

Central Region Newsletter

American Society for Photogrammetry & Remote Sensing

Volume 16, Issue 3

June 2004

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ASPRS 2004 Conference Report

It is the editor's opinion that concurrent sessions are both boon and bane to a conference. The upside of concurrent sessions is that you can have more sessions on more topics. The downside is that attendees frequently have to choose between two or more sessions that they want to see, but happen to be occurring concurrently. This was my experience at the conference. There were so many interesting topics. Attendance was good and there were all sorts of sessions on all sorts of topics. LiDAR appears to have been the most popular topic among presenters; there were sixteen sessions with two or three papers per session on LiDAR topics. The plenary sessions were equally diverse and interesting. The Thursday session included a discussion of the world-view and perceptions of the commercial cattle rancher and an up-to-the-day report on the activities of the two Mars rovers; Spirit and Opportunity. The Exhibit Hall filled two large rooms, with companies from all over the world exhibiting. I was also glad to

see a Central Region member, Dr Elias Johnson, win the Fellow Award.

Report From the President

(Matt served double-duty at the conference; serving as Region President and acting as the Central Region representative on the National Board of Directors.)

The technical sessions that I attended were very informative. The only problem I had was that I wanted to attend several at the same time. I found myself have to be very selective on what I wanted to hear in person or read later off the proceedings CD. The night at the Science Museum was a great hit also, at least in my book. I know that at least one person found the exhibits fascinating. Our future little paleontologist, she also had in depth conversation with the dino-man.



Anna Reed inspects a dinosaur at the social event at the Denver Museum of Natural History.



ASPRS Past President Donald Lauer presents Dr. Elias Johnson with the ASPRS Fellow Award.

Okay, back to the conference. The Central Region won two awards at the conference, Second Honorable Mention for Region of the Year and Second Place for Region Newsletter of the Year. I would like to thank the entire region for the Second Honorable Mention award since it is the Central Region members that get us this award. I would also like to thank Phil

(Continued on page 2)

Rufe for all his hard work and continued dedication to the newsletter. Phil has made our newsletter what it is today. He has won third Place at least twice and now second all that is left is First. Is that asking too much Phil?

The conference also was put together well and had a lot of great vendors, interesting poster sessions and morning plenary sessions.

• *submitted by Matt Reed*



Central Region President Matt Reed accepts the award for Second Honorable Mention—Region of the Year from ASPRS Past President Don Lauer.

Report from the Vice-President

(Region Vice-President Scott Perkins writes about the Z(I Users' Group and the Tuesday Plenary Session)

Tuesday Plenary Session



Dr. Ahmed K. Noor

Dr. Noor, Old Dominion University.

Dr. Noor's remarks on Advanced Engineering Environments proved to be both thought provoking and entertaining. It was refreshing to see a presentation that didn't rely on Microsoft PowerPoint to be interesting and exciting.

Dr. Noor began the talk with a look at some Future Complex Systems, which included transportation using vehicles straight

from the Jetson's and nano-sensors the size of butterflies for remote sensing applications.

He also provided a look at new Autonomic Computing Environments being developed with self-managing and self-optimizing systems (no IT Department required) and showed possible multi-modal interfaces with mixed reality displays using tele-immersion (you inside the 3-D model space not just viewing the 3-D model space).

These systems included an intelligent software agent, or what I would describe as a 'cyber friend', who looked a little bit like Lara Croft from the Tomb Raider video game that appears on the workstation screen in place of the GUI interfaces and dialogue boxes we presently use. The system is voice command driven, so you simply tell Lara Croft to go retrieve your data and display it for you.

His segment on Emotionally Aware Computing Systems featured a computer mouse that monitors your heart rate and body temperature and again the cyber version of Lara Croft 'relax you seem stressed' evoked an enthusiastic responses from the audience, followed by more laughter when Lara scolds you for making mistakes at the workstation.

The presentation also featured a look at panoramic photogrammetry and feature extraction tools. More information is available at www.aee.odu.edu

Z(I Users' Group Meeting

Opening remarks by Dr. Terry Keating covered a historical look back at both Zeiss & Intergraph and then a look forward to Z(I's future products & technologies.

