

# GeoMentors

AAG esri Community Newsletter

## In This Issue

- Monthly Mentor Challenge
- GeoMentor Spotlight
- AAG Annual Meeting
- Featured Resource

Current  
GeoMentor  
Count:  
**1,040**



Current  
School  
Count:  
**2,863**



## Questions?

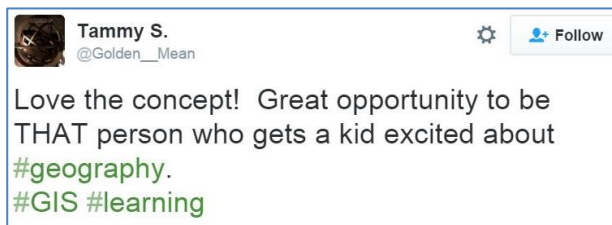
Contact program  
staff at  
[geomentors@aag.org](mailto:geomentors@aag.org)

March 2016

[www.geomentors.net](http://www.geomentors.net)

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Hello GeoMentors! Just checking in with our monthly program news and to encourage you to keep up your GeoMentoring efforts! We continue to receive reports of volunteer engagements across the country and want to keep the program momentum going! If you haven't gotten started yet, consider Tammy's motivating words below about being a GeoMentor:



## Monthly Mentor Challenge

The school year is moving swiftly along, but you can reach out to start a new collaboration at any time of the year! This month we challenge you to:

**See if the school nearest you has registered for their free ArcGIS Online software account**

Check to see if your nearest K-12 school is on our [online map](#) of registered schools (*zoom in to see individual schools*). If not, consider contacting an administrator or educator to let them know about the free software and help (you!) available to introduce GIS to their students. A [template outreach letter](#) is available online.

## GeoMentor Spotlight

*Each month we feature a GeoMentor volunteer to showcase the wonderful talent available in our community to assist K-12 schools.*

**Name:** Rheannon Hart

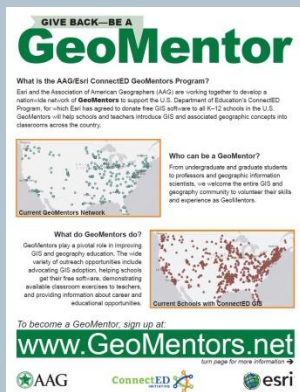
**Position(s)/Affiliation(s):** Hydrologist, USGS

**What was your favorite class in K-12?** My favorite class in school was always science class (biology, chemistry, earth

## Get a Free Pin!



Share your GeoMentor experience as a [case study](#) and receive the Esri GIS Innovator pin!



Share [this flyer](#) with your geo-friends and colleagues to help grow our GeoMentors community!

## Join our GeoMentor Online Communities

[@AAGGeoMentors on Twitter](#)

[AAG GeoMentors Knowledge Community](#)

[AAG GeoMentors Facebook Page](#)

[Esri GeoNet GeoMentors Group](#)

science, etc.) and each year I looked forward to participating in the science fair.

**How did you first learn about and/or use GIS?** I started with the USGS as a student working on my Bachelor's degree in geology and one of my first tasks was to digitize the state geologic map for use in a groundwater-flow model. Being able to bring a paper map to "life" was extremely fascinating, and from that moment, I was hooked.

### **Name one thing you love about GIS and/or geography.**

My favorite thing about GIS is the problem solving. I love having these separate, but geographically similar datasets and needing to conduct some sort of geospatial analyses in order to answer a specific question. I love having to figure out which tools within the program and the order of the steps that will get me to that answer.



**Why did you want to volunteer as a GeoMentor?** GIS has so many real world applications, not just in the natural sciences, and I would love to get young kids interested from a younger age. Also, I'm hoping that my mentorship in GIS will spark the desire to attend college in someone who might not have otherwise wanted to attend.

**If someone asked you why they should learn about GIS and/or geography, how would you respond in one sentence?** GIS is everywhere--watching the weather or looking at crime maps on the nightly news, allowing the police, fire, or ambulance to know exactly where an emergency is occurring, using the maps on your smart phone or the navigation system in your vehicle--it is so ingrained in our daily lives.

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**Website(s):** <http://ar.water.usgs.gov>; <https://profile.usgs.gov/rmhart>

Read Rheannon's full spotlight [here](#). Interested in being featured? Go [here](#) for more information. We are excited to learn about you!

## Reminder: GeoMentor Activities at the AAG Annual Meeting

For GeoMentors attending the [AAG's Annual Meeting](#) in San Francisco (March 29th – April 2nd), be sure to check out our program events!

**Visit the GeoMentors space**, near conference registration in the AAG booth, and consider [volunteering](#) an hour of your time to help promote the program! **Attend the**

[GeoMentors panel session](#) which includes Esri President and Founder Jack Dangermond, AAG President Dr. Sarah Bednarz, and members of Esri's Education team, David DiBiase and Dr. Joseph



## GeoMentor Ribbons!

### GeoMentor

Attending the 2016 AAG Annual Meeting? Stop by the GeoMentors area in the AAG booth to get your ribbon!

## Newsletter Archive



Check out previous issues in our [archive!](#)

## Get your Certificate!

Tell us about your activities and receive an official [certificate of participation!](#)



Kerski (Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup>; 10:00 - 11:40AM). For more information, view our [February issue](#).



## Featured Resource: Free GeoInquiries Webinar for Teachers



As part of their ongoing webinar series, the NCGE is offering a free webinar on April 27<sup>th</sup> on [GeoInquiries for Human Geography and US History Teachers](#). Presenters Tom Baker (Esri) and Chris Bunin (HS and community college educator) will introduce two new free collections of Geoinquiries in this webinar available from Esri: [Advanced Human Geography](#) and [US History](#). Each GeoInquiry collection includes 15 brief map-based activities (no log in or previous GIS experience required) designed to align with educational standards and commonly used textbooks. GeoMentors and their educator collaborators should consider participating in this webinar to learn how GeoInquiries can be incorporated into classrooms as a means of easily introducing GIS to students. Tell your K-12 educator friends about the webinar! [Register online](#) in advance.



Megan A. Gall  
@DocGallJr



Follow

@AAGGeoMentors I'm really excited about this opportunity to spread some [#geospatial](#) knowledge and love! Thank you!

Questions? Contact us at [geomentors@aag.org](mailto:geomentors@aag.org)  
[www.geomentors.net](http://www.geomentors.net)