THE ATTRIBUTE
NEWSLETTER FOR THE
CAROLINA GIS PROFESSIONAL

Winter 2012   Volume 7, Issue 3

OFFICER'S ADDRESS

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

> **New name and look to Chapter Newsletter**

> **2013 NCGIS conference Planning underway.**

> **Member Spotlight**

I don't know if this happens to you but in the Winter time where I work, we tend to shift our focus. This is primarily due to the Hurricane Season ending in November and fire season not ramping up until Spring. It is a time that in some cases is even busier as we work to make sure that we are prepared in the event a major incident occurs during our "busy" time. It is a time to also evaluate how we performed in the previous year and how we can build and improve what we do.

At Carolina URISA (CURISA) we are in our busy time as well. We are ramping up for the North Carolina GIS Users Conference February 7-8, 2013 NCGIS 2013 GIS Conference. We will be offering four preconference workshops; Project Management Principles for GIS, GIS Strategic Planning, Business Intelligence and Data Integration for the GIS Professional and Overview of Open Source GIS Software and more information including registration can be found at the following location NC GIS Conference CURISA Workshops. In addition we are sponsoring the Poster / Application contest for the conference NC GIS Conference Poster/Exhibit Contest. We are also a big supporter and sponsor of the South Carolina Arc GIS Users Conference which is February 11-12, 2012 and more information can be found at SCARC 2013 Conference.

This is a busy time for CURISA , but that is a good thing. It is our mission to provide our members with high quality GIS workshops and work to serve GIS professionals in the Carolinas. It is my sincere hope that all of you take advantage of the conferences, ways to showcase your work, and workshops in the coming months. Busy is a good thing...and we look forward to seeing all of you soon!

Best Regards

Tim Muhs, CURISA President

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

This quarter CURISA asks one of our members a few questions

Please tell the readers a little about your career. (Where do you work? What do you do for that organization? How long have you been there?)
I work in the GIS Unit at NCDOT. I'm currently an Engineering Technician. My job responsibilities include updating the LRS for my state divisions, as well as serving as back up support for GIS related helpdesk questions. I have been here since May of 2012 and I'm looking to expand my roles in the 2013 GIS Workplan.

How did you first learn about GIS and how have you become more involved in GIS over the years?
My story of learning GIS is kind of long but it basically started back when I was a sophomore in High School. At the time, I was interested in civil engineering, and from there learned about photogrammetry which then led me to discover GIS. I come from a diverse background of different GIS roles over the years from different positions I've held, from working with classified imagery and information to gas utilities to the public sector. I try to stay current and up to date with the latest GIS happenings and software by talking to other GIS professionals, keeping in touch with ESRI, and attending conferences and being involved in user groups. I'm always looking to further myself in GIS.

How has your college experience prepared you for a career in GIS?
I have a BS in Geography, concentration in GIS from SUNY Oneonta. I chose this particular university due to its reputation in Geography and GIS. My professors were always on the cutting edge of GIS and very helpful and involved in the GIS community as well as helping and encouraging students by assisting them in projects and helping them set up GIS as a career after graduation.

What has been the biggest change in GIS since you began your career?
When I first started with GIS in college we were using version 9.1. (I know, it shows my age) I did get to see a little of 3.2 in an internship once but that was very limited. So the biggest change in GIS for me was probably when version 10 came out, and things began moving more towards the cloud and mobile world.

What is your favorite hobby?
I use to take flying lessons in an attempt to get my private pilot's license. I was up to 40 hours logged when I decided to give it a break due to moving away from my flight instructor and home town as well as due to rising costs. It's something that I thoroughly enjoyed and would love to take back up again someday!

What is your favorite movie of all time?
I have a lot of favorite movies but the one that comes to mind the most is "The Rock" with Sean Connery and Nicolas Cage.

**Introducing
Tom McKay
Engineering Technician
NCDOT**

"I come from a diverse background of different GIS roles over the years from different positions I've held. "

We are looking for interesting subjects for our next interview!

This is an excellent opportunity to showcase someone's talents, learn from and about fellow members, and share with CURISA members.
If you know someone who you would like to see interviewed and hear what they have to say about CURISA, GIS, etc., please email the editor at:

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Don't hide in the grass
Come join us!

Conference Calendar

- **2013 NC GIS Conference—Raleigh NC**   **February 7 - 8, 2013**
- **SC Arc GIS Users Conference - Columbia, SC**   **February 11-12, 2013**

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

There are several colleges and universities in the Carolina's that offer Degrees and Certificates in Geographic Information Systems. These programs provide the student with the tools to advance themselves as GIS Professionals. While not complete, the following list is the first iteration of the programs being offered.

