ILLINOIS GIS NOTES

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLINOIS GIS ASSOCIATION

Richard Hilton: Professional Biography 1939 - 2010

Richard Hilton began his career with Lake County, IL, in December, 1974, as the Project Leader for the County's first online application, a criminal justice system for the Sheriff's Office, and subsequently became the County's first Technical Services Division Manager. During his tenure, the County was chosen to be one of seven pilot sites for the first IBM implementation of a relational database software package.

In 1980, Richard formed an inter-departmental committee to explore the emerging potential of computer mapping. He initiated a pilot project in 1981 and presented the results to the County Board in 1982. This resulted in County Board support to begin a GIS program.

Richard accepted the responsibility to coordinate and support this program. At the core, the program sought to forge relationships with municipalities, federal and state agencies, universities and non-profit organizations to foster intergovernmental cooperation and avoid duplication of effort and to accelerate the adoption of GIS technology by all participants.

During his tenure with the GIS/Mapping Division, working with county departments and other partners, he implemented the first broad family of internet-accessible GIS applications in Illinois for internal staff use and for the general public. This resulted in a major reduction in telephone calls and visits to county, municipal and township offices by the public. Based on feedback and user statistics, these applications proved to be very successful at leveraging the power of GIS and making information available to all, twenty-four hours a day.

Through Richard's oversight, the Lake County GIS program grew to be highly regarded by many for its accomplishments and received a Special Achievement Award from the Environmental Systems

Richard Hilton (standing, far right) meets with GIS Managers and senior staff from Lake and McHenry counties (Illinois) and Kenosha and Walworth counties (Wisconsin). Left to right: Scott Schutze (Kenosha); Keith Caldwell (Lake); John Wisniewski (Walworth); Nicole Gattuso (McHenry); Richard Hilton (Lake); Karen Montgomery (McHenry, retired).

Richard Hilton (front row, far right) meeting with GIS managers from northeastern counties in Illinois. Standing, left to right: Tom Nicoski (Kane), Tong Zhou (Will), Alan Hobscheid (Cook); Seated, left to right: Bill Faedtke (DuPage), Nicole Gattuso (McHenry), Richard Hilton (Lake).

Inside this issue...

CONTEMPLATIONS
from your President

By Curt Abert

Greetings! I want to report that the Spring 2010 conference in Champaign was awesome! There were many great workshops, talks and posters. Our keynote speaker, Scott Elrick, gave us an interesting presentation about coal, coal formation, and the geography and climate of Illinois as it was 300 million years ago. As with any of our conferences, I learned something new that I could apply to my own work. I was also very pleased to see the number of students both attending and/or interning for ILGISA at the conference. I am also looking forward to the Fall 2010 conference, October 20-21 at the NIU Naperville Campus. The i-Hotel in Champaign and the NIU facility in Naperville are good "fits" for our conferences and I am pleased to say that we have reserved these facilities through Spring 2013. I hope to see you at a conference soon!

I am very pleased that ILGISA remains a strong and dynamic organization in these financially troubling times. I know that most organizations, public and private, are feeling the economic pinch. I've heard from several members lamenting that they were not able to attend the Spring conference because there was a lack of travel money. ILGISA is looking into ways to provide conference content to you. We have many options available to us. We are looking at capturing popular workshops and streaming them on-line. We are also looking into developing shorter (and focused) webinars so that anyone anywhere can log-in and learn. We have ideas, but I am always open to hear your thoughts too.

What can we do to serve you better?

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Research Institute (ESRI), an award for intergovernmental cooperation from the United States Geological Survey (USGS), and several awards from the National Association of Counties (NACo).

Richard was active in a number of professional associations and other public service organizations, including the following:

- Illinois Mapping Advisory Committee (IMAC), which establishes mapping priorities to the USGS and fosters joint funding partnerships (1985-2008)
- National Association of Counties GIS Committee (1994-1997)
- Federal Geographic Data Committee standards committee on Earth Cover, representing NACo (1995-1997)
- Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (1984-2008)
- Chairman, Intergraph Midwest Regional Users Group (1988-1991)
- Vice President, Intergraph International Users Group (1991-1993)
- Municipal Arc Users Group (2001-2007)

As part of his passion to share his experiences, he authored numerous articles for professional journals and made several presentations at conferences, including the following:

- American Public Works Association
- American Society of Civil Engineers, Chicago
- Illinois Lakes Management Association

Among one of his many accomplishments and one he found most gratifying, Richard was the co-founder of the Illinois Geographic Information Systems Association (ILGISA), serving as board member, Vice President and then President for a number of years. He was the recipient of numerous ILGISA awards, most prominently the Dahlberg Distinguished Achievement Award, given to those who have made significant statewide contributions to the advancement of government GIS, and was made a life member of ILGISA.

Richard Hilton retired from Lake County on January 18th, 2008, after 33 years of service.

Keith Caldwell, GISP Manager, Lake County GIS/Mapping Division

GIS Notes from the Editor

I hope this issue of *GIS Notes* finds you wrapping up a relaxing, yet productive summer. In this special issue of *GIS Notes*, we pay tribute to the late Richard Hilton. As described in the memorial articles written by Keith Caldwell and Don Luman, Richard was instrumental in the early founding and growth of ILGISA. In a separate tribute article, several of Richard's colleagues and friends share their personal memories of his friendship and influence on their careers, and on GIS in the state as a whole.

As I think you will agree, the diversity of applications is a hallmark of GIS. ILGISA, of course, serves a valuable role in connecting GIS professionals in diverse fields and disciplines, from transportation planning to natural resources management. Towards this goal, we continue to strive to highlight projects in *GIS Notes* that capture the breadth of GIS in the state. From mapping utilities on a university campus, to managing Emerald Ash Borer infestation, to assisting in emergency response, I hope you will enjoy a sample of the diversity of GIS activities and projects ongoing throughout the state as highlighted in this issue of *GIS Notes*.

We continue to look for ways in which to expand *GIS Notes*, and for additional ways to link the membership with GIS-related news, events, projects, and "happenings" within the state. Be sure to note the inclusion of the new "USGS Corner," and the "News and Events" sections in this issue. Also note the new "Conference Papers" section, devoted to written articles derived from ILGISA conference presentations. We cordially invite you to consider submitting an article or content to appear in future issues of *GIS Notes*.
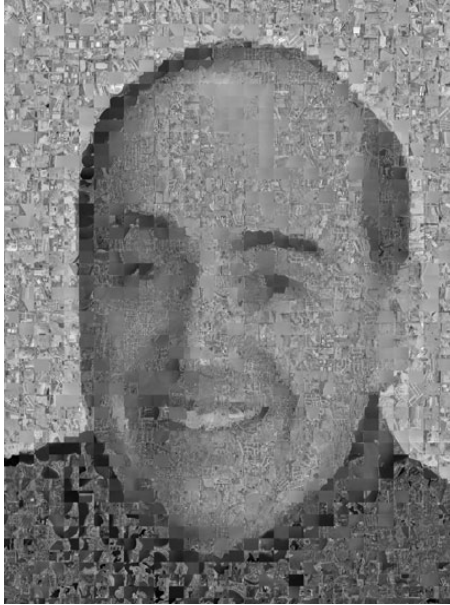
As always, we welcome your comments and suggestions.

Best Regards, John Kostelnick, Editor, *GIS Notes*
jkostelnick@ilstu.edu

A Tribute to Richard Hilton
1939 - 2010

Janet Agnoletti, Keith Caldwell, Mary Clement, Gail Krmenec, Bryan Luman, Carmi Neiger, Jack Nowak, Peter Schoenfield, Thomas Thomey

Click here to view the enlarged moasaic

A map of Richard Hilton. This photo mosaic is composed of regularly sized tiles from a 2004 aerial photography flight of Lake County. Richard had the vision and determination to put into place an annual aerial photography program for the County, the value of which is being accessed on a daily basis by county staff, data sharing partners, and users of the County's interactive mapping application.

Photo mosaic created by:
Bryan Luman, GISP
Principal GIS Analyst
Lake County GIS/Mapping Division

Editor's Note: The following tributes have been written by friends and colleagues of Richard Hilton. Similar to the mosaic of aerial photographs that create his likeness to the left, the tributes below create a collage of Richard's lasting contributions to ILGISA and GIS in the state of Illinois.

"Nowadays, we often start our life journey, mobile population that we've become, visiting a vast array of places and spaces of infinite variety and contrast. Along the way we are minutely influenced by people we encounter along the way, as well as by the legacy of those who came before them. If you are reading this article, then (perhaps unbeknownst to you) Richard Hilton has undoubtedly touched your life journey thus far, in a very personal and beneficial way. You may have never met Dick, but you are an active and vibrant part of his legacy through your association/membership with ILGISA. As such, you are charged with sharing his gifts to you with the current and future generations of spatial thinkers and doers, movers and shakers.

Let me explain. In my GIS life journey thus far, I can identify many who guided my path (i.e., whose impedances were thoughtfully placed at critical intersections, increasing the depth of my understanding of all things spatial). But above these, there was/is the triumvirate (whose paths probably never brought them all face to face at one place and time): Ian McHarg, Jack Dangermond and Richard Hilton. Ian McHarg, in his *Design with Nature,* introduced me to the concept of polygon overlay, and got me thinking about the earth-shaking power of spatial relationships, long before there was technology developed to assist us in implementing such bright ideas. Then Jack Dangermond came along and developed GIS software, and instilled in me a deep sense of the technology's potential value through the free sharing of spatial data which is common to the needs of all decision-makers. Symbiosis at its finest! And then along came Richard Hilton, who in his professional life was the embodiment of Jack's utopia of government data sharing and communication. Could this sequence of encounters ever have happened by chance alone—no way!

