

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



To all my fellow Rocky Mountain Region members of ASPRS; I hope this newsletter arrives to you during a prosperous fall season in the great Rocky Mountains. Of all the many photos taken while airborne this past summer, I always find the Rockies awe inspiring and a wonderful reminder of why we all choose to live here in the shadow of these majestic mountains! This photo was taken of the Wind River Range of Wyoming this year and shows Wyoming's highest peak, Gannett Peak, visible in the left skyline with the summit snow cap shining brightly.

Many of you were able to attend another successful GIS in the Rockies Conference. This year the event was held on October 9th and 10th of last month and had a very positive turnout. Read on for more details of the ASPRS sponsored presentations track in this newsletter by **Tillman Saylor**.

At the conference, ASPRS was very happy to announce this year's **ASPRS Rocky Mountain Region Scholarship Program**. We always look forward to awarding Scholarships to students and will be giving between \$500 and \$1,000 per eligible recipient, depending on the number and quality of applicants. Go to the News & Events page on [our website](#) for details and to download an application. We will be judging applicants by categories, Undergrad (Juniors and Seniors), Masters and PhD. so don't shy away from trying if you are a Junior or Senior undergrad. Applications can be submitted by e-mail, making it even easier to complete.

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Students; Practice your writing skills and submit interesting articles about your research here in your Rocky Mountain Region ASPRS newsletter! Any and all submissions are welcome! We publish the newsletter quarterly, so entries for this year's winter issue are possible. Articles could also be fun stuff like field work and interesting places you've been while working toward your profession.

Also check out the [National ASPRS Student Blog site](#) for links to additional online seminars and division meetings.

As always, all are welcome to join our Board meetings held once per month via teleconference, so you can participate from wherever you are. For information about getting involved, contact any one of the Rocky Mountain Region Board members listed on our award-winning website at <http://www.asprs-rmr.org>

Yours Sincerely!

Mark Stanton
Rocky Mountain Region, ASPRS, President
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National Director's Report

Mapping the Taos Pueblo: A Spatial Place for a Thousand Years and Counting

I recently traveled to Albuquerque, New Mexico to participate in the Tribal GIS Conference. The Conference was attended primarily by Native American GIS specialists from tribal communities all over the US, including Alaska and Florida. This event punctuated the positive impact and value of geospatial technologies for these communities. The Conference organizers also encouraged participants to build geospatial capacity, to reflect on notions of historic preservation, to respect traditions of the past, and to develop improved methodologies for sacred site protection.

With the Conference proceedings fresh in my mind, this trip also afforded me the opportunity to continue informal investigation of past initiatives to map the Taos Pueblo. On behalf of the [Data Preservation and Archiving Committee](#) (DPAC) of ASPRS, I have focused on the works of Perry E. Borchers (b.1919 – d.2003). Professor Perry Borchers of The Ohio State University was an accomplished architectural photogrammetrist. Under contract with the National

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Park Service in the 1970's, he led a team who systematically conducted aerial and terrestrial surveys of many pueblo sites in New Mexico. Many of his manuscripts and source photography are now under the care of the State of New Mexico History Museum in Santa Fe. Long before digital photogrammetry, he, his wife Myra, and several students prepared exquisite plans and profiles of several pueblos. By no means was Borchers' Team the first to map the Taos Pueblo, but the quality of the analog-compiled representation is remarkable. Interestingly, also housed in the Museum is a scaled, 3D physical model of the Taos Pueblo constructed by the Ward and Howell Company of Rochester, New York (circa 1876 to 1891). This model was built under the direct supervision of Ferdinand Vandever Hayden (F.V. Hayden), who himself was an accomplished field geologist, surveyor, military surgeon during the Civil War and namesake of Hayden, Colorado. F.V. Hayden, a member of the National Academy of Sciences, conducted a [reconnaissance survey of the eastern edge of the Rockies](#) from Cheyenne to Santa Fe in 1869, prior to the formation of the US Geological Survey and the somewhat political ascent of Clarence R. King and John Wesley Powell.



