

# THE IMAGING & GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION SOCIETY

## ~The Rocky Mountain Compiler~

#### **Issue 3**

### Fall 2004

## **Issued Quarterly**

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

### **GIS in the Rockies**

The 2004 GIS in the Rockies conference is almost here! You are invited to come share, experience and explore the "Worlds of Opportunity" the geospatial industry has to offer. The conference is set for the days of October 6-8 at the Plaza at the Mart in Denver. This year's format consists of two days of technical sessions and workshops beginning on Wednesday, October 6th and continuing through Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, the third day of the conference, will have exciting technical tours, the GIS in the Rockies golf tournament at the Buffalo Run Golf Course and a special geocaching event. The conference will also host a job fair – a perfect venue for employers and job seekers alike.

The GIS in the Rockies Board is very proud to have Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper and Will Wilbrink of Mapinfo as luncheon speakers. Mayor Hickenlooper will be speaking on Wednesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 pm and Mr. Wilbrink will be speaking on Thursday October 7th at 12:30 pm.

#### The conference schedule is as follows:

On Wednesday, October  $6^{th}$ , the doors open at 7:30 am for registration. Exhibit hours are 10:00 am - 7:00 pm with concurrent technical sessions running from 8:30 am - 5:00 pm. Workshops will also be spread throughout the day. An evening social will run from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm.

On Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, the exhibit hours will be 8:00 am - 3:30 pm. Concurrent technical sessions will run from 8:30 am - 5:00 pm. For the complete schedule please visit <u>www.gisintherockies.org</u> and go to Program Details > Schedule.

A poster session open to both students and industry professionals will be on display Wednesday and Thursday. You do not have to be a registered participant at the Conference to display a poster. Special badges will be issued to you on the day so you can display your poster. Students can enter a poster contest for a chance to win \$350.

The 12 technical sessions and 13 workshops will provide an information-packed event and one of the best programs ever. For program updates visit www.gisintherockies.org and go to Program Details.

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Conference workshops are all held within the conference venue as part of the regular Wed/Thurs conference sessions. Registered attendees can attend as many workshops as they wish (space permitting).

The Friday events will include technical tours at Space Imaging, Spectrum Mapping, Schriever Air Force Base, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and NAVTEQ. ASPRS will be sponsoring socials following each technical tour. In addition, Joseph Kerski of the USGS will be hosting the first ever GIS in the Rockies geocaching event at the Denver's City Park and GITA will be hosting the GIS in the Rockies Golf Tournament at Buffalo Run.

The final program for the conference is now on the web site, so be sure to get online to see the Worlds of Opportunity GIS in the Rockies 2004 has to present!

To date 45 exhibitors are confirmed. The list of exhibitors is on the GIS in the Rockies web site at: http://www.gisintherockies.org/exhibitors/index.htm#

#### **Venue Information**

Plaza At the Mart <u>Denver Merchandise Mart</u> 451 East. 58th Ave Denver, CO. 80216 Toll Free: 1-800-289-6278

# GIS in the Rockies Geocaching Event – A fun and learning experience!!

Date & Time:	Friday October 8th, 10:00 am
Duration:	1-2 hours
Cost:	Free
Advance Notice	1 Day
Max Participants	30
Web Site:	http://rockyweb.cr.usgs.gov/public/outreach/

USGS, the main provider of geospatial data and hard copy maps to Local, State, and Federal governments and to private sector clients, will be hosting a geocaching event for GIS in the Rockies at Denver's City Park on Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup>.

Just a little information on what Geocaching (<u>www.geocaching.com</u>) is for those who might not know: geocaching is a very popular activity involving the caching (hiding) of something, recording the position with Global Positioning System (GPS) receivers, telling others the position of the cache, and encouraging them to find it.

After a briefing on what GPS is and some reasons for using it, participants of this event will try to find the geocaches. Please bring your own GPS unit if you have one, as loaners are limited. In the event of inclement weather, the Denver Museum of Nature and Science will be the back-up location.

This event will be held at Denver's City Park, located just northeast of downtown Denver. http://www.denvergov.org/panoramas/cityparkweb.asp

#### **GIS in the Rockies Poster Session**

GIS in the Rockies will once again host its annual student poster competition, and we are still looking for submissions. Posters will be on display Wednesday October 6th and Thursday October 7th, next to the Exhibit area. Intermap has donated the top cash prize of \$350.

