that Spectrum has to offer. The first demonstration detailed the LIDAR DEM filtering process used to automatically remove vegetation from raw data. The next station demonstrated SILC processing, which is the classification of LIDAR data using multispectral imagery. This process allows for automatic classification of roads, buildings, vegetation, water, and other features. The last demonstration was on Ortho image production, detailing Spectrum's proprietary medium-format digital camera data, which is collected concurrently with the LIDAR data.

After the technical tour concluded, we gathered back in the conference room for questions and answers. All of this wrapped up with tasty snacks and even better company and conversations. A wonderful view was to be had from the 32nd floor windows.

Welcome New Members

Jeff Adams	John Sigurd Ahlrichs
Megan Allen *	El Carlos Aran *
Michael J. Artmann	Tracy Jean Baldyga *
Nancy Bohac	Ross Bricklemyer
Susan Elizabeth Buchingham *	Jason E. Caldwell
Laurie Gibson	Tom S. Groom
Fred H. Groth	Dean Allen Hancock
Ian Sebastian Hanou	Mark D. Hardy
Donna Haverkamp	Marguerite Nicole Hendrie *
Robert Heuer *	James Horne
Courtney Hurst *	Douglas Eugene Jacoby
Nathan Kempf	Melodie A. Kertis
Tom Kubancik	Michelle M. Manly
John Marquardt	Don McGrady
Enrique L. Montano	Jacob Morgan
Joseph J. Mostowy	Paul Oppedal
Jeffrey Parker *	Keith Allan Pollock
Brian Post	Heather M. Richards *
David Robinson *	Jason William San Souci
Matthew Sares	Rachel Shaw *
Jennifer Sherry	Sudhir Raj Shrestha *
Debbie Smith	Caitriana Margaret Steele
Coele Nicole Stone *	Michael Anthony Stone
Karl Turner	Lori Ward
Jason Weinberger	Miles J. Wacker
Robert George Waltermire	William J. Whatley
Donald Wicks	Shane Willard
Alan J. Woodward	

* denotes student member

Montana (Big Sky) Chapter Formation

The Rocky Mountain Region of ASPRS was well represented at the recent Intermountain GIS User's Conference in Billings, MT. During the conference, the RMR sponsored a meeting to gauge the interest in forming a Montana chapter of ASPRS. **Brian Soliday** (President) and **Jaymes Pardue** (Vice President) of the RMR Board sponsored the informal get-together for interested members and non-members. The event was held at Jake's, just across from the conference site, and was attended by sixteen people. Both the University of Montana and Montana State University were represented, as well as members from Positive Systems, Bohannon-Huston, Tea Gardens Technology and ESRI.

The requirements for both state chapter and student chapter formation were discussed. The RMR also announced a special Student Membership offer: a \$20 rebate on any Montana-based Student Membership submitted prior to June 30th. The offer is valid for all undergraduate and graduate students throughout Montana. We look forward to at least beginning a new Student Chapter at the University of Montana in the fall of 2004.

**ASPRS Rio Grande Chapter News
NMGIC**

The New Mexico Geographic Information Council (NMGIC) held a 20th anniversary meeting on April 15, 2004. Special guest speaker **Jack Dangermond**, ESRI, spoke on "A Vision for the Future of GIT." The ASPRS Rio Grande Chapter meeting was held immediately following the NMGIC event. **Brian Soliday**, Rocky Mountain Region Board President, attended. The RGC welcomed a new board member – **Amy Hoepfner**, who is an archaeologist and GIS Analyst with Ebert & Associates in Albuquerque. Welcome to the Board, Amy!

ASPRS Conference Grant

The Earth Data Analysis Center (EDAC) at the University of New Mexico helped the Rio Grande Chapter of the Rocky Mountain Region provide stipends for 13 people to attend the ASPRS convention in Denver. The group took a break from attending sessions, visiting with the diverse vendors, and networking with peers to pose for a group photo.



Front row left to right: Heather Richards, Megan Allen, El Aran, Amy Budge of EDAC, Jeff Parker, Karl Turner. Back row left to right: Mike Racine the Rio Grande Chapter President, Veronica Arias, Judith van der Elst a Rio Grande Chapter Director, Tres Montano, Stan Morain the Director of EDAC, and Bob Heuer. Not pictured, Emily Clary, Amy Hoepfner a Rio Grande Chapter Director, and Theresa Kuntz the Rio Grande Chapter Secretary

Job Postings!!!

The job opportunities out there have really been picking up! Just a few weeks ago we had a record 18 listings on our jobs page! The page is updated regularly. Over 20 positions are currently listed. This is a great time for anyone looking; there are many new opportunities out there!!

Check out the Rocky Mountain Region Jobs Listings at www.asprs-rmr.org

**New This Year: GIS in the Rockies
Job Fair**

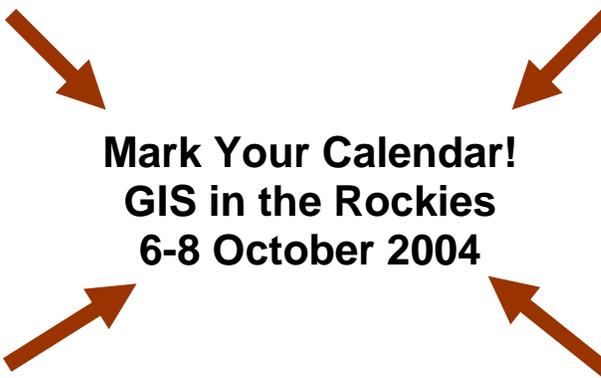
Mark your calendars! The job fair will take place on Wednesday, October 6th from 10:00 am – 5:00pm, and Thursday, October 7th from 8:00 am – 3:00 pm. If you are job hunting or searching for qualified employees, be sure to watch the GIS in the Rockies web site www.GISintheRockies.org for updated information on this event.

Rogues Nite Out (RNO)

Rocky Mountain Rogues' Night Out, held May 26 after the ASPRS Conference Ice Breaker, set a new record with 125 people attending this fun networking event. **Brian Soliday** for LizardTech, and **Phyllis Thomas** for RM-URISA (co-sponsors), drew tickets for the fabulous door prizes. RNO welcomed many out-of-towners who were amazed to see the strength of our local RS/GIS community so actively involved in the promotion of our industry. Thanks to everyone who attended, we are always looking forward to meeting new members!!! RNO meets about every six weeks at the Wynkoop Brewery in Denver near Union Station in "LoDo." To receive notices of upcoming gatherings, e-mail **Ken Turnbull** at ken@kenturnbull.com Hope to see you soon!

**University of Denver Faculty
Receive 2004 Boeing Award**

Paul Sutton, Chris Elvidge and Tom Obremski were presented with the 2004 Boeing Award for Best Paper in Image Analysis and Interpretation, for their paper "Building and Evaluating Models to Estimate Ambient Population Density" (PE&RS; 69-5, pp 545-552). This award was presented at the ASPRS 2004 Annual Conference in Denver, on Wednesday, May 26th. Paul, Chris and Tom are faculty members at the University of Denver for the Department of Geography. The award consisted of an inscribed plaque, a hand-engrossed certificate, and a cash award of \$500. Congratulations, all!



Mark Your Calendar!
GIS in the Rockies
6-8 October 2004

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