



American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing

Potomac Region

THE IMAGING AND GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION SOCIETY

June 2019 Newsletter

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Upcoming Events in the Region

TUgis: Maryland's Geospatial Conference | August 7-8, 2019 | Towson University, Towson, MD

More information: <https://tugisconference.com/>

North Carolina ArcGIS Users Group (NCAUG) Fall Conference | 18-20 Sept 2019 | Wilmington, NC

More information: <https://www.ncaug.com/conference>

Pecora 21 · ISRSE 38 | 6-11 October 2019 | Baltimore, MD

More Information: <https://pecora.asprs.org/>

Potomac Region Annual Dinner

The Potomac Region's Annual Meeting and Dinner was held Tuesday, 5 March 2019 at Founding Farmers in Reston, Virginia. The event was attended by 31 people and included presentations, book raffles, and installation of elected Region officers.

Incoming Region President Ms. Jackie Carr presented a State of The Region address to inform attendees about recent Region accomplishments and plans for the future under her leadership. This next year will focus on making and renewing connections, investing in the future, and renewed coordination with academia. Mr. Brian Bates and Mr. Daniel Cisek presented topics related to the geospatial data and studies in the polar regions: a public/private collaboration to create high-resolution topographic models of the Arctic region and the entire continent of Antarctica as well as examples of research using this publicly available resource.

Geospatial professionals, students, and Potomac Region officers attended the event. The Annual Meeting and Dinner is an opportunity for camaraderie, networking, and learning about the Potomac Region and its geospatial industry. Join us for the next Annual Meeting and Dinner in early 2020!



Potomac Region 2019 Board officers present: From left, Michael Paquette, Region Director; Yogendra Singh, Historian; David Lasko, Vice President; Jackie Carr, President; Kevin Dobbs, Region Director; Evan Brown, Region Officers Council Representative.

NCASPRS/NCAUG Coordinated Symposium – “Remote Sensing 101”

North Carolina ASPRS rebooted its endeavors in February, 2018, as we worked to build committees, Student Chapter relationships, as well as a format for how NC would operate over the next several years. NC determined that working with other organizations that are using the technologies in which ASPRS specializes would be a primary goal. NC ASPRS is currently working with the North Carolina



ArcGIS Users Group (NCAUG) to coordinate efforts in sharing information and learning from one another. On May 17th we held a coordinated Event at East Carolina University in Greenville, NC. This is a symposium that NCAUG normally holds and they were kind enough to let us participate in their event. There were a set of presentations on remote sensing applications or projects followed by presentations on the technical specifications that apply to those technologies. These included: Lidar from ESP Associates, and NCEM; UAS projects with NC A&T and Stewart Engineering with technical specs covered by UNC Charlotte; DEMS with NCEM and Wood E&IS with specs covered by NCEM; Imagery from NOAA and CGIA with technical covered by SO-DEEP/SAM. With 55 people in attendance at the Joyner Library and lunch provided for all attendees it was a wonderful event. It is the intent of NC ASPRS to work closely with NCAUG for their Fall Conference September 18th--20th and to present a set of technical sessions as well as a workshop before the conference. We are also coordinating with the Society of Surveyors, Property Mappers, and CURISA, as well as many Potomac Region universities. Our goal is to work with these groups to bring the specifications to those who are using the data. We look forward to working more with North Carolina and the Potomac Region in the future.

Student Chapter Highlights

The Potomac Region is honored to support Student Chapters at a number of academic institutions throughout the region. At the 2019 Annual meeting we had the opportunity to hear from our George Mason University and James Madison University Student Chapters. This newsletter gives us the opportunity to highlight West Virginia University chapter activities. Outgoing Student Chapter President, Brandyn Balch, provided the following update on West Virginia University Student Chapter activities.

WVU Remote Sensing Club/ASPRS Student Chapter

The WVU Remote Sensing Club/ASPRS Student Chapter is a small but passionate group of graduate and undergraduate students, excited to be a part of the ASPRS Potomac Region. Our mission is to kindle discussion, support, education, volunteerism, and career advancement opportunities in the field of remote sensing. Our Facebook page is at <https://www.facebook.com/WVURemoteSensingClub>

Our major accomplishment this year was to be officially recognized by the university. Our first event was to host a lecture by Dr. Paul Kinder on UAS remote sensing in natural resource management. We discussed several different approaches and applications, as well as FAA compliance and how to become a certified UAS pilot. We have also collectively been learning about the game-changing emergence of cloud computing. Through online webinars and tutorials, we are familiarizing ourselves with Google Earth Engine.

Our ideas for the future include volunteer humanitarian mapping via Hot OSM in conjunction with YouthMappers; collaboration with GIS courses at WVU to get novice users excited about how remote sensing can complement their projects; and lightning talks from graduate students to discuss how remote sensing is informing their research.

Annual AmericaView Consortium Meeting Held in Reston, Va.



