

March 2021

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March 2021 Newsletter

Dear NYS GIS Association Member,

Here are a few items of news.

- Professional Development Webinars
- Meet Catherine DuBreck, Member of the Board of Directors
- Call for Membership Committee Chair
- Upcoming Opportunities & Events

Read on and enjoy,

The NYS GIS Association Communications Committee

Professional Development Webinars

The Professional Development Committee has been hard at work arranging a number of learning opportunities for us! Read on for details and links to register...

- March 31 at 12 PM | **Scenic Hudson's Solar Mapping Tool: Using GIS to Support a Responsible Renewable Energy Future for the Hudson Valley** | Presenter: Alex Wolf, Conservation Scientist at Scenic Hudson | Click [here](#) for more information and to register.
- April 14 at 12 PM | **GISP Information Session** | Presenter(s): To be announced | Click [here](#) for more information and to register.
- April 28 at 12 PM | **Professions in GIS** | Presenter(s): To be announced | Click [here](#) for more information and to register.



register.

- May 26 at 12 PM | **GIS Student Project Showcase** | Presenter(s): To be announced | Click [here](#) for more information, **including guidelines and deadlines for submission**, and to register.

If you have any questions or would like to partner with the Professional Development Committee, please reach out by email to:

nysgeoprofdevel@gmail.com

Meet Catherine DuBreck, Member of the Board of Directors

1. What made you interested in taking up GIS/geospatial technology as a career and how did you end up in the field of GIS? What is your educational background?

I earned my BA in Geography from SUNY Geneseo in 2015 and my original plan was to become a transportation planner after grad school. I received my MSc in Geography from the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario in 2017 and while I am still interested in transportation, I realized there that my passion was GIS/mapping. My Master's research was to examine the geographic variations in restaurant children's menus. I love making maps and problem-solving. I love mapping so much that after grad school, I enrolled in Monroe Community College's GIST certificate program part-time to continue learning new mapping and GIS skills that I use daily.



2. Can you explain your job and what you do there?

I am an imagery project manager at EagleView Technologies. In addition to coordinating with various internal departments to ensure a successful imagery capture, I work with customers (usually county/municipal/state governments) and essentially guide them through the process of having high-resolution (9-inch or better) aerial imagery and/or lidar captured of their area.

3. How did you get involved in the Association? Would you describe the ways you have contributed to the Association over the years?

I initially got involved in the Association as a participant (conference attendee, webinar viewer, etc.) and slowly ventured into volunteering with our awesome Communications Committee. I have been a member since late 2017 and in addition to the Board, I help post to Twitter and LinkedIn.

either formally or informally? (other committees, mentoring, school/university presentations, etc.)

I have presented at a number of conferences in Rochester and around NYS, recently started volunteering as a mapping volunteer for a local trails organization in my hometown, and work as an alumni mentor to help intro GIS students at MCC with school work and to help answer any questions they may have about entering the GIS field.

5. What is the most interesting project that you have worked on and why?

The most interesting project I worked on was collaborating on a water quality mapping app using ArcGIS Collector when I was a student in the GIST program at Monroe Community College a couple of years ago. I worked with 3 other MCC students and 4 students from a university in Cartagena, Colombia for several weeks remotely before traveling to Cartagena to test our app in-person together (pre-COVID) on a canoe to monitor conditions for nearby mangroves.

6. What is your favorite memory from a NYGeoCon or GeoSpatial Summit?

I just love hearing all the interesting research and work folks around the state are doing – especially the students!

7. What do you like most about mapping?

I love cartography the most. I love to make maps look as beautiful as possible, but I also love that GIS and mapping can be used as a tool to give back to your community.

8. If you could visit any one place in the world, where would it be and why?

I would love to visit Japan in the spring and see the cherry blossoms bloom. I also love sushi and enjoy watching the occasional anime so it would be a treat to go to the country where those originate.

9. Do you have any specific advice or philosophies from working in the GIS world?

Always ask questions! Working in the GIS field is amazing but technology is always changing and improving, and there is still so much to learn. Never be afraid to ask a question to learn something new.

Call for Membership Committee Chair

The Membership Committee is in need of a Chairperson. Would you be willing to share your time with the Association?

The Membership Committee works not only to increase the number of new members but to increase the engagement of existing members. The Committee uses surveys and prize competitions, among other strategies, to heighten the value of membership and meet members' needs. The Membership Committee also sends out renewal reminders and supports the efforts of other Association Committees. The Chairperson facilitates these activities and shares them with the Board of Directors.

For more information, link to the Membership Committee web page at www.nysgis.net/committees/membership/

If you are interested in chairing the Membership Committee, please use the Contact Form at <https://www.nysgis.net/about/contact/>



Remember, the Association is only as strong as its members and its members' willingness to be actively involved. Particularly when we can't meet in-person at conferences, it is invigorating to connect with GIS colleagues from other places around NYS through our committees, and it counts toward GISP (re)certification.

Upcoming Opportunities & Events

- NYS GIS Association Webinar | Scenic Hudson Solar Mapping Tool | 31 March 2021, 12 p.m. | [More Information](#)
- AAG Virtual Annual Meeting | 7 April 2021 to 11 April 2021 | [More Information](#)
- NYS GIS Association Webinar | GISP Information Session | 14 April 2021, 12 p.m. | [More Information](#)
- NYS GIS Association Webinar | Professions in GIS | 28 April 2021, 12 p.m. | [More Information](#)
- NYS GIS Association Webinar | The Value of GIS Skills in the Work Place | 12 May 2021, 12 p.m. | [More Information](#)
- NEARC Spring Conference | 18 May 2021 | [More Information](#)
- NYS GIS Association Webinar | GIS Student Showcase | 26 May 2021, 12 p.m. | [More Information](#)
- Education Summit @Esri UC | 10 - 13 July 2021 | [More Information](#)
- Esri User Conference | 12 - 16 July 2021 | [More Information](#)



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Past Issues

• NYGeoCon | Tentatively scheduled for 20 - 21 September 2021
• URISA's GIS-Pro Annual Conference | Baltimore | 3 - 6 October 2021 |

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