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INFORMATION SOCIETY



Eastern Great Lakes Region

EGLR NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2021 EDITION

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I write this message for the September issue of our newsletter, I'm still quite excited about our Joint Summer Technical Meeting, held on August 19th in Ann Arbor, Michigan. After months of hard work and planning, it's hard to believe that our meeting is over and it's time to move on to other programs and initiatives already (more on that in a moment).

If you were able to participate in the Joint Summer Technical Meeting – either remotely or in person – then I'm sure you'll agree that the event was a success. From a wonderful slate of speakers presenting on a variety of interesting topics, to our generous sponsors, and the evening of fellowship with industry colleagues and friends, it was a day filled with learning and excitement. Our collaboration with the Western Great Lakes Region was thoroughly enjoyable and I look forward to working with them again for future meetings. And although I've expressed my thanks to everyone involved in person, on LinkedIn, and through emails, I'd be remiss if I didn't take this one more opportunity to thank everyone who planned and executed the meeting and all those who participated. Without all of you, we could not have made it happen.

Moving on, we shift our focus to the EnerGIS Conference, which is planned as a virtual event to be held on December 2, 2021. As we have for the past four years, the Eastern Great Lakes Region will co-host this event with EnerGIS, a partnership that we are truly excited about. Earlier this week, the EnerGIS Conference planning committee selected presentations to be included in the program, and I can share with you that we have some great speakers lined up. Sponsorships are available for those interested at energis.us and registration will open soon. Stay tuned to the conference website and to the Eastern Great Lakes Region LinkedIn group page for updates.

And finally, I feel it appropriate to acknowledge the current situation with the Coronavirus pandemic. While it seemed that we had turned the corner earlier in the summer, we now know that not to be the case. Almost every one of us has been impacted in some way, and we still have work to do to gain the upper hand on this global health pandemic. With that in mind, and on behalf of my fellow board members, I wish all you and your families good health.

With warm regards,



Michael Joos, CP, GISP
President, Eastern Great Lakes Region, ASPRS

EGLR/WGLR JOINT TECHNICAL MEETING RECAP

On August 19, 2021, the ASPRS Eastern Great Lakes and Western Great Lakes Regions proudly presented “Geospatial in the Great Lakes”. The hybrid, joint technical meeting was hosted both live and virtually by Michigan Tech Research Institute (MTRI) in Ann Arbor, MI. Nearly eighty attendees, both live and virtual, joined EGLR and WGLR Board members to hear from their geospatial peers and learn about a variety of interesting projects and emerging technologies.

The EGLR Board would like to thank the members of the EGLR and WGLR Boards of Directors who served on the Planning Committee for all their hard work and to ASPRS Headquarters for their support in ensuring the meeting was a success. Thanks also to Michigan Tech Research Institute and their staff for hosting and providing technical support for the meeting. Lastly, a big thank you to all of you who were able to join us for all or part of the day. It was so nice to be able to network and interact with you again!





Figure 1 Some pictures of the good-looking folks who attended the Joint Summer Technical Meeting in person

MEETING SPEAKERS

Meeting attendees were able to hear from a lineup of professionals from various segments of the geospatial industry. These presenters joined us both in person and remotely to share their knowledge, experience, and details of recent projects. The day began with Dr. Aaron Morris of Allvision IO delivering the keynote address, “New and Disruptive Technologies”. Dr. Morris was followed by speakers from the private sector, government agencies, and education and research institutions. They offered something for everyone, sharing projects covering a wide variety of subject matter. The last speaker of the day was Dr. Jason Stoker from the USGS and ASPRS National President who delivered the “ASPRS President’s Update”.

The Boards of the Eastern and Western Great Lakes Regions would like to thank all the accomplished professionals who took the time to share their work.

THANK YOU TO OUR MEETING SPEAKERS (MORNING SESSION)



Dr. Aaron Morris
Allvision IO, Inc.



Heidi Fish, MBA
North Point Geographic Solutions/EDGE



Dr. Srinidhi Dharmapuri,
PMP, CP, PPS, GISP, SP
Sanborn



Paul Crocker
Ayres Associates



Dr. Sinan Abood
USDA Forest Service

THANK YOU TO OUR MEETING SPEAKERS (AFTERNOON SESSION)



Michael Battaglia, MA
Michigan Tech Research Institute



Dawn Siegel
GISInc.



Emily Champagne, GISP
Milwaukee Metropolitan
Sewer District



Dr. Shawana P. Johnson, GISP
Global Marketing Insights, Inc.



Lisa Hanni, LS
Goodhue County, MN



Professor Mark Guizlo
Lakeland Community College



Nicolas Mills
Lakeland Community College



Dr. Jason Stoker
ASPRS National President
USGS

MEETING SPONSORS

Thirteen companies from within the EGLR and WGLR Region boundaries generously stepped up to sponsor our meeting. Gold Level Sponsors contributed \$300, had their logos displayed during the meeting, and were able to give a five-minute presentation sharing information about their companies during the meeting. Silver Level Sponsors contributed \$150 and had their logos displayed during the meeting,

In addition, DroneView Technologies generously provided door prizes for four lucky winners during the meeting and social.

The EGLR and WGLR Boards would like to thank all of the sponsors for helping to make the day possible.

