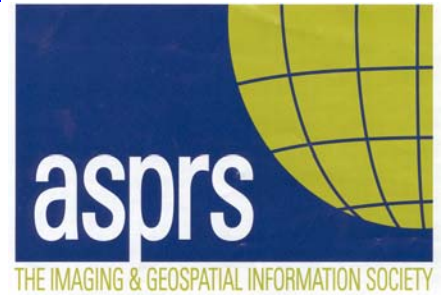

Wavelengths

Columbia River Region



<http://www.asprs.org/ColumbiaRiver>

Volume 2003:2 — July 2003

2003 is proving to be another successful year President's Letter by Chris Aldridge

The first half of every year is always busy, and 2003 has been no exception.

Both our regional and national conferences are held in spring, and the Columbia River Region has been busy planning the events for the second half of the year.

The first thing I want to do is to welcome the newest of our members, the Portland State University student chapter. The establishment of this chapter is actually in progress and will be completed this summer. I'd like to extend a special thanks to Mike Emch of PSU, who is the faculty advisor for the new chapter. Mike's specialty is remote sensing, and I'm very happy to know we are adding him to our number of "remote sensors."

The addition of the PSU chapter also boosts the CRR and National membership by ten students. I can't stress how important this is. One of the more talked about topics at the national meeting in Alaska was the steady decline of membership nationwide. Please don't misunderstand; we are not seeing a mass exodus from ASPRS. Instead we are seeing the natural attrition associated with retirements, and a lack of new blood from the mapping community. It is imperative that we increase our exposure to the incoming members and students associated with the mapping sciences of GIS, Remote Sensing, Photogrammetry, and Surveying. I still urge every active member to try and recruit ONE new member this year.

GIS in Action 2003 was another tremendous success. This is actually quite an achievement given the difficult economic climate in which we find ourselves. I want to extend a special thanks to Brian Miyake, our current secretary-treasurer, who chaired this year's conference. Brian's investment of time and diligence in managing the different committees paid off. Anyone who has ever attempted to coordinate a multi-jurisdictional meeting will surely agree that the chairman's job is a difficult and thankless task.

I also want to thank Roger Crystal for chairing the registration committee, Doug Smith for handling all of the exhibits, and all of the other ASPRS members who worked hard with their URISA counterparts to ensure a successful meeting.

The National conference was held in Alaska this year, and was represented by Mike Renslow and Roger Crystal on the national level, Tom Pagh, Bob Harmon, and Myself on the regional level, and Vince Sandor of the Bureau of Environmental Services, who presented a pair of excellent papers on remote sensing.

I learned that as a region we are financially healthier than all but one other region, but we are a little lethargic on participation from our members. Yes that is all of you. I'm hoping that we can change that in the coming months.

The CRR also sponsored the recent meeting of the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing's workgroups on LIDAR and IFSAR, held in Portland in June. This meeting was another successful venture for CRR and added our exposure to an international level.

The next six months promise to be busy ones for the CRR. We will be hosting our annual technical exchange with the Puget Sound Region in October. Following the success of the two national workshops that we hosted last year, we are going to host the "Preparing for ASPRS Certification" Workshop in August.

We are closely monitoring the progress of the survey law in Oregon, as well as nationally and we are planning at least one more technical meeting for the second half of the year. Many ideas are being floated around to get us all a little more involved with the society and each other.

I'm looking forward to the second half of 2003. I hope that all of you are too.

ASPRS- Alaska 2003: The coming of age of digital cameras by Chris Aldridge

This year's spring national meeting was held in Anchorage, Alaska. I, along with Tom Pagh and Bob Harmon, had the opportunity to represent the Columbia River Region at this meeting.

For those of you who have never been to Alaska, find the time to do it. It is a most amazing state. I could go on at length about the glaciers, mountains, bays and inlets, bore tides (look it up--it's truly an amazing and slightly frightening phenomenon), forests, fishing, wildlife, float planes, really brave people who fly in anything with wings, and so on. I cannot do the region justice here, so I'm going to stick with the conference.

This meeting was surprisingly well attended considering the remote location and the unstable economic climate in which we find ourselves. I do not have the exact figures, but in my estimation there were easily 2000 attendees, and 100 vendors represented at the conference. I heard more than one vendor say that the caliber of the attendees was slightly higher than usual, with many of the actual decision makers for companies and agencies present. I can't really attest to that, but I can attest that the papers presented were the usual high quality professional papers that one expects at a national meeting.