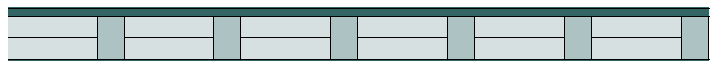
Key points of interest:

- They are still selling more film cameras than DMC's
 - ◊ Three (3) DMC's sold in 2004, a total of eight (8) DMC's worldwide
- They moving away from MicroStation as tool for graphic display and moving toward an open source solution for graphic display building on the spatial database records
- Feature collection in stereo with GeoMedia is soon to be released

-submitted by Scott Perkins

Kari Craun Installed as National ASPRS Vice-President

Another noteworthy event of the conference was the installation of Kari Craun as the new Vice-President of ASPRS. Kari was serving on the National Board of Directors and she is also a Past President of Central Region. The Central Region Board wishes to congratulate her on her new position and wish her luck in the coming three years.



Technical Presentation, Welcome of Officers and New Board Members on 15 July 2004

The Central Region Board would like to invite members and other interested parties to attend a combined event at the United States Geological Survey Mid-Continent Mapping Center (MCMC) in Rolla, Missouri on 15 July 2004. The two activities for this event are a technical presentation and the welcoming of Officers and new Board Members for 2004. These events will be held in Room 501 of the MCMC. The Board will meet and install new Officers and Board Members between 09:00-10:00 AM. The public is invited attend a Technical Presentation and to welcome the new Officers and Board Members from 10:00-11:30 AM. MCMC is located at 1400 Independence Rd in Rolla. A map of Rolla that includes the location of MCMC can be viewed at (http://www.rollanet.org/areainfo/map/rollamap_10_2001.pdf).

Post-Fire Characterization of the Land Surface and Vegetation Using Imaging Spectroscopy Data for Cerro Grande NM and Left Hand Creek WY

Raymond F. Kokaly (raymond@usgs.gov), USGS, Denver CO
Barnaby Rockwell (barnabyr@usgs.gov), USGS, Denver CO
Laurie Morath (lmorath@usgs.gov), USGS, Denver CO
Ralph R. Root (ralph_root@usgs.gov), USGS, Denver CO
Susan Goodman (Susan_Goodman@blm.gov), BLM, Denver CO

Mr. Kokaly will give this presentation.

Historically, fire has been among the dominant disturbances in the Rocky Mountain Region of the U.S. Recent occurrences of large wildfires, due in part to the increased abundance of fuels resulting from the past century of wildfire suppression, necessitate that resource managers acquire information on the post-fire state of the land surface to plan erosion hazard mitigation strategies and to guide re-vegetation efforts. This paper reports on the spectroscopic analysis of remotely sensed data collected post-wildfire. Two areas were studied: 1) the May 2000 Cerro Grande fire in Los Alamos NM, and the Left Hand Creek BLM area in Central Wyoming, which has been subject to wild fires in 2000 and 2001. AVIRIS data collected on September 4, 2000, over the Cerro Grande fire site were atmospherically corrected and converted to reflectance using a single ground calibration site. The spectral signatures in these data were examined in relation to known spectral responses of vegetation, mineral and post-fire ash materials. The results of this study indicate that the presence of ash covered surfaces and bare soil/bedrock surfaces can be identified and mapped. Variations in vegetation reflectance arising from chlorophyll and lignin/cellulose absorption features indicate that vegetation within fire perimeters can potentially be discriminated into unburned vegetation, fire-killed non-photosynthetic needles/leaves, and regenerated vegetation. Hymap imaging spectrometer data over the Left Hand Creek study site were collected on July 2, 2002. In conjunction with the remote sensing data collection, field measurements of vegetation reflectance and surveys of plant species composition were made for 33 sites within the study area. Measurements of vegetation cover and species composition were made in order to assess the impact of fire on vegetation regeneration in this sagebrush ecosystem. Ongoing efforts in both study areas seek to utilize the post-fire characterization of the land surface in conjunction with *in situ* studies of erosion and vegetation regrowth to develop predictive models of landscape recovery from wildland and prescribed fires.

New Members!

The Central Region Board would like to welcome three new members including two regular members and one student member:

Regular Member:

- Mr. Stephen D. Atkinson, Jefferson City, Missouri
- Mr. John M. Webb, Branson, Missouri

Students:

- Mr. Albert S. Oko, Cape Girardeau, Missouri



News From the SMSU Student Chapter



Texas Hold 'Em Tournament Participants



The competition was tense at times...

The Southwest Missouri State University (SMSU) Student Chapter has a new president. Robert Touzinsky handed over the helm of the student chapter to incoming President Nathan Bruns at the end of the Spring semester.

The ASPRS SMSU student chapter 1st Annual Texas Hold'em Tournament was held on Thursday, May 6th at 7pm. This tournament raised funds for a field trip to Washington D.C., for the summer of 2005. It was held inside the Plaster Student Union in room 314. Participants paid an entry fee of \$25 to play. The event was attended by a variety of SMSU students, faculty, and Western Air Maps employees



And the winners are...



