

Central Region Newsletter

American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing

1400 Independence Road
Rolla, Missouri 65401

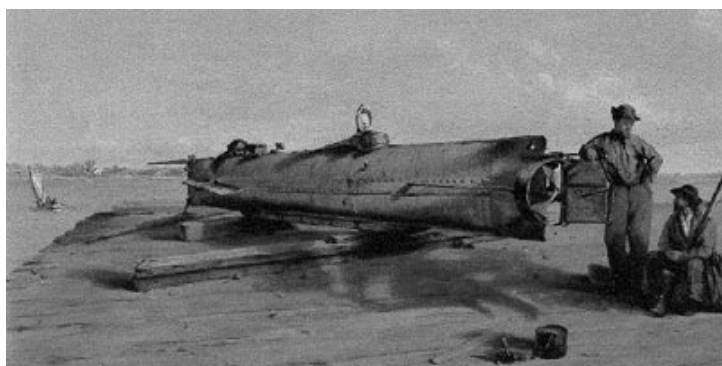
September 2002

Volume 14
Number 5

Special Technical Presentation

September 27, 2002

**Mapping the Civil War Submarine:
the C.S.S. Hunley**



The Central Region will host a special technical presentation about "Mapping the CSS Hunley" on September 27th, 2002 at Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield, MO. As seen in the March 2002 issue of the Professional Surveyor, on MSNBC and the Discovery Channel, this multimedia presentation will describe techniques used for the high-precision mapping of the recovered Civil War submarine built by the Confederate Secret Service (CSS), the H.L. Hunley.

The three-dimensional mapping effort combines LIDAR, laser, and conventional field surveying observations to support this archaeological study. The mapping included more than 22 million three-dimensional points on the Hunley that were measured in four days. Doug Devine, who is the owner of Pacific Survey Supply, will give the presentation. Expanding the science of measurements into both conventional and non-conventional environments has been a major portion of Doug's business.

Doug will be flying from Oregon to present this unique, innovative use of remote sensing technologies. Please plan to attend. Refreshments will be served.

Time: 2:00 PM, Friday, September 27, 2002

Location:

West Ballroom

Plaster Student Union

Southwest Missouri State University

901 South National Avenue

Springfield, MO 65804

ASPRS August Executive Committee Meeting Highlights by Kari Craun

I attended the August 18, 2002 ASPRS Executive Committee meeting in Bethesda, MD and wanted to provide some highlights from this, my first, Executive Committee meeting since elected to serve on the "excom" in April.

***Financial status of ASPRS** – One of the major functions of the Society's officers and the Executive Committee is to maintain a keen awareness of the financial health of ASPRS. The current financial health of the organization is excellent. The mortgage on the ASPRS HQ building in Bethesda is being paid down at a much faster rate than many thought possible, due in large part to the generous contributions of both sustaining and individual members. The Society is also beginning to build some reserves and to strategize about the best way to invest these reserves in a rather unstable investment climate.

***Group tax exemption for all ASPRS Regions** – Over the past year, ASPRS has been working to incorporate all of the Regions and include them in a group tax exemption. In order to finalize a Region's participation in this group exemption, a Regional by-laws change must occur. ASPRS HQ is concerned because Regions are moving slowly to implement by-laws changes and has imposed a deadline of October 15, 2002 for regions to change by-laws if they intend to be

included in the group exemption for the 2002 tax year. Note that the Central Region by-laws change is in the works and should be completed well before the October 15 deadline.

*Some of the key external activities ASPRS is involved in are the continued support for the NCEES model law and its implementation in various states and the 10 Year Remote Sensing Industry Forecast. Regarding the NCEES model law, ASPRS has instituted a policy and procedure for handling issues related to implementation of the model law. If anyone in the Region is aware of a pending change in surveying licensure laws to include photogrammetrists and GIS professionals, please let me know.

*The NASA/ASPRS 10-year industry forecast is entering Phase III of a three-phase study. The final phase will involve validation of Phases I and II, which included a survey of the industry to determine projected growth and the balance between data and technology availability versus need. It was reported that NOAA is very interested in the information produced by the forecast and has asked ASPRS to produce a 20-page summary of the first two Phases to support an on-going space policy review.

*Membership – Charts showing membership trends over the past 27 years were provided. There is a definite downward trend in membership - a definite concern to the leadership of the Society. Regions are encouraged to provide input on how the Society can increase membership and to develop plans of their own to bring new members to the organization.

