



# Who is GITA?

Troy Bumgardner, GISP  
Board of Directors, GITA



# 2018 HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Transition to a new management team
- ▶ New office location and mailing address
- ▶ Increase in Social media presence
- ▶ GISCI & NGAC Updates
- ▶ Update on Geospatial Data Act
- ▶ GITA's educational & scholarship support
- ▶ International outreach and support
- ▶ “Pipeline Technology Forum” successor to “Pipeline Week”
- ▶ Coming events for 2019
- ▶ Board of Directors & Expansion of the Board
- ▶ Closing thoughts / questions



# NEW MANAGEMENT TEAM

In May 2018, after 6 years of dedicated service, SharedGeo of St. Paul Minnesota had decided to retire from the management of GITA.

After a three month search for a new manager and evaluating over ten proposals, the board settled upon three finalists.

On August 7<sup>th</sup> the board of directors finalized their decision on a new management firm, Civica Associations Conferences & Exhibitions

Transition between SharedGeo and Civica took place from August 15<sup>th</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup>.

Effective September 1, 2018 Civica became the manager and “back office” for GITA.

At this time all responsibility for membership services, website upkeep, financial management, and social media outreach is the responsibility of Civica.



# COMING HOME!



**GITA is now returning to it's home.**

**The association first chartered in 1982 within Colorado is now relocating back to that state after several great years in Minnesota.**

**Our new mailing address:**

**Geospatial Information & Technology Association  
PO Box 3406  
Englewood, CO 80155**

**Our new office location:**

**Geospatial Information & Technology Association  
2851 South Parker Road, Suite 1210  
Aurora, CO 80014**



# CONTACTING US REMAINS JUST AS EASY!

Phone: 844-GIS-GITA 844-447-4482

Web: [www.gita.org](http://www.gita.org)

Various Email:

- Administration/Communications: [admin@gita.org](mailto:admin@gita.org)
- Comments and Concerns: [president@gita.org](mailto:president@gita.org)
- Finance: [finance@gita.org](mailto:finance@gita.org)
- Membership Support: [membership@gita.org](mailto:membership@gita.org)
- Suggestion Box (Board of Directors): [ideas@gita.org](mailto:ideas@gita.org)
- Website Support: [webmaster@gita.org](mailto:webmaster@gita.org)



# VIRTUAL GITA – SOCIAL MEDIA OUTREACH

2018 saw serious growth of social media engagement.

Currently we have the following numbers on various platforms:

- GITA News Hub Weekly (Subscribers) – 8,013
- Constant Contact - >20,000 addresses
- Twitter – 3,477 Followers
- Facebook – 1,619 Followers + 519 Friends
- LinkedIn – 5,393 Members and followers
- YouTube - >11,000 views of our library of geospatial videos
  - Including links to many other relevant GIS YouTube channels
- Sponsors / Affiliates – Think of how we can leverage these contacts for the benefit of your firms, and our members!



# GITA IN THE MEDIA

GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION

## GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION

*A message from President Mark E. Limbrunner*

For the past four years, I have had the honor of serving as the President of the Geospatial Information & Technology Association, N.A. (GITA). As my colleagues in various trade or industry associations may attest, there are challenges and triumphs in working to build and maintain any industry association. Through these challenges, I have been assisted by a capable and dedicated core of volunteer board members, and a talented executive staff. The team has been able to not only keep GITA "alive" during some serious headwinds, but to actually thrive and remain relevant within the geospatial community. I was pleased to be offered an opportunity to share some of GITA's history and vision with the readers of Business View Magazine.

**MARK E. LIMBRUNNER**  
PRESIDENT

History: In the late 1960s, a group from Public Service Company of Colorado was among the first to develop an automated mapping/facilities management system. It was revolutionary for its time and provided



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NUMBER 4

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**ISSUE SPOTLIGHT:**

- /// GAS & OIL TRANSPORTATION: PIPELINE VS. RAIL
- /// USING THE U.S. NATIONAL GRID
- /// GIS FOR THE GAS & OIL INDUSTRY

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Home > News > GITA, Pipeline & Gas Journal Launch Annual Technology Conference

## GITA, Pipeline & Gas Journal Launch Annual Technology Conference

6/7/2018

Gulf Energy Information (Gulf) and its market leading pipeline media, Pipeline & Gas Journal, and the Geospatial Information and Technology Association (GITA) announced they have reached an agreement to produce the Pipeline Technology Forum, including the 27th GITA Oil and Gas Pipeline Conference.