Vince Sandor of the Portland Bureau of Environmental Services, and Mike Renslow of Spencer B. Gross, Inc., represented Columbia River with presentations. Vince presented two excellent papers on remote sensing: "Developing and Using In-house Cross-Platform Remote Sensing Applications for City/Regional GIS Systems" and "Image analysis techniques for one meter urban remote sensing." I have to confess that I didn't attend these at the ASPRS meeting, but I was fortunate to get a second chance here in Portland at the PAGIS users group meeting. These were both excellent presentations in an area where I believe many of us are lacking in understanding and knowledge.

Mike Renslow presented the workshop "Performance, Accuracy, and Economics of Imaging Sensors, LIDAR, and IFSAR for Surface DEM Generation." Let me apologize now if there was another CRR member who presented, that I am unaware of.

The annual meetings tend to develop their own identity in the vendor area and define themselves around one point of focus. This year's identity had to be the coming of age of digital cameras and other sensors. Quite simply put, the new digital cameras are here, they are

ready for use in production, and they are definitely going to make an impact in our industries. LH Systems (ADS40) and Z/I (DMC) have had their respective cameras in development for several years. Newcomer Vexcel, is self-admittedly about a year behind the others, but closing fast. The remarkable thing is the clarity of the imagery. Each of the manufacturers is using vastly different technology for their system, and each system is destined for a different part of the market. Each of the vendors also had their cameras there and samples of the data produced by each. I have some pretty strong opinions on the subject, but in fairness to the manufacturers, everyone should see the products from each system and make up their own mind.

I enjoyed myself immensely at this meeting, between very informative sessions, vendors who were professional and well prepared, and social events presented by the Alaska Region that were truly enjoyable to attend. We were treated to a dinner train ride along Cooke Inlet where the wildlife was plentiful and the scenery breathtaking. We were also treated to an evening in an airplane hanger with the latest in sensors from Optech, Z/I, Emerge, and Aero-map. In my humble opinion, this particular meeting was one of the best technical and informative national meetings in years.

2003 NW GIS USER GROUP MEETING

The Columbia and Puget Sound Regions are working on hosting a lunch time "event" at this year's Northwest GIS User Group conference at Skamania Lodge in the Columbia River gorge (Stephenson, WA). This will be an opportunity for current members and those just curious about ASPRS to get together over a box lunch during the conference. This will probably take place at noon on Thursday, 9/18.

<http://www.nwesriusers.org/skamania%202003/default.htm>

ANNUAL TECHNICAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE

(hosted jointly with the Puget Sound Region of ASPRS)

Date: Thurs., Nov. 13, 2003

Time: 9:00 am - 4:30 pm.

Place: Vancouver Water Resource Education Center
4600 SE Columbia Way
Vancouver, Washington (360) 696-8478.

GIS in Action 2003 **by Brian Miyake, GIA 2003 Chairman**

I would like to start by saying how much I enjoyed chairing and working with all of the great committee members for GIS in Action 2003. The committee members were outstanding and brought us yet another great year of workshops and educational sessions. This year we tried to expand on the panel discussion concept for the educational sessions. This change was well received by our attendees. The sessions showcased new technologies, new approaches to continuing problems, and many new projects that our colleagues are working on. The attendee surveys indicated that they were very pleased with the content and structure of the conference. GIS In Action has become an important place for many of our regions GIS professionals to share and gather ideas that we can all benefit from.

There were a total of 369 attendees at GIS In Action 2003, proving once again that the cooperation between ASPRS and URISA has brought us an important convergence of great ideas and concepts. The vast efforts put forth by ASPRS and URISA will continue to bring us together every year for a meeting of the minds. With the combined efforts of ASPRS and URISA, we can expect to continue to draw in quality vendors to attend GIS in Action where they can unveil and answer questions about their new products and services. The showing of vendors this year was outstanding. We had many returning vendors this year, as well as some new faces to add to the great group of supporters.

Columbia River Region Hosts International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing Workshop **by Chris Aldridge – photos by Mike Renslow and Charles Toth**

The Columbia River Region was asked to underwrite the Joint Workshop for ISPRS WG I/3 and WG II / 2, "Three Dimensional Mapping from InSAR and LIDAR" which was held in Portland on June 17 thru 19. The executive board of CRR enthusiastically supported this proposal and we are happy to announce that the meeting was a success.

