

3 Geospatial Events Combine to Form Geo Week Jan 25-31, 2019

INTERNATIONAL LIDAR MAPPING FORUM (ILMF), ASPRS ANNUAL CONFERENCE, AND MAPPS WINTER CONFERENCE come together to form "Geo Week 2019," taking place January 25-31 in Denver. Previously, these three events took place separately throughout the year. By uniting these three events for the first time, geospatial professionals will be able to accomplish a year's worth of geospatial business in just one week!

International LiDAR Mapping Forum (ILMF)
January 28-30, 2019
LIDARMAP.org

MAPPS Winter Conference
January 25-27, 2019
MAPPS.org

ASPRS Annual Conference
January 27-31, 2019
ASPRS.org

Hyatt Regency Hotel -- Denver, Colorado

Be sure to register and make your travel reservations soon to get the best rates.

President's Message

The 2018 Trifecta

On December 5th, 2018 at the National ASPRS Region Officers' Council meeting, The Council announced that ASPRS Rocky Mountain Region won first place honors in all categories ... a Trifecta of sorts:

- Region of the Year
- Newsletter of the Year and Website of the Year

[Note that the latter two categories were awarded separately in previous years, but have recently been combined.]

These Awards are well recognized as a "Best of Breed" acknowledgement by multiple peer ASPRS Regions across America. This Award will be broadly communicated across ASPRS's membership nationwide over the coming weeks. ASPRS-RMR is known for our thought leadership among other regions. A special thanks goes out to all those who contributed to our communications and participated in GIS in the Rockies, including Sheila Pelczarski, Mike Garner, Kyoko Oyama and Jason Isherwood.

Lastly, members of the new GIS in the Rockies Board of Directors (aka Executive Committee) have been elected, and I will serve as President for 2019.

Jeff Young
jyoung@extensis.com
ASPRS Rocky Mountain Region President

Inside this Issue:

- 3.... Student Scholarship Program
- 4.... GIS in the Rockies Report
- 5.... NORAD Tracks Santa!!

National Director's Report

National ASPRS Update (Sept. to December)

Summary Notes:

- Individual membership renewals appear to be on the rise.
- Continuing to make efforts to streamline the production of PE&RS
- Content for the Manual of Remote Sensing v.4 has been received from the editors and the final production of the electronic book can begin
 - ASPRS publications are now available on Amazon.
- A special ASPRS Board of Directors meeting was scheduled December 10 to cover two items of business:
 - The adoption of the 2019 budget
 - Proposed contract with an Association Management firm to take over many of the day-to-day activities, such as IT and the IMIS database, that ASPRS has utilized consultants for in the past.
 -) This selection occurred after receiving responses from an RFP distributed to assist in the management of ASPRS.
 -) A special board meeting was called on Nov 19 to discuss and ratify the agreement between ASPRS and the selected firm.
- Region Loans – current plan is to repay region loans to National in January. Repayment based on payment received from NASA for the most recent Pecora Conference.
- Subscription renewals are trending upwards, allowing for further replenishment of all ASPRS funds.
- Rising Star Program Announced in September - risingstar@asprs.org
 - Three Rising Stars have been identified: two from Woolpert, one from Merrick.
 - Clarification that the selection of a Rising Star candidate and expectations following sponsorship are up the individual Regions.
 - RMR has indicated interest in participating in the Rising Star program

Rocky Mountain Compiler

- Regions interested in participating should contact Becky Morton using email address above.
- Continuing to build awareness of the program via Social Media postings
- Region Awards Announced on Dec 5th -- RMR won 1st place in all 3 categories (Newsletter and Website are now combined into one award).
 - Region of the Year:
 -) 1st Place – Rocky Mountain
 -) 2nd Place – Pacific Southwest
 -) 3rd Place – Potomac
 - Region Website and Newsletter of the Year:
 -) 1st Place – Rocky Mountain
 -) 2nd Place – Pacific Southwest
 -) 3rd Place – Potomac
- Region Representative Selection Process
 - All regions had to report to the Regional Officers Council on the methods used to select representatives.
 -) RMR provided necessary information on how we select our representatives
- Annual ASPRS Conference will be held January 2019 in Denver
 - Held in conjunction with “Geo Week” which includes ILMF and MAPPS conferences, along with ASPRS.

