

President's Message for September 2002



Strategic Planning Retreat Pays Off

At this year's strategic planning retreat, the Board of Directors created vision and mission statements to reflect the organization's focused direction. BAAMA is the vital organization of GIS professionals in the San Francisco Bay Region that promotes partnerships and teamwork with users of GIS technology to improve our environment and community. The mission of BAAMA is to be the primary forum of the San Francisco Bay Region geospatial community that provides education for professional development; networking opportunities; leadership, coordination, and representation- and has fun doing it. A document containing the vision and mission statements along with strategies to that take us down this path, over the next three years, can be downloaded from the BAAMA web site at www.baama.org/about/strategicdirection.html

Join Us

Have you renewed your membership? Have you become an individual member or sponsor? Now is the time to respond to our recent letter. We are approaching 1000 members - an all time high. We need your support to get there. So far about 66% of sponsors have renewed their membership, but only 50% of individual members have done so. We are determined to offer our membership responsive services. The details are presented on our web site at <http://www.baama.org/membership/index.html>.

Volunteers Needed

Say "yes" when a Board member asks you to join an action team in support of our strategic direction. Committees are forming to support the 2003 CALGIS Conference in Palm Springs, and the 2004 CALGIS Conference in San Jose. Finally, there is still room to become active in making *GIS Day* in San Francisco and USGS (Menlo Park), an exciting event - put 20 November on your calendar to attend. The goal of our volunteer efforts is to have fun networking to get productive results by using your valuable time wisely.

We Appreciate Your Membership

Finally, we appreciate your membership in our growing body of GIS professionals who *are* actively promoting teamwork and partnerships with users of GIS technology (e.g. GIS Metadata Survey and offering vital support for BAR-GC) to improve our community. Our August 22nd education session on "Green GIS" and the upcoming October 17th education session on "*Planning and Responding to Earthquakes and Landslides using GIS*" represent actions that are consistent with our vision.

George A. White
BAAMA President