Dick was the great enabler. He got us 'government entities' to begin to work together, (and thoroughly enjoy it), as is currently manifested in the twenty-year-grown ILGISA trunk, and its many offshoots of cooperative efforts to share geospatial data and GIS applications throughout the state. Dick excelled at reaching out to us, letting us know that united we could lead the masses and support their decision-making processes with ever-so-critical spatial information. Shortly after I started as a city GIS manager for Lake Forest back in 1997, Dick contacted me about a cooperative effort between the county and city, and it blossomed from there. Back then, this was unprecedented in the Chicago metro area. Today it is a given, largely because of Dick's approach, and his wiles about how it could be made real in a government organizational setting with the complexity of metro-Chicago, and beyond that, the entire state of Illinois. Amazing! Thank you Dick, for enriching all our lives in this very unique way! May we continue to expand your legacy, as we grow in understanding of the dynamic power that symbiotic relationships bring to all things spatial!
Richard Hilton was also a friend to many, of whom I counted myself blessed. He instinctively knew when it was the 'right time' for a fine lunchtime dining experience, and introduced me and many others to the culinary delights of restaurants right under our un-smelling sniffers. Wow, did Dick know how to pick 'em, and how this could brighten up my day/week/month! I will forever be grateful for our good times, and for having a small role in Dick's life, but more importantly, his very large role in my life and all our lives!"

Mary Clement
Argonne National Laboratory

Richard Hilton - Continued from page 3

"I don't know where to begin, I suppose with a name… Richard Hilton never much cared for being referred to as "Dick." He confided this little known fact to me once a number of years ago. He said "Dick" stemmed from a decision made between him and a close childhood friend also named Richard. In order for friends to distinguish between them, they decided to toss a coin to see who would go by the name "Richard" and who would use "Dick." Even after being told this story I still called him "Dick." I think it was just habit after so many years.

I'll leave it to others to expound on Dick's accomplishments and contributions relating to GIS and building linkages and relationships between agencies and people. I will attempt to paint a picture of a multi-faceted person who was a colleague, mentor and friend by describing him through music.

I tried to select a set of lyrics that I thought would be representative and meaningful to the type of person Dick was. Looking over a collection of music he and I shared over the years, I found it difficult to pick only one. In his work he was interested in the many aspects of GIS, so too in music. He listened to a verity of musical styles, appreciating each for its unique qualities.

Here are a few artists he enjoyed along with a description of how I feel they represented a portion of his personality…

Roar with laughter to the bluesy lyrics of Etta James or Koko Taylor.

Dick had a terrific sense of humor. And although he claimed he couldn't retell a joke very well, he always seemed to deliver the punch line with full effect.

Listen in silence to the classical music of Yo-Yo Ma or Vivaldi.

Dick had a constant appetite for information. He could often be seen at his desk with headphones on typing away on the computer in quiet contemplation or reading up on the latest technology trends.

Enjoy the endless tunes of the Grateful Dead or Allman Brothers Band.

Enjoy what it is you do, Dick would say. He remarked how much he enjoyed the work he did and the people he worked with.

Revel in wonderment of the theme music from Harry Potter or Jurassic Park.

Dick would enjoy the occasional extended Friday lunch at one of his many favorite restaurants and order dessert. In reference to dessert, he would say listen to your inner child and have as many as you want. He truly enjoyed life.

Relax to the homegrown rhythm of John Prine or John Hyatt.

Dick was an avid gardener and would, after checking his schedule to make sure he didn't have any commitments, take a day off when the weather was just right to enjoy working outside. Even so, he would still stay in touch by e-mail to check on projects or share insightful blasts of wisdom.

Appreciating the ever changing lyrics tagged to the end of a colleague's e-mail signature.

Dick had an appreciation for the accomplishments of others. If he came across a particularly good GIS website, he would often send off an e-mail to the developer to complement them on their design. He encouraged others to do the same.

Dick, like many of us, couldn't be stereotyped into one category, musically or otherwise. Rather, he had a unique curiosity about him that led him to seek knowledge and understanding of whatever it was he came across. He was good-humored, intelligent, enthusiastic, positive, spontaneous, and considerate. He cared deeply about his work and ILGISA and he brought his many talents to each. After his retirement he offered to be a "sounding board" if needed. And while his counsel was valuable and his offer kind, more importantly I was looking forward to continuing our friendship.

Crazy rooster crowin' midnight, Balls of lightin' roll along

Old men sing about their dreams, Women laugh and children scream

And the band keeps playin' on."

> Keith Caldwell, GISP
> Manager
> Lake County GIS/Mapping Division

"Richard Hilton's ideas were his map - he knew where he was and knew where he wanted to go. I suspect for Richard the journey was just as important, and knowing Richard, just as amusing, as the destination. There was the development of the Lake County GIS, the founding of ILGISA, the data sharing and cooperation fostered among governments at all levels, not the least of which was the federal (gasp!) government in the early days, and the mentoring and development of countless GIS practitioners, professionals and wannabes.

When I think of Richard Hilton, I can't help but think of another Richard, Richard Dahlberg, a fellow founding member of ILGISA. Separately, and together, they embodied the best in Geography, with a capital G, that special field of relationships, at least some of which are geospatial.

So to Richard, I say thanks for taking us along on your journey. Although you arrived at your destination, we will press on, hopefully finding our paths just as amusing and rewarding along the way as you did."

Gail A. Krmenec
U.S. Census Bureau

"My first encounter with Richard Hilton took place while I was still in graduate school. Soon to graduate, I decided to enquire about the GIS activities of local governments in the Illinois/Wisconsin area for my pending job search. I placed a blind phone call to Richard and was surprised to find someone who not only answered his own phone but who was willing to talk about the GIS efforts of Lake County with a lowly grad student. Richard was always willing to spend time talking about and fostering the use of GIS technology. What is the point in spending years of time and money developing GIS datasets if they are not put to use?, Richard would often say.

Richard Hilton - Continued from page 4

Ever the champion of cooperative partnerships, Richard was careful not to release data until the recipient fully understood the uses and limits of the data they were about to receive. This watchful eye fostered numerous relationships with local, state, federal and non-governmental agencies and brought closer the goal of making GIS useful. Likewise, Richard also promoted public accessibility to GIS data. Lake County's first interactive GIS website hit the public internet in February of 2005, the same month that Google Maps was released. Still going strong, the replacement for the interactive GIS website is in active development using modern techniques that will render an even greater amount of GIS data usable to the public. Sadly, Richard passed away a few days before a scheduled visit to demonstrate the new interactive web technology. He would have been proud."

Peter Schoenfield, GISP
GIS Analyst Supervisor
Lake County GIS/Mapping Division

"I met Richard in 1986 at a local Intergraph user group meeting. Fresh out of school I didn't know my IGDS from my DMRS. It was clear that Richard was the principle player at these conferences. My impression at the time was that Richard was not just a leader but a pioneer in an industry that was in search of acceptance. Our paths did not cross again until 1994 when I took the GIS Manager position with the City of Highland Park. Richard took an active interest in what we were trying to accomplish and to my relief openly shared county data with the City. The Highland Park program and I suspect many others would not have been feasible without these contributions. His advocacy for open data sharing leaves a lasting impact on our industry and provides a model for the future.

Over the years I have met with Richard (and his staff) many times to discuss current events and new opportunities. I must admit that Richard sometimes made me a little anxious. He had strong opinions and if he did not like an idea he would let you know without apology. However if he liked it, he made you feel like a son who had gained the approval of his father. I will miss

Richard but will never forget his vision and shaping of our industry. I owe a great deal to him. "

Thomas A. Thomey
Founder
Municipal GIS Partners, Inc.

"I first met Richard Hilton in 1982. At that time he was putting together a Technical Committee comprised of staff members from various County entities that were involved in mapping. This committee met at least once a month to discuss its Department mapping needs. While working at the Lake County Forest Preserve in the Survey Department, and doing hand drafting, I was selected to be the liaison with the County of Lake, Management Services Department. Dick had a vision to create a Standard Base Map in digital format that could be used by all County Departments.

In 1984, the County contracted with the Sidwell Company to work with us in establishing the County base work. The company provided various base data such as road centerlines and eventually aerial photography. This data was then used for a map conversion project that was worked on by staff from various county departments. Dick was instrumental in the purchase of four dual-screen digitizing Unix Workstations from Intergraph. He would provide help and support to staff to digitize line-work to update various countywide maps. As time went on, the vector data turned toward GIS data, and Dick headed up the first county in Illinois to produce GIS mapping. He was always very understanding in the needs of all departments.

Over the years Dick was not only my mentor in GIS, he was also a great colleague, and a good friend."

Jack Nowak
Computer Engineering Technician
Lake County Forest Preserve District

"From the first time I met him, Richard Hilton was a significant presence in my professional life. I admit it: as a regional planner entering the GIS world, I was intimidated by Richard. With time, however, came my deeper understanding of "all things important" in GIS and why they mattered so much to Richard. I also came to know that when I turned to Richard for advice or help, I would find a colleague and friend.

I went to Richard in 2001 as the new director of the Barrington Area Council of Governments (BACOG) with my first project being the administration of the budding multi-government GIS program. I asked for data for the Barrington Area GIS (BAGIS) and for a groundwater project we were about to start. Richard challenged me with questions like, "What will you use the data for?," "How will you maintain the data?," and "What do you know about metadata?" By doing so, he gave me – not inadvertently – the start of a framework for shaping the BAGIS program that I would use for years with our local GIS committee.

Richard provided support along the way, as well. When we developed an IMS and created a GIS services consortium for our government members, Richard was a sounding board for me. Another time, when I ran into a local glitch, Richard helped me shape the rationale to sell my GIS program to my own members. He didn't have to spend that time with me – but he did so because he was a generous man.

Richard Hilton was a teacher, and not only on ILGISA topics of state and regional importance. He shared the rudiments of GIS with me in the early years. I graduated to hearing finer points later on. He shared his insights as well as his data. We enjoyed a few jokes together, and my first feelings of intimidation turned into looking forward to the next time I would see him. Though I recognize the tremendous presence Richard was in the broader GIS world, for me the most important thing was my sense of his personal support and his desire for all of us to succeed."

Janet L. Agnoletti
Executive Director
Barrington Area Council of Governments

"If our lives are measured by what we leave to others, Richard Hilton's life was large indeed. His professional achievements in our community and the wider geospatial world were significant, but his legacy is felt most in what he asked us to think about and challenged us to do with and for each other.