***Conferences ***

- 2002 Annual Conference in Washington (in conjunction with FIG and ACSM) – this conference was a great all around success and was much more financially successful than anticipated.
- Fall 200 Conference (Pecora) in Denver – this is anticipated to be a very large fall conference – expected attendance 1000.
- 2003 Annual Conference in Anchorage – the budget was approved for the conference, including as the main social event a ride on the Alaskan railway (note that this should be an event not to miss!)

*Region website award of the year – criteria have been established for this new award – watch

for publication of these after they receive ASPRS Board approval.

*Two new scholarships are in the works – a Z/I Imaging scholarship and a scholarship dedicated to the memory of Paul Wolf.

As always, if you have any questions about any of the above, please don't hesitate to contact me at kcraun@usgs.gov or 573-308-3800.

Central Region Installs Officers



L to R: Kari Craun, Shelley Silch, Steve Rich, Phil Rufe, Matt Reed, Jerry Wagner, Scott Perkins

The Central Region held its Installation of Officers on July 31 at The Centre in Rolla. Officers are: Kari Craun-National Director, Michael Finn-Past President, Shelley Silch-President, Matthew Reed-VicePresident, Jerry Wagner-Secretary/Treasurer, Scott Perkins-Director, Chad Raymer-Director, Steve Rich-Director, Phil Rufe-Director, Larry Stanislawski-Director, Darryl Williams-Director. All the new officers would like to encourage the current members to participate in the ongoing membership drive. All new members (sign up between now and December 31st) are eligible for a “free” membership drawing.

Region Members Recognized for Length of Membership

The Central Region Officers and Board of Directors recognized thirteen members for their length of membership during the month of July. The region has eight members with ten years of membership: James Aber, Eric Cenovich, Bobby Gaddis, Ken Kvamme, Carol Miller, Matthew Reed, Steven Rich, and Scott Sullivan. Three members have held their memberships for twenty years: William Bridges, John Vance, and Robert Weih. Finally, Dr Elias Johnson and Harold MacDonald were recognized for thirty years of membership in our Society. Please acknowledge these individuals for their great achievement of belonging to ASPRS for such periods of time.

Technical Presentation: Complex Systems Approach to Modeling Land Use and Land Cover change in the Ecuadorian Amazon

Dr Joseph P. Messina presented on “Complex Systems Approach to Modeling Land Use and Land Cover change in the Ecuadorian Amazon” at the US Geological Survey’s Mid-Continent Mapping Center on 13 August 2002. Dr Messina is an Assistant Professor in the Geography Department at Michigan State University. His position at the university is in the Department of Geography & Center for Global Change and Earth Observation Michigan State University.

The Ecuadorian Amazon, lying in the headwaters of the *Napo* and *Aguarico* River valleys, is experiencing rapid change in Land Use and Land Cover (LULC) conditions and regional landscape diversity uniquely tied to spontaneous agricultural colonization, oil exploration, and spill-over effects of unrest in bordering Colombia. Focusing on the spatial and temporal dynamics of deforestation, agricultural extensification, plant succession, and urbanization a cell-based morphogenetic model of Land Use and Land Cover Change (LULCC) was developed as the foundation for predictive models of regional LULCC dynamics and landscape diversity. The human, geographical, and biophysical dimensions of land use and land cover change were examined, specifically deforestation, anthropogenic extensification, and reforestation. Remotely sensed data ranging temporally from the 1970s through 1999, combined with thematic maps of biophysical gradients and geographical accessibility, were linked to household and community survey data collected in 1990 and 1999. Image processing techniques for LULC characterization and spatial analyses of landscape structure were used to assess the rate and nature of LULCC throughout the time-series. The presented research combines household survey data with biophysical and geographical data through a spatio-temporal modeling context that links complexity theory and landscape ecology to a GIS and remote sensing analytical framework to increase the understanding of landscape dynamics across time, space, and landscape strata.

The models used to simulate LULCC incorporated a variety of ancillary information.

The models and simulation techniques Dr Messina uses in his research have produced encouraging results that suggest great potential utility in the LULCC field. Dr Messina is continuing his research by adapting the models to run simulations for regions in northern Thailand. The presentation concluded with questions and answers, followed by light refreshments. The Central Region Board of Directors would like to thank Dr Messina for his time and efforts.

