

The President's Address was given during the 2020 ASPRS Annual Conference. The conference was presented online during the week of March 23, 2020.

Hello, my name is Jeff Lovin and I am the incoming president of the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing for 2020. I want to express how grateful I am to be able to serve this organization in this capacity. When I reflect on the list of individuals who have served ASPRS as president over the last 86 years, starting with the names we all know—Colonel Birdseye, Talbert Abrams, John Davidson, Harry Kelsh, Frank Moffitt—to the more recent names that have had an influence on my career—like Mike Renslow, Terry Keating, Kass Green, Carolyn Merry and many others—I am quite humbled to be listed among these individuals. I count it as a great privilege to lead this organization in this capacity.

I would like to express my gratitude to Tommy Jordan for his leadership over the past year, and for his gracious help and guidance over the last two years as I served under him on the board. I want to thank our board for their hard work and dedication, especially over the last several weeks. I also want to thank our staff, including Matt Austin, Rae Kelley, Brenna LeMaire with our association management firm, Jesse Winch our executive director, and lastly an individual who puts in more hours and passion than any of us, our managing director, Karen Schuckman.

Since I was elected vice president a couple of years ago, I have had several of people say to me, “Hey, I hear you are stepping up to lead ASPRS. That’s great, but it is so sad to hear what has happened to the organization,” while others have asked, “Is ASPRS going to survive?” The message I want to get out to our membership today is yes, we have had some tragic and devastating changes to our leadership, we endured the challenges all professional organizations faced through the Great Recession, and now I guess we can add a global pandemic to the list. In spite of all that, I can proudly say we are not only surviving, we are doing well as an organization. As Tommy noted in his speech, things are truly looking very positive for our organization.

- We have stabilized our finances and are paying back region loans.
- We have hired an association management firm, which is saving us money while providing a higher level of service to our members.
- We are overhauling our website and enhancing our social media presence.
- We are developing online education resources, which are proving pretty timely right now. Anne Hillyer is

leading that charge for us and doing a tremendous job.

- We are growing. In 2019, we had 82 new applicants for certification. It thrills me to know we have that many new professionals joining our field.

So, my challenge to my peers and to all of those who have pulled back or have been in a “wait-and-see” mode: I implore you to re-engage and get involved. We need your time, your money and your talent, and I would argue that ASPRS is well worth the investment. Whether it is renewing as a sustaining member or just renewing your individual membership, it matters. So please, step up and get involved. I am sure if you reach out to anyone on the board or on our staff, there is something you can help with our get involved in within the organization.

A lot of involvement starts at the region level. As Tommy said, Lorraine Amenda has worked tirelessly on the regions, consolidating and realigning. Personally, I first served on the Eastern Great Lakes Region board and then as president there before I got involved at the national level. Healthy regions are key to our sustained health as an organization, so please get involved with your local region.

In my own firm, we have several people involved in the organization beyond myself. Joe Cantz has led the Sustaining Members Council; as you heard from Tommy, Mike Zoltek has taken over the certification program; and Qassim Abdullah has put on workshops for many years. I don’t say all that to brag about my team, I say it to show you that I am not asking anything of you and your organization that I am not doing myself—giving back to a profession that has been very good to me and many of you, and helping others do the same.

This also brings to mind our Rising Stars program, which started under Anne Hillyer’s presidency and is led by Becky Morton. This program provides a way for you to promote the up-and-coming individuals within your organization, exposing them to the professional world. As always, it is the next generation that will carry this organization forward.

Besides a call to re-engage, what are the goals of my presidency?

- I want to continue to improve the level of service we provide to our members. So if you have ideas, let me know—I want to hear them.

- I want to reaffirm ASPRS' role in the industry. For the past few years, we have been internally focused, righting the ship and getting things back on track. That was the right thing to do.

Now, just as I asked you to re-engage with ASPRS, it is also time for ASPRS to re-engage with the professional geospatial community. Over the next year, I want to make sure we are at the table with key geospatial organizations, such as AUVSI, USGIF, USGEO and MAPPS. Each of these organizations serve a niche role in the geospatial community and so do we. I feel our niche is education, certification and specifications. These are important to the entire industry, and we need to own them. We need to be the go-to organization for these three key things.

