



THE IMAGING & GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION SOCIETY

~The Rocky Mountain Compiler~

Issue 1

Spring 2012

Issued Quarterly

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

President's Message

It's hard to believe, but spring has arrived, along with temperatures averaging 10 to 20 degrees warmer than usual for this time of year in the Rocky Mountain Region. With the higher temperatures, we find an increased urgency among aerial imaging firms to collect data with leaf-off requirements after the snow has melted, while Mother Nature has moved the "schedule" up as much as a month earlier than normal years. Along with the warmer temperatures, the Rocky Mountain Region has had less than normal snowpack in the high country. Hopefully we will experience some needed precipitation in the coming months, but the dry conditions will place a demand on remote sensing data for before, during and after imagery of wildfires.

In other news, **Jeff Young**, our National Director for the Rocky Mountain Region and I had the pleasure of attending the Spring ASPRS conference in Sacramento, California from March 19 to 23rd. The conference this spring was a success with close to 900 attendees from all parts of North America and abroad. One or both of us attended numerous committee meetings, including the Region Officers, Sustaining Members, Membership and Convention Policy and Planning Committees. I would like to remind all of our members that attendance at any of these committee meetings at the ASPRS conferences is not restricted to board members and all are welcome and encouraged to attend. Check out the program material at the ASPRS Web site

before your next conference for committee meetings you may be interested in and plan on attending. Remember, ASPRS is a society run by volunteers, and we welcome all participation and collaboration from any and all of you.

The Region Officers meeting had news of talk about "re-regioning" the society. Currently there are 17 regions within ASPRS and not all regions are as influential or as active as our Rocky Mountain Region. Many of the regions that have most of the activities and influence throughout the year seem to be the same few regions every year. There were ideas thrown about to consolidate regions and begin the discussions of how the finances and region management would take place during transitions that would need to be made. One idea would be to consolidate regions from 17 to 6. With this plan the Rocky Mountain Region would expand to include Idaho, Utah and Arizona. Let me know how each of you feel about Region consolidation and I can report your thoughts to Jeff Young, our National Director.

Inside This Issue

-
- | | |
|----------|--|
| 3 | GIS in the Rockies Information |
| 4 | Annual Dinner Report |
| 4 | Rio Grande Chapter Hosts Technical Tour |
| 5 | Welcome New Members |
| 5 | USGIF Scholarship Announcement |
-

Speaking of **Jeff Young**, our new Rocky Mountain Region Officers for 2012 include Jeff as our National Director for an additional three years! He was sworn in to serve another term at the Conference. Be sure to save this newsletter; Jeff told me that we might



ASPRS President Gary Florence (not visible) swears in new National Officers, from left to right, Lorraine Amenda - Northern California Region, Rebecca Morton - Professional Practice Division and our own Jeffrey M. Young - Rocky Mountain Region.

not get a chance to find him wearing a tie very often! Our Rocky Mountain Region had the distinction to be recognized at the ASPRS Annual Memorial address for three prestigious awards!

We received the coveted **1st place Region Website of the Year Award** for our redesigned Website! A scoring and weighting system applied by a third party neutral judge is used to decide the winners of the Region Website of the Year Award. The Florida Region has had the 1st place honor for the past two years, so to get this recognition for our new Website is a very proud moment for our Region. Special thanks to **Sheila Pelczarski** for facilitating the Website update and pushing this new design forward with **Suzanne Hallam** at A-Genius Marketing. Please take a moment to check it out if you have not done so already. Here is the link for quick access; <http://www.asprs-rmr.org>. As always, we welcome inputs from our members. Please submit all material to our communications coordinator, Sheila Pelczarski to facilitate the use of our award winning Website and keep it active and brimming with current content!

