



THE IMAGING & GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION SOCIETY EASTERN GREAT LAKES REGION

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www.asprs.org

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merchant.2@osu.edu

EGLR held its 2005 Annual Meeting on January 28 at the Days Inn, Milan, Ohio

At this meeting, ASPRS President Karen Schuckman installed the newly elected EGLR officers:

- Charles Olson – National Director
- Larry Christenson – President
- Robert Brinkman – Vice-President
- Jason Heywood – Regional Director



Karen S., Larry C., Robert B. & Chuck O.

Ms. Schuckman presented information on ASPRS regional boundaries and the current initiative to define chapters and user groups within the regions.

An upcoming joint meeting with the Western Great Lakes Region is tentatively scheduled for June 2005 aboard the car-ferry *Badger* on Lake Michigan. Arrangements and costs are being explored.

A scholarship committee was established with the objective to judge papers and award scholarship funds to student members. The scholarships will range from \$500.00 to \$1000.00 each.

Charles Olson, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan presented a workshop, *Remote Sensing of Vegetation* and attendees were awarded CEU's by The Ohio State University. Plans for similar workshops within the region are underway.

Regional Director Harry A. Stiller presided over the afternoon technical session. Douglas A. DeGraff



Chuck Olson



Harry Stiller & Herm Dillner

(Kodak Aerial and Industrial Materials) and Scott Antalovich (Kucera International, Inc.) presented a discussion of the *Advantages and Disadvantages of Film and Digital Sensors*.



Oral History Project is progressing

By Chuck Olson

The EGLR endorsed the Oral History project proposal more than a year ago. Since then, eight interviews have been completed, transcribed, and sent back to the interviewees for review and editing. A one-page description of the project is on the last page.

At present, this project has not been officially offered to ASPRS; but, in the long run, the project should move to the

broader auspices of the national organization. Until it does, control of the release of the interview data remains with the officers and directors of the EGLR.

I have been talking with Larry Pettinger, Potomac River Region, about interviewing some of the emeritus members in the D.C. area. I have also tried interviewing myself. The result is turning into a mini autobiography of events and incidents in my career. (Continued at History on last page)

Student Profile is a new feature of the EGLR newsletter

The EGLR newsletter will begin featuring a student profile. The student profile will enable regional professionals and students to learn more about graduate study projects and student activities within our region. Professionals and students are encouraged to contact each other to discuss the items presented in this feature. The first profile is:

David Alvarez

The Ohio State University

Graduate Program: Geodetic Science (GIS)

Year of Completion: March 2005

Advisors: Dr. William Hazelton and Dr. Carolyn Merry

Graduate Program: Geography (Spatial Analysis)

Advisor: Dr. Kwan

How did you hear of ASPRS?

Dr. Carolyn Merry, my co-advisor, encouraged me to become a member.

Why did you decide to pursue your current course of study?

My undergrad degree is in Environmental Engineering specializing in Environmental Impact Assessment (focus in soils and water impacts.) While implementing the studies, I began looking for a more efficient way to evaluate the impacts. I found that GIS was more efficient and accurate than the traditional assessment procedure. I then decided to pursue a Masters in Geodetic Sciences. For the first two years I studied GIS, cartography and database. For the past year and half, thanks to Dr Merry, I discovered how useful remote sensing is in the current geospatial era. My current goal is to be able to integrate remote sensing and GIS for applications in natural resources and agriculture, but I am not limited to those areas.

What are some of the current projects you are working on?

Currently, I am working on four major projects; the first is my thesis, which deals with trying to understand how spatial resolution of a DEM affects the hydrology modeling. For the GIS aspect of the project I am using ArcGIS/ArcInfo, ArcView and extension HEC-GeoHM. For the Remote Sensing aspect, I am using ERDAS Imagine to develop a land use map.

I am also working on two projects with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR.) The first is a levee inventory that utilizes mobile GIS. The ultimate goal is to create a geodatabase. I developed a customized application using ArcPad to increase the speed of data gathering. Then the data file is post-processed to increase the data accuracy to plus or minus 30cm. After each field trip, the data was exported from the handheld unit (GeoXT) into the geodatabase. The geodatabase will be used to evaluate hazard areas in northern Ohio and to estimate the effect of levee failure on human lives, infrastructure and agriculture.