No doubt the Taos Pueblo, a [UNESCO World Heritage Site](#), has been mapped numerous times over the last 1000 years. By no matter of chance, the Pueblo is a great example of sustainable development before the term was coined and is recognized by many scholars as the longest continually inhabited place in North America. The Taos Pueblo and surroundings have probably been mapped by the Pre-Columbian Anasazi; the Tiwa People; the Francisco Vásquez de Coronado Expedition in 1540 and other Spaniards who followed over the centuries, including Juan Bautista de Anza's military exploits; and as New Mexico joined the United States by Charles Bent, the first Territorial Governor of New Mexico and his confidant, frontiersman "Kit" Carson for trading and land exchange purposes. Modern efforts of federal, state,

and local governments need not be mentioned. Also CyARK has a [LiDAR Mapping initiative underway](#).

As a member of DPAC, I intend to use the Taos Pueblo and its historic map and image records as an example workflow for archiving and preservation. As a national organization representing the geospatial community, the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing plays an important role in influencing standards for data preservation and archiving. Considerations for managing geospatial data on a daily basis and preventing destruction and/or degradation over time are necessary to maintain accessibility and extend the usefulness of many types of geospatial data and derivative products. The ASPRS Data Preservation and Archiving Committee's operational goal is to assess practices and develop guidelines to support the geospatial community at large. Additional information pertaining to this is included on the last page of this newsletter.

As always comments are welcome. Jeffrey M. Young, jyoung@lizardtech.com, ASPRS Rocky Mountain Region National Director and member of the Executive Committee.

Student Rebate Offer

ASPRS Rocky Mountain Region will reimburse \$20 of the \$45 cost of student membership in ASPRS, 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 & Events page). Here's the best part: ***This offer from the Region is good for every year you are a full-time student!***

ASPRS-RMR Scholarship Program

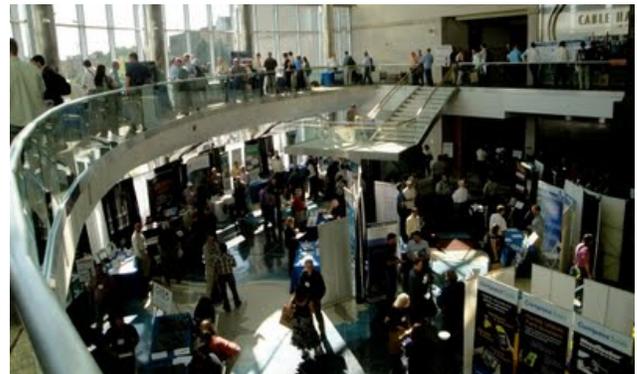
In its continuing efforts to support and build awareness for the Remote Sensing and GIS sciences, the Rocky Mountain Region of ASPRS is proud to announce its academic scholarships for 2013-2014. The ASPRS-RMR offers scholarships to deserving undergraduate and graduate students every year. There will be at least one scholarship awarded (assuming sufficient applications are received) in the range of \$500 to \$1,000 each. The scholarships are intended for students throughout the Rocky Mountain Region (Montana, Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico) who demonstrate excellence while pursuing careers in the fields of Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing, and Geographic

Information Systems (GIS) or related disciplines. Both undergraduate and graduate students of any third-level educational institution within the four-state region who are pursuing careers in these disciplines are encouraged to apply.

Get information and the application from the "News & Events" page at <http://www.asprs-rmr.org>. Student membership in ASPRS is not required to apply, but if selected, membership is required at time of scholarship award. Awards will be presented at the ASPRS-RMR Annual Dinner Meeting in January, 2014. We've consistently offered thousands of dollars in annual scholarships and this year will be no different! Preference will be given to those studies that apply sound scientific principles to practical applications in the geospatial sciences (photogrammetry, remote sensing, Geographic Information Systems, etc.). Awards at both the undergraduate and the graduate levels are based on academic merit; that is, the application form does not request any personal financial data. If you have questions, please contact Sheila Pelczarski, ASPRS-RMR Communications Coordinator, at 303-628-6511 or at sgp@denverwater.org. **Applications should be submitted by the December 6, 2013 deadline.**

GIS in the Rockies Report

"GIS in the Rockies 2013: Local to Global: Geospatial on the Move" was this year's theme. The Conference was held at the Cable Center at the University of Denver for the third year in a row due to the success of the past years at this venue. Events included workshops (one being hosted by ASPRS-RMR's own **Dr. Michael Tuffly**), keynote speakers **James Fee** and **Frank Biasi**, student breakfast, technical presentations, posters, booths for organizations and companies, geography quiz, job fair, evening social, and tours.



