

GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION



NEWS

CALIFORNIA/NEVADA CHAPTER

Fall 2008 Issue

Volume 4, Number 2.

CALIFORNIA/NEVADA CHAPTER ANNUAL CONFERENCE COMING MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2008!



*Read more about
YOUR
Fall Conference
Inside!*

Welcome! As we move into the final months of a tumultuous year, we can still take comfort in a new dawn approaching. For despite the financial and political roller coast rides we've been experiencing these past months, we can rest assured that change is definitely coming, and with that change, new opportunities, and a fresh outlook on the coming year. With that sentiment in mind, we'd like to extend a hearty invitation to join us at our annual GITA CA/NV Chapter conference, the singular annual Chapter event where we can come together and meet with our fellow members, guests and professionals from the regional geospatial community.

This year our full-day Chapter Conference will be held at the Las Vegas Valley Water District in beautiful, exciting Las Vegas, Nevada. This is a very popular location for our Conference, and we are pleased to be able to once again host the Conference at LVVWD. The day-long event will be jam-packed with educational presentations, fantastic door prizes, a magnificent hosted luncheon, and specially added for this year: an optional hosted tour at the beautiful and intriguing Las Vegas Springs Preserve, a new, feature-rich environment in a gorgeous, park-like setting immediately adjacent to the Conference at the LVVWD facility.

The entire Conference, including all refreshments, prizes, luncheon, and even the Las Vegas Springs Preserve tour are all absolutely FREE to all CA/NV GITA members! This is a wonderful benefit of your membership and your Board and GITA are very pleased to be able to bring it to you without any charge to you whatsoever. So please join us in November and enjoy a little bit of Las Vegas and the camaraderie of your fellow members at the same time! See you there!

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CALIFORNIA/NEVADA CHAPTER



Preliminary Fall 2008 Conference Program and Agenda

Date & Location	Monday, November 10, 2008; 8:00am to 5:00pm Las Vegas Valley Water District—Mead Conference Rooms 1001 S. Valley View Blvd. (northeast corner of Charleston and Valley View Blvds.)
7:30am – 8:45am	Registration and Continental Breakfast (Networking with Participants, LVVWD Staff, Chapter Board Members)
8:45am – 9:00am	Welcome & Opening Remarks , including Sponsor Introductions J. Russ Coffey, Chapter Treasurer
9:00am – 9:30am	Key-Note Presentation Kevin Fisher, Director of Operations, Las Vegas Valley Water District
9:30am – 10:15am	Presentation
10:15am – 10:30am	Break and Door Prizes
10:30am – 11:15am	Presentation
11:15am – 12:00pm	Sponsor Demonstrations and Exhibits, Networking
12:00pm – 1:00pm	Luncheon, Door Prizes
1:00pm – 1:45pm	Presentation
1:45pm – 2:30pm	Presentation
2:30pm – 2:45pm	Closing Remarks, Door Prizes
3:00pm – 5:00pm	Las Vegas Springs Preserve - Tour



The [Las Vegas Springs Preserve](#) is a 180-acre cultural and biological resource located just west of downtown, known historically as “Big Springs”. A project to restore and revive this unique area is currently underway, organized by the [Las Vegas Valley Water District](#). The Springs include a variety of museums, gardens, hiking trails and restored structures for use and enjoyment by the public. The cultural, environmental and historical exhibits at the Springs showcase the rich history of the region, highlighting the profiles of the different settler groups that inhabited the land over the years.

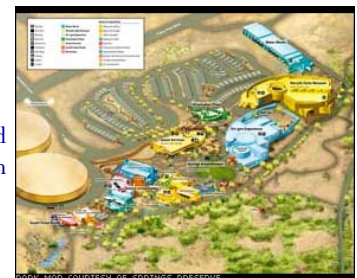
Adjacent to the Las Vegas Valley Water District, and set just a few miles west of the Strip, the new Springs Preserve offers Vegas a park oasis in the middle of the city.

Likened to New York’s Central Park, Vegas’ version is a 180-acre park with hiking trails, gardens, children’s activities, and the Springs Café, run by celebrity chef Wolfgang Puck’s restaurant group. The park also offers two museums: the Origen Experience, which teaches the natural and cultural history of the preserve among three galleries; and the Desert Living Center, which offers exhibits on preserving the environment and living in a desert climate.