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Events Calendar

15 July, 2004 **ASPRS Central Region Technical Presentation and Installation of Officers and Board Members**. Presentation **Invasive Species** to be given by Mr. Raymond F. Kokaly at the Mid-Continent Mapping Center, Rolla, Missouri. See page 3 of this publication for details.

July 15-16, 2004. **Military Satellites Applications**. The Thistle Marble Arch Hotel, London. For further information and to book online please visit <http://www.iqpc-defence.com/GB-2232/ASPRS>

July 26-28, 2004. **III LBA Scientific Conference**, Academia de Tênis, in Brasília, Brazil. For further information, see the following URL <http://www.lbaconferencia.org>. Alternatively, additional information is available via electronic mail from brasil@lbaconferencia.org.

August 13, 2004. **Basic GIS Coordinates Seminar**, by V3 Consultants featuring Jan Van Sickle, Hyatt Regency Islandia, 1441 Quivira Road, San Diego, California 92101 (619) 224-1234. Register at: www.v3consultants.com

August 25-28, 2004. **Euro-Science Open Forum 2004**, will be held at the Stockholm City Conference Center in Stockholm, Sweden. For more information, go to www.esof2004.org

23-26 August 2004. **The 2004 Conference on Characterization and Radiometric Calibration for Remote Sensing**, will be held at Utah State University in Logan, Utah. The Conference provides a presentation style forum for scientists and engineers to present, discuss, learn, and obtain suggestions from experts in the community about calibration, characterization, and radiometric issues within the IR, visible, and UV spectrums. (<http://www.sdl.usu.edu/conferences/calcon/>)

September 12-16, 2004. **ASPRS Fall Conference: Images to Decisions: Remote Sensing Foundations for GIS Applications**, Hyatt Regency Crown Center, Kansas City, Missouri <http://www.asprs.org/fall2004/index.htm>

October 6-8, 2004. The **17th annual GIS in the Rockies conference** will be held at the Plaza at the Mart, Denver, Colorado. This year's conference theme is "Worlds of Opportunity." Topics include emerging industry standards; resource conflict management; surveying, cartography and geodesy; public policy; enterprise GIS and more. Concurrent technical sessions and the exhibition will be on Wednesday and Thursday. Technical tours and a golf outing will be on Friday. Workshops are also available. ACSM, ASPRS, GITA, PLSC and URISA are the meeting sponsors. GIS Colorado is an affiliate sponsor. Web address: <http://www.GISintheRockies.org>.

October 19-20, 2004. **GeoTech 2004 - Multi-Resolution Solutions: Using all the Tools in the Toolbox**, ASPRS Potomac Region, The Premier Mid-Atlantic (USA) Imagery and GIS Conference, Hosted by NOAA's National Geodetic Survey, Silver Spring, MD <http://www.asprspotomac.org/>

October 22-28, 2004. **Secular Variation in Tectonics and Allied Fields**, St. George, Utah. Penrose Conference co-sponsored by the U.S. Geological Survey, to be held at the Holiday Inn in St. George. Application deadline: July 1, 2004, Abstract deadline: September 1, 2004. For more information see [announcement.pdf](#) or contact dbradley@usgs.gov or jfdewey@blue.ucdavis.edu

March 7-11, 2005. **ASPRS 2005 Annual conference: Geospatial Goes Global: From Your Neighborhood to the Whole Planet**, Baltimore, Maryland, <http://www.asprs.org/baltimore2005>

Classifieds

The Region Board of Directors has created a Classifieds section in the newsletter. Region members seeking to hire or to be hired should send information to the Newsletter editor.

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Student Volunteer Opportunities. FREE CONFERENCE REGISTRATION. If you are a student at an accredited college or university and would like to volunteer at least 15 hours at the Fall 2004 ASPRS Conference in Kansas City please contact Prof. Monika Moskal at (417)836-4273 or email: MonikaMoskal@smsu.edu.

The Central Region thanks Western Air Maps for being the first donor to the new Central Region Corporate Scholarship Fund.

Donors Wanted for a Central Region Corporate Scholarship. The Board awarded two scholarships in 2003 and would like to continue this practice in future years. However, the principal in the Gene Lortz Scholarship Fund is sufficient to sustain one scholarship only. We would like to ask corporate members to consider donating to fund a new Central Region Corporate Scholarship to support students and future professionals in our region. Please contact our treasurer if you are interested in making a donation.