2003 Francis E. “Gene” Lortz Memorial Scholarship

The Central Region Board takes great pleasure to announce the 2003 Francis E. “Gene” Lortz Memorial Scholarship for 2003. The Board recently reviewed the scholarship and due to long-term financial investments, felt that the award should be raised to the amount of two \$1,000 scholarships. One scholarship is for post-graduate or graduate students and one scholarship is for undergraduates. Additionally, the top 20 candidates will be given a one-year student membership in ASPRS. Please take the time to read and share this information with your colleagues. Additionally, for those members who teach or mentor students or know of any who are interested in pursuing studies in GIS, Geospatial Science, Imaging, Remote Sensing, Photogrammetry or related subjects, please encourage them to apply. Plans are to notify the winner in time for the start of the winter semester of 2003. So take a few minutes to think who might benefit from this opportunity and share the application, or point them to the website where they can download the application and requirements:

<http://www.rollanet.org/~asprs/scholars.html>

Upcoming Events

*The 18th International CODATA
Conference - "Frontiers of Scientific and
Technical Data"*

29 September-3 October 2002 - at the Hotel Delta Centre-Ville, downtown Montreal. This four day Conference is hosted by the Canadian and US National Committees for CODATA.
<http://www.codata.org/codata02/index.html>

*Integrating Remote Sensing at the Global,
Regional and Local Scale.*

November 8-15, 2002. The 15th William T. Pecora Memorial Remote Sensing Symposium/Land Satellite Information IV Conference and the ISPRS Commission I (Platforms and Sensors) Symposium, Denver, Colorado; conference website www.asprs.org/Pecora-ISPRS-2002. For more information about ISPRS please see www.isprs.org

*'Technology: Converging at the Top of the
World' 2003 ASPRS Annual Conference*

May 3-9, ASPRS Annual Conference, Anchorage, AK <http://www.asprs.org/alaska2003> Converge at the Top of the World. This is your personal invitation to participate in the premier conference for 2003 – the ASPRS Annual Conference in Anchorage, Alaska, May 5 to 9. This event will afford your organization the unique opportunity to meet and work with over 2,500 geospatial data and related technology professionals. The program will include workshops, educational sessions, technical tours and a world-class technology exhibit that will explore all areas of the collection, processing and use of geospatial data. Conference participants will represent the world-wide community of government, industry and academic organizations.

The William A. Egan Civic and Convention Center, a state-of-the-art conference facility, will serve as the headquarters for the 2003 ASPRS Conference. Located on Fifth Avenue in downtown Anchorage, Alaska. Within a two-minute walk is the Anchorage Hilton Hotel — the Conference Hotel. Plan now to join us at the Top of the World in May 2003.

**ASPRS 2003 Annual Meeting Call
for Papers**

Thursday, September 5th is the deadline for anyone interested in submitting an abstract for the ASPRS 2003 Annual Conference. Next year the Conference will be in Anchorage, Alaska, May 5-9. This conference, Technology: 'Converging at the

Top of the World', offers an excellent platform for you to present your latest work to your colleagues. Check the web site www.asprs.org/alaska2003 for full details.

We'll be looking for you in Anchorage.

**ASPRS National Board Approves
Two New Scholarships**

The ASPRS National Board of Directors recently voted to establish two new scholarships. The inaugural award of each scholarship will be at the 2003 Annual Conference. Limited details on the two new scholarships are listed below.

*Science Applications International
Corporation (SAIC) Estes Memorial
Teaching Award*

This scholarship honors the memory of John E. 'Jack' Estes. The purpose of the Award is to recognize individual achievement in the promotion of remote sensing and geographic information systems (GIS) technology and applications through educational efforts. The Award, provided by SAIC, consists of a presentation certificate or plaque, which includes the ASPRS and SAIC logos, and a cash award of \$2,000.

Z/I Imaging Scholarship

This scholarship replaces the old Z/I Imaging (formerly Intergraph) award for best scientific paper in spatial data standards, and reflects a corporate shift toward support for education.

The purpose of the Award is to facilitate graduate-level studies and career goals adjudged to address new and innovative uses of signal processing, image processing techniques, and the application of photogrammetry to real-world techniques within the earth imaging industry. The Award, provided by Z/I Imaging Inc. and to be made annually, consists of a one-year scholarship in the amount of \$2,000. The previous scientific paper award was valued at \$1,000.