



POTOMAC PERSPECTIVES

SUMMER 2011 E-NEWSLETTER

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MESSAGE FROM THE REGION PRESIDENT

Chris Parrish, PhD, 2011 ASPRS Potomac Region President

Dear ASPRS Potomac Region Members – welcome to our first e-Newsletter! We’re experimenting with this new electronic version as a means of getting information out to our membership in a more expedient, environmentally-friendly manner.

The Spring and early Summer have been extremely busy! First, the Region and our members received several awards at the ASPRS Annual Conference in Milwaukee. Since returning from the National conference, we’ve been planning upcoming events right here in our region, including a free Tech Tour at commercial satellite imagery company, GeoEye, on August 26th (note: previous tours at GeoEye have filled up almost immediately), and our annual GeoTech conference on October 12-13. We’ve also been gathering information on a proposed initiative regarding licensure of photogrammetrists in Maryland, so that we can keep you informed. More details on all of these items are below, so please read on...



GEO TECH 2011

John Manzer, 2011 ASPRS Potomac Region Vice President

This annual conference goes back to 1997, and this year is returning to *the NOAA Auditorium and Science Center, Silver Spring MD*. One of the few times that the general public becomes fully aware of the power and importance of remote sensing and related geospatial data, tools, and analysis is in emergency situations. Forest fires, hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, oil spills, and other human-induced and natural disasters are just a few examples of situations in which our data, products, and derived information are critical. First responders need timely information on the nature, extent, and effects of disasters; residents of affected areas need evacuation and other information; and policymakers need information on the human, property, environmental, and infrastructural impacts. Typically, remote sensing provides the only means of providing the required information in a timely manner—especially when ground access to disaster sites is limited and/or the spatial extents of the affected areas are large.

Geospatial data, tools, and analysis are equally critical in emergency preparedness. The ability to generate baseline data sets (e.g., pre-hurricane imagery), plan evacuation routes, and model possible impacts of storms and other events before they occur can save lives, money, and time in the event of an actual emergency.

GeoTech 2011, to be held on October 12-13 in the NOAA Science Center and Auditorium, will explore these and related topics. Cloud computing is an identified subtheme that will be another important focus of the conference. We are also honored to have two distinguished keynote speakers, Lawrie Jordan, Director of Imagery, ESRI, and Roberta (Bobbi) Lenczowski, ASPRS President-Elect.

Early registration closes August 31. For more information,
<http://www.asprspotomac.org/geotech2011/index.html>

GEOEYE TECH TOUR

Robert Black, 2011 ASPRS Potomac Region Director

The Potomac Region of the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing is pleased to announce a Technical tour that is taking place at GeoEye. The tour is scheduled for August 26, 2011 at GeoEye facilities (2325 Dulles Corner Blvd, Herndon VA 20171).

Registration is required for this tour, and is available at

<http://www.regonline.com/Register/Checkin.aspx?EventID=995025>. Please contact Robert Black, ASPRS Potomac Region Director and Principal Ground Segment Engineer for GeoEye at black.robert@geoeye.com or 703-480-4642 with questions.



MARYLAND CONSIDERING LICENSURE OF PHOTOGRAMMETRISTS

Jim Cannistra, CP, GISP, Director of Data Planning Services, Maryland Dept. of Planning

The State of Maryland is considering implementing a licensure process for Photogrammetrists. The Maryland State Department of Labor and Licensing (DLRR), Board for Professional Land Surveyors posed to the Maryland Society of Surveyors the following question: ***“Does the Society believe Photogrammetrists should be licensed and regulated by the State of Maryland?”***. In response to that question the Society of Surveyors recommended that Photogrammetrists be licensed and regulated by the State of Maryland, only under the following conditions:

- Photogrammetrists should be licensed under the Board for Professional Land Surveyors.
- There should be a separate license called “Professional Photogrammetric Surveyor”.
- The Annotated Code of Maryland, shall be amended to add a Professional Photogrammetric Surveyor to the Board of Registration for Professional Land Surveyors
- The Code of Maryland (COMAR) shall be amended, where applicable, to include provisions for the licensure of a “Professional Photogrammetric Surveyor.”
- The Code of Maryland shall be amended to include Minimum Standards for the practice of Photogrammetry.
- Grandfathering of Photogrammetric Surveyors be allowed for a period of one year, and follow the same basic guidelines as established and employed by the Commonwealth of Virginia in 2008-2009, to be modified by the Board, as they see fit, to adhere and be consistent with the Maryland Regulations.

As a follow-up to the society’s recommendations, the State convened a Maryland Board’s Licensing of Photogrammetrists Committee. Meetings of the Committee were held in May and June of 2011 and were attended by private photogrammetric firms doing business in Maryland and Virginia, State GIS and mapping professionals, Maryland Society of Surveyor representative, as well as MAPPS, and ASPRS. A number of issues were discussed at the meetings including other state’s experiences, professional impacts, MAPPS and ASPRS’s positions and concerns, current registration requirements, parameters for implementation, and the need/desire/way to implement this program. Wide ranging discussions were held at each meeting.

Currently the Committee is “on hold” pending further discussions/decisions by the full Board itself on whether or not to proceed further. Meeting minutes for the DLRR Board for Professional Land Surveyors can be found at <http://www.dllr.state.md.us/license/min/lsmmin.shtml>.

POTOMAC REGION HONORED WITH ASPRS ANNUAL AWARDS

Yogen Singh, ASPRS Potomac Region Historian

ALAN STEVENS HONORED AS HONORARY MEMBER

Alan Stevens was honored with the Honorary Member Award by the Society. This is the highest recognition of the Society as the awardees are limited to only 25 living members at any given time.

