President's Message

Our Region Officers are on the move; around our Region that is. On Thursday 19 April, Ed Freeborn and I headed to a joint meeting with the Utica-Rome GIS Users Group. In early May, Ed will join Councilman Darryl Murdock and Sustaining Member Charlie Mondello to meet with folks in Vermont to discuss possible collaboration efforts and synergies between geospatial professionals in Vermont. In June, we hope to see a large turn out in Syracuse for our Annual Remote Sensing Symposium. To paraphrase Dr Seuss, “Oh the places we’ll go!”

Several members of the Region—from as far away as Rochester and Albany—were able to join Ed and me in Utica on April 19th. This issue of our Region newsletter will highlight the presentations made by Karen Henry (PAR Government contractor to NYSDOT Albany) and Ben Binger (National Grid) at this meeting. I also had the opportunity to make a presentation to this group, and focused my presentation on what ASPRS is, who our members are and the benefits of ASPRS professional certification. I heard back from a couple of people to say they enjoyed hearing about ASPRS. One person told me “I especially enjoyed your discussion of licensure/certification for GIS professionals and your promotion of the ASPRS membership. I always thought it was just for photogrammetry...” Other people at the meeting asked about where GIS fits into the Society and I was glad to have the opportunity to introduce people to ASPRS. However, I have also been hearing similar comments from people who are currently members of ASPRS. ASPRS officially incorporated the tag line The Imaging and Geospatial Information Society as part of the Society’s identity almost ten years ago. In announcing this action, then ASPRS President Tom (see President, pg 2)
Lillesand pointed out that the intent of adding the tag line was "… to preserve the legal name of the Society while providing a better expression of who we are and what we do as an organization.” ASPRS had its roots in photogrammetry and remote sensing, and while this remains an active area for our membership, members of the society are focused beyond these traditional areas. Lillesand stated “We want to make clear that ASPRS represents a scientific and professional home for a broad array of individuals whose interests span the entire spectrum of geospatial information sciences, technologies, and applications.”

I do hope that all members of our Region—regardless of their professional focus—recognize that they are welcome in the Society and at our meetings. If you feel that the Region isn’t providing you with what you need, let us know. That is the only way this Society can continue to be strong.

Lindi Quackenbush

Central New York Region News

Future Dates

2006 - 2007 Region Program

Vermont Outreach meeting: May 2, 2007. Vermont Center for Geographic Information (VCGI), Waterbury.

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/ 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 the last newsletter, Jeffrey Barth has joined (or rejoined) ASPRS and the CNY Region. When you meet him, please welcome him into our fold and encourage his participation as website editor.

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.

Ed Freeborn

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Ed Freeborn
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 are now being accepted. 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>.

Our Secretary/Treasurer is moving.
Dear Members of CNY ASPRS,
I would like to inform you all that I am stepping down as Secretary/Treasurer this May, as I am moving out of the region to begin work on my PhD in Geology at the University of Pittsburgh. I am really looking forward to beginning this new life and to spending more time in my hometown with Matt and our children.

I have greatly enjoyed serving our organization, and I am very proud of the work we have done over the past several years. I am confident that Central New York ASPRS will continue to provide the region with unique and important networking and educational opportunities for remote sensing, GIS and mapping professionals and students in our area. Our organization plays an important and unique role to the geospatial community in this region, and I hope to see our membership and activities continue to grow as the years go by.

As I vacate my position in CNY ASPRS, please be aware that a Secretary/Treasurer is needed! I encourage any member interested in taking over these duties to contact Dr. Lindi Quackenbush at (315) 470-4727 or by email at ljquack@esf.edu.

It has been a great pleasure getting to know many of you in the region and I wish you all much success and happiness in the future.

Best Wishes,

Emily Constantine Mercurio

GRADE POINTS
This time of the year can be quite busy with end of the semester preparations. But… You should make time to participate in ASPRS activities. These events are great opportunities for meeting, talking, and networking with people that are involved in the geospatial information fields. Hope to see you soon!

The upcoming events include:
- 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 consider being a volunteer and assisting during the conference. This is great if you are interested in attending the conference events without needing to pay the required conference registration fee.
- CNY ASPRS Annual Remote Sensing Symposium on 1 June, held in Syracuse at the Rosamond Gifford Zoo. The theme for this year is “Data Integration and Visualization.” This is a great opportunity to meet and discuss remote sensing with professionals that are working in this field. As a student, you will receive a discounted registration rate. Visit our website for additional details.

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

The Student of the Year Award (SOYA) evaluation committee is reviewing the applicants for 2007. In addition to the Graduate and Undergraduate first and second place awards, the first ten applicants will receive a one-year subscription to PE&RS. The SOYA is intended to recognize professional development, encourage further professional development, and promote involvement in ASPRS. The SOYA is made possible by a donation from ITT.

CNY ASPRS and Vermont Center for Geographic Information (VCGI) meeting planned for May 2nd.

Darryl Murdock, Ed Freeborn and Charlie Mondello will travel to Waterbury, VT on May 2nd to meet with current and former CNY ASPRS members as well as the Executive Director and Outreach Coordinator for the Vermont Center for Geographic Information. The purpose of this meeting is to share ongoing research and work projects and to explore possible opportunities for collaboration. The convergence of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Remote Sensing (RS) technologies have created a climate “niche applications” (or “niche apps”) where the focus is no longer on how to use data using GIS or RS technologies but rather on specific use of geospatial technologies for narrowly applied problem solving. Examples of niche apps include stormwater management, forest stand management, and zoning and planning. With strong GIS and RS user bases in VT and NY, the CNY ASPRS Region includes northern PA, upstate and western NY and all of VT. This is the first of what will hopefully be an ongoing series of “mini-meetings” the Region is planning in an effort to include as many members and geospatial professionals as possible and to discuss how we can collaborate as the focus on niche apps continues to grow. A follow-up article outlining the results from this meeting will be published in a subsequent CNY ASPRS Region newsletter.