The Pipeline Technology Forum will take place Oct. 16-17, 2018, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Houston. Over 100 exhibitors and more than 500 attendees are expected at the two-day event. The forum will include general sessions and two tracks of technical presentations on the use of geospatial technologies, pipeline software and other applied technologies for the pipeline industry. GITA also will hold its board and association meetings during the event.

The Pipeline Technology Forum will replace Pipeline Week, the former GITA annual event, according to Mark Limbrunner, president of the association.

"The GITA board and I are extremely happy to have engaged with Gulf Energy Information to produce our 27th annual pipeline event. Our members and attendees should look forward to a refreshed and exciting conference," Limbrunner said. "Gulf's ability to co-brand our event with the leading trade journal in the market, Pipeline & Gas Journal, and its data for the pipeline industry, make it an ideal partner for GITA and for a vibrant and growing industry segment. The combination will also significantly increase the educational value of our annual conference."

Brian Nessen, group publisher for Pipeline & Gas Journal and Underground Construction, shared Limbrunner's enthusiasm for GITA's new partnership with GITA.

"We are thrilled to be working with GITA to put on the annual conference and to further learning and best practices for geospatial and pipeline technology professionals," Nessen said. "With our very large Pipeline & Gas Journal audience and our new Energy Web Atlas pipeline data, we are ideally suited to work with GITA to make the annual conference the learning and networking epicenter for pipeline technologies."

GITA is a member-led nonprofit professional education association and leading advocate for the use of geospatial technology to help operate, maintain and protect North American infrastructure. The association provides ongoing learning and empowerment

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ELIMINATE

Gis Within

Many of us are involved in an important task for our country (petroleum products) over great distances and under conditions that are often harsh and difficult. It is a task that is never-ending and one that requires a constant commitment to safety and quality. January 2018 was a record-breaking month for the industry, with a total of 100,000 barrels of oil being consumed that month. That's an average of over 100,000 barrels of oil being moved from the well head to our customers' homes, businesses and factories. Thank you for doing your part in keeping our country's energy needs met.

Being employed in the exploration and production sector of the oil and gas industry is a challenging and rewarding experience. It is a job that requires a high level of skill and knowledge, and it is a job that is constantly evolving. As the industry grows, so do the challenges. We must continue to innovate and improve our processes to meet the demands of a growing market.

Additionally, safe and responsible pipeline operations are essential to the success of the industry. We must ensure that our pipelines are properly maintained and that we follow all safety protocols. We must also ensure that our operations are transparent and that we are open to public scrutiny.

A blockade on interstate pipeline construction through the Midwest would be a major setback for the industry. It would result in a loss of jobs and revenue, and it would make it more difficult to meet the demand for energy. We must ensure that our pipelines are built and maintained in a safe and responsible manner.

A large aspect of pipeline safety is the geo-location of pipelines. We must have accurate maps and data to ensure that our pipelines are properly located and that we can respond quickly in the event of an emergency.

The mapping and databases maintained by the industry are essential to the success of the industry. We must ensure that our data is accurate and that we are open to public scrutiny.

The government through the Department of Transportation has established regulations requiring mapping accuracy and data integrity.

gita

GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION®

"Pipeline Technology Forum, GITA is again looking forward to providing this valuable educational opportunity. This conference

## SPEAKING of GIS

GITA has been profiled in several publications including a podcast in the last year!

# GISCI & NGAC UPDATE

**GITA has two seats on the GIS Certification Institute and also recommends / nominates individuals to serve on the National Geospatial Advisory Committee.**



**Recent news from the GISCI:**

## **GIS Certification Institute**

- ▶ **Testing numbers and results have stabilized.**
- ▶ **Several firms are offering training for the GISP test.**
- ▶ **The GISCI Board is seeking accreditation for the GISP test and the testing process to insure that institute standards and processes are within industry standards.**

**NGAC Update:**



- ▶ **Several seats were open on the NGAC (National Geospatial Advisory Council), nominations closed late August.**
- ▶ **GITA members have, and should continue to request nomination to that council.**
- ▶ **Keep an eye open for future vacancies, if interested contact a board member.**

