

# RSSG Newsletter

July 1988

## From the Chair:

Summer Greetings to all!

We have had a very productive year and a very successful meeting in Phoenix, AZ. I would like to thank Jim Merchant for his initiatives and leadership during the past two years and for a job well done. I welcome all the newly-elected officers of the group and am grateful to them for agreeing to participate in our activities. Tina Cary and Jeff Wasrud deserve our appreciation for doing an excellent job of publishing the RSSG Newsletter.

Other matters... Thanks are extended to Tina Cary who has agreed to serve as program chair for the 1989 Baltimore Annual Meeting. Bob Holz is chairing the Awards committee; Jim Merchant and Don Rundquist are co-chairing the newly-formed Education Committee. Thanks to Bob, Jim and Don.

We are entering an exciting and new era in earth-remote sensing with the proposed EOS program. I hope the geographic remote sensing community will take an active lead in many of the proposed EOS initiatives.

Kamlesh Lulla  
Space Shuttle Earth Observations Office  
NASA/Johnson Space Center

## OFFICERS

### Chairperson (May 1988 - May 1990)

Kamlesh P. Lulla  
Space Shuttle Earth Observation  
Program (SSEOP)  
SN-4, NASA/Johnson Space Center  
Houston, Texas 77058  
(713) 483-5159

### Director (May 1987 - May 1989)

Thomas R. Loveland  
EROS Data Center  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57198  
(605) 594-6066

### Vice Chairperson (May 1988 - May 1990)

M. Duane Nellis  
Department of Geography  
Kansas State University  
Dickens Hall  
Manhattan, Kansas 66506  
(913) 532-6727

### Director (May 1988 - May 1990)

Jeff Wasrud  
Dept of Environmental Resources  
Cook College, Rutgers University  
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903  
(201) 932-9634

### Secretary-Treasurer (May 1988 - May 1990)

Shamim Naim  
Department of Geography-Geology  
University of Wisconsin-Waukesha County  
Waukesha, Wisconsin 53186  
(414) 521-5205

### Student Director (May 1988 - May 1989)

Mary E. Dillworth  
Department of Geography  
University of Kansas  
213 Lindley Hall  
Lawrence, Kansas 66045  
(913) 864-5143

## REPORT OF THE 1988 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The annual business meeting of the RSSG was held on April 6, 1988 in Phoenix, Arizona. James W. Merchant (University of Kansas), Chairperson, presided. A synopsis of the proceedings follows:

### Recognition of Meritorious Service

The following persons were commended for providing extraordinary service to RSSG during the past year:

- Vincent Ambrosia (NASA/Ames Research Center) - for serving as RSSG Program Chair for the 1988 Annual Meeting;
- Tina K. Cary and Jeff Wasrud (Rutgers University) - for organizing and teaching another very successful workshop on digital image processing;
- Duane Nellis (Kansas State University), Ray Lougeay (State University of New York-Geneseo) and Kamlesh Lulla (NASA/Johnson Space Center) - for organizing a unique and important series of sessions on teaching remote sensing and for arranging for publication of papers from these sessions through GEOCARTO International;
- Allen Hope (San Diego State University) - for organizing a very successful field trip to the USDA Water Conservation Laboratory in Phoenix;
- Lloyd Queen (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) - for completing work on the update of the remote sensing instructional survey (discussed below);
- John Jensen (University of South Carolina) - for serving as editor of the RSSG chapter for the forthcoming book Geography in America.

### Treasurer's Report

M. Duane Nellis (Kansas State University), RSSG Treasurer, submitted the 1987-1988 RSSG financial statement to the current RSSG Chair. Discussion focussed on expenditure of funds for activities other than the RSSG Newsletter. Most interest was expressed in expanding the RSSG awards program.

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT 6/20/87 to 4/4/88

	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
Previous Balance		\$ 1087.39
Newsletter Publishing	\$ 712.00	
Flowers for B. Richason Funeral	30.00	
Charge for Checking	7.36	
A.A.G. Rebate for 1988		255.75
Dues and Donations Received as of 4/4/88 (31)		198.70
Digital Processing of R.S. Data Workshop		491.15
Interest on Savings Account		18.95
Totals	<u>\$ 749.36</u>	<u>\$ 2051.94</u>
Balance		\$ 1302.58

Submitted by ..... M. Duane Nellis: Treasurer-A.A.G.-R.S.S.G.