Institution	Website	Contact Name	Distance Learning	Degrees
UNC-Greensboro	http://www.uncg.edu/geo/	Dr. Rick Bunch	?	GIS certificate
North Carolina Central University	http://www.nccu.edu/academics/sc/scienceandtechnology/geospatialscience/index.cfm	Dr. Gordana Vlahovic	No - but evening courses	MS in Earth Science (GIS), ASPRS Provisional Certificate program at the Bachelor's and Master's levels.
UNC - Wilmington	http://www.uncw.edu/earsci/geography-GIScertificate.htm	Dr. Halls	?	GIS Certificate
NC State University	http://www.gis.ncsu.edu/	Dr. Hugh Divine	Yes	Masters in Geographic Information Systems Technology (MGIST) GIS Graduate Certification
Haywood Community College	http://www.haywood.edu	Jenny Carver	Yes	Geospatial Technology Certificate: Advanced Geospatial Specialist, Global Positioning Systems Specialist, and Property Mapping Specialist
Central Piedmont Community College	www.cpcc.edu/gs	Rodney Jackson	Yes	Associate in Applied Science in Geospatial Technology, plus several curriculum certificates in specializations such as Programming, Databases, Land Records and others.
Asheville Buncombe Technical Community College	http://geospatialtechnology.blogspot.com	Pete Kennedy	Yes	Spatial Databases Certificate and Geospatial Analysis and Visualization Certificate
NC Central University	http://www.nccu.edu/Academics/sc/scienceandtechnology/geospatialscience/geography/index.cfm	**Timothy Mulrooney**	?	BS in Earth Science and Geography, program in Cartography
Penn State	www.worldcampus.psu.edu		Yes	Masters in GIS and Graduate Certificate
NorthWest Missouri State	http://www.nwmissouri.edu/dept/gis/		Yes	?
Montgomery County Community College	http://www.montgomery.edu/	Kevin Lamonds	Yes	Certification
East Carolina University	http://www.ecu.edu/geog/	Burrell Montz	Yes	Certification and BS Degree in GIS and Masters in Geography
Appalachian State University	http://www.geo.appstate.edu/	Dr. Jeffrey D. Colby		Certifcation, BS, MA (Certification)

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED ABOUT. . . .

City and County Governments – Getting More Out of Your GIS Dollar

November 02, 2012 -- As evidenced by the recent insert in Government Technology Magazine (October 2012), GIS in local government is taking a new turn. Gone are the days of an organization acquiring GIS and then having to figure out tools and methods to deploy the technology successfully. Esri's ArcGIS for Local Government now affords organization a standardized data model and a set of ready to use maps and applications built specifically for local government. ArcGIS for Local Government allows new GIS implementations to go from no GIS to fully functional GIS applications in a short time span. Mature GIS implementations are finding that leveraging ArcGIS for Local Government adds a tremendous value to their existing GIS efforts. Curt Hinton, President of Geographic Technologies Group (GTG), points out; "As a former GIS Coordinator for the City of Wilson, North Carolina and having worked with over 700 local government agencies while at GTG, I am excited about ArcGIS for Local Government. We are able to ramp up our customers with quick wins and a multitude of return-on-investment examples. We are helping small and large agencies alike in the implementation of this new set of tools."

GTG has assisted clients in implementing ArcGIS for Local Government maps and apps for the following local government disciplines: Public Safety, Public Works, Land Records, Elections, Development and Planning, and Water Utilities. David Lyons, GIS Director for GTG, implemented ArcGIS for Local Government for the City of Natchitoches, LA and Natchitoches Parish, LA. Mr. Lyons states; "the city and county both were GIS users but were struggling to get the most from their GIS investment. Our team of ArcGIS for Local Government experts reconfigured their geodatabase to leverage ArcGIS for Local Government. They have experienced great success and the technology has allowed them to make major strides in their Public Safety agencies."