Practicing what they preach, the parking lot features solar-paneled carports that not only provide shade for 200 spaces, but also generate electricity for use by the complex. The park plans uses collected rainwater to help irrigate gardens and it uses bio-filtration ponds to reclaim wastewater on the site, which then also are reused to irrigate, as well as flush toilets.



The Springs Preserve is located at 333 S. Valley View Blvd., just south of I-95 and about 5-10 minutes west of the Strip. It is open daily from 10am to 10pm, though hiking trails will close at dusk. For more information, visit www.springspreserve.org or call 702.822.8344.



If you'd like to attend the Annual GITA CA/NV Chapter Conference, please copy, complete and submit this page by fax or mail. You can also register online at www.gita.org/chapters/cal_nev/reg.html

2008 GITA CA/NV Chapter Conference REGISTRATION FORM

The GITA CA/NV Chapter's Annual 2008 Conference is scheduled for Monday, November 10, 2008 at the Las Vegas Valley Water District (LVVWD) administration offices building, located at 1001 South Valley View Blvd., Las Vegas, NV.

and join your colleagues and associates for a day of knowledge, networking, and camaraderie. Great Presentations! Door Prizes! Las Vegas Springs Preserve Nature Tour! Refreshments and luncheon are included! This event is **FREE** for all active CA/NV Chapter members (GITA Member # required). Non-members: \$40.00 in advance - OR - why not **join GITA now** and attend for **FREE!** (Registration includes admission, refreshments, hosted luncheon, prizes, tour, and parking)

Name: _____ Title: _____

Organization: _____ GITA#: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail: _____ Web site: www._____

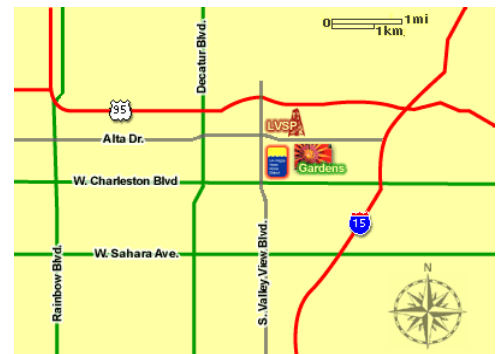
Optional -LVVWD Springs Reserve TOUR: **Yes! Count Me In!** **No thanks...**

Tour Note: The Las Vegas Springs Preserve Tour is adjacent to LVVWD and will take place in the afternoon immediately following the conference (about 3-5pm). Advance reservations requested. Please wear appropriate walking shoes.

Use one copy of this form for *each individual* attending.

For security and to assist in an accurate headcount for luncheon and meeting logistics All attendees MUST register. Please send completed form (and payment if required -make checks out to "GITA CA/NV Chapter") to:

Russ Coffey, GITA CA/NV Chapter Treasurer
 c/o Las Vegas Valley Water District
 1001 S. Valley View Blvd. Las Vegas, NV 89153
 Tel (702) 259-8199 - Fax (702) 258-7191
Russ.Coffey@lvvwd.com



Travel Notes: LVVWD is at the northwest corner of Valley View and Charleston Boulevards. Just a few miles north of McCarran Int'l Airport (LAS). There are many hotels, restaurants, and activities of all types in the area.

CALIFORNIA/NEVADA GITA LOOKS FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT THIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE!

Space is limited! Please Register by October 20! Questions can be directed to: Russ.Coffey@lvvwd.com

FROM THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT



Laszlo MariaHazy

Greetings and a warm welcome to all of our GITA Chapter members, friends, and guest.

First, it is my pleasure to once again invite all of you to our upcoming Chapter Conference this coming November at the Las Vegas Valley Water District

We had a tremendous positive response our last Conference held at LVVWD (2005) and we are excited about offering this free member event once again in a favorite venue location. This year we have a very special day planned for you, with superb educational presentations, a fantastic hosted luncheon, and, unique to this year's event, a guided tour of the LVVWD-adjacent Las Vegas Springs Preserve.

