

Southeastern Minnesota GIS Users Group

St. Mary's University – Hendrickson Center, 700 Terrace Heights, Winona, MN 55987

Thursday, November 4th 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Sarah Schrader – Goodhue County	Jason Poser – St. Mary's University
Ashley Ignatius – St. Mary's University	Chris Cremons – St. Mary's University
Alan Laumeyer – Goodhue County	Dave Wavrin – Steele County
Mark Engel – Yaggy Colby	Michelle Trager – Rice County
Ryan Moore – Rochester Public Utilities	Tom Hoffmann – Winona County
Greg Rowley – Rochester Public Utilities	Ben Ogren – McGhie & Betts
Cynthia Mann – St. Mary's University	Greta Bernatz – St. Mary's University/GeoSpatial Services
Leanne Knott – City of Red Wing	Jeanne Franz – City of Winona
Debbie Persoon-Bement – MnDOT-Rochester	Bill Durkin – St. Mary's University
Shawn Gertken – Wabasha County	Patrick Thorsell – St. Mary's University
Nick Meyers – Winona County	Todd Zielsdorf – Winona County

10:00am Introductions

7 new members attended this meeting! Attendees introduced themselves and listed one project that they are currently working on.

- Greg Rowley: 9.3 virtual servers.
- Tom Hoffmann: ESRI version 10.0 and new/updated tools for parcel editing.
- Leanne Knott: Flex API.
- Nick Meyers: Self-hosted Pictometry online.
- Ryan Moore: Silverlight API.
- Sarah Schrader: Upgrading python scripts created in 9.x to work in ESRI version 10.0.
- Mark Engel: Maps for the city of Zumbro Falls regarding the recent flooding events.
- Ben Ogren: Maps for the city of Hammond regarding the recent flooding events.
- Bill Durkin: St. Mary's University Grad student - CAD system (New World) with Pictometry.
- Cynthia Mann: St. Mary's University Grad student - Anything and everything GIS.
- Todd Zielsdorf: Printing options in ESRI version 10.0.
- Michelle Trager: Digitized driveways to help update address signs in the county.
- Alan Laumeyer: Providing GIS data and services to Goodhue County GIS users group participating agencies.
- Dave Wavrin: Maps for emergency management following the recent flooding events. Looking to streamline the attributing process for properties during an event and looking into utilizing a web application to assist with that.
- Jeanne Franz: Upgrade to ESRI version 10.0. Working on bluff ordinance maps.
- Ashley Ignatius: St. Mary's University Grad student – Working on data creation/collection for the Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP) regional web application project.
- Chris Cremons: St. Mary's University Grad student – Ortho mapping and natural resource data creation.
- Jason Poser: St. Mary's University Grad student – Finish graduate project.

Overview of Recent Projects at St. Mary's University (SMU) – Department of Resource Analysis Patrick Thorsell

- Patrick asked attendees to keep SMU students in mind for any internships or projects that need to be done. Contact Patrick if you have any project needs and he can try to find students or a class that could assist.
- Demo of an internal ArcGIS Server web application that is used by the SMU maintenance staff. The site was created by the SMU Department of Resource Analysis and much of the data was created by students in the GIS program.
- Patrick asked the group what the future is for the API's:
 - Greg Rowley: Both are good options.
 - Sarah Schrader: FLEX has been around longer than Silverlight and is currently being supported by ESRI technical support so that's good. However, Silverlight is also a great option and should do well. Regarding other API's like Java Script, they can be great options too depending on the needs of your project and the skills of your developers. If your developers have a strong Java Script background then the Java Script API can be a great option.

*Mark Engel and Nick Meyers are a part of Design Team, a group of volunteers based from a group of Architects that meets periodically for 3-day retreats to work through planning/design issues. Mark feels that GIS is really helping this group. Nick recently put together a project showing distance analysis with GIS and then showed the benefits.

Regional SHIP Project Update – GIS Web Application

Nick Meyers-Winona County & Ashley Ignatius-St. Mary's University

- Nick Meyers and Ashley Ignatius gave an update on the Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP) regional web application project.
- Maintenance of the application in the future – options include the creation of logins for users to edit the data. Use of a database replica that would be updated, reconciled and then posted back online.
- Ashley: Data collection is the biggest part of this project and the attributes are really important. Please contact Ashley if you have any attribute information for parks, trails, and recreational features.

The full version of this presentation is available for viewing on the SEMN Yahoo Groups website.

*Ryan Moore suggested to contact local Boy Scout troops to see if they could collect information as part of a community project.

*Chris Cremons commented that this could be a great project for an Eagle Scout. Also some Boy Scout troops may have already collected information like this for previous projects. Reach out to these groups to see what information they may have already.

Safe Routes to School (SRTS)

Greta Bernatz

- Safe Routes to School is a federal program to help identify and improve safe routes for school children to walk or bike to school. More information can be found at www.saferoutesinfo.org

- Greta asked attendees whether any of their agencies have worked with or currently are working with SRTS.
 - Leanne Knott: City Engineering is looking into this program and planning projects.
 - Sarah Schrader: Goodhue County's SHIP group has been hosting walking audits in communities to encourage city administration, law enforcement, citizens and others to audit their existing sidewalks etc and make plans for improvement.
 - Mark Engel: Has worked with routing information before and often times the analyzed routes differ from the actual routes that young students take. For example, children may not walk only on sidewalks but may cut through parks or across private property on their way to school or home.
 - Nick Meyers: Plans to talk with the Winona City Engineers about this to see if they would be interested and to search for grant money to help fund any projects.

The full version of this presentation is available for viewing on the SEMN Yahoo Groups website.

ArcGIS 10.0 – ArcGIS Mobile versus ArcPad

Chris Cremons

- ArcMobile is available with ESRI version 10.0 at all licensing levels. It is a basic tool with a simple and user-friendly interface and is designed for non-GIS users.
- www.esri.com/arcgismobile
- Things to keep in mind:
 - Costs of hardware when implementing ArcGIS Mobile
 - Needs of your own agency
- **Tip:** The Mobile toolbox may need to be manually added to your main toolbox. The toolbox is located here: C:/Program Files/ArcGIS/Mobile10.0/Toolboxes

The full version of this presentation is available for viewing on the SEMN Yahoo Groups website.

*Ryan Moore: Rochester Public Utilities uses TerraSync (Trimble) instead of ArcPad.

Presentation by Jason Poser – Graduate Student at St. Mary's University

Metadata in 10.0

Greta Bernatz

- There have been some changes to metadata in ESRI's version 10.0
- Instead of a 'Metadata' tab available in ArcCatalog for a data layer, the tab is now called "Description".
- All old metadata files must be upgraded to version 10.0 in order to be able to edit them.
- By default, metadata in 10.0 offers very basic information to fill out for each data layer. By changing the metadata format type a user will then be allowed to enter in additional information if desired.
- ArcMobile is available with ESRI version 10.0 at all licensing levels. It is a basic tool with a simple and user-friendly interface and is designed for non-GIS users.

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*Nick Meyers: Winona County has some metadata but no standards.

Next Meeting: January 20th, 2011

Hosted by MnDOT-Rochester: 2900 48th Street NW, Rochester, MN 55901

****Members are encouraged to present at a future meeting and to offer suggestions of vendors or other agencies to present. Please contact a Steering Committee member or the next meeting's host if you are interested in presenting:**

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