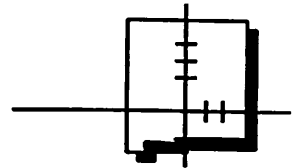


# The MAP LEGEND

New Mexico Geographic Information Council



Volume 2

Number 4

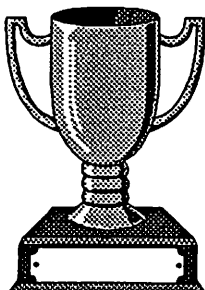
Summer 1991

## MCKINLEY COUNTY RECEIVES AWARD

The McKinley County Rural Addressing Department was selected to receive a second place award in the "Take Pride in America/Take Pride in New Mexico" state competition. The award was given to the McKinley County Rural Addressing Department for their work with the Bureau of Land Management as a partner in the establishment of the Automation Outreach Program. Their nomination is also being considered for national recognition by the Department of the Interior. The award was given at the Annual Governor's Community Achievement awards ceremony held on May 31, 1991.

The Automation Outreach Program was established by the BLM to help identify what data themes in their Land Information System would be of value to local governments. As a partner in this program, McKinley County can access data that resides on the BLM computer in Farmington that deals with land ownership, special management areas, transportation, and streams.

Specific objectives for the program as outlined in the



agreement between McKinley County and the BLM includes the evaluation and documentation of the following:

- ▶ Data collection techniques.
- ▶ Electronic communications.
- ▶ Data administration.
- ▶ Data standards.
- ▶ Systems analysis.
- ▶ Hardware configurations.
- ▶ System security.
- ▶ Results of data exchange between McKinley County and the BLM.

Questions should be addressed to Richard Friedman, Automation Outreach Coordinator with McKinley County at 863-9517 or Ron Fellows, Farmington Area Manager, BLM, at 327-5344.

## WESTERN STATES GEOGRAPHIC NAMES CONFERENCE

The Western States Geographics Names Conference will be held September 3-7, 1991 at the Picacho Plaza Hotel in Santa Fe. The conference will feature a formal meeting of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, as well as opportunities to meet with board members and individuals and agency representatives from throughout the United States concerned with geographic names. For more information, contact Bob Julyan, 298-8420 or Bill Stephens, USFS, 842-3856.

## From the President

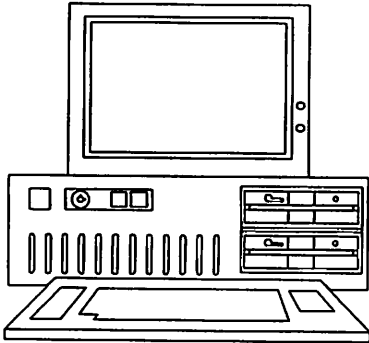
Tom Henderson

The spring meeting of NMGIC may have been a signal event for our organization. Forty new members signed up at the door bringing our total membership to 200. Word about NMGIC is spreading and interest is growing. We attract members by offering services and programs of value to them. More members means we can support better services and programs. It is a simple relationship that the Board of NMGIC must always be aware of.

The best way to know what services and programs the members value is to ask them. That is why two opinion survey forms were made available at the Spring Meeting. The first was a general opinion survey to determine what aspects of NMGIC needed to be changed or improved. Eighteen members responded and their suggestions were considered at the recent Executive Board Meeting. As a result we will arrange to videotape the next General Meeting and make the tape available to members. We will also have more coffee available at the next meeting, including brewed decaf. Finally, we will pursue affiliation with the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA), an action supported by every member that responded.

continued on page 3

# The Map Legend



**Editor: Heather Rex**  
**Assembly: Amy Budge**  
**Mailing: Dave Love**  
**Desktop Publishing:**  
**Jeanette Albany**

The Map Legend is published quarterly by the New Mexico Geographic Information Council and is a benefit of membership in NMGIC. The opinions expressed are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the views of the New Mexico Geographic Information Council, except where specifically noted. The mention of trade names or products does not constitute an endorsement of the NMGIC. Members are invited to send articles and announcements of interest to the editor by the following deadlines: September 1, December 1, March 1, June 1. Please direct all correspondence to:

Heather Rex  
 MAGIC/Centennial Library  
 University of New Mexico  
 Albuquerque, NM 87131-1466