Take AUVSI for example, I just ended a three-year term on their board of directors and, just before I left, we completed an in-depth membership survey. We found the fastest growing segment of their membership is the survey and mapping community. We need to offer our educational and certification programs to their members as

we partner with them. I am going to spend a great deal of my time as president making sure ASPRS is back at the forefront of the geospatial landscape.

These are truly exciting times to be a part of this organization. I thank you again for this great honor to serve as your president for 2020.

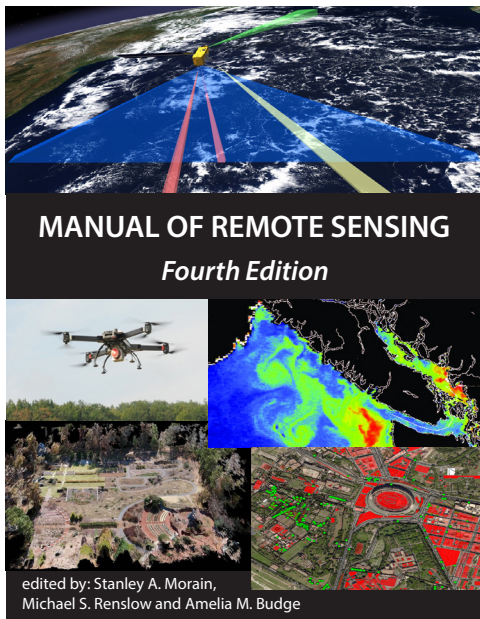
Thank you!



Jeff Lovin, Senior Vice President, Director of Government Solutions at Woolpert, 2020 ASPRS President.

NOW AVAILABLE!

ASPRS Announces the 4th Edition of the *Manual of Remote Sensing*!



The *Manual of Remote Sensing, 4th Ed.* (MRS-4) is an “enhanced” electronic publication available online from ASPRS. This edition expands its scope from previous editions, focusing on new and updated material since the turn of the 21st Century. Stanley Morain (Editor-in-Chief), and co-editors Michael Renslow and Amelia Budge have compiled material provided by numerous contributors who are experts in various aspects of remote sensing technologies, data preservation practices, data access mechanisms, data processing and modeling techniques, societal benefits, and legal aspects such as space policies and space law. These topics are organized into nine chapters. MRS4 is unique from previous editions in that it is a “living” document that can be updated easily in years to come as new technologies and practices evolve. It also is designed to include animated illustrations and videos to further enhance the reader’s experience.

MRS-4 is available to ASPRS Members as a member benefit or can be purchased by non-members. To access MRS-4, visit <https://my.asprs.org/mrs4>.



The Past-President's Address was given during the 2020 ASPRS Annual Conference. The conference was presented online during the week of March 23, 2020.

Hello, for those of you who don't know me, I am Tommy Jordan and I have served as President of The American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing for the past year. It's a beautiful Spring day here in Georgia and I am here in my front yard to report on the activities and initiatives that we have undertaken as a Society during my term.

We have had a good, productive year since Anne Hillyer handed me the gavel last January in Denver. I thought that I would be delivering this address from the stage in Washington DC at the GeoWeek conference but here I am instead – self-quarantined in Athens, Georgia. I'll still talk about all that we have accomplished but first we need to talk about the impact the Coronavirus pandemic has had on GeoWeek. And I want to emphasize the resilience and creativity shown by the ASPRS leadership in these uncertain times.

Following several weeks of deliberation, the entire GeoWeek conference was rightly postponed due to concerns about the Coronavirus. But what could have been a real tragedy and financial disaster for ASPRS may well turn out to be OK as a result of the timely decisions we have made and the actions we have taken to remediate the effects of postponing this conference. Much of the organizing effort for this decision was done under the leadership of ASPRS Managing Director Karen Schuckman, who worked with DivCom and the ASPRS Officers and Board of Directors to explore a range of alternatives. The final plan was to hold many of the meetings and workshops virtually using the Zoom meeting platform and to postpone the entire technical session until the rescheduled conference.

We were able to hold our committee meetings and the Board Meeting according to the original planned schedule – but instead of meeting face-to-face, we met in the virtual environment. Since we meet regularly using Zoom, this was not difficult or even a hardship, aside from the fact that we all enjoy seeing one another and socializing during these conferences. Unfortunately, awards and scholarships will not formally be presented during our annual business meeting as usual but will instead be mailed to the recipients. The Awards Program will be published in its entirety in the May issue of PERS so that the recipients will be granted the public recognition they deserve. Finally, new officers and board members will be sworn in during a separate virtual meeting.

