



asprs

THE IMAGING & GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION SOCIETY

~The Rocky Mountain Compiler~

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

President's Message

Another year draws to an end as we find ourselves in the holiday time of year. Work should slow down (hopefully soon!) as more time is made for family and friends. It is also the time of year to look back on all that we have accomplished, and for the RMR of ASPRS, it is time for transition as new officers are elected and the baton is passed.

2003 Summary for ASPRS-RMR:

- Annual Holiday Party (in Jan.) was at McCormicks in downtown Denver
 - Brief presentation given by Univ. of WY graduate scholarship winner for '02
- Another Successful GIS in the Rockies Conference (co-sponsored with 4 other societies)
- Technical Tours: Intermap, Jeppesen, DigitalGlobe, USGS, BP Center for Visualization
- Two New Student Chapters:
 - Metropolitan State College of Denver
 - New Mexico State University
- Sub-Committee for ASPRS National Conference in Denver in '04
 - Well on their way for putting together technical program, social events, and technical tours
- Awarding \$3000 worth of Scholarships (undergrad and graduate level)
- Sponsored Rogue Social Event for Membership Outreach in Denver
- New Mexico Rio Grande Chapter led Photogrammetry Certification Workshop

- New Mexico Rio Grande Chapter hosted GIS Day w/ Gila National Forest
- Won Region of the Month Award in September (Most New Members)

Now is the time to think about getting more involved in your local region of ASPRS for 2004. You have many different options to choose from and like most societies and commitments in life, the more you put in, the more you can receive! The following are just a few ways you could decide to get involved:

- Join the ASPRS-RMR board or just decide to attend the meetings
- Volunteer to help the sub-committee for the ASPRS '04 National Conference
- As faculty or students: Set-up GIS or Remote Sensing Club (get sponsored by ASPRS)
- Submit article for the Quarterly Newsletter
- Send content or links for the regional website: www.asprs-rmr.org
- Write articles for PE&RS
- Support the GIS in the Rockies Conference (give a talk, lead a workshop, or just attend!)

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- Support the National Conference in May '04 (give a talk, submit a poster, volunteer, etc.)
- Attend the technical tours (suggest other places you would like to see)
- Go the Annual Holiday Party and other organized social events (be personable)
- Encourage friends/colleagues to become members and get involved themselves
- Encourage your company to become ASPRS Corporate Member

Please feel free to give me a call or e-mail me any time. Suggestions are always welcome!
I look forward to hearing from you.

Happy Holidays!

Scott A. Bennett
President ASPRS-RMR 2003
sbennett@imagelinks.com

GIS in the Rockies 2003

ASPRS, along with four other geospatial societies, ACSM, GITA, PLSC and URISA, hosted the 16th Annual GIS in the Rockies Conference October 1-3 at the Plaza at the Mart in Denver. This year's theme "Geospatial Integration Today for Tomorrow" addressed the geospatial industry's unique blend of disciplines and topics. The highest ever number of abstracts submitted resulted in two information-packed days of technical sessions and workshops.

The first day of the conference consisted of five workshops and six technical sessions plus the exhibition. Track themes included Introduction to GIS; Resource Management; Imagery and Remote Sensing; Engineering and Infrastructure; GPS and Field Data and the GIS Vendor Showcase. Fifty-seven vendor booths provided excellent contact opportunities for attendees and exhibitors alike.

Peter Batty, Chief Technical Officer of **Ten Sails**, presented the luncheon audience with his unique insight into several of the latest GIS technologies. This was the first year the exhibit hall was closed during lunch and the exhibitors appreciated the break. They also liked getting to hear the luncheon speakers. The evening social in the vendor area closed out the day's activities. Drawings were held for 30 door prizes, including a **Hewlett-Packard** iPaq loaded with **ESRI's** ArcPad 6. Day two offered five workshops and five concurrent technical sessions plus the exhibition. The track themes were Public Policy and Administration; GIS for Homeland Security; Emerging Technologies, Education and Career Development and Software and Integration.