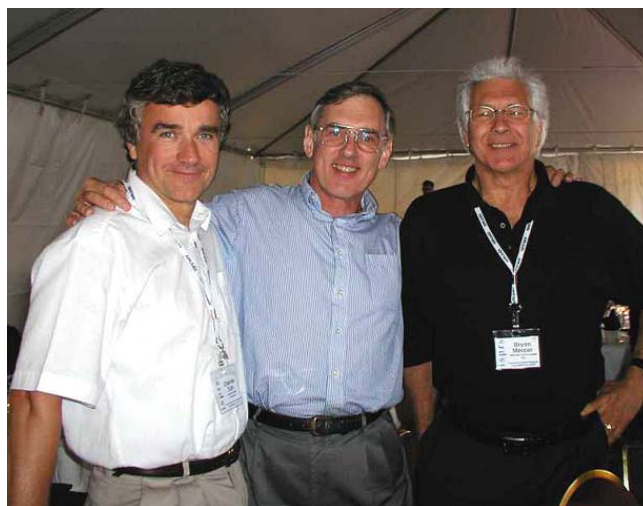
ISPRS workgroup meetings have a slightly different flavor from the average conference meetings. This single session workshop was attended by some of the pre-eminent minds in the industry devoted to the task of developing, analyzing, and applying

data from LIDAR and InSAR. The twenty-eight presentations over the course of the meeting ranged from urban DEM generation, to accuracy assessment of data, to forest inventory applications.

Each presentation generated greater than normal questions and comments that more often than not, were continued well after the close of the meeting. Findings were presented, supported, questioned and defended with great zeal by all of the participants. In short, this was a problem-solving gathering of the world's LIDAR and InSAR experts, which was nearly as interesting to view as the presentations themselves.



Dr. Ian Dowman (ISPRS Secretary General) delivering the Keynote Address



Workshop Organizers. From left to right, Charles Toth (Ohio State University), Mike Renslow (Spencer B. Gross, Inc.), and John Fisher (USGS).

Though falling short of the anticipated attendance, the 60 attendees who did attend were from every corner of the US and Europe. Guesses as to the reasons for the lower-than-hoped-for attendance range from SARS (the Pacific Rim nations were notably absent) to the tightening federal budget. Even so, the meeting was considered by the attendees to be a success and a worthwhile trip. We even managed to order up at least one good weather day to go with our Pacific Northwest hospitality.



Reception on the River Deck the first evening of the workshop.



Enjoying the reception. From left to right, Tom Pagh, Lisa Emerson, John Fisher, and Chris Aldridge.

Workshop on Preparing for ASPRS Certification – August 19, 2003 by Bob Harmon

The Columbia River Region of ASPRS is sponsoring the "Preparing for ASPRS Certification" workshop to be held Tuesday, August 19th, at the Vancouver Water Resources Education Center (Vancouver, WA) from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The purpose of this workshop is to prepare individuals who are planning to sit for the ASPRS Certification exams: (1) Certified Photogrammetrist, (2) Certified Mapping Scientist: Remote Sensing, and, (3) Certified Mapping Scientist: GIS/LIS. (More information can be found on the next two pages.) Anyone interested in the Mapping Scientist: GIS/LIS Certification should pay close attention to the requirements for "mapping sciences" under requirement #1 (second page of the notice). "Mapping Scientist" is meant for those involved in the geometric accuracy and integrity issues of GIS. Please address any questions to the Certification Committee (go to ASPRS national web page (URL below) and follow the links from "Committees" to "Evaluation for Certification").

This is a rare opportunity to participate in an ASPRS workshop outside of a national convention and it's close to home! Space is limited to 35 people. Fill out the first page of the attached form and email it to robert.c.harmon@wrds.state.or.us or print it and FAX it to 503-378-2496 (Attention: Bob Harmon).

The cost is \$195 for ASPRS members (join ASPRS now to get the discount), or \$295 for non-members, and \$15.00 additional for 0.8 CEUs (optional). Lunch is included with the fee.

Web links:

ASPRS CRR: <http://www.asprs.org/ColumbiaRiver>

ASPRS national: <http://www.asprs.org/society.html>

Vancouver Water Resources Education Center:
<http://www.ci.vancouver.wa.us/watercenter/wrec>



PREPARING FOR ASPRS CERTIFICATION WORKSHOP Notice & Pre-registration form

For the second year in a row the Columbia River Region of ASPRS is excited to bring you a national workshop usually only available at the annual ASPRS conferences. The workshop is scheduled for **Tuesday, August 19th**, at the Vancouver Water Resources Education Center (Vancouver, WA) from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. We are offering a discount for ASPRS members, too!

