

American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing
Central New York Region

The Central Perspective

ISSUE 1

2009



April

President's Message

2009 Economic Stimulus and Elevation Data Acquisition in the US

The USGS has received a one-time \$12M stimulus funding for terrain elevation updates acquisitions via airborne lidar sensors. Priority areas are coastal watersheds that do not already have lidar coverage. USGS will likely fund some Statewide programs that are well underway but have funding shortfalls (i.e. PA and OH, hopefully NY). Other federal agencies, such as FEMA, will likely try to maximize benefits to their programs.

This grant program will account for about half the funding. USGS is looking for direct Federal partnerships for the remaining funds, with the grant work initiated first, the Federal partnerships to follow after that. Since it is from the stimulus bill there is significant urgency for them to spend it quickly.

The USGS contribution to the grants is capped at \$500K per project and requires 50% matching funds.

Another, smaller and annual, funding source is the Cooperative States Program for the National Map, also managed by USGS. In this one the total funding amount dedicated to lidar is \$3M.

In NYS, through its Sea Level Rise Taskforce, Encon has coordinated project proposals for Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Rensselaer and Nassau counties, for a total of \$622K; and New York City for \$250K. These projects cover a total area of 3,500 sq. mi.

Ricardo Lopez-Torrijos

National Director's Report

I attended the 2009 Annual Conference in Baltimore, MD. The conference was very well attended, with over 1500 attendees. Many of the workshops were filled to capacity and the exhibit hall was very busy this year.

There were several items of interest discussed at the board meeting. We are again asking for your help:

The society needs reviewers for papers being considered for publication in PE&RS. If you are interested please contact the Publications Committee chair through the national website.

The Professional Practice Division has asked all regions to keep them informed on any activity in their area regarding the licensing of photogrammetrists. If you have any information to share, please send it to me at john.boland@itt.com.

As you know, we are in our 75th Anniversary year. The society is working to document our history in a number of ways, including working towards a television documentary. Please visit <http://geospatialrevolution.psu.edu> to see some of the initial stages of this work.

Of interest on the national website, the ASPRS RSS News Feed is now fully enabled.

I hope to see you at the region meeting in May.

John F. Boland, CP

Central New York Region News

Future Dates

2009 Region Program

CNY Region Annual Meeting: May 11, 2009. SUNY-ESF, Syracuse, NY

The Silver Anniversary of the New York State Geographic Information Systems Conference:

October 25 - 27, 2009, **Crowne Plaza**, Lake Placid, NY.
<http://www.esf.edu/nysgisconf/>

GIS Day 2009: Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2009.
www.gisday.com

ASPRS/MAPPS 2009 Fall Conference:

November 16 – 19, 2009; Crowne Plaza Hotel
San Antonio, Texas
<http://www.asprs.org/sanantonio09/>

2010 ASPRS Annual Conference

April 26-30, 2010 Town and Country Hotel,
San Diego, California

ASPRS Student Member Newsletter

The ASPRS Student Member Newsletter is now published as a blog at

<http://asprssignature.blogspot.com/> .

You can find back issue at

http://www.asprs.org/student_news or join in the discussion at

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/asprs_students/

Nominations for 2009 Region Officers

It is time again for the CNY Region of ASPRS to solicit nominations for the Region offices of **Vice-President** and **Secretary/Treasurer**. Nominations may be submitted on behalf of others or by the nominees themselves.

Serving as a Region officer is a very practical and rewarding way to become actively involved in ASPRS. It is also a chance to shape the direction of what is, after all, your professional organization. Nominations for consideration by the committee will be accepted through April 30, 2009. Additional nominations may be made by a written petition signed by five members in good standing forwarded to the Secretary-Treasurer by April 30. Nominees will be asked to submit short statements explaining their background and why they wish to serve. Please consider serving the CNY Region!

For further details on these and the other Region offices and responsibilities, contact the Nominations Committee Chair.

2009 Region Officers Candidates

The Nominations Committee respectfully submits the following persons as candidates for the 2009 ASPRS Central New York Region election of officers:

Vice President: Joan Mondello

Secretary-Treasurer: William Stiteler

The Vice President position is a three-year commitment to the council. During the first year this person serves as Vice President responsible for Membership and Student Awards, and then serves as President, who is responsible for our technical program, followed by Past President, responsible for nominations. We alternate this position among the academic, public, and private sectors. In this cycle, we were seeking nominations from members in the private sector.