Richard was a public servant in the truest sense of both words. The highest standard of personal and professional ethics was knit through the fabric of his being. He spoke softly, but didn't need to carry a big stick. Instead of his voice, his actions declared loudly and consistently that by working together in a noble cause we could participate in the repair of the world, or at least nudge it in a better direction. He led by example, not by fear, force or volume. And his example was enough of a guide. Richard had a genuinely open mind. Not just with some subjects, not just some of the time. His curiosity and hunger for knowledge were much more important to him than being right. To paraphrase Bob Weir, he was truly a person who looked for answers and not for fights. That isn't to say that he wasn't right much of the time – he was, or so it seemed to me. Rather, for Richard there was more joy to be found in the process of getting to an answer than in getting there first, or in letting someone else know he had. He knew what questions to ask to bring you closer to the answers you sought. He gave permission to disagree, to reach your own conclusion, to think for yourself. He was easy to learn from, maybe because he knew there was always more to learn.

Richard was a realist without being a cynic; he saw the world for what it was, but didn't lose hope in its betterment. He displayed wisdom without pedantry, and connoisseurship without snobbery. He was caring, but not intrusive; though he valued precision of word and thought, he was not stiff or inflexible. Richard somehow managed to be formal without being rigid. Curiously, I found that formality to be a comfort. It was the sign of a basic respect for others that was fundamental to Richard's nature. It was an invitation, an encouragement, and a quietly persistent reminder to be your best, to do your best, to give of your best because the world deserved nothing less than your best. That is what I miss most."

Carmi Neiger
Assistant Professor, Elmhurst College

Richard Hilton and ILGISA

Dick Hilton presenting at the 1990 DeKalb GIS conference.

On March 7th this year, ILGISA's co-founder and second president, Richard (Dick) Hilton passed away. In 1996, Richard Dahlberg, ILGISA's first president and other co-founder, passed away. It is therefore an appropriate occasion to review the Illinois GIS Association's organizational history in the context of these two individuals, without whose direct contributions we would not have ILGISA. A brief history is available online at **http://70.84.184.12/History/** and Dick Hilton also provided a formal, more detailed history to commemorate ILGISA's 10th anniversary in 2005. This narrative draws upon these and other historical resources.

There is a well-known saying, "Rome wasn't built in a day" — but parts of it were. Neither was the Illinois GIS Association created in a single day, but parts of it were also. More than fifteen years after its founding, ILGISA remains as the sustaining edifice which embodies GIS in Illinois, and as Dick Hilton described our organization in his written history, "… – a safe place for sharing experiences and networking." ILGISA's pedigree extends back thirty-five years to 1975 when the Illinois Mapping Advisory Committee (IMAC) was created to facilitate and expand mapping programs of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) within the state. Chaired by Richard Dahlberg for two decades, IMAC also provided a vital forum for state mapping and GIS professionals, and Dick Hilton was a regular attendee at IMAC meetings. Complementary to IMAC, the main publication outlet for statewide mapping news from 1981 until its retirement in 1999 was *Illinois Mapnotes,* subsequently renamed *Illinois GIS and Mapnotes* in 1989 to reflect the rapid emergence of geographic information systems technology in Illinois. *Mapnotes* Editor was Richard Dahlberg, and Dick Hilton served as Associate Editor for six years, who also contributed several articles beginning in 1985. In the May 1991 issue of *Mapnotes,* Dahlberg commented on the change in Associate Editor, "… He [Hilton] brings to the journal a wealth of experience in computer mapping and GIS. He is also the founding and current editor of the Intergraph Users Group geographic information systems newsletter, *Geograph*." The frequent interactions over many years ensuing from IMAC meetings and the *Mapnotes* publications established and reinforced the strong professional relationship between Dahlberg and Hilton, experiences which would become critical in the formation of ILGISA.

August 9, 1990, was one of those key days that helped to build on ILGISA's creation. Referred to as the "DeKalb GIS Conference" and attended by over 220 individuals representing forty-three Illinois counties, it was the largest GIS meeting to date in Illinois. Richard Dahlberg was the conference moderator, and Dick

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Hilton was responsible for one of the eight invited presentations. The official record of that conference (*Illinois GIS & Mapnotes,* Vol. 10, No. 2, May 1991, pp. 19-22) includes a review of each presentation, and the summary for Dick's presentation begins with, "Lake County is considered to be the leader among Illinois counties in the development and implementation of a county level GIS." The summary continues to report, "...He [Hilton] pointed out three issues, in particular, that must be dealt with in implementing a geographic information system. The first is user needs assessments and coordination. In Lake County, a committee of map users met regularly to work together and agree on a common map base and general approach..."; .."The second issue is that of accuracy both in relation to the level of accuracy necessary for the greatest number of users, and the degree of accuracy associated with data coverages coming from different sources"; ..."The third issue is that of challenges and liabilities related to your data base." The results of a statewide survey of public sector GIS in Illinois conducted during December 2007-January 2008 (*GIS Notes,* January 2009, pp.12-17) shows that coordination, communication among organizations, and data resources and availability ranked among the top five broad topics concerning GIS organizations — key issues addressed by Dick Hilton seventeen years earlier at the DeKalb GIS Conference. Incidentally, Dick Hilton suggested the idea of a first-time statewide GIS survey in early 2007 and co-led the year-long effort, further evidence of his leadership and commitment to GIS in Illinois.

Four other key days and events important in ILGISA's creation occurred during 1991-1994. As a direct result of the very successful DeKalb GIS Conference, the first of four GIS in Illinois Conference meetings was held December 5-6, 1991 at the Woodfield Hilton Hotel in Arlington Heights — the first such meeting to be held in paid hotel facilities and the first that charged a registration fee to attendees, two features that would be instituted for ILGISA. The GIS in Illinois Conference became increasingly popular, with nearly 300 participants attending the 1993 meeting. With attendance growing each year, coupled with rising conference costs, Dahlberg and Hilton met with the NIU Center for Governmental Studies at the 1993 conference and discussed the

formation of a non-for-profit association. CGS had been assuming the personnel and mailing costs associated with the GIS in Illinois Conference meetings, as well as the *Mapnotes* publication costs (which were substantial). At a planning meeting later that year Dahlberg, Hilton, and the CGS discussed the procedure for forming an association, and it was at that meeting the name "Illinois GIS Association" was first used.

Richard Dahlberg and Dick Hilton conferring at the 1991 GIS in Illinois Conference.

During the spring of 1994, Dahlberg and Hilton worked together to develop a business plan and an organizational structure for what would soon become ILGISA. Key meetings quickly followed — a) Dick Hilton suggested a Board of seven individuals representing federal, state, and local government and universities: Dick Dahlberg-NIU (President), Richard Hilton-Lake County (Vice President), James Carter-ISU, Donald McKay-ISGS, Robert McLeese-USDA, Sheryl Oliver-IDNR, and Don Rich-IDOT; b) the first ILGISA Board was approved; c) draft bylaws created; d) and in August, 1994, the Board met for the first time at the Illini Union on the University of Illinois campus. I was privileged to attend the meeting as an observer, and I now recognize that gathering as the inauguration of the Illinois GIS Association. The formal announcement of the formation of ILGISA came a few months later at the 1994 GIS in Illinois Conference.

Illini Union North Lounge, venue for the first ILGISA Board meeting.

What was the status of computer technology and the Internet during the early-to-mid 1990s? The following benchmarks provide a context for the time period during which the critical stages of the ILGISA's organizational development were occurring:

- Tim Berners-Lee introduces the World Wide Web (WWW) to the public on August 6, 1991.
- Fifty World Wide Web servers are known to exist as of January, 1993.
- President Bill Clinton puts the United States White House online with a World Wide Web page and email address for the President, Vice President and First Lady in 1993.
- Intel releases the Pentium Processor on March 22 1993. It is a 60 MHz processor, incorporates 3.2 million transistors, and sells for $878.00.
- NCSA at the University of Illinois releases Mosaic, the first WWW browser, on April 22, 1993.
- Netscape is founded in 1994 by Marc Andreesen and James H. Clark.
- Commodore computers files for bankruptcy in 1994, thus eliminating the sole competitor to Microsoft.
- Vice President Al Gore makes a speech in 1994 where he coins the term "Information Superhighway."
- YAHOO is created in April, 1994.
- Forty-five million people are using the Internet in 1995 —30 million in North America, 9 million in Europe, and 6 million in Asia/Pacific. *(For comparison, recent estimates indicate there are nearly two billion Internet users and 44 million servers worldwide.)*

On March 27th, a memorial service for Richard Hilton was held in Highland Park, Illinois. Presiding over the service was the Reverend Patrick McGuire. After listening to several individuals who had come forward to speak about Dick's professional life and his love of mapping, Reverend McGuire concluded the service by saying, "...we are now all a part of the map of Richard Hilton...". I can think of no better commemoration of his legacy.

Donald Luman, Principal Geologist
Illinois State Geological Survey
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

A Hearty Welcome from the Illinois Geographical Society

Michael Cornebise
IGS President
Eastern Illinois University

The Illinois Geographical Society (IGS) is an organization that promotes geography in all of its manifestations in the state of Illinois and beyond. The organization welcomes and includes members from all walks of life including practitioners in private industry, the public sector, and education (K-12 through higher education) and we also attract "lay geographers" who simply have an interest in geography in general. In fact, Illinois is one of the few states in the country that can boast a functioning and vibrant geographical society in the year 2010!

The most significant event in the IGS calendar is the annual meeting that is usually held in late April. The first meeting was in 1959 (in Normal) and the society has held an annual meeting in each year since 1967. We concluded another successful meeting in Rockford this past April. Members and non-members alike are invited to the next get-together slated for April 28-30, 2011, in Macomb. The meeting features several activities including a day-long Friday fieldtrip that focuses on key geographic points of interest in the meeting locale and immediate surroundings. We also sponsor an awards banquet that honors the achievements of Illinois geography students at two- and four-year institutions as well as an outstanding Illinois geographer who has contributed to the field of geography and to the Society. The final day is reserved for professional paper and poster presentations that are noted for being student-friendly and serve as an ideal venue for undergraduate and graduate student presentations. In recent years, there has been a notable increase in GIS related presentations and the Society welcomes greater connections with GIS practitioners and educators.