Al Stevens is an exceptional person with wide ranging accomplishments throughout his professional career. He has been the International Program Manager (Retired) for the U.S. Federal Geodetic Data Committee and the USGS Geospatial Information Office. He currently works as a Scientist Emeritus for the FGDC and as a part of the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Secretariat. Al also initiated and manages GSDI Small Grants Program and monthly GSDI electronic newsletters for the four regions of the globe: Africa, Asia/Pacific, Latin America, and Europe. Before retiring, Al served in several key appointments in the USGS: International Manager for the National Mapping Division, Deputy Director, the CEO, and the Operations Manager (three different offices) for the NMD Eastern Region. Al holds Bachelors, Masters, and PhD degrees in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Wisconsin. He is ASPRS Emeritus member and Fellow and is a member since 1968. He is also a Past President, Chair of the ASPRS Awards and the Fellow Award Selection Committees, and is currently a Trustee of the ASPRS Foundation.

Al with wife Karen lives in Reston, Fairfax County, Virginia. The Potomac Region proudly congratulates Al and Karen Stevens.



PICTURE 1: Alan R. Stevens & Karen Stevens

ASPRS REGION OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Yogen Singh, ASPRS Potomac Region Historian

At the ASPRS Annual Conference in Milwaukee, the Potomac Region won the Region of the Year: Second Honorable Mention for 2010. Dr. Christopher Parrish, President, Potomac Region received the Award. Potomac Region PR Board members and the Society.



PICTURE 2: FROM LEFT: CHRIS MCGLONE, CHRIS PARRISH, YOGEN SINGH



PICTURE 3: COMMANDER ERIC BERKOWITZ, NOAA, NGS, YOGEN SINGH DISPLAY POTOMAC REGION AWARD

ASPRS FORD BARTLETT AWARDS

Yogen Singh, ASPRS Potomac Region Historian

This year's recipients of the ASPRS Foundation Ford Bartlett Award included: Karen Schuckman, Past President ASPRS and Advisor Gilbert Hobrough Student Forum at the Penn State; Dr. Tim Warner, Chair Geographic Department and Advisor Al Quinn Student Forum at the West Virginia University. Karen Schuckman was also recipient of the ASPRS Outstanding Services Award.

The Potomac Region proudly congratulates both Karen and Tim for their outstanding leadership.



POTOMAC REGION SPONSORED STUDENT FORUM/CHAPTER AWARDS PROGRAM

Yogen Singh, ASPRS Potomac Region Historian

The Potomac Region's (PR) proposed new approach for outreach to the students at the academia was highlighted before the Society Awards Committee as well as the ASPRS Foundation urging adoption of the concept appropriately as a way to build stronger foundation and gradual expansion as a long term strategy. The PR is taking a unique approach to its Student Chapter and Forum program, which is proving successful. The presentation shared our experience, the particulars of the four forums currently in operation and procedures and documentation associated with the program. The presentation summarized the forums concept, origin and background which motivated the development and implementation of the program in collaboration and great support from the academia. The advisors of the Chapter and Forums program have done excellent work in overseeing the tremendous success.

Student Chapters and Forums

With the establishment of Potomac Region sponsored Student Forum Awards program at four eminent Universities, the Region has embarked upon a unique, proactive, and innovative program within academia to 'aggressively outreach to the student community' as a long range vision and strategy to address continued decline in the Society membership. We believe it is a promising potent tool. Between the fall of 2008 and fall 2010, PR has established following four student forums:

- a. The Frederick Doyle Potomac Region Chapter & Student Forum – the George Mason University (VA)
(Advisor/Coordinator: Dr. Anthony Stefanidis)
- b. The Scott Reading Potomac Region Student Forum- the Virginia Tech
(Advisor/Coordinator: Dr. James Campbell)
- c. The Alfred O. Quinn Potomac Region Student Forum – the University of West Virginia (WV)
(Advisor/Coordinator: Dr. Tim Warner)
- d. The Gilbert Hobrough Potomac Region Student Forum – the Pennsylvania State University (PA)
(Advisor/Coordinator: Karen Schuckman, Past ASPRS President)

Potomac Region's Forum Awards concept is based on a simple idea to maximize outreach to students from any department that shows interest in learning about our Society activities. There are two unique aspects of the PR Forum Awards:



(1) The Student Forum Awards are established in the name of an eminent distinguished member, past or present, from the Region who has made exceptional professional contribution and service to the Society. This provides a great incentive to students who could use the award membership and distinguished member's name in their resume.

(2) The Award consists of up to ten one year Region paid Student Memberships in the Society to each selected student who has never been a student member from any discipline or department.

The full program details will be on the Region website. In the future newsletters we shall highlight biographies of each Forum & Chapter honorees whose names are associated with each award.

POTOMAC REGION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President: Dr. Christopher Parrish
- Vice President: Mr. John Manzer
- Past President: Dr. Peter Doucette
- Secretary/Treasurer: Dr. Allan Falconer
- National Director: Dr. Barbara Eckstein
- North Carolina Chapter President: Mr. Luiz Cortes
- Region Director (2011-2013): Mr. Robert Black
- Region Director (2009-2011) & Membership Chair: Dr. Anthony Stefanidis
- Region Director (2010-2012) & Summer 2011 Newsletter Editor: Mr. Joshua Sisskind
- Historian: Mr. Yogendra P. Singh
- Technical Committee Chair: Dr. J. Chris McGlone, CP