The Secretary/Treasurer position is responsible for minutes at Council and business meetings, Region accounting and bookkeeping, and Region correspondences. The council has retained the business operations of the Region with our colleagues at SUNY-ESF. So, it is convenient, but not required, that members in proximity to Syracuse be candidates for this position.

Also, the Region Council consists of members interested in guiding the Region during the coming year. The President appoints these positions. Please contact **Rolando Raqueno**, who will become President at the May meeting, if you wish to be on the Council or have any suggestions, including meeting places, topics of discussion or concerns for our region council.

rolando@cis.rit.edu

(585) 475-6907 voice

Patrick

O'Shaughnessy

Chair, ASPRS CNY Region
2008-2009 Nominating Committee

Candidates for Region Officers

Vice-President Candidate

Joan Mondello

Joan Mondello is the Division Manager of the Systems Engineering Group within ITT's Space System Division. Ms. Mondello has been involved in the geospatial information community for over

25 years. Her career spans employment by the Federal Government, both the government and commercial sides of Eastman Kodak Company, and currently ITT's Space Systems Division. She has continuously been involved with the design, development, and delivery of systems to capture, process, exploit, and disseminate geospatial information.

Key products built by ITT Space Systems Division (SSD) and supported through Ms. Mondello's Systems Engineering Group include the meteorological sounding data used to map and track weather, the navigation system on GPS satellites, commercial remote sensing systems (GeoEye), and other geospatial products and services. The Systems Engineering group performs architecture trades, translates voice of customer into systems requirements, flows those requirements to subsystem specifications, and verifies that the final product meets the customer's requirements.

Ms. Mondello holds a BS in Imaging Science and Remote Sensing from the Rochester Institute of Technology. She is a Six Sigma Black Belt and a certified Geographic Information Systems Professional (GISP).

Why I want to be vice- president...

With the increase of consumer mapping such as personal navigation devices (PND), Google Earth, and Virtual Earth from Microsoft, geospatial information is expanding exponentially into new markets. Given this market expansion and the current state of the economy, we have to think more strategically on how we invest in ourselves for future growth. The Central New York region of ASPRS is strong in all sectors that support those markets: government, education, and industry. We represent the user, the researcher, and the builder of geospatial systems and products. My focus will be to promote collaboration across the region, across the sectors, and to grow its membership. I would be honored to serve the Central New York region and its members in the advancement of photogrammetry, remote sensing, GIS, and its supporting technologies.

Joan Mondello

Secretary/Treasurer Candidate

William Stiteler

William Stiteler currently works as a photogrammetry and remote sensing scientist / statistician at ARCADIS in Syracuse, NY. His position involves using remote sensing analysis and geostatistics for a wide variety of environmental engineering and risk management projects. He has also worked as a research scientist at SUNY-ESF, a consultant developing remote sensing-based approaches to toxic spill detection, and taught courses in GIS and Surveying. Bill completed his masters degree in 1995, and his PhD in 2003, both at SUNY-ESF. He attained a degree in computer science from the State University of New York at Binghamton in 1993.

I became a member of ASPRS in 1993; initially joining as a student, later transferring to full member status. I would like to continue my involvement with the local ASPRS region. I believe I have the skills necessary to continue to serve as the region Secretary/Treasurer.

William Stiteler

President-Elect

Rolando Raqueno

Rolando Raqueno is currently a Research Scientist with the Digital Imaging and Remote Sensing Laboratory at the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT). He received his Bachelors of Engineering Science in Biomedical Engineering from the Catholic University of America (Washington, DC) in 1985. He started as a graduate research assistant with the Digital Imaging and Remote Sensing Laboratory (DIRS) in 1985 and became an Assistant Scientist/Engineer from 1988 to 1991. He then completed his Master's degree in Computer Science at RIT in 1990. During this period, he was programming and implementing algorithms on early specialized image processing systems in support of medical imaging and remote sensing projects conducted at DIRS. He branched into the research in Longwave Infrared (LWIR) image phenomenology conducting laboratory experiments and field measurements. In support of the LWIR phenomenology research, his focus transitioned to physics-based modeling where he was the technical