The Rocky Mountain Region received two other awards that kept me busy taking pictures but proud to represent us at the Memorial Address. We received **2nd place for our newsletter**, an honor usually given to the Columbia River Region for their "Wavelengths" newsletter. We had 1st place in 2010 and 3rd place last year, so the "*Rocky Mountain Compiler*" is consistently a contender, and by no

Rocky Mountain Compiler

small means. A special thank you to **Kristi Zellman**, our Rocky Mountain Region Communications and Newsletter Director, for her countless hours of volunteer work herding the cats to get articles in on time, editing, and formatting the *RM Compiler*. Finally, we had the honor of receiving the **2nd Honorable Mention for the Region of the Year Award**. We look forward to the year ahead with many more chances to be honored, hopefully at next year's conference for our service to all members of the Rocky Mountain Region.



Region Website of the Year: Represented by Brian Murphy - Florida Region 2nd place, Mark Stanton - Rocky Mountain Region 1st place and Chris Aldridge - Columbia River Region 3rd place.

We recently co-sponsored a Career Night event with URISA and GISCO, held Tuesday night, the 17th of April at the new Metro State University of Denver Science Center. ASPRS representatives (including yours truly) presented information about our society and sat on a panel of industry representatives for a good question-and-answer session. Those students and job-seekers who showed up were able to meet others in the society and learn about the benefits of being an ASPRS member.

The Rocky Mountain Region will co-sponsor the annual "GIS in the Rockies" Conference Sept. 20-21. This year the event will run back-to-back with the Esri Southwest Users Group Conference September 17-19. Check regularly with our newsletter and Website for updates of this popular event which will again be held at the Cable Center on the University of Denver campus. This year will mark the 25th anniversary of the conference, and if last year was any indication, it will be well attended.

Also, we'll have a technical tour of Jeppesen, a Boeing Company, on Friday, April 27th 10:30-12 with an optional lunch and networking session afterward. Hope to see you there! Respectfully,
Mark Stanton mstanton@pixxures.com
 President, ASPRS Rocky Mountain Region

National Director's Report:

Two Decades, 20 Global Problems, 200 Universities and Colleges, 2000 Professors and Researchers, and 20,000 Practicing Geographers: The Challenge Before US

To place the title of this article into context, I recently re-read High Noon: 20 Global Problems, 20 Years To Solve Them, authored by Jean-Francois Rischard and published in 2003. While reading the text, I gave much thought to my social responsibilities as they relate to my professional activities and ASPRS. In his book, Jean-Francois Rischard asserts that we have about 2 decades to solve 20 pressing global problems. I ask that you consider the role of ASPRS geographers and affinity geospatial professionals in making progress toward dissecting these issues and developing practical solutions to many of problems identified by the author.

Many of the problems listed below have explicit geographic components, or at least can be described in a geographic manner. The problems listed by Jean-Francois Rischard are as follows:

- Sharing our planet: Issues involving the global commons
 - Global warming
 - Biodiversity and ecosystem losses
 - Fisheries depletion
 - Deforestation
 - Water deficits
 - Maritime safety and pollution
- Sharing our humanity: Issues requiring global commitment
 - Massive step-up in the fight against poverty
 - Peacekeeping, conflict prevention, combating terrorism
 - Education for all
 - Global infectious diseases
 - Digital divide
 - Natural disaster prevention and mitigation
- Sharing our rule book: Issues needing a global regulatory approach
 - Reinventing taxation for the 21st century
 - Biotechnology rules
 - Global financial architecture
 - Illegal drugs
 - Trade, investment and competition rules
 - Intellectual property rights
 - E-commerce rules
 - International labor and migration rules

What is even more compelling to me and, I hope, to my fellow ASPRS members is that most of these problems could benefit from some form of geographic analysis as an element of characterizing the problems. Also, such analyses could lend themselves to describing solutions. I suggest that there is no shortage of "problems" to address and that if we are able to mobilize 200 universities, 2000 professors and researchers and 20,000 geographers in the US, we may have a legitimate chance of chipping away at many of these challenges. So let's make this local. I challenge each of our members to consider researching one or more of the problems listed. I do know that many of you are already engaged in studying these problems and we thank you for that. And for those in pursuit of scholarship monies from ASPRS, the list above is a great point of departure for isolating a sub-problem meriting exhaustive study and practical solutions. Please consider what impact 20,000 geographers and affinity geospatial professionals could have on 200,000 political and administrative entities, 2,000,000 populated places, 20,000,000 neighborhoods, 200,000,000 families, and the over 2,000,000,000 of the worlds' population who are living in poverty. Let's consider solving problems that affect those who are malnourished, undereducated, exposed to disease and toxins, living with daily risk of combat and armed conflict, suffering from the stress of food security and potable water concerns, inhabiting environmentally compromised places, and those adversely impacted by the consequences of climate change, such as rising sea levels. Let's get going ... Time is of the essence.