Terry Ryan
 ASPRS-RMR National Director
tryan@extensis.com

GeoBytes

In addition to the ASPRS Webinars, our organization also offers free online seminars presented by ASPRS and sponsored by the ASPRS GIS Division, in cooperation with AAGS and CaGIS.

Attention those seeking ASPRS Certification: ASPRS Online Seminars are a great way to gain Professional Development Hours! [Click here to learn more](#)

Student Scholarship Program

In its continuing efforts to support and build awareness for the Remote Sensing and GIS / Geospatial Sciences, the Rocky Mountain Region of ASPRS is proud to announce its academic scholarship program for 2018-2019. The ASPRS-RMR offers scholarships to deserving undergraduate and graduate students every year. There will be at least one scholarship awarded (assuming sufficient applications are received) in the range of at least \$500 to \$1,000 each, depending on level of study (Bachelor's, Master's or Ph.D.).

The scholarships are intended for students throughout the Rocky Mountain Region (Montana, Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico) who demonstrate excellence while pursuing careers in the fields of Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing, and 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 encouraged to apply. Awards will be presented sometime in early 2019.

Preference will be given to those studies that apply sound scientific principles to practical applications in the geospatial sciences (including photogrammetry, remote sensing, Geographic Information Systems, and related disciplines). Awards at both the undergraduate and the graduate levels are based on academic merit; that is, the application form does not request any personal financial data.

Student membership in ASPRS is not required to apply, but if selected, membership is required at time of scholarship award.

You can download the application from the "Newsletters" page at <http://www.asprs-rmr.org>

For more information or if you have questions, send an email to news@asprs-rmr.org

Applications should be submitted by the February 3, 2019 deadline.

(Be sure to follow submittal instructions on the bottom of the application.)



Dear ASPRS RMR,

My sincere thanks for the scholarship that you awarded this year. This is a great honor and well-deserved recognition for my academic achievements during a semester of applied geospatial science and technology. I am grateful to you for your support and for the opportunity to pursue a career in the geospatial field and to be able to attend a world-class conference in the field of natural resources. My thesis project will focus on remote sensing and geospatial data for the study of natural resources and will provide important information to support of forest management. It is my pleasure to be awarded this scholarship and to be recognized for my academic achievements.

I also want to use this opportunity to express my gratitude for your membership of \$100 of the membership fee for students like myself who join the ASPRS national organization. As a student member, you have helped me to gain a better understanding of the organization and its membership fee. ASPRS is a great benefit.

Once again, thank you for your support and financial assistance in providing this great opportunity. I am excited to receive the award and to be truly supported.

Sincerely,
Garnold Sierra-Arroyo

Call for Rocky Mountain Region Board Nominations

The Rocky Mountain Region Board is taking nominations for open positions on the Board of Directors, including Regional Director for the GIS in the Rockies Conference Planning Committee, and other Regional Directors. Serving on the Board is a great way to network and earn credit toward Professional Certification or Certification Renewal. Please contact any Board member via www.asprs-rmr.org or email us at news@asprs-rmr.org if you are interested. Nominations will be accepted until midnight (Mountain Time) Thursday, January 31st.

Ask yourself: Isn't it time I got involved???

Welcome New Members!!

Kevin Bentler
 Daniel Foley
 Yaneev Golombek
 Collin Hutcheson
 Khandaker I. Islam
 Quinsen David Joel
 Alex Moyes
 Corey Ochsmann
 D. Jason Rhodes
 Adam Stern
 Jesse Lee Weatherly
 Scott Ytzen

ASPRS/ILMF Denver 2019 Volunteer Opportunities

Interested in volunteering for the Denver 2019 ILMF/ASPRS Conference? For more information and to apply, [click here](#).

Stay tuned for upcoming Technical Tours and Social Events! Check out new professional opportunities and upcoming events on the Rocky Mountain Region [Website](#) ...

Student Rebate Offer

ASPRS Rocky Mountain Region will reimburse \$25 of the \$50 cost of student membership, so your net cost is only \$25 for all the benefits of membership in the Society!

Download the Student Membership Rebate Form at <http://www.asprs-rmr.org> (on the Student Chapters page). Here's the best part: This offer from the Region is good for every year you are a full-time student!

