A Short History of the ASPRS Regional System and the Florida Region

By George H. Rosenfield, 5/19/13

In June 1954, I received my MS Degree in Photogrammetry from the New York State College of Forestry at Syracuse, and reported to my first scientific position with ACIC in the Washington, D. C. area. I immediately contacted ASP Headquarters, in which membership was a requirement for graduation, to offer my volunteer services. I was put in touch with Chester Kowalczyk who needed someone to crunch numbers for his upcoming proposal to establish a Regional System for the ASP, which was becoming to unwieldy for efficiency on a national basis.

I allocated the ASP membership by county, and notated the numbers on the Census Bureau, U. S. Map of Counties. Chester had decided on maybe 10 Regions, matching the number of U. S. Census divisions. We made some adjustments to equalize the numbers in each Region. Of course, some western Regions included many states, and we wanted a D. C. Region, so that took way from some eastern states. With some adjustments, the Regions were accepted by the Board of Direction.

I arrived to work for the RCA Missile Test Project at Patrick Air Force Base in January, 1957. There were a few members of ASP already working on the Missile Range, and also at Universities in Florida and Georgia, and at some surveying and mapping companies. I organized the Florida Region with a few members to get started and became its first President. Other persons at the Missile Range and John Eichler at Georgia Tech. were also Presidents. I was then elected to a double term. I left Florida in 1965, and returned to the D. C. area. The Florida Region soon became the great Region that it has now been for many years.

In 1986, I returned to Florida and was soon elected to the Florida Region Board of Direction, and spent several years there. Eventually, I retired from that also.