The IGS has published a peer-reviewed journal, the Bulletin, on a bi-annual basis for over 50 years. Since the mission of the IGS is to promote geography in all of its facets, the journal publishes manuscripts and other materials that are of interest to its diverse readership. Over the years, the journal has published a wide array of material that ranges from lesson plans suitable for elementary, middle and secondary education to articles from some of the premier geographers in the state and beyond. Special themed issues (e.g., Route 66, Chicago Geographies, Sense of Place, the I & M Canal, etc.) have been published in the past and the editorial staff welcomes suggestions for future themed editions.

The IGS welcomes geographers who have an interest in promoting geography and we're always looking for folks who have an interest in serving on the Executive Council. For more information, please visit the IGS website: **http://www.cod.edu/igs/**. Keith Yearman, IGS Central Office Director, will be happy to assist you with general questions and membership information and Michael Cornebise, IGS Bulletin Editor, can address your questions concerning submission requirements and other Bulletin policies. The IGS website contains a link to the Bulletin archives that includes material dating from 1944 to 2009. Consider becoming an IGS member and help us promote geography in Illinois and beyond!

USGS Corner

Shelley Silch
USGS Geospatial Liaison for Illinois

The U.S. Geological Survey is celebrating the 125th anniversary of its national program for topographic mapping (1884–2009). Topographic maps became a signature product of the USGS because the public found them—then and now—to be a versatile tool for viewing our Nation's vast landscape. During the 20th century, more than 55,000 large-scale topographic maps were published by the USGS, culminating in complete coverage of the contiguous 48 States in 1991. In the last quarter-century, the rise of the digital age, the rapid growth of Internet communications, and the technology of geographic information systems (GIS) have transformed topographic mapping science, enabling the electronic construct of The National Map of today. To read more about the History of topographic mapping: **http://nationalmap.gov/ustopo/history.html**

The US Topo is the next generation of digital topographic maps from the U.S. Geological Survey. Arranged in the traditional 7.5-minute quadrangle format, digital US Topo maps are designed to look and feel like the traditional paper topographic maps for which the USGS is so well known. At the same time, US Topo maps provide modern technical advantages that support wider and faster public distribution and enable basic, on-screen geographic analysis for all users. US Topo maps are available free on the Web. Each map quadrangle is constructed in GeoPDF® format from key layers of geographic data – orthoimagery, roads, geographic names, contours and hydrographic features - found in The National Map, which is a nationwide collection of integrated data from local, State, Federal, and other sources. US Topo users can turn geographic data layers on and off as needed; zoom in and out to highlight specific features or see a broader context; and print the maps, in their entirety or in customized sections, on a wide variety of printing devices. Additional analytical tools are available free for download. File size for each digital 7.5-minute quadrangle is about 15-20 megabytes.

The prototype of US Topo, "Digital Map–Beta," has been available since June 2009 and currently covers 17 states. US Topo maps include all of the content of the earlier "Digital Map–Beta," plus integrated contours and hydrographic features. As the US Topo product evolves, the USGS will provide digital versions of earlier edition topographic quadrangle maps and will incorporate additional geographic data layers from The National Map.

Search at Starved Rock State Park: Working Together For Better Results

Anthony Marzano and Rebecca Colwell

On the evening of February 4th, 2010 Will County's Emergency Management Agency (EMA) was contacted by the Utica Fire Protection District of LaSalle County. The Illinois Conservation Police had a missing individual believed to be seen last at Starved Rock State Park on January 31st. EMA's Search and Rescue (SAR) team, commonly called upon to assist in missing person searches, was asked to organize a major search for the woman on Saturday February 6th. In fact, this was the fourth search of the year, although this particular search was more complex than usual for several reasons. It involved one of the busiest state parks in Illinois, with over 1200 acres of woods, trails, prairies, and of course, hundred foot cliffs, some of which overlook the Illinois River. To further compound the issue, severe winter conditions, which had been plaguing the area all week, had continued with an additional 2-3 inches of snow expected to fall before the search.

The woman had been missing for five days, as reported by the Evanston Police Department. Through their investigation, it was determined that the woman was despondent and contemplating suicide. Investigators obtained information which led them to believe she had taken the train from her home in Evanston to the area near Starved Rock State Park. Evanston police notified the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), who later confirmed this information when the woman was discovered on video surveillance at the Starved Rock Lodge.
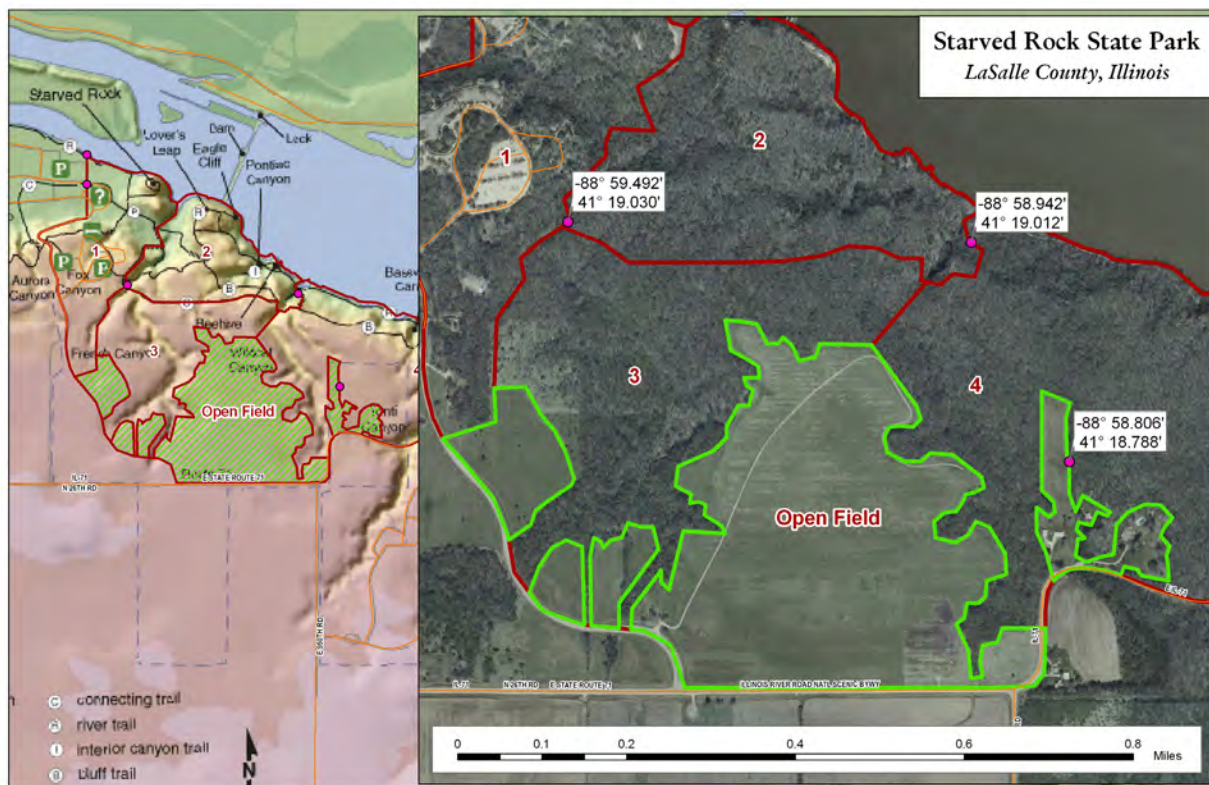
Will County's SAR team has technical search planners use a wide variety of tools in order to plan the most effective search for the circumstances. In this case, they used international research on despondent individuals to form the basis of the search plan. Statistics indicate that approximately 50% of despondent persons are found within 0.7 miles of where they were last seen, they tend to travel on marked roads or trails, and they seek out areas of scenic or prominent significance. Once the subject selects the area where they will attempt suicide, they tend to leave the path at a right angle, go no more than approximately 60 feet, and choose a location that is not

readily visible from the path, such as a bush or thicket. This research, combined with the video surveillance, provided a solid basis from which search planning could begin.

The Will County GIS Department was called to assist in the search preparation on Friday afternoon. The task was seemingly simple: the SAR team wanted maps. However, due to the park's remote location, far outside Will County's limits, GIS data that would assist in the search effort was scarcely available. A trail map of the park was available on the internet, but not the GIS layers used to create the map. The task of accurately redeveloping these GIS layers for a dense, tree-covered area in a few hours was not plausible. In addition to basic GIS layers of the park (i.e. park boundaries, trails, roads, elevation data, aerial photographs), the SAR team also needed search areas sectored off throughout the park so that search groups could be deployed most effectively.

After several Google searches, a data collection project conducted by the Illinois State Geological Survey (ISGS) in 2005 detailing the elevation and trail layout of the park was discovered. With no other known source of accurate GIS data for the

area, the database served as a starting point and numerous individuals involved in the project were contacted by phone. Other agencies assisted with the data collection as they became aware of the search.

The outpouring of assistance with data gathering was overwhelmingly positive. By the end of the day, emails and phone calls were being exchanged between the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, ISGS, IDNR, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, and the United States Geological Survey. If an agency had data, they sent it to Will County. If they did not have data, they sent email requests to agencies and colleagues they thought might be able to help. By 5:00 PM Friday night, numerous GIS layers and aerial images of Starved Rock had been collected and were ready for mapping. With input from SAR team members, search area sectors were developed throughout the park. In total, 11 different maps were produced for the next day's search.

The search brought together roughly 75 people from 11 different agencies. All of this resulted in the missing individual being successfully located in 26 minutes from the beginning of the search. She was found in a location which virtually mirrored the research and statistical guidelines employed by the search managers. Sadly, the woman was determined to have been deceased for several days.

The quick results amazed even the most seasoned veterans of the SAR team, and were highly praised by the IDNR and Utica Fire Department. The pre-plans and maps substantially heightened the search efficiency which was emphasized by many members of the search teams present that day. The plans and mapping data have been saved and will be used in any future searches in the park. Searchers, who rely heavily on mapping and GPS for navigation in the field, are often critical of the maps they have to work with. In this case, as reported back to team leads, the availability of maps that detailed their specific search areas greatly enhanced the searchers' effectiveness and overall safety. This is especially important when searchers DO find what they are looking for, and have to quickly summon help to remote and nondescript locations.

