



## 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**

I would like to wish all of you a Happy and Prosperous New Year!! For what it is worth, I sense that this coming year will be one where all will benefit from an improved economy, new innovations in photogrammetry, remote sensing, GIS, and a market driven by the Geospatial sciences. Looking around, I can hardly believe that only a few, seemingly short years ago we had wondered at the ability to take the science from a few stereo-paired aerial photographs, convert the entire photogrammetric process to digital files for use in a computer environment, and then host the results on personal computers. It reminds me of the time I received a computer program that would simply display a road map on my PC. I was frustrated that the resolution was so coarse, and the content so limited, that I simply gave up on using the software and had to resort to the tried-and-true paper road atlas for driving directions. Not to mention, there was no way to conveniently bring the old desktop model PC into a car for real time use navigating across our great country. In just a matter of 20 years, (for some of you a long time, for some others of us, a short time, no?) we are asking Siri (the new Apple iPhone verbal interactive software), for instance, to let us know where we might find the nearest breakfast spot. She can give you a long list of options within a short driving distance, display the map (with or without orthoimagery), and provide verbal step by step navigation directions...AND all in a small handheld device you can put in your pocket!! Wouldn't Captain Kirk be impressed?!

Best of all, we are at the forefront of this great technology and our society is driving the show! Many of you are in academics, studying new technology and new ways to use existing technologies. Many of you are working with government agencies, using this science to provide benefits to our citizens at the national, state and local levels. Others of you are within private organizations that produce hardware/software and/or provide services to government, citizens and academia using photogrammetry and remote sensing technologies. We share a common love of this great science/art and now, a new way of life that all of us are enjoying. Your involvement with our society promotes new ideas, and this is a great time to get more involved! If you can, save the date of Saturday, the 21<sup>st</sup> of January on your calendars for a nice dinner and chance to network with other professionals in our region. The Rocky Mountain Region will be having our annual dinner and get-together at the Wellshire Inn on South Colorado Blvd in Denver on that date. Cost is only \$30 per person for the meal, and we are

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honored to have **Bobbi Lenczowski**, our new National ASPRS President-Elect, join us for this event. Please read the article in this newsletter for details and RSVP! We hope to see you there!

Just a reminder, we are now on Facebook!! This site is available to all, and can be used to share anything from links, chats, and photos of interesting projects/tours, etc. Follow the links and "Friend" us. We would love to see more activity there. The site is still in its infancy, and the ASPRS-RMR Board would love to hear your ideas on how we might improve the site in the future.

#### **Mark Stanton**

ASPRS Rocky Mountain Region President  
mstanton@xedarinc.com

## **National Director's Report:**

### **Extending Beyond Our Borders with ISPRS**

The International Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) is another society that is worthy of our attention as members of ASPRS. I recently become very aware of the mission and purpose of ISPRS, and I have been quite impressed with the success this international society has enjoyed over the last 100 years (see [www.ISPRS.org](http://www.ISPRS.org)). As a result of my curiosity regarding this success, I will likely travel to the twenty-second ISPRS Congress in Melbourne, Australia this year to present a paper. ISPRS Congresses only occur every four years, so this is a rare opportunity. Melbourne is indeed a special place, and I have had the good fortune of traveling there several times over the years. The theme for the Congress is "**Imaging a Sustainable Future,**" and the Congress will convene from the 25<sup>th</sup> of August to the 1<sup>st</sup> of September, 2012. No doubt several ASPRS members will be in attendance, including many from the Rocky Mountain Region. ASPRS is a significant stakeholder in ISPRS, both as a member organization and in providing leadership. For example, **Mike Renslow** of Eugene, Oregon has served as ISPRS Treasurer for several years. ASPRS is an ISPRS Ordinary Member. "Ordinary Members" are scientific and/or technical organizations representing geographic areas. An Ordinary Member is normally a single organization of a country, or a geographic region thereof, having an independent budget, which represents the whole community of photogrammetrists and remote sensing experts in that country or region. Several US organizations are ISPRS Sustaining Members. Generally, Sustaining Members are "individuals, organizations, institutions, or agencies who manufacture or distribute instruments, equipment or supplies, who operate or provide services in the fields of photogrammetry and/or remote sensing, or who are engaged in research and/or education and

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who contribute to the financial support of the Society" (<http://www.isprs.org/members/sustaining.aspx>). A list of US-affiliated ISPRS Sustaining Members is as follows, and many have staff based in the Rocky Mountain Region:

- BAE Systems
- Center for Remote Sensing and Mapping Science - University of Georgia
- Earth Data Analysis Center - University of New Mexico
- ESRI
- Intergraph Corporation (Hexagon)
- International Center for Remote Sensing of Environment - University of Arizona
- Leica Geosystems (Hexagon)
- LizardTech
- NASA Goddard Space Flight Center
- Open Geospatial Consortium
- Sensor Systems (Overwatch)
- The Getty Conservation Institute
- Trimble Navigation
- Virtual Geomatics

If you are not already planning on attending the 2012 ISPRS Congress, please consider joining us in Melbourne for an intellectually nourishing program of papers, panel sessions and exhibits!

