

### President's Corner

It amazes me how quickly this year is flying by! Work budgets are being finalized, and hopefully the current economic situation will continue to improve so that maybe the worst is behind us. The lucky among us are likely only subject to pay freezes, while many others must take unpaid furloughs, and a few, both in private and government jobs have had their positions eliminated. Keep your eyes open for job postings and share them with the listserv in the hopes that some of our laid off colleagues may find new jobs where they may continue in the mapping and GIS fields.

Speaking of budgets, as soon as you know if you have a travel and training budget that will support you, get your registrations in for this year's mapping school and IAAO 600 classes, being offered concurrently at the same location in Clemmons. Registration information is included elsewhere in this issue, and is available on the website. Registering as early as possible is critical for the planning of the school. Fall Conference registration materials will be available on the website soon, and will also be published in the next issue of the newsletter.

Finally, congratulations are in order! At the end of June, Chowan County Land Records Manager and longtime NCPMA Historian, Gail Forehand will be retiring. She is featured in this issue's "Member Spotlight" and as President, it is my honor to announce that we will be awarding her a Lifetime Membership at this year's Fall Conference. Have an enjoyable retirement, but don't be a stranger! We also wish a happy retirement to the Chowan County MIS Director, Phyllis Cranford, another longtime NCPMA member.

I hope to see as many of you as possible at Mapping School!

Sincerely,  
 Rich Elkins  
 Greene County GIS Coordinator  
 NCPMA President 2008-09



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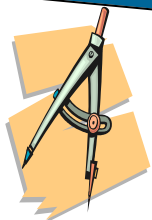
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# Mapping School

## August 10 - 14



Here's your SUMMER EDUCATION opportunity! This year's mapping school destination will be **The Village Inn Golf & Conference Center in Clemmons, NC**. We have arranged a block of 80 rooms (single/double) from Monday Night August 10<sup>th</sup> through Thursday night August 13<sup>th</sup> at the cost of \$64.00 per night plus tax. Please don't procrastinate at making your reservations. The room rates are on a first come first serve basis. **PLEASE KEEP IN MIND** that the **reservations must be received by July 06, 2009**. The Hotel number is **336-766-9121** and the address is 6205 Ramada Drive, Clemmons, NC 27012.

The Village Inn offers, free wireless internet access; on site restaurant and pub, nearby shopping and entertainment; outdoor pool and exercise facility. Please visit [www.thevillageinn.com](http://www.thevillageinn.com) to view more of what they offer.

We will be having exceptional teachers and speakers this year along with a lot of fun to go with that. We will have a president's reception on Monday evening and a **"SOCIAL"** on Wednesday Night that will include dinner and entertainment. We are still in the process of planning so more details will be available later!!!

Registration/Tuition is STILL \$200 for NCPMA members and \$230 for non-members.  
Get your applications in if you haven't already done so.

**REMEMBER: applications need to be in to me no later than July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009. So hurry get yours in!!!!**

Looking forward to seeing everyone and meeting new people.  
If you have any questions please contact:

Michelle Babson

# NCPMA FALL CONFERENCE

Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> - Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>



Make plans now to attend the 2009 NCPMA Fall Conference to be held Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> thru Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> (pre-conference workshops on Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>) at the Sheraton Imperial Conference Center, Durham/RTP, NC. This year's theme is 'The Magic of Mapping' featuring Harriet Plotter. Your Program Committee is hard at work planning an exciting and memorable conference just for you.

We haven't found a way to work magic on woeful budgets but we elected to keep our registration fees the same as last year (once again with a discount for Early-Bird Registration) and our Pre-Conference Workshop is still free for conference participants. We also have reserved a block of guest rooms at the Sheraton still at last year's rate of \$115 per night (plus sales & occupancy taxes) for single or double occupancy.

Be sure and register early - we can't wait to see you there!

