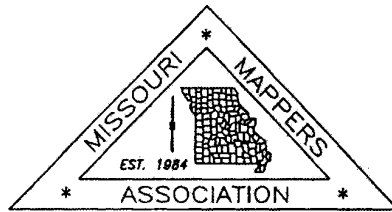


MMA NEWS

Missouri Mappers Association
P.O. Box 1692
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102



May 2000
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Data Sharing

by Jennifer Peterson
City Utilities of Springfield

In 1990, the City of Springfield and Greene County began creating a digital basemap from the Assessor's tax maps. In 1992, the City, County, and City Utilities of Springfield (CU), performed a joint AM/FM/GIS Feasibility Study. One of the recommendations was for the City, County, and CU to share a common basemap. It is easier said than done, but it's worth all the efforts required.

In the beginning, files were transferred on 5 ¼" floppies being carried across the street by hand. We called it the "Sneaker Net". Later, we graduated to using a laptop. Today, we share data through FTP sites.

There were always two basemaps because the City & County work in ArcInfo, while CU uses AutoCAD Map. At one time, communications broke down and four different basemaps existed. We are now working to get back in sync with just two maps.

Data sharing efforts require consistent communication between all parties involved. Communication at the user level has always been easier

than at the management/policy level. After several false starts over the years, we now have in place a Policy Board (PB) made up of decision-makers from the City, County, CU, Springfield Public Schools and the Springfield/Greene County Library. A Technical Committee (TC) made up of key basemap users from each organization, and a Users Group. The TC makes recommendations to the PB and determines the standards and methods. The Users Group consists of people from the fire dept., police dept., E911, the highway dept., planning & zoning (city & county), the university, and any other interested parties.

It is time-consuming to plan and implement data sharing activities, but so is redrawing. There is no reason for several different entities to recreate the same data over and over again. With some cooperation and willingness to work together, redrawing can become a thing of the past.

Next month: Learn how data is shared in the Springfield/Greene County area

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MMA Convention Exhibit

On March 17, 2000 the MMA Board discussed the option of having an exhibit at the Mid-America GIS Symposium this May. It was decided that we didn't have enough time to prepare a professional exhibit in the time frame remaining, although we could get started working on one for the Missouri State Conference in 2001. We would like to encourage everyone to be thinking about what they would like to see on a MMA exhibit that will help increase membership and awareness of our organization. Please send your thoughts and ideas to Jennifer Peterson at (417) 831-8430 or jpeterso@cityutil.com.

GIS Forum Grant Opportunity for GIS and GPS

by Jill Rosen

Government agencies with great ideas for how to use global positioning systems with geographic information systems could win help executing those programs in a contest sponsored by two companies.

ESRI, which makes GIS software, and Leica Geosystems, which makes surveying and land records products, are sponsoring the contest, "State and Local Government GIS/GPS Demonstration Project Program." The companies will pick 10 state and local governments who "thoroughly communicate an understanding of both GIS and GPS technology while exhibiting an ability to complete the project through matching support in management, budgeting, staffing and comple-

mentary equipment."

The companies will help the winners establish a model for their ideas and use the resulting programs to demonstrate the benefits of incorporating technology into daily operations. Each winner will receive software, hardware and training totaling \$18,900.

The program is open to all state and local government agencies as well as quasi-public agencies and departments within an organization.

"We are looking for projects implementing nontraditional uses of GPS," Christopher Thomas, ESRI's state and local government industry solutions manager, said in a statement. Examples include using GIS/GPS to solve problems in asset management, health care, fire prevention planning and environmental management.

Applications can be submitted through August 31, 2000. For more information and applications, visit the ESRI website at <http://www.esri.com>.

In Remembrance

Brett Coleman, Mapping Supervisor of the Oklahoma Ad Valorem Division, passed away March 3, after battling a lengthy illness. Brett had worked for the Division since July of 1993.

During a mapping career that spanned 21 years, Brett worked in many different capacities for counties, mapping contractors, the Oklahoma Ad Valorem Task Force, and finally the Ad Valorem Division of the Tax Commission.

Brett's first mapping job was with H. G. McKeown Associates from 1979 to 1982, where he served as a cartographer, draftsman and inspector on numerous projects in Nebraska and Iowa.

