



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

The Board of the Rocky Mountain Region hopes that all of you have been having a prosperous fall season! There has been a flurry of activity within the Remote Sensing and Photogrammetry community as aerial imagery projects rush to get completed while leaves are off of the deciduous trees and snow has yet to blanket most areas. Some of the earlier fall imagery collected is very colorful where trees have changed colors. It is one of my favorite times for viewing "colorful" color aerial photos. Meanwhile storms such as Super Storm Sandy have mobilized the need for collections of remotely sensed datasets to assess the damage. Indications are still strong for an active winter and spring aerial data collection season as Requests for Proposals continue to be issued at a steady pace.

Students in the academic community are preparing to complete final exams before the winter break approaches and, I am happy to report, we are seeing renewed interest by students for taking much more active roles in the Society. Nationally, the Student Advisory Committee is reaching out to Student Chapters in efforts to make communication and collaborations as easy as blogging, Twitter, Facebook and e-mail.

The Rocky Mountain Region Board is pleased to approve the formation of a Student Chapter at Front Range Community College. Students

there have the enthusiastic support of faculty advisor Dave Skiles. Professor Skiles is a Certified GIS Professional and a GIS Instructor at Front Range CC. He is excited to get the students involved with ASPRS and has 15 enthusiastic students who signed the petition to form the Student Chapter. Chelsea Murray will serve as Chapter President, John Firmschild as Vice President and Kim Ayers as Secretary/Treasurer. We welcome this new Chapter to the Region!

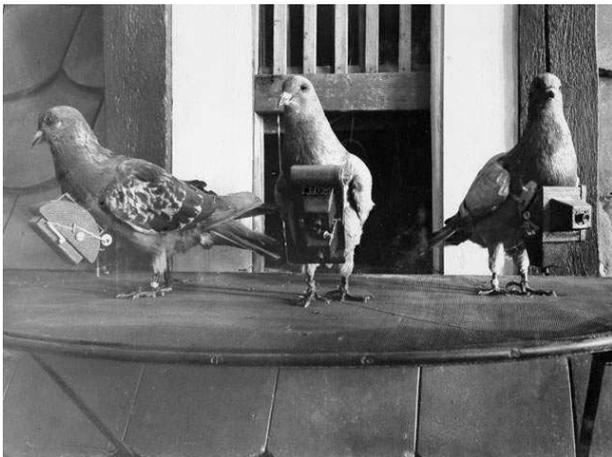
GIS in the Rockies was a well-attended conference success! Attendance was 493 for the two-day event held September 20-21 at the Cable Center on the University of Denver campus. The ASPRS Rocky Mountain Region sponsored technical presentations that were well received. All participants really enjoyed the presentations and exhibits. Consider

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presenting at the conference next fall when GISITR return to the Cable Center October 9th and 10, 2013.

This fall I was honored to be asked to speak at the University of Wyoming as part of their GIS Day events. I presented a condensed history of aerial photography and the evolution from analog to digital cameras/sensors. It was fun to have a look back at aerial photography before the invention of the airplane. Interestingly, pigeons were one of the first platforms for sophisticated early cameras.



Of course, the roll film camera was instrumental in getting this to work. Add a timer to snap pictures at a regular interval and a homing pigeon, and interesting photos result. Here is an example, courtesy of Amos Latteier.



Could this be a new hobby for someone with an interest in both pigeons and photogrammetry??? Just a thought ...

RMR 2013 Scholarship applications had a deadline extended a few weeks this year and we have a number of good submissions. These are now getting evaluated by the Region Board and results will be announced soon!

We would love to share abstracts of some of the best. Students, even if you have not applied for a scholarship, consider publishing your class project, research, or ideas right here in this newsletter.

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Look for details of the Rocky Mountain Region Annual Dinner planned for a Saturday in February, coming by e-mail and this newsletter in the near future. We are looking at holding this dinner/meeting/social event on the Saturday evening immediately preceding the International LIDAR Mapping Forum (ILMF) to be held February 11th to 13th, 2013 at the Hyatt Convention Center in Denver.