Conference Chair  
Lenora Melton  
336.597.7431  
[lmelton@personcounty.net](mailto:lmelton@personcounty.net)

Conference Co-Chair  
Kevin Locklear  
919.560.0333  
[klocklear@co.durham.nc.us](mailto:klocklear@co.durham.nc.us)



# 2009 NCPMA Mapping School Registration

August 10-14 Clemmons, NC  
<http://school.ncpma.net>

Make checks payable to "NCPMA"  
and mail with this form to:

Michelle Babson  
Cumberland County Mapping/GIS  
PO Box 449  
Fayetteville, NC 28302  
Phone 910-678-7561  
Fax 910-678-7582

**Deadline: July 10, 2009**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First MI Designation (CMS, GISP, etc.)

**County/Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Work Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Position/Title:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Dept.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Area Code Number Ext. Area Code Number

**Please check one in each of the columns below:**

- Regular Mapping Class                       NCPMA-Member (Fee = \$200.00\*)  
 Advanced Mapping Class                       Non-Member (Fee = \$230.00\*)

**I will attend:**

TBA – President’s Reception on Monday Night     yes     no

TBA – Wednesday Night Social \*     yes     no

\* The cost of the social is \$25.00 (not included in tuition). This covers entertainment and dinner

**Total Amount Enclosed:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_     **Return Receipt Requested**

Please complete this entire form and mail to the address in the box in the upper left-hand corner of this form. Direct any questions to Michelle @ 910-678-7561 or [mbabson@co.cumberland.nc.us](mailto:mbabson@co.cumberland.nc.us)

**Make all checks payable to NCPMA.**                      **Registration deadline: July 10<sup>th</sup>.**  
**To Pre-Register:** Fax this application to Michelle @ 910-678-7582. Payment can be mailed or accepted at registration.

- **Cancellation Policy:** Refunds for cancellations requested more than 30 days before the event will be given in full. Cancellations between 16 and 30 days before the event will be refunded at 50%. After that date, **no refunds will be issued.** Any cancellations may substitute another person to take their spot without penalty. Those who pre-register without pre-paying and do not attend or who cancel late **will still be responsible for paying** for the registration, or whatever portion that would not be refunded, had it been pre-paid.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read the cancellation policy above, understand it, and will comply with it. If I pre-register without pre-paying and do not attend mapping school, I am still responsible for the registration fee.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# North Carolina Property Mappers Association

## 2009 Annual Conference & Pre-Conference Workshop Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

CMS  GISP

Mark if either applies to you

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Area Code ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) Number \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit one form per participant

Registration Item	Quantity	Unit Price	Total
<b>Early-Bird Registration – NCPMA Member</b>		<b>\$145</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Regular Registration – NCPMA Member</b>		<b>\$160</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Early-Bird Registration – Non-Member</b>		<b>\$175</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Regular Registration – Non-Member</b>		<b>\$190</b>	<b>\$</b>
Additional Advance Banquet Tickets (per person) <b>Non-refundable</b>		<b>\$35</b>	<b>\$</b>
<i>Make checks payable to "NCPMA"</i>	<b>Amount Enclosed</b>		<b>\$</b>

One banquet ticket is included per registration. Guest tickets may be purchased at a discount in advance (above) for \$35 or at the conference for \$40 each.

### Pre-Conference Workshops (free for Conference Participants) September 29-30

If you will be attending the pre-conference workshop(s) PLEASE CHECK ONE OR BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am planning to attend the afternoon Workshop on September 29<sup>th</sup> (Topic: TBA\*)

I am planning to attend the morning Workshop on September 30<sup>th</sup> (Topic: TBA\*)

\*Workshop titles tentative and subject to change

- **Cancellation Policy:** Refunds for cancellations requested more than 30 days before the event will be given in full. Cancellations between 16 and 30 days before the event will be refunded at 50%. **After that date, no refunds will be issued.** Any cancellations may substitute another person to take their spot without penalty. **Those who pre-register without pre-paying and do not attend or who cancel late will still be responsible for paying for the registration, or whatever portion that would not be refunded, had it been pre-paid.**
- Please return this completed form by **September 4, 2009. (Or before August 7<sup>th</sup> for "Early Bird" Rate)** Please submit one form per conference participant. Make checks payable to "NCPMA" and mail to:

**Lenora Melton, GIS Tech.  
Person County GIS  
325 S. Morgan St. Suite D  
Roxboro, NC 27573**

Registration Questions to:  
**lmelton@personcounty.net  
Phone (336) 597-7431  
Fax forms to Kevin @ (919) 560-0414**

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read the cancellation policy above, understand it, and will comply with it. If I pre-register without pre-paying and do not attend the conference, I am still responsible for the registration fee.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Member in the Spotlight

## Gail Forehand

### In Gail Forehand's Own Words.....

I started working for the Chowan County Tax Office in 1976 with two older ladies. All property was transferred in the Tax Office with note cards from the Register of Deeds. We had property cards for every parcel in the county and we would just write on the card – Deeded .45 Ac, DB and Page #. There were no soil types, etc to mess with. We drew around my little finger for ½ acre and around my thumb for 1 acre. We knew nothing about bearings and distances. We guessed at woodland and cleared land.

