



MMA NEWS

MISSOURI MAPPERS ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 1692, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

JANUARY 1994

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I would like to take this opportunity to thank and commend all those who worked so hard in putting together the Flood Impact Symposium workshop that was held November 5 in Columbia, Missouri. The speakers and presentations were interesting and informative. Information and ideas were exchanged on how we, as mappers, can help in the assessment of damage during and after a major catastrophe. There were many hours spent planning, organizing, and setting up this workshop. Thanks again for a job well done.

Jerry W. Joe
President, MMA

MEMBERSHIP

The Membership Committee is requesting any and all members to help formulate ideas for attracting more membership to MMA. Some interesting data as of the Spring of 1993 include:

There are 12 counties of which only the Assessor is a member of the Missouri Mappers Association.

There are 20 counties in which the Assessor is not a member of the Missouri Mappers Association.

There are 51 counties with no members of the Missouri Mappers Association.

Of course, members are not required to work in the Assessor's Office, or even be associated with county government. Membership can extend to surveyors, title companies, etc, so let's all work together to make the 10-year anniversary of MMA an exciting one with record membership and annual meeting attendance.

CADD

The activities of the CADD committee over the last few months have been just like the weather here; frozen. There has been no active development work since October. Most of the committee members have been involved with normal, (with the flooding read "abnormal") workload and have had little time to devote to CADD committee business. With the holiday season behind us the CADD group should be able to spend more time on development work.

Two goals for the CADD group this year are:

Develop and send a questionnaire to Association members concerning their interest/involvement with computer-aided drafting.

Membership response to the questionnaire will aid our group in development of a program which will be of interest to Association members.

An introductory class in computer drafting to be offered to MMA members. One suggestion is to offer the course at various times and locations throughout the state. Because of the logistics and time constraints on CADD committee members it is more likely that one course would be offered this year, perhaps in conjunction with or just prior to the general membership meeting in August.

I would like to invite anyone interested in computer-aided design/drafting to join the group. Suggestions for articles or seminars will gladly be accepted, (so will your VISA or MasterCard). What do ya' want to know? Let us know. Call now, operators are standing by.

Dennis Geivett
St. Louis County RTS
41 S. Central
Clayton, Mo. 63105
(314) 889-2236

THE LITE TABLE

(remember?)

The Post Office Department at Washington, making a careful investigation of the titles to proposed post office sites in Louisiana, received title proof as far back as 1803, but not satisfied, wrote for evidence as to prior titles. An attorney replied, "I note your comment upon the fact that the record of title sent to you as applying to the lands under consideration, dates only from the year 1803, and your request for extension of the record prior to that date.

"Please be advised that the Government of the United States acquired the Territory of Louisiana, including the tract to which your inquiry applied, by purchase from the Government of France, in the year 1803. The Government of France acquired title by conquest from the Government of Spain, the Government of Spain acquired title by discovery of one Christopher Columbus, traveler and explorer, a resident of Genoa, Italy, who, by agreement concerning the acquisition of title to any lands discovered, traveled, and explored under the sponsorship and patronage of Her Majesty, the Queen of Spain, and received sanction of her title by consent of the Pope, a resident of Rome, Italy, and ex-officio representative and vice-regent of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ was the Son and Heir Apparent of God. God made Louisiana. I trust this complies with your request."

(This was reprinted from the volume 1, issue 2, June 1985 edition of "Newsletter", later renamed "MMA News".)



LEGISLATIVE

Dr. Gary Higgs, Chair

The Legislative Committee held an impromptu meeting at the FLOOD IMPACT SYMPOSIUM to discuss two possible legislative activities.

ACTIVITY ONE:

A F.E.M.A. Initiative, instituted in the State of Iowa, was discussed. This Initiative supports high accuracy mapping: FEDERAL funding will be supplied for developing computer based mapping in flood disaster counties IF Iowa make STATE funds available for computerizing the remaining Iowa counties. The Legislative Committee is interested in forming a sub-committee to pursue F.E.M.A. funding for the State of Missouri.

ACTIVITY TWO:

Bob Meyers has furnished St. Louis County with the text of a potential COUNTY ORDINANCE that would require Subdivisions and Surveys to be tied to the State Plane Coordinate G.P.S. Control Values. This would be a giant step in the direction of achieving accuracy in our mapbases.

The text of the potential Ordinance is available upon request.

The Legislative Committee submits these two issues to the general membership.