## Committees

Awards A new awards committee was appointed and was requested to explore ways of expanding and invigorating the RSSG awards activities. Robert Holz (University of Texas) was named Committee Chair. Other committee members include Jeff Wasrud (Rutgers University) and Roland Mower (University of North Dakota). The committee will suggest ways to develop both student and non-student awards, will examine the possible nomination of a geographer for the William T. Pecora Award offered by the Department of the Interior, and will be responsible for moving forward with an awards program for the 1989 Baltimore meetings.

Programs Tina K. Cary (Rutgers University) volunteered to serve as RSSG Program Chair for the 1989 Baltimore meetings. She has indicated that she will, once more, offer her very successful workshop on digital image analysis. Dr. Cary requested that RSSG members contact her with ideas for sessions and field trips. Some suggestions include:

- Sessions on commercial remote sensing-SPOT, EOSAT, Earthsat, KRS Remote Sensing;
- Special session on arms control via remote sensing;
- Forum on the Earth Observing System Program;
- Field trip to NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center.

Education RSSG decided to form a new committee to focus on remote sensing education. This committee will capitalize upon the substantial interest shown in the sessions on teaching remote sensing held during the Phoenix meetings. In addition, the committee will serve to give recognition to the fact that Geography Departments are the single largest source of training in remote sensing in the U.S. The new committee will be co-chaired by James Merchant (University of Kansas) and Donald Rundquist (University of Nebraska-Lincoln). Initial focus of the committee will be upon the following:

- working with the student director to distribute the survey of remote sensing instruction in Departments of Geography;
- working with the student director to update and expand the survey;
- examining means to acquire low-cost digital imagery for instructional use;
- serving as liaison with the ASPRS/ACSM Education committee;
- initiating surveys of textbooks, software and other resources currently being used in remote sensing education;
- developing activities at annual meetings focussed on remote sensing education.

## Other Business

Survey of Remote Sensing in Departments of Geography Lloyd Queen (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), Student Director (1987-1988) submitted a report on completion of the update of the RSSG Survey of Remote Sensing in Departments of Geography. The update of the survey reflects the efforts of both Mr. Queen and John Jones (University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Student Director 1986-1987). Questionnaires were mailed to 150 universities; 35 responses were received. Discussion focussed upon ways in which RSSG could encourage greater participation in the survey, and on distribution of the survey results. It was decided that, though the survey does not represent a complete picture of remote sensing in U.S. Departments of Geography, it will be released for sale at the cost of reproduction (\$5.00). Availability of the survey will be advertised through the AAG Newsletter and other such vehicles. Persons who purchase copies of the survey will receive addenda as new information is acquired. It is anticipated that release of the survey results will prove to be an incentive for departments that have not yet responded to take part.

Geography in America John Jensen (University of South Carolina) is serving as editor and principal author for the RSSG chapter being prepared for the forthcoming

book, Geography in America. Dr. Jensen has solicited contributions from a broad spectrum of geographers working in remote sensing. A preliminary synopsis of the chapter was presented at the Phoenix AAG meetings. Comments and suggestions from RSSG members were requested.

Liaison with ASPRS Sally Gros (University of Oklahoma) reported, on behalf of Lee Williams (University of Oklahoma), on the activities of the ASPRS Remote Sensing Applications Division. Dr. Williams serves as Assistant Director of the Division. Ms. Gros noted that ASPRS has expressed interest in beginning to offer workshops similar to those offered by AAG. Geographers interested in organizing and teaching workshops at ASPRS meetings were asked to contact Dr. Williams. ASPRS is also interested in suggestions for special sessions for its semiannual meetings. Closer links between AAG/RSSG and ASPRS were encouraged.

New Committee Steve Walsh (University of North Carolina) suggested that RSSG consider forming a new committee to focus upon integration of remote sensing and GIS. The committee would act as liaison with the GIS Specialty Group. Dr. Walsh will make formal recommendations for action by RSSG at the 1989 Business Meeting.

