



THE IMAGING & GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION SOCIETY

~The Rocky Mountain Compiler~

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

Nominations for Board Elections

The Rocky Mountain Region (RMR) of ASPRS needs your active and engaged participation! Being a Board Member is just one of many ways to support the continued expansion of the geospatial community throughout the Rockies. We are seeing our industry's constant advancement into everyday life, and this is an exciting time to immerse oneself in ASPRS by becoming a Board Member. Board membership allows individuals to lead the convergence of ideas and technologies, connect with our peers, communicate with our membership, and contribute to these kinds of collaborations.

Please consider running for the 2008 Board of Directors. Contact any of the [Regional Officers listed](#) on our Web page about your interest and questions. In the Winter Regional Newsletter, we will publish the nominated slate of officers to be presented to the membership for a vote...so take action today!

2008 Scholarship Program

The Rocky Mountain Region (RMR) of ASPRS kicked off our scholarship program at the Rogues' social in November. An official announcement and invitation to the Rogues' event was distributed to all RMR members via e-mail with a request to help solicit qualified applicants from each state. Stay tuned for exciting changes to our scholarship program and

efforts made by the RMR to endow a scholarship program through our National Foundation.

RMR offers scholarships to deserving undergraduate and graduate students every year. The scholarships are intended for students residing and studying in the Rocky Mountain Region (Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, and Wyoming) who are demonstrating excellence while pursuing studies in the fields of Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) or related disciplines. Both undergraduate and graduate students of any accredited educational institution within the four-state region whose studies are concentrated on these disciplines are eligible for the awards.

The deadline to submit an application is December 10, 2007. Awards are presented at the ASPRS-RMR Annual Dinner Meeting in January. We've

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consistently offered thousands of dollars in annual scholarships and YOU could be our next winner. Download the 2008 ASPRS-RMR Scholarship Application now at http://www.asprs-rmr.org/news-and-events/Scholar_Ann_2007-08.doc.

For more information, please contact **Victoria Provenza**, Vice-President ASPRS-RMR at (303) 408-6022 or at victoria@prospatial.com.

Invitation to New Student Chapters

Join Montana State University (MSU) and the University of Denver (DU) by initiating an ASPRS Student Chapter at your institution. MSU recently received its charter and DU is in the application process and will soon have a new charter. By starting a student chapter with the RMR, students and educators alike will have access to technical presentations, job fairs, discounts on ASPRS publications, and networking opportunities, and eligibility for over \$20,000 in national and regional awards, scholarships, and fellowships.

If you'd like to inquire about existing student chapters within the RMR, or to obtain a Petition Form in order to begin the process at your institution, please contact **Victoria Provenza**, Vice-President ASPRS-RMR at (303) 408-6022 or at victoria@prospatial.com.

RMR President's Message

As fall sets in and the leaves change across the country, so will the faces of leadership change for the Rocky Mountain Region (RMR) of ASPRS. Our current board of directors has nearly finished its year of service, thus bringing us to the point of reflection on who will fill open positions on the board for next year. With that in mind I'd like to challenge the RMR membership to help the current Board continue our efforts as we expand our reach and build the best region within ASPRS. For those of you interested in getting more involved please feel free to contact me at ryan@lizardtech.com, or you can provide input or ideas by contacting any of our board members at www.asprs-rmr.org/officers.html.

One of the main goals for the RMR Board of Directors is to support the GIS in the Rockies Conference held in Denver, Colorado. This year's event was held from September 12–14 at INVESCO Field at Mile High. From all indications, this was a great conference and one of the best turnouts we've had in a few years. There was great interest in the various keynote speakers and panels who were there to weigh in on the future of the remote sensing and GIS technology arenas. That, combined with a

compelling slate of speakers and presentations, led to a very successful 2007 for the GIS in the Rockies conference. ASPRS-RMR looks forward to assisting with another successful event in 2008.

We also have great news from the Student Chapter front, which is another main goal of the Board of Directors in the Rocky Mountain Region. Congratulations to the new student chapter of ASPRS at Montana State University. Kudos go to our current Vice President in charge of Student Chapter recruitment, **Victoria Provenza**, as well as everyone at Montana State who saw the value of bringing their students this opportunity within ASPRS.