Please direct your suggestions, comments or offers of assistance to Dr. Gary Higgs, St. Louis County Revenue, Technical Services, 41 S. Central, Clayton, Missouri, 63105
Phone (314)889-3635

PMM CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION

The Missouri Mappers Association PMM certification examination will be scheduled for sometime in April or May of 1994. If you meet the following designation requirements, you are eligible to take the 7 hour comprehensive and subjective examination:

1. Have five full years of cadastral mapping experience or its equivalent.
2. Be engaged in the use, production, or maintenance of cadastral maps.
3. Attended a minimum of 30 hours of study in mapping, surveying or a closely related subject.

In order to be scheduled for the examination, you must complete a certification application and submit information verifying that you meet the requirements listed above. This information must be received by the certification committee no later than February 28, 1994

If you would like to receive an application or have any questions, please contact Timothy J. Houtchens, PMM Certification Committee chairman, Taney County Assessors Office, P.O. Box 612, Forsyth, MO 65653.

MMA TO CO-SPONSOR "MID AMERICA GIS SYMPOSIUM"

MAY 2-4, 1994

HYATT REGENCY CROWN CENTER IN KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

Literature and registration information will be sent out early March.
Anyone interested in getting involved with the presentations,
write or call: Tim Hensley (913) 764-8484 ext.6100

Appraisal Dept.
Johnson County
111 S. Cherry
Olathe, KS. 66061

Editorial: THE PMM DESIGNATION

What is the P.M.M. Designation? What is the P.M.M. SYNDROME? The P.M.M. stands for Professional Missouri Mapper. The designation was instituted by the Missouri Mappers Association some 7 or 8 years ago to provide a professional designation in Missouri for individuals possessing superior professional cadastral mapping skills. The P.M.M. Syndrome is anxiety experienced by someone wanting to take the Qualifying exam for the P.M.M. Designation. "Am I experienced enough to take the exam without 'Course Six', or is there some less expensive way of preparing for the exam possible?" It can make you cranky.

One traditional way to prepare for the P.M.M. exam and add to your mapping background in a formal, quantifiable way is to take "Course Six" which is offered by the I.A.A.O. (International Association of Assessing Officers). A secondary benefit of taking "Course Six" is that this is one of several required courses that lead to the prestigious C.M.S. Designation (Cadastral Mapping Specialist) which is the internationally recognized designation offered by the I.A.A.O.. Information about the C.M.S. Designation can be had through your I.A.A.O. chapter or your Assessor.

There is a Booklet about the P.M.M. Designation available. Requests for the booklet or questions about equivalent training and experience can be directed toward Dan Roe (314)443-1666, Stan Balsman (314)547-8357, or the chair of the committee, Tim Houtchens, Taney County, P.O. Box 612, Forsyth, MO 65653.

The Education Committee (Chris Matthews, Chair) is looking into offering several "Course Six" Classes and/or a PMM Review Class. Please see the attached information blurb and questionnaire.

Let Chris know what your preferences are. He is looking for creative cost cutting devises, but makes no guarantee that he'll be able to pull the price down from the \$350.00 ballpark.

Sarah Sturgis

COURSE SIX

The Education Committee of Missouri Mappers is pulling together information so Members will have the option to take Course Six of the IAAO professional development course offerings. Course Six is a prerequisite of both the P.M.M. designation of Missouri Mappers Association and the C.M.S. designation of IAAO. MMA's P.M.M. designation signifies excellence in Cadastral Mapping skills and is recognized statewide. The IAAO's C.M.S. designation is nationally recognized for excellence in Cadastral Mapping.

WHAT DOES COURSE SIX TEACH?

Principals and Techniques of Cadastral Mapping. It serves as an introduction to property ownership mapping., with an emphasis on the preparation and use of assessment maps. Topics include: ownership data gathering, map sources, mapping equipment, base maps, conveyances, acreage calculations, mapping administration, and parcel identification systems.

If you are interested in attending a Course Six Class in the near future, Please fill out the Questionnaire below with your preferred times and locations and the Committee will find the times and places which will optimize class attendance. When finished detach and mail to the return address on the back of the questionnaire.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Time Preference: (please mark appropriate blanks)

DATE	PREFERRED	CAN'T AT THIS TIME
Late May	_____	_____
Mid July	_____	_____
Early October	_____	_____

LOCATION	PREFERRED	MIGHT	WON'T GO THAT FAR
KANSAS CITY	_____	_____	_____
COLUMBIA	_____	_____	_____
ST. LOUIS	_____	_____	_____
SPRINGFIELD	_____	_____	_____
CAPE GIRARDEAU	_____	_____	_____

NAME:
ADDRESS:
PHONE:

EDUCATION

The Education Committee held the Flood Mapping Symposium on November 5, 1993 at the Memorial Union, University of Missouri in Columbia, MO. All of the scheduled speakers showed up and the total attendance was 69 including past MMA members, new MMA members, speakers, organizers, and university students. Twenty four of the paid attendees became new members of MMA through August, 1994.