Length of Business Meetings Once again it was the consensus of those present that 60 minutes is not enough time to adequately conduct RSSG business. It was urged that AAG allow specialty groups at least 90 minutes for annual business meetings.

#### BALTIMORE MEETING PLANS

Special sessions are being organized for the Baltimore Annual Meeting on the following topics: GIS and Remote Sensing Applications for Rural Land Use Analysis, on Biogeography, and on Coastal and Marine Applications of Remote Sensing. If you are interested in presenting a paper on one of these topics, please contact the session organizer listed below before September 1, 1988.

GIS and Remote Sensing Applications for Rural Land Use Analysis: Dr. M. Duane Nellis (Phone: 913/532-6727), Department of Geography, Dickens Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506. The special session will be jointly sponsored by the Remote Sensing Specialty Group, and the Contemporary Agriculture and Rural Land Use Specialty Group.

Biogeography: Vince Ambrosia (Phone: 415/694-6184), NASA Ames Research Center, MS 242-4, Moffett Field, CA 94035.

Coastal and Marine Applications of Remote Sensing: Dr. Doug Stow (Phone: 619/265-5498), Department of Geography, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA 92182-0381.

Did you ever consider organizing a session for the Annual Meeting? Please do. Are you planning to organize a session? Let RSSG Program Chair Tina Cary know your plans: Dept of Environmental Resources, Cook College, P.O. Box 231, New Brunswick, NJ 08903, telephone (201) 932-9632, bitnet 2059007@rutvm1. In order for the session to be submitted under RSSG sponsorship, all of these materials must reach Tina Cary by 5 September 1988, so that she can submit them by the deadline.

#### THANKS

Thanks to the following people for contributing information for this newsletter: Kam Lulla, Duane Nellis, Vince Ambrosia, Jeff Wasrud, Bob Holz, Doug Stow.

## REPORT ON THE HONORS COMMITTEE OF THE RSSG

Robert K. Holz submitted a report on the Honors Committee to Chair Kam Lulla. The report has been edited to fit here:

An Honors or Awards Committee was established at the business meeting of the Remote Sensing Specialty Group at the AAG meetings in Phoenix. Members are Robert K. Holz, Texas; Roland Mower, North Dakota; and Jeffrey Wasrud, Rutgers.

Discussion during the business meeting and among the members of the Honors Committee afterward established courses of action for the Committee to pursue. First, the Remote Sensing Specialty Group should present cash awards for the two best papers on remote sensing presented by students at the annual meetings of the AAG. The amount of these awards should be \$100.00 for the first place paper and \$50.00 for second. All presentations will be reviewed by a three-member judging team appointed by the Group Chair. Awards will be based on the methodology, currency, and organization of the research, and the style and elan of delivery. A certificate, suitable for framing, should also be given to each of the award winners, to serve as a more permanent record of achievement.

The second course of action for the Specialty Group awards is to recognize and honor a group member who has made significant contributions to the field of remote sensing. A certificate should be presented to the honoree at the Specialty Group business meeting. I do not speak for the entire committee here, but I would like to go on record as recommending that the specialty group should have a medal cast and that each year we present a copy of that medal to the person who is awarded honors. Casting a medal is not prohibitively expensive, and we do seem to have enough funds to finance the casting of one. (The Applied Geographers already do something like this at the annual meetings.) A method or procedure for selecting the person who receives this award has not been determined.

The third recommended course of action is that the Specialty Group should submit the name of at least one person to the AAG Honors Committee each year. A method or procedure for selecting a person for AAG honors has not been determined. The RSSG should also nominate members for the Pecora Award and other such awards.

I would like to suggest that a call for honors recommendations should go out in the Newsletter to the Remote Sensing Specialty Group members well before the AAG meetings. The Honors Committee, working in conjunction with the elected officers, could then select honorees from these recommendations.

If you have any suggestions regarding the proposals documented here, please contact members of the Honors Committee or Kamlesh Lulla, the Group Chair.

### Necrology

Benjamin F. Richason, Jr., chairman of the Geography Department at Carroll College, died Monday, February 8, 1988. He was active in the AAG, NCGE, ASPRS, Gamma Theta Upsilon, Sigma Xi, and the Wisconsin Council for Geographic Education.