ASPRS News

The ASPRS/CRSS Fall Conference will 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 2007 - 12 April 2007

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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.
ASPRS Meeting with the Utica Rome GIS User Group on April 19, 2007

NYS DOT Stormwater Outfall Mapping Project
– Karen Henry

In 1999, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency established the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Phase II regulations under the Clean Water Act. These regulations require municipalities, State Departments of Transportation (DOT), and other entities in urbanized areas to develop Stormwater Management Programs. In addition to being a regulatory requirement, the NYS DOT will use this information as an asset management tool to help maintain the DOT’s drainage system and assist state Departments of Health and Environmental Conservation personnel to locate and identify illicit non-stormwater discharges.

The NYS DOT has developed a mapping system, showing locations of all drainage outfalls to Waters of the United States and to other municipalities within the urbanized areas. Using GPS technology, field personnel obtain location and attribute information that describes the type of outfall and physical factors and conditions. Identification of the receiving waters of the United States includes information obtained from the USGS high-resolution National Hydrologic Datasets (NHD), containing watershed and reachcode data. The information is stored in a Spatial Database Engine (SDE) using ArcSDE with an Oracle database. The Stormwater Outfall Map shows New York State’s Urban Areas with the 7000 lane miles of state highways and stormwater outfall locations as of March 31, 2007.

Uses of GIS in Utility Management
– Ben Binger, National Grid

National Grid’s core business in the US is the transmission and distribution of electricity and natural gas. The company supplies electricity to 3.2 million electricity customers for approximately 29,400 square miles of service territory throughout New England and New York.

Through the various companies that merged to form National Grid, the company has used a range of GIS software packages starting from the early 90s. These include GE Smallworld Design System; Vision Design System (Oracle), Integraph, ESRI and GE Smallworld PowerOn Outage Management System. National Grid uses these GIS software packages for a range of applications: asset repository and management, system design, outage management, network analysis and planning, map production, electric load and corridor management, reporting and mobile mapping.

The future applications of GIS for National Grid cover a range of areas: expanding inspection management capability, decreasing redundancy in network models, increasing mobile capabilities and enhancing web services.
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: Marguerite 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/

$50   Early Rate – before May 9, 2007
$65   After May 9, 2007
$25   STUDENT Early Rate – before May 9, 2007
$40   STUDENTS After May 9, 2007

Phone: 315-470-6817
ESF Outreach, SUNY-ESF, 1 Forestry Drive, 219 Bray Hall, Syracuse, NY 13210

Preliminary Program:
3:00 - 3:30 pm   Sign in
3:30 - 4:00 pm   Bryan A. Merritt and Mark S. Coon, Erdman Anthony and Associates, "Advances in Geospatial Technology: Merging Terrestrial LiDAR and conventional survey data".
4:00 - 4:30 pm   Tim Ruhren, New York State Office of Cyber Security and Critical Infrastructure Coordination, "Experience with Digital Sensors in New York State Orthophotography Program"
4:30 - 5:00 pm   Jessica Coughlin, Institute for the Application of Geospatial Technology, "Spatial information and Visualization of the NASA SERVER project in Mesoamerica"
5:00- 6:30 pm   Reception and Student Poster Session, sponsored by ITT Space Systems Division
6:30 - 8:00 pm   Dinner with Student of the Year award and Business meeting
8:00 - 8:30 pm   Keynote presenter, ASPRS President-elect, Marguerite Madden.

Rosamond Gifford Zoo
Join us in Albany
Oct 1 and 2, 2007 for the
New York State GIS Conference
at the Holiday Inn Albany on Wolf Road,
205 Wolf Road, Albany, NY 12205

Theme: Collaborative GIS - Connected by Technology

The conference has a long standing tradition of providing attendees with an opportunity to meet fellow New Yorkers active in the GIS field, exchange information and real experiences, and seek solutions to your geographic data management needs. Professional networking opportunities help you develop a network of fellow GIS users which can continue through the years. In the exhibit area, GIS vendors and consultants display the latest in GIS hardware, software, analytical techniques, and services.

The conference offers NYS GIS Traditions for you to enjoy:

- Welcoming reception on Sunday with a scavenger hunt at the NYS Museum

- Monday’s State of the State address followed by a keynote address by Joseph Berry. Dr. Joseph K. Berry is the Principal of Berry & Associates // Spatial Information Systems (BASIS), consultants and software developers in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology. He is a contributing editor and author of the Beyond Mapping column for GeoWorld magazine and has written over two hundred papers on the analytic capabilities of GIS technology. He is the author of the popular books Beyond Mapping, Spatial Reasoning, Analyzing Precision Ag Data, Analyzing Geo-Business Data, Analyzing Geo-Spatial Resource Data, The Precision Farming Primer (online) and Map Analysis: Procedures and Applications in GIS Modeling (online). He serves as the Keck Scholar in Geosciences at the University of Denver and Special Faculty at Colorado State University.

- Monday evening poster session, map contest and reception

- Followed by a banquet with Ross Whaley's presentation and Awards

- Tuesday Luncheon with a raffle of prizes

For conference details go to: http://www.esf.edu/nysgisconf/
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DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE:
May 11, 2007

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

REMEMBER YOUR REGION DUES!

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Environmental Resources & Forest Engineering
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