President's Message

In the last issue of *The Central Perspective*, I talked about the impact that Google Earth and similar web pages were having on mainstreaming spatial information and imagery. This idea is continued by Kamlesh Lulla in the Opinion column of the most recent issue of *Photogrammetric Engineering and Remote Sensing*. The column focuses on Google Earth and blogging. Web logs, or more commonly blogs, are online journals that are often presented from a very personal perspective. Dr Lulla has found that bloggers are quickly adapting to online sources of spatial information; incorporating imagery to describe the devastation of events like hurricane Katrina. Dr Lulla sees this as an opportunity for ASPRS to help facilitate both an understanding of spatial information and distribution of relevant data. Who knows, maybe this increase in accessibility to spatial data will open the Society to a whole new audience.

While members of ASPRS share a common interest in spatial information, the Central New York Region contains a spatially dispersed constituency. Events in 2006 were held throughout the Region—Rochester, Albany, and Utica—in order to facilitate participation by as many members as possible. We hope to continue this in 2007. As you will read in this newsletter, we have Region members involved in planning national events (ASPRS Specialty Conference in Ottawa), statewide events (NYS GIS Conference in Albany), regional events (Remote Sensing Symposium in Syracuse), and local events (a potential co-meeting with the Utica-Rome GIS user group). Through these events we hope to reach out to many of our existing members, as well as entice a new generation of professionals to join the ranks of ASPRS.

ITT Space Systems Division has stepped up to this challenge by sponsoring our Student of the Year award. Due to ITT’s generosity, this award has significantly increased in value. Please spread the word! (see President, pg 2)

Remote Sensing Symposium
June 1, 2007
early registration deadline is May 9, 2007

Student of the Year Application
Due: April 13, 2007

National Director’s Report

A reminder for all – the abstract deadline for the ASPRS Fall 2007 Conference in Ottawa is 2 March, and the call is available on the ASPRS homepage, http://www.asprs.org/. Our Region has been involved in the preparations for this conference, and your abstracts for papers, sessions, or tracks, and ideas for providing a visible CNY presence at the Conference are welcome. Also, be aware that the CNY Region is now planning the 7th Annual Remote Sensing Symposium. Your support for that event is also welcome.

At the last CNY Region Council meeting, there was some discussion about how our Region should look to the future. Beyond the planning processes and tools, there are significant issues that our Region needs to address regarding the relevance of ASPRS to the individual members, companies, government agencies, and educational institutions that we serve. These issues include determining who will be our future members, what do they want from our Region and ASPRS membership, how to provide the best value proposition for their membership dollar, what is the role of our Region in promoting the growth of our industry, and where can we conduct meetings, conferences, and events to be most effective? The answer to the “When?” question is clear – Now!

ASPRS National continues to stress that we need to stabilize and grow membership as a high priority. They emphasize the need to recruit and retain students. I believe this is a simplified answer to (see Director’s, pg 2)
Membership is a priority for ASPRS, both at a national and regional level. The Society cannot hope to remain a leader in imaging and geospatial information, if professionals in the related fields aren’t participating. Please do what you can to support the Society: reach out to a potential new member; attend an upcoming Region or National event; run for one of our Region officer positions, or simply pass your copy of PE&RS to someone that might otherwise not get to see it. Hope to see you soon.

Lindi Quackenbush

what is a more complicated problem in our Region. As the financial state of ASPRS National continues on a stable and prosperous path, the better we understand our Region’s requirements, the better we will be able to address these needs ourselves, and to ask for National support – if that is necessary.

Again it is my belief that we have to work with three basic elements to remain relevant and attract new members, and to accomplish the Society’s basic mission of:

− Advancing knowledge and improving understanding of mapping sciences, and
− Promoting the responsible applications of photogrammetry, remote sensing, geographic information systems (GIS), and supporting technologies.

The three strategic elements that I think we should focus our attention on are:

1) Professional Development,
2) Career Advancement, and
3) Outreach.

Please take a moment to send me your input about how you think we can develop a Regional agenda that will further your individual goals in each of these areas. Are there other issues that you would like CNY ASPRS to address? If so, let me know your thoughts on these as well. My e-mail is edwin.freeborn@L-3com.com

I hope you all have a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year.

Ed Freeborn

Central New York Region News
Future Dates

2006 - 2007 Region Program

Winter Meeting: March 2007. Look for an announcement soon for a joint meeting with the Utica-Rome GIS user group.

