



South Coast GIS Users Group

2018 Report to Members

Hey SCUG,

Last year was a busy one for SCUG, and as we weren't able to get together for Summer Solstice and Fall Equinox meetings, I want to update you on the outcomes of various activities since we last met—almost a year ago! Also, The Spring Equinox meeting is coming up. I have some suggestions for meetings in 2019 that I would like to discuss with you. Please see the draft meeting agenda that comes with this roundup.

Symposium By the Sea. We had a very successful Symposium By the Sea last September. The theme—What's New With You and GIS?—explored how users are innovatively adapting their GIS to solve problems or complete tasks. The symposium was at the South Slough Visitor's Center, which greatly reduced the cost of providing, since we did not have to pay a rental fee for the venue. About 47 people attended. Tickets were \$30 for early registration and \$35 for ordinary registration. We took in \$928.93 in ticket sales. The Friends of South Slough non-profit organization advanced funds to pay for the lunch and assisted with workshop logistics, for which we paid them a 7.5% event management fee (\$62.39).

After paying all the bills, SCUG realized a profit of \$769.46, which was deposited in SCUG's account. There's a copy of the symposium budget at the end of this roundup.

ORURISA Training Needs and Membership Benefits Surveys. As Coastal Training Program Coordinator at South Slough Reserve, I'm able to assist SCUG and ORURISA within the scope of my job, which means I can devote staff time to address GIS users' training and professional development. At its annual retreat (May 18, 2018) the ORURISA board of directors discussed how to better understand and address members' training needs, and members' opinions about organizational pathways for chapter growth. As an outcome of the discussion I offered to conduct a series of surveys of the members to learn more the members' needs. I worked with several board members to develop the first survey, of training needs. It was emailed to the chapter mailing list in July and closed, in September, after receiving 151 responses.

The second survey asked members about the values and benefits of ORURISA chapter membership. It was sent out to the members in mid-September and closed October 28, 2018, after receiving 98 responses.

At the time of the surveys the exact chapter membership was uncertain. The board has worked since then to identify and confirm active membership. Last week (March 6, 2019) the board reported 437 active users – "active" being defined as a member who participates in ORURISA by attending a section or

special interest group meeting, training, signing up on the website (www.orurisa.org) or meetup, or attending an ORURISA-sponsored conference such as GIS In Action or Symposium By the Sea. Based on that membership, about one-third of the chapter members responded to the training needs survey, and about a fifth participated in the values and benefits survey.

The results of the surveys are posted on the SCUG home page at <https://www.orurisa.org/SCUG>. Or, send me an email and I will send you the PDFs.

Originally the board envisioned conducting a third survey to explore ways in which members might want to increase the value of their membership, e.g., through volunteering. That has not yet been done. I did, at the board's request, review both of the surveys to summarize key messages and members' recommendations for moving forward (Benefits, Desires and Values of ORURISA Members, and Associated Costs of Training – December 13, 2018). That summary is attached. Comments are welcome.

The short story is that members value ORURISA for its ability to bring GIS users together to share information, network socially and professionally, and find training. More than 90 percent of respondents to the first survey said they needed training to improve their GIS skills. Most would like more sponsored events and opportunities for training and networking. Those who live and work in rural areas would appreciate more chapter activities and training in their locales, and appreciate their users groups as providers of networking and training. Members offered many suggestions to help increase the value of ORURISA membership.

Activity Planning for 2019. For 2019, I look forward to continue working with SCUG. South Slough and SCUG will again co-host Symposium By the Sea in August. There are several activities to plan, including upcoming SCUG meetings, and beginning with the Spring equinox meeting. Please see the accompanying email for more information about that.

Let me know if you have any questions, suggestions or comments on any of the above. I can be reached 541-888-5558 ext. 129; email john.bragg@state.or.us

Thanks, John

John Bragg, Coastal Training Program Coordinator
South Slough NERR
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Symposium By the Sea 2018 - budget

Ticket sales + cash on hand

Date	Source	Unit cost	Total	Explanation
10-Sep	Ticket sales - 14	\$30	420	Early registration
27-Sep	Ticket sales – 18	\$35	630	Regular registration
28-Sep	Gross sales		1050	
	Ticket service charge	11.53%	<121.07>	Eventbrite
28-Sep	Net sales		928.93	
28-Sep	Cash advance		181.5	Friends of South Slough (FOSS)
2-Oct	Net sales + cash on hand		1110.43	

Expenses

	Vendor	Item	Cost	
18-Sep	Cash & Carry	Coffee	<15.79>	Out-of-pocket expenses
26-Sep	Cash & Carry	Refreshments	<32.16>	John Bragg (\$97.03)
27-Sep	Fred Meyer	Refreshments	<49.08>	
28-Sep	Davey Jones Locker	Pizzas	<181.5>	(Cash advance from FOSS)

	Net sales + cash on hand – expenses		831.85	
28-Sep	Event management fee	7.50%	<62.39>	Payable to FOSS

2-Oct Sub-total, income (PROFIT) 769.46

Payments

	Payable to	Amount	Purpose
	FRIENDS OF SOUTH SLOUGH INC PO BOX 5446 CHARLESTON, OR 97420	\$243.89	Cash advance reimbursement + event management fee
	JOHN BRAGG 63107 W CATCHING RD COOS BAY OR 97420	\$97.03	Out of pocket expenses



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Spring Equinox Meeting

We will host the meeting online using Skype. John will send out a Doodle poll to select a date and time and then send out an invitation and link to join the meeting. Use this link to select a meeting date and time: <https://doodle.com/poll/tng5e6cy6fad6p9i>.

Please respond by Friday, March 15, 2019. I will send out the meeting date Monday, March 18.

DRAFT Agenda

Welcome and introductions

Old business

Review 2018 activities (narrative attached) – questions, comments, discussion

New business

Meeting format – discussion. Should we try meeting online? Online meetings might be easier for more members to attend.

News and doings from around SCUG land.

Upcoming events – Symposium By the Sea (August)

Other? Please email your agenda items to john.bragg@state.or.us before March 22, 2019, and I will finalize and send out the agenda before the meeting.

Thanks, John

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