One last note, on November 1, 2007, ASPRS-RMR Board of Directors made its annual scholarship announcement at the local GIS Rogues' event at the Wynkoop Brewery (details on page 1 of this newsletter). If you are a student who is studying any of the remote sensing or GIS technologies, please keep an eye on our website (www.asprs-rmr.org) for more detailed information on our scholarship program. Last year we provided multiple students with scholarships ranging from \$500–\$1,500. Feel free to throw your hat into the ring for consideration for one of our annual scholarships.

As always, I look forward to hearing from our regional members and also meeting you in person. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, or suggestions on how we can better serve as well as grow our regional membership. Have a great remainder of the fall season and we look forward to a new year with ASPRS-RMR!!

Terry Ryan

President, Rocky Mountain Region, ASPRS

Regional Director's Report

The Fall ASPRS Conference (Oct. 28–Nov. 1) in Ottawa, Canada, was an important step for the Society, reaching across the border to host a conference with our peers, the [Canadian Aeronautics and Space Institute](#) and the [Canadian Remote Sensing Society](#). The theme for the conference was "Our Common Borders—Safety, Security and the Environment through Remote Sensing." Very timely topic, indeed, and something we have wanted to do for some time.

I am pleased to announce the creation of a new student chapter for the Rocky Mountain Region at Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana. We received a set of bylaws and a request for Charter, which I took to the ASPRS Board for

approval in Ottawa. The Board approved four student chapters, including Montana State. Our thanks to **Jennifer Watts**, student chapter president, and **Dr. Rick Lawrence**, faculty adviser at MSU, plus **Victoria Provenza** of the RMR Board, who have worked diligently to get the chapter bylaws completed. Kudos to Rick, who has been serving double duty this year as a Director of the Rocky Mountain Region! By this spring, we hope to be able to announce a new chapter at the Colorado School of Mines, and we are continually looking for college faculty with whom we can work to start new chapters across the region.

The Executive Committee continues to be very busy, with a broad range of issues that affect ASPRS as a society, but typically are of interest to only a portion of the general membership.

- There is again interest from the landowner in selling the facility where the ASPRS Headquarters building is located, but I expect that will die down again due to the soft real estate market.
- We are looking at some subtle changes to *Photogrammetric Engineering & Remote Sensing (PE&RS)* to accommodate more technical papers and reduce the publication backlog, which has been gradually growing.
- Society finances continue to be very good. Headquarters had a successful independent audit early this year, on schedule.
- ASPRS has endorsed the LAS 2.0 standard, proposed by INCITS/L1 and supported by the LIDAR subcommittee. Support of emerging data standards is an important part of the ASPRS mission as we strive to improve data quality and geospatial system capabilities.

There are many more items like this, but too many to list in our newsletter. As always, I am willing to share meeting minutes or status of an issue with any member. Just give me a call!

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ASPRS-RMR Hosts LIDAR Workshop

The ASPRS RMR hosted a public outreach and education LIDAR Workshop on Tuesday, September 11, 2007, immediately preceding the GIS in the Rockies Conference at INVESCO Field. The free workshop was attended by 48 participants ranging from traditional GIS users to remote sensing experts. An introduction to LIDAR Acquisition and

Processing was presented by **Bill Emison** with Merrick & Company. **James Young** of Sanborn spoke on LIDAR applications in the private and public sector. **Clyde Hubbard** from Aero-Metric presented on the recent I-35 bridge collapse and how LIDAR is used in Emergency Management and Rapid Response Mapping. And **Victoria Provenza** of proSPATIAL and **Mike Watry** of qCoherent Software spoke about extending LIDAR beyond the digital elevation model by leveraging LIDAR data in ArcGIS.

The panel finished with an open question-and-answer session that left the audience engaged and continuing to ask questions about the newly proposed LIDAR 2.0 format. ASPRS-RMR would like to thank the sponsors of this workshop. Their support enabled us to present an educational outreach on a timely technology with no charge to our guests.

