


Intermountain News

ASPRS Intermountain Region

Winter 2003

Intermountain Region Plans for the Future



Cindy Clark (right) welcomes students to GIS Day 2002 last November

Hello Intermountain Members,

It is the new year and time for another letter from your President. Not much has happened since the last letter. But there are activities that are coming up in the spring that should be of interest to you.

There are three things that I hope you will take note of for this spring. First, May 5-9 is the 2003 Annual Conference, being held in Anchorage, Alaska. This should be a great conference, with many new places and activities to participate in. I would encourage those who can to attend this conference. I was able to go to last year's conference in Washington D.C.. It was a educational experience and a wonderful opportunity to meet other members of ASPRS. Also, for those members who are students, ASPRS is always looking for volunteers to help with the conference. If you don't want to volunteer, but would still like to attend, there are student rates available. More information can be found at: www.asprs.org/alaska2003.

Other activities that are in the planning for the spring are a technical meeting to be held in Boise, so that our members from Idaho can participate and hopefully, a NASA mobile ground station visit to Salt Lake City.

Details about these activities will be announced soon.

It has been brought to the Board's attention, that the Northern California region of ASPRS would like to join with the Intermountain region and sponsor the 2006 ASPRS Annual Conference. If this happens we would need to have all the universities, colleges, federal, state, and local agencies in the area involved. It would be a great honor to have the Conference in this area, and I would hope all would want to be a part of the sponsorship. Further information on what has been decided will follow.

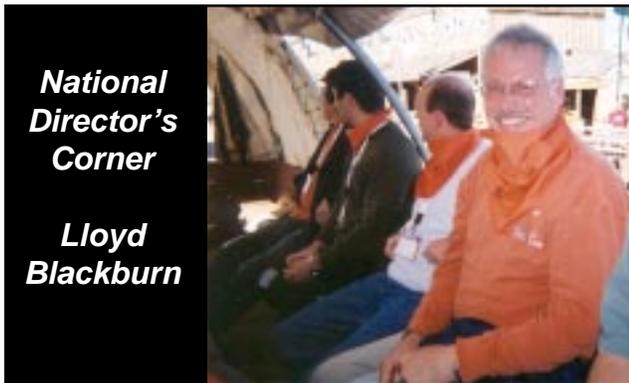
We have also be approached to sponsor a regional conference in the fall of 2004. This too would be an honor. We would want to show off all that is being done here in the Intermountain region. Further information on this prospect will be forthcoming.

Before I close this letter, I would again like to urge you to bring in new members to ASPRS. Remember, this organization is not just for photogrametrists and remote sensors. It is an organization for all geo-science professionals or students. Spread the word, we need more members!

Good Day to you all.

Cindy Clark

Pecora 15 Conference and National ASPRS Board Meeting



**National
Director's
Corner**

**Lloyd
Blackburn**

Hello from the Corner,

As you can see I had a very interesting Pecora 15 Conference / National ASPRS Board Meeting last November in Denver, Colorado. I have enclosed some of the more interesting information discussed in the board meeting. It is becoming apparent that GIS is a tool that we need to embrace more. All of the workshops were full or nearly full, the general sessions the same, the exhibit hall and the technical/poster sessions well attended.

A personal note: My wife came with me and had the opportunity of a lifetime when she met and talked to Mary Cleave, a two-mission shuttle astronaut. In the wake of the Columbia tragedy, especially, it's good to remember the astronauts as individual human beings.

Certification information

Roger (Sky) Chamard has submitted his resignation as chair and Mike Renslow has stepped up formally.

The ASPRS technologist certification exam is ready for implementation.

The multi-organization Task Force (which ASPRS is a member) has had success in working with National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES). NCEES has moved to adopt the recommendations being made. There is a continuing issue regarding examinations.

The 10-year industry forecast

NASA might wish to terminate or change how the Forecast is done in the future. Phase III will be finished in January or February 2003. ASPRS will continue the gross revenue survey, even if NASA drops the project, at least until results of the 2002 Economic Census are available. NASA appears to want to focus more earth sciences. NOAA is using the Forecast for many of their responsibilities, has asked ASPRS to document the forecast and might fill the NASA void of support. ASPRS will publish the report with an issue of *PE&RS*.

Camera calibration status

ASPRS continues to monitor what is going on with the implementation of the Panel's recommendations. USGS and NASA are setting this up at EROS Data Center. Now we need a standard for LiDAR. The ASPRS LiDAR Subcommittee is working on it.