### DO WE HAVE YOUR ADDRESS RIGHT?

Due to a hardware malfunction, the RSSG mailing list got corrupted. Every effort has been made to restore it. Please send corrections to Jeff Wasrud, Department of Environmental Resources, Cook College, P.O. Box 231, New Brunswick, NJ 08903.

**REMEMBER TO PAY 1988 DUES, AND TO CHECK OFF RSSG WHEN YOU RENEW.**

Remote Sensing Specialty Group  
Cook College Remote Sensing Center  
P.O. Box 231  
New Brunswick, NJ 08903

---

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**P A I D**  
Milltown, NJ  
Permit No. 536

# DEATH NOTICES

WEDNESDAY FEB 10 1988

## Benjamin F. Richason Jr.

WAUKESHA — Services will be Friday for Benjamin F. Richason Jr., Ph.D., chairman of the Carroll College geography department. He died Monday, Feb. 8, 1988, at Waukesha Memorial Hospital. He was born July 24, 1922, at Loganport, Ind.

He served in the Army Air Force from 1942 to 1946 in the Pacific where he served as a photo interpreter with the 20th Air Force. He later received his B.A. and M.A. from Indiana University, Bloomington. In 1960 he earned his Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. He also had done post doctoral work in remote sensing at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind. He was a member of Gamma Theta Upsilon honorary fraternity and Beta Theta Pi social fraternity.

He began his Carroll College career in 1952, at that time being the only faculty member in the geography department. Over the years he organized and conducted geography field courses to Europe, Jamaica and various parts of the United States. In 1985 he was selected one of the top 10 professors in the nation by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. He was active in professional organizations: the Association of American Geographers, the National Council for Geographic Education, the American Society of Photogrammetry, Gamma Theta Upsilon, Sigma Xi, and the Wisconsin Council for Geographic Education.

In Waukesha, Dr. Richason was a member of the First Presbyterian Church where he was a ruling elder from 1966 to 1969 and from 1980 to 1982. He belonged to the Waukesha Rotary Club, serving as president from 1966 to 1967 and president of the club's charitable foundation from 1968 to 1969. He was chairman of leadership training committee, the Boy Scouts of America in 1959 and 1960. He organized a weather program for radio station WAUK in 1955, and since 1971 has supervised the monthly and annual weather summaries for the *Waukesha Freeman*.

He has been listed professionally in: *American Men of Science*, *Who's Who in the Mid-West*, *Who's Who in American Education*, *Leaders in American Science*, *International Scholars Director*, *Personalities of the West and Mid-West*, *Contemporary Authors*, *Who's Who in America*, *Outstanding Educators of America*, *The World of Who's Who of Authors*, *Wisconsin Men of Achievement*, *Men of Achievement*, *International Authors and Writers Who's Who*, and *The Dictionary of International Biography*.

LITTLE PRAIRIE — Vera F. Orn, nee Hickok, age 86, of Little Prairie, died Tuesday, Feb. 9, 1988, at Countryside Nursing Home in Jefferson. She was born Oct. 20, 1901, at DeSoto, Wis. She had been a resident of Little Prairie for 14 years and prior to that lived in Milwaukee.

She is survived by her husband, Reino. They were married March 8, 1950, in Waukegan, Ill. She also is survived by sisters, Helen Clark of Whitewater and Genevieve Force of Sacramento, Calif.; brother, Godfrey Ummel of Mesa, Ariz.; 11 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; nieces; nephews; other relatives and friends. She was preceded in death by sons, Wallace, Eddy and John, and sister, Cosette Adsit.

Funeral services will be at 1:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 12, 1988, at the Mealy's Funeral Home in Eagle. The Rev. Caroline Kuntz will officiate with burial in Little Prairie Cemetery. Friends may call after 4 p.m. on Thursday at the Mealy's Funeral Home in Eagle.

## Raymond T. Knoebel

PEWAUKEE — Raymond T. Knoebel, age 77 years, passed away Feb. 9, 1988. He was a lifelong resident of Pewaukee.

He was a 43-year employee of International Harvester, Waukesha.