This week and next we will be presenting most of our workshops online according to a modified schedule that eliminates concurrent workshop sessions. We reached out to the workshop presenters and participants and our proposal to hold these training sessions online was enthusiastically embraced. We will be recording each of the sessions and hope to be able to jump start our new online education program using these materials.

As many of you know, ASPRS has gone through some trying times in recent years. Today, I am pleased to tell you that we have spent the last two full years working on these challenges and we are now on a solid footing for continued growth.

Throughout the past year, we have continued to revise many of our operational methods and procedures to streamline our business operations and cut costs. Significantly, we have hired the P&N Association Management Company to take over business services that had previously been subcontracted out. These services are now fully integrated into our operations and include such functions as membership and certification management, accounts receivables, web and IT services and communications. Bringing P&N aboard has resulted in a positive difference in efficiency and cost-savings to our overall operation. This is a good thing by any measure.

For various reasons, a financial review of ASPRS accounts had not been conducted for several years. Consequently, we had a full review of our income and expenditures performed last year so that the P&N accountants could start working with a clean slate and organized books. Moving forward, they will be able to provide us with monthly and annual financial statements which will enable us to better understand and manage our income streams and expenses.

We also have had several changes at ASPRS headquarters, the most significant of which is the resignation of long-time employee Priscilla Weeks. We have eliminated all subcontractors - thanks to our work with P&N – leaving us with four paid staff members. And because of our overall cost savings, this year we were able to give the staff members merit raises in addition to cost-of-living adjustments. Finally, about half of our office space was renovated and remodeled last year and temporarily leased to BrightView Senior Living. This has produced enough rental income for ASPRS to cover our monthly condominium fees for the past year.

Under the leadership of Lorraine Amenda, we have revitalized the Region Officers Council and reorganized several of the lower performing Regions by merging them with adjacent regions. These changes resulted in the dissolution of the New England and Intermountain Regions, the renaming the Central New York Region to Northeastern Region and the creation of the Cascadia Region. The regions are exploring teaming opportunities with Sustaining Member Firms and, perhaps, most significantly, a monthly, very well attended telecon has been implemented as a forum for the various Region officers to bounce ideas off each other and to work together in other ways.

We have been developing ways to diversify and increase our income streams. To this end, we have completely overhauled and automated our Certification Program thanks to efforts by Mike Zoltek, Jesse Winch and Brenna LeMaire of P&N. Virtually all of the application and review processes are on-line, and a goal is being met to limit the processing time to two months per application. Our efforts to become the 'place to go' for geospatial certification are succeeding in that we have had 82 new certification applications in the past year and our periodic certification review workshops typically sell out. This is a service that we can continue to expand upon and become the industry leaders in.

We also have initiated an online education program that will provide training for ASPRS members and other members of the mapping community. We will also publish workshops and webinars and provide on-line testing capabilities which could be used to further streamline the Certification process. This is another major step towards our goal of being the provider of high-quality geospatial training opportunities.

Finally, I would like to talk a bit about the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing or ISPRS. The ASPRS is classified as an Ordinary Member of ISPRS, meaning that we represent the United States in this international body. We have long been involved with ISPRS with several of our members holding important positions in the Society. Over the past year, we have continued to strengthen our relationship with ISPRS. Moving forward, we will be publishing our conference proceedings in the ISPRS Archives so that the papers can be readily available and searchable on the internet. Manuscripts from the recent Pecora conference are already available on the ISPRS website and GeoWeek papers will be made available soon after the conference. We have also initiated a bid to host the XXV ISPRS Congress in Denver in 2024. This is a huge undertaking being led by ASPRS Past President Charles Toth and, should we win

the bid, it will be the first time the United States has hosted the international Congress since 1992. The decision will be made at the ISPRS Congress in Nice, France this summer.

In closing, I would like to say that it has been a distinct pleasure and honor for me to serve as the President of ASPRS over this past year when I have been able to work with our outstanding Board members and professional staff on a wide range of important issues. I believe that, through our efforts, we have made ASPRS a much stronger Society and that we have laid a firm foundation for continued growth in the coming years. We have demonstrated that we have the flexibility to react to adverse events and the resilience to turn that adversity into strengths. I'm proud of us and what we have accomplished together, and I'm pleased to be able to pass the leadership of our Society over our new President, Jeff Lovin. I know that Jeff will be a strong and capable leader during the coming year of continued growth for the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing.