# LATEST NEWS ON THE GEOSPATIAL DATA ACT

**GITA was active in promoting the GDA and notably lobbied to strike language which GITA and other geospatial organizations thought were detrimental to our members' interest.**

- ▶ **The bill was signed into law by President Trump on October 5, 2018**
- ▶ **Lobbying efforts by organizations such as GITA and URISA(Urban and Regional Information Systems Assn) helped to strike sections 11 and 12 which would have had a detrimental impact to the definition of survey data and how it is handled**
- ▶ **These efforts also helped prevent negative impact to vendor qualifications for those providing geospatial services and data to the Federal Government.**



# EDUCATIONAL & CHARITABLE SUPPORT – GITA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

## Awards for GITA North America Scholarship Program:

- ▶ **THIS WEEK** in Pittsburgh at the EnerGIS conference some \$4,000 worth of scholarships will be awarded through the GITA Mid-Atlantic Chapter:
  - \$1,000 to Zachariah Hollingshad from Indiana University of PA
  - \$1,000 to Max Huffman from Hope College
  - \$500 to Gabriel Durant, Youngstown State; Alayna Delgado, South Florida; Jensen DeGrande, Texas A&M Corpus; Jamie Nevins, NC State
- ▶ Additionally for 2018 GITA Mid-Atlantic has donated funding \$1500 to fund the educational affiliates of regional colleges / universities with geography or GIS programs.

*Total funding granted by GITA or chapters for 2018 was \$8,000*

**Finally, over \$500 plus labor was donated to local food banks like Kids' Meals in Houston.**



# INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH & SUPPORT

- ▶ **GITA Japan will be hosting GITA N.A. and GITA Australia-New Zealand in late September for their annual meeting in Tokyo.**
- ▶ **After a two year hiatus GITA N.A. sent a delegate to the conference: President-elect Drew Fioranelli**
- ▶ **The three GITA's have agreed to host annual delegates on a rotating basis with Japan hosting in 2018, North America in 2019, and Australia hosting in 2020.**
- ▶ **We have also been supportive of and done cross marketing with the GISTAM Conference "GIS Theory Applications & Management". Past conferences were held throughout Europe, and the 2019 conference will be held in Heraklion, Crete – Greece in May of 2019**
- ▶ **Additionally both GITA Pacific Northwest and GITA Mid-Atlantic are sponsors of GoGeomatics back to school socials that will be held throughout Canada in late September.**



# EDUCATION & OUTREACH THROUGH WEBINARS

President Drew Fioranelli hosted several webinars during 2018.

The next webinar is not yet scheduled due to EnerGIS later this week in Pittsburgh.

If you have an idea or would like to volunteer to host a webinar contact Drew at [president@gita.org](mailto:president@gita.org)

Learn more about our upcoming schedule at:  
<https://www.gita.org/webinars>



# UMGEOCON

- ▶ **UMGEOCON = Upper Midwest Geospatial Conference**  
**University of Wisconsin at La Crosse, WI**
- ▶ **To take place every-other year – next planned 2020**
- ▶ **Contributing organizations included:**
  - **ASPRS – Western Great Lakes Region**
  - **GITA**
  - **Illinois GIS Association (ILGISA)**
  - **Iowa Geographic Information Council (IGIC)**
  - **MnDOT**
  - **Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium (chaired by MN Dept of Ed)**
  - **SharedGeo**
  - **Wisconsin Land Information Association (WLIA)**
- ▶ **Much like SCAUG, takes a dedicated group of local volunteers**



# NEW PIPELINE FOCUSED CONFERENCE!

- ▶ For 2013-17 Pennwell Publishing had hosted the GITA GIS for Oil & Gas Conference, and rebranded the event as “Pipeline Week”
- ▶ In April of 2018 the board received notice that PennWell would not be producing our annual conference. We later learned that PennWell had sold to Clarion.
- ▶ The board was determined to go ahead and find a another producer for this what would be our 27<sup>th</sup> annual pipeline focused event which took place on October 16-17.
- ▶ After a months long search, Gulf Energy Information was secured as a conference producer.
- ▶ Along with Gulf, we rebranded the event as the “Pipeline Technology Forum”
- ▶ Gulf and the board have worked closely with Chairman Ted Tomes and longtime GITA member Matt Thomas to layout the agenda and acquire corporate support for this event.
- ▶ The board would like thank the advisory committee and Gulf Energy staff for all they have done to keep this annual GITA event viable and relevant!
- ▶ The 2019 conference is scheduled for October 2<sup>nd</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup>.