This is a FREE benefit to all of our active GITA members - so register now while it is still fresh in your mind. You can complete and send in the Chapter Conference Registration Form found in this issue of your newsletter (or on the Chapter web site: CA/NVGITA)

In other news, we're pleased to report that your Chapter has increased its involvement and participation in several important events and initiatives among the geospatial community.

In the past year we have begun to organize and systematize our Chapter to take advantage of the rapidly evolving GIS technology community through GITA infrastructure conference Chapter forums, local and regional geospatial events in both the public and private sector, and outreach initiatives focused on education and the academic community. We expect to increase our active participation in these programs and plan to be proactive as we introduce Chapter-specific ideas to support our regional GITA community.

Along these lines we'd also like to invite more of our active membership (or those considering membership) to consider joining the Chapter Board. CA/NV GITA is always looking for fresh, new talent. We strongly believe that the success of our Chapter is due to the combined sum of many individual contributions made throughout the year. So—whether you're an old hand with decades of valuable experience, or recent graduate or student just entering the geospatial arena, please give some thought to joining our panel of dedicated geographers,

technologists, managers, and practitioners as we guide the CA/NV Chapter into the future. We'd love to have you on the team!

Finally, let's spend a moment to acknowledge those that have done so much to keep our Chapter humming along: Your Chapter treasurer, Russ Coffey has been instrumental in maintaining the "books" and also has been working overtime to ensure a successful Chapter Conference in November. Russ has been" at LVVWD for a number of years and has been kind enough to host this year's event and organize the arrangements. Thanks Russ—Great job!

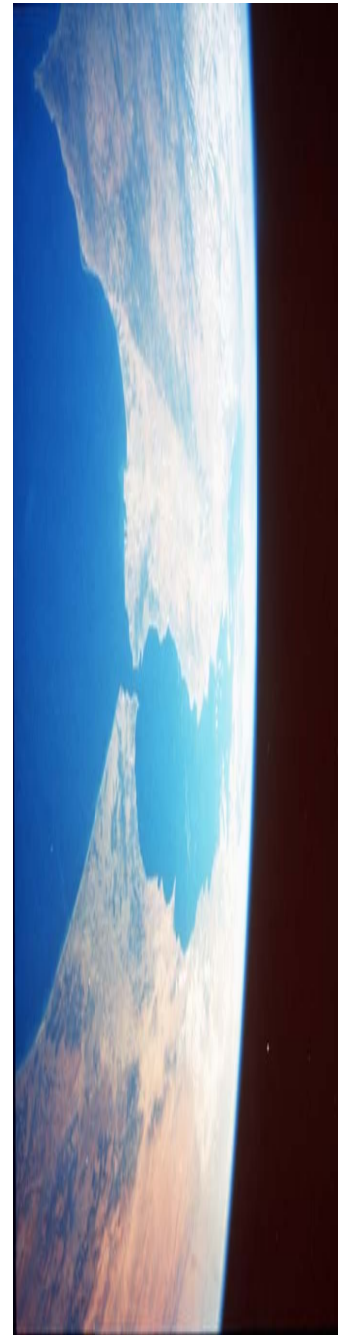
Christine Arritt, our Chapter Secretary also will be on hand in November to make sure things run smoothly and we are expecting several members-at-large there as well. What a great team...!

Also, GITA staff such as Lisa Connor and Henry Rosales have been tremendously supportive. They, and all the fine folks at GITA HQ, are simply the best!

Finally, we'd like to thank some of our regular, consistent sponsors such as ESRI and Autodesk. They, along with our other sponsors, have been supportive throughout the year. Thanks to all!

See You Next Time!

Laszlo



“Boundary, noun.
In political geography, an imaginary line between two nations, separating the imaginary rights of one from the imaginary rights of the other.”
- Ambrose Bierce 1889

Here's a look at YOUR...

Geospatial Information & Technology Association!

A Brief History of GITA...