Important information on the posters:

- Students do not have to be a registered participant at the Conference to display a poster.
- Special badges will be issued to you on the day so you can display your poster.
- Posters will be accepted until noon on September 30, 2004.
- Posters are encouraged to be "E-sized" (34" X 44") or smaller and may be on any medium, such as bond or glossy.
- Posters should depict GIS in use or action or follow the conference theme "Worlds of Opportunity."

The participant should provide a card or narrative describing in a few words what is depicted and the designer's or submitter's name and affiliation. For more information please contact

Jarrod Skulavik 303-818-5135

Posters@GISintheRockies.org

#### **Technical Tours**

As a continuation of last year's success the conference will include technical tours of some of Denver's leading geospatial facilities. A short social with refreshments will follow each tour. The technical tours are sponsored by the Rocky Mountain Region of ASPRS.

Space is limited, so please sign up for each tour when you register or contact Ken Turnbull for more information: events@gisintherockies.org.

#### Schriever Air Force Base

Time -	Friday October 8th, 9:00 AM		
Duration -	Approximately 2 hours		
Cost -	Free		
Deadline -	Friday, September 17		
Adv. Notice -	21 Days		
Secuity req	U.S. Citizens and Permanent		
	Residents Only.		
Web site -	www.schriever.af.mil/index.asp		
Location -	Schriever Air Force Base - Colorado		
	Springs Colorado		

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This tour features the 2ND SPACE OPERATIONS SQUADRON at Schriever Air Force Base. The squadron performs the command and control mission for the Global Positioning System (GPS) satellite constellation. GPS provides worldwide precision navigation service for U.S. and allied military forces as well as a host of civilian users. This user community is rapidly expanding and includes traditional land, sea and space navigation along with surveying, geodesy and a variety of development research and activities. The constellation is comprised of a minimum of 24 onorbit spacecraft and makes up over 40 percent of Air Force Space Command's active satellites.

The squadron also operates and maintains the Master Control Station (MCS) and a dedicated network of four ground antennas and six monitor stations located around the world. The monitor stations passively track the navigation signals on all the satellites. Information is then processed at the MCS and is used to update the satellites' navigation messages. The MCS sends updated navigation information to GPS satellites through ground antennas. The ground antennas are also used to transmit satellite commands and to receive satellite telemetry.

#### <u>Navteq</u>

Martey	
Time -	Every half hour starting at 9:am on
	Thursday October 7th
Duration -	1/2 hour
Cost -	Free
Adv. Notice -	1 Day
Web site -	www.navteq.com
Location -	Tours will take place at the Plaza at
	the Mart. (Office: Lakewood, CO)

NAVTEQ is the driving force behind an industry on the move: the digital navigation industry. Our NAVTEQ digital maps power products for vehicle, internet/wireless, business and government applications. Backed by NAVTEQ's expertise, map technology and support, developers are creating applications that change the way the world navigates. They're dramatically improving the speed, ease, and efficiency required to move people, services, and products from Point A to Point B.

The result of our digital map creation and quality control processes is a detailed, digital model of the road/street network. The model provides depth, accuracy and coverage needed to enable turn-byturn, door-to-door voice supported route guidance. Included in the database are up to 150 road attributes and more than 45 point of interest categories to help you find the location of specific restaurants, hotels, airports, shopping centers and more while driving in your car, with your PDA, on your smart phone or over the Internet.

This Tour will allow three participants every half hour to ride with NAVTEQ drivers as they demonstrate their sophisticated road/street network collection technology.

#### National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)

Time -	Friday, October 8th at 9:00 AM			
Duration -	Approximately 3 hours			
Cost -	Free			
Registration -	Foreign I	Vationals	only:	Friday
	September	24th		
Adv. Notice -	U.S. Citizens: 1 day advance notice			
	– Bring driv	vers license	Э	
Web site -	www.nrel.g	ov		
Location -	National	Renewa	ble	Energy
	Laboratory	, Golden, C	0	

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory is the U.S. Department of Energy's premier laboratory for renewable energy research and development and a leading laboratory for energy efficiency research and development. NREL is operated for DOE by Midwest Research Institute and Battelle.

There will be a presentation reviewing select GIS activities and analysis that support assessing the renewable energy resource available for wind, solar, biomass and hydrogen. Also three short tours of NREL's facilites will be provided. The facilites included are:

Solar Energy Research Facility (SERF). NREL's SERF is a state-of-the-art research facility for developing technologies that convert sunlight into electricity. <u>www.nrel.gov/documents/pdfs/serf.pdf</u>

Solar Radiation Research Laboratory (SRRL). The SRRL has been gathering solar radiation and meteorological data since 1984. Researchers use specialized instruments to provide the solar resource information necessary for renewable energy research and development. www.nrel.gov/documents/pdfs/srrl.pdf

Alternative Fuels User Facility (AFUF) and the Bioprocessing Pilot Plant. The AFUF plays a crucial role in helping industry develop renewable transportation fuels from biomass. The pilot plant is available for non-DOE academic and industrial researchers to test or advance a bioprocessing technology.