# THE CALL FOR ABSTRACTS IS STILL OPEN!!!



CALL FOR  
ABSTRACTS



**PIPELINE**  
TECHNOLOGY FORUM



THE  
**gita**  
Oil & Gas Pipeline  
Conference

OCTOBER 2 - 3, 2019  
GEORGE R. BROWN CONVENTION CENTER  
HOUSTON, TX

- ▶ The Pipeline Technology Forum, including the 28<sup>th</sup> annual GITA Oil & Gas Pipeline Conference will be held in Houston Texas October 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>
- ▶ George R. Brown is the venue
- ▶ WE ARE STILL ACCEPTING ABSTRACTS UNTIL MAY 10
- ▶ [www.pipelinetechforum.com](http://www.pipelinetechforum.com)

# GITA N.A. 2019 SCHEDULE:

- ▶ January 1, 2019 leadership shift - Drew Fioranelli became the new President of GITA. Several new board members began service.
- ▶ March 25-26, 2019 GITA Tampa Event, blending into the CGA 811 Excavation Safety Conference to be held March 26-28<sup>th</sup>.
- ▶ Spring 2019, GITA Pacific Northwest Annual Conference (Seattle Area) Date TBA
- ▶ April 25-26, 2019 EnerGIS 2019 to be held in Canonsburg PA, (suburban Pittsburgh) ← THAT'S THIS WEEK
- ▶ April 27, 2019 GITA Board of Directors will meet in Canonsburg, PA
- ▶ October 2-3 – Pipeline Technology Forum – George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston, TX



**President**

**Drew Fioranelli, GISP**  
**DataMark**



**Troy Bumgardner, GISP**  
**Williams**

**Anita Cahill, GISP**  
**City of Winchester, VA**



**Secretary**

**Terry Strahan**  
**Applus+ RTD**



**Sheila McGinty, PhD, GISP**  
**Williams**

**Vince Rosales**  
**Spatialitics**



**Treasurer**

**Jacob Parakaden**  
**PMP, MBA**  
**Enbridge**



**Mike Mirobelli, GISP**  
**Crown Castle**

**Wolfgang Thun, GISP**  
**Bechtel**



# WE NEED YOU!

- ▶ Volunteers are welcome to serve in a variety of roles and committees (some which may not yet exist so ideas are welcome)
- ▶ Are you a leader? Start a local chapter. Presently our most active chapters are on the coasts. We would love to see more activity here in the Midwest.



# FINAL THOUGHTS AND THANK YOU!



Mark Limbruner, GISP  
President 2015-18



A few outgoing thoughts:

GITA is surviving and very much alive, but if we want it to thrive, we need:

- ▶ Passionate volunteers to serve on the board, staff conference committees and volunteer to organize local chapters
- ▶ Members, affiliates and sponsors – Though GITA is more or less a virtual organization it is not inexpensive to run. Your dues, and sponsorship dollars go a long way to keeping GITA vital in the geospatial community.
- ▶ GITA is one of the few organizations that is independent and can provide the lobbying services, conferences and organizational skills to a community where “Big GIS” seems to have sucked all the oxygen out of the room.
- ▶ Cutting edge developments rarely take place top down within a corporation or an industry, we need to view GITA and similar organizations as an incubator where ideas can be tested, shared and publicized for the benefit of all geospatial practitioners.
- ▶ Mark thanks his employer, Range Resources and the Canonsburg Pennsylvania office, for allowing the time to spend on GITA and the regional EnerGIS Conference. Without their support he could not have been as active and devoted as president, helping through a lot of challenges over the last 4 years.
- ▶ All board members and other GITA volunteers typically do so with support from their employers

## Questions and or Comments



For further information reach me  
at [tabumgardner@gita.org](mailto:tabumgardner@gita.org)  
or via LinkedIn (there is a GITA  
group)  
or visit [www.gita.org](http://www.gita.org)

Thank you for joining us!

Enjoy the rest of the SCAUG Conference.

