

2013 -- End of Year Newsletter

Happy New Year to all our members and a special welcome for those who joined the Potomac Region for the first time in 2013.

During the past year the Potomac Region has seen a number of APRS activities at the national and the regional levels that attracted the support of Potomac region members. As our year opened the planning committees for the national conference were active. Under the able guidance of David Szymanski and John Iames, [Conference Co-Directors], the ASPRS national Conference “The Confluence by the Bay—A Gathering of Geospatial Insights” was held in Baltimore in March. The Region’s present and former Board members played active roles in the organization and in the technical program. The welcome reception that Potomac Region co-sponsored was well received by the whole group. Region Past-President Dave Szymanski, Co-Director of the Conference with John Iames (of EPA) delivered a successful conference that yielded \$189,102.27 for the Society. Our immediate Past President, John Manzer was Technical Program Moderator/Coordinator and members of the Region appeared throughout the program as speakers and session chairs. In the last few days I received the official letter and check from Jim informing us that the Baltimore Conference in March last year reported a net profit of \$ 189,102.27 and as the host region our share is 10% of this. Along with the check Jim sends a warm commendation of our members who directed and supported the conference. We owe them our gratitude.

In August Jim Plasker our Executive Director announced his retirement and the search for his successor began. After a rigorous search Dr. Michael Hauk was invited as the new Executive Director. Michael joined the Potomac Region as he moved into his new position this week following Jim's official retirement on January 10th. Please join me in welcoming Mike as he moves into his new position and into this Region. We also extend to Jim our congratulations on a job well done as he served the Society for 16 years as the Executive Director and during this time oversaw the creation of the ASPRS Foundation. This has been a transformational event that has given us a separate foundation able to support the Society’s Scholarships and Awards program and continue these programs into the future.

This is a welcome development that the whole Society appreciates. It was also accompanied the considerable achievement of paying off the Society's mortgage debt and giving us a clear title to our space in the Headquarters Building. In so many ways we all know Jim from conferences and meetings and from his tireless support of ASPRS at all levels. For the Potomac Region he assisted us with the many administrative tasks that are required of members of a well-established professional Society as we elect a new slate of volunteers to manage this Region each year. He also presided over the 75th anniversary celebrations of the Society in 2009. For these and many other reasons I ask you to send a note of appreciation to Jim as he retires after 16 years of very active service to our Society. The Potomac Region send sends him best wishes for his retirement with a great appreciation for his service.

While writing this newsletter I was stunned to receive the news of Kim Tilley's passing. I have been in some form of shock or denial and am late in sharing the news of the arrangements for Kim's memorial service. Kim was always there whenever I needed information or good advice. When Kim joined ASPRS the Executive Committee was presented with a proposal that the membership should be challenged to pay off the mortgage on our Headquarters. This was approved and the next item for discussion was a proposal to increase our mortgage to cover a short-term cash-flow problem. Working with the officers Kim became the leader of the small headquarters group that addressed this conflict. The appointment of Jim Plasker filled the vacancy in the the Headquarters team and allowed Kim the time to return to focus on her own job and work with Jim to pay out of the mortgage and improve the financial situation.

Because of this important effort the financial structure of society has withstood the economic recession. Kim has always been there to provide advice and direct the information flow and give support when needed. This is very evident in the support she has given to our young professionals and student members in last few years. Her influence has been greatly appreciated in this region and she will be missed by members at all stages of their ASPRS experience.

I thank Josh Sisskind for providing the following notice of the arrangements for Kim's memorial service this weekend. I reproduce it below in case you have not seen it:

The family has announced the details of the Memorial Service, to be held for Kim Tilley:
Saturday, January 18, 2014
at 11:00 a.m.

Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church
*3401 Nebraska Avenue, NW,
Washington, DC 20016
Phone 202-363-4900*

Memorial and online Guest Book are available at <http://obits.dignitymemorial.com/dignity-memorial/obituary.aspx?n=Kimberly-Tilley&lc=2216&pid=168824668&mid=5794029>.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that donations be made to the American Heart Association (<http://donate.heart.org/>).