#### Space Imaging

Time -	Friday, October 8th, 9:00 AM
Duration -	2 hours
Cost -	Free
Registration	Permanent Residents and Foreign
U U	Nationals only: Tuesday, Sept 28th

Adv Notice	US Citizens – 1 Day Notice – Bring
	drivers license
Web site -	www.spaceimaging.com
Location -	Space Imaging, 12076 Grant Street,

Thornton, CO First High Resolution Commercial Satellite Imagery "IKONOS". Space Imaging operates a global network of ground stations where their images are used in virtually all vertical markets and provide timely information for disaster relief efforts.

#### GIS in the Rockies Job Fair!!!

#### When:

Wednesday October 6th 10:00 am to 12:00pm and 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm Thursday October 7th: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm Where: Room F52/50 & F48/46

There is no additional fee to attend the Job Fair for conference attendees. If you are job hunting or know you are going to be Job-hunting in the near future bring plenty of copies of your resume! Check the web site (<u>http://www.gisintherockies.org/program/</u>) for the names & website links of the companies that will be participating in the Job Fair. This will make it easier for you to do a little background research on the company ahead of time. For additional information please contact:

Pamela Coonrod, Job Fair Coordinator GIS in the Rockies 2004 Tel: 303.428.3526 ext. 280 Fax: 303.428.9348 E mail: JobFair@GISintheRockies.org

### **President's Message**

What do you get out of your ASPRS Membership? Is it more than your copy of PE&RS or reduced registration fees for a conference? If not, then you are most likely a member who continues to pay your yearly membership fees, but does not spend time to help make the RMR of ASPRS the success that it has become. There is a small cadre of members who continue to dedicate a small (some much larger) amount of time to serve the society in some capacity. As I mentioned in a previous message. less than 10% of our region membership dedicate some amount of time to help support the Society's mission. It doesn't take a lot of time or effort to help us make a difference. It could be as simple as helping out at an ASPRS booth for a couple of hours at a local/national conference. I challenge the RMR membership to help the Board continue our efforts as we expand our reach and build the best region with the Society.

Congratulations are in order for all members of the Rocky Mountain Region (RMR) of ASPRS. The

Region was awarded the Region of the Month for the month of July, after a three-month run as Region of the Month for March, April and May! This is awarded by ASPRS for growth in membership within the region. This is one of the best years for member recruitment for the RMR and we have plans to continue these efforts throughout this year.

One of our focuses is on the development of new student chapters. Jaymes Pardue, RMR Vice President, is taking the lead on this, as we try to broaden our reach to students throughout the region, such as Wyoming and Montana. With the beginning of the school year upon us, Jaymes is actively working towards getting these new chapters off the ground. Speaking of students, don't forget to keep an eye out for the RMR Scholarship announcement (read more elsewhere in this issue).

The RMR is also a sponsor for the upcoming <u>GIS in</u> <u>the Rockies</u> Conference (October 6-8<sup>th</sup>). This very successful conference is a must-attend event for ASPRS members in the region. The committees have organized a tremendous technical program and a full slate of exhibitors to help you address your geospatial data, hardware and software issues.

For those of you interested in getting more involved in the RMR activities, we are starting to gather names of individuals interested in participating on next year's Board of Directors. If you have any interest, please feel free to send me an e-mail at <u>bsoliday@lizardtech.com</u>. As always, feel free to contact any of the RMR Board with any input/ideas at <u>www.asprs-rmr.org/officers.html</u>.

#### Brian L. Soliday

President ASPRS-RMR 2004

#### **Regional Director's Report**

At the time of this writing, I am traveling to Kansas City for the fall ASPRS conference. This year it is earlier than usual, so there is not as much news to report. However, there are still plenty of things happening in ASPRS. As I have stated before, probably the two major issues confronting ASPRS this year are membership and professional licensure.