The purpose of this workshop is to prepare individuals who are planning to sit for the ASPRS Certification exams (*described on the next page*). The workshop will begin by explaining the purpose and form of the exam. It will then identify key topical areas that an applicant should be aware of prior to taking the exam. The instructor will review the basic concepts and sample questions to show how these topics will be tested for on the exam. Finally, the workshop will identify resources that exam takers should be aware of and study from in their preparation for the examination.

Topics:	Exams covered (see next page for descriptions):
Purpose of the exam	Certified Photogrammetrist (ASPRS)
Photogrammetry	Certified Mapping Scientist: Remote Sensing (ASPRS)
Remote Sensing	Certified Mapping Scientist: GIS/LIS (ASPRS)
Geographic Information Systems	
Other topical areas of importance in preparation for the exam	

Instructor: Robert Burch, Professor, Ferris State University

Cost: \$195 for ASPRS members (*join now to get the discount!*); \$295 for non-members; \$15.00 additional for 0.8 CEUs (optional); **lunch included** with the fee

Space is limited to 35 people! Fill out the form below and email it to robert.c.harmon@wrđ.state.or.us or print it and FAX to 503-378-2496 (Attention: Bob Harmon)

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ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
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EMAIL:		
ASPRS MEMBER? (check one): [] yes [] no		

Certified Photogrammetrist (ASPRS)

A professional who uses photogrammetric technology to extract measurements and make maps and interpret data from images. The Photogrammetrist is responsible for all phases of mapping and other mensuration requirements, which include planning and supervising survey activities for control, specifying photography or other imagery requirements, managing projects for mapping or other mensuration requirements and interpretation.

1. Six years of experience in photogrammetry, three years of which were in a position of professional responsibility demonstrating professional knowledge and competence.
2. References from four persons who are holding, or who have held, responsible positions in photogrammetry and have first-hand knowledge of the applicant's professional and personal qualifications.
3. Declaration of compliance with the Code of Ethics of the ASPRS.
4. Successful completion of a written examination.

Certified Mapping Scientist, Remote Sensing (ASPRS)

A professional that specializes in analysis of images acquired from aircraft, satellites or ground bases, or platforms using visual or computer-assisted technology. Analysis is used by various specialized disciplines in the study of natural resources, temporal changes, and for land use planning. They develop analytical techniques and sensor systems.

1. Three years of experience in photogrammetric and/or cartographic applications, all of which have been in a position of responsibility that demonstrated knowledge and competence in planning and application.
2. Three years of specialized experience at a professional level in remote sensing and interpretation of data from various imaging systems and/or design of remote sensing systems.
3. References from four persons who are holding or who have held responsible positions in the mapping sciences and remote sensing and have first-hand knowledge of the applicant's professional and personal qualifications.
4. Declaration of compliance with the Code of Ethics of the ASPRS.
5. Successful completion of a written examination.

Certified Mapping Scientist, GIS/LIS (ASPRS)

A professional involved in GIS/LIS systems design and/or systems application of data base management and computer programs that allow for the utilization of spatially referenced data bases for solving user analysis requirements. They are responsible for the integration of data needs and the development of correspondence between and the utilization of various spatial systems of often-different generic origins that are used to solve requirements.

1. Three years experience in mapping sciences or photogrammetry in a position of responsibility demonstrating professional knowledge of and competence in mapping science and mapping procedures.
2. Three years of professional experience in the Geographic or Land Information Systems, during which professional knowledge and competence in those systems were demonstrated.
3. References from four persons who are holding, or who have held, responsible positions in the mapping sciences and in the Geographic or Land Information Systems area and have first-hand knowledge of the applicant's professional and personal qualifications.
4. Declaration of compliance with the Code of Ethics of the ASPRS.
5. Successful completion of a written examination.

Landsat 7 Technical Problems

(The news item below was sent by e-mail from ASPRS headquarters.)

Landsat 7 is an important remote sensing resource for many ASPRS members. Therefore, it is with concern that we inform you that as of Thursday, June 10, 2003, the U.S. Geological Survey had posted the following statements:

On May 31, 2003 at approximately 21:45 MT, unusual artifacts began to appear within image data collected by the Enhanced Thematic Mapper plus (ETM+) instrument on board the Landsat 7 spacecraft. These artifacts are consistent with a failure of the instrument's scan line corrector (SLC). Further analysis has confirmed that there is a problem with the SLC.

