

Newsletter of the Tennessee Geographic Information Council

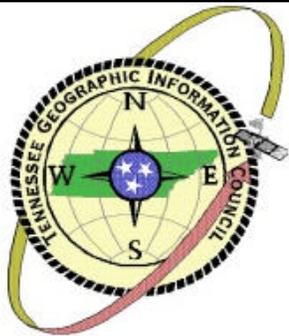
TNGIC Today

Apr 02

"To promote ethical, professional and technical excellence within the Tennessee geographic information community"

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Board Members

David Speight, President
Vice President, to be filled
Star Lakavage, Secretary
Chris Baker, Treasurer
Marie Colson
Jason Duke
Dan Hawk
Vernon Long
Joe Sewash
Rick Stieg
Costi Tudan
Jon Walden
Chris Weber
Lindsey Galyen, Past President
Contact information is on our website at www.tngic.org

A message from the President--David Speight

For many of us, the term "marketing" brings to mind images of trade shows, salespeople, and piles of literature about a company's products or services. However, marketing is not an effort that is limited strictly to the private sector. As GIS professionals, each and every one of us has had to pitch an idea or sell someone on our services in order to get budget funding, provide justification for projects, or even to find a new job. This is also true for TNGIC as an organization. As we continue to grow and look to find ways of providing more and more benefits to our membership, we continue to market our organization to new potential members as well as to other groups within the state who can look to TNGIC as the complete resource for their GIS and mapping issues.

Our annual meeting last month provides a good example of the TNGIC membership continues to grow and become more diverse as the needs of GIS users within the state grow. As most everyone is aware, the State Base Mapping Program has drawn in many new TNGIC members from the property assessment community over the past few years. We are now starting to see this happen with other groups as well. This year brought many new conference attendees from the public safety/911 community as the interest in using GIS for locating wireless phones has started to peak. As new issues and initiatives spark interest in GIS for other groups around the state, TNGIC needs to continue to position itself to be a support structure that these organizations can tap into for educational resources and professional development.

At our conference this year, we saw our numbers continue to grow with a 10% increase in the membership. The conference training continues to be extremely popular with over 25% of the conference attendees taking one of the pre/post conference workshops. With the momentum we have gained over the past few years at our annual meeting, our board and activities committee will keep looking for ways to expand the program and training offerings at next year's event.

This past year also saw the first full year of the implementation of our Strategic Plan and the efforts of our new committee structure to implement action items addressed in the plan. I would like to thank each of our committee chairs from this past year for their hard work. The Regional Meetings, GIS Day events, and our newly adopted Code of Ethics are just a few examples of what our committees have produced this year. I also would like to thank Lindsey Galyen for the efforts that he has put into this organization over the past year as well as his help in preparing me for the coming year. I look forward to contributing my efforts to continue the growth of our organization and encourage all of our membership to look for a role that will help to put TNGIC "on the map."

Meet the TNGIC Board...

Vernon N. Long, Assessor Of Property, Anderson County— Long received his Associate degree from Roane State Community College in Harriman and his B. S. degree from Tennessee Technology University in Cookeville in 1981. From 1982 to 1996 Long served as Deputy Property Assessor, in Anderson County, where his responsibilities included parcel mapping, mapping surveys, subdivisions, and highway plans. While there Long pursued a course to bring GIS mapping to Anderson County. Upon being elected to the Office of Anderson County Property Assessor in 1996, he continued to work for a new GIS mapping system for the County. When the State of Tennessee developed their state base mapping project, Long took on the responsibility of coordinating a series of seminars and demonstrations to educate the public, and create interest in a GIS for his county. Working to gather support from county officials, he continued his efforts by bringing in city officials from the five local towns, surveyors, the Zoning Office, the 911 Board, and local utilities, all of which would benefit from a GIS program, and all of which agreed to share in production and cost of the system. Long devised a method of distributing the local cost fairly among the participants. He is a member of the International Association of Assessing Officers, the Tennessee Association of Assessing Officers, and past president of the East Tennessee Association of Assessing Officers. Long currently serves on the Roane State GIS Advisory Board.