Tommy Jordan, Associate Director, CRMS at University of Georgia, 2019 ASPRS President.

The Executive Director's Report was given during the 2020 ASPRS Annual Conference. The conference was presented online during the week of March 23, 2020.

The ASPRS Headquarters staff:

- Matthew Austin, Graphic Designer, Digital Publications Manager
- Rae Kelley, Assistant Director, Publications
- Karen Schuckman, Managing Director

In our 86th year, ASPRS continues on the upward track of financial stability with a strong and committed group of volunteers – our Board of Directors and Division, Region and Committee leaders - who have truly shown their dedication to the development and promotion of the geospatial sciences. As Tommy Jordan completes his Presidential term, we thank him for his guidance and leadership and welcome Jeff Lovin to the Office and wish him great success during the year.

Even though our Annual Conference has been postponed due to the spread of COVID-19, we were still able to hold all scheduled meetings and even expand our workshop offerings in the virtual meeting world. The architect of our success, both financial and administrative is our indefatigable Managing Director, Karen Schuckman to whom we owe a great deal of thanks.

The shift to presenting our workshops in a virtual format has meant that more people were able to take more of the offerings than ever before. It appears that we had more people at most of the meetings than we would have had in person adding to our rich history of scientific excellence and a consistently high quality of professional services.

Headquarters/Condo

In our Headquarters building, the other three associations are all working from home until further notice. On the ASPRS side, I visit the office once a week and Matthew Austin twice a week mainly to check the mail and deposit checks, etc.

Our renters, BrightView Senior Living, are maintaining a presence but not seeing the public. At this point, they plan to stay on through July, a month longer than originally planned. It's uncertain how all the closings will affect their construction schedule and, as of now, whether they will opt to extend even beyond July. I have talked to one realtor about renting the space to a new client when they move. No action on that at this point.

Certification

The certification application process is now entirely electronic with Brenna LeMaire at P&N handling all the processing of applications, payments, and communications with the respective review committees.

Mike Zoltek, Brenna and I attended the annual (virtual) meeting of the Council of Engineering and Scientific Specialty Boards, the agency that accredits our certification program. Main topic of discussion was their strategic plan with input from all attending.

Awards

Under the direction of Chair Lindi Quackenbush, and the management expertise of Peng Fu, the Awards Committee managed a very successful scholarship application process this year with close to 100 applications.

Annual Election

The recent annual election went very smoothly with P&N handling the electronic balloting (we are no longer using paper ballots). Results were verified by the Teller Committee, Larry Hothem, Chair and Chris McGlone. We still consistently have a low voter turnout.

Membership

Numbers for 2020 so far have been pretty static but it is early and P&N is keeping a close eye on trends and will be reporting on them later in the year. We are developing a membership management plan for the coming year.

Publications

DEM Manual 3rd Edition sales dominate but fluctuate depending on class usage during the academic year.

We continue to sell books on Amazon. We've had 75 orders from September 26, 2019 to March 15, 2020 with the Lidar Manual being the most popular and *DEM 3rd Edition* being the second most popular.

The ASPRS Best Sellers List (totals from Amazon and our on-line book store)

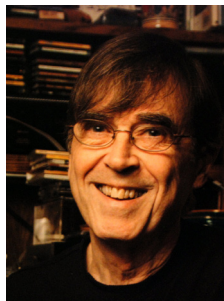
- *DEM 3rd Edition*
- *Airborne Topographic Lidar Manual*
- *Manual of Remote Sensing 4*
- *Manual of Photogrammetry, 6th Edition*
- *Glossary of the Mapping Sciences*

PE&RS

The Allen Press system continues to work well. Backlog of papers has been processed, and the queue is slowly filling up again.

A new way to host the Flipping Book version of *PE&RS* will be decided upon before October 2020, when Chrome stops supporting Flash. An HTML web page for each issue hosted on the ASPRS website would most likely be the best solution. Hosting a downloadable PDF of each issue's public version (minus peer-reviewed papers) is the direction we're going.

In these difficult times, the cooperation and help we have received from our members, volunteers and staff has been exceptional and a tribute to everyone's commitment to keeping our Society alive and well until we emerge from this terrible pandemic. My sincere thanks go out to all.



Jesse Winch, Acting Executive Director

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