GIS in the Rockies Report

GIS in the Rockies is a collaboration of four professional societies: ASPRS-RMR, GIS Colorado (GISCO), The Professional Land Surveyors of Colorado (PLSC), and the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA) Rocky Mountain Chapter. The conference began on Tuesday, September 18th with several pre-conference Workshops. Our own Dr. Ramesh Sivanpillai, ASPRS-RMR Regional Director, Manager of the WyomingView Program, and Senior Research Scientist at the Wyoming Geographic Information Science Center (WYGISC) at the University of Wyoming, presented an "Introduction to Landsat Data Collections." Workshops were also given on the following topics: Working with SQL Spatial in PostGIS with QGIS Visualization, Advanced OpenStreetMap, Introduction to Developing Mapping Apps with JavaScript, Hands On: Building Effective Web Apps Using ArcGIS, Going Paperless with Survey123 for Data Collection and Inspections, Coordinate Systems and Projections: Grid vs. Ground, and Finding the Hidden Asset: GIS / AR Hands-on Workshop.

This was the 31st year for GIS in the Rockies: Premier Geospatial Conference of the Rocky Mountain West with over 500 attendees! It was held September 18-21 at the Hilton Denver Inverness near Centennial Airport, a nice facility with adequate meeting rooms and a well-lit hallway for exhibitors. A light and airy greenhouse-type room called "Upper Mountain View" was used for the Poster Session (32 submitted, up from 24 last year) as well as for lunches and breaks. The Wednesday evening Social Event continued a longstanding tradition, with the now infamous Dave Watson of

Boulder County conducting his "Geography Quiz." The questions, as always, were quite challenging. There were several drawing winners, and the Grand Prize winner took home a DJI Drone offered up by Platinum Sponsor CompassDrone (part of the OneCompass family of companies with CompassCom, CompassData, CompassTools). Both conference days, CompassTools and CompassDrone gave ongoing demos of their drones and data collection tools out on the patio.

The Opening Plenary Speech on Wednesday morning was delivered by [Saila Hanninen](#), who leads partnership efforts for [Waze](#) in the Rocky Mountain region. The second-day Lunch Keynote speaker was [Cory Reppenhagen](#), meteorologist and journalist at [9News](#) Colorado (KUSA-TV). Both speeches were very interesting and informative.

Technical sessions were held on Wednesday and Thursday and, as always, each of the sponsoring societies had a dedicated track. GIS in Conservation, GIS in Development, GIS in Government, GIS in Education, Big Data (ASPRS-RMR), GIS in Business, Surveying (PLSC), and Vendor Showcase were part of the mix. National Geographic's Giant Map of Colorado and the Career Development Academy were also highlights of this year's conference program.

Post-conference Tours were held on Friday at an eclectic collection of local attractions: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), a Hard Rock Mining Tour, including the Nederland Mining Museum with visits to some relic mining sites, and Laws Whiskey Distillery.

This conference would not happen without all the volunteers who work many hours to pull it together. ASPRS-RMR President Jeff Young and Vice-President Mike Tuffly served on the Conference Board of Directors (aka Executive Committee). Regional Directors Kyoko Oyama and Jason Isherwood served on the conference Planning Committee. The ASPRS-RMR exhibit table was alternately staffed by Jeff Young, Mike Tuffly, Terry Ryan, and Communications Coordinator Sheila Pelczarski. Many thanks to these and all the additional volunteers from the other societies who contributed to another successful GIS in the Rockies!!

ASPRS on LinkedIn

Be sure to check out the active ASPRS Group on LinkedIn! There you can find discussion topics, the latest geospatial news, and more!
[Click here to join](#)

NORAD Tracks Santa!!

Press Release 18.11.004 // November 30, 2018

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colorado – The North American Aerospace Defense Command is celebrating its 60th anniversary of defending the homeland along with its tradition of tracking Santa's journey around the globe on Dec. 24.

"In addition to our day-to-day mission of defending North America, we are proud to carry on the tradition of tracking Santa as he travels along his yuletide flight," said Gen. Terrence O'Shaughnessy, commander NORAD and U.S. Northern Command. "The same radars, satellites and interceptors employed on December 24 are used year-round to protect Canada and the United States."