Metadata Training Grant Award

Leanne Brehob-Riley

The Champaign County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) utilizing the staff of the Champaign County GIS Consortium (CCGISC) was awarded a 2010 National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) Cooperative Agreement Program (CAP) Category 1: Metadata Trainer and Outreach Assistance grant. As part of the grant award several two-day FGDC approved metadata workshops will be held throughout the State beginning in late/fall early winter through early spring. These workshops will be offered at no cost at the following locations - Elmhurst College, Eastern Illinois University and Parkland Community College. These academic institutions have graciously offered their resources to advance the awareness and need of properly composed metadata. The workshop curriculum will target GIS data/metadata creators. The workshop dates will be announced in the coming months.

The value of a hands-on workshop for metadata creators is much more effective if managers understand the need and importance of metadata creation and maintenance. To that end, CCRPC will develop a one-hour presentation to target mangers. At a minimum, this "Metadata for Managers" will be presented at an ILGISA conference.

The Importance of Metadata and the CCRPC Approach

The use and development of geospatial data has become an integral part of our society. Geospatial data is commonly used for planning and decision making through sophisticated and simple analysis techniques. However, the analysis is only as good as the data inputs. It is of the utmost importance that data users understand the advantages and limitations of the information. With time and resource constraints and the growing demand to create and distribute geospatial data, the ability to properly document data is becoming more difficult. This is particularly true at the local and regional government levels where disparate departments throughout an agency create data layers without the knowledge or direction of the GIS-knowledgeable staff.

CCRPC believes that the best way to address this issue is through a three-part effort: 1) provide straightforward, reusable FGDC approved metadata curriculum for the Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata (version 2.0) to metadata creators, 2) educate managers as to the importance of metadata, and 3) provide sustained support internally through CCRPC resources and existing and future partner agencies.

This approach will educate both managers and trainers and help pave the road for metadata advocates and possibly future trainers throughout the State. The development of a straightforward, reusable metadata curriculum (i.e. a "Metadata for Dummies" concept) will be used to help eliminate the common perception that metadata creation is cumbersome and overly time-consuming. Eventually the framework established from this project could be leveraged to train and implement other standards and policies.

About CCRPC / CCGISC

The Champaign County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) is an intergovernmental membership organization that provides and administers a variety of planning, community & economic development, early childhood education, and social services for Champaign and surrounding counties. One of the programs the CCRPC administrates is the Champaign County GIS Consortium (CCGISC). The CCGISC is governed by the following seven member agencies: Champaign County, the Cities of Champaign and Urbana, the Villages of Rantoul, Mahomet and Savoy and the University of Illinois. The Consortium was formed in order to secure the benefits of data collection and analysis at the county-wide scale and to share the cost of GIS implementation, maintenance, and data acquisition. In addition to servicing the needs of the member agencies, the CCGISC staff through the CCRPC maintains the Piatt County GIS and commonly solicits and completes GIS contract work for both private and public entities.

For more information regarding Metadata Training please contact Leanne Brehob-Riley, GIS Manager, Champaign County GIS Consortium – Champaign County Regional Planning Commission by phone at 217.328.3313 or via email at lbrehob-riley@ccrpc.org.

2010 – Oops, 2011 Statewide Orthoimagery Project

Shelley Silch

Yes, you read that right… we had to adjust our plans because of a lack of funding. Were you counting on the project to have access to FREE imagery? Well, we are still attempting to pull together enough partners to collect a 12-inch resolution, 4-band, leaf-off statewide orthoimagery acquisition for Illinois. We have found partners with some state agencies (IDOT, IEPA, IDNR), local (IIRA) and federal (USGS, NGA) . . however; this has not been enough. It would only take a few more partners to make this project happen. For example. . . just four counties contributing $50,000 could make this project happen. Are you one of those counties that $50,000 sounds like a bargain? All contributing partners receive a copy of the entire dataset ahead of any public distribution (this could be anywhere from 3-7 months ahead of USGS distribution).

The economy has hit everyone hard and it is evident throughout the GIS community. Has your municipality or county been unable to collect your orthoimagery project? Were you counting on the statewide project – even though it would have been a lower resolution?

Perhaps it is time to begin discussions about a perpetual project that would ensure a statewide acquisition on a yearly basis? Every other year? How about every third year? Let's do a little math . . .

- 2010 Cost for 12-inch, 4-band, leaf-off (95 counties) + distribution = $2.4 million
- If each county were willing to equally share the cost of the project = $2.4 million/95 ~$25,000
- OR each county could pay according to sq mileage (~$45/ sq mile)

BUT LET'S MAKE THAT DEAL BETTER
Would you rather have Federal, State, local, educational entities contribute to the project:

- To drop the price?
- Get additional products?
- Pay for a county that is unable?

FOR MORE INFO:
Amy Eller - 217-782-4748
Amy.eller@illinois.gov
Dan Wilcox - 217-328-9732
Dan.Wilcox@illinois.gov
Shelley Silch - ssilch@usgs.gov

News from your Mid-America GIS Consortium (MAGIC) liaison:

Shelley Silch

Congratulations to the Illinois GIS Community! Illinois became the newest member state to join the MAGIC Consortium. We join Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma and South Dakota as a regional organization seeking opportunities to partner among GIS professionals to present educational opportunities that would encourage best practices in geospatial data development, applications and promote the motto: "build once and share often." For more information, see the press release that appeared recently in *Directions Magazine*. **http://www.directionsmag.com/pressreleases/state-of-illinois-joins-midamerica-gis-consortium-magic/121588**

The Consortium not only sponsors the biennial MidAmerica GIS Symposium, it also seeks outreach opportunities to create partnerships and implement new initiatives. Through strong leadership and creative partnerships, the MAGIC Consortium has branched beyond Symposium planning and execution to provide educational services and member support in a number of areas. MAGIC has spearheaded and sponsored significant projects, such as:

- MAGIC/USGS GIS and Remote Sensing Workshop at the Eros Data Center (EDC) in Sioux Falls, South Dakota;
- MidAmerica Street Addressing Workshop in Kansas City, Missouri;
- USGS Mid-Continent Mapping Center Workshops in Rolla, Missouri;
- State GIS Data Clearinghouse Disaster Recovery Back-up and Mirroring Services;
- MAGIC/USGS LiDAR Workshop at EDC in Sioux Falls, and;
- Multiple State GIS Conferences and meetings throughout the Region.

The National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) in Illinois

Jennifer Sharpe

Primary and Secondary Stewardship for the National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) in Illinois was established in 2008 with the USGS Illinois Water Science Center (IWSC) and the Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS), respectively. Recently, stewards from IWSC and ISWS met with Ray Postolovski, who provides NHD Partner Support for Illinois, to discuss the future of the NHD in Illinois and brainstorm ways to improve and enhance linework. Currently, Illinois is covered by the high-resolution NHD but lacks any local-resolution coverage, which is a denser network created using local elevation data. Instead of putting manpower into the continued maintenance of the high-resolution data, it was determined that testing should be done using local LIDAR to develop new local-resolution linework. Conflation of the high-resolution attributes would then be done against the new linework. Ray will return to Urbana, Illinois, in the fall to provide conflation training to both the IWSC and ISWS stewards who will then follow up by performing separate tests on selected watershed areas that are covered by LIDAR. Results will be presented at the Illinois GIS Association (ILGISA) 2010 Fall Conference. Additionally, the session discussing the results will be opened up for discussion on the NHD in Illinois. Please join us and learn "more than you wanted to know" about the NHD.

In related news, a new Illinois contact for the Watershed Boundary Dataset (WBD) has been selected. Timothy Prescott, with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, will be relocating to Champaign, Illinois this fall. The WBD is a companion dataset to the NHD and is now included in downloads made through the NHD and WBD portal at **http://nhd.usgs.gov**.

Jennifer Sharpe
Geographer
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Conference Papers

Campus Utility Project

Keisuke Nozaki, GIS Specialist, Western Illinois University GIS Center

Editors Note: The following paper was presented at the Fall 2009 ILGISA Conference in Naperville, IL.

Introduction
The Western Illinois University (WIU) GIS Center serves the McDonough County GIS Consortium: a partnership between the City of Macomb, McDonough County, and Western Illinois University. This paper discusses how to map campus utilities for a university such as WIU. This data is reviewed and updated for physical plant employees and shared with them through ArcReader and ArcGIS Server.

Methodology
There are three methods used to map campus utilities: (1) mechanical drawing; (2) utility locate; and (3) physical object. Mechanical drawing indicates Computer Aided Design (CAD) or hand drawings obtained by physical plant employees or contractors. Even though the drawings may be scanned or georeferenced, accuracy of the data may not be very high. Utility locate, called Joint Utility Locating Information for Excavators (JULIE) in Illinois, is supposed to locate underground utilities with an accuracy level less than 18 inches on either side of the utility. Physical object is the most accurate method, where we can physically touch the utility during the construction. Using a survey-grade GPS unit, accuracy of data may be as good as a few inches.

