



PaMAGIC MATTERS **January 2010**

Happy New Year Everyone

President's Corner

The New Year is upon us, which means that the "GIS Congress" meeting to plan for the creation of a Pennsylvania Statewide Geospatial Coordination Council is fast approaching. If you haven't received the invitation e-mail, consider this your invitation to participate. The meeting is taking place on Thursday, January 14 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the [Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors \(PSATS\) offices](#) in Enola, PA.

The objective of this meeting is to determine the best course of action to make a Council a reality. Your input is critical to our achievement of this important goal. Our session will include an experienced, independent geospatial facilitator. We only ask that you come with an open mind, a commitment to our purpose, and positive, constructive outlook.

If you plan to attend the meeting, and have not already done so, please RSVP to my e-mail address by Friday, January 8th.

Glenn McNichol, President PaMAGIC, gmcnichol@dvrpc.org

PA GIS Strategic Plan

Formal endorsers include:

PaMAGIC
PAMAPPS

Pennsylvania County GIS Professionals
NWPA GIS User's Group
URISA-CAC

Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education and Affiliates Consortium (PASSHE)
FEMA

County Commissioners Association of PA (CCAP)
Pennsylvania Planning Association
Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Association (PMAA)

PASDA News

Happy New Year! PASDA will be ringing in the New Year by adding some updated data from the City of Philadelphia including 2008 aerial photography. In addition, the 2008 NAIP county mosaics will be made available for download and as a map service. We also received new data from the Pennsylvania Environmental Council--the Conewago Creek River Conservation Plan and new Karst data from the PA DCNR Geological Survey. Many thanks to our data providers for all their efforts this year!

PAMAP Program Update

The PAMAP Program continues to explore funding options for completion of 2008 orthoimagery and elevation data. The Program expects to hear results of the USGS ARRA submittal early in 2010. We are also hopeful that production work on portions of the 2008 area can start in January utilizing some funding through PEMA.

The orthoimagery for Lancaster, Lebanon, Dauphin, and York counties is now complete and available through PAMAP services channels. The Lidar and elevation data for these areas is expected to be complete and available early in 2010.

Orthoimagery, Lidar, and elevation data for Montour and Schuylkill counties will enter QA testing early in 2010.

Look for a brand new PAMAP Web presence in early 2010, too!

Chris Markel, GISP, PAMAP Program Manager, cmarkel@geographIT.com

Northwestern Pennsylvania GIS User Group (NWPUG)

The County of Venango is pleased to announce the formation of the Northwestern Pennsylvania GIS User Group (NWPUG).

The NWPUG will serve as a way to bring together Geographic Information System (GIS) users in northwestern Pennsylvania (and beyond). The NWPUG will be an avenue for gaining a better understanding of GIS and related technologies and to keep the GIS community updated.

Other benefits of attending/participating in the NWPUG:

- **Stay up to date with ever-changing geospatial technology**
- **Share resources, data, and ideas**
- **Network with peers and colleagues**
- **Meet others in the GIS field**
- **Seek technical support and request specific training**

The County of Venango will begin hosting quarterly NWPUG meetings starting in February (2010) in Franklin, PA. Meeting will consist of (but not limited to) a presentation on a topic of interest, a presentation by a member of the user group, a technical presentation, and an information exchange session.

The NWPUG will be an informal gathering that is open to anyone (from anywhere) interested in GIS technology. If you have comments and/or suggestions for the NWPUG please feel free to share them. Agenda content will be driven based on member requests, comments, suggestions, etc.

Please contact Matt Gilara, GISP at (814) 432-9646 or mgilara@co.venango.pa.us if you have any questions or comments regarding the NWPUG.

GIS Events

PA GIS Strategic Plan Workshop Thursday, January 14, Enola, PA

ESRI Philadelphia Region Transportation Special Interest Group (SIG) will be having its next meeting at PennDOT's Central Office in Harrisburg on February 11, 2010. More details about the meeting will be posted to the [SIG](#) website in a couple of weeks.

If there is something which you would like to have included in PaMAGIC *MATTERS*, please send it to kathryn.reed@allegHENYcounty.us