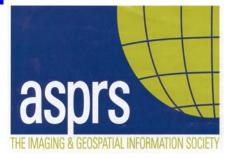
Wavelengths Columbía Ríver Region



http://www.asprs.org/ColumbiaRiver

Volume 2003:3 — September 2003

President's Letter by Chris Aldridge

Another quarter has come and gone, and with it the summer. This was a busy summer for the CRR-ASPRS. We accomplished quite a bit and we have planned quite a bit more. We are as financially healthy as we have ever been, and our outlook is bright.

I'm happy to announce that the CRR-ASPRS was honored as Region of the Month for June of 2003. This was primarily due to our enlisting the nine new members of the PSU student chapter. The PSU chapter is going to be very active this year. You can read a little more on that further on in this newsletter.

In August, CRR-ASPRS hosted a national workshop for the second year in a row. This is worthy of notice, since these workshops are typically only available at the annual meetings. The workshop focused on preparation for the certification exams in the three categories that are currently offered by national. It is worth remarking that we are one of only a handful of regions that national has expressed enough confidence in, to host this type of event. I want to thank Bob Harmon for his work arranging and executing the well-attended and useful event. Once again, you can read about this in more detail elsewhere in this newsletter.

The Model Survey Law discussions have awoken from their recent slumber. A joint meeting of PLSO, ASPRS, and OGIC was held in Salem in September, and the decision to move forward with recommendations was agreed to by all of the organizations present. A special thanks goes the ASPRS Executive Director, Jim Plasker, who took time from his busy schedule to make a presentation on the current status of the Model Law around the country, and the ASPRS position on the Model Law.

It is also time once again for our annual technical exchange with the Puget Sound Region. This will be the eighth meeting of the two regions, and is always informative and interesting. It is the perfect forum to present an interesting project or idea that you have been working on and to see what others in our industry and organization are up to. Again, you can read about this in more detail elsewhere in this newsletter.

This next quarter will bring the pre-planning for the GIS in Action conference for 2004. It is ASPRS' turn to provide the program chair, and I have volunteered to fill the position. I am currently looking for persons interested in sitting on the program committee, and I'd like to engage some "new blood" from ASPRS. Please feel free to contact me if you are interested.

It is also time to accept nominations for the position of Vice President for the CRR. Vice president is the first position this person will have on CRR board. The Vice President then advances through the Presidency and Past-Presidency. Please take some time to consider an ASPRS member that you think would serve the region well. A call for nominations will be sent out In late October or early November, with instructions on the nomination procedure.

Now, I've saved the best for last. The CRR board has submitted a letter of interest to ASPRS to host the 2008 Annual Meeting. This letter has been met a great deal of enthusiasm from the Executive Director and the Chair of the Convention Planning and Policy Committee. Many of you will remember that CRR hosted the annual meeting in Portland in 1999. This was a very successful meeting for all involved, and we hope to make 2008 just as memorable.

2008 might seem like a long way off, but there is much work to do. If Portland is selected, we will be calling for volunteers to fill committee slots for this project. Please consider volunteering your time to help with the organization and logistics of this meeting.

The Definition of Surveying in Oregon — Change is on the Horizon by Doug Smith

On September 22nd the Oregon Joint Task Force on Survey, GIS, Photogrammetry and Cartography hosted a joint meeting in Salem. The meeting included the members of the Oregon Task Force, representatives from the Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon (PLSO) Board of Directors and Legislative Committee, and ASPRS Executive Director Jim Plasker. The purpose of the meeting was to review Oregon Task Force activities to date and to decide on a specific course of action regarding implementation of the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) Model Law for Surveying.

After several hours of discussion, the group unanimously agreed to draft a joint letter, signed by all participating professional organizations, to request that the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (OSBEELS) adopt the portion of the new Model Law that addresses GIS/LIS and photogrammetry issues. The current version of the NCEES Model Law aims to specially exclude "GIS only" activities from the definition of surveying. Photogrammetric mapping, however, would be included in the definition and photogrammetric mapping in Oregon would require supervision by a licensed surveyor. The Task Force agreed that the request to OSBEELS will specify that both a "grandfather" clause for existing practitioners as well as a long term means of licensing future generations of photogrammetrists will need to be an integral part of any proposed revisions to the existing law.