Results
Over 3,000 points were collected from utility locates (Figure 1). In the map, orange means communication such as fiber, phone, and cable TV. Yellow indicates gas, and red for buried electric. For physical object, we collected about 950 points; the majority of the points are storm inlet, sanitary manhole, and steam manhole. Total length of the utility lines we connected in this project is estimated at 48 miles.
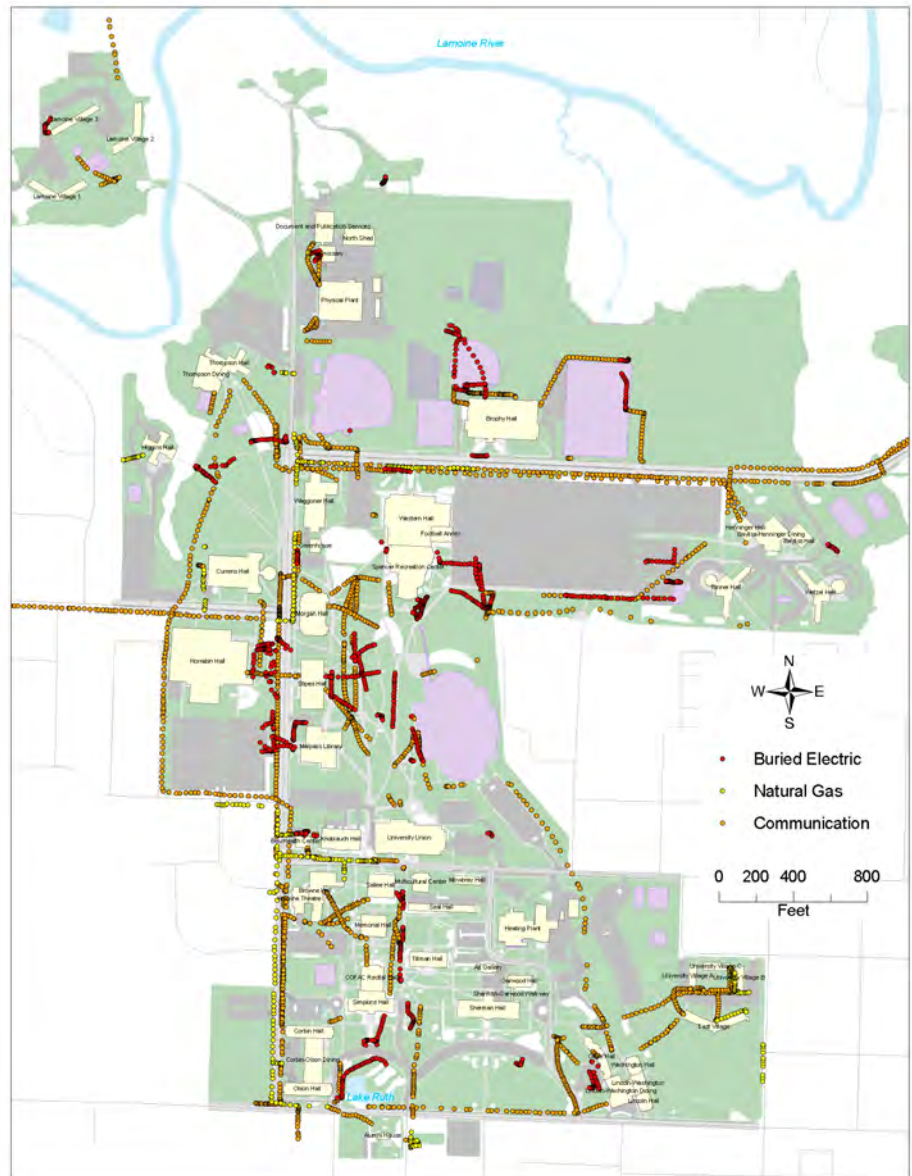

Figure 1. Points collected from utility locates at WIU.

Communication such as fiber optics used related tables because one fiber conduit may contain many fiber cables, which is a one-to-many relationship (Figure 2). The steam system for heating and cooling the buildings shows many types (direct buried, abandoned, walking-tunnel, or shallow tunnel) on the map (Figure 3).

Although not shown here, we also created maps for electrical, gas, phone, sanitary, storm, and water systems. All information that we developed is shared with physical plant employees. The GIS Center started providing ArcReader to each employee, but a challenge is not everyone is familiar with GIS applications. Basic training on how to use ArcReader was held a couple of times. In addition, data and software need to be updated on each machine, which requires significant time. On the other hand, ArcGIS Server became a handy tool for the employees. All they need is a web browser such as Internet Explorer and Firefox which they use on a daily basis. A concern is employees would not be able to access the maps when the Internet is not available. Maintenance of the server may require assistance from the University Technology Department.

Conclusions

Communication with physical plant employees plays an important role. Once utility maps are published, we sometimes receive an inquiry from the employees regarding the data. They tell us the correct location and attributes of the utilities. The GIS Center has been making a great effort to retrieve the information which may be stored in employee minds and converted to a digital format before they resign or retire from their jobs.
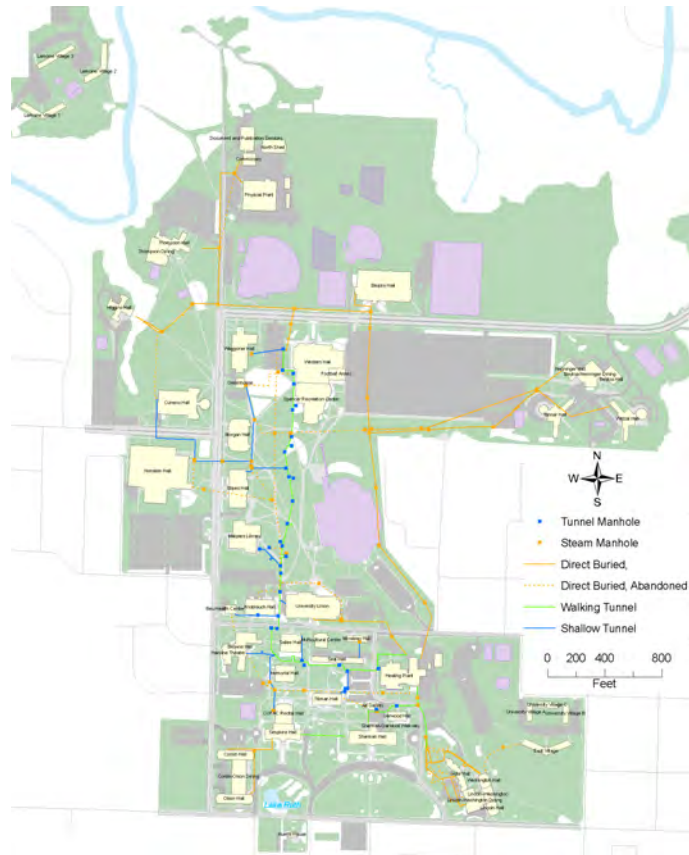
Figure 2. WIU fiber optics.

Figure 3. WIU storm system.

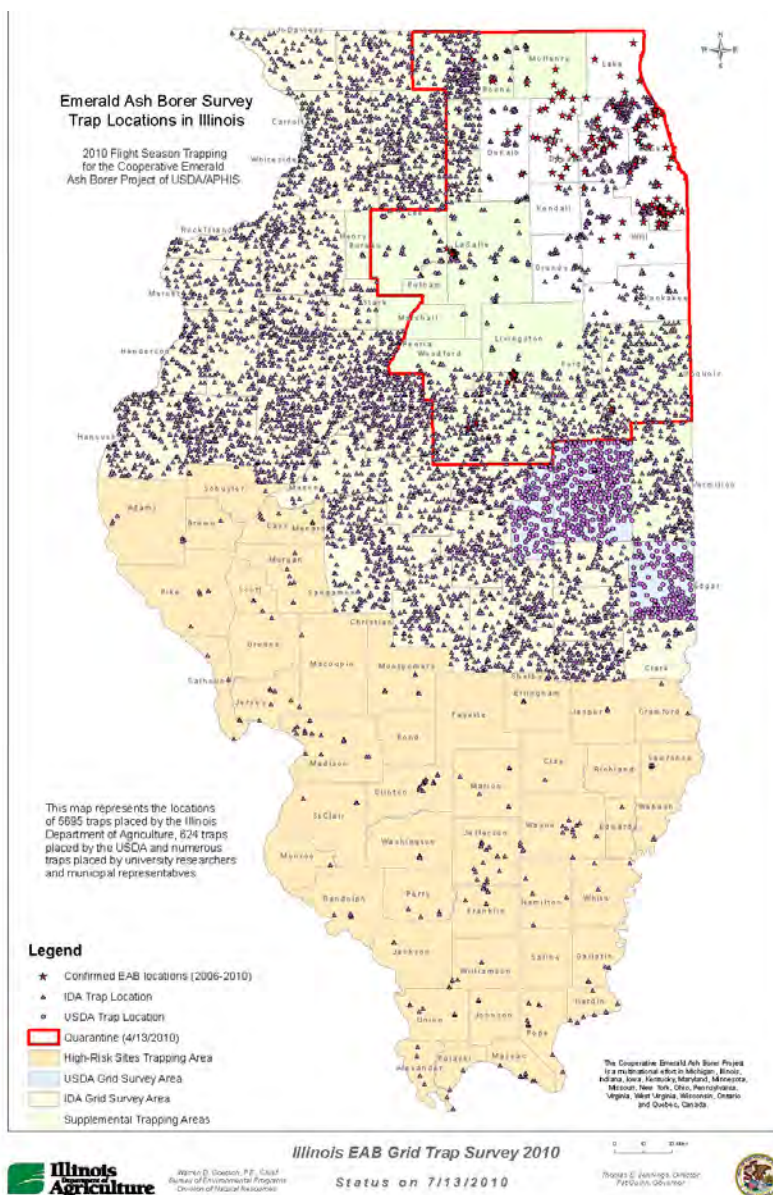## Monitoring the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in Illinois with GIS

Kevin Rogers, IL Department of Agriculture

According to the Emerald Ash Borer Info website, "The Cooperative Emerald Ash Borer Project is a multinational effort in Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Ontario and Quebec, Canada. The Project is focused on the Emerald ash borer (EAB), *Agrilus planipennis Fairmaire*, an exotic beetle that was discovered in southeastern Michigan near Detroit in the summer of 2002. The adult beetles nibble on ash foliage but cause little damage. The larvae (the immature stage) feed on the inner bark of ash trees, disrupting the tree's ability to transport water and nutrients. Emerald ash borer probably arrived in the United States on solid wood packing material carried in cargo ships or airplanes originating in its native Asia. Emerald ash borer is also established in Windsor, Ontario, was found in Ohio in 2003, northern Indiana in 2004, northern Illinois and Maryland in 2006, western Pennsylvania and West Virginia in 2007, Wisconsin, Missouri and Virginia in summer 2008, and Minnesota, New York, and Kentucky in the spring of 2009.

Since its discovery, EAB has:

- Killed tens of millions of ash trees in southeastern Michigan alone, with tens of millions more lost in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Ontario, Pennsylvania, Quebec, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.
- Caused regulatory agencies and the USDA to enforce quarantines (Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, New York, Ontario, Pennsylvania, Quebec, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Kentucky) and fines to prevent potentially infested ash trees, logs or hardwood firewood from moving out of areas where EAB occurs.
- Cost municipalities, property owners, nursery operators and forest products industries tens of millions of dollars" (Emerald Ash Borer Info Website, **www.emeraldashborer.info**

The Illinois Department of Agriculture has been using GIS on the project since 2006 to map confirmed infestations, define quarantines, and conduct delineation surveys, trap surveys, tree-climbing surveys and for the management of survey assignments and tree removals. The Department is currently placing traps during the flight season throughout the state primarily in a grid-based survey and at high-risk sites, such as state parks, nurseries, sawmills, etc. The 2010 grid survey traps plus the traps placed by local municipal officials will include a total of over 6,000 traps (Figure 1). The trap locations are recorded by Department field staff using hand-held PDAs paired with GPS sensors and a customized database application to record observations made at the tree during placement. The PDAs are synced to the USDA's Integrated Survey Information System (ISIS) centralized database, shared with the National Agricultural Pest Information System and then the trap locations, attributes and results are mapped for project management and decision making.