John J. Hansen, the Secretary of Technology for the State of Colorado, informed the crowd at the sit-down luncheon about the importance of

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collaboration and the issue of GIS accuracy. This year's new format offered a third day filled with first-rate technical tours at **DigitalGlobe**, **Jeppesen**, the **USGS Mapping Center** and the **BP Center for Visualization**. ASPRS was proud to sponsor the refreshments offered at the end of each tour. Over 100 people attended the technical tours with a great time had by all. The annual GIS in the Rockies golf tournament at Buffalo Run on Friday afternoon gave several hackers the opportunity to navigate the course using on-cart GPS units.

Overall, attendance was close to 600 people. This is down somewhat from previous years; however the core attendance (non-vendor attendees) was up from 2002. This is considered a good turnout, seeing that most 2003 conferences have recorded a 20% or more drop in attendance. Many of the exhibitors rated the conference higher than other regional conferences, and over 90% of those who completed the exhibitor evaluation form said they are interested in exhibiting again next year. Thanks to all ASPRS volunteers for your hard work!

GIS in the Rockies: Report on Technical Tours

The 2003 GIS in the Rockies conference presented a different twist than previous years. Instead of workshops and technical sessions, the third day of the conference offered up four technical tours at **DigitalGlobe**, **Jeppesen**, the **USGS Mapping Center** and the **BP Center for Visualization**, exclusively for GIS in the Rockies attendees. ASPRS sponsored the refreshments offered at each tour for the over 100 attendees.

DigitalGlobe provided a very interesting and well-organized tour of their facility. Several staff members gave the visitors a look at the process of filling a data order, from taking the order itself through data acquisition and delivery of the final product to the customer. A highlight of the tour was the visit to the Space Operations Department or "Mission Control" Center. Here staff track the imaging satellites in real-time as they orbit earth. Another treat was taking a world-wide tour by viewing **DigitalGlobe** imagery from various sites around the globe, all in the comfort of their conference viewing room.

Jeppesen began their event with refreshments sponsored by ASPRS during a presentation on the company and their GIS related activities. This was followed by a tour of the facility, emphasizing how GIS and image and elevation data are used in their daily operations. This tour provided a rare insight into how GIS is utilized in aviation and aviation mapping, including airport transportation logistics

modeling and airport take-off and landing visuals for pilots.

At **USGS**, the group of 45 attendees was first walked through the expansive map warehouse to see how the Map Services division handles and stores the thousands of maps ordered and shipped every day – a very impressive facility. Then everyone was split into several groups and shown different aspects of the **Rocky Mountain Mapping Center's** research and operations, including the creation of DEMs, orthophotos and the use of remote sensing data to map land cover use and change in urban areas. The staff at the USGS showed us all their exceptional hospitality and expertise.

The **BP Center for Visualization** tour began with an introduction by the facility staff and a brief explanation of the history of the center. The **BP Center** was established in 2000 with funds from British Petroleum as a means to provide an immersive virtual reality experience allowing engineers and scientists to virtually explore underground spaces to access drilling opportunities and anticipate problems. Following the introduction, the group of 29 was lead into the virtual reality chamber or “cave” to experience the 3-dimensional computer simulations for themselves. Special battery-powered, 3-D glasses were worn so the computers could track the wearers’ position in the space and adjust the views accordingly. After many oohs, ahs and ducking to avoid virtual objects, every person left the tour with a smile on their face and a story to tell.

Rio Grande Chapter News

The Rio Grande Chapter of the ASPRS held its Annual Meeting Friday, December 12, 2003, in Belen, NM, in the conference room of the Wells Fargo Bank building, 101 S. Main Street.

The annual meeting began at 1 pm, followed by a social hour from 2-3 and a guest speaker from 3-4:30. **Bill Krausmann, USDA Forest Service**, Southwestern Region, spoke on Thermal Infrared Fire Mapping Programs.

Welcome New Members!

