

cartographic perspectives

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messages

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Fellow NACIS Members,

With the memory of our Silver Spring conference still fresh in our minds, we are now preparing for our first full-fledged joint meeting, our first meeting outside of the US, and our first summertime meeting—all at the same time! And I'm happy to report that so far, nothing terrible has happened. The Canadian Cartographic Association (CCA) is proving to be an excellent partner in this event as they are extending every courtesy as host and taking on the bulk of the on-site duties including program preparation and registration.

As would be expected of such a joint meeting, the program is very strong and the greatest problem you will find will be deciding which concurrent sessions to attend. A round of thanks must be extended to Program Chair, Henry Castner and to his CCA counterpart, Christine Earl, for the richness of the program.

During the past year, the Executive Office has continued to



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Editor:

Dr. Sona Karentz Andrews
Department of Geography
208 Sabin Hall
3413 N. Downer Avenue
Univ. of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Milwaukee, WI 53211
(414) 229-4872
e-mail: sona@csd4.csd.uwm.edu.

Assistant Editor
David W. Tilton

Department of Geography
Univ. of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Milwaukee, WI 53211
e-mail:
tilton@convex.csd.uwm.edu.

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centralize various routine organizational functions. With the help of Assistant Executive Director, Susan Peschel, the Executive Office now maintains all membership records, prepares mailing labels for *CP*, issues renewal notices for all classes of members, and administers elections (with the aid of other local NACIS members who act as proctors). With the assistance of *CP* Editor, Sona Andrews, we produce and mail calls for papers, and in a normal year, prepare the preliminary and final programs. In a normal year, we are also responsible for conference registration.

There are a couple of other things to report that you might

find of interest. At the request of the editor of the Association of American Geographers Cartography Specialty Group, *CP* editor, Sona Andrews produced an attractive NACIS membership brochure to be included in that organization's publication. In addition to its appearance there, hundreds of other copies have been distributed to various other constituencies. The results have been very gratifying and we have been able to increase our membership and spark a lot of new interest in NACIS. It also shows that NACIS has tremendous growth potential if we properly promote our organization and its considerable assets. The other item is that the Board has assigned me the task of preparing a sort of a manual for the organization's officers which would draw together all of the accumulated wisdom gained through the years and basically provide a checklist of duties and responsibilities of the various offices. I would greatly appreciate any input and assistance in this task. Many of you have invented NACIS wheels or have had experiences as officers which you would like not to see repeated by your successors. Please let me know.

Let's all have a great time in
Ottawa, eh!

Chris Baruth
Executive Director

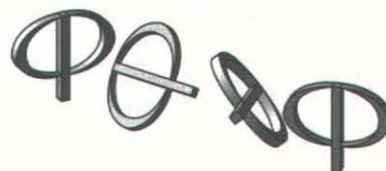
correction

Daan Strebe, author of *Geocart Software*, has made me aware, in a different context, of an error in my statements concerning Chebyshev's theorem. In my paper *How practical are minimum-*

error map projections? (*Cartographic Perspectives*, Winter 1994, p. 5) the Chebyshev theorem is said to state that if a line of constant scale bounds a region on a conformal map, the region will be mapped with minimum error in a least-squares sense. Actually, the region is mapped with a minimum range of scale, which does not always result in minimum least-squares error. My paper mentions several true least-squares projections, and this does not change the analysis and conclusions, but I regret misleading any readers.

John P. Snyder

about the cover



A map of southwest Wisconsin was scanned at 300 dpi and imported into Photoshop as a TIFF file. The *CP* logo was imported, placed over the map and pasted using Photoshop's composite controls. Map edges were softened using the airbrush tool and noise was added using a Gaussian setting of 20. Contrast was then reduced 20% for the entire composited image and the Aldus Gallery Effects Note Paper filter applied. Contrast on the filtered image was further reduced 50% and brightness was boosted 35%. The shadowed text was created in Photoshop using alpha channel masks. The color was picked by throwing a dart at a Munsell chart from a distance of 10 yards.

Aldus Gallery Effects is a trademark of Aldus Corp. Photoshop is a trademark of Adobe Corp.