With another year coming to a close, we ask you to submit nominations for the positions on the Region board whose terms expire. We have the following board positions to fill by vote of the Region membership;

President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and Regional Directors, with one Region Director dedicated to serving on the GIS in the Rockies Conference Planning Committee for 2013.

The next issue (Winter) of the *Rocky Mountain Compiler* will arrive shortly, so send in your articles!

If you would like to submit ideas for technical sessions, webinars, events and activities or volunteer your time, please don't hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at the e-mail address mark.stanton@premiergeospatial.com or by cell phone, 303-941-3852. I am open to all forms of feedback and welcome all suggestions.

Wishing you all success in your Remote Sensing and GIS endeavors!

Mark Stanton
President, ASPRS-RMR

National Director's Report

ASPRS Region Restructuring

At the ASPRS Board of Directors meeting in Tampa, a majority of ASPRS National Directors voted in favor of considering ASPRS region consolidation. As per **Dr. Stephen DeGloria**, ASPRS President-Elect (2012-13), who is leading the Restructuring Task Force (RTF), indicated by e-mail to the National Directors on November 27, 2012, there are many considerations such as: "... region organization, governance, technical programming, and fiscal health that are impacting our Society both locally and nationally. We want to move forward under your guidance and input to define a process for initiating this consolidation process by: (1) promoting inter-regional dialogue, (2) identifying a few contiguous

regions where consolidation is logical and encouraged locally, (3) defining local affinity groups within regions that would be the focus of within-region technical programming, and (4) providing to our RTF specific steps to achieve consolidation following an evolutionary rather than revolutionary process."

In response to Dr. DeGloria's request, I provided the following: In terms of a larger footprint for a region out here in the West, I would suggest combining the Intermountain Region with the Rocky Mountain Region and forming the "Montane Region" comprised of the Intermountain Chapter (Idaho and Utah -- transitioning), the Rocky Mountain Chapter (Colorado, Wyoming and Montana--transitioning) and the New Mexico Chapter (New Mexico--existing).

Please provide me with any concerns you have regarding the restructuring process in general, my suggested consolidation above, or any alternative ideas regarding a new footprint for the Rocky Mountain Region to be combined with others... whole or in parts. I expect this will be a protracted process, since there are many dimensions to the puzzle here.

Please forward your comments to me at jyoung@lizardtech.com by December 14th. Our next National Director's meeting on restructuring will likely be on December 18th. Also, feel free to correspond directly with Dr. DeGloria at:

Stephen D. DeGloria
ASPRS President-Elect (2012-13)
sdd4@cornell.edu

Regards,
Jeffrey M. Young
National Director, ASPRS RMR

[Editors note: Please feel free to respond after the dates listed above.]

Student Rebate Offer

ASPRS Rocky Mountain Region will reimburse \$20 of the \$45 cost of student membership, so your net cost is only \$25 for all the benefits of membership in the Society!

Download the Student Membership Rebate Form at <http://www.asprs-rmr.org> (on the News page). Here's the best part: ***This offer from the Region is good for every year you are a full-time student!***

ASPRS-RMR Rio Grande Chapter Spring 2013 Scholarship

Purpose

The purpose of this award is to recognize and honor ONE UNDERGRADUATE and ONE GRADUATE New Mexico student for outstanding academic success, research potential, and commitment with respect to geospatial science and technology (e.g., photogrammetry, remote sensing, geographic information systems).

Eligibility

- The applicant must be a current student member of ASPRS.
- The applicant must be an undergraduate or graduate student currently enrolled in a college or university in New Mexico.
- The student must be pursuing a program of study that may lead to a career as a geospatial professional.

Award

The award consists of a certificate and a check in the amount of \$250 to be presented to each recipient at the Annual Spring Meeting of the ASPRS Rio Grande Chapter in Las Cruces on April 6, 2013.

Application Materials

A student who wishes to be considered for the award must submit the application form and the following items by March 15, 2013 to **Joe Zebrowski** (jpzebrowski@nmhu.edu), current ASPRS-RMR RGC President:

- An unofficial transcript documenting all college- and/or university-level courses completed and grades earned.
- A listing of geospatial courses taken.
- A statement, not to exceed 250 words, detailing the applicant's goals for a career as a geospatial professional.
- Materials demonstrating the applicant's research potential and commitment to geospatial science and technology (e.g. portfolio of class projects, poster or paper presentations, technical papers, internship reports, summary of pertinent volunteer activities).
- List of two references, including names, job titles, relationships, addresses, and phone numbers.