In 1979 North Carolina did a pilot project to modernize Land Records. Chowan County was chosen along with Orange and Cherokee to participate. The only maps we had then were 1969 ASCS blueline maps (330 scale) with some lines where the appraisal company thought the property lines were.

The State also conducted a mapping school in July of 1980 at Randolph Technical College trying to encourage other counties to get interested in Land Records. We had approximately 20 people at that mapping school. It was the first time that any of us really knew anyone else who worked with maps like we did. At that time, I could not have told you what North East even was. We really enjoyed being with others involved in our work and on Thursday night we all were sad to see each other go on Friday. As we sat around the pool at the hotel (having a small toddy) someone spoke up and said "Why don't we form a mapping organization like the Tax Assessors"? I thought to myself "*that will never happen*". We were just a few peons with the exception of two Tax Assessors that were there – Tim Westbrook (Randolph) and Tom Haywood (Union).

But Tim and Tom took the bull by the horns and called Bill Campbell (Institute of Government) and the ball started rolling. Letters were sent to every county manager asking them to get their mappers involved.

Our first Mapping Conference was held in November, 1980 in Chapel Hill with about 50 people there. It was Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning. It was an organizational meeting. We then went to Thursday afternoon and Friday morning until 1991 when it became a 3 day conference. It was always at the institute of Government until 1991 when it was moved to the Sheraton. I helped chair the 1984 Conference with Pete Rodda (Forsyth Assessor) and Wayne Vanderford (Jones Co. Assessor). We decided to have a banquet so people could get together and talk and started giving door prizes. We also started the Mapper of the Year award and had two winners that year as we could not decide on one. The banquet and Mapper of the Year was such a success that it continues today. I also helped co-chair the 1988 conference.

It is hard to believe how much has changed since 1980. Our mapping schools then were spent on how to plot parcels, learning how to use a drafting machine, using a Leroy (inking) set, using a planimeter; and having a Register Mate and Blueprint machine was wonderful. Of course, everything was hand drawn and inked with those aggravating pens. We have gone from everything manual to computers and beyond!

I have been in the organization since its conception. I can only remember two Mapping Conferences I did not attend- one in 1981 and in 2003 with Hurricane Isabel devastated Chowan County and we were still without power, etc during the conference.

I have been very blessed to have my office in the vault of the Register of Deeds office since 1980. This may seem strange, but it works so nice to have the Deed Books, plats, etc right in the same room. We are also lucky to have the Clerk of Court, Register of Deeds and Tax Assessor all work together to keep our records correct.

I have never wanted to run for office (I am a more behind the scenes person) and I appreciate all of our officers who run the organization. It is hard work! I did win a Distinguished Service award in 1986; the Mapper of the Year award in 1990 and the Prestigious Plumb Bob award in 2007.

I will miss this organization so much and I hope to keep in touch like Albert Taylor. I have seen many changes since 1980 and hope our work keeps changing for the better. This organization is the best thing anyone working with data and maps can have. Enjoy it and appreciate it – you will learn a lot!

I also think that everyone involved in any type of mapping should know the old fashion way of plotting parcels (with a protractor) and putting them together. Computers are very nice but we never know in this day and time when we may have a disaster where we are unable to access any computers – that is why I am glad that our mapping school does devote time to teaching "that old timey way".



"The Chowan contingent at Fall Conference 1999. Pictured from left to right are Sue Rountree (Register of Deeds), **Gail Forehand** (Land Records Manager), Julie Sharpe (GIS Mapping Specialist), and Phyllis Cranford (MIS Director)."

# Member in the Spotlight

## Continued...

It is with a lot of mixed feelings that I will be retiring on June 30, 2009. One of the things I will miss the most will be you folks in the NCPMA. I was on the Steering Committee that started this organization and I have watched it turn into something so great we never imagined when we first organized.

I have made so many friends through the years, many of whom I still keep in contact with even though they have retired or are no longer with the organization. It is so nice to be able to pick the phone up or email others and ask for their input on difficult matters. Never take your organization for granted and always appreciate the leaders that keep it going. I remember when you had no one to turn to or even knew anyone else existed in the State doing the job you did.