Back in the late 1960s, a group from Public Service Company of Colorado were among the first to develop an automated mapping/facilities management system. It was revolutionary for its time and provided significant advantages in efficiency and cost-effectiveness for the company. People saw the technology's potential, and in 1978, decided to hold the first "Keystone Conference," which attracted 32 attendees. In 1982, a formal not-for-profit organization was chartered to serve this growing industry with an educational forum to exchange ideas and keep up with changing technologies. The association was named AM/FM International, reflecting a revolutionary new technology that was sweeping the utility industry.

AM/FM International provided vision and leadership in educating individuals interested in implementing AM/FM/GIS technology. In 1998, AM/FM International changed its name to the Geospatial Information & Technology Association (GITA) in order to better reflect the association's new focus. GITA's mission is to provide excellence in education and information exchange on the use and benefits of geospatial information and technology for worldwide infrastructure.

The industries that GITA serves are defined as infrastructure-based organizations that can benefit from the application of geospatial information technologies. GITA defines infrastructure as all fundamental services, activities, and operations that sustain our communities and way of life.

In 2007, GITA changed the name of its Annual Conference to the Geospatial Infrastructure Solutions Conference to better reflect the rapidly expanding nature of the geospatial industry and the elevated knowledge and experience of its industry members. [Read more about this recent change.](#)

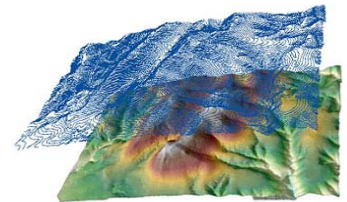
GITA has a rich heritage—it is unparalleled in promoting geospatial information technology and the markets it serves. Every day, our staff, members, Board of Directors, and many volunteers emphasize our commitment to maintain GITA's focus on the present as we embrace our vision of the future. For more detailed history, visit www.GITA.org.

GITA's Vision Statement:

To be the leading information resource and community for anyone who has a vested interest in the use of geospatial information.

"You can travel the seas, poles, and deserts and see nothing. To really understand the world you need to truly experience people and places. In other words, learn about geography. I can't imagine a subject more relevant in schools. We'd all be lost without it."

- Michael Pailin



"I am a geographer," said the old gentleman.

"What is a geographer," asked the little prince.

"A geographer is a scholar who knows the locations of all the seas, rivers, towns, mountains, and deserts."

"That is very interesting," said the little prince. "Here at last is a man who has a real profession!"

From "The Little Prince" by Antoine de Saint-Exupery

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Here are a few recent job listings in our CA/NV area. For more detailed information on any of these jobs, follow the link and contact the hiring organization directly. Good Luck!

Title: **GIS Analyst**
 Org./Agency: **Stanford University** [www.stanford.edu]
 Location: **California**

Title: **Associate Data Resources Analyst (Geospatial Dev.)**
 Org./Agency: **Las Vegas Valley Water District** [www.lvwd.com]
 Location: **Nevada**

Title: **Civil Engineering GIS Specialist**
 Org./Agency: **City of Beverly Hills** [www.beverlyhills.org]
 Location: **California**

Title: **GIS Data Engineers/Programmers**
 Org./Agency: **Google** [www.google.com]
 Location: **California**

Title: **GIS Specialist**
 Org./Agency: **The Nature Conservancy** [www.nature.org]
 Location: **Nevada**

Title: **GIS Managers/Analysts/Developers (Many Positions)**
 Org./Agency: **ESRI** [www.esri.com]
 Location: **California and Nevada**

Title: **Program Associate, Public Lands Institute**
 Org./Agency: **University of Nevada, Las Vegas** [www.unlv.edu]
 Location: **Nevada**

More GIS Jobs Online:

- Indeed .com local GIS Job Search: www.indeed.com
- Geo Job Source: www.geojobsource.com
- GIS Jobs Clearinghouse: www.gjc.org
- Careers Café: www.careerscafe.com
- GeoSearch: www.geosearch.com
- GIS Careers: www.giscareers.com

*"The first rule of any technology is that automation applied to an efficient operation will magnify the efficiency. The second rule is that automation applied to an inefficient operation will magnify the inefficiency."
 - Bill Gates, Microsoft*



Could this municipal hydrogen filling station be an inspiration?