#### **ASPRS Membership**

ASPRS this year created a Working Group on Membership. The first formal meeting of this group will be held in Kansas City. They have already produced a draft Action Plan, detailing a series of actions that can be taken at various levels to increase membership. Many of these actions are directed towards the Regions for implementation. Your Rocky Mountain Region has already

undertaken some of these implementations with success. (I am sure the fact we have been Region of the Month for most of this year has been noted at headquarters.) I expect this group will be looking further into the services provided by ASPRS, and working to be sure the Society is meeting the needs of its members. I should have more to report in the winter newsletter.

#### **Professional Licensure**

ASPRS has a well-defined policy regarding licensure of professionals in the geospatial technologies, and has participated in the development of the NCEES Model Law. Developments are progressing slowly and intermittently, state by state. I do not know of current changes planned in the Rocky Mountain Region (please let me know if there are!). For more information, please go to the ASPRS website <u>www.asprs.org</u>, and click on the tab for Education and Professional Materials, then NCEES Task Force Materials. An excellent briefing is there, prepared by ASPRS Executive Director James Plasker for the GIS-Transportation Conference in March 2004.

#### 2004 Annual Conference

The Conference is now in the history books, but did you know it was the largest ASPRS Conference ever? What a great time! Thanks for everyone's support.

#### Allen Cook

**Regional Director 2004** 

# We're Looking for New Student Chapters!

In an effort to continually expand the contributions of our student membership, the Rocky Mountain Region is looking for new student chapters at local universities and colleges. The society relies on the importance of its student chapters to help establish and foster communication among student members, and liaise with related ASPRS entities. We also look to the student chapters to help plan and establish student programs, and attend related Society conferences and conventions.

With the technological advances in the mapping sciences and widespread application of related products, the ASPRS student members of today will be the scientific leaders of tomorrow. Active participation in society membership offers students the opportunity to develop the skills of success required in today's challenging professional climate, equipping them with technological proficiency necessary for long-term professional growth. If you are interested in starting a new student chapter within the Rocky Mountain Region please contact:

#### **Jaymes Pardue**

Vice President of Membership 303-384-1925 jpardue@vargis.com.

#### **RMR Scholarship Announcement**

The Rocky Mountain Region (RMR) of ASPRS is pleased to once again offer scholarships to deserving students this calendar year. We have scholarship monies available for a total of \$3,000 to award to deserving undergraduate and graduate students! The scholarships are intended for students throughout the Rocky Mountain Region of ASPRS (Colorado, Montana, New Mexico and Wyoming) who are demonstrating excellence in pursuing careers in the fields of Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) or related disciplines. Both undergraduate and graduate students of any third-level educational institution within the four-state region who are pursuing careers in these disciplines are eligible for the awards.

The scholarships are being offered to support academic research in the geo-technologies as well as to aid in travel costs in order to encourage student participation in ASPRS activities. The monetary awards can be used to offset any costs the students incur while pursuing their college degrees, whether it be for data, fieldwork, or to help pay for travel to attend any ASPRS-sponsored convention.

Official announcements will be sent out in September and the winners will be announced in December in the ASPRS-RMR winter newsletter issue. Awards will be presented at the Annual Dinner Meeting in January 2005.

Make sure your advisor/instructor and department is on the mailing list and check <u>www.asprs-rmr.org</u> regularly for more details. We had a limited number of applications last year, especially from graduate students, so please take the initiative and apply!

For more information, contact; Jaymes Pardue Vice President, ASPRS-RMR Chair, Scholarship Committee Tel: 303-384-1925 jpardue@vargis.com

GIS in the Rockies Program Flyer: http://www.gisintherockies.org/news/pdf/GISITR%20flyer2004.pdf

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#### **Rio Grande Chapter News**

#### **Annual Meeting**

ASPRS Rio Grande Chapter Annual Meeting will be held in Las Cruces, NM, on October 22, 2004. The agenda will include a tour of the Jornada Experimental Range (JER), http://usdaars.nmsu.edu/. The JER is a unit of the USDA's Agricultural Research Service and it is also a site within the National Science Foundation's Long-term Ecological Research network. The Jornada covers over 78.000 hectares and was established in 1912 by Presidential Executive Order. The unit's researchers have a mission to develop new knowledge of ecosystem processes as a basis for management and remediation of desert rangelands. Remote sensing is a strong component of rangeland research at the Jornada, and we will hear about this research during the field tour of the Experimental Range as well as during the afternoon technical session. Dr. Al Rango, Dr. Andrea Laliberte, and Judith van der Elst will be the featured speakers. A member lunch and meeting will be included in the day's events. Registration and other information will be sent out to all New Mexico ASPRS members and to the RMR board. Mark your calendars for October 22 and plan to attend this most informative meeting!