Surveying and GIS issues in Oregon are not a new topic of discussion. For the past two years the Oregon Joint Task Force on Survey, GIS, Photogrammetry and Cartography Activities has been discussing the issue as to whether or not to revise Oregon State Law regarding the definition of the practice of surveying in the State of Oregon. The Oregon Joint Task Force was formed in the Fall of 2001 in response to an increased concern about the potential for conflicts between activities performed by mapping sciences professionals and activities which require a surveyor's license under State Law. The Task Force is comprised of representatives from the survey, cartography, mapping and GIS professions and includes individuals associated with the ASPRS Columbia River Region, MAPPS, OSBEELS, Oregon/Southwest Washington Chapter of URISA, OGIG, OGISA, the PLSO and other affected professional organizations. The decision to adopt the Model Law recommendations was not a hasty decision. It was based on over two years of active discussions and debate.

Background information on past versions of the Model Law, the GIS/LIS Addendum, Oregon Task Force activities and links to the Oregon Task Force web site can be found in the Resources section on our Chapter web page at: <u>http://www.asprs.org/columbiariver</u>. The newest version of the Model Law incorporating the latest revisions, primarily the GIS/LIS Addendum recommendations, will be posted on the web site as soon as it is available.

The Oregon Task Force was very fortunate to be able to include Jim Plasker on the meeting agenda at the September meeting. As ASPRS National Director, Jim has also served as the facilitator of a National Multi Organizational Task Force (MOTF) that has been working with the NCEES for the past several years to address the concerns of the GIS, photogrammetry and mapping sciences community. Jim's trip to Salem was sponsored by the Columbia River Region chapter, the PLSO and National APRS. Jim also deserves a great deal of credit and appreciation for his personal efforts at working this into his schedule at the last minute and adjusting his travel arrangements to help out with overall costs. Jim's extensive knowledge and experience with Model Law issues and with issues other states have had to address in this regard was an invaluable asset.

In the summer of 2002, the Oregon Task Force had proposed the following specific action items: 1) Develop a disclaimer for GIS data, 2) Form a subcommittee of OGIC to evaluate independent licensing and/or certification of GIS professionals and 3) Recommend modifying Oregon Law based on the recommendations in the GIS/LIS Addendum and obtain feedback from the membership of affected professional organizations. Steady progress has been made towards all three goals. A disclaimer has been developed by OGIC and adopted by the State Service Center. That disclaimer is being distributed and organizations are being encouraged to include the disclaimer in their metadata. An OGIC committee has developed a proposed certification plan that will be up for vote during OGIC's winter meeting. With regards to the Model Law, numerous presentations were made to the various professional organizations over the past year. The feedback and responses from those presentations were the basis of the September 22nd Task Force decision to formally request that OSBEELS adopt the Model Law.

The status of all three Task Force goals as well as details on implementation of the Model Law were discussed in detail at the September 22nd Oregon Task Force meeting. A lot of ground was covered and many problematic issues were clarified. The meeting minutes detail the key points of that discussion. The minutes are now available and will be posted on the Columbia River Region website. *(continued on next page)* In conclusion, change is on the way. This process is far from over. However, now that the professional organizations have all agreed to work together on a specific course of action, we can expect steady progress towards resolving issues that have become increasingly problematic for the mapping sciences and survey communities over the past several years.

Preparing for ASPRS Certification Workshop by Bob Harmon

For the second year in a row the Columbia River Region sponsored an ASPRS National workshop. On August 19th, at the Vancouver Water Resources Education Center, Professor Robert Burtch (Ferris State University), taught the *Preparing for ASPRS Certification* workshop. He went over the purpose and process of certification, and covered information that one should study in preparation for each of the following exams offered by ASPRS:

- Certified Photogrammetrist (ASPRS)
- Certified Mapping Scientist: Remote Sensing (ASPRS)
- Certified Mapping Scientist: GIS/LIS (ASPRS)

Thirteen people enrolled for the class which was pretty good for a mid-summer class dealing with certification and exam preparation. They represented both a wide range of geospatial professions--photogrammetry, remote sensing, and GIS-and northwest geography--British Columbia, Washington, and Oregon. We even welcomed two new ASPRS members through the \$100 workshop membership discount.