## From the Editor

*This issue will look slightly different because it is being created without the able assistance of The Map Legend's foremost desktop publishing guru, Mike Dwyer. Mike has given his time and talents to NMGIC's newsletter since its beginnings nearly two years ago, but that happy relationship must now close. Mike is moving on in his career at the Bureau of Land Management and leaving New Mexico, much to our disappointment. We will all miss Mike, his eager creativity, patience, and enthusiasm. Many thanks, Mike, and good luck from The Map Legend and the NMGIC.*

*Until we find a permanent desktop publisher (if you can be that person, please let me know!), Jeanette Albany of Technology Application Center has graciously consented to help out. We appreciate Jeanette's coming to the rescue.*

*Have a good summer, everybody.*

*Heather*

## A SPECIAL THANKS . . .

NMGIC extends its appreciation to the following 1991 corporate members for their support:

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SUBMISSIONS OF ARTICLES  
 FOR THE  
 FALL 1991 ISSUE OF  
 THE MAP LEGEND  
 ARE DUE BY  
 SEPTEMBER 1, 1991

## Spring Meeting of NMGIC

The spring 1991 meeting of NMGIC featured two speakers plus exhibits by vendors of GIS and related technologies. A new program format was tried: a "coffee and danish hour" began at 8:00AM in the exhibits area allowing time for registering for the meeting and visiting the exhibits before the program started. At 9:00 the business portion of the meeting was held, followed by Earl Epstein's presentation on legal issues and GIS. This presentation posed interesting questions regarding liability and the use of GIS information. It stimulated several discussions revolving around this issue, bringing this important aspect to the attention of many GIS users. A lunch break in the exhibits area provided attendees another opportunity to visit the exhibits and enjoy a box lunch. The afternoon program featured Jim Avore's (US Census Bureau) presentation on the TIGER system. Mr. Avore introduced and explained the TIGER System development and concept. The TIGER Line files will be important coverages that will be used in many GISs thereby capturing the attention of the audience. A workshop on TIGER was announced, to be held during May. Committee meetings and a final visit to the exhibits completed the day's events.

The meeting was well attended with over 100 people registered. Forty of these people became members of NMGIC at the door. Exhibits by SUN Micro Systems, ESRI, IBM, DEC, Smartscan and Comrim were excellent and provided an opportunity to become acquainted with these GIS vendors.

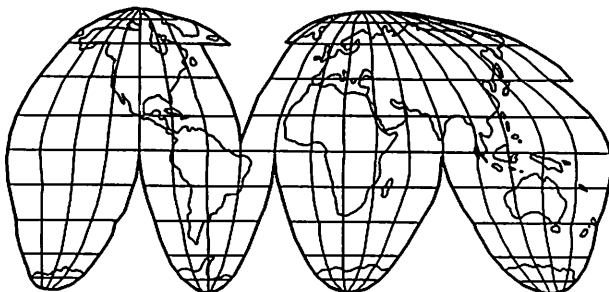
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### From the President

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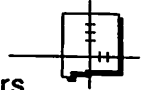
The second opinion survey asked for workshop preferences. "GIS Management and Operations" proved to be the most popular. Therefore, we are scheduling this one-day workshop in October. We will keep the registration fee as low as possible while still covering expenses. Look for an announcement with the details in the near future.

We will continue to distribute opinion surveys at the General Meetings and consider each and every response at subsequent Board Meetings. There is a saying that you get what you pay for; here is your chance to tell us what you want before paying for it.



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**Global Positioning Systems**

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Telephone: 471-2170

**Geographic Names Committee**

Bob Julyan  
Rural Route 5  
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Albuquerque, NM 87123  
Telephone: 298-8420

**Local Government Land Records Committee**

Gretchen Coles  
2940 Calle del Res  
Santa Fe, NM 87505  
Telephone: 984-6632

## Report from the Geographic Names Committee

Bob Julyan, Chairman

Washington Pass and Whiskey Creek highlighted the June 7 meeting of the NMGIC Geographic Names Committee.