THANK YOU TO OUR MEETING SPONSORS

GOLD LEVEL



SILVER LEVEL



EVENING SOCIAL

Following a successful and informative technical meeting, attendees and speakers were invited to Revel and Roll, a local bowling alley in Ann Arbor, for an evening of fun, food, and fellowship. A small group showed up, determined to bowl their best while getting to know their peers in a less formal setting.

As the time on the lanes passed by, stories and memories were shared, interspersed with a little running commentary on bowling abilities, and some good-natured trash talking. By the time the evening ended, those in attendance were witness to a variety of bowling styles, new high scores, and even some celebratory dancing. The Board is already looking forward to the next event and hope even more members will be able to participate.





EnerGIS CONFERENCE

As mentioned above in the President's message, we are thrilled to again be partnering with EnerGIS Events to host the annual EnerGIS Conference. This energy-focused GIS and Geospatial-themed conference will be presented virtually this year and is scheduled to be held on December 2, 2021. The program has been finalized and includes a keynote presentation by Dave Boyer, the founder and principal consultant with Mudrock Energy. Dave will be followed by a strong group of presenters who will cover topics ranging from machine-learning analytics and UAS Lidar for energy applications to Facility Monitoring and ROW Risk Management. There will even be a product demo by ESRI, so this is certainly one event you don't want to miss.

Registration will open soon at energis.us.

MY ASPRS STORY: DR. BEN VANDER JAGT

My ASPRS story is now over a decade old. I've still got a way to go.

It all started in 2011 as a 1st year student at The Ohio State University in the Geodetic Science program. Dr. Carolyn Merry, a longtime member (and former president) of ASPRS advocated for students in her remote sensing course to become involved with the organization.

As a student, I probably had the mindset of “What can ASPRS do for me?”. That selfish curiosity (and the generosity of ASPRS members) led me to attend two ASPRS events that year which would eventually lead to this note today. One was the national conference, the other a regional (EGLR) meeting and scholarship dinner.

Attending first National ASPRS Meeting/Conference in Milwaukee, WI

The journey to the Milwaukee conference was not an "easy" one. It started with getting dropped off at a Greyhound station in Gary, Indiana at 8am on a Sunday morning. I had never ridden a Greyhound before and this particular station in Gary had fallen on hard times after the financial crisis of 2008. I was the only person there for 30 minutes and was starting to question my choices in life when another person came and confirmed that I was in fact at the bus station, and a bus was in fact coming. I was relieved.

Two important events happened in Milwaukee that week that stick out in my mind.

1. The Osama bin Laden raid was announced at the bar when all of the students were out networking with Rakesh Maholtra.
2. More importantly, I was able to meet many peers and have professional and personal conversations with them (both at the conference and at after-hours social events). I had participated in academic conferences before, but that was the first time where i felt i really got “something” from attending. That stuck with me.

Attending first Regional Meeting in Sandusky, OH

I had applied for the regional scholarship that the EGLR had offered that year and was fortunate to be accepted. Greg Lemke likes to make the joke, "we're still trying to get our money back from Ben on that one." He might be right. But I'm Dutch, so that won't happen.

I rode with Charles Toth and few other students from OSU up to a small roadside restaurant called the Red Gable Mesquite Grill. It doesn't exist by that name anymore, but i'm attaching the most recent image of the place.

The ethos at the regional meeting was very much like Milwaukee. In a dimly lit room, i got to drink a beer with Chuck Olsen, and share laughs with Ken

Scruggs. Chuck spoke about photo interpretation, while Ken was talking about 230 MP digital imagery. Different, but the same.



That's one story of many. Some are suitable for print, but others will have to wait for an in-person meeting. You'll have to buy the first round.

For some of you in this organization, 10 years is a drop in the bucket. And i want to commend you for that. Your commitment to the organization is what keeps it going.

I would be remiss if i didn't mention the names of some ASPRS members that really stick out in my mind as being involved. Charles Toth, Karen Shuckman, Omar Mora, Megan Ritelli, Ken Scruggs, Todd Johaneson, Raechel Bianchetti, Greg Lemke, Jason Heywood, Jessica Fayne, Hank Theiss, Becky Morton, Colin Brooks, Rakesh Maholtra... the list goes on. If you see any of those nametags at a local or national meeting, introduce yourself, you won't regret it.

I started a photogrammetry software business about 5 years ago, which continues to grow. Starting a business is not easy, and there were several times in its history when we were single handedly kept afloat by ASPRS members that i met in 2011.

So when people ask "What have you gotten out of ASPRS?" , I now respond "What haven't I gotten?" Mentors, colleagues, friends, and memories. What more could I possibly get? I get to do what I love, with people i love.

To many more years,

Ben Vander Jagt

REMEMBER WHEN?

Below is a photograph shared by EGLR member Jerry Stewart of his former workspace at ADR in Pennauken, NJ. Featured in the shot is the Zeiss P3 Analytical Stereoplotter used by Jerry and his co-worker. (Take note of the Sony Walkman left on the desk.)

Does this photo bring back a memory? Does it make you want to learn more about the stereoplotter? Does it remind you of a piece of equipment that you own or used to work on that has been replaced or made obsolete due to technological advancements in the industry? If so, we would like to hear from you.

Please email Trish Horkan, nakroht@gmail.com, with any memories or equipment photos. We would like to make "Remember When?" a regular feature in the region's newsletter and need everyone's assistance to make it happen.



EASTERN GREAT LAKES REGION BOARD MEMBERS

As always, please feel free to contact any of your board members with any questions, comments, or suggestions. They are here to assist you in any way they can.

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