#### **Jeffrey M. Young**

National Director, ASPRS RMR  
[jyoung@lizardtech.com](mailto:jyoung@lizardtech.com)

## **2012 Board of Directors Election**

It is time once again to elect the ASPRS-RMR Board of Directors for the new year, 2012. This is a golden opportunity for ASPRS-RMR members to participate in shaping the region, identifying initiatives and setting the priorities for ASPRS-RMR. The slate of candidates and positions is listed below with their associated biographical sketches. As in years past, this election will be conducted by e-mail.

2012 Positions and Candidates for Nomination:

- President – 1 year – **Mark Stanton**
- Vice President – 1 year – **Ramesh Sivanpillai**
- Treasurer – 1 year – **Roger Hanson**
- Secretary – 1 year – **Mike Tuffly**
- National Director – 3 years – **Jeff Young**
- Regional Director (General) – 2 years – **Linda Vance**
- Regional Director (GIS in the Rockies) – 2 years – **Niki Noon**
- Regional Director (Communications/Newsletter) – 2 years – **Kristi Zellman**

### **Nominee Biographies**

**Mark Stanton**, an ASPRS Certified Photogrammetrist, has over 20 years experience in the fields of Geology and Remote Sensing. He has been working for the last 10 years with Pixxures, now called Premier Geospatial, Inc., in Arvada, CO. Mark has worked positions from Image Analyst, picking tie points and balancing mosaics, to Aerial Photography Film Scanner, to Orthophoto Project Manager and is now PremierGeo's Flight Operations Manager. Mark plans orthophoto project requirements, determines ground control requirements, flight parameters, manages training, aircraft positioning, sensor troubleshooting, maintenance, crew logistics, weather monitoring, mission data processing, AT, surface model generation, orthophoto color balancing and production. When Mark is not working with imagery, he may be found performing in the cello section with the Denver Philharmonic Orchestra, climbing, or cross-country skiing somewhere in our Rocky Mountain backyard playground.

**Ramesh Sivanpillai** is an associate research scientist with the Wyoming Geographic Information Science Center (WyGISC) and Department of Botany at the University of Wyoming. He received his BS in Physics from Bharathiar University (India), MS in Environmental Studies and Policy from University of Wisconsin – Green Bay, and PhD in Forestry from Texas A&M University. His research interests include the application of remotely sensed data for land cover change analyses, crop and rangeland mapping, and locust pest habitat mapping. He has conducted remote sensing projects in the US and India, Mexico, Nicaragua, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Russia. He has been a member of ASPRS since 1997.

**Jeff Young** brings more than 33 years of professional experience to ASPRS. Currently at LizardTech, Jeff is responsible for expanding third-party relationships in targeted market segments. Prior to joining LizardTech in 2009, he held positions in business development, consulting, and sales with several geospatial companies, including Leica Geosystems, Space Imaging, and Bentley Systems. In addition to serving as a National Director for ASPRS, Jeff is an active member of the Association of American Geographers. Jeff earned a B.S. in Geography (*cum laude*) from Lock Haven State College in Pennsylvania and a National Science Foundation funded M.A. in Geography, specializing in land use analysis and environmental hazards, from Arizona State University. Jeff loves spending time with his family, traveling, saltwater fishing, and golfing. As a frequent traveler, Jeff has slept in all 50 states of the Union and in 50 countries around the world.

**Roger Hanson** has been working in the geospatial industry for over 30 years and resides in Colorado Springs, Colorado. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Geography from the University of Northern Iowa in 1980 and has since worked in both the public and private sectors. Roger is a Certified Photogrammetrist and is also certified in the State of Oregon and Commonwealth of Virginia. He is also a Geographic Information Systems Professional (GISP). At the national level, Roger has been active as a member of the ASPRS / CSBRS Licensure Exam Development committee since 2005. For the last 20+ years, Roger has served as either project manager or resource manager for several major geospatial firms. Since 2007, he has served as Director of Operations for Merrick & Company's Geospatial Solutions Business Unit.

**Mike Tuffly** has over 20 years of applied GIS and remote sensing experience with Federal, state, private, and nonprofit organizations. In addition, he has over 25 years experience in addressing various fire, natural resource and forest management issues within the United States and abroad. Mike is currently the Principal for Environmental Resource Inventory and Analysis (ERIA) Consultants, LLC in Boulder, Colorado. He is a Certified Mapping Scientist and a Certified Remote Sensing Technologist by ASPRS, a Certified Forester by the Society of American Foresters (SAF), a Certified Senior Ecologist by the Ecological Society of America (ESA), and a certified GIS Professional (GISP) by the Geographic Information System Certification Institute (GISCI). Mike holds a B.S. in Forestry and a M.S. in Natural Resource Management from Humboldt State University, and he is currently a Ph.D candidate in Forest Science and an adjunct professor at CO State University.