NORAD is a binational U.S. and Canadian Command charged with aerospace and maritime warning and aerospace control of North America as well as monitoring aerospace activity globally. However, every year during the holidays, NORAD assumes the supplementary mission of tracking Santa as he travels around the world. It all started in 1955 when a local ad directed children to call Santa direct – only the number was misdialed. Instead of reaching Santa, the phone rang through to the crew commander on duty at the Continental Air Defense Command Operations Center, the predecessor to NORAD.

Now, the 63rd iteration of NORAD Tracks Santa kicks off Dec. 1, with a revamped website, social media channels, "Santa Cam" streaming video and a call center that will be operating around the clock on Dec. 24. More than 1,400 volunteers are expected to join NORAD on Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs to help track Santa's journey.

NORAD Tracks Santa is truly a global experience, delighting generations of families everywhere. This is due, in large part, to the efforts and services of numerous program contributors.

This year's contributors include: the 21st Space Wing, Acuity Scheduling, Adobe, Alaska NORAD Region, Analytical Graphics, Inc., Agingo, Amazon Alexa, Avaya, Bing®, Canadian NORAD Region, Canadian Forces Museum of Aerospace Defence, CenturyLink, Cesium, Cherry Hill Programs, The Citadel Mall, Civil Air Patrol, Christmas in the Park, Colorado Springs Chamber & Economic Development Corporation, Continental NORAD Region, CradlePoint, Defense Video & Imagery Distribution Systems, DoD News, DoD Education Activity, The Elf on the Shelf, Getty Images, Globelink Foreign Language Center, Hewlett Packard, Historic Arkansas Riverwalk of Pueblo, Kids.gov, Lockheed Martin, Marine Toys for Tots Foundation, Microsoft®, Microsoft Azure, Naden Band of Maritime Forces Pacific, Newsline360, Office Depot®, OnStar, Plantronics, Portable North Pole, Prefixa, Proactive, S4, SiriusXM®, Space Foundation, Strategic Air Command & Aerospace Museum, U.S. Air Force Band, U.S. Air Force Academy Band, U.S. Department of State Family Liaison Office, U.S. Olympic Committee, and Verizon.

The NORAD Tracks Santa website can be found at www.noradsanta.org. On Dec. 24, users may call or text 1-877-HiNORAD for Santa's up-to-date location.

The defense of Canada and the United States is NORAD's top priority. NORAD is on alert around the clock, every day. For 60 years, NORAD aircraft have identified and intercepted aircraft in the execution of NORAD's North American air sovereignty and air defense missions. Because NORAD is a binational command, our responses do not distinguish between the two nations and draw on forces from both countries.

Additional NORAD Tracks Santa details:

Starting at 2:01 a.m. EST on Dec. 24, website visitors can watch Santa make preparations for his flight. NORAD's "Santa Cams" will stream videos on the website as Santa makes his way over various locations. Then, at 6 a.m. EST, trackers worldwide can speak with a live phone operator to inquire as to Santa's whereabouts by dialing the toll-free number 1-877-Hi-NORAD (1-877-446-6723), you can also

text this number for automatic updates [standard data rates apply for non-Verizon customers]; by sending an email to noradtrackssanta@outlook.com or by following the official NORAD Tracks Santa social media channels. Additionally, any time on Dec. 24, Amazon Alexa users can ask for Santa's location through the NORAD Tracks Santa skill for Amazon Alexa, and OnStar members can push the blue OnStar button in their vehicles to locate Santa. Bing users can also find Santa's location on Dec. 24.

Featuring Santa's North Pole Village, the website includes a holiday countdown, games, activities, information regarding NORAD's mission of Homeland Defense, and more. The website is available in eight languages: English, French, Spanish, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese and Chinese. Tracking opportunities are also offered through social media on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram.

Public signups to work in the NORAD Tracks Santa operations center and receive calls from children around the world are currently ongoing. Anyone interested in volunteering to take calls must be older than 15 years of age and be able to travel to Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs, Colo. on Dec. 24. Interested individuals can sign up until Dec. 12 at: <https://2018SantaTrackerVolunteer.as.me>

Contact Us!

All ASPRS Regions now have our own ASPRS.ORG email addresses. Should you ever want to reach out to the Rocky Mountain Region, send an email to rockymountainregion@asprs.org or to news@asprs-rmr.org. We welcome suggestions for content and stories for our quarterly newsletter!

Our region's website can be [accessed here](#).