The second ODNR project I am working is the migration of the Microsoft Access database into a geodatabase. This migration will result in the addition of geographic component into the database, which will provide the end user with spatial analysis capabilities.

I am also working on a project for OSU Agriculture Extension. My main function is to provide spatial and geostatistical analysis and some basic Remote Sensing (INDVI, classification, georeference).

What are your plans for continuing your education?

Currently, I do not have plans to formally continue my academic education. I will continue to attend workshops and some courses throughout my career in order to stay up to date with developing technologies.

What are your plans for employment after you finish your studies? Is there any type of company you would like to work for (environmental, research, government)?

Ideally, I would like to obtain a position at an environmental company or government agency (USGS, NOAA).



HELP! - New members needed

A national effort is underway to recruit additional members. Membership numbers have been steadily declining at a rate of 2.5% per year. An action plan has been developed to address the issue and ASPRS has also modified the by-laws to classify graduate students as student members rather than professional members.

A marketing research firm, McKinley Marketing, Inc, has been retained to conduct a survey of current members and potential member groups in order to assess the effectiveness and value of ASPRS programs and services. Results of the assessment will be available mid-summer.

As an incentive, \$5 in ASPRS bucks, redeemable at conferences and the ASPRS bookstore, will be awarded to members for each new member they recruit. EGLR reports 174 professional members and 27 student members for 2004.

Despite recent ASPRS initiatives, it remains up to individual members to grow the society by recruiting colleagues and student members, so please contact coworkers and potential student members and ask them to join the society. Membership applications are available at <http://www.asprs.org/membership/individual.html>

**Eastern Great Lakes Region
American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing**

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Purpose: To capture and preserve first-hand accounts of some of the early days of ASP and ASPRS, and some of the anecdotal reflections of the older members and Society officers that contribute to making us what we are today.

Methods: Interviews are being conducted by Charles E. Olson, Jr., Emeritus Member and Fellow, and are being tape-recorded for subsequent transcription. Each transcribed interview is returned to the interviewee for review – including correction, addition, or deletion of any part of the interview the interviewee prefers not to have on record.

Each interviewee is provided with a list of questions designed to stimulate reminiscences of that person's early days in ASP or ASPRS. These questions serve as a starting point, but the interview is open-ended.

In the future, interviews may be conducted by someone other than Chuck Olson, but all interviewers will be members of ASPRS.

Use of Data: The data (transcribed interviews) will be archived and made available for review by those authorized to see them. At this time, January 2005, the authorization decision rests with the Officers and Directors of the Eastern Great Lakes Region of ASPRS, but that authority is expected to pass to the Officers and Directors of ASPRS.

Consideration is being given to publishing excerpts from these data as a series in *Photogrammetric Engineering & Remote Sensing*, possible in a monthly column entitled something like: A Look At Our Past.

Consideration is also being given to making available to each interviewee the approved transcriptions of the other interviewees.

Data on File: As of this date, interviews have been conducted with, and transcribed for:

Amelia Budge	Donald Lauer
James B. Case	Maury Nyquist
Tina Cary	Vincent Salomonson
Lloyd Herd	Edward Stevens



History (continued)

If any of you want to try interviewing yourselves, start by answering these questions:

1. How, what, when did you first become involved in photogrammetry/remote sensing/GIS?
2. Who were the influential people who led you to join ASP or ASPRS, and then stay with it?
3. Who were the influential people who helped shaped your career within ASP- or ASPRS-type activities?
4. What are some of the incidents in your career (funny or not-so-funny) that have helped shape your participation in this field?

Then, let your responses to these questions lead you on. ☺

Websites of interest

<http://www.asprs.org/>
<http://www.ohioview.org>
<http://www.altarum.org/altarum/EETD/alwas.asp>
[http://www.glsc.usgs.gov/files/factsheets/2004-5
Crane Creek.pdf](http://www.glsc.usgs.gov/files/factsheets/2004-5_Crane_Creek.pdf)