***We're
on our
way!***

Jerry Wagner
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Donors Wanted for the Francis E. 'Gene' Scholarship: The Board awarded two scholarships this year and would like to continue this practice in future years. However, the principal in the scholarship fund is insufficient to sustain the current level and number of awards. We would like to ask our members to consider donating to this fund to support students and future professionals in our region. Please contact our treasurer if you are interested in making a donation.

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**Advertise
in this
Newsletter!**

This newsletter is circulated to 120+ professionals, academics, and students in the Central Region. Rates are \$75.00 to run an ad in six issues of the newsletter. Graphics can be displayed. Color graphics can be displayed in the electronic version. The printed version is black and white. Revenue from advertising will be used to fund scholarships. If you would like to place an advertisement in this newsletter, please contact the Newsletter Editor at:

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!!Call for Nominations—National Director!!

Help Wanted!! The election of a new National Director has been postponed due to a dearth of nominees. The Central Region needs some professional, dedicated members to step-up and accept a nomination or self-nominate for this position. The National Director is the Region's representative on the national Society Board of Directors. The Society has several important issues to address in the next few years and we need a representative.

The Officers and Board of Directors for the Central Region will hold a special election to elect a member to fill the remaining two years of Kari Craun's term as our representative on the National Board of Directors. The Board would like to invite members to nominate fellow members (or themselves) for this office. The current Board strongly encourages people to self-nominate. Physical location does not preclude someone from serving. Teleconferencing, e-mail, and collaborative software can allow any member to participate.

The person elected to this position will serve from August 2004 through December of 2006. The national director represents the Central Region and serves on the ASPRS Board of Directors. The National Director works closely with the Board, the Executive Committee, and the staff of the society to provide leadership and oversight for the national organization. Board meetings are held in the spring and fall of each year, with periodic email or telecom communications between each board meeting. The only qualifications are ASPRS non-student membership and an interest in working to further the objectives of the society.

Individuals interested in being considered for nomination for this position should send their names and bio-sketch to the Central Region Nominating Committee. The society will also accept nominations from the region membership at large. Nominations close 23 July 2004. Ballots will be mailed at the end of July and the votes will be counted on 27 August. Any and all regular members of the Region are eligible to serve. If you would like to nominate someone or nominate yourself, please contact the nominating committee chairperson, Scott Perkins, by written, voice, or electronic correspondence.

Mr. Scott Perkins

Vice President

9401 Reeds Road

Overland Park, KS 66207

Phone: (800) 643-5177

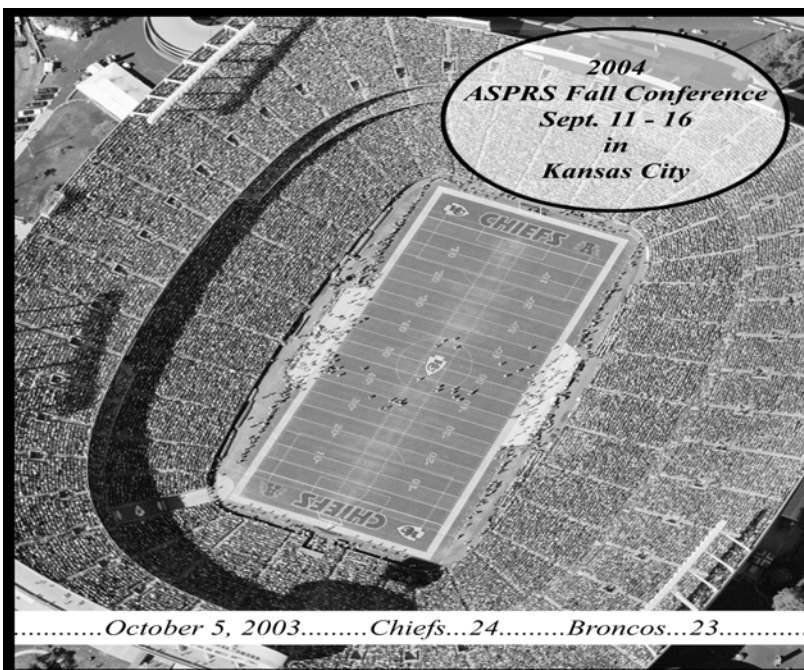
Fax: (913) 652-9933

Contact Email: sperkins@westernair.com

ASPRS Central Region Election Results

The votes are in and tallied. The Central Region Board announces that Dr L. Monika Moskal has been elected region Vice-President ; Jerry Wagner has been elected Secretary Treasurer; and Dr. Tarek Rashed and Eric White have been elected to Directorships. This election results mark an historic moment for the Central Region—Board representation from each of the four states comprising the region. We hope the diversity of the Board will translate into more activity and growth throughout the Region. The current Board composition breakdown is:

- ◇ Missouri: Dr Monika Moskal (Vice-President), Mr. Matt Reed (Past President), Mr. Jerry Wagner (Sec./Treas.), Mr. David Shaver (Dir.), Mr. Eric Constance (Dir.), Mr. Phil Rufe (Dir.)
- ◇ Oklahoma: Dr. Tarek Rashed (Dir.), Mr. Eric White
- ◇ Kansas: Mr. Scott Perkins (President)
- ◇ Arkansas: Dr. Sreekala Bajwa (Dir.)



2004
ASPRS Fall Conference
Sept. 11 - 16
in
Kansas City

.....October 5, 2003.....Chiefs...24.....Broncos...23.....

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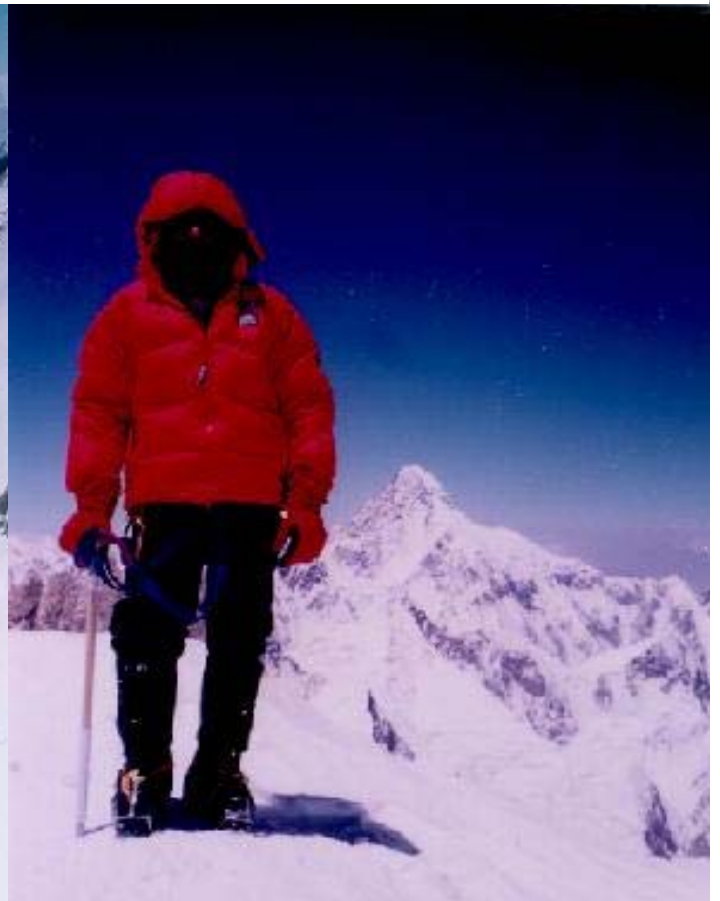
The Central Region was indeed fortunate when it convinced Mr. Bob Ader, Bureau of Land Management, to come and speak on his experiences climbing Gasherbrum II in northeastern Pakistan. Mr. Ader undertook this endeavor with nine other climbers from the Denver-Boulder area in Colorado in 1997. He had several carousels of magnificent slides to share with us. The Region Board decided to host a catered dinner as part of this presentation. There were 40-50 people in attendance. An article written by Mr. Ader about his experiences in the mountains can be found at (<http://www.cmc.org/cmc/rpt/g2.html>). The Board would like to thank Mr. Ader for a fabulous evening.



Mr. Ader en route to the summit of Gasherbrum II Photo by Gary Neptune



Masherbrum (7821m) and Nanga Parbat (8125m) Photo by Kevin Volz



Mr. Ader on the summit of Gasherbrum II Photo by Gary Neptune



ASPRS Fall Conference 2004 Take Me Out To The Ball Game



Vs.



**Monday September 13th, 7:10 pm
The Kansas City Royals take on
the New York Yankees
at Kauffman Stadium**



**We have 100 reserved tickets to the game, Tickets are \$12
Kincaid Bus service from the Hyatt Regency to the game and
return service will be provided by
Aerial Data Service and Western Air Maps, Inc.**



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**The bus will leave the Hyatt at 5:30 pm
The game starts at 7:10 pm
Tailgating before the game in parking Lot N, Spot 45-F
Provided by Intergraph**



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