Richard T. Stieg, City of Bartlett GIS— Rick received a Bachelor's Degree in 1979 and a Master's Degree in Urban Geography in 1986, both from the University of Memphis. From 1980 to 1987 Planner with the Memphis and Shelby County Office of Planning and Development, working in the Plans Development section, which was responsible for long range comprehensive plans, including Memphis 2000, the Poplar Corridor Study, and neighborhood plans. Rick was appointed Assistant City Planner with the City of Bartlett's Office of Planning and Economic Development in 1987. Working with Charlie Goforth, the Planning Office has overseen subdivision and site plan development, zoning and transportation planning, and provided economic development assistance to industrial and commercial prospects. Responsibilities included establishing one of the most comprehensive geographic information systems in West Tennessee. Begun in 1988, the Bartlett GIS system has provided technical support to the Shelby County Assessor's effort in automating the 1997 reappraisal, as well as assisting other local governmental agencies in GIS related projects. He was appointed Deputy Director of Planning in 1998. Rick is a past president of TNGIC and recipient of the TNGIC 200 Champion for GIS Award. He served on the adjunct faculty at Southwest Tennessee Community College and was instrumental in founding the Associates Degree Program in GIS. He currently serves on the adjunct faculty with the University of Memphis' Geography Dept.

Costi Tudan, GIS/CADD Manager, EnSafe Inc.— Costi manages the Geographic Information System and Computer-Aided Drafting and Design (GIS/CADD) department for EnSafe Inc., a Memphis, Tennessee-based environmental and management consulting firm. In addition to leading efforts to expand and enhance EnSafe's GIS department, services, and client base, Costi is active in a multitude of EnSafe projects for government and private-sector projects. He manages and analyses data in an ESRI-based GIS for data visualization. Services he renders include GIS database design, data management and analysis, two-dimensional and three-dimensional modeling, map design and production, and digital orthophotography mapping. He served as Chair of the Technical Committee for TNGIC. Their responsibilities are to implement and plan a metadata server for data available for Tennessee. For the Shelby County GIS user's group, he led the initiative to establish a local metadata server with the ultimate goal of registering it with the National Spatial Data Infrastructure group of metadata servers. He received a B.S., 1992, Geodesy, Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing, and Surveying, University of Civil Engineering, Bucharest, Romania and a M.S., 1995, Geography, Geographic Information Systems, University of Memphis. He is a member of the American Society of Photogrammetry & Remote Sensing.

Chris Weber, Metro Nashville Public Schools. Chris's professional experience is focused in GIS, Remote Sensing and Computer Science. Chris graduated in 1998 from Murray State University, Kentucky, with a B. S. degree in Geography and a minor in Computer Science. He worked as an intern for two summers with TVA in Norris, TN. After graduation, Chris worked with Photo Science Inc., Lexington, KY as a GIS Analyst, working primarily with AM/FM GIS. In the spring of 2000, Chris accepted a position with the Metro Nashville Public Schools. His tasks with MNPS include application development, database administration, hardware/software maintenance and GIS analysis. Chris was introduced to TNGIC while he was an intern at TVA. On moving to Nashville in 2000 he became active with TNGIC, helping Jeanette Jones with the Activities Committee. He served as the chair of the Activities Committee and also as the Vendor Coordinator for the 2002 conference.

★ **Jason Duke, USFWS, 2002 GIS Champion**

★ Jason Duke, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Cookeville, TN is the recipient of the Tennessee Geographic Information Council GIS Champion Award for his work promoting the use of GIS not only within the US Fish and Wildlife Service but across the state of Tennessee. He developed the Tennessee Federal Spatial Data Server, located at www.tngis.org. This server serves over 30 gigabytes of spatial data free of charge and has proven to be valuable resource for GIS users in the state and across the Southeast.