More information on ASPRS certification can be found on the web at:

http://www.asprs.org/membership.html (click on the "certification program" link)

The board is interested in bringing other national workshops to our region. If you have any ideas for workshops that you would like to attend please contact any of the board members.

Report from OSU Student Chapter by Prof. Michael Wing, Chapter Advisor

New student officers for the ASPRS OSU student chapter will be chosen this fall. The officers will work together, as in past years, to identify opportunities and events that promote the ASPRS mission. It's anticipated that one of the events will include a field trip to an organization that is actively involved in remote sensing. Last year's highlights included guest speaker Prof. Ralph Kiefer, who provided a perspective of the dramatic changes in remote sensing technology that have occurred during his career.

Report from PSU Student Chapter by Prof. Mike Emch, Chapter Advisor

Portland State University has started a student chapter of ASPRS. John Anderson (M.S. Geography student) will serve as the President, David Kuhn (M.S. Geography student) as Vice President. David Rosen (M.S. Geography student) as Treasurer, and Jan Dougall (Post-Graduate GIS Certificate Student) as Secretary. Michael Emch (Assistant Professor of Geography) is the faculty advisor. The PSU student chapter plans to host a bi-weekly GIS-remote sensing seminar series. PSU offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in geography, for which students can focus on geospatial techniques. See www.geog.pdx.edu for more information. PSU also has begun a postgraduate GIS certificate program that includes both GIS and remote sensing courses. See web.pdx.edu/~emch/cert/GISCert.htm for more information and for links to specific GIS and remote sensing courses. The PSU student chapter plans host social events during the 2003-04 academic year and will be developing a web site that describes its activities. One of the main goals of all chapter activities will be to foster multidisciplinary ties among faculty, students, and the community in the area of remote sensing. The PSU student chapter presently has 10 members but one of its first orders of business will be to recruit new members. For more information please contact John Anderson (jander@pdx.edu).

Letter of Appreciation from Andrea Laliberte CRR Scholarship winner for 2002-2003

As the recipient of the 2002-2003 CRR graduate student scholarship, I would like to thank everyone for selecting me for this award. I feel privileged to have been chosen, and the award funds allowed me to attend the Annual ASPRS meeting in Anchorage and present a paper with my research findings. I wanted to provide everyone with a brief summary of my background, research and current activities.

After working in agriculture and operating my own horse business for 12 years, I decided to return to a university to finish a degree that I had started many years ago. I completed an undergraduate degree in Natural Resource Science from the University College of the Cariboo in Kamloops, British Columbia, and had no intentions of going any further. However, I was offered a graduate research assistantship for a masters program in the department of Rangeland Resources at Oregon State University, which I accepted. For my thesis, I conducted a time change analysis of a riparian area, examining stream and vegetation changes over a 20-year period, using remotely sensed imagery and conducting spatial analysis using GIS.

I became very interested in remote sensing and spatial analysis, and wanted to learn more about it. In the fall of 2000, I entered a Ph.D. program in the department of Forest Resources at Oregon State University, working with my advisor Bill Ripple. My research has focused on human influences on historical and current wildlife distributions-from Lewis and Clark to today. This involved mapping Lewis and Clark's campsites from St. Louis to the Oregon coast and back, linking the explorer's wildlife observations to those sites, and analyzing human-wildlife interactions. The information was assembled in a GIS and has been made available to the public on the internet at http://www.cof.orst.edu/lewis&clark/. The second portion of my dissertation was a timechange analysis of the geographic distribution of 44 carnivore and ungulate species of North America, comparing historical conditions with those of today and relating species range changes to human influences.

In addition to my dissertation research, I also completed a project testing image-processing techniques for counting wildlife from remotely sensed imagery. The objectives of this study were to develop an image processing technique for detection and automated counts of wildlife from aerial photos, and to test this technique on an IKONOS satellite image. I completed my Ph.D. in June 2003 and am now employed in a postdoctoral position as a remote sensing scientist for the USDA-Agricultural Research Service at the Jornada Experimental Range in New Mexico. I am interested in combining my experiences to further the use of remote sensing in rangeland ecology research and to develop remote sensing applications for rangeland monitoring. Currently, I am working on determining rates of shrub encroachment over time using aerial photos dating back to 1936. I am also planning on investigating object-based classification techniques using Quickbird data.