Annual Meeting and Remote Sensing Symposium: June 1, 2007. Syracuse, NY

The 23rd Annual New York State Geographic Information Systems Conference: October 1-2, 2007 Holiday Inn on Wolf Road, Albany, NY.


ASPRS 2007 Annual Conference: May 7 – 11, 2007

Identifying Geospatial Solutions
Marriott Waterside Hotel, Tampa, Fl.

ASPRS/CRSS/CASI 2007 Fall Specialty Conference
October 28 - November 1, 2007, Westin Hotel, Ottawa, Canada

CNY Region Conference Volunteers needed!

Welcome to the Central NY Region

Since September, the following people have joined (or rejoined) ASPRS and the CNY Region. When you meet them, welcome them into our fold and encourage their participation.

Brent Bartlett           Julia Nelson
Lynne M. Baumgras        John D. Parkes II
Paul W. Bryant           Eugene R. Rinas
Katrina Busch            Steven W. Russell, Jr.
Kari E. Gunson           Nikolaus A. Schad
Stephen Lach

CNY Region Conference Volunteers needed!
Nominations for 2007 Region Officers

It’s that time again. The CNY Region of ASPRS is soliciting nominations for the Region offices of Vice-President and Secretary/Treasurer. Nominations may be submitted on behalf of others or by the nominees themselves.

The Vice-President serves a one-year term and then automatically succeeds to the offices of President and Immediate Past President in the following years. Candidates for Vice-President are drawn in consecutive years from the private, public and academic sectors. The candidate for 2007 will come from the public sector (federal, state, or local government). The primary duties of the Vice-President include overseeing the Region’s annual Students of the Year Awards, serving as Chair of the Region Membership Committee, and acting on behalf of the President in that person’s absence.

The Secretary/Treasurer serves for one year, but is eligible to run again for an indefinite number of terms. There is no requirement that this person be drawn from any particular sector. The primary duties of the Secretary/Treasurer are to maintain records for the Region, including minutes of meetings and financial records. This person receives and disburses Region funds and supervises fiscal activities assigned to others in the Region. The Secretary/Treasurer also submits interim and annual fiscal reports to the Region and coordinates the submittal of an annual Region Report to National ASPRS.

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 March 31, 2007. Additional nominations may be made by a written petition signed by five (5) members in good standing forwarded to the Secretary-Treasurer by April 15. Nominees will be asked to submit short statements explaining their background and why they wish to serve. Please consider it!

For further details on these offices and the other Region offices and activities, contact the Nominations Committee Chair, Ron Frederiks, at (518) 439-7109 (voice) or at "Ron Frederiks" <r.frederiks@verizon.net>.

Region Council

The CNY ASPRS Region Council is comprised of a President, Vice-President, Past-President, Secretary-Treasurer, and National Director. In addition, there are several board members on the Council who are appointed by the current President.

If you have an interest in serving on the Region Council, now or down the road, contact any current Council member. We are always eager to get new people engaged in the society. Getting involved with the Region Council is a great way to become actively involved in ASPRS and help shape the direction of this organization.

GRADE POINTS

I would like to invite, and strongly encourage, all Student Members to participate in the CNY Region meetings and events. These events are great opportunities for meeting, talking, and networking with people that are involved in the geospatial information fields.

The ASPRS Winter 2006/2007 Student Newsletter is available at http://www.asprs.org/student_news. Some highlights include:

- Volunteer opportunities exist for the ASPRS National Conference in Tampa Florida during May 2007. If you are a student at an accredited college or university and would like to attend the Conference you should consider being a volunteer and assisting during the conference. This is a great opportunity to attend the conference events without needing to pay the required conference registration fee.

- ASPRS has developed a Provisional Certification program in Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and GIS/LIS that is available to active student members preparing to graduate with educational training in the spatial sciences from an approved institution of higher education. Eligible students can apply to take the examination in their specialty while still in school and become “provisionally certified.” They then enter the workforce and become
fully certified when they meet the job experience requirements.

The role of CNY Council Student Representative will become available during the month of June. Please feel free to contact me with questions regarding the responsibilities of this role. If you are interested in accepting this role please contact current CNY Region President Lindi Quackenbush at ljquack@esf.edu or Vice-President Pat O’Shaughnessy at patrick.oshaughnessy@itt.com.