Jeffrey M. Young jyoung@lizardtech.com
National Director, ASPRS RMR

GIS in the Rockies 2012: Registration and Call for Papers

Join us September 20th & 21st at the Cable Center in Denver for the 25th annual "GIS in the Rockies" Conference. Registration is now open, and by registering early and combining discounts, you can save over 45%, registering for as low as \$175:

- Through May 18 save \$100 on "Super Early" Registration.
- Register for both GIS in the Rockies and Esri Southwest User Conference and save an additional \$50!

The deadline to submit an abstract for a technical session or poster session is June 15. Visit www.GISintheRockies.org to register, or for more conference information.

ASPRS-RMR Annual Dinner Meeting Report

The Rocky Mountain Region's Annual Dinner Meeting, held once again at the Wellshire Event Center in Denver on January 21st, 2012. Close to 30 people attended, including most of the previous year's board members, the incoming board, and other distinguished guests from the community at large, including a past national president of ASPRS, some of the Rocky Mountain Region's past presidents and several members of the industry.

ASPRS-RMR National Director **Jeff Young** acted as Master of Ceremonies for the evening. As an icebreaker, Jeff instructed each guest to write down a place they would like to visit. Each of us then told the group a little about ourselves and why we would like to visit this particular place. This facilitated some lively conversations and the beginnings of new friendships. Once the evening program was underway, Jeff Young and Region President **Mark Stanton** reviewed the previous year and recognized the goals that were pursued in the region, including the scholarship awards program.

Dr. Roger Hoffer, National Past President and ASPRS Fellow, presided over the induction of the new officers of the Rocky Mountain Region's board. Roger reflected on the growth and development of ASPRS, from its humble beginnings to the strong and active organization it is today.

The Rocky Mountain Region's scholarship award winners were announced and their research topics described. The winners were:

1st Place Winner (\$1,000) **Josh Baldwin** – graduate student at New Mexico State University
 2nd Place Winner (\$1,000) **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

Our distinguished guest speaker was National President-Elect **Roberta "Bobbi" Lenczowski**, who flew out from the East Coast to join us for the evening. Bobbi is an independent geospatial information-intelligence consultant. In addition, she is outside Board Director for TechniGraphics, GeoEye, Fugro EarthData Inc, and the non-profit Leonard Wood Institute, and supports the Academic Advisory Group of Sanborn. Bobbie retired with 28 years of federal service from the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency (NGA) in 2005. She delivered a compelling speech on how we can modernize ASPRS and forge our Society into a contemporary, relevant and vibrant professional organization for

Rocky Mountain Compiler

students and young professionals as well as for long-time members.

It was an interesting and engaging evening for everyone who attended. You ought to think about joining us next year!

ASPRS-RMR Rio Grande Chapter Hosts Technical Tour to the Earth Data Analysis Center



On Friday, March 3, 2012, members of the Rio Grande Chapter of the ASPRS participated in a technical tour of the Earth Data Analysis Center (EDAC), located at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. This tour was part of a new series of technical tours initiated by the Rio Grande Chapter. The tours are intended to broaden the membership's knowledge and understanding of geospatial activities being conducted in New Mexico. Furthermore, they provide an opportunity to expose the wider geospatial community to the members and activities of the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing.

Our visit began with an overview of EDAC presented by the director, Karl Benedict. The Earth Data Analysis Center (EDAC) was established in 1964 to assist NASA in the transfer of space-based technology to the private and public sectors. It has since evolved to become a state, regional, national, and international center for expertise in geospatial science and applications. While it is best known locally for hosting the New Mexico Resource Geographic Information System (RGIS), a popular clearinghouse for statewide geographic information system datasets, EDAC also provides a broad variety of geospatial applications services. These include custom mapping and analysis, geospatial software applications development, and Web hosting.