Additional information can be found at **http://www.emeraldashborer.info** or **http://www.agr.state.il.us/eab/index.php**

Figure 1. EAB trap locations, survey grids, and quarantine areas in Illinois as of July 13, 2010.

2010 ILGISA Outstanding Student Awards

Nikki Chaffin, Dawn Heckman, Kevin Hlava, and Alexandra Diana Maties were selected as 2010 ILGISA Outstanding Student Award recipients. Each student was recognized at the Spring ILGISA Conference in Champaign and presented with a plaque.

Nikki is a student in the Department of Geography at DePaul University. After graduation, she plans to continue in the GIS industry with full-time employment in the Army Corps of Engineers. Dawn is majoring in geography at Illinois State University. She plans to complete an internship at the Illinois State Geological Survey and then pursue a GIS career in the state after graduation. Kevin is a Geography and Geosciences major at Elmhurst College. Currently, he is working on GIS projects at Argonne National Lab. Diana is a student in the Department of Geography at DePaul University. She also serves as a research assistant, peer advisor and GIS laboratory assistant at DePaul.

The ILGISA Outstanding Student Award is presented to an undergraduate student of any major who has included GIS in their course of study. Students nominated for the award shall have demonstrated exemplary proficiency and understanding of GIS, potential contribution to the GIS community, and general success in school. Congratulations to all of the 2010 Outstanding Student Award winners!

Where are They Now?

Editor's Note: The following students are former ILGISA Outstanding Student Award winners.Compiled by Rich Schultz and John Kostelnick.

Leah E. Talaber (2006)
I work at Argonne National Laboratory in the Energy Systems Analysis and Assessment branch of the Infrastructure Assurance Center at Argonne. The core of my work involves geospatial analysis of critical infrastructure in the energy sector. Current and previous sponsors include DOE/OE, DHS, Army Corps of Engineers, Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTI) and other government agencies. The foundation of a large number of projects consists of performing research and making assessments as to potential consequences and the resiliency of Critical Infrastructure/ Key Resources. Being awarded the ILGISA Award provided the recognition I needed to establish employment and after a few years with Argonne National Laboratory, helped build my promotion case.

Christy Colantoni (2007)
I currently work for Northrop Grumman in St. Louis, Missouri as a programmer analyst. I support many different projects by providing them with custom tools for GIS applications. I am also heavily involved in implementing different GIS programs throughout the department. Lastly, I create and maintain ArcSDE databases for the St. Louis office. I was fortunate enough to graduate college with a job already lined up and I credit this, in part, to the ILGISA Award. It gave me an advantage that other college graduates did not have.

Todd Green (2008)
I am a GIS Technician within the City of Moline's (Illinois) I.T. department. My primary objective is to support city staff and help them to leverage the power of GIS in all levels. From the ground level, I maintain our survey grade GPS rovers and data collectors. I also maintain the city's GIS software and serve as a primary contact for troubleshooting. Lastly, I have created and maintain ArcServer sites as a means to serve our GIS data both internally and externally. I am very thankful to have received the ILGISA award. In a very competitive market that values experience, I feel that it helped to give me a platform from which to launch my career.

Chris Walker (2008)
I currently work for GIS Solutions, Inc. (GSI) in Springfield, Illinois as a GIS analyst. I have assisted in several different projects for our clients, although I have primarily worked on two projects. The first project is GSI's "Schools Analyst" application. We have collected attendance boundary maps at the high school level for most of the United States. The application will link information including school report card data, financial data, extracurricular activities, demographics, athletics, and advanced placement courses to school attendance boundary maps. The second project I have been working on is updating and maintaining the New York State Office of Cyber Security and Critical Infrastructure's (CSCIC) GIS database. I was honored to receive this award and believe it helped me because GSI is a frequent sponsor and exhibitor at the ILGISA conferences. It is great to be recognized in your field of study and it can lead to numerous opportunities.

Brian Firek (2009)
Brian was recently hired to work full time for NAVTEQ in Chicago, Illinois. He will continue to be a member of ILGISA and feels that his award helped make him more marketable and positioned him to experience both his internship and attain his current position.

Kevin Hlava (2010)
I work at Argonne National Laboratory in Argonne, IL. My job title is GIS CoOp Intern until August 2010 at which time I am looking to work full time. I am involved with numerous geospatial tasks as a GIS Intern and currently am completing a Renewable Energy Atlas for Federal Land (USFS). The ILGISA Award has helped jumpstart my career by making me a stronger entity here at Argonne and it has made me and my resume a strong competitor in a diverse job market.

Bylaws Committee Report

Bylaws Committee
Bill Faedtke, Chairman
Roger Diercks
Jason Verachtert

In May this year the ILGISA Board voted to recommend to the membership that they approve a number of significant changes to the Bylaws.

Among the recommended changes in the Bylaws was the creation of a new ILGISA award to honor the life and career of the late Richard Hilton and to revise the status of the Education Committee to a permanent standing committee.

Richard was one of the founding members of ILGISA and a very active member of our organization during its first fifteen years. He was highly known and respected for his ability to bring people together to share ideas and work tasks, and advancing the professionalism of GIS. The new Hilton Distinguished Collaboration Award will recognize those individuals that have made a significant contribution to the promotion of cooperation within our community and the people we serve.

The revised Bylaws will reaffirm ILGISA's commitment to the advancement of GIS education within the State of Illinois. Under the leadership of its co-chairman Dr. Rich Schultz and Dr. John Kostelnick, the new standing Education Committee will continue to promote educational opportunities for both students and GIS professionals. Through the development of student chapters of ILGISA, and the use of new technologies such as webcasting for ILGISA sponsored training events, the Education Committee will play an increasingly important role within ILGISA in the coming years.

As always, the ILGISA Board encourages our membership to play an active part in our organization including the advancement of our operating rules and procedures. We highly recommend that if you have any ideas or comments that you please forward them to the Board.

Publications Committee Report

Publications Committee
John Kostelnick, Chairman
Mary Clement
Rick Marshall
Brian Valleskey

The Publications Committee continues to explore additional avenues for connecting ILGISA members through publication outlets. Over the past spring, the Committee formalized a set of "Policies and Procedures" which will be utilized to guide the publication process of future issues of *GIS Notes.* We continue to expand on content sections in *GIS Notes* as well. Be sure to check out the new "USGS Corner" and the "News and Calendar of Events" sections in this issue. As we prepare for the next issue of *GIS Notes* (scheduled for publication in January), we invite you to contribute content for publication. Consider submitting an article about a GIS project that you are working on, or spread the word about an upcoming GIS conference, workshop, or event. Keep an eye out for the "Call for Content" that will be distributed in the fall with more details.

As always, we appreciate your feedback on *GIS Notes*, and welcome your thoughts on additional ways that we might improve ILGISA publications.

News

USGS and Spot image Corporation announce data agreement.
For details see
http://www.usgs.gov/newsroom/article.asp?ID=2495.

Calendar of Events

September 2
Southern Illinois GIS Users Group Meeting. East-West Gateway Council. One Memorial Dr., Ste 1600, St Louis, MO. http://www.ewgateway.org

September 8-9
Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) Conference. Springfield, IL.

September 12-16
National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) Conference. Minneapolis, MN.

September 28 - October 1
Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA) Conference. Orlando, FL.

October 5-9
Council of Geographic Names Authority (COGNA) Conference. Springfield, MO.

October 8-9
Association of American Geographers Great Plains/Rocky Mountain Regional Meeting. Lawrence, Kansas. http://geography.unco.edu/GPRM

October 20-21
ILGISA Fall Conference. Northern Illinois University, Naperville Campus. Naperville, IL.

October 22-23
Association of American Geographers East Lakes Regional Meeting. Grand Rapids, MI.
http://www.eastlakesaag.org

Association of American Geographers West Lakes Regional Meeting. Macomb, IL. Contact person, Dr. Thomas B. Williams, TB-Williams@wiu.edu.

ILGISA FALL 2010 CONFERENCE

Sheena Beaverson and Greg Johnson

The ILGISA Fall 2010 Conference will be all about Empowering People / Evolving GIS. This fall's keynote speaker will be William Henning of the National Geodetic Survey, presenting his thoughts on GNSS Positioning: Change as a Way of Life. And, speaking of change, there will be two new features at the offered: a Dinner Social and Lightning Talks.

Wednesday Night Social: Dinner for Eight

It seems like there's never enough time to interact with fellow ILGISA members. We hope to inspire you to spend some quality time with your peers by arranging a Dinner Social on Wednesday evening after the Vendor Reception. It's easy! ILGISA will book dinner reservations for 8-person tables at local restaurants and designate a table host to facilitate initial introductions.

All you need to do is sign up.
Note: This activity is not included in the conference fee; you will be responsible for your dinner expenses.

Lightning Talks

For the first time, ILGISA will offer a series of Lightning Talks so you can interact with your peers in a unique and dynamic way. Start small; share one great idea. Do you have something to boast about or a valuable lesson learned? Maybe you've never given a talk before, or a 30-minute talk is simply too long. This is your opportunity to tell a story, motivate, and inspire. Submit your name, agency and presentation title. It's just 5 minutes and a handful of slides; let's have some fun!

The conference will be held on October 20 and 21, 2010 on the Northern Illinois University campus in Naperville, Illinois. We would like to extend special appreciation to GIS Solutions (Silver Sponsor), The Seiler Company, (Bronze Sponsor), and MGP Inc. (Break Sponsor), as well as Aerometric, Cannon IV, ESRI, Latitude Geographics Group, Oce, Pro-West, Reuker/Mielke, Surdex, Elmhurst College and the USGS as conference exhibitors. And, we thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to keep the Illinois GIS community vibrant and empowered. Submissions for workshops, lightning talks, presentations, posters, and awards are currently being accepted at **www.ilgisa.org**.