I will miss you all so much – always remember what I quoted at the Property Mappers Conference one year, **“YOU NEED TO KNOW FROM WHENCE YOU CAME IN ORDER TO KNOW WHERE YOU WANT TO GO”**.

*Gail Forehand*

Chowan County Land Records

**Now, for our words!** Gail has done so much for our association since the “beginning”. She mentioned that she was a “behind the scenes person”, but without her “knowledge and hardwork” the NCPMA would not have the history that she has so diligently kept up with! Gail has been instrumental in the growth of the NCPMA organization. She couldn't say “No” when we asked for her assistance at NCPMA events. We are fast approaching the 30 year anniversary of the NCPMA. We owe so much to Gail and the founding members that helped “map” our success. ....and don't ya'll just love her accent!!!

**Thank you, Good-Bye and Good Luck in retirement Gail, we will miss you!!!**



## Attention all Mappers!!!



I'm sure most of you know that the NCPMA is sponsoring an IAAO Course 600 Class to be held concurrent with Mapping School in Clemmons, August 10-14. We are offering this because of requests by NCPMA members seeking their CMS designations. There's no other IAAO Course 600 scheduled this year in NC, so it won't get any cheaper than this! This may not be offered again until 2011, ....if then.

The tuition for NCPMA members is \$400. Non-members are \$500.

We have blocked additional rooms at the Village Inn Golf & Conf Center at a discounted rate of \$64/night.

If you want to attend this IAAO class, but you are waiting on the next fiscal year to register for budget purposes, please go ahead and fax me your registration and you can send your check after July 1<sup>st</sup>. We know how that works!

Most of the registration information you need is on the NCPMA website located at

<http://www.ncpropertymappers.org/course600/index.html>

If you have any further questions, please contact Tammy Spencer. Her phone # is listed on page 1 of the newsletter and her email is [spencetw@forsyth.cc](mailto:spencetw@forsyth.cc)



# IAAO Course 600 Registration

Make checks payable to "NCPMA" and mail with this form to:

**Tammy Spencer, CMS**  
Forsyth County GIS/Mapping  
201 N. Chestnut St  
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

**Deadline: July 10, 2009**

**AUGUST 10-14, 2009 @ The Village Inn, Clemmons NC**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First MI Designation (CMS, GISP, etc.)

**County/Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Work Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Position/Title:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Dept.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Area Code Number Ext. Area Code Number



**IAAO Course 600 is being sponsored by the  
North Carolina Property Mappers Association**

**\*Co-Sponsored by NC School of Government**

**<http://www.ncpropertymappers.org/>**

**Course Tuition** (Make checks payable to NCPMA)  **Return Receipt Requested**

**NCPMA Member -- \$400\***  **Non-Member -- \$500**

\*Due to the large discount for NCPMA Members, you may not join the Association just to receive a lower tuition rate. Tuition discounts for new members will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Refunds for cancellations after July 10, 2009 may be subject to a cancellation fee. If the registrant is unable to attend, you may send a substitute participant without penalty.

A block of rooms has been reserved at **The Village Inn Golf & Conference Center** (where the course will be taught) at a rate of **\$64.00 per night plus tax**. Reservations should be made directly with the hotel at **336-766-9121**. In order to assure availability at the quoted rate, **please make reservations by July 9, 2009**.

**Processing – Do not write in this space!**

**Payment Received** Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Check Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**NCPMA Member?**  **Yes**  **No** Member since: \_\_\_\_\_

# Surry County

# County in the Spotlight



The Surry County Mapping Staff serves a population of 72,468. Our mapping section consists of the Mapping Director, two GIS Technicians, a Mapper, and a part time Mapping Clerk. Our GIS section consists of a GIS Coordinator and a GIS Analyst.

In the mid 90's, Surry County began a conversion from paper and mylar maps with an index of ownership cards to the wonderful world of GIS. This conversion process took approximately four years to complete. We entered the GIS mapping world with ArcView 3.2. Since the conversion, we have completed three orthophoto flights. Our latest flight was completed in 2008. The mapping staff works hard to correct any adjustments that we discover. In 2005 we began the process of deed certification. This process has assisted to raise the collection rate as well as help our mapping staff work our deeds in a more timely manner. Our deeds are received by fax from the Register of Deeds in the morning and are usually completed in mapping by the end of the day.