USGS National Map

USGS has developed an excellent vision document on the concept of the National Map. It has been pointed out by the many comments the agency received during the first review cycle that this stimulates the imagination and a broad community of potential partners. This concept would have a huge impact on a wide verity of uses/needs, in particular Home Land Security. The link to the site for further information is as follows: <http://www.nationalmap.usgs.gov/>.

NOAA Advisory Committee for Commercial Remote Sensing (ACCRES)

ASPRS was asked to have the President of ASPRS sit on the ACCRES committee to give advice and recommendations to NOAA. The goal of the ACCRES is to balance commercial remote sensing satellite imagery along with national security concerns. The USGS director, NIMA director, and others at that level are included on the committee. ASPRS is the only non-governmental professional society on the committee.

Partners in Education Program

Intermountain Region ASPRS has had an ongoing relationship with the State of Utah's Board of Education, especially the Technical Section. With the help of ESRI, the State's AGRC and several other organizations, we were involved in starting to get GIS to the K-12 level. Training has started for the teachers and all persons involved professionally with GIS has been invited to help with the training or to become mentors.

We, the Intermountain Region, presented to ASPRS three images for the office plus \$200 to frame them. One image is an historical photo from a space shuttle in 1984 of White Mountain National Forest in New Hampshire. The original image stretched from Cape Cod to Hudson Bay. The other images from the USDA Aerial Photo Lab were of the site of the ASPRS headquarters office before and after it was built.

Yours in mapping/GIS,
Lloyd Blackburn

ASPRS 2003 Conferences

Annual Conference May 5-9, Anchorage AK

ASPRS invites you to the 2003 Annual Conference Technology: Converging at the Top of the World, May 5-9, 2003 in Anchorage, Alaska at the William A. Egan Civic and Convention Center and the Anchorage Hilton Hotel.

The social events are designed to give you a taste of Alaska. The Great Alaskan Train Adventure is part of every full conference registration. You'll enjoy refreshments on the train as it travels past mountains, glaciers, and wildlife on one of the most scenic rail rides in North America.

Also, don't forget — our headquarters hotel, the Anchorage Hilton, has rooms reserved for our group at a special conference rate. Hotel reservations must be made prior to April 2, 2003 to take advantage of the specially negotiated ASPRS daily rate of \$120 single/double. To access our conference room block, you must reference the American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS) group name. More information is available on the ASPRS Group web page on the Hilton Hotel website www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/private_groups/asprs_2003/ or call the Anchorage Hilton at 907-272-7411.

If you have any questions regarding registration, please contact our Meeting Registrar, Mary Johnson at 301-984-9450 ext. 16, or email at marybethjohnson@mindspring.com.

Check our web page at www.asprs.org/alaska2003/ for full program details, conference registration and hotel information.

We hope to see you in Anchorage.

Fall Conference October 25-30, Charleston SC

ASPRS and MAPPS are once again sponsoring a conference that will offer you a great forum for your work. This year's conference is bringing together imaging and geospatial information professionals with vis-sim professionals for their mutual benefit and the reciprocal exchange of ideas.

This is your opportunity to share the your current experiences, describe what works best for various types of projects, analyze problems, offer solutions and explore new applications and technology improvements with your fellow professionals.

This conference will host general sessions on Homeland Security; Disaster Response; Technology-IFSAR, Lidar, Topobathymetric Lidar, Shoals, and others; Research and Development; and Standards, including ASPRS Lidar Standards, NDEP Guidelines and more. This year's program will also provide for interested participants to submit proposed presentations in the several breakout technical sessions and an applications showcase on project applications, visualization, simulation, research and development, hazards, and acquisition.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Abstract SUBMISSION Deadline: March 31, 2003

Notice of Acceptance: May 15, 2003

Conference Dates: October 25-30, 2003

PLEASE USE THE ASPRS WEB SITE FOR ALL ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS and further conference details - www.asprs.org/terrain_data2003/.
Questions: Contact: Anna Marie Kinerney at akinerney@asprs.org

Intermountain Region Technical Meetings

We are still hoping to have a spring technical meeting in Boise, Idaho, possibly in May. More information will be in the next newsletter.

Our last technical meeting in March, 2002 was well worth the effort of attending. We normally expect to organize two a year, in the spring and fall.

The NASA mobile satellite receiving station may still be coming to Salt Lake City, however the visit originally scheduled for February had to be postponed.



NASA's mobile satellite receiver

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Intermountain Region Officers

New elections are planned for early 2003 - watch your e-mail for details.

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(could be you!)

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