

March 16, 2009

Volume 1, Issue 2 Spring Edition

Re: Membership Meeting and News

Dear Colleagues:

Thank you for your support of the West Virginia Geospatial community. Our next membership meeting is scheduled for June 10, 2009, at Glenville State College. At this meeting the annual report will be presented and the results of the board election will be announced. A tax mapping workshop will also be held in conjunction with the annual meeting. Other geospatial news that may be of interest to you:

1) New WV GIS Coordinator: Tony Simental was selected as the State GIS Coordinator and began work in his new position on February 2. Tony previously worked for the Property Tax Division where he managed and administered the Mined Minerals GIS unit for several years. Mr. Simental is a graduate of Marshall University where he obtained an MS in Geography in 1999. Tony can be reached at Tony.A.Simental@wv.gov.

2) GIS Program Management Workshop: WVAGP is sponsoring a one day, instructor-led GIS Program Management workshop for GIS professionals. This course is one of the most popular URISA-certified workshops. The URISA workshop is scheduled for April 16 at the Days Inn Conference Center, Flatwoods, WV. The cost is \$20 for members and \$120 for non-members.

Workshop Flyer: http://www.wvagp.org/upload/education/GIS_Prog%20Mgmnt_Workshop.pdf

Register Online: <http://www.wvagp.org/workshop-join.asp>

3) Formal Recognition of WVAGP: House Bill 2807 has been introduced in the WV Legislature to recognize WVAGP and other GIS User Groups to assist in the development of the State GIS Plan. The WVAGP board adopted a resolution on 3 February 2009 in support of legislation recognizing WVAGP as an advisory GIS User Group in West Virginia. The WVAGP Board encourages its members to support this legislation.

More information: <http://www.wvagp.org/news.asp#id54>

4) GISP Certification: The GIS Certification Institute (<http://www.gisci.org/>) received close to 800 applications the last week of December 2008. A number of these applicants are from West Virginia, and it is projected this year that the State will double its number of certified GIS professionals.

5) Board of Director Nominations: Nominations for the WVAGP board of directors are being taken until April 23, 2009. The upcoming election will fill six (6) director positions. Being a board member is an excellent way to earn points for the Contributions to the Profession Component of GISCI Certification. Four points per year can be earned for board membership.

More information: http://www.wvagp.org/upload/news/WVAGP_Call_4_Nominations.pdf

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennings Starcher".

Jennings Starcher
President, WVAGP
<http://www.wvagp.org/>