Yvonne Paul
Student Representative
SUNY-ESF, 411 Bray Hall, Syracuse, NY 13210
E-mail: yepaul@syr.edu
Phone: (315) 470-6633

ASPRS News

March 2, 2007 is the deadline to submit abstracts for the ASPRS/CRSS Fall Conference to be held in Ottawa, Canada, October 28 – November 1, 2007. For complete information on this upcoming conference and to submit an abstract on line, go to http://www.asprs.org/ottawa07

Financial Statement

ASPRS Central New York Region
1 Jan 2006 - 31 December 2006

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Notes:
- Overall we are in fantastic shape financially. The earnings from the 2006 Remote Sensing Symposium significantly helped us in this reporting period.
- ITT sponsorship of the 2007 Student of the Year Award will help defray costs for this year.

Have you remembered your annual dues! Region annual dues are $4.00 for members. Dues may be paid at any Region meeting, or mailed to the Secretary/Treasurer.
In Memoriam: Michael R. Courneen

On 7 August 2006, the Central New York Region of ASPRS lost one of our members and Past Presidents when Michael Courneen passed away due to complications following heart surgery. He was only 49. Mike leaves behind his wife, Christine, and their children, Liam and Taryn.

Mike earned a BA in Geography from SUNY Geneseo, an MA in Geography from SUNY Buffalo, and had NYS teaching certification for grades 7-12 Social Studies. He got involved with spatial data technologies in New York State in 1987 and joined ASPRS in 1989. Mike became Executive Vice President of Inteligis Corporation in 1995, one the first consulting firms in Western New York to focus on GIS development and design. At Inteligis, Mike trained and mentored new employees in geographic information systems, many of whom are now managing GIS departments today.

In 1998, Mike founded the TrueNorth Company as a sole proprietorship specializing in GIS implementation, training, and education. Through TrueNorth, Mike was influential in the initial data development and set-up of GIS systems for many local municipalities. For many years, Mike worked part-time in business development and project management for Erdman Anthony and Associates, a company with a long history of aerial photography and photogrammetry projects. In addition to his efforts at TrueNorth and at Erdman Anthony, Mike was a full-time GIS and geography instructor at Erie Community College (ECC). Mike developed the GIS curriculum at ECC and established ECC’s GIS Certificate Program. At the time of his passing, Mike was the Chair of the Social Sciences Department. He was a respected and esteemed instructor and inspired many students to continue an education and career in GIS.

In addition to his ASPRS membership and activities, Mike was a member of URISA and the National Council for Geographic Education (NCGE). Mike was also engaged in planning the NYS GIS conference for many years. He was committed to furthering the development of spatial data technologies in government, business, and educational institutions throughout New York State.

In memory of Mike, his family has asked that contributions be made to the Boy Scouts of America.
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.

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: 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

Application Deadline: Friday, April 13, 2007 (postmarked)

Award winners will be informed of the results during the week of May 14, 2007 and will be honored at the Central New York Region Annual Spring Meeting.

CNY ASPRS and ITT Space Systems Division present the
STUDENT OF THE YEAR AWARD

Undergraduate Student Prize: cash award of $2000.00, a one-year ASPRS membership, and a certificate

Graduate Student Prize: cash award of $2000.00, a one-year ASPRS membership, and a certificate
6th Annual CNY ASPRS New York State Remote Sensing Symposium

"Visualization and analysis of natural resources with case studies of forest communities in southeastern National Parks"

Keynote presenter: Marguarite Madden
ASPRS President-elect, Associate Professor and Director of the Center for Remote Sensing and Mapping Science (CRMS) in the Department of Geography at The University of Georgia, http://www.crms.uga.edu.

For Symposium details go to:
http://www.esf.edu/outreach/pd/2007/asprs/

Preliminary Program:
3:00 – 5:00 pm: Sign-in and technical presentations
5:00 – 6:30 pm: Reception and Student Poster Session (awards for best poster!)
6:30 – 8:00 pm: Dinner Meeting and Student of the Year
8:00 – 9:00 pm: Keynote presentation
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Student Representative
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(315) 470-6633 (Work)
yepaul@syr.edu

Central New York Region’s Home Page:
http://www.esf.edu/asprs

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE:
May 1, 2007

REMEMBER YOUR REGION DUES!

ASPRS-CNY REGION
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Environmental Resources & Forest Engineering
Syracuse, New York 13210-2778

FIRST CLASS