Award Selection

The Committee will be composed of geospatial professionals in New Mexico and will consider undergraduate and graduate applications separately. The applicant who, in the opinion of the majority of the Committee, has the highest overall ranking in each category (undergraduate/graduate) is designated as the winner in that category.

Call for Nominations for Rocky Mountain Region Board Elections

ASPRS-RMR is currently accepting nominations for the upcoming Board Member Elections. The following positions will be open for the 2013 term: **President** (one year); **Vice President** (one year); **Secretary** (one year); **Treasurer** (one year); **Regional Director** – (GIS in the Rockies) (2 years); **Regional Director** – At-large (2 years); **Regional Director** – Communications/Newsletter (2 years).

Volunteers are also needed to help with newsletter production and website maintenance.

Volunteering 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 peers, communicate with our membership, and contribute to these kinds of collaborations. We will publish the nominations and announce the election in the Winter issue of the *Rocky Mountain Compiler*.

If you are interested in running for a position, would like to nominate one of your peers, can help with the newsletter or website, or if you have questions about being a Board Member, please contact any of the Region Officers listed on <http://www.asprs-rmr.org>

GIS in the Rockies Report

“*GIS in the Rockies 2012: 25 Years of Geospatial Collaboration*” was this year’s theme. The Conference was held at the Cable Center at the University of Denver for a second year in a row due to the success of last year at this venue. This year, attendance was up with a total of 493 participants. The Cable Center is conveniently located with Interstate 25 and an RTD Light Rail Station nearby, also a parking lot right next to the building. Events included workshops, keynote speaker **John Fielder**, student breakfast, technical presentations, posters, booths for organizations and companies, job fair, evening social, and tours.



GIS in the Rockies exhibits at the Cable Center.

The ASPRS-sponsored technical track, “**Monitoring and Assessing Our Changing World**” had nine presentations on a range of international research projects that were interesting and well attended. This track offers a great opportunity for companies, organizations and students to showcase their remote sensing projects.

ASPRS-RMR had a table in the upper level of the exhibit hall. Society information, copies of the *Summer Compiler* newsletter, the *PE&RS* journal, and membership forms were available. Several ASPRS members volunteered to staff the table and speak to current and future members.

Several RMR Officers/members helped made this 25th annual conference a success: **Ralph Vomaske** and **Niki Noon** put in many hours working on the Conference Planning Committee; **Mike Tuffly** organized the Workshops; **Mark Stanton** and **Mike Tuffly** spoke at the Student Breakfast. Thanks to all of them, plus those who helped staff the ASPRS-RMR table in the exhibit hall. Special thanks go to outgoing Planning Committee member **Ralph Vomaske**.

With the success of the GISITR at the Cable Center for the past two years, GISITR will be held there again in 2013. Mark your calendars -- the next conference will be October 9th and 10th, 2013.

Welcome New Members!

Carol Carlson
 Matthew Cross
 Ryan Csontos
 Emily Freeh
 Michael Garner
 Jeffrey Gillan
 Jennifer Godby
 Stevie Hansen
 Katherine Higgins
 Josef Jansen
 Gary LaVanchy
 Roberta Lujan
 Kenneth Peterson
 Boleslo Romero
 Robert Sabie, Jr.
 Rob Van Westenberg
 Amanda West
 Chelsie Worth
 William Wright
 Su Zhang

Wyoming GIScience Geospatial Forum

The Wyoming Geographic Information Science Center (GIScience) at the University of Wyoming in Laramie continued its Geospatial Forum Series this Fall with Friday lunchtime presentations by a variety of outside speakers. Series organizer, Professor **Ramesh Sivanpillai** (also RMR Vice President), took a different approach this fall by inviting outside speakers from a variety of disciplines who could give the students a better idea of what it is like to work in a geospatial job in the real world, as well as what skills and knowledge current employers are looking for in the new employees they hire. **Sheila Pelczarski**, GIS & Remote Sensing Analyst (and RMR Communications Coordinator), gave a presentation with examples of the work she does at Denver Water in October. **Mark Stanton**, Flight Operations Manager at Premier Geospatial (and RMR President), visited the Forum in November to speak about his work managing aerial orthophoto acquisition and processing, also to take part in GIS Day celebrations at the University of Wyoming.