★ Jason chairs the Tennessee Federal GIS Committee and has been a leader in efforts of resource sharing and data acquisition. For the past several years, Jason has taught classes in GIS at Tennessee Technological University, assisting many of his students in finding employment in the GIS field. Jason's efforts over the years have produced great results for the growth of GIS in the state, making him worthy of high consideration for this award. Jason formed and chairs the USFWS Southeast Region GIS Committee, which has been responsible for the growth of GIS within the USFWS in Region 4. He served as the Southeast Region representative to the USFWS National GIS committee and serves as a TNGIC board member.

★ **Congratulations to Kim McDonough!** GEOWorld February 2002 issue

★ Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA) 2001 service award winners included- Kim McDonough, Metropolitan Planning Department of Nashville/Davidson County, TN for demonstrating faithful service to URISA and participating in its many programs. Kim has been a member of TNGIC for many years, serving as a board member and as president.

- **Grants to Bolster GIS and Homeland Security**– submitted by Mark Tuttle, Office of Information Resources
 - In the interest of boosting homeland security, ESRI has set up a \$2.3 million grant program to jump-start GIS initiatives in small cities and help set up crisis centers for local government agencies. For information visit the website at <http://www.fcw.com/geb/>
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Afghanistan websites--You may know about these, but here are sources of maps/data for Afghanistan

<http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/afghanistan.html#afcountry.html>

<http://spatialnews.geocomm.com/dailynews/2001/sep/11/datasources.html>

http://www.aeronautics.ru/archive/vif2_project/maps.htm

<http://www.defenselink.mil/> Maps are accessed under "Slides" on the "Photos" page.

Jobs Posting on TNGIC Website– It's time for graduates to start looking for jobs and for students to start looking for summer internships. If your company or organization has a full time or part time job or a summer internship available, consider posting the position on the TNGIC website. It's FREE and easy to do. Job postings are automatically purged after a 45 day posting. Posting positions to the TNGIC job site works! As of 25 April 2002, there are four jobs listed on the website, including full and part time positions, jobs in utilities, conservation management and geospatial applications administration.

Blaine Ray found his job as GIS Coordinator for the Neighborhood Resources Center, Nashville, through the listing on the TNGIC website.

County GIS Census Data Now Available– Dennis Pederson

To promote data sharing and access among the Tennessee GIS community, the Comptroller of the Treasury, Office of Local Government, is making available GIS shapefiles for all 95 counties in Tennessee.

These shapefiles include total population and voting age population data for race and ethnicity categories derived from the Census Bureau's Redistricting Data Program (P.L. 94-171). This demographic data is available at various levels of geography including, census block, city, and county. Additional base map layers are also available such as, hydro, roads, railroads, and others.

This data was essential for local redistricting but may also be utilized for urban growth planning, site selection, as well as an educational tool for new GIS users, and many other applications.

To download a zipped county data set, including data dictionary, simply go to the Tennessee Spatial Data Server at: <http://www.tngis.org>

Census 2000 Urbanized Area and Urban Cluster Information– David Wiggins, US Census Bureau, Charlotte, NC

The Census Bureau will be announcing the the Census 2000 urbanized areas and urban clusters in a Federal Register notice which should be published by late April., 2002. The Census Bureau's urban and rural classifications are significantly different from what was used for the 1990 census. TIGER/Line files that contain the Census 2000 urbanized area and urban cluster boundaries and codes will be available by early May, 2002. Maps of the Census 2000 urbanized areas and urban clusters will be available as PDFs at the end of 2002. Please contact either Joe Marinucci or Dave Aultman if you have any questions; their telephone number is (301) 457-1099 and their e-mail address is: ua@geo.census.gov. Additional information is available on the Census Bureau web site at http://www.census.gov/geo/www/ua/ua_2k.html.

Tennessee Spatial Data Server Update– Jason Duke, US Fish and Wildlife Service

After the TNGIC User Conference, we had several influxes of data for the Tennessee Spatial Data Server. Go online at www.tngis.org for the latest in spatial data for Tennessee. The GIS Program at UT-Chattanooga has graciously offered to provide metadata assistance for the server.