It is our election season and we have our nominating committee hard at work looking nominees, We have a candidate for the Regional Director (to be elected at large) and Barbara Eckstein is willing to stand for a second term as National Director. **Please think seriously about any members who you feel would be good candidates for Secretary/Treasurer. We need nominations for this vacancy as Susan Oakley will become Vice-President at our annual dinner in March and Ashley Holt will become President of the Region.** Do not forget that the Secretary/Treasurer position is the first year of a four year term that includes a year as Vice-President (and Chairman of GeoTech2015) a year as President and a year as Past-President of the Region.

Please be sure to vote in the national elections where you will find that our Past-President, John Manzer, is a candidate for Deputy Director of the Remote Sensing Applications Division.

REQUEST TO ALL MEMBERS:

If you have research, technical insights or just good stories about our profession that you would like to share with our student members and young professionals we would like to hear from you. In order to assist our Student Chapters and Forums plan their annual programs we would like to offer a list of speakers and topics drawn from the membership. We have both active and retired members who have been involved in all aspects of photogrammetry, remote sensing and GIS. If you could please send a title and a short Power Point (10 slides or less) outlining your topic we will create an on-line data bank of speakers willing to make presentations at local schools, colleges and universities. This will then form a basis for sharing our expertise other members and a way of building a profile of what we do in and around the local community. Please forward these items to me at allanfalconer@aol.com and I will work with Martin to establish a site that can be used by members.

Look for the notice about the on-line voting in the near future and the **announcement of our Annual Dinner**. Please plan to attend, our featured speaker will be Jim Plasker ASPRS Executive Director for the past 16 years and former USGS scientist. I look forward to seeing many of you at that event..... Best to all,



President ASPRS Potomac Region (2013)



For Immediate Release
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ASPRS Appoints Dr. Michael Hauck as Executive Director

BETHESDA, Md., January 6, 2014 -- ASPRS announces the appointment of Dr. Michael Hauck as the incoming ASPRS Executive Director. Outgoing Executive Director, James Plasker, announced his retirement from ASPRS, effective January 10, 2014. Hauck becomes only the fourth Executive Director in the past 47 years of the organization's history. Both incoming and outgoing Executive Directors look forward to working together to ensure a smooth and effective transition.

Hauck has over 20 years of experience in the creation and application of remote sensing and geospatial information technologies. Reflecting the diverse membership of ASPRS, he has practiced in academic, government, Fortune 500, and start-up settings; and in industries that include transportation, energy, telecommunications, and defense. In addition to technical breadth, he is a versatile, collaborative, and adaptive leader with over a decade of general management experience that includes both board and executive positions in not-for-profit organizations. His volunteer work includes service on local, State, and National boards, e.g. the Venture West Network of entrepreneurs, the State of Wyoming Telecommunications Council, and the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies. His key scientific accomplishment has been the acquisition, processing, and interpretation of the first-ever deep seismic reflection profiles through the Himalayas, which were part of his PhD dissertation in Geological Sciences at Cornell University. Beyond training in science and engineering, Hauck is also a student of science and technology communications, and a graduate of the Leadership Wyoming trustee leadership development program.

In accepting his appointment, Dr. Hauck said in part, "I am excited about the opportunity to join you, the other officers and directors, councils, advisory groups, members, and external stakeholders as we collectively advance the goals of ASPRS. The women and men of ASPRS have immense technical depth across a broad range of disciplines that few professional societies can match. The work of ASPRS members is integrated into so many aspects of modern life that it is easy to take their work for granted. From the internal workings of GPS to the imagery embedded in the daily weather forecast, ASPRS members are behind the scenes making it all work for the betterment of humankind. Whether they serve in academia, government, or industry, I want to help members tell their stories, maintain their skills, grow in their profession, inspire others to join us, and build the future in an ethical way that honors the public support that ASPRS receives. I am honored to be asked to join this winning team."

Speaking on behalf of ASPRS, President Steve DeGloria expressed his excitement and enthusiasm for the appointment of Dr. Hauck as an effective leader of our professional society and geospatial community, "All of us welcome Michael and look forward to working with him, headquarters staff, and our volunteer members to build and sustain ASPRS as a professional organization and to advance imaging and geospatial science and technology for all of society in the coming years."

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Founded in 1934, ASPRS is an international professional organization of 6,000 geospatial data professionals. ASPRS is devoted to advancing knowledge and improving understanding of the mapping sciences to promote responsible application of photogrammetry, remote sensing, geographic information systems and supporting technologies. For additional information about ASPRS, visit our web site at www.asprs.org.