GIS in the Rockies 2013 exhibits at the Cable Center.

The ASPRS-sponsored technical track, “**Views Along the Scale Bar: From Hemisphere to Home**” had twelve presentations on a range of projects and topics, including a targeted forum on unmanned aerial vehicles and systems (UAV/S), that were quite impactful and well attended. This track offers a great opportunity for companies, organizations, and students to showcase their remote sensing projects, as well as highlight major breaking trends in the industry.

ASPRS-RMR had a table in the upper level of the exhibit hall. Society information and several other informational handouts 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 make this annual conference a success: **Niki Noon** and **Tillman Saylor** put in many hours working on the Conference Planning Committee as track co-chairs; **Mike Tuffly** held a highly praised Workshop; **Mark Stanton, Jeff Young** and others were present for many functions and contributed at the job fair, student breakfast and other events. Thanks to all of them, plus those who helped staff the ASPRS-RMR table in the exhibit hall.

Although there has been great success in holding the past three GISITR conferences at the Cable Center, for next year’s GISITR we will be teaming up with the Geospatial Conference of the West to create the “GeCo in the Rockies 2014” conference, which will be held in Grand Junction, CO, September 22-26 2014. Mark your calendars, and plan to submit an abstract and/or attend next year! We hope to see you there!

Welcome New Members!

Martin Alexander
 Alisa Coffin
 Dr. Ahmed Elaksher
 Stephen Ghignell
 Courtney Maxson
 Sarah McCord
 Scott Meade
 Brandon Novick
 Beth Parsi
 Glen Thurow
 Brandon Tilley

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ASPRS Certification Program Accredited by CESB

The American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS) professional and technologist certification programs have each received accreditation from the [Council of Engineering and Scientific Specialty Boards \(CESB\)](#).

GEOSPATIAL INTERN PROGRAM

An applicant seeking Geospatial Intern recognition must be an active student preparing to graduate with educational training in the spatial sciences from an approved institution of higher education, and must follow the Basic Requirements outlined for Certified Photogrammetrist, Mapping Scientist, or Technologist; the exception being the required on-job experience. Applicants must submit the appropriate application (visit <http://www.ASPRS.org>) and Fee with one (1) reference from their academic advisor or relevant faculty member. An Official Copy of the applicant’s current transcript must accompany the application; the transcript must validate that the applicant has successfully completed a minimum of two (2) courses in the spatial sciences (photogrammetry, remote sensing, or GIS/LIS). The application requires a declaration of compliance with the ASPRS Code of Ethics.

Upon successful examination completion, the individual will receive Intern-level recognition as one of the following:

- Photogrammetrist Intern
- Remote Sensing Mapping Scientist Intern
- GIS/LIS Mapping Scientist Intern
- Photogrammetric Technologist Intern
- Remote Sensing Technologist Intern
- GIS/LIS Technologist Intern

In the case of Photogrammetrist or Mapping Scientist, the individual will have ten (10) years from the date of examination to complete the six (6) year experience requirement. In the case of Technologist, the individual will have five (5) years to complete the three (3) year experience requirement. Exceptions to the length of time for completion of the experience requirement will only be granted for active duty military service.

When the Work Experience requirement is complete, the Applicant must provide written documentation and three (3) references to ASPRS

Headquarters, who will forward the experience summary and references to the Evaluation for Certification Committee. Applicants meeting all of these requirements will become certified for the specified time period of their certification.

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 2014 term: **President** (one year); **Vice President** (one year); **Secretary** (one year); **Treasurer** (one year); **Regional Director** – (GIS in the Rockies) (2 years); **Regional Director** – (General/Montana) (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>

Data-Archiving Standards

As touched on in the National Director's Report, ASPRS has recently taken the lead in working toward setting standards as they relate to data archiving and preservation. Additional details can be found in a [recent article](#), which was based on an interview with RMR's own Jeff Young, posted on and conducted by Geodatapoint at geodatapoint.com.