The City of West University Place, TX has been a GIS user for a number of years. GTG recently conducted a GIS Health Check for the agency and recommended the implementation of ArcGIS for Local Government. City management approved the investment and GTG assisted West University Place in the migration of their data to the ArcGIS for Local Government data model. GTG is now assisting staff in the implementation of internal, external, and mobile applications. Additionally, GTG is implementing ArcGIS for Local Government and ArcGIS Online for a town in California. The technology has allowed them to implement GIS with a Utilities and Public Works focus where previously they were unable to justify the expenditure. Geographic Technologies Group (GTG) is a certified Esri ArcGIS for Local Government Partner with offices throughout the United States. As an Esri Gold Business Partner, GTG has demonstrated innovative and quality ArcGIS for Local Government services, applications, training and support. GTG offers a full range of GIS services, software, support and training. GTG's ArcGIS for Local Government experts can help any agency leverage the technology quickly and effectively. Please call Curt Hinton at 888-757-4222 and email Email Contactfor more information.

H A V E   Y O U   E V E R   W O N D E R E D   A B O U T (C O N T)

About Geographic Technologies Group, Inc. (GTG):
GTG is a full-service local government GIS consulting company offering specialized experience in the planning, design, implementation, and procurement of geo-technologies. GTG has unmatched technical GIS capabilities, demonstrated successes, international experience, and a reputation for successfully implementing the right solutions. GTG develops GIS products that spatially enable various enterprise solutions and integrates an organization's IT investment via a common interface. GTG also offers stand-alone products for land management, public safety, public access, touch screen technology, and utilities.

GTG has more than 700 clients located throughout North America and Europe and serves all levels of government as well as the private sector. To support our clients, GTG maintains four offices located across the United States: Headquarters in North Carolina, and regional offices in Texas, Florida, Ohio, and California.
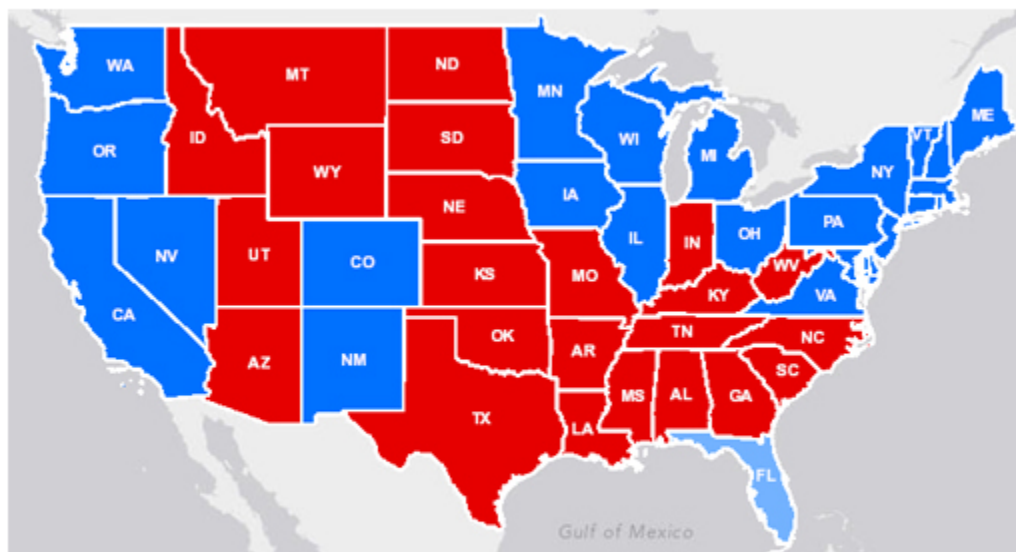
Additional information may be obtained by contacting Geographic Technologies Group, Inc. at 888-757-4222 or you can access our website at www.geotg.com.

http://www10.giscafe.com/nbc/articles/display_news.php

FEATURE

2012 National Election Results

November 6—Esri

Explore real-time US presidential election results from the Associated Press and learn more about the demographics of voters in each county.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please join us at the NCGIS Conference in Raleigh Feb. 7-8, 2013

Carolina URISA 2012 Membership

Join CURISA now to enjoy the support of a regional GIS professional association that partners with URISA and The GIS Certification Institute. CURISA relies on your memberships to maintain the chapter, publish a quarterly newsletter, host events and workshops and represent the regional GIS community in matters of policy and standards. Your CURISA membership entitles you to discounted registrations for workshops and access to other seminars and networking events.

Your membership will be for calendar year 2012 (January to December). We've made it easy for you to renew your membership via our online registration system. *A new online registration system* – The new system will look and feel a bit different, but will provide more flexibility in administration of your own account. *Change in our rate structure* – We have gone to a flat $30 fee as opposed to $20/$40 based on national URISA membership. CURISA also offers a discounted group membership for five or more members from the same organization.

You may go to www.carolinaurisa.org and navigate to the Membership page.