lead in the system integration of radiometric, thermal, and geometry models into what is to become the early versions of the DIRSIG (Digital Imaging and Remote Sensing Image Generation) model. From 1991 to 1995, he made a foray into government and industry as a Development Engineer with Eastman Kodak's Federal Systems Division (Consumer & Government Systems) where he was involved in engineering research employing technologies of film and digital capture, data storage and retrieval, and hardcopy/softcopy output to remote sensing problems. He returned to DIRS in 1995 to start research in hyperspectral image analysis and atmospheric compensation over land targets. This work evolved into the algorithm development of hyperspectral remote sensing analysis tools over inland and coastal waters (Lake Ontario) which was to become his research focus for his dissertation at the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry from 1998 to 2004 (under Dr. Michael Duggin and Dr. Robert Brock).

Rolando continues to be active with instrumentation through radiometric and spectral calibration activities of RIT's airborne sensors and ground truth collection campaigns during overflights. He is currently employing scientific grid computing technologies to address the numerous model calculations required by the laboratory and student's research into algorithm development and data analysis. He teaches the "Computing for Imaging Science" course at RIT which covers the practical implementation and application of computing tools to digital images and metadata processing. He is also a recent recipient of an IC Postdoctoral Fellowship studying remote sensing Long Wave Infrared phenomenology.

**ASPRS Central New York Region
Financial Statement
1 Jan 2009 - 28 Feb 2009**

INCOME	
Dues	\$0.00
Region Rebate	\$0.00
Region Conferences	\$0.00
Interest	\$30.80
Dinner Meeting	\$0.00
Student of the Year Award	\$0.00
Gifts	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$30.80

EXPENDITURE	
Region Conferences	\$0.00
Dinner Meeting	\$0.00
Student of the Year Award	\$0.00
Postage	\$0.00
Office Exp	\$0.00
Contributions	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$0.00

ASSETS	
Base Shares (Savings Account)	\$8,569.58
12 Month Certificate	\$4,601.85
Share Draft (Checking Account)	\$2,212.98
Petty Cash	\$4.00
TOTAL	\$15,388.41

LIABILITIES	
None	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$0.00

TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS	
Assets - Liabilities	\$15,388.41

CNY Region of ASPRS presents the **STUDENT OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Undergraduate Student Prize: cash award of **\$500**, a one-year ASPRS membership, and a certificate

Graduate Student Prize: cash award of **\$500**, a one-year ASPRS membership, and a certificate

Students with an interest in photogrammetry, remote sensing, or geographic information systems are encouraged to apply. You are not required to be a student member of the Society at the time of application; however, you must be matriculated in the Central New York Region: Upstate New York, Vermont, and North Central Pennsylvania.

Application Procedure: Prepare and submit the following items:

- 1) A cover **letter**.
- 2) A **resume**.
- 3) A **one page statement** detailing any experience and participation the student has had in photogrammetry, remote sensing, or geographic information systems e.g. coursework, projects, research, or work experience. The statement should also relate the expected role of photogrammetry, remote sensing, or geographic information systems in the applicant's career.
- 4) A current course **transcript**. Note that the transcript does not need to be certified and should be submitted with the application.
- 5) A completed ASPRS Year 2009 Individual **Membership Application** form with appropriate documentation included (<http://www.asprs.org/membership/application.pdf>).

Notes: Please include a phone number and e-mail address where you can be reached.

Past winners of a category may not apply for the same category.

In addition to the prize for each division described above, the first ten applicants (by postmark date) will receive a one-year ASPRS student membership

Submit to:

Application materials must be e-mailed to:
StudentOfTheYear@CNY-ASPRS.ORG

For further information or questions contact:

Rolando Raqueno
RIT, 54 Lomb Memorial Drive
Rochester, NY 14623
(585) 475-6907 voice
(585) 475-5988 fax
rolando@cis.rit.edu

Application Deadline: Wednesday, April 22, 2009. Award winners will be informed of the results after April 29, 2009 and will be honored at the Central New York Region Annual Meeting on Monday, May 11, 2009.