He was the beloved husband of Pearl M. (nee Leipski); the dear father of Judith (Russell) Leistiko, Jerold (Sandra), Robert (Michaelene), Kristine Augustine, Margaret Ford and Martha (Billy) Wood; brother of Isabelle Petry, Evelyn Ohberg and James (Helen) Knoebel. He also is survived by six grandchildren, one great-granddaughter, sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Funeral services will be Thursday, Feb. 11, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 449 W. Wisconsin Ave., Pewaukee, for a Mass of Christian Burial (please meet at the church). He will be in state at the Harder Funeral Home, 18700 W. Capitol Drive, Brookfield, Thursday from 4 to 7 p.m. There will be a reception immediately following in the church hall. Private interment will be in St. Joseph Cemetery, Waukesha. Memorials to St. Mary's Catholic Church, Pewaukee, or the American Heart Association would be appreciated.

## Adele E. Fryatt

WAUKESHA — Adele E. Fryatt, age 89, died Monday, Feb. 8, 1988, at Austin, Texas. She was returning from a visit with her grandchild-

monthly and annual weather summaries for the *Waukesha Freeman*.

He has been listed professionally in: *American Men of Science*, *Who's Who in the Mid-West*, *Who's Who in American Education*, *Leaders in American Science*, *International Scholars Director*, *Personalities of the West and Mid-West*, *Contemporary Authors*, *Who's Who in America*, *Outstanding Educators of America*, *The World of Who's Who of Authors*, *Wisconsin Men of Achievement*, *Men of Achievement*, *International Authors and Writers Who's Who*, and *the Dictionary of International Biography*.

He was editor of the *Text, Remote Sensing of the Environment*, which he was preparing for a third edition. His most recent research was in aerial thermography in remote sensing of animal counts and wildlife stress, and monitoring brackish plumes from artesian wells in the Florida Everglades.

Surviving him are his wife of 42 years, Beverly, and son, Benjamin F. (Barbara) Richason III, who is a professor of geography at St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, Minn. He also is survived by grandchildren, Jennifer and Andrew. He was the son-in-law of Norma Elder of Waukesha; brother of Josephine (L.E.) Hyman of Louisville, Ky. He is further survived by two nieces, two nephews, other relatives and many friends. Preceding him in death were his parents.

The family will receive friends Thursday, Feb. 11, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Randle-Dable Funeral Home. Services will be Friday at 2 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church with the Rev. Robert Buzza officiating. Burial will be 1 p.m. Saturday at Mount Hope Cemetery in Logansport, Ind. Memorials to the Carroll College geography department would be appreciated.

Mass of Christian Burial (please meet at the church). He will be in state at the Harder Funeral Home, 18700 W. Capitol Drive, Brookfield, Thursday from 4 to 7 p.m. There will be a reception immediately following in the church hall. Private interment will be in St. Joseph Cemetery, Waukesha. Memorials to St. Mary's Catholic Church, Pewaukee, or the American Heart Association would be appreciated.

### Adele E. Fryatt

WAUKESHA — Adele E. Fryatt, age 89, died Monday, Feb. 8, 1988, at Austin, Texas. She was returning from a visit with her grandchildren in New Jersey when she suffered an apparent attack. She had been living in San Antonio with her son Richard for the past three years.

She was born at West Allis, moving to Waukesha as the bride of the late Dr. Harry E. Fryatt. He was a longtime member of the Waukesha Dental Society. The couple lived for many years in the home they had built on Dunbar Avenue. Dr. Fryatt died in September 1959. She continued to live in Waukesha until her move three years ago.

She is survived by son, Richard of San Antonio, and six grandchildren, Debra and Christopher Fryatt, both of Oakland, N.J., Harry E. Fryatt III of Monterey, Calif., Carey Fryatt of Pewaukee, Vanni Fryatt of Eagle River and John Fryatt of town of Genesee. She is further survived by great-grandchildren, Courtney, Michael and Christine, as well as nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Preceding her in death in addition to her husband were sons, Jack and Harry, infant daughter, Jeannie, and two sisters.

Friends may visit on Thursday, Feb. 11, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Randle-Dable Funeral Home. Graveside services will be Friday at 10 a.m. at Prairie Home Cemetery.