



The Few...The Proud... The Cadastral Mapping Specialists

In 1953, the International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) introduced the Professional Designation Program (PDP) in order to raise the standards of the assessment community. That same year, IAAO instituted the designation of Certified Assessment Evaluator (CAE). Then came the Residential Evaluation Specialist (RES) in 1978; the Cadastral Mapping Specialist (CMS) in 1989; the Personal Property Specialist (PPS) in 1991, and the Assessment Administration Specialist (AAS) in 1995.

Since its inception six years ago, there are only 26 people nationwide who currently hold the CMS designation. Yet Sidwell has one of those designees and six others actively seeking the designation. In 1992, Vice President Neal Carpenter became the fifth person to achieve the CMS designation, and the first person in the private sector to complete the rigorous requirements.

The requirements for the CMS designation are as follows: the candidate must be an IAAO member; must have three years of cadastral mapping experience; must successfully complete IAAO courses Fundamentals of Real Property Appraisal and Fundamentals of Mapping; must attend a 10-hour seminar on mapping, and a 30-hour course or its equivalent on GIS. Once those requirements are met, there is an eight-hour case study followed by a four-hour master examination on cadastral mapping. "The eight-hour case study is intense," notes Neal. "You get 30 deeds and a plat and you have to successfully compile a map from this information, much of which is filled with discrepancies."

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Along with the extensive re-
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Project Update:

Black Hawk GIS: Next County Mapping Project On Deck

On November 2, Black Hawk County, Iowa, signed a contract with Sidwell for the development and implementation of a comprehensive, countywide GIS. The work entailed in this project will include project design, data conversion, software, hardware and technical support. Additionally, the project will incorporate digital orthophotography. The result will be the development of a contiguous GIS involving approximately 63,000 parcels of real estate covering 568 square miles of land.

This project has been assigned to Compilation II, and will be under
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Milestones

The following Sidwell employees are celebrating significant service anniversaries this winter (December - February):

15 Years
Arlette McNamara

20 Years
Ellen Buzbee

Congratulations to each of you as well as to those employees celebrating anniversaries in other increments of time!



Who: All Employees
 What: Holiday Party '95
 Where: Wilton Manor
 NW Corner, Geneva & Schmale Rds.
 Carol Stream, IL.
 When: Friday, December 22, 1995
 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
 Why: To spread good cheer and have a generally good time!

More Aerial Reflight Action!

Washington County, Illinois, a Sidwell maintenance client since 1977, recently signed a contract for new aerial photography. Flight work for this project is currently scheduled for Spring 1996.

According to Randy Kobiella, who is responsible for bringing in this contract, "This county is badly in need of up-to-date aerial photography. Their current aerials date back to 1982, and are no longer as useful as they once were." Congratulations, Randy, and thanks for bringing in this new work for us!

The Value of Volunteering

So you've just put in an eight-hour day at work. Then there is your commute home, your personal obligations, perhaps children. You ask "What is next?" Volunteering.

In their hectic day-to-day lives, several of our Sidwell co-workers have found the time to give back to their communities whether it be in Scouts, churches or non-profit organizations.

Besides coaching the Pepsi Cycle Team (as featured in our last newsletter), Steve Thordarson works with Boy Scout Troop 23 in Wheaton. He teaches religious education at St. John's Church in Winfield and once a month, Steve and his two kids help out at the Hesed House, a shelter in Aurora, feeding the homeless and setting up their beds at night.

Marv Knopp is an active member at Grace Bible Church in Elmhurst. He teaches religious classes and is a sponsor of the youth ministry which serves 40 to 50 highschool-age kids. During the holidays Marv and his wife Flo open their home to foreign exchange students from local colleges. Marv is also on

1996 Users Conferences: *Countdown...*

The 14th annual conferences for Users of Sidwell systems are rapidly approaching the final planning stages. A total of 156 invitations for the Iowa conference were sent out December 4, and 85 invitations for the Illinois conference were sent out the week of December 11. Attendance for both conferences is expected to increase by as much as 10 % over last year, when 118 and 66 people joined us at the Iowa and Illinois conferences respectively. The final agenda has been set and the workshops being offered are:

Introduction to Sidwell Tax Maps : Wilma Acquavia
Basic/Intermediate Legals : Mark Dupree & Karen Fouts
Planes—Cameras—Photography : Marv Knopp
Stripping Down Strip Maps : Randy Kobiella & Carol Miller
Tips for Drafting Sub Plats : Don Dieckmann
Mapping in the Office : Scott DeHainaut
Integrating Vanguard Appraisal Data
Into Sidwell GIS Maps : Vanguard Appraisal Systems
MicroStation 95 & "Geographics" GIS Software
Introduction : Bentley Systems
Data Integration: Sidwell Maps, Digital Photography,
ARC/INFO & MGE Meet in "GeoGraphics":
Scott DeHainaut & Brent Mainzinger

If you would like to learn more about the conferences or any of these topics, stop and see Senior Customer Engineer Mark Dupree, Cindy Bohr, or any of the Sidwell presenters listed above. Stay tuned for a post-conference wrap-up in our next issue!

a 12-person Missions Committee that decides the allocation of church funding to 28 different countries.

Arlette McNamara has been involved with the Fox Valley Girl Scout Troop 554 for seven years as a scout leader. This year, she also began participating in 4-H.

Don Dieckmann became a den leader this year for Cub Scout Pack 532 in West Chicago.

Barbara Dutton serves on a 15-member advisory board that oversees allocation of Community Service Block Grant funds administered by the DuPage County Department of Human Services. She is also involved with the American Association of University Women and will head the publicity campaign for her branch's annual used book sale in 1996, proceeds of which fund scholarships and fellowships.

Tim Torres has been involved with Easter Seals for seven years. He is currently Vice President on the Board of Directors

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 requirements to achieve the CMS designation comes a financial expense as well. Courses are expensive and spread throughout the country, which can add travel costs. In addition, once you have achieved the designation, there is an annual IAAO membership fee of \$105 and a CMS designation fee of \$125. "Working towards it and getting it means more to me than having it," adds Neal. "I'm pleased with the fact that I accomplished it."

"Holding the CMS designation will set us apart professionally in the industry."

N. Carpenter

Sidwell's own Don Dieckmann, Mark Dupree, Karen Fouts, Randy Kobiella, Arlette McNamara and Mike Tesch are all at different levels in their work toward achieving the CMS designation. Don has completed the two IAAO courses and the 10-hour seminar. Mark, Karen and Mike have completed all requirements up to the two tests. Randy has taken one course and fulfilled the 30-hour course requirement, and Arlette has taken one IAAO course.

Along with holding the CMS designation, Neal became an IAAO Professional Designations Advisor (PDA) in 1994. In that role, he promotes the professional designations and acts as an advisor for the CMS designation in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri and Wisconsin. "Basically, I'm there to walk the candidates through

the steps of requirements," comments Neal. He would also like to see the CMS designation grow, as it is a relatively unknown designation outside the assessment community. "The CMS designation shows a professionalism in cadastral mapping standards," states Neal. As the private sector becomes aware of the designation, "holding the CMS designation will set us apart professionally in the industry."



DID YOU KNOW...

That Linda Coulombe collects the paper from the various recycling bins throughout the company virtually every day? She brings all the material to a central location to be held until the next delivery to St. Charles Scrap, and does all of this on her own time? (So that's how all those bins get emptied!) Thanks, Linda, for all of your work toward making our recycling efforts a success!

Feline Family Members



This edition's feature pet: those fabulous Sidwell felines! All employees interested in sharing pictures of their pets are encouraged to post them on the "Play" bulletin board in the lunchroom.

