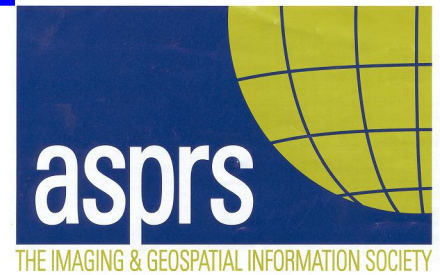


Wavelengths

Columbia River Region



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

Volume 2009:2 — June 2009

President's Letter By Erik Strandhagen

Greetings, once again the Columbia River Region received recognition from the National ASPRS by being named Region of the Month in March. I want to thank our region's member champions Michelle Kinzel, James Meacham, and Brian Miyake who deserve credit for this award. This award in combination with receiving Region of the Year three years in a row speaks to the vitality and collective dedication of the CRR Region Members.

GIS in Action 2009 was held April 21st and 22nd at the Vancouver Conference Center in Vancouver, Washington and was jointly presented by The Oregon and Southwest Washington Chapter of The Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA) and the CRR ASPRS. Conference Chair Chris Alridge and Program Chair Greg Newkirk did an excellent job planning the conference and program. Special thanks to all the volunteers and committee members for their tireless efforts that ensured the success of this annual event. I found the sessions informative and the conference was a great opportunity to reconnect with colleagues and make new ones.

Current CRR Vice President Eric Brewster is in the planning stages for our up-coming annual events. We will be hosting the thirteenth annual Joint Technical Exchange with the Puget Sound Region this year. For the eighth year in a row, the CRR will bring a national workshop usually only available at the annual ASPRS conferences to our region. We will also be working with URISA to plan the 2010 GIS in Action conference. This fall, with the beginning of a new academic year, the student chapters will be offering their colloquium series. CRR has three active student chapters,



GIS in Action 2009 attendees. l-r: Sheri Schneider, USGS; Whityn Owen, NRCS; and Josh Darling, Portland Parks & Recreation.

Portland State University, Oregon State University and the University of Oregon. During the spring, I visited all three CRR Student Chapters and had the pleasure to present at Portland State's Geospatial Colloquium in March and Oregon State's in June. Our spring board meeting was held in Eugene and hosted by the University of Oregon Student Chapter. Our Student Chapters heavily attend and participate in CRR events, host their own events and participate in public outreach projects. There is no doubt that future CRR leaders are being developed in our student chapters. I believe mentoring between CRR professionals and the student chapters is fundamentally important for individual member development and our collective growth.

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Please join me in giving a hand to all three student chapters for their level of activity and the notoriety they bring to our region. The student chapter presidents and officers exhibit impressive leadership in their chapters. Student chapter advisors and liaisons also deserve recognition for their contribution to the success of the student chapters. Michael Wing heads Oregon State's chapter and David Banis heads PSU's student chapter. Last fall, CRR Past President Jim Meacham accepted the position as the Student Chapter Advisor at the University of Oregon. I am very proud to announce CRR past President Steve Duncan recently assumed the Student Chapter Liaison Committee position joining Student Chapter Liaison Committee Chair Ralph Kiefer.

Summer is approaching as I write this column. Late May was unseasonably warm and in the Portland area, the sound of backyard barbecues has replaced the constant pitter-patter of rain. The academic year is winding to a close and vacation season is about to begin. Please check the CRR website and your email this summer for more information about upcoming events and report to us of your summer activities.

National Director's Report

by Chris Aldridge

Summer is here and the usual 2nd quarter slowdown in region activity has arrived. There is always a lull in our activity during this time of year and 2009 is no exception.

The significant feature of note during this period is that the CRR and URISA jointly hosted the 17th GIS in Action conference. I am very pleased to report that this joint venture was once again a success on all levels. This is the marquee event for our region and the revenue derived from it allows us to fund all of our other activities throughout the year including the Technical Exchange with Puget Sound, our annual workshop, and the grants that we provide to each of our student chapters.

This year's GIA was something of a challenge given the state of the economy. In the end, the conference attendance was near 225 including regular registrants and students. The student attendance was significantly higher than in the past which is very desirable. The program was well received and the feedback I received was all positive.



Portland State university students, past and present, along with current faculty at the GIS in Action Conference 2009.