The education committee would like to organize one or more Course Six sessions this year. Course Six is a mapping fundamentals and techniques class offered by IAAO and taught by one of their certified instructors. This is a five day course and the cost (including materials, text, and refreshments) will range from \$355 to over \$400, depending upon the number of students enrolled and the cost of the meeting room to hold the course. This cost does not include students' meals or accommodations if the location requires staying overnight.

return address:

CHRIS MATTHEWS:MMA
ST. LOUIS COUNTY
REVENUE TECHNICAL SERVICES
41 S. CENTRAL AVE.
CLAYTON, MO 63105

REVIEW

It rained. Of course it had been raining most of the year, so the members of East Central Missouri Mappers Association headed for St. Charles County anyway. We met at the ancient and charming Mother-in-Law House at 500 S. Main where everyone was fed a sumptuous feast of soups and salads. Some grumbling was heard that the spread was sadly lacking in meat and potatoes (and dessert), but everything was fresh and flavorful.

During lunch, talk centered around the floods of 1993. After-lunch-discussions included the upcoming Symposium and the possibilities of a future "Course 6" offering for our area. Then we adjourned to the City Hall for a guided tour through the St. Charles County Assessment/Mapping facility.

St. Charles showed us their computer center. The process they used getting from the old manually updated assessment plat books to the nearly computerized county mapbase was explained. Kudos to the personnel whose Herculean efforts made the unfinished computer mapbase ready for the unexpected flood. St. Charles was 43% underwater at the peak of the flood this summer, but did manage to document and produce flood maps for the occasion.

St. Charles offers access through a computer terminal for viewing the mapbase, and also prints maps for the public. Most amazing is the shoe string budget which built the system and the remarkable turn around time from submission of a subdivision plat to having the plat in the system, ready for use.

The meeting in St. Charles was enlightening, exciting, and one of the best East Central meetings in some time. Thank you, St. Charles.

Sarah Sturgis

SOME WORDS ABOUT THE SYMPOSIUM

County Assessors, members of DNR (Dept. of Natural Resources), Emergency Management People and a variety mapping people from counties and private industry attended the FLOOD IMPACT SYMPOSIUM on November 5, 1993 in Columbia, Missouri. Speakers from a number of flooded river counties shared experiences and responses during the flood. There were maps, videos taken from the air, newspaper articles, and statistical information shared. Many counties believe the work has only just begun. Fine talks were give by Buzz Key (Platte County), Linda Harmon (Clarke County), Tom Schauwecker (Boone County), Chris Matthews (St. Louis County), Paula Welsh (Buchanan County), who brought a fly-over-video and other goodies, and Gene Zimmerman (St. Charles County), whose talk roused the crowd to a fever pitch.

Emergency Management Operations people talked about needs and emergency technologies in the afternoon and a point was drawn about the need for cooperation between the assessment mapping areas and Emergency Management. The Tiger Files are only useful if they are kept continuously updated. This is best done in

Assessment/Revenue where property changes are recorded and mapped routinely.

Gary Schuhardt, St. Charles' Emergency Management Coordinator wowed the crowd with a display of the E.I.S. software that made quick response to the flood possible. He explained how he is continuing to expand and develop the system, readying it for all types of emergencies.

Bob Wiseman, the former Water Resource Management Director for the state of Kansas addressed the subject of computerization of Missouri counties. His talk centered on the planning and consensus building necessary to make computerization happen, and the political roadblocks and tradeoffs that may happen. Information in this talk targeted Counties on the verge of computerizing.

The Department of Natural Resources graciously sent three people, Alice Geller, Bruce Thompson, and Kenneth Vogt to talk about the state's soil losses. They showed a video tape and shared statistical information on the appalling destruction of lowlying farmlands. 1.3 million acres of Missouri bottomland were flooded. 600,000 acres are irretrievably ruined. The "scouring" process removed the rich topsoil and replaced it with sand and gravel. At a cost of \$4.00 per cubic yard of sand for removal, most farmers are unable or unwilling to pay the \$3000.00 - \$4000.00 per acre to clear the land. The dollars and years needed to reestablish the soil base for farming isn't there. For many farmers this cost would represent re-buying the land 4 or 5 times over.

