

Top Of The Year

ACSM BULLETIN
DECEMBER 2007 NUMBER 230

As I sit here gathering my thoughts to write the last editorial for 2007, my mind goes through headlines ubiquitous this time of the year—"The Year in Science," "The Most Popular Man and Woman of the Year," "Scientist of the Year," "100 Top Science Stories of 2007," "The Six Most Important Experiments in the World," "What's Cool and What's not"well, you get the drift. I'm sorely tempted to put, in big bold letters, on the cover of this last 2007 issue of the *ACSM Bulletin*, "Geospatial Professional of the Year," but since we haven't conducted any polls to get your views on the matter, this may not be such a good idea.

However! we can declare "**Top Contribution to the Bulletin.**" You have made this possible with your visits to the *webmazine*, the online *Bulletin*. Thank you. The statistics generated give a pretty good picture of what you like reading in our magazine, and whose writings have helped expand the *Bulletin* audience. Unofficial as the *webmazine* has so far been—only members and prolific contributors have been told of its existence as a "beta version"—, from January to December 13th, 2007, a total of 70,000 visitors came to the *webmazine*. Not a great statistic, but not to be scoffed at either, considering that we have not published the site for access to crawlers.

Before I launch into an analysis of the *webmazine* site statistics, forgive an indulgence. I do think we have two candidates for the "Geospatial Professional of the Year," especially if we consider their lifelong contributions to their member organizations. Rita Lumos is my "Surveyor of the Year," and I vote for Aileen Buckley as the "Cartographer of the Year." The fact that they are women, and I am too, has nothing to do with this vote; both Rita and Aileen have for years selflessly worked on behalf of their professional organizations, and both have contributed enormously as presidents in guiding these organizations in 2007. And lest you think that I'm prejudiced, consider this; by reading their *Bulletin* articles on the *webmazine*, you placed their contributions among the top 11 Association News items.

Among the member organizations of ACSM, the American Association for Geodetic Surveying has been the most prolific in contributions to the *ACSM Bulletin* by members and affiliated organizations. Ten by-lined articles on work of interest to AAGS members were contributed to *Bulletins* 219 through to 228 (February 2006 to August 2007). The most popular among them was "Coastal Hazards: Tools for Warning and Mitigation," by A. Allen et al., and it was published in the 226th issue of the *ACSM Bulletin*.

The next top MO contributor was the National Society of Professional Surveyors. The association dominated the Association News category with the "Famous Surveyors—John Fenn" (*Bulletin* 227 and "The National Museum of Surveying" (*Bulletin* 226) articles. Dave Holland's by-lined article "Sen. Resolution 361," which appeared in the 221st issue of the *ACSM Bulletin* (June 2006), was a runner up in hits to Gunther Greulich's "The Sky is the Limit—GPS and its Roots" (*Bulletin* 223, October 2006). Gary Kent's "ALTA Corner" is the second most read column, after "Ask Dr. Map!"

With 4,400 hits and counting, Doug Vandegraff's article "Using Google Earth for Fun and Functionality" (*Bulletin* 227, June 2007) was the most read by-lined article in *webmazine* history. "Ask Dr. Map!, with 1,250 hits, was the most read column. Both place the Cartography and Geographic Information Society in the lead of providing content relevant to the work of geospatial professionals.

Joshua Greenfeld's article "The State of GIS Activities in State Societies" (*Bulletin* 226, April 2007) was the third most read by-lined article on the *webmazine*, and sole contribution by a GLIS member.

A complete listing of top contributions by category is on p. 47 for your enjoyment and thought. Happy New Year!

Ilse Genovese
the editor

ACSM Bulletin

The Publisher: The American Congress on Surveying and Mapping (ACSM) and its member organizations—AAGS, CaGIS, GLIS, and NSPS; NSPS Foundation, Inc.; Sustaining Members; and Associate Councils.

Editorial Policy: The American Congress on Surveying and Mapping publishes the *ACSM Bulletin* to provide current scientific, technical and management information in the fields of surveying, cartography, geodesy, GIS, and photogrammetry, and to communicate news on developments in the geospatial data industry of interest to the member organizations of ACSM. ACSM is not responsible for any statements made or opinions expressed in articles, advertisements, or other portions of this publication. The appearance of advertising in the *ACSM Bulletin* does not imply endorsement or warranty by ACSM of advertisers or their products. Submit articles, press releases, and all other matter for consideration for publication to Ilse Genovese, Editor, *ACSM Bulletin*, 6 Montgomery Village Ave., Suite 403, Gaithersburg, MD 20879. E-mail: <ilse.genovese@acsm.net>. Phone: 240/632-9716, ext. 109; Fax: 240/632-1321.

Restrictions and permissions: Permission to photocopy is indicated by the fee code that follows. Articles to which ACSM does not own rights are so identified at the end of the article. Permission to photocopy for internal or personal use may be obtained by libraries and other users who register with the Copyright Clearance Center (CCC) by paying \$2.50 per copy per article directly to CCC, 222 Rosewood Dr., Danvers, MA 01923. This consent does not extend to copying for general distribution, advertising or promotional purposes, creating new collective works, or resale. Other requests to photocopy or otherwise reproduce material in this magazine should be addressed to the Editor, ACSM, 6 Montgomery Village Avenue, Suite 403, Gaithersburg, MD 20879. Phone: 240/ 632-9716, ext. 109. Fax: 240/ 632-1321. Fee Code: 0747-9417/97 \$2.50. © 2007 American Congress on Surveying and Mapping. Internet: <http://www.acsm.net>; <http://www.acsmcongress.org/webmazine/>.

Circulation and copyright: *ACSM Bulletin* (ISSN 0747-9417) is published bimonthly—February, April, June, August, October, and December—by the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping (ACSM), 6 Montgomery Village Avenue, Suite 403, Gaithersburg, MD 20879. Copyright 2007 American Congress on Surveying and Mapping. Periodicals postage paid at Gaithersburg, Md., and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to *ACSM Bulletin*, Member Services Department, 6 Montgomery Village Avenue, Suite 403, Gaithersburg, MD 20879.

Subscriptions: The 2007 subscription rate is \$92 (U.S. addresses) or \$110 (foreign addresses). Single copies are sold to non-members at \$8 per copy, plus handling and postage. Membership dues include an annual subscription to the *ACSM Bulletin* (\$40), which is part of membership benefits and cannot be deducted from annual dues. Single copies are sold to members (U.S. and foreign) at \$6 per copy, plus handling and postage.

Online content: Current issue content at www.acsm.net/bulletincontent/. Selected full articles published at <http://www.acsmcongress.org/webmazine/>; at <http://www.aagsmo.org/news/>; and at <http://www.glismo.org/publications/>.

Online advertising options: www.acsm.net; www.acsmcongress.org; www.aagsmo.org; www.glismo.org