Committee Chairman Bob Julyan reported he traveled to Tohatchi in April to meet with a teacher interested in renaming Washington Pass in the Chuska Mountains. While there he spoke to Tohatchi mid-school students and teachers and met with the local representatives of the Navajo tribal government. The teacher is sincere and enthusiastic, but unfortunately she is not Navajo and her efforts are not coordinated with Navajo groups also concerned about the name change. Also unresolved is what to change the name to—Narborna Pass, Copper Pass (a translation of the Navajo name in common use), or something else. Julyan has forwarded the teacher's name change form to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (USBGN); nothing remains now but to wait and see.

In Grant County, USGS has proposed that USBGN change the name of Rio de Arenas, a watercourse running south from Pinos Altos near Silver City, to Whiskey Creek, a name used in the nineteenth century and one the USGS found in interviews to be still used and preferred by local residents. Because this is a major and well known feature of the area, whose name has been somewhat controversial, Julyan sought the opinion of the Grant County commissioners. In a letter they recommended that no action be taken until a public opinion survey was taken. Julyan also wrote a letter to the local newspaper asking for public opinion. Though six of the nine responses did favor Whiskey Creek, the six hardly represented an overwhelming mandate, and the county commissioners appear to be correct in saying any action would be premature now. Furthermore, in 1912 a state law was passed formally changing the name from Whiskey Creek to Rio de Arenas and this law remains in effect. So the Geographic Names Committee recommended the USBGN defer this pending more information.

This committee did, however, recommend adoption of the following USGS proposals:

- ▶ Conner Creek. Change of application.
- ▶ Coyote Creek. Change of application.
- ▶ High Clark Draw and High Clark Spring. Should be Hy Clark, for Hyrum B. Clark, early homesteader who lived there.
- ▶ Little Burro Mountains. Change of application.
- ▶ Walnut Creek and Little Walnut Creek. Change of application.

The committee also voted to support the request of Harold G. Bassett to change the location of Tyrone in Grant County. Tyrone is a mining town; its former site is now a hole in the ground, and a new company town has been established in a new location but with the old name. The committee requested that something be put on the revised maps indicating the location of the former townsite; this would be an important part of the historical record.

And finally, Julyan reported the Picacho Hotel has been selected and a tentative agenda mapped out for the Western States Geographic Names Conference September 3-7 in Santa Fe. The agenda calls for the New Mexico Geographic Names Committee to meet on the afternoon of Wednesday, September 4. Julyan also asked committee members and NMGIC members to suggest possible topics for discussion at the conference, such as GIS, the TIGER files, rural addressing, and so forth.

## GIS and the Law Selected References

Ed Meek has provided the following list of references as a follow-up to Dr. Earl Epstein's presentation at the Spring Meeting.

- Albert, Michael. "Computer Phobo-Mania." *Z Magazine*, fall, 1987, pp. 90-93.
- Archer, Hugh and Crowell, Peter L. "Public Access to Geographic Information Systems: an Emerging Legal Issue." *Photogrammetric Engineering and Remote Sensing* 55:1575-1581, November 1989.
- Archer, Hugh. "Providing and Selling Access to AM/FM Data." Urban and Regional Information Systems Association. *Proceedings of the 1989 Annual Conference*. Los Angeles, CA, n.p., 4:348-357.
- Dangermond, Jack. "Who is Designing Geographic Information Systems for the Public?" Urban and Regional Information Systems Association. *Proceedings of the 1988 Annual Conference*. Los Angeles, California, n.p., 3:37-45.
- Epstein, Earl F. and Roitman, Howard. "Liability for Information." Urban and Regional Information Systems Association. *Proceedings of the 1987 Annual Conference*. place not given, n.p., 4:115-125.
- Epstein, Earl F. and McLaughlin, John D. "A Discussion on Public information: Who Owns It? Who Uses It? Should We Limit Access?" *American Congress Of Surveying and Mapping Bulletin*. October 1990, pp. 33-38.
- Logan, Ronald A. "The Private Sector and Land Registration: New Directions in Ontario." Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations. Manuscript, August 14, 1990.
- Puissegur, Alma. "Does Charging for Public Information Eradicate the Defense of Sovereign Immunity." Urban and Regional Information Systems Association. *Proceedings of the 1988 Annual Conference*. Los Angeles, California, n.p., 4:358-370.
- Roitman, Howard. "Legal Issues in Providing Public Access to an AMS: Case Studies and Variances." Urban and Regional Information Systems Association. *Proceedings of the 1987 Annual Conference*. place not given, n.p., 2:13-24.
- Roitman, Howard. "Public Records Laws" a Proposed Model for Changes." Urban and Regional Information Systems Association. *Proceedings of the 1988 Annual Conference*. Los Angeles, California, n.p., 338-347.
- Roitman, Howard. "Towards a Practical Policy on Public Access to Automated Mapping Data Bases." Urban and Regional Information Systems Association. *Proceedings of the 1986 Annual Conference*. Denver, Colorado, n.p., 4:187-196.
- Salmon, Elizabeth E. "Constructing the Legal Risk Decision Matrix for Cost Recovery Models." Urban and Regional Information Systems Association. *Proceedings of the 1989 Annual Conference*. Boston, Massachusetts, n.p., 4:293-304.
- Sookman, Barry B. "Liability of Information Providers." Urban and Regional Information Systems Association. *Proceedings of the 1989 Annual Conference*. Boston, Massachusetts, n.p., 4:256-275.
- Welebny, Ronald J. "The Land Information Cooperative: Overcoming Political, Managerial and Technical Obstacles to LIS/GIS Implementation." Urban and Regional Information Systems Association. *Proceedings of the 1990 Annual Conference*. Edmonton, Alberta. n.p., 4:76-86.