#### ASPRS RGC 2005 Scholarship Fund

The Rio Grande Chapter was the recipient of a contribution from Bohannan Huston, an Albuquerque-headquartered firm specializing in surveying, mapping, imaging, and GIS services. This contribution will be used in the RGC Chapter Scholarship Fund. The RGC is very grateful to Bohannan Huston for this generous gift, which will benefit students throughout New Mexico.



**Dennis Sandin** of Bohannan Huston, center, presents a \$1,000 contribution to the Rio Grande Chapter's Scholarship Fund. **Mike Racine**, President of the chapter, left, and **Steve Scharf**, Treasurer, right, accept the check.

#### The RGC also recently received a membership rebate from the Rocky Mountain Region. Proceeds from donations, such as the one from Bohannan Huston, and rebates are spent each year exclusively within New Mexico to promote and strengthen remote sensing and geospatial information-related

remote sensing and geospatial information-related activities for members. The funds are used in many ways such as establishing and supporting student GIS/RS organizations, sponsoring technical tours and social events, and awarding scholarships to deserving students.

This fall the RGC will be announcing the 2005 Scholarship Program. Scholarships are open to undergraduate and graduate students at accredited higher-level institutions throughout New Mexico. This presents a great opportunity for students to be awarded extra cash for research and/or travel related to their studies. Additional details will be provided in an upcoming newsletter and/or email. If you are a student in New Mexico or know one who may be interested in this opportunity, please be on the lookout for the Scholarship Application that will be available soon!

#### Welcome New Members!

Gregory A. Baxes Jason E. Caldwell Fred H. Groth Dean Allen Hancock Jon M. Proctor Robert George Waltermire Shane Willard Enrique L. Montano Karl Turner Miles J. Wacker

#### **Nominations for Board Elections**

Hey, we're all busy. But if you've been thinking you'd like to be more involved in the Society, it may be time to act! Many of us stay involved, year after year, in spite of our other commitments, because of the enjoyment we get from working with others. It really is a lot of fun – you'd be surprised at how much laughter is shared at Board meetings. It's time to start thinking about who will be running for the Board of Directors positions that will be opening up in 2005. In the winter issue, we will publish the nominated slate of officers for members to vote. Contact any person listed on the Officers page, and we'll be happy to answer your questions.

Post a flyer about GIS in the Rockies: http://www.gisintherockies.org/news/pdf/GISITR%20flyer2004.pdf

# Rocky Mountain Compiler

#### **Local Interest**

Many new and exciting things are happening in the Geospatial Community. GeoReport, the weekly geospatial industry electronic newsletter had a few articles of interest to our Region members.

# Geo360 Purchases Space Imaging's Solutions Group

Geo360 Corp. signed an agreement to purchase Space Imaging's commercial and civilian government value-added products and solutions business unit. The acquisition includes all staff, business assets, intellectual property, technology offices and customers as well as an ongoing relationship with Space Imaging to team on products and services for specific customers.

#### **USGS Creates New Office**

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) created a National Geospatial Programs Office to strengthen the agency's research abilities and consolidate geospatial data programs.

The agency will transfer responsibilities for The National Map from its Geography Discipline to its Geospatial Information Office. The National Map is a USGS service that includes an online, interactive map of the United States that serves as a foundation for other portals such as the new GeoData.gov Web site, which provides access to geospatial information and resources from multiple sources. Earlier this year, USGS signed memoranda of understanding with the National States Geographic Information Council and the National Association of Counties to further enhance The National Map.

USGS will consolidate additional geospatial programs under the new National Geospatial Programs Office, which will oversee a broad portfolio of national geospatial programs, including the Federal Geographic Data Committee, the Geospatial One-Stop project and the Department of Interior Enterprise Geospatial Information Management activity as well as The National Map.

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#### **Region Web Site Redesigned**

The Rocky Mountain Region was among the first in ASPRS to get a web site up and running on the Internet. When National first introduced a "Web Site of the Year" Award for 2002, the Rocky Mountain Region took First Place. We are proud of these accomplishments but are not resting on our laurels. No, we thought it was time for a facelift, so we've redesigned the web site, commemorating ASPRS' 70th anniversary with our new look. We plan to continue to improve the site and add more useful content for our members as time goes on. Be sure to

check out our new-and-improved web site at <u>www.asprs-rmr.org</u>. Visit the site periodically to see new events, job postings, networking opportunities, Chapter activities, and more are taking place in the Region.

