

ESRI GIS / GPS International User Conference

Janielle Samuel Represents South Carolina 4-H

A Sumter High School sophomore and vice-president of her local 4-H Wizards club, Janielle Samuel, traveled to San Diego to attend the world's largest conference on geographic informa-

tion systems (GIS), held from 7-13 August. Forty-two 4-H Tech Team members (about half adults and half youth) from throughout the United States, stood out in their blue shirts with green

4-H Clovers and because of the enthusiasm with which they grasped the technology and its potential applications .

"There were 13,000 people at the conference, but everyone

knew 4-H was there and they came up to us and offered to help with 4-H projects," explained Ms. Samuel. "I even got a call after the conference from a man in California who is going to send me some information to help me learn how to use the GIS software." (see p.2, J. Samuel 4-H Wizards)



ESRI President Jack Dangermond challenges 13,000 conference attendees

Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) President Jack Dangermond says GIS is the language of geography. He urges us to use geography and spatial analysis to benefit all peoples and societies. He says,

"As important as it is to describe the world, it is even more important to imagine a better world." 35 years old, ESRI, has 4,400 employees, 250,000 users, over 2,000 business partners, and over 1 million software sites.



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August 2004

Special points of interest:

- Janielle Samuel (Far left) speaks with ESRI's Ester Worker and fellow members of the 4-H Tech Team
- 4-H hosted a reception on August 8th. Ms. Samuel gave a PowerPoint presentation to Montana's Governor Judy Martz on how SC plans to integrate GIS into its 4-H program.

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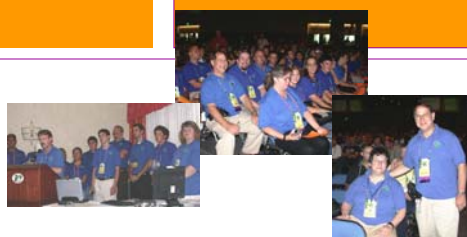
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ESRI fact:,
ESRI grows at 10% to 20% per
year, and is the largest research
and development firm dedicated
to GIS. www.esri.com.
Jack Dangermond, President
(photo at left)

4-H Tech Team Members Present GIS Project Plans!



At the 4-H reception on August 8th, one of the people that stopped by Janielle Samuel's PowerPoint presentation was the Governor of Montana, Judy Martz. "She asked all about our program. I told her about our CYFAR Community Youth Development project, how we want to partner military youth for our GIS project and also about how we want to visit Costa Rica and some other Central American countries," Janielle explains.

Barbara A. Brown, Sumter County Agent, recently returned from Clemson's first International 4-H Youth Exchange trip to Costa Rica. "Our next planned trip is to Puerto Rico But, we

want to return to Costa Rica, and at the ESRI conference we met people not only from Puerto Rico, but also from Mexico, Colombia and Peru that are interested in a 4-H Youth Exchange and partnership efforts focused on youth GIS / GPS service-learning projects," said Brown. "We are integrating our community development, and high tech youth skill building efforts," Brown said. "We need GIS volunteer coaches," she added.



ESRI Supports 4-H With ArcGIS Software and Hosts 4-H Attendance at International User Conference



"As important as it is to describe the world, it is even more important to imagine a better world." Jack Dangermond

The 4-H Wizards, a Sumter SC community club that focuses on intergenerational service learning projects aimed at helping the community, is one of only one hundred (100) 4-H clubs in America to receive ESRI GIS software and site licenses.

"The project is aimed at enabling 4-H youth to gain high tech GIS spatial and analytical skills," explains County Agent Barbara A. Brown, shown at left with Jack Dangermond, ESRI President.

"4-H began by helping farmers raise enough food for America. Now America produces enough food to feed the world. Today 4-H may lead us (and the world) into a new high tech era," said Brown.

Janielle Samuel's PowerPoint Explains 4-H Wizards' GIS Goals

GIS/GPS and 4-H In South Carolina
4-H Wizards received ESRI 4-H Grant (GIS has potential to enhance all projects and programs within the community youth development effort.)

PROJECTS:

- *4-H Wizards, *4-H After school (Bracey Plaza, Amen Community Arts Center), *Military 4-H Partnerships, *Intergenerational Service Learning (Homeland Security, Project Spirit, Join Hands & GIS Days) *Grants, (CYFAR, Drug-Free Community, Children of Prisoners)

International: (Global Youth Service Day, Costa Rica Service Learning Project, Puerto Rica Technology Project)

***Cultural Understanding *Economic Awareness *Democratic Values GIS/GPS, Friends, Fun and More!**

"4-H will collaborate with the SC Sci-Tech Team to develop projects that will benefit the community and the State."



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