National ASPRS News

ASPRS Standards Committee

LASer (LAS) File Format Exchange Activities

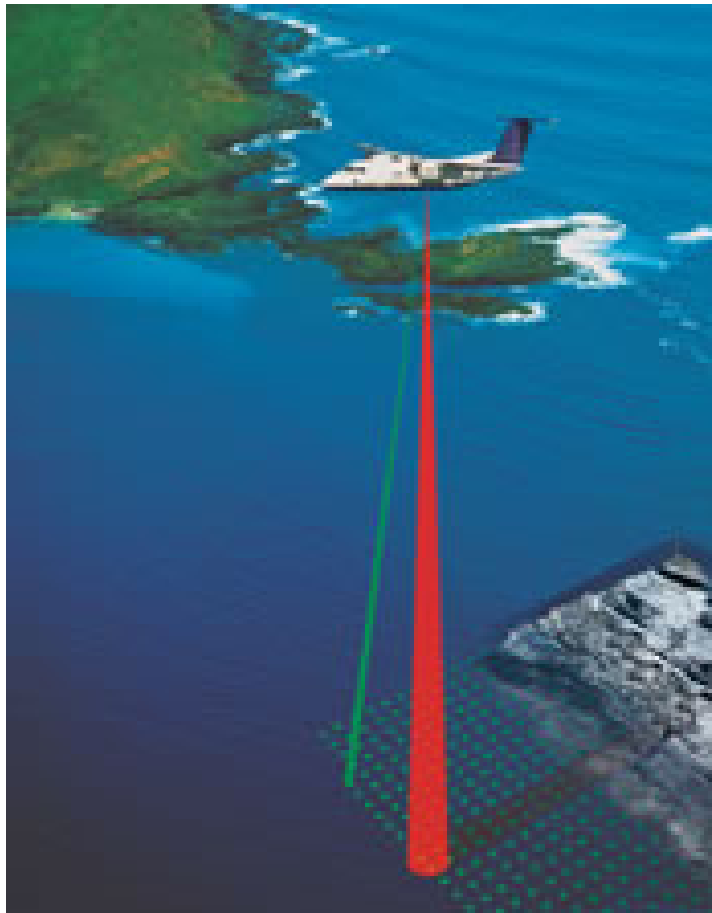
What is the LAS Format?

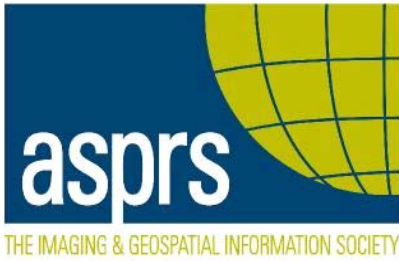
The LAS file format is a public file format for the interchange of 3-dimensional point cloud data between users. Although developed primarily for exchange of LIDAR point cloud data, this format supports the exchange of any 3-dimensional x,y,z tuple. The LAS binary file format is an alternative to proprietary systems or a generic ASCII file interchange system used by many companies. The problem with proprietary systems is obvious in that data cannot be easily taken from one system to another. There are two major problems with the ASCII file interchange. The first problem is performance because the

reading and interpretation of ASCII elevation data can be very slow and the file size can be extremely large, even for small amounts of data. The second problem is that all information specific to the LIDAR data is lost. The LAS file format is a binary file format that maintains information specific to the LIDAR nature of the data while not being overly complex.

This past summer, the ASPRS Board of Directors directed the ASPRS Standards Committee to suspend work on LAS 2.0, and execute a review of a proposed LAS 1.2 Specification. The LAS 1.2 Specification was approved by the ASPRS Board of Directors in September 2008. To download a copy of LAS 1.2, go to

http://www.asprs.org/society/committees/standards/asprs_las_format_v12.pdf.





CNY Region Annual Meeting
May 11th, 2009
 SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
Location: 408 Baker Lab,
 1 Forestry Dr., Syracuse, NY



"Airborne LiDAR: Strategies for Client Review and Quality Assurance"

Keynote presenters:

Ron Fredericks (NYSDOT) and Ricardo Lopez-Torrijos (NYSDEC)

will present on the review of elevation data bought by New York State over the last two years. Topics to be covered are: LiDAR data requirements, LiDAR data collection deliverables, experiences in qualitative and quantitative quality assurance of LiDAR data, and lessons learned.

Special Guest:

Dr. Carolyn J. Merry, Ph.D.