Les Aubuchon, director of St. Louis County's Revenue Technical Services, gave a clear, concise talk about the evolution of the St. Louis County's Assessment Mapbase, from old inked mylars to the current Computer resident G.I.S. mapbase. He explained the concept of "layered" information, and how this extends the mapping capabilities of St. Louis County, for planning, emergencies and specialized purposes. The computerized mapbase streamlines map maintenance and updated map production. He described the technologies which St. Louis County may pursue to increase the usefulness of the mapbase to the public, most important of which is integrating the mapbase to the parcel database.

Tim Haithcote, from the Department of Geology at the University of Missouri, offered a variety of interesting information. He is making available information about the various cam/cad programs and offers to talk with counties looking at computerizing as a financially disinterested party with know-how in the area of G.I.S. land mapping. Additionally, he disclosed that Iowa has latched onto a huge source of federal funding for Iowa counties to use to computerize. It involves state supplied matching funds and counties declared disaster areas. See the accompanying article on how Iowa got the jump on us. As a result of this revelation a group of symposium late-stayers talked about this turn of events. It was decided that for optimum results a motivated group of Assessors, members of M.M.A., and State Tax Commission people should look into Hitting up Uncle Sam in similar fashion. This ball is just forming and hasn't started to roll yet. You'll probably hear about it soon from other sources.

EAST CENTRAL CHAPTER - YEAR IN REVIEW - JANUARY 19, 1994

Co-chair Gary White (St. Louis County)

Today, at CEMMA's first 1994 meeting, the election of officers will be held, and this chapter is having its first birthday! I am greatly encouraged by this fact considering that my election as co-chair of CEMMA one year ago was the first time I have been elected to anything. CEMMA lives in spite of my inexperience. The other side of the coin is the consistent support and encouragement of my fellow officers, Carl Sohn (the other co-chair), Kathy Edwards and Phillip Muehlheausler.

However, the primary reason CEMMA is going into its second year is the mappers in this region want to- and increasingly need to - stay in touch with each other and share their knowledge and experience. Typically, most of the members go about their daily work anywhere from 25 - 100 miles apart from their fellow mappers, although they work at similar tasks with similar problems. CEMMA has provided at least every two months, a friendly and informal forum where these wide distances are closed, and it is less expensive than a conference call! Eating out is more fun, too.!

Within CEMMA's first year, our region was ravaged by flooding, and property mapping facilities played a vital role in coping with this disaster. The FLOOD IMPACT SYMPOSIUM was conceived, coordinated and conducted by CEMMA mappers, to share valuable experiences and knowledge gained by many people and agencies involved. In my opinion this is only the beginning of the services

that can grow out of CEMMA.

Also, in the first year, several counties within CEMMA either conducted tours of their mapping facilities, or gave portable demonstrations with question and answer sessions at the end. My personal thanks go to speakers that have generously given their time and effort to enrich our meetings; notably Gary Schuhardt, of St. Charles County, Stan Emrick of Clayton Engineering, and Gerald Scroggins of Property Data, Inc..

I cannot predict the results of today's elections, but it is my hope that the leadership of CEMMA will be elected from different counties of other agencies within the region each year. This will ensure that neither a urban nor a rural perspective will dominate the organization. I would also encourage that all counties and agencies within CEMMA will take a turn hosting our bi-monthly meetings, no matter how modest - or elaborate - their facility. We have so much to learn from each other!

May CEMMA continue to emerge as the outstanding mapping forum of East-Central Missouri.

Gary White_ Co-chair CEMMA

WEST CENTRAL REVIEW

The West Central Chapter of MMA will attempt to meet more often in 1994 beginning with a meeting/workshop in January. This meeting/workshop will give the district members the opportunity to work on mapping curves which might present difficulty in mapping new parcels. Members will meet in Boonville for the workshop, which should be an all-day affair.

Marti Buckner Chair WCMMA



ALLLL ABOARRRDD!!!

ATTENTION all unpaid members
please mail your dues today to:

**Fred McGruder
Membership Committee
RT. 1-211J, PATTON, MO 63662**

**FINAL MMA NEWSLETTER
(for non-members)**



**MISSOURI MAPPERS
ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 1692
Jefferson City, MO 65102