Planning is already underway for 2010 and Doug Smith (ASPRS) and Keith Massie (URISA) will co-chair the event. Many of the committee members have agreed to stay on and apply the experience learned from 2009 to ensure that 2010 is a successful event as well.

I am also happy to welcome Steve Duncan to the Student Liaison Committee. Steve will take Jim Meacham's position, which was vacated when Jim became the University of Oregon's faculty advisor.

I anticipate having a more robust report for you in the 3rd Quarter. Until then, have a great summer.

Region of the year

The Columbia River Region of ASPRS has won the 2009 Region of the Year Award! This is our third year in a row winning this distinction!



(l-r) Matt Millet, Steve Lennartz, Erik Brewster, Chris Aldridge, Suzanne Walther, Steve Duncan, Erik Strandhagen

Report from Oregon State University Student Chapter

by Robert Peckyno, President

During the spring term of 2009 the OSU student chapter focused on the professional activities of ASPRS. Several members attended the regional "GIS in Action" Conference in Vancouver, WA. We also supported three of our members to attend the National ASPRS 75th Anniversary Conference "Reflections of the Past and Visions of the Future" in Washington, DC. While there, the students took part in the "Preparing for ASPRS Certification" Workshop. Since their return, these students have been acting as 'study group' leaders for all students from OSU that have applied to take the provisional certification exam and are currently in the review process. Because several of these students are participating in professional internships outside of Corvallis during the summer, we have decided to shoot for September as our time to sit for certification testing.

If any other CRR student members would like to test with us in September, we encourage you to submit your applications before the end of June. At our June 4th final meeting for the school year, CRR region president Erik Strandhagen attended and gave a talk on "3D Subsurface Geostatistical Analysis with LiDAR and Bathymetric Data." Finally, no projects were selected this round in response to our Spring Student Project RFP, but we plan to re-issue the call early in the fall term.

Report from University of Oregon Student Chapter

By Suzanne Walther, President

We would like to welcome four new members, two PhD students and two masters students, to our student chapter: Paul Blanton, Didi Martinez, Kate McGuire, and Derek Miller. They add to our fluvial geomorphologists and cartographers in the group.

Our chapter just held its second annual student research grant competition. Since part of our mission at the University of Oregon is to support new and innovative research undertaken by our students,

we will be setting aside at least \$500 a year to be given in student research awards. These awards will be given to students whose research focuses on cartography, GIS, and remote sensing. We have student research proposals in hand and winners will be announced June 8th.

Every spring our group supports ASPRS student members presenting at the Association of American Geographers conference. This year the meeting was held in Las Vegas, NV. Student members gave talks on a number of topics that highlighted tactile map production and the use of aerial photographs to map urban farms in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and to create a bathymetric map of the McKenzie River, Oregon.

At the end of May, our chapter hosted the CRR board meeting. There were six board members, five student members, and two UO Geography faculty members in attendance. The board covered the agenda and explained some of the details of planning to our student members. We also had the opportunity to celebrate winning the Region of the Year and observe student member Suzanne Walther receiving the Fischer Memorial Fellowship.

The Department of Geography at the University of Oregon holds a weekly speakers series on Thursday afternoons. Our student chapter will be hosting a speaker this fall. If any one is interested in speaking to the students and faculty of the UO Geography Department please contact Suzanne Walther at swalther@uoregon.edu. This is a great opportunity for academic outreach from our ASPRS community and a venue to share the applications of remote sensing and GIS.



University of Oregon student member Suzanne Walther receiving the Fischer Memorial Fellowship Award from President Past, Steve Lennartz.

Report from Portland State University Student Chapter

By Dan Craver, President

Portland State University's (PSU) ASPRS student chapter has finished out the 2008/2009 academic year with another eventful term. Chapter members Sarah Praskievicz, Laura Reilly Skorczeski, and Lindsay Skog were awarded scholarships to present at the Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting in Las Vegas. Sarah Thompson was awarded a research scholarship to continue work mapping areas of cattle grazing in Eastern Oregon to assess water quality impacts. Congratulations to the four of you and thank you for supporting the ASPRS mission.

Fourteen PSU student chapter members attended the GIS in Action conference in Vancouver, WA where we hosted a booth in the exhibit hall to represent geospatial technology programs at PSU and our student chapter. Thanks to everyone who stopped by, we enjoyed meeting you.