The newest layers are Statewide 10 Meter DEMs and county-level soils from NRCS. The Statewide Public Lands Atlas will go up near the end of May as will the 1:24K Geoquads. The Statewide GAP Land-Use coverage from TWRA will be up by May 1.

If you have any data stowed away, now is the time to turn loose of it and share it with the GIS community. We have thousands of takers, but we need more than 5 givers. Send an e-mail to jason_duke@fws.gov or to Kurt Snider at kurt_snider@fws.gov or call 931-528-6481 ext.216 and tell us what you have and let's find a way to get it online.

Next Board Meeting– May 8, 2002 at 10:00 CDT. At the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) Region II office located at the Ellington Agricultural Center off Edmondson Pike in south Nashville. Edmondson Pike is off Nolensville Pike between I-24 and I-65. From I-24, exit #56, Harding Place (west) approximately 1.5 miles then left on Nolensville Pike. From I-65, exit 78, Harding Place (east), approximately 2 miles then right on Nolensville Pike. Edmondson Pike will be the first right after turning onto Nolensville. The entrance to Ellington Agricultural Center is approximately 1.5 miles on the right. The TWRA Region II Office is the first building on the right after entering the Center from Edmondson. All TNGIC members are welcomed to attend.

ESRI Southeast Regional User Group (SERUG)–

David Speight, InfoCode

The 2002 SERUG Conference will be held at the Chattanooga Marriott & Convention Center, November 3-8, 2002. Conference program includes ESRI training at a reduced rate, technical workshops, ESRI Annual User Conference recap, user presentations and an ESRI doctor's office. Social events will include a Wednesday evening reception at the Tennessee Aquarium and a banquet

on Thursday evening. Check the SERUG web site often for news and registration info -- www.gis-services.com/serug. Participant registration is \$225.00, vendor fee is \$550.00



Geography Career Goals – Pat Wurth, Roane State Community College

Michael Jordan, a geography major, makes over \$80 million a year. Mother Teresa, one of the most admired women in history, went to India as a Geography teacher. For other interesting and unusual insights to geography as a profession and for some bizarre slants on geography, visit <http://geography.about.com/library/misc/blhumor.htm>

TNGIC List Server

The TNGIC-L listserver is hosted by the Tennessee Office of Information Resources. Use the list server to post announcements of interest to the GIS community (users groups, conferences, training, requests for general GIS assistance)

To subscribe, use the following instructions:

1. Use your regular e-mail functions
2. Send message to tngic-request@tdec.state.tn.us
3. In the ****SUBJECT**** field, enter the word "SUBSCRIBE"

You should receive a return message indicating the status of your subscription and guidelines which you should retain. Send outgoing messages to the TNGIC group to tngic@tdec.state.tn.us. Report any problems to Star Lakavage at ae_gis@bellsouth.net

Everyone wants the news -Help the TNGIC newsletter provide timely news of interest to the Tennessee GIS community. Newsletters are mailed by 15 July, October, January and April. Submit articles for the newsletter 30 days before the mailing date to ae_gis@bellsouth.net. Report any address changes to the editor by emailing to the same email or call 865.457.8242.

Moving Sale!!!

Need to sell the following:

CalComp Drawing Board III
36 x 48 inch backlit digitizing table, power tilt base.



HP650C Design Jet plotter, plots up to 36 inches wide (post script capable).

Scangraphics CF1000/44 high resolution, large format monochrome scanner.

All equipment in good working order. Contact Star Lakavage, 865-457-8242 or email to ae_gis@bellsouth.net.

Check the TNGIC website –

You can find membership applications, links to other states GIC sites, bylaws, board member contact information, board meeting postings, links to sites for GIS data and feature articles. Check for an upcoming article on the use of GIS for student apportionment in Nashville.