Although I no longer reside in the area of the Columbia River Region chapter, I have great memories of attending several GIS in Action conferences and I had the opportunity to meet many of the chapter members. I still am and always will be a member of the ASPRS and would like to conclude with a thank you for everyone involved in selecting me for the CRR scholarship.

CRR Scholarships for 2003-2004

The ASPRS Columbia River Region is pleased to announce that it will award two scholarships in the amount of \$1000 each to graduate students in the region. Applications will be due before the end of 2003 and the scholarship winners will be recognized at the CRR Annual Dinner in early 2004.

Announcements will be sent soon to educational institutions in the region. For further information, please contact Nancy Tubbs, Scholarship Chair, at: <u>ntubbs@usgs.gov</u>.

Remote Sensing Update

John Wiley and Sons is pleased to announce the publication of the 5th edition of *Remote Sensing and Image Interpretation* by Lillesand, Kiefer, and Chipman. The publisher describes the book as follows: "From recent developments in digital image processing to the next generation of satellite systems, this book provides a comprehensive introduction to the field of remote sensing and image interpretation. This book is discipline neutral, so readers in any field of study can gain a clear understanding of these systems and their virtually unlimited applications."

For further information contact: www.wiley.com.

INFORMATION EXCHANGE MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT ASPRS Puget Sound and Columbia River Regions Information Exchange

Date: Thursday, November 13, 2003

Time: 9:00-4:30 (Setup time available for presenters: 8:00-9:00 a.m.)

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

Registration / Abstract Deadline: October 30, 2003

Registration Fee: \$25 (full registration includes lunch and notebook)

Students: \$10 (includes only notebook)

Parking: Ample FREE parking available at the meeting site

Website: http://www.photogrammetry.com/ASPRS-PSR/exchangenov03.htm

(Location directions and Registration forms available from download site)

WHAT: The Puget Sound and Columbia River Regions of ASPRS are hosting their 7th Annual Joint Information Exchange November 13th. This event is an informal opportunity for all people who are interested in the topics of photogrammetry and remote sensing to learn more about what's going on in our own region in resource management, government, academia, and business. The information exchange is a day-long event in which local practitioners may present a 15-30 minute talk on one of their current or recent projects. This is also an opportunity to learn new techniques, meet new contacts, and refresh old ones. Projectors (overhead, conventional, and multimedia) will be available, but presenters must be concise with their presentations and keep them under 30 minutes to allow for questions and timely proceedings.

Speaker slots will be limited to 30 due to the single-day schedule, so get your requests in early to insure your slot.

In addition to the visual presentations, each speaker will submit a 1-page description of the project and a 1page profile of their organization (forms can be downloaded from the meeting website). The 1-page write-ups must be submitted before the meeting and compiled into a notebook for distribution at the meeting. Lunch and the notebook will be included in the registration fee.

WHO: ASPRS membership is not required. Anyone who wishes to share information about an interesting or unusual project in the areas of photogrammetry and remote sensing are welcome; we also encourage presentations on the increasing integration of these technologies with GIS applications. So please, extend this invitation to your colleagues who work in the areas of photogrammetry and remote sensing. No commercial presentations or endorsements are allowed.

Of course, non-presenters and students are certainly welcome to come learn more about what's going on around our extended region. We particularly want to encourage non-members to come find out more about ASPRS. As an encouragement, attendees who wish to join ASPRS the day of the session will have the <u>registration fee waived</u>. In addition, any person or company can sponsor a student by covering the \$10 registration fee, so please consider sending them to this session to learn more about our industry and society. **Abstracts/Organization Information Sheet:** Please submit your presentation overview and organizational description by email or fax to either contact person below. HTML, .doc or .txt formats preferred. If you'd like the opportunity to present a project your company/institution is currently working on, simply fill out the **PROJECT** and **COMPANY** fact sheets (available soon from the meeting website listed above) and return them with your registration form.

Puget Sound Region Contact:	Columbia River Region Contact:
Joshua Greenberg	Robert Harmon
Skagit County GIS	Oregon Water Resource Dept.
Phone: (360) 336-9368	Phone: (503) 986-0866
Email: joshg@co.skagit.wa.us	Email:robert.c.harmon@wrd.state.or.us

FAX: (360) 336-9466 FAX: (503) 986-0902

Registration: Please fill out the form on this page and or use the online registration form on the conference website. Fees cover costs of meeting rooms, lunch, and publishing and distributing the conference notebooks.