**Linda Vance** has a Ph.D in Conservation Ecology from the University of California, Davis, where her research focused on landscape level factors affecting the distribution of coho salmon and steelhead trout. She is currently the Senior Ecologist at the Montana Natural Heritage Program, and Director of the MTNHP's Spatial Analysis Lab at the University of Montana. Her work involves classification, description, mapping and modeling of land cover and habitats; development of GIS-based tools for landscape-level assessment; and refinement of field-based protocols for wetland, riparian, and terrestrial integrity evaluation and monitoring. Her current projects include a GIS-based analysis of riparian condition along large rivers; improved methods for the identification of fens and other significant wetlands on aerial and satellite imagery; and mapping of hydrologically and

ecologically significant headwaters in the Upper Missouri River basin.

**Amanda Nicole “Niki” Noon**, a native of Henderson, Kentucky, has called the Rocky Mountains of Colorado her home for the last 10 years. She holds a BA in Geography from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Since graduation in 2004, Niki has been working as a professional travel consultant, and has developed expertise in Central America through living and traveling in Costa Rica. She is currently a graduate student at the University of Denver studying Geographic Information Science through the University College’s MS GIS online program. Her professional affiliations include AAG, ASPRS, GISCO, and IATAN. Niki has a passion for travel and technology, and hopes to use her skill set to teach experiential education in the collegiate setting. When not making maps or planning her next big adventure, Niki can be found writing music, singing at open stages and volunteering for a variety of social and environmental causes in the Boulder/Denver area.

**Kristi (Edwards) Zellman** is a graduate student in Environmental Science at the University of Colorado Denver and an intern for the Geology and Environmental Science Center at the U.S. Geological Survey. She is currently utilizing remote sensing and GIS technology to research the role of vegetation and biological soil crusts in stabilizing sand dunes within the California Channel Islands National Park. Her previous work experience has included technical marketing, GIS product management, and archaeological field work. She completed the GIS Certificate Program at the University of Denver in 2007 and has a B.A. in Anthropology with a minor in Spatial Information from Colorado State University. When she is not working on her M.S. thesis, Kristi can be found clinging to a rocky cliff or playing in the snow.

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## Region Scholarships Awarded

Congratulations to the winners of the 2011 ASPRS-RMR Scholarship Awards!

### **1st and 2nd Place Winners (\$1,000 each)**

**Josh Baldwin** – graduate student at New Mexico State University

**Ethan Welty** – graduate student at the University of Colorado – Boulder

### **3rd Place Winner (one-year Student Membership, ASPRS Bookstore Bucks)**

**Matthew M. Hayes** – graduate student at the University of Wyoming

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### Annual Dinner Announcement

Come celebrate our 63rd year as an ASPRS Region ... yes, our 63rd year!

**Saturday, 21 January 2012 at 6:00pm**, the ASPRS-RMR Annual Dinner Meeting will be held at the renowned Wellshire Inn at 3333 S. Colorado Blvd, Denver.

#### *~ Reservations are required ~*

The annual dinner is a great networking opportunity! This year’s program will include the presentation of scholarship awards, swearing in of new officers, and a guest speaker, National ASPRS President-Elect, Roberta (Bobbi) Lenczowski!

Planned Agenda for the evening:

6:00pm - Arrival and Cocktails (Cash Bar)

6:45pm - Welcome, Introduction of 2012 Board, Brief Year in Review

7:00pm - Dinner

After Dinner:

Guest Speaker

Introduction of Student Scholarship Winners

Synopsis of Research by Award Winners

Induction of 2012 ASPRS-RMR Board

Goals for 2012

9:00pm - Closing

The cost for dinner is **\$30 per person**.

To make a reservation and entrée selection (Strip Steak, Vegetarian or Salmon), please contact **Jeff Young** by 2:00pm (MST) on 19 January 2012, by phone at 303-815-2254 (OK to leave voice message) or email [jyoung@lizardtech.com](mailto:jyoung@lizardtech.com).

Please send checks payable to ASPRS-RMR to:

ASPRS-RMR

P.O. Box 280834

Lakewood, CO 80228

**(or bring your check to the dinner)**

*We look forward to seeing you there!*

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## Welcome New Members!

Mark Bowersox

David Brostuen

Jason Caldwell

Peter Droste

Lisa Lone Flight

Jamie Fuller

William Howard

Courtney Hurst

Robert Jones

Qing Liu

Dan Schultz

Jeffrey Simpson

Kristina Yamamoto