Send information for posting to the website to James McAteer at james_mcateer@metro.nashville.org

The winners are... ! The 2002 Poster Contest Winners Reveal Their Secrets— Byran Blackburn, EarthData International

This year's poster contest had 3 categories, Most Unique, Best Data Integration and Best Cartographic Design. The entries were widely varied in subject matter and created to be interpreted by many different audiences.

Best Data Integration was awarded to Chris Baker, Ducks Unlimited. The prize awarded was a copy of ArcView ver 8, donated by ESRI. Titled "Ducks Unlimited's Spatial Distribution of Habitat Management Options" describes GIS models used by DU to estimate two factors related to waterfowl habitat. Estimating breeding success and breeding distributions. Both of these factors rely on landscape classification as the main source of data for the model. A supervised landcover classification was done using Landsat 5 imagery from multiple dates using ERDAS Imagine Professional. A model was then devised to factor in the landscape grid and waterfowl habitat data collected by both DU and FWS biologist. The resulting model displays "hot" spots or areas likely to have high nesting and breeding success. The final output generation hardcopy maps became known as the "thunderstorm" maps, in reference to the meteorologist and their "hot" spots during bad weather.

Most Unique was awarded to Andrew Carroll, for his poster titled "Three Dimensional Display of Stream pH Analysis on the Lower North Potato Creek Watershed". Providing information to citizens and communities in a format easily understood by persons not experienced with cartographic interpretation greatly enhances the ability to communicate hydrologic, geologic, and environmental health concerns. A 3D model was designed by producing a mosaic of 4, 30-meter DEMs, which were then portrayed into 3D using ARCSCE. PH contours were derived using ESRI's Spatial Analyst and added with .jpegs to an ARCMAP layout. The end result was a map ideal for public relations. Andrew is a geologist and project manager at the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Superfund. He will complete a graduate degree from the Environmental Science program at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga this Spring. He received a free 2002 SERUG Conference registration, donated by InfoCode, Nashville.

Best Cartographic Design was awarded to Anna Phillips, Hamilton County GIS. The "Hamilton County Relief Map" entered by the Hamilton County GIS Department in the TNGIC 2002 Conference Poster / Map Contest was created by Phillips, GIS Specialist, using Arc/GIS 8.1. The map reflects the topology of Hamilton County and the location of incorporated areas and major roadways. The use of color defined the shadows and lights to show hills and slopes. The feature of transparent color allowed the showing of incorporated areas without removing the hillshade look. To create the hillshade, which gave this map the eye-catching appeal, was developed in Arc/Info by Rayner Howard, GIS Analyst, using Arc/Info Workstation's TOPOGRID command. We use a combination of GRID commands: MOSAIC, CON and FOCALMEAN to create a mosaic of 178 DEMs (Digital Elevation Models.) Using the Arc/Info GRID's HILLSHADE command to create the large hillshade file with a 15' pixel resolution. Then exporting and re-sampling the hillshade to a TIF file with 30' pixel. Her prize, a Palm Pilot and keyboard was donated by, Tennessee Geographic Information, Oak Ridge.

Conference Notes— If you registered for the annual TNGIC conference this year as a walk in registration and have not received a receipt from MTSU or if you took any pre or post conference training and have not received your CEU certificate, contact Chris McKissock at MTSU, 615 898-5168 or email to cmckissa@mtsu.edu.

TNGIC Board Members for 2002--Updated contact information is website, www.tngic.org