REGISTRATION FORM *** REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY OCTOBER 30, 2003***

Make checks payable to "Columbia River Region ASPRS" and mail together with this form to:

Robert Harmon ASPRS - Columbia River Program 725 Summer St. NE, Suite A Salem, OR 97301-1271

Email: robert.c.harmon@wrd.state.or.us

Name:

Company:

Address:

Phone:

FAX: _____

Email:_____

Registration Fee: US\$ 25.00 Full Registration (includes lunch and notebook) US\$ 10.00 Student (includes notebook, but not lunch)

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

October 16-18, 2003: 2003 Canadian Institute of Geomatics (CIG) 96th Annual Geomatics Conference and Exhibition on Geomatics for Industry - Micro to Macro: Calgary, Alberta http://www.cig2003.org

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/ PNW 2003_Annual_Conference_announcement.p df

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 IN-FORMATION 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

http://www.photogrammetry.com/ASPRS-PSR/ exchangenov03.htm

(Also see pp. 5-6 of this Newsletter for further information.)

November 19, 2003: GIS Day 2003, <u>http://www.gisday.com</u> Some regional events open to the public, search <u>http://gis.esri.com/gisday/search.cfm</u> for other events: Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR Demonstration, Map Gallery, Open House

http://www.geo.orst.edu/gisday

4-H Tech Wizards: Demonstration, Open House Hillsboro High School Hillsboro, OR http://www.4-hwebwizards.org

City of Hillsboro: Demonstration, Map Gallery, Open House Public Services Bldg Hillsboro, OR

City of Troutdale: GIS workshops Troutdale, OR <u>http://www.ci.troutdale.or.us</u>

City of Longview: Demonstration, Map Gallery, Open House Longview, WA

November 16-22, 2003: GIS Day and Geography Awareness Week <u>http://www.nationalgeographic.com/geographyaction/habit</u> <u>ats/gaw.html</u>

October 18, 2003: Oregon GPS User Group and Chemeketa CC GIS/GPS Fall Workshop Users of GPS/GIS equipment and software. Manufacturer's representatives will make presentations and answer questions http://www.orurisa.org/events/OGUGFall.pdf

November 2-5, 2003: The Geological Society of America 2003 GSA Annual Meeting & Exposition Washington State Convention & Trade Center Seattle, Washington http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/2003/

December 1-2, 2003 U.S. Commercial Remote Sensing Industry Conference Westin Grand Hotel, Washington, D.C. http://www.spaceref.com/news/viewpr.html?pid=12641

December 8-12, 2003: American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting Moscone Center West, 800 Howard Street http://www.agu.org/meetings/fm03/

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

ASPRS-CRR BOARD OFFICERS

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PRESIDENT: REGION — Chris Aldridge Spencer B. Gross, Inc. 13545 NW Science Park Dr Portland, OR 97229 chris@sbgmaps.com

VICE-PRESIDENT: REGION — Bob Harmon Oregon Water Resources Department 158 12th St. NE Salem, OR 97310-4172 robert.c.harmon@wrd.state.OR.US

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PRESIDENT: PAST — Margo Blosser Gorge GIS, 423 E. 3rd Hood River, OR 97031 mblosser@gorge.net

NEWSLETTER EDITOR — Ralph Kiefer 15119 Oyer Dr Oregon City, OR 97045 wkiefer@aol.com

SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR — Nancy Tubbs USGS, 14420 NE Alton Court Portland, OR 97230 <u>ntubbs@usgs.gov</u>

WEBMASTER — Jackie Olson USGS-WRD10615 SE Cherry Blossom Dr Portland, OR 97216 jcolson@usgs.gov

ADVISOR: STUDENT CHAPTER — Michael Wing Oregon State University Peavy Hall 215, OSU Corvallis, OR 97333 michael.wing@orst.edu

ADVISOR: STUDENT CHAPTER — Mike Emch Portland State University P.O. Box 751 Portland, OR 97207-0751 emch@pdx.edu

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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