New Members

Josh Nimetz	*Steve Jay
Douglas Crebs	*Stephen Hunter
Bobby Kalra	*Pamela Pack
Jeffrey Sun	*Maureen Cassidy
Christopher Stockton	* denotes student member

News from Headquarters

The ASPRS Central Region has transferred its Francis E. "Gene" Lortz Memorial Scholarship to the ASPRS Foundation. The scholarship is fully endowed: it funds two \$1,000 awards each year from the interest earned by the fund. [...more...](#)

ASPRS President **Marguerite Madden** has appointed **Dr. Tina Cary**, Cary and Associates (Longmont, Colorado), and **Dr. Clifford Greve**, SAIC (Farnham, Virginia), to the ASPRS Foundation Board of Trustees. **Bryan J. Logan**, Fugro-EarthData International, Inc. (Frederick, Maryland) was reappointed for another term. The Board now has a total of six trustees. [...more...](#)

Photogrammetric Engineering & Remote Sensing (PE&RS) has been ranked number one in terms of cost effectiveness and citation influence in the field of Imaging Sciences & Photographic Technology; second in the field of Remote Sensing; and third in Geography-Physical, respectively, using a newly-released network-based journal ranking system developed by The University of Washington, Department of Biology. [...more...](#)

The Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) released "[A Plan for a U.S. National Land](#)

Imaging Program.” This program is designed to meet U.S. civilian moderate-resolution land imaging needs to monitor the changes in land surface, Polar Regions, and coastal zones due to the changes in population growth, development and climate changes. It establishes a program office in the Department of the Interior, reporting at the Secretary and Assistant Secretary level, to provide focused leadership and management for the nation’s land imaging efforts.

GIS in the Rockies 2007

The 20th Anniversary Celebration of the GIS in the Rockies Conference was a great success. **Jack Dangermond**, ESRI, provided the opening Keynote Address and **Geoff Zeiss**, Autodesk, provided the Closing Keynote. Both industry leaders joined **Peter Batty**, formerly of Intergraph, **Joseph Berry** of Berry & Associates, **Bill Gail** of Microsoft Virtual Earth, and **Andy Zetlan** of Oracle Corporation for an unprecedented “all star” Technology Panel addressing the history and future of spatial technologies.

ASPRS-RMR honored **Dr. Roger Hoffer** with the 20th Anniversary Career Achievement Award. Roger was selected for this award because of his significant contributions to the advancement of geospatial technologies through leadership, innovation, publication, coordination, involvement and education in the discipline of remote sensing sciences. Several of Roger’s students stopped by to congratulate and thank him for the influence he has had on their academic and professional careers.

On behalf of the RMR, it was an honor and privilege to acknowledge the dedication and commitment Roger has made to ASPRS with this prestigious award. Roger spoke about the first GIS in the Rockies Conference and how he and fellow ASPRS member, **Nancy Tubbs**, conceived the idea for the conference in Fort Collins. He was delighted to see how far the conference has advanced in 20 years. A brief bio of Roger’s accomplishments follows. Congratulations, Roger!

Career Achievement Award Goes to Roger Hoffer

Roger Hoffer is a Professor Emeritus of Forestry and Remote Sensing, Colorado State University. He received a B.S. in Forestry from Michigan State University, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Watershed Management from Colorado State University.

Following two years as an officer in the US Army, he was involved in teaching and research in remote sensing from 1964 to 1988 at Purdue University and from 1988 to 2002 at Colorado State University. His research focused on spectral characteristics of earth surface features, applications of color infrared photography, defining effective techniques for computer-aided analysis of remote sensor data, and the integration of remote sensing, GIS, and GPS technologies for the management of natural resources. He served as the Major Professor for 18 Ph.D. and 49 M.S. students during his career. Dr. Hoffer was a principal investigator on Landsat, SKYLAB, Shuttle Imaging Radar (SIR-B), and many other remote sensing projects. He has authored over 300 scientific papers on remote sensing, including presentations in over 20 countries throughout the world.

Roger served as the 1989–1990 National President of the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS), was elected a Fellow in ASPRS, and has received numerous awards from NASA, the Society of American Foresters, ASPRS, and Purdue University. He received the 1994 Distinguished Faculty Award and the 1997–1998 Honor Alumnus Award from Colorado State University.



Dr. Roger Hoffer, recipient of Career Achievement Award at GIS in the Rockies 2007.