We hosted colloquium presentations by Steven Lennartz, a Remote Sensing Analyst for Sanborn, and Ken Salsman, Director of New Technology for Aptina, Inc. We also hosted our annual Careers in Geospatial Technology panel presentation. This year's presenters included Celia Cornett, Portland Water Bureau, David Drescher, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Rafael Gutierrez, SWCA Environmental Consultants, Tim Nortz, Watershed Sciences, and Molly Vogt, City of Gresham. These events were all well-attended, prompted great discussion, and spurred enthusiasm for our chapter. Thank you all for your time and commitment to professional development.

To continue putting our geospatial technical skills to good use and provide mapping project experience for students through community involvement, we are collaborating with the Audubon Society of Portland to map the Important Bird Areas (IBA) of Oregon. Our state has nearly 100 IBAs designated for ornithological significance. PSU ASPRS student chapter members are leading technical project management and contributing to data acquisition, geodatabase design, image interpretation, and mentoring.

Student office elections for the next academic year have been held and we are planning a summer transition meeting for July. Most recently, however, our chapter got outside (finally!), for a geocaching event in collaboration with our sibling student organization the Friends of Geography. This allowed us to hone our GPS skills while learning about the geography of the area surrounding our University. Thanks to Erin Smith and Nadia Jones for organizing this event, and to all who attended. Have a great summer vacation.



ASPRS student chapter scholarship recipients for 2009, l-r: Sarah Thompson, Lindsay Skog, Sarah Prackievicz (not pictured: Laura Riley Skorczeski).

Vacancy Newsletter Editor

The ASPRS-CRR is seeking a replacement for the volunteer position of newsletter editor. This position is available because the current newsletter editor would like to focus her energy solely on developing and maintaining our new website to come. ASPRS CRR would like a one-year minimum commitment from any potential candidate. Responsibilities for the newsletter include: attending the quarterly ASPRS CRR board meetings, usually held on the campuses of PSU, U of O, or OSU; receiving, editing, and formatting newsletter submissions from members; photographing ASPRS events or making arrangements to obtain photographs of

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ASPRS events; tracking local and national news related to remote sensing, GIS, and photogrammetry to include in the newsletter. The ASPRS CRR provides Adobe Publishing Software for the position.

If you are interested in volunteering, please send an email to the current newsletter editor, Jamie Ludwig, at: jamieludwig@hotmail.com (503-413-9318). Please give a brief description of the reasons for your interest, and the expertise you would bring to the region.

In-coming CRR Vice President

The ASPRS Columbia River Region would like to welcome Erik Brewster as our vice president. Erik has 8+ years professional experience in geographic information systems and related technology. He earned bachelors degrees in Philosophy and Environmental Studies, GIS Certificate at Portland State University, and received his MBA from Willamette University.

Erik works as a GIS Analyst at HDR, Inc and has done so for 2.5 years. Most of his time is spent working on the Oregon Bridge project. The Oregon Bridge Delivery Partners (OBDP) is a joint venture between HDR Engineering and the Fluor Corporation OBDP administers the 1.3 billion dollar program which is replacing or repairing hundreds of bridges throughout the state of Oregon. As a member of the OBDP GIS group, he is responsible for providing E-GIS services including database development, web mapping application development, system administration, web administration, 3-D visualization, map production, and analysis. Welcome Erik!!



Erik Brewster, Vice President of the Columbia River Region.

Member Champions Columbia River Region

Michelle Kinzel
James E. Meacham
Brian Miyake

Welcome New CRR Members!

The members listed below have either joined (or rejoined) the CRR since March 2009.

Jennifer Copper	Woodland
Michael Halleen	Portland
Ray Hennings	Beaverton
Lily House-Peters	Portland
Derek Miller	Eugene
Bethany C. Pratt	Portland
Margaret Seiler	Portland
Steve Zaporowski	Portland
Adriana E. Martinez	Eugene
Lowell Anthony	Hillsboro
Lesley Bross	Tigard
Rebecca J. McLain	Portland
Matt Millett	Eugene
Nicholas Pattie	Portland
Paul Blanton	Eugene
Ellyn M. Dixon	Wilsonville
Amber Gladioux	Portland
Juan Carlos Gonzalez	Portland
Rochelle Herness-Lietz	Portland
Jacob Macdonald	Troutdale
Aidan C. Padilla	Portland
Sarah L. Thompson	Portland
Mike Trace	Portland
Katie Urey	Portland
Daniel Uthman	Portland
Matthew Wood	Portland
Celeste Barthel	Corvallis
Laura Reilly-Skorczeski	Portland

ASPRS Celebrates 75TH Anniversary with Record Conference Attendance

The American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS) 2009 Annual Conference held March 9-13 at the Marriott Waterfront Hotel in Baltimore, Maryland marked the 75th anniversary of the Society with over 1500 attendees at the many and varied conference activities.