News from Headquarters

ASPRS Annual Conference 2013

“**Confluence by the Bay: A Gathering of Geospatial Insights,**” the ASPRS Annual Conference, will be held in Baltimore, Maryland, March 24-28, 2013. Visit www.asprs.org for details.

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### **Clifford W. Greve and Vincent V. Salomonson Selected as ASPRS Honorary Members**

**Clifford W. Greve** and **Vincent V. Salomonson** have been selected as the next Honorary Members of the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS). Their nominations were recently approved by the ASPRS Board of Directors. This is the highest award bestowed by ASPRS and there can be only 25 living Honorary Members of the Society at any given time.

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ASPRS 2013 Fellows Named

George Y. Lee and **Charles Mondelo** have been named the 2013 ASPRS Fellow Award winners. The ASPRS designation of Fellow is conferred on active Society members who have performed exceptional service in advancing the sciences (photogrammetry, remote sensing, surveying, geographic information systems and related disciplines).

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### **Upcoming ASPRS Webinars**

**Lidar Fundamentals and Applications** – Wednesday, January 23, 2013 (Registration Deadline: Friday, January 18)

**Preparation for Provisional Certification -- STUDENTS ONLY** – February 4 and 5, 2013 (Registration Deadline: Thursday, January 31)

**Principles & Practice of Synthetic Aperture Radar** – Wednesday, February 27 (Registration Deadline: Monday, February 25)

**Preparing for ASPRS Certification** – Thursday & Friday, March 7-8 (Registration Deadline: Tuesday, March 5)

**Looking Above the Terrain Model: LIDAR for Vegetation Assessment** – Tuesday, April 30  
(Registration Deadline: Friday, April 26)

**Assessing the Accuracy of GIS Information Created from Remotely Sensed Data: Principles and Practices** – Thursday, May 16 (Registration Deadline: Tuesday, May 14)

**Object-Based Image Analysis** – Thursday, June 4  
(Registration Deadline: Friday, May 31)

## More News from Headquarters ...

### ***ASPRS Updates Recertification Requirements***

The American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS) Evaluation for Certification Committee has recently updated the ASPRS Recertification requirements and revised the related Certification Guidelines. These changes were made as a result of the Committee's ongoing interaction with the Council of Engineering & Scientific Specialty Boards (CESB) as ASPRS moves toward accreditation of the ASPRS Certification Program by CESB. One of the key recommendations CESB made was for ASPRS to base its recertification requirements on standardized Professional Development Hours (PDH) or Continuing Education Units (CEUs), rather than the internally designed point system ASPRS had been using.

**Mike Renslow**, chair of the ASPRS Evaluation for Certification Committee, explained, "Basing recertification on Professional Development Hours clarifies the types and levels of activities that applicants must document, and provides a standardized framework for evaluation by the review committees. This improvement strengthens the ASPRS Certification Program and implements a process used by many other scientific/technical certifying bodies." As a result of these recommendations, ASPRS began the process in 2011 of moving to a PDH format with input from industry, academia, and the public sector.

The updated guidelines are posted on the ASPRS website: <http://www.asprs.org/Certification-Program/Certification-and-Recertification-Guidelines.html>. The recertification PDH requirements are outlined in a table on the website, together with a list explaining specific activities and

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the number of PDHs that may qualify for recertification. The applicant may also earn "ASPRS PDH Credits" for selected additional activities that count toward recertification. The most significant difference with the newly revised requirements is that additional documentation is required when PDHs or CEUs are earned.

Applicants seeking ASPRS Recertification may begin using the new PDH-based system immediately, and will be required to use it starting January 1, 2013. The ASPRS Certification Program continues to evolve and maintain its leadership position in the geospatial sciences. The Program is currently in the final evaluation phase of the accreditation process by CESB, the results of which will be announced soon.

(Press Release posted 8/6/2012)