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Veronica M. Arias* | Katherine P. Buscombe* |
| Margaret Carew* | Danny C. Champion |
| Angela Daniels | Ed Ewing |
| David Gallaher | Kalena Halter |
| Mary Jene Hattendorf | Brandon K. Herl |
| Amy Jane Hoeptner | Danna K. Lengefeld |
| Brian Keith Messick | Glenn Reese |
| Carrie V. Thompson* | Cameron M. Tongier |
| David Vogel | Todd Zhang |
- * Student member

ASPRS Rocky Mountain Region Scholarship Program

Deadline for the 2003 ASPRS Rocky Mountain Region Educational Scholarships was December 5. We doubled the available scholarship monies to a total of \$3,000 that will be awarded to deserving undergraduate and graduate students this calendar year. However, the number of student entries has actually dropped! The scholarships are being offered to support academic research in the geo-technologies as well as to aid in travel costs in order to encourage student participation in ASPRS activities. The monetary awards can be used to offset any costs the students may have incurred while pursuing their college degrees, whether it be for data, fieldwork, or to help pay for travel to attend any ASPRS-sponsored convention.

For more information, contact;
Brian Soliday
Vice President, ASPRS-RMR (Chair, Scholarship Committee)
Tel: 303-250-5537
bsoliday@lizardtech.com

RMR Wins Region of the Month for September!

The Region of the Month is awarded every month to the region that signs up (sponsors) the most new members (minimum required is 5) during any single month. The RMR-sponsored Rogue Social event in mid-September was the reason for the Region’s success in winning this monthly recognition. Congratulations to all who made this a great success.

Region News, Events and Jobs

The Rocky Mountain Region web site is a great resource that is frequently updated.
<http://www.asprs-rmr.org>

You Are Invited to the Annual Dinner Meeting January 24, 2004

★	Rocky Mountain Region Annual Dinner Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, January 24, 2004.	★
★	Scholarships will be awarded and new officers will be sworn in.	★
★	Details are being finalized as we go to press. Watch the web site News page, or your e-mail for forthcoming information.	★
★	www.asprs-rmr.org/news.html	★

Not Just a Pretty Picture: Imagery Solutions for GIS

Presented by: **DigitalGlobe, Leica Geosystems GIS & Mapping and ESRI**

What can imagery do for you? Experience imagery as it is utilized in the GIS world. Walk through the steps of the Geospatial Imaging Chain™ with **DigitalGlobe, Leica Geosystems GIS & Mapping and ESRI** by your side. See how we can help you Capture, Reference, Measure, Analyze and Present your imagery as geospatial information. Join us on **Wednesday, January 28, 2004:**

Location: Marriott Denver Tech Center
4900 South Syracuse
Denver, CO 80327

Schedule: 8-8:30 a.m.: Registration and continental breakfast
8:30 a.m.-12 p.m.: Seminar

A **Prize Package** will be given away including:
1":400' orthorectified image *by DigitalGlobe*
Image Analysis for ArcGIS
by Leica Geosystems GIS & Mapping
ArcGIS for ArcView 8.3 *by ESRI*

Register today:

abby.dawe@gis.leica-geosystems.com

ASPRS-RMR

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Annual Meeting Sponsors Wanted

To help with the planning for the Annual Meeting in Denver in May, contact the RMR National Director **Allen Cook**, Allen.Cook@ngc.com or 720-963-6941. **Sponsorship Opportunities** - An evening at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science is planned for May 26th. There are several entertainment and activity items that require sponsors for \$250 - \$500. Please send inquiries (or your bright ideas!) to **Ken Turnbull** ken@kenturnbull.com.

PE&RS Technical Editor

Incumbent Technical Editor for PE&RS **James B. Case** is retiring after more than 20 years. Search is underway for his successor. For information on the Duties and Responsibilities, Qualifications, Compensation/ Benefits, and How to Apply, please go to <http://www.asprs.org/PERStecheditor>.

Annual Election of Officers

Officer elections for 2004 are forthcoming. Voter ballots will be e-mailed or mailed to members soon.