The spacecraft itself appears to be in no danger. However, it is believed that all data collected by the ETM+ since the initial failure contain the defect. The affected data (acquired since May 31) have been archived and removed from the publicly accessible data ordering systems. Operations, other than those required to support the current investigation, have been limited to routine house-keeping procedures since the data anomaly was discovered. At this time, the root cause of the anomaly - why the SLC ceased functioning - is unknown.

A study team, led by the USGS Flight Operations manager, is investigating the possible causes and remedial actions necessary to restore operations.

Details and updates on the anomaly investigation will be provided, as they become available, at:
<http://landsat7.usgs.gov/updates.php>.

CALENDAR: 2003 Contributed by Jackie Olson

This is a selected group of events; for more listings and other organizations check the links at:
<http://www.asprs.org/columbiariver/calendar.html>

July 20-22, 2003: URISA National 2nd Annual Public Participation GIS (PPGIS) Conference, Portland State University. Public Participation GIS (PPGIS) refers to a range of topics raised by the intersection of community interests and GIS technology. Call for Presentations: info@urisa.org.
<http://www.urisa.org/PPGIS/callforppgis.htm>

August 17-20, 2003: URISA's Fifth Annual GIS in Addressing Conference:
Street Smart and Address Savvy
Providence, Rhode Island
<http://www.urisa.org/address.htm>

September 17th - 19th, 2003: 2003 Northwest GIS Users Meeting Annual ESRI GIS Users meeting will be held this year at Skamania Lodge in Stevenson, WA
<http://www.nwesriusers.org/skamania%202003/default.htm>

September 17-20, 2003: Association of Pacific Coast Geographers 2003 Annual Meeting, Portland State University. The opening session features geographers from the UO, OSUy, and PSU speaking on the general rubric of global and regional environmental change.
<http://geog.pdx.edu/APCG/general.htm>

September 19, 2003: Oregon GPS Users Group Meeting
Agenda: Under Construction: to be posted
Medford, OR
Contact Mark Armstrong (541) 683-6090; E-mail: mla@obec.com
http://home.netcom.com/~syab/agenda_09_19_03.htm

October 1-3, 2003: 16th Annual GIS in the Rockies "Geospatial Integration Today for Tomorrow"
Plaza at the Mart, Denver, Colorado
Sponsors: ASPRS, ACSM, GITA, PLSC and URISA.
Affiliate sponsor: GIS Colorado.
e-mail: Chair@GISintheRockies.org
<http://www.GISintheRockies.org>

(Calendar continued on next page.)

(Calendar: 2003 continued from previous page.)

October 6-8, 2003: ASPRS - 19th Biennial Workshop on Color Photography, Videography and Airborne Imaging for Resource Assessment. Logan, Utah. Call for Papers <http://www.asprs.org/cpvaira.htm>

This workshop will explore the applications of high-resolution color and multispectral airborne and satellite imagery along with computer based analysis for the identification, measurement and monitoring of natural and agricultural resources. For more information, contact: Christopher Neale, Utah State University Logan, Utah 84322-4105, cneale@cc.usu.edu

October 14-17, 2003: 25th Canadian Remote Sensing Symposium & 11th Congress of the Association québécoise de télédétection. Université de Montréal, Montréal, Québec, Canada. The theme of the Symposium is *From Image to Information*. <http://www.casi.ca>

October 20-21, 2003: PNW GITA's Fourth Annual Fall Conference The Salishan Lodge and Golf Resort in Gleneden Beach, OR. http://www.gita.org/chapters/pacific/2003%20Fall%20Conf%20Announc_2.pdf

October 28-30, 2003: ASPRS/MAPPS Fall Conference "Terrain Data: Applications and Visualization — Making the Connection." Embassy Suites Airport/Convention Center North Charleston, SC http://www.asprs.org/terrain_data2003/index.htm

November 13, 2003: ANNUAL TECHNICAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE (hosted jointly by Columbia River Region and Puget Sound Region of ASPRS) Vancouver Water Resource Education Center, 4600 SE Columbia Way, Vancouver, WA (360) 696-8478

The Calendar will be updated with each issue. Please send contributions to: jcolson@usgs.gov.

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The President, Vice-President, Past President, and National Director are Elective Officers. The Executive Committee consists of the President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, Immediate Past President, and National Director, and carries on the business and financial affairs of the Region.

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