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Cat Breed</u>	<u>Name</u>
Debbie A.	Tabby	Romeo
	Tabby	Sneakers
	Tabby	Harley
Wilma A.	Siamese	Yoshi
	Siamese	(Sandy Cove)Covey
Doug C.	Gray Tabby	Foo
Scott D.	Calico	John Wayne
	"Mutt"	Mojo
Russ D.	Calico	Lucy
	Calico	Ethel
Mark D.	Himalayan	Pippen
Barbara D.	Calico	Agnes
Matt E.	Black	Velcro
Jim F.	Mixed breed	Alice
Joy G.	Black	Freya
Alysa H.	Black	Rip
	Black	Shoshi
Donna J.	"Cat"	Taz
Carole K.	Siamese	Milo
Kevin K.	"Cat"	Tucker
	"Cat"	Dusty
Denise L.	Siamese	Scooter
	Siamese	Casey
Brent M.	White Siamese	Shamrock
Bob N.	Siamese	Lance
Laurie R.	Silver Tabby	Simba
Sam T.	Abysinian	Niko
	Bengal	Remy
Andy W.	Tabby	Rusty
	Calico	Sadie

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for the Easter Seals Rehab Center, which services the southern half of Kane County and all of DeKalb and Kendall Counties. The board oversees the operations of the Rehab Center and assists with fundraising. Since May of this year, Tim has also become a board member of the Community Counseling Center (CCC) out of Aurora. This organization oversees several mental health and substance abuse clinics. Presently, the board is overseeing a 30-bed addition to one of their facilities.

Carol Miller fulfills the position of public relations coordinator for Northeastern Illinois Special Olympics which services DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake and McHenry Counties. In this position, she is responsible for the publicity of the organization, which includes everything from writing press releases and articles to getting media coverage at the sporting events. Carol also volunteers at sporting events running a venue.

Although the holiday season is when you most often hear about the need for volunteers, they are needed throughout the year in your communities. If you would like to get involved, call the Volunteer Center of DuPage County at (708) 682-7507, or the Kane County Human Resource Center at (708) 232-9530.

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the supervision of Arlette McNamara. "I'm very excited about the digital ortho aspect of this project, as this is the future of our mapping project technology," says Arlette.

According to Vice President Neal Carpenter, "Prior to this project hitting the production floor, we plan on modifying our procedures to make the cadastral data more conducive to applying the analytical capabilities of MGE. This project is also exciting in that it will be our first opportunity to work with digital orthophotography and explore true heads-up digitizing."

When the GIS is complete it will provide a cadastral database to support tax cycle administration, as well as a common base map upon which other countywide GIS applications can be built. The system is to be delivered as an Intergraph Modular GIS environment (MGE) project, with the capability to perform analysis of parcel map data through the incorporation of existing tax cycle administration data.

Community Involvement



If you have just a few hours a month to spare, you too can be a volunteer. The following are just a few of the options currently listed at the DuPage County Department of Human Resources—interested?

Mom's Closet? Help give out donated supplies of baby and maternity needs.

How about Zoo Life? Give animal tours/talks/demonstrations. Share information about wildlife, and roam the zoo as an exhibit explainer.

Pet Therapy? Bring your own well-behaved pet to make private visits to residents at local nursing homes.

Driving Your Specialty? Home deliver meals to area home-bound seniors.

The Volunteer Center of DuPage matches potential volunteers with opportunities. Can you spare a couple of hours for your community?



New Additions

November 22—Emily Anne DeHainaut, daughter of Scott and Melanie DeHainaut. Congratulations, Scott and Mel!

New Company
Typeface and Logo
Treatment to Debut



Graphic treatment of the Sidwell logo and typeface has undergone a facelift, with the new look to be used on company materials beginning in the new year. A graphic designer who specializes in corporate logos was engaged to evaluate its current look and suggest a new treatment for the combined display of the company name and "infinity"-style logo. The resulting refined graphic treatment (pictured above) will appear on company materials including promotional literature, exhibit graphics, advertisements and letterhead.

"This update was guided by several objectives," explains Marketing Director Barbara Dutton. "One was to better integrate the company name and logo art while seeking a visual balance between the two elements. Other goals were to establish a corporate typeface to be used uniformly throughout the company, and to consider a color scheme that would be both appealing and provide for consistent usage. I was also looking for a design that offered the flexibility for it to be used in a variety of applications—from business cards to shirts to shipping labels."

The colors selected are "claret" and black. The new graphic is available in both hardcopy and digital form, and has been introduced to the computer network in a scaleable format for access by those needing to use it. For usage guidelines and color specifications, please see Barbara.