2019 Annual AmericaView Consortium participants

Over 50 Remote sensing professionals representing nearly every state in the US recently convened in Reston, VA for the AmericaView Annual Business Meeting. AmericaView is a national network of state-level consortia (referred to as StateViews) led by 39 universities that focus on supporting education, outreach, applied research, and technology transfer for remote sensing to state, local, and federal stakeholders within their state. AmericaView, whose primary sponsor has been the USGS for over 15 years, plays a unique and invaluable role in amplifying the utility of remote sensing data and applications at the state and local level and communicating its value to a broad audience. The annual Reston meeting serves to keep the national network strong and connected, share highlights of past and future StateView activities, enable exchanges with USGS leadership and scientists, and plan the year ahead.

Although AmericaView promotes the use of remotely sensed data broadly, Landsat data has long been a key sensor series for many StateView activities. At this year's meeting StateView representatives engaged with USGS Land Remote Sensing Program leadership to provide direct feedback on the states' experiences with these data within their consortium and gain insights into current activities and future plans for the program. The group also heard from a panel of invited speakers (Tim Newman (USGS), Mark Carpenter (AGI), Jim Irons (NASA), and Jeff Masek (NASA)) on the topic of "No-cost Landsat Data: Accomplishments,

Opportunities and Challenges” and held a UAS workshop to discuss new regulations, cloud computing and analytics, best practices, and more.

Geospatial technology education for K-12 is a focus of many StateView activities. DelawareView’s Tracy DeLiberty and Mary Schorse shared their experience and expertise on “Building Knowledge and Interest in Geospatial Technologies” during a session on K-12 Outreach: Tricks of the Trade, along with counterparts from Texas and South Dakota, who focused on K-12 teacher training outreach and the use of remote sensing in museum exhibits, respectively. A session on [Globe Observer](#), led by Ken Boykin of NewMexicoView, provided attendees up-to-date training on the use of this citizen science tool used by teachers, students, and citizens around the world as way to link ground observations with remotely sensed research.

Though many other topics were covered, including water resources and the Geospatial Data Act, the role that AmericaView plays in disaster response was prominently featured as the focus of sessions entitled “AmericaView Disaster Response Activities,” “International Charter Activities,” and “Natural Disaster Response: Workforce Training.” StateViews work with local, state, and federal stakeholders and play a critical role in remote sensing data collection, communication, and derivative production during times of crisis.

More information on StateViews consortia within the ASPRS Potomac Region can be found here:

[PennsylvaniaView](#), Tom Mueller, Mueller@calu.edu

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Region Business Update: Revision to the Potomac Region Bylaws

In April 2019 the Board of Directors voted to accept an amendment to Article VII Committees of the Potomac Region Bylaws. The amendment simplifies the guidance on committees and reduces the number of standing named committees to allow more flexibility for the board to adjust and flex with needs of region membership. The revision now lists only three standing committees: Nominating Committee, responsible for the support of board officer elections; Technical Program Committee, responsible for planning and managing Region technical events; and Communications and Publications Committee, responsible for member communications such as the newsletter, website and social media. Special committees and working groups may be appointed as necessary and can be disbanded when the requirements for such a committee or working group no longer exists. Currently, in addition to the three mentioned Standing Committees, the Potomac Region Board has three active Special Committees: Student Chapter and University Programs Committee, Professional Certification and Career Advancement Committee, and Awards Committee.

Region Business Update: Highlights from Social Media

In 2019 as part of our goal to make and renew connections, the Potomac Region is increasing its use of social media starting with Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/asprspotomac/>. In addition to reminders about national and regional events, you'll also find shared articles on all topics geospatial. Here are a few examples from the last two months:

Ditch the GPS. It's ruining your brain. Brain behavior changes when people rely on turn-by-turn directions. An article from the WashingtonPost.com.

People Map of the US. A map listing famous people from each city from The Pudding.

Right to Light. A form of easement in English Law which protects levels of natural illumination for long-standing building owners. An interesting form of property protection and survey need from Wikipedia.

D-Day Journeys: VHP's Newest Online Exhibit and Story Map from the Veterans History Project, Library of Congress. The story map traces the route of several GIs before, during, and after D-Day.

To catch up on these posts and others, visit and follow the Potomac Region Facebook page.

ASPRS Rising Star Program

Remember that ASPRS has established a program to highlight contributions to helping young professionals get involved ASPRS in a meaningful way. ASPRS literature describes the program:

The ASPRS Rising Star program is focused on mentorship of tomorrow's leaders within ASPRS and the geospatial and remote sensing community. Rising Stars are defined as early career professionals within the first ten years of their geospatial careers who are selected for sponsorship within the program. Geospatial companies, agencies, and ASPRS regions can all benefit by participating in the program through the advancement and professional development of their employees or associates through the process of sponsorship. Sponsorship involves a one-year commitment to pay for ASPRS membership of the Rising Star and travel expenses to cover the costs of the Rising Star's participation in the ASPRS Annual Conference. Sponsors will benefit from marketing opportunities through feature articles in PE&RS acknowledging their contributions. Rising Stars will be given opportunities to participate in technical division work as well as collaborate and develop leadership skills among their peers within the Early Career Professionals Council. For more information go to www.asprs.org/rising-star-program.