There were 13 workshops, many filled to capacity, held on the two days preceding the conference, and they covered a wide array of topics including *Remote Sensing of Vegetation; Now That You Have Land Use/Land Cover, What Are You Going To Use it for?; Topics in Orthophoto Production; Marketing Your Business; Introducing Active Hyperspectral Remote Sensing; Assessing the Accuracy of GIS Information Created from Remotely Sensed Data; GIS Updating from Imagery and Collateral Data Sources*, as well as a specially designed workshop for those seeking ASPRS certification.

User group meetings were also held on Monday and Tuesday sponsored by ASD, Inc., BAE, ENVI, GeoCue Corporation, GeoEye, Intergraph, DAT/EM, DIMAC, ESRI, ERDAS, INPHO, Merrick & Co., Microsoft, Optech and PCI Geomatics.

This year's conference theme of *Reflection of the Past – Vision of the Future* was carried throughout and particularly with the keynote address on Wednesday by John Townshend, Chair of the Department of Geography, University of Maryland. He focused his remarks on "Challenges of Monitoring the World's Land Cover".

Thursday's general session included an address by newly elected ASPRS President, Bradley Doorn. He followed the conference theme by discussing *Mapping, Monitoring and Preparing for Change*. Anne Miglarese of Booz, Allen, Hamilton, was also on the Thursday general session program with a presentation entitled *The National Geospatial Advisory Committee: The First Year and "Unofficial" Observations from the Chair*. Townshend's, Doorne's and Miglarese's talks are available on line at www.asprs.org/baltimore09.

The Student Advisory Council (SAC) continued their participation in this year's conference by organizing and moderating a number of sessions directed at students and young professionals. The Student Assistantship program also grew and additionally nearly 30 student volunteers played a very vital part. The opportunity for students to meet by way of the Speed Networking session, as well as the tour of the exhibit hall designed for students to become acquainted with the exhibitors, continued this year by popular demand.

Over 300 technical papers covered many diverse topics including ASPRS History, Feature Extraction, Homeland Security Emergency Management, GIS Modeling and Analysis, Wetland Aquatic, Lidar, Higher Education K-12 Workforce Development, Vegetation Mapping, Unmanned Aerial Vehicles and Data Visualization.

A number of special sessions throughout the week aimed at the conference theme included discussion of International Charter Space and Major Disasters, The Road to Launching the Landsat Data Continuity Mission, KML Applications in Remote Sensing and GIS, and Mobile Lidar Mapping. Poster presentations were well viewed in a main area of the hotel and rounded out the conference theme.

Continuing the very popular feature of Hot Topics established several years ago, found open discussion of "Geospatial Professional Procurement Guidelines," "ASPRS Professional Certification – Your Ticket to a Better Job," "ASPRS's Role in K-12 Education," "Exploring Opportunities in GIS and Remote Sensing Beyond the Typical Job Title," and "The National Land Imaging Program – What's Next?"

To allow vendors the opportunity to present their products and training in a well-defined format, the program committee set up a one-hour segment on Thursday for these presentations. Five concurrent sessions were held with a total of 12 companies participating. Good responses from their audiences were reported.

The Exhibit Area was completely sold out with 80+ worldwide vendors showcasing the latest in products and services. Exhibit area traffic was brisk during the entire conference. A very well attended Exhibit Hall Reception sponsored by the Exhibitors on Wednesday evening was, as always, a conference highlight. Sales of exhibit space for the 2009 Fall ASPRS/MAPPS Conference and the 2010 Annual Conference were vigorous, indicating the success of this year's event.

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The Potomac Region hosted an After-Dinner Coffee and Dessert Reception on Tuesday evening as a conference kick off event. Numerous awards from the ASPRS Foundation were made throughout the conference to many deserving recipients. The ASPRS tradition of honoring members who have contributed greatly to the field and to the Society continued this year with a Memorial Address for Rupert Barron Southard, a career staffer at USGS. He was honored with numerous awards and citations throughout his lifetime. Roy Mullen, also a career staffer at USGS, presented the highlights of Southard's life.