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#### Request for Input on Landsat

On September 6, 2004 the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) convened a federal Landsat users roundtable. At this roundtable federal agencies were asked to respond to a series of nine questions relating to their use of Landsat data and the effect that a gap in Landsat data would have.

OSTP is now asking the broader user community to respond to the same nine questions, available as a PDF document or as a Word document: <u>http://intranet.asprs.org/Non-Federal\_questionnaire.pdf</u> <u>http://intranet.asprs.org/Non-Federal\_questionnaire.doc</u>

Your input is needed as the U.S. government assesses both short and long-term plans for Landsat. **Dr. Gene Whitney** has requested that you respond directly to him <u>gwhitney@ostp.eop.gov</u> as soon as possible, and before COB September 28.

#### **Lidar Guidelines**

"ASPRS Lidar Guidelines – Vertical Accuracy Reporting for Lidar Data V1.0" is the first in a series of guidelines to be published by ASPRS covering the emerging technology of lidar and its use in the mapping sciences.

ASPRS recommends that all mapping professionals adhere to and follow these guidelines when generating or contracting for mapping products derived from lidar data. The Guidelines cover the recommended methods for measuring and reporting the vertical accuracy of elevation data recorded by airborne lidar mapping instruments. They also include recommendations for the proper planning and implementation of appropriate ground checkpoints to support a lidar data set, including how to handle different land cover classes across a project site.

ASPRS strongly encourages all lidar stakeholders to incorporate these guidelines into their lidar mapping projects. A copy of the guidelines can be downloaded from the Lidar Committee section at www.asprs.org (under the Photogrammetric Applications Division) or requested from lidar committee@asprs.org. Other lidar guidelines currently under development by ASPRS for release in 2004 and 2005 include "Horizontal Accuracy Reporting," "Sensor Calibration," and "Laser Eye Safety."

	Brian Soliday	Work: 303-250-5537
President	Lizardtech Software, Inc	Fax: 303-485-0100
		bsoliday@lizardtech.com
	Jaymes Pardue	Work: 303-384-1925
Vice-President	VARGIS LLC	Fax: 303-384-1926
	Golden, CO	jgpardue@vargis.com
	Bryan McFadden	Work: (303) 527-4159
Socratany	Motorola, Inc	Fax: (303) 513-3403
Secretary	6000 Spine Rd.	bryan.mcfadden@motorola.com
	Boulder, CO 80301	
	Terrell Williams	Work: (303) 638-6413
Treasurer	VP of Operations	
	Green Mesa, Inc.	terrell.williams@comcast.net
	Allen Cook	Work: 720-963-6941
National Director	Northrop Grumman Mission Systems	Fax: 720-963-6950
	200 Union Blvd., Suite 100	allen.cook@ngc.com
	Lakewood, CO 80226	
	Craig Erikson	Work: (303) 254-2236
Regional Director	Space Imaging	Fax: (303) 254-2213
(GIS in the Rockies)	12076 Grant Street	cerikson@spaceimaging.com
	Thornton, CO 80241	
Regional Director	Mark Hess	Work: 303-948-5272
Regional Director (GIS in the Rockies)	Rocky Mountain Region	Fax: 303-948-5272
. , ,	Ocean Imaging, Inc.	mhess@oceani.com
	Jennifer Whitacre	Work: 303-298-9847/ 315
Regional Director	Spectrum Mapping	Fax: 303-292-9279
(Communications/Newsletter)	1999 Broadway, STE 3200	jwhitacre@specmap.com
	Denver, CO 80202	
	Jeff Young	Work: 303-799-9453 / 16
Regional Director	Leica Geosystems	Fax: 303-799-4809
(General)	GIS & Mapping Division	
	Inverness Drive East, Suite 200	
	Englewood, CO 80112	
	Steve Hick	Work: 303-871-2535
Regional Director (At Large)	University of Denver	Fax: (303) 871-2201
(At Edige)	Dept. Of Geography	<u>shick@du.edu</u>
	Denver, CO 80208	Marth 000 045 4700
	Scott Bennett	Work: 303-215-1700
Past President	Harris ImageLinds, Inc.	Fax: 303-278-0092
	1746 Cole Blvd Ste 225	
	Golden, CO 80401-3210	
Communications	Sheila Pelczarski	Work: 303-628-6511
Coordinator/Webmaster (not on the board)	Denver Water (MC 414)	Fax: 303-628-6852
	Denver, CO 80204	sgp@denverwater.org

# ASPRS – Rocky Mountain Region: 2004 Officers