## Vermont Officials Sued

(Source: GIS World, May 1991.)

State officials in Vermont face a lawsuit involving the state's GIS office and access to it. Stephen Whitaker, 34, alleges that officials have violated the state's public records and open meetings laws.

The suit names the state of Vermont, Administration Secretary Thomas Menson, former deputy Administration Secretary Peter Bluhm and Office of GIS Director Bruce Westcott as defendants. The suit alleges that state officials have pursued a policy of charging for information in violation of Vermont's public records law, adopted that policy at the subcommittee level without a quorum at the meeting, denied Whitaker access to computer records that he claims would be available under the public records law, failed to keep adequate minutes of committee and subcommittee meetings designating the state's GIS office, and taken action at meetings held in violation of the open meetings law.

The lawsuit seeks unspecified monetary damages and an injunction blocking purchase of a new computer. Whitaker has argued that plans to charge for GIS map access would limit use. He says he is worried that large real estate developers could afford access to valuable information, while a few citizens seeking to oppose a new development would not. Menson and Bluhm both said they had tried to cooperate with Whitaker's requests for information and to participate in meetings, but they said Whitaker had been antagonistic.

"Maps and the Columbian Encounter," a traveling exhibit of rare maps and texts, will be at the Zimmerman Library, University of New Mexico, from August 4 through August 27, 1991. Opening ceremonies are planned for August 4 at 2:00 p.m. in the West Wing of Zimmerman Library. All NMGIC members are invited to attend this special program.

## Election Results

The results of the 1991 election of the Members of the Board were announced at the spring 1991 meeting. The following people were elected to the Board:

Al Peters, NM State University, Las Cruces  
 Rich Friedman, McKinley County Rural Addressing, Gallup  
 Stan Grochowski, Information Systems Division, Santa Fe  
 Mike Inglis, Technology Application Center, Albuquerque

The Board Members still serving their terms are:

Tom Henderson, NM State Highway and Transp. Dept., Santa Fe  
 Amy Budge, Technology Application Center, Albuquerque  
 Dan Sutcliffe, NM Dept of Game and Fish, Santa Fe  
 Tommie Parham, Soil Conservation Service, Albuquerque  
 Dave Love, NM Bureau of Mines and Mineral Resources, Socorro

These Board Members can be contacted via phone or FAX:

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 Dave Love, phone: 835-5146, FAX: 835-6333  
 Rich Friedman, phone: 863-9517, FAX: 863-6362  
 Al Peters, phone: 646-1892, FAX: 646-6096  
 Stan Grochowski, phone: 827-2106, FAX: 827-2998

**GPS Conference**

**Institute of Navigation**

**GPS '91**

**September 11-13**

**Albuquerque**

**New Mexico**

**Convention Center**

## Minutes of the Board Meeting

The board of NMGIC met on May 31, 1991 at the Technology Application Center. This was the first meeting with the newly elected members in attendance. Elections for officers were held: Tom Henderson was re-elected president, Dan Sutcliffe is vice-president, Mike Inglis continues as secretary and Amy Budge remains treasurer. NMGIC is a growing organization and is supported by a volunteer effort from its membership. To help "spread the work around" Tom proposed several committees within the board and asked for assistance from board members in leading these committees. The following committees were established and are chaired by these individuals:

Grants and Contracts Coordinator:	Al Peters
General Meetings Coordinator:	Tommie Parham
Elections Coordinator:	Dave Love
Speakers Coordinator:	Stan Grochowski
Workshops Coordinator:	Rich Friedman

A review of the spring meeting determined that it was an overall success and that the vendor exhibits should become an annual event. Also deemed successful was the opportunity to offer a box lunch in the exhibit area which the exhibitors liked very much. Discussion turned to the program for the fall meeting and when it should be held. The facility that has been used is becoming more popular and it is difficult to find available Fridays. The meetings coordinator will pursue this matter and report to the board on our options.

Also reviewed was the TIGER workshop which was held in May. This event drew about 90 participants and was free of charge. Consideration has been given to future workshops, specifically those sponsored by URISA. Tom suggested that we pursue holding a workshop on "GIS Management and Operations" in October. This is a URISA presentation and will cost some money. At this time no fee has been set.

The possibility of NMGIC becoming an affiliate of URISA was introduced last year. The board is waiting for URISA's response on such an association and has decided to explore the option further. There will more information on this matter in a future newsletter.

Ted Talmon gave a brief report on the status of GIS in state government. The GIS Advisory Committee and the Information Systems Division have been awarded a software and services price agreement with ESRI for 6 years. State agencies can purchase GIS hardware and software from the state negotiated price schedule.

## Calendar

**July 8. Orientation to Geographic Information Systems, Seminar.** Vestra Resources, Redding, California. Contact: David R. Volkmann, Vestra Resources, 962 Maraglia Strret, Redding, CA 96002. 916/223-2585.

**July 9-12. GIS/Dex '91: Geographic Information and Spatial Data Exposition.** Hyatt Regency, Crystal City, Virginia. Topic: Federal use of GIS. Contact: U.S Professional Development Institute, 1734 Elton Road, Suite 221, Silver Spring, MD 20903. 301/445-4400.

**July 9-14. PC World Forum--Second Annual International Computer Fair and Conference in the USSR.** VDNH Exhibition Park, Moscow, USSR. Contact: Terence Coe, World Expo Corporation, 111 Speen St., Framingham, MA 01701-9107. 508/879-6700.

**July 15-19. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Triennial Surveying anf Mapping Conference.** Louisville, KY. Contact: Stephen DeLoach, U.S. Army Engineer Topographic Laboratories, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060. 703/355-3026.

**July 18-19. MacAnalyst Software: Techniques for Mapping Data. Seminar.** Los Angeles, CA. Contact: National Planning Data Corporation. P.O. Box 610, Ithaca, NY 14851-0610. 800/234-5629.

**August 4-7. AM/FM/GIS Initiatives for Competitive Advantages.** Executive management symposium. Keystone Resort and Conference Center, Keystone, CO. Contact: AM/FM International, c/o Base Services, Conference Managers, 8775 East Orchard Road, Suite 819, Englewood, CO 80111. 303/779-0015.

**August 11-15. URISA '91.** San Francisco, CA. Topic: Information and technology: gateway to solutions. Contact: Urban and Regional Information Systems Association, 900 Second Street N.E., Suite 304, Washington, DC 20002. 202/289-1685.

**August 24-29. APWA International Public Works Congress and Show.** Moscone Convention Center, San Francisco, CA. Contact: David Tester, APWA, 1313 East 60th Street, Chicago, IL 60637-2881. 312/667-2200.

**September 18-21. International Trade Fair and Congress for Geoscience and Technology.** Cologne, Germany. Contac; Marianne Hollmann. (tel.) 0221 821 2494.

**September 26-28. Government Technology Conference.** Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY. Topic: Solutions for troubled times. Contact: Brian Lee, 112 State Street, Suite 1314, Albany, NY 12207. 518/462-1780.

**October 27-30. GIS/LIS '91: Annual Conference and Exposition.** The Inforum. Atlanta, GA. Contact: GIS/LIS '91, 5410 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814-2122. 301/493-0200.