Board Member	Address	Telephone	Email
Marie Colson	TVA, 1101 Market Street, HB2A-C Chattanooga, TN 37402	423-751-2098	macolson@tva.gov
Jason Duke	USFWS 446 Neal Street Cookeville, TN 38501	931-528-6481	Jason_Duke@fws.gov
Lindsey Galyen, (past president)	G Squared 3098 Huntsville Highway Fayetteville, TN 37334,	931 438-1414	logalyen@gsqmap.com
Dan Hawk	Local Planning Assistance Office 5401 Kingston Pike, Suite 210 Knoxville, TN 37919	865-594-6666	Dan.hawk@mail.state.tn.us
Star Lakavage	Aegis Services P O Box 160 Clinton, TN 37717	865-457-8242	ae_gis@bellsouth.net
Vernon Long*	Anderson County Assessor's Office 100 N Main Street Clinton, TN 37716	865-457-6219	vlong@mail.acgis.net
Joe Sewash	State of TN Office of Information Resources 312 8 th Avenue North, 16 th Floor WRS, Tennessee Tower Nashville, TN 37243	615-741-9356	Joe.Sewash@state.tn.us
David Speight	InfoCode Corporation 1913 21 st Avenue South Nashville, TN 37212	615-269-6930	david.speight@infocode.com
Rick Stieg	City of Bartlett 6400 Stage Road Bartlett, TN 38134	901-385-6417	rstieg@cityofbartlett.org*
Costi Tudan	EnSafe, Inc. 5724 Summer Tree Dr Memphis, TN 38134,	901-372-7962	ctudan@ensafe.com*
Jon Walden	CTAS 226 Capitol Building, Suite 400 Nashville, TN 37219	615-532-3555	jmwalden@utk.edu
Chris Weber	Nashville Public Schools 2601 Bransford Avenue Nashville, TN 37204	615-259-8520	Chris.Weber@mnps.org*

*indicates new board member

ArcGIS Migration Workshop– Mitch Maddox, ESRI A one day workshop is scheduled for May 21st in Franklin. Visit http://gis.esri.com/events/seminar_detail.cfm?shownumber=4910 for material to be covered during the workshop. With so many ESRI users poised to make the migration to ArcGIS, the timing (and price, \$150) couldn't be better. Lunch is included in the registration fee. Attendees will receive a work-book and CD with video tutorials.

Meetings and Conferences

Migrating to ArcGIS Workshop-May 21, Franklin, TN Register at http://gis.esri.com/events/seminar_detail.cfm?shownumber=4910

SERUG - Nov 3-8, Chattanooga, TN. Visit the SERUG website for details at www.gis-services.com/serug

ESRI Annual User Conference- San Diego, July 8-12, 2002. Visit the ESRI website for information at www.esri.com/events/us

Users Groups

Business GIS User Group-Pellissippi State Technical Community College, 10915 Hardin Valley Road, Knoxville, TN, Sept 10, 6:00 pm. Contact Pete Jivelekas, at 865 925-9527, email to petej@regalcinemas.com

ET Map Info Users Group-Contact Reid Gryder at 865-482-7919 or at GryderRK@aol.com for quarterly meetings in the Knoxville/Oak Ridge area.

Oak Ridge/Knoxville Area ESRI Users Group-Contact Pat Wurth at Wurth_PA@rscg.cc.tn.us for meeting notices.

CMC GIS Users Group -The Clarksville/Montgomery County GIS Users Group, Telephone 931.221.7500 or check their website at cmcgis@apsu.edu for meeting information.

Middle Tennessee GIS Users Group-Contact Suzanne White email suzanne.o.white@amec.com or telephone 615-333-0630 for meeting dates. This non-software specific group discusses general GIS topics.

West Tennessee GIS Users Group - Contact Costi Tudan, EnSafe, Inc at 901-372-7962 or email to ctudan@ensafe.com

Intergraph Users Groups-There are several in the Huntsville, AL area covering FRAMME, Geomedia and MGE. For additional information contact Ron McLeroy , telephone 256-882-8112 .

TN Federal GIS User Group-Meets twice a year at the US Fish and Wildlife Service offices, 446 Neal Street, Cookeville, TN. Contact Jason Duke at US Fish and Wildlife Service, at 931-528-6481 ext. 216 or email jason_duke@fws.gov for meeting dates.

NEWSLETTER OF THE TENNESSEE GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION
COUNCIL
TNGIC TODAY

AEgis Services
P O Box 160
Clinton, TN 37717