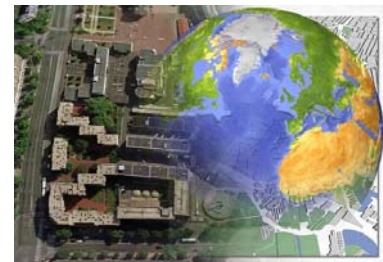
Many state and local governments are on the cutting edge when it comes to alternative fuel, and many are participating in pilot programs for hydrogen. Both the city of Las Vegas and the Las Vegas Valley Water District's Springs Preserve (shown here) have adopted hydrogen fuel as one of its alternative energy sources for vehicles.



CALIFORNIA/NEVADA CHAPTER

Attention Geospatial Community Vendors:
 The GITA CA/NV Chapter would like to invite you to highlight your products and services in these pages!

You can advertise here and be seen by the entire membership and their many inquisitive guests as this publication is distributed far and wide throughout the great states of California and Nevada. Reach the professional geospatial/GIS community in this dynamic, lucrative region—at a very low per-readership cost! This is a true win-win situation for all concerned. For rates and information, please contact the Chapter at CANVGITA@cox.net!



Important Upcoming Events for GITA CA/NV Chapter Members!

Find Your True North GITA's 2009 Geospatial Infrastructure Solutions

April 19-22, 2009 → Tampa, FL



GITA has been the association for geospatial applications to infrastructure for more than 30 years. Explore the latest in geospatial innovation through an extensive program of over 100 sessions, half-day seminars, and an extensive products and services exhibition at the 2009 Geospatial Infrastructure Solutions Conference April 19-22, 2009, in Tampa, FL.

Not only will this event provide you with better ways to plan, design, manage, and maintain your geospatial systems and operations; it will allow you to *Find Your True North* with the new directions of the geospatial industry. Anyone who is interested in using geospatial information technologies is invited to attend. Don't miss this exciting industry event.

Go to www.GITA.org today and register for this great event!



The CalGIS team is currently planning for the 15th annual CalGIS conference, April 6 - 9th 2009 in Sacramento California. This conference is intended for those who use spatial information or are in the spatial information field. It is a great conference to network with others in California and learn new techniques and skills, as well as, what innovative products are available to get the job done.

The CalGIS conference is the place to show off what you have to offer.

Please be sure to [register](#) soon.

- Barbara Simpson/2009 Conference Chair



ngis.org

nevada geographic information society



Information on the Nevada GIS Conference will be available soon at www.ngis.org. You can also join NGIS at this site.

ArcGIS 9

The Complete Geographic Information System



New geoprocessing framework for modeling work flows

ArcGIS® is a framework of integrated GIS software products from ESRI for building a complete GIS. The fundamental architecture of ArcGIS enables users to deploy GIS functionality and business logic wherever it is needed in desktops, on servers, over the Web, or in the field. This architecture, coupled with the geodatabase, forms the building blocks for assembling intelligent geographic information systems.



3D visualization with ArcGIS 3D Analyst™

ArcGIS 9 Offers

Geoprocessing: Completely new environment for geoprocessing, modeling, and scripting.

Global and 3D Visualization: Revolutionary new technology for managing, visualizing, and analyzing 3D geographic data at a local or global perspective.

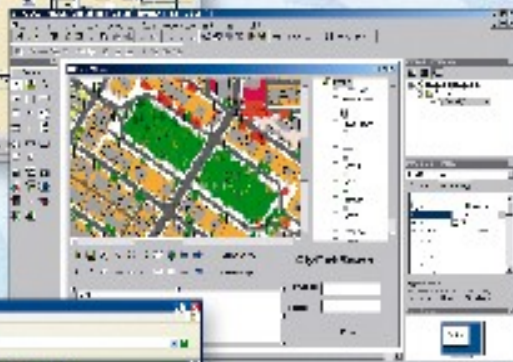
Interoperability: Information sharing between organizations and across applications and industries, regardless of data format, schema, or database management system.

Cartography: High-quality annotation and advanced label placement, greatly reducing map production time and enhancing cartographic quality.

GIS Infrastructure: Built on IT standards for facilitating the creation of a geospatial infrastructure within any organization. Products include GIS deployed in desktop, server, and engine environments.



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