Surry County now has a very user-friendly GIS website which includes various layers in addition to the orthophotography. Most layers on our website are updated once a month. The website has allowed many people that visit our office seeking mapping and GIS information to meet their needs from their home or office. However, we still provide a public kiosk with five computers that contain either ArcView or ArcReader for public use. We use these computers to assist the public in finding mapping and GIS information that they need or printing maps for them.

In the past few months, while there has been a lull in the economy, we have worked on updating data that was lost in a conversion from Munis to Cott. Some attributes in the parcel layer were dropped in the conversion. The GIS technicians have been busy updating fields such as plat book numbers, page numbers, and lot numbers. We are also using the 2008 flight to search for encroachments of property lines that need to be remapped. We do this as well as our daily duties of mapping all deeds and plats that are recorded. We also notify the county Addressing Technician of any missing structure points or building footprints. We are using the latest version of ArcInfo 9.3 to conduct our edit.



The GIS section is responsible for creating and maintaining most GIS layers. The county has approximately one hundred GIS layers which meet the needs of various departments. One of our recent projects was the creation of over fifty new layers that would assist our emergency services in the event of a large disaster. These are layers that our emergency services director requested after learning what GIS information communities affected by Hurricane Katrina wished they had prepared before the event. These layers are stored along with the other GIS layers in a SDE geodatabase utilizing SQL Server. As soon as any changes are made to the GIS data, all GIS users can see them.

SEP 29th—OCT 2nd  
NCPMA FALL CONFERENCE  
SHERATON IMPERIAL,  
RTP NC

→ DON'T  
FORGET!

To Do

Get

AUGUST 10th—14th  
NCPMA MAPPING  
SCHOOL  
CLEMMONS, NC

AUG 10th-14th  
IAAO COURSE 600  
CLEMMONS, NC

## Coastal Plain and Sandhills Regions

I X G C O L U M B U S Q R O C D R V  
 G Y G A V N N X K H D W S X W U M V  
 O Q X A F I L A H D H A R N E T T Q  
 J X D L N Z C E M E N X T P K T I P  
 F E B M O C E G D E K O H S J C D P  
 S B S P T W R I O N E L M P S U M U  
 A G I K S X G G K I P H A H S F X L  
 M D B U N W H U G D H U Z W C J H D  
 F Z H W H C F A Z U Y T A S E I J U  
 S S U J C F S P L M E R C Q M Q R P  
 O L B S J Z M T D N A L T O C S I L  
 N O S L I W T O C J P T K E Y D Q I  
 H Z M M M I N O R T H A M P T O N N  
 J K C G P W P P R O B E S O N Y B W  
 C U M B E R L A N D N G F M I P C E  
 F X K U V H S A N B L A D E N T W B  
 E E L W A Y N E Z D E O U Y Y S C A  
 G R E E N E U Y H R J U W N R E N E

Bladen  
 Columbus  
 Cumberland  
 Duplin  
 Edgecombe  
 Greene  
 Halifax  
 Harnett

Hoke  
 Johnston  
 Lee  
 Lenoir  
 Moore  
 Nash  
 Northampton  
 Pitt

Richmond  
 Robeson  
 Sampson  
 Scotland  
 Wayne  
 Wilson

Have a happy and safe 4th of July!!

#### Website info

Always Remember the NCPMA website has up-to-date info, applications, vendor links, workshops and more. Thanks Rich for doing such a GREAT job!

**STAPLES**

that was easy™

If you are not already in the Rewards program at Staples, please consider letting the association benefit from your Staples purchases in the future. Simply give them out account number 5330655939 at check-out and help us in purchasing needed supplies, equipment, etc.

THANK YOU to everyone for helping out so far!  
You guys are the best!

Click here to log on to our website

<http://ncpropertymappers.org>

[www.ncpma.com](http://www.ncpma.com)

[www.ncpma.net](http://www.ncpma.net)

## FUGRO GEOSPATIAL SERVICES

- Airborne imaging
- Digital photogrammetry
- IFSAR mapping (GeoSAR)
- Disaster response mapping
- 3D modeling and visualization
- High-density lidar corridor mapping
- Topographic & bathymetric lidar mapping
- OmniSTAR worldwide GPS services
- Hydrographic & ground surveying
- GIS tools for planning and zoning
- 3D terrestrial laser scanning



[www.fugroearthdata.com](http://www.fugroearthdata.com)

Tammy Spencer, CMS  
NCPMA Past President  
Forsyth County GIS/Mapping  
P.O. Box 757  
Winston Salem, NC 27102