ASPRS President-elect, Carolyn J. Merry is the Chair of the Civil, Environmental Engineering and Geodetic Sciences Department at the Ohio State University (OSU) and has been an ASPRS member since 1975. Dr. Merry has served the Society as Chair of the Publications Committee, Membership Chair for the Eastern Great Lakes Region, and Technical Program Co-Chair for the 2007 ASPRS/CRSS Fall Technical Conference.

Preliminary Program:

- 5:00 - 6:30 pm Reception and Student Poster Session
- 6:30 - 7:30 pm Dinosaur BBQ Buffet Dinner
- 7:30 - 8:00 pm Business meeting with Student of the Year award, swearing in of Officers, and the State of the Society by Dr. Merry.
- 8:00 - 8:30 pm Keynote Presentation

Dinner will be **\$25.00** for Regular Members, and **\$15.00** for Student Members. Sorry, cash or check only.

SPECIAL! If you are an inactive member and you renew your membership, you get a free dinner. If you are a member, and you recruit a new paying member, then you get a free dinner. Proof is a copy of the membership application form. Blank forms will be available at the meeting.

Memphis-Style Pulled Pork

Dry rubbed and slow-cooked up to 12 hours, then hand pulled.

Mojito Boneless Chicken Breast

*Marinated in Mojito marinade and grilled.
 Light citrus flavor, not spicy.*



Veggie Skewers

A colorful mix of fresh vegetables marinated and grilled.

Sides: Black Beans & Rice, Tomato Cucumber Salad, Harlem Potato Salad, Fruit Salad

Dinner Reservations will be required by **Noon on Thursday, May 7th**. For reservations please contact **Bill Stiteler**, CNY Region Secretary/Treasurer, via phone at (315) 671-9337, or via e-mail at william.stiteler@arcadis-us.com.

Officers of the Central New York Region

President:

Ricardo Lopez-Torrijos, IAGT
Chief, Watershed GIT Support Group
Division of Water, NYS DEC
625 Broadway, 4th floor
Albany, NY 12233-3500
(518) 402-8259
rxlopez@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Vice President:

Rolando Raqueno
Remote Sensing Scientist
RIT, 54 Lomb Memorial Drive
Rochester, NY 14623
(585) 475-6907 voice
(585) 475-5988 fax
rolando@cis.rit.edu

National Director:

John T. Boland, CP
Senior Technical Associate
ITT Industries Space Systems
Division
34 Fairfield Dr.
Fairport, NY 14450-2233
(585) 269-5057 voice
john.boland@itt.com

Secretary/Treasurer:

William M. Stiteler IV
Scientist / Statistician
ARCADIS
6723 Towpath Road,
PO Box 66,
Syracuse, NY 13214
(315) 671-9337 voice
(315) 449-4111 fax
william.stiteler@arcadis-us.com

Immediate Past President:

Patrick O'Shaughnessy
GIS Director,
ITT Space Systems Division
1447 St. Paul Street
Rochester, NY 14606-0488
(585)-269-5763 voice
patrick.oshaughnessy@itt.com

Newsletter Editor:

Paul Szemkow
Environmental Resources &
Forest Engineering,
402 Baker Lab
SUNY-College of Env.
Science & Forestry
1 Forestry Drive
Syracuse, NY 13210-2778
(315) 470-6635 voice
(315) 470-6958 fax
pszemkow@syr.edu

Council Members:

Ron Frederiks
New York State Department
of Transportation (NYSDOT),
88 Dumbarton Drive
Delmar, NY 12054-4406
(518) 439-7109 voice
r.frederiks@verizon.net
(315) 470-6633 (Work)

Lindi Quackenbush
SUNY-ESF, 402 Baker Lab
1 Forestry Drive,
Syracuse, NY
(315) 470-4727 voice
(315) 470-6958 fax:
liquack@esf.edu

Student Representative:

Volunteer Needed

Central New York Region's Home Page:
<http://www.esf.edu/asprs>

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE:
April 28, 2009

ASPRS-CNY REGION
SUNY-College of Env. Sci & Forestry
1 Forestry Drive, 402 Baker Lab
Environmental Resources & Forest Engineering
Syracuse, New York 13210-2778



**LOOK INSIDE FOR
THE FREE MEAL
SPECIAL**

FIRST CLASS