Laura Gleasner, manager of the RGIS Data Clearinghouse, provided an overview of the data collections and demonstrated the tools that can be used to search, explore and access the data. She mentioned plans to add a capability to use these tools to access data hosted at other sites. Laura also described EDAC's interest in encouraging data producers to provide quality metadata. RGIS offers metadata training and will validate metadata upon request.

Tom Budge, manager of the Image Processing Division, described the products and services this

division provides. These include vegetation classification and geologic mapping. Among the more unique applications is EDAC's support to the Cooperative Monitoring Center (CMC) at Sandia National Laboratories. This support has included technical assistance and training in the use of remote sensing and geographic information technologies for projects involving border security and arms control.

The visit closed with an overview of some web-based geographic information data delivery. Shawn Penman demonstrated New Mexico Watch www.nmwatch.org, an online tool for visualizing geographic data related to natural disasters in New Mexico. It was developed by EDAC in collaboration with the NM Department of Information Technology and utilizes ESRI ArcGIS API for Flex technology.

The ASPRS Rio Grande Chapter is grateful to the EDAC staff for providing us with a detailed look at this impressive resource we use on a daily basis. We especially thank Mike Inglis, EDAC's Associate Director, for organizing the tour.

The Rio Grande Chapter will organize its next technical tour this summer.

Joe Zebrowski (jpezrowski@nmhu.edu)

USGIF Will Award \$100K in Scholarships this Summer!

Herndon, Va., February 16, 2012 -The United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation (USGIF) today announced the opening of its 2012 Scholarship Program. Students studying geospatial intelligence or a related field are encouraged to submit their applications by the April 20 deadline. Graduating high school seniors, undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students can download applications [here](#). Scholarship winners will be announced and recognized during the GEOINT 2012 Symposium to be held on October 8-11, in Orlando Florida.

"Supporting student education and research with USGIF scholarships helps expand the frontier of our geospatial capabilities. **Past scholarship recipients represent a broad array of geospatial interests, including humanitarian operations, natural disaster preparation and response, epidemiology, transnational river politics, planetary applications, conflict along borders and modeling of river water quality,**" said USGIF Academic Director, Dr. Max Baber. "All of these interests exist within the broader definition of national security, so this represents a great opportunity for innovative students to be recognized and supported for their efforts."

Last year the Foundation awarded \$94,000 to 20 recipients and plans to award \$100,000 for the 2012 program. Five Ph.D. candidates, eight Master's students, five undergraduates and two graduating high school seniors received scholarships from the 2011 program. High school recipients received \$2,000 scholarships, and all others received \$5,000 scholarships. Since 2004, USGIF has donated \$480,000 to promising students in the geospatial intelligence field.

In an effort to help further the advancement of the geospatial tradecraft, USGIF is dedicated to assist promising students interested in the geospatial sciences with its scholarship awards. Students studying in fields such as geography, political science, physics, computer science, engineering, biology, anthropology, sociology or any fields in the natural and social sciences are encouraged to apply. Through the USGIF Scholarship Program, the Foundation strives to communicate to students the broadness and power of GEOINT as it serves as a great source for national, global and human security. By advancing education within the tradecraft, the Foundation is committed to cultivating a generation of synthesizers who can take data and derive actionable knowledge from it. The USGIF Scholarship Program hopes to inspire students who are interested in all that GEOINT has to offer to invest their futures in this incredibly exciting and relevant field of study.

Welcome New Members

Dawn Betz
 Robert Bosshart, Jr.
 Lauren Byron
 Travis Clemens
 Nicholas Damon
 Yvette Dickinson
 Xian Dong
 Caitlin Garvey
 Rachel Hixson
 Kay Miller
 Mark O'Neal
 Jon Proctor
 Steven Sesnie
 David Silcock
 Cynthia Tyler
 Matthew Vogt
 Steve Walker
 Ethan Welty