While employed with the Tax Commission, Brett provided technical assistance to counties, planned and organized training for county mappers at the annual Educational Conferences, and supervised various mapping projects for the Division such as the mapping of school district boundaries in all the counties of the state.

Brett will be remembered for having a wonderful sense of humor and for his many close friendships he developed with coworkers, county assessors, and deputies around the state. He was an avid hunter, fisherman, bike rider and enjoyed the outdoors. Brett was also a cigar aficionado and an accomplished gourmet cook.

The Ad Valorem Division is deeply saddened by the loss of Brett Coleman, and extends its prayers and sympathies to Brett's wife Joy, his daughter Brittany, and the other surviving family members.

- from the *Oklahoma Ad Valorem Forum*

MMA Chapter News

SW Chapter Seeks Active Membership

The Southwest Chapter was formed in February 1999 and began holding meetings later in the year. In an effort to build a strong chapter we are striving to host thought-provoking, informative meetings for participating MMA members. Currently, the SW Chapter consists of the following counties: Bates, Vernon, Barton, Jasper, Newton, McDonald, Cedar, Dade, Lawrence, Polk, Greene, Christian, Stone, Taney, Dallas and Webster. According to the Board of Directors, the counties included in this chapter are not set in stone, but they generally follow the Missouri Regional County Assessor's Association Divisions. How far someone is willing to travel for a meeting was also taken into consideration. If you are in a neighboring county that is not included in this list and would like to participate in the SW Chapter activities, please contact Jennifer Peterson at (417) 831-8430 or jpeterso@cityutil.com.

MMA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE
May 4	Introduction to GIS Concepts Workshop Contact Jennifer Peterson, 417-831-8430	Springfield, MO
May 14 - 18	Mid America GIS Symposium	Osage Beach, MO (Regional Conf.)
June 2	Southwest Chapter Meeting Contact Jennifer Peterson, 417-831-8430	Springfield, MO
June 23	MMA Board Meeting	Vienna, MO
June 26 - 30	ESRI Users Conference	San Diego, CA (National Conference)
July 26 - 28	MMA Annual Conference	Columbia, MO
Aug 19 - 23	URISA Conference	Orlando, CA (National Conference)
Oct 1 - 3	MO Municipal League Conference	Springfield, MO (State Conference)
Nov 19 - 21	MO Assoc. of Counties Conference	St. Louis, MO (State Conference)
Aug 1-3, 2001	MMA Annual Conference	
Aug 7-9, 2002	MMA Annual Conference	

Preliminary Survey To Discover Imagery Data Uses and Needs in the Nation's Local Governments

A brief survey has been developed to help support NASA's new State and Local Government Initiative and empower local governments to make wise use of imagery data and products.

Your voluntary participation will provide key input into NASA's program. Local governments around the country increasingly use imagery data as a powerful resource with geographic information systems (GIS).

Recent and planned satellite launches as well as airborne systems will provide localities with current and unprecedented information about conditions within and near local

jurisdictions. NASA, ICREAST (Institute for the Development of Commercial Remote Sensing Technologies), RACNE (Regional Applications Center of the Northeast), and NACo (National Association of Counties) see that local governments will be large future users of imagery data, but there have been few efforts to inform and involve local officials in these new opportunities.

... local governments will be large future users of imagery data, but there have been few efforts to inform and involve local officials in these new opportunities.

Imagery data is defined in the survey as any product or image derived from aerial photography, airborne sensors, satellite systems, LIDAR, or other sensing platform which is being used in a digital format within your organization.

You can fill out the survey on-line at <http://davis.geog.missouri.edu/lgsurvey>. For more information, contact Tim Haithcoat by phone at (573) 882-2324 or e-mail at haithcoat@missouri.edu.

Georgia Spurgeon Retires

A retirement party was held for Georgia Spurgeon on February 14, 2000 at the Maries County Assessor's Office. Georgia had been a mapper in Maries County for 18 years. On hand to celebrate with her were her two daughters and son.



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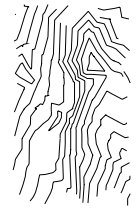
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