The 75th Anniversary Celebration was marked by an extensive exhibit of the ASPRS History memorabilia, photos, a time-line and included a video of some of the industry pioneers giving living history testimonials. A special celebratory dinner for over 700 attendees on Thursday evening was punctuated with entertainment by The Capital Steps, who received rave reviews.

Founded in 1934, ASPRS is an international professional organization of 6,000 geospatial data professionals. ASPRS is devoted to advancing knowledge and improving understanding of the mapping sciences to promote responsible application of photogrammetry, remote sensing, geographic information systems and supporting technologies. For additional information about ASPRS, visit our web site at www.asprs.org.

ASPRS/MAPPS 2009 Specialty Conference

MAPPS and ASPRS are once again organizing a dynamic conference around a specialty theme "Digital Mapping – From Elevation to Information." This follows on the successful joint 2001 Conference on "Digital Elevation Technologies and Applications," the 2003 Conference on "Terrain Data: Application and Visualization – Making the Connection," and the 2006 Conference on "Measuring the Earth: Latest Developments with Digital Surface Modeling and Automated Feature Extraction." This meeting will build on those experiences and will focus on: (1) technical needs for information derived from elevation and other geospatial data; (2) the evolving technology options to address those needs; (3) innovative techniques for data analysis and fusion; and (4) user applications and benefits that justify the costs of such mapping programs. More information can be found at <http://www.asprs.org/sanantonio09/index.html>.

Member Champions Incentive -

Member Champions will receive a **10% discount off their next year's dues payment for every member recruited, plus \$5 in ASPRS Buck\$**. In order to process this reward, Member Champions need to be sure their name is listed on the membership application of the new members they have signed up.

This information is also available on our web site at <http://www.asprs.org/membership/>

By signing up 10 individuals for ASPRS membership, you are eligible to receive **the Ford Bartlett Membership Award** and one year of free membership for yourself and **\$50 in ASPRS Buck\$**.

Calendar

July 27-31, 2009

GeoWeb conferences focus exclusively on geographic information systems, the Internet, and the economic potential associated with their convergence.

Vancouver, B.C., Canada

<http://gita.org/events/events.asp>

September 11, 2009

Geologic Society of the Oregon Country
Roger Silver or Charley Larson (past national President of National Speleological Society, and author of Oregon Cave Geology and Fossils in Caves) will speak about discovering underground geology in caves. Location: Room S17, Cramer Hall, Portland State University, 1721 SW Broadway; between Montgomery and Mill. (Room S17 is on the sub-basement level of Cramer Hall, directly below the Geology Department's main office)

<http://www.gsoc.org/frisched.html>

September 16 - 18, 2009

GIS in the Rockies Conference
The Ranch - Larimer County Fairground,
Loveland, CO

Early registration through June 30, 2009

www.gisintherockies.org

September 29 - October 2, 2009

Annual Conference & Exhibition
URISA's Annual Conference and Exhibition features management and policy discussions of IT/GIS issues affecting urban and regional governments. http://www.urisa.org/conferences_workshops

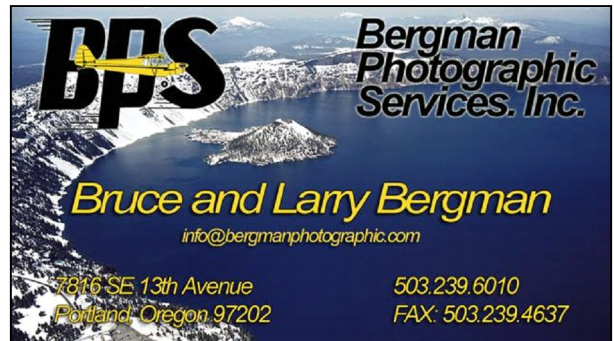
September 30 – October 3, 2009

Association of Pacific Coast Geographers Annual Meeting

The Department of Geography is at San Diego University is proud to host the 2009 APCG Annual Meeting, which will be held at the Town and Country Resort and Convention Center in San Diego, California between September 30th and October 3rd, 2009.

<http://geography.sdsu.edu/apcg/>

Thanks to Our Sponsors



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