Educator's Corner
ILGISA Membership

My last Educator's Corner column for the January 2010 issue of *GIS Notes* noted how much progress ILGISA has made over the past couple of years both in membership offerings and in improvements in the infrastructure of the organization. I am pleased to note that while technology continues to develop, so too, does the nature of the Education Committee of ILGISA. The most recent Bylaws vote includes an item to establish the Education Committee as a permanent fixture in the committee structure of ILGISA. I hope that you will make this a reality noting the accomplishments of the committee over the past two years by casting your vote for this important change in the Bylaws of the organization.

As noted in the previous issue of *GIS Notes*, ILGISA has already embarked on a mission to provide professional connections between the GIS community and the next generation of the geospatial workforce, namely those completing their degrees at institutions of higher education. ILGISA has offered increasing opportunities for the GIS community to interact with students and consider possible relationships via job shadowing opportunities, internships, and potential future employment with your organization. A recent meeting in the suburban metropolitan Chicago area brought a number of the GIS professionals together for the purpose of networking and learning about the geospatial curriculum in the higher education arena. Continued meetings such as this provide a clear pathway for communication between educators and the GIS community towards a sustainable future. I would heartily endorse the continued outreach between educators, students, and the GIS community in the future and in all locations throughout Illinois.

I am pleased to inform the membership that ILGISA, in partnership with the National GeoTech Center initiative (as part of a National Science Foundation (NSF) Grant), will be offering webinars to engage the geospatial community in topics they find to most be most worthy of discussion. We urge you to provide topics, participate in the webinars, or volunteer to lead a webinar. This not only provides for the continuing education aspect of the community, but offers all of us an opportunity to network and learn in the time between the Fall and Spring ILGISA conferences. Additionally, it accommodates those of us whose budgetary constraints may not allow for attendance at both ILGISA conferences in the course of a calendar year. Technology brings us this opportunity to communicate, learn, and grow together. I hope you will take part in this exciting development.

Recent conversations with Dan Wilcox, Illinois GIS Coordinator, have revealed that indeed outreach and education play a prominent role in the future of plans for the continuing development and organization of the GIS community within Illinois. Additionally, the increasing importance of the Department of Labor efforts to formalize geospatial technologies as an occupation and the work of the GeoTech Center to establish core competencies have helped the GIS community to gain a more firm foothold on the business world.

There are exciting developments on the horizon for ILGISA and the Education Committee. Please let me or any ILGISA Board member know how we can assist you or your organization further. See you at the Fall ILGISA Conference on October 20 and 21 in Naperville, Illinois!

Dr. Rich Schultz
Chair, Education Committee

ESRI Presents Special Achievement Awards in GIS to Two Illinois Organizations

Rich Schultz

More than 150 organizations were selected from approximately 300,000 to receive a Special Achievement in GIS (SAG) Award in a special ceremony at the 30th Annual ESRI International User Conference (ESRI UC) in July 2010. The winning organizations received this honor for their vision, leadership, hard work, and innovative use of ESRI's geographic information system (GIS) technology. "We created the Special Achievement in GIS Award to recognize our users' extraordinary contributions to global society," said ESRI president Jack Dangermond. "Each year, I look forward to being part of this ceremony; it's a tradition that has gained great meaning and importance for professionals in the GIS industry."

Statewide winners, who accepted their awards in San Diego, California, were presented to two Illinois organizations: 1) the CCIM Institute and 2) DuPage County. Both organizations received plaques as tokens of their achievements.

CCIM Institute is the leading member network and governing body of the largest commercial investment brokerage real estate network in the world. CCIM Institute received the award for implementation of an innovative geographic information system (GIS) solution developed by ESRI at the heart of its new commercial property listing and data exchange service platform. The portal manages commercial property listings for sale and lease throughout the United States and has make it possible for CCIM members to more easily share property information, repurpose data through innovative means for marketing and analytic purposes, and collaborate more effectively on property decisions.

DuPageMaps was developed using ESRI's ArcServer, Image Server, and ArcGIS Desktop 9.3.1, Adobe Flash Builder 4.0, and Microsoft SQL Server. DuPageMaps solved a business problem since GIS has been adopted as a mission critical function in most aspects of DuPage County government today. Deployment of the DuPageMaps system via a Web browser assured that the power of GIS will be available to all of the citizens of the county and to all of the agencies that provide services to the citizens. DuPage County noted that it is proud of the level of transparency it has achieved, and the DuPageMaps-based applications will provide even more access to the daily workings of county government.

Mr. Bill Faedtke, GIS Manager, accepted the award on behalf of DuPage County. Others involved in the project included Bill Syversen, (Manager of Systems and Programming), Mike Semenek, (GIS Analyst), Mary Elliott, (GIS Analyst), Michelle Zakosek, (Senior GIS Processor), Song Xu, (PC Support Analyst), Robb Schuldt, (Senior GIS Processor), and Carmella Burdi, (GIS Processor).

DuPageMaps can be accessed at **http://gis.dupageco.org/DuPageMaps**

Nominations for Awards

Rich Schultz

One role ILGISA plays is to formally recognize individuals and groups who have contributed to the betterment of GIS in the State of Illinois.

The Dahlberg Distinguished Achievement Award is presented to an individual who has made a significant contribution to the development and advancement of geographic information systems. Only one such award is made each year; it is possible that no award is presented in a given year.

Two persons received the Distinguished Achievement Award before it was named for Dr. Richard Dahlberg. In fact, Dick Dahlberg was the second person to receive the award. The Award was named for him after his passing in December 1996.

The Service Award is presented to an individual or organization which has provided exemplary professional service or support to the GIS community. No more than three such awards are presented each year.

The ILGISA Honors Committee is responsible for selecting persons worthy of special recognition. Award recipients to be recognized will be chosen from among those persons working with GIS in any field in Illinois who have made significant contributions to the adoption of GIS among Illinois Government entities, promoted knowledge of and information about GIS to interested users, or have provided outstanding service to ILGISA or the GIS community in general.

The Honors Committee is chaired by a director and at least two active members. Award nominations are now being accepted for the 2010 ILGISA Awards:

• The Dahlberg Distinguished Achievement Award
• The Service Award

Nominations can be submitted online at: **http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DFBZX9B**

Congratulations to New GISP's!

Congratulations to the following individuals who have obtained their GISP Certification since June 2010:

Amanda Ault, City of Evanston
Scott Bailey, Argonne National Laboratory
Shannon Geegan
Songmei Li, Pace Suburban Bus
Edward Miller
William Rockwell, Village of Vernon Hills
Troy Thielen, CDM
M. Diana Taylor, City of Chicago
Jared Ware, US Army Corps of Engineers

WELCOME TO ILGISA'S NEW MEMBERS!

Each year during our renewal period we gain new members, lose a few, and have a few that rejoin… help me welcome those that have enrolled to be part of ILGISA in 2010!

Peter Balingit
Property Loss Research Bureau

Matt Boyle
RJN Group Inc.

Carmen Bremmer
Archer Daniels Midland Co.

Pam Broviak
City of Geneva

Stephennie Brumley

Timothy Connet
City of Carbondale

Shannon Dolte
McHenry County

Josh Ftacek
City of Bloomington

Timothy Gansen
City of St. Charles

ATUL GHIMIRE
RJN GROUP

David Giblin
Natural Resources Consulting

Larry Gunderson
City of Naperville

Brandon Haist
City of Champaign

Matthew Jackson
Kaskaskia Enginering Group

William Jackson
McLean County

Robert Jewell
BP

Ronald Kaminski

Jeff Kohl
City of Bloomington

Patrick Korellis
Warren Township Highway Department

Jacqueline Krzyzak Stickney

Kevin Kuhlmann

Julia Langfelder

Jacob Lozano
Huff & Huff, Inc.

Trisha Mason
Edgar County Highway Department

Kelly McGee
Spatial Connections Inc.

Hamed Memovic
HBK Engineering

Blumhoff Michael
I.D.O.T.

Tony Minette
Village of Frankfort

Jeff Mitzelfelt
Illinois EPA

Imelda K Moise

Adam Nowinski
Forest Preserve District of DuPage County

Ryan Parchim
Illinois State Water Survey

Andrew Phillips
Illinois State Geological Survey

Kyle Phillips
Sangamon Regional Planning

Edward Poremba

Musa Qutub
Northeastern Illinois University

DeShawn Robins
City of Champaign

Keith Searles
Urban GIS Inc

Douglas Sharp

Anne Stillson
City of Naperville

Marcia Stoll
Illinois Action for Children

Mary Taylor

Bridgett Thomson
Fermi National Lab

Vladimir Vojvodic
INTEGRYS

Crystal Williams
Illinois State Water Survey

Mark A. Yacucci
Illinois State Geological Survey

Michelle Zakosek
DuPage County

WELCOME TO ILGISA'S NEW STUDENT MEMBERS!

Students are an important part of our membership, especially because they represent the future of GIS within the State of Illinois. We encourage students to join and benefit from our conferences, networking and mentoring opportunities. Look for them at our conferences and welcome them for participating.

Students are also encouraged to look into forming an ILGISA Student Chapter at their educational institution. For more information, contact the Executive Director or the Chair of the Education Committee.

Cesar Capacete
University of Illinois - Chicago

Rhonda Davenport

Ashley DeAngeles
Student

Stephanie Devenny Goldsmith
Northeastern Illinois University

Paisly Di Bianca
Northeastern Illinois University

David Eiter
Eithinc Systems Inc.

Lindsey Harper
DePaul University

Jacob Hartle
Student

Dawn Heckmann
Student

Dominick Lafata
Student

Mark Loper
Student

Derek Lubetkin
Student

Emily Marshall
Student

Andrew Pozdol
Student

Ellen Rovelstad

Student

Tim Shields
Elmhurst College

Joe Simanis
Illinois State University

Shane Strope
Illinois State University

Jelena Sudar
Elmhurst College

Siqin Wang
Student

Erin Weber
Student

Dong Zhai
University of Houston-Clear Lake
Kaskaskia Enginering Group

William Jackson
McLean County