



Kansas Association of Mappers 33rd Annual Conference  
Discovering New Paths Through KAM  
October 16-19, 2018

October is fast approaching, and planning for the 33<sup>rd</sup> annual KAM conference is well underway! The [website](#) has been updated, so watch it for future updates and exciting new announcements. The abstract submission page is now open, and we still have several time slots available. If you are doing anything new and exciting with GIS/Mapping or would like to share your knowledge, submit an abstract and we'll get you added to the schedule.

The conference will kick off on Tuesday October 16<sup>th</sup> with Pre-conference classes and designation testing. We will offer 3 pre-conference classes and are working on adding a 4<sup>th</sup> (check the website for announcements on the 4<sup>th</sup> class). The classes are:

1. NG911 Data Maintainer - taught by Kristen and Eileen from DASC. This free class is for NG911 data maintainers.
2. Python – taught by Lee Allen. Lee will teach a condensed version of his two-day Python class.
3. Precision Editing Techniques – taught by Amy Roust, GISP and Tyler Fleming. Ladies and gentlemen, you can improve your data. You have the technology. You have the capability to make your data better and more reliable, and you can do it faster. In this workshop, you will leverage basic geometry and multiple ArcGIS toolboxes to improve your data editing process. Our focus will be on plats, but the concepts and tools used can apply to any dataset. To start, we will apply the rules of geometry to real documents to identify time savers in your editing workflows. Next, we will dive into hands-on editing sessions to apply these techniques by digitizing a plat from Douglas County, Kansas. Time permitting, we will discuss methods for calculating the placement of section corners in lieu of GPSing every monument in your county. Reference handouts will be provided for use when you're back in the office.
4. TBA – stay tuned!

On Wednesday October 17<sup>th</sup>, we'll start the festivities with our Keynote speaker, John Cannella. John is the Deputy Superintendent for the National Park Service's National Trails

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Intermountain Region. NTIR administers or co-administers nine national historic trails (Oregon, Mormon Pioneer, California, Pony Express, Santa Fe, Old Spanish, Trail of Tears, El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, and El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trails). It also manages the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program, and leads feasibility studies and other planning for potential and new additions to the National Trails System. John has held several GIS-related positions and gained experience with a diverse range of topics including trails, natural and cultural resource management, plant ecology, paleoecology and global change. While serving as the GIS Coordinator for NTIR, John helped co-found the National Trails System GIS Network, an open group that hosts regular discussions regarding the use of GIS for the National Trails System. Prior to joining the National Park Service in 2004, John worked for other federal agencies, universities, and nonprofits. John has a B.S. in Biology from St. Lawrence University, pursued graduate coursework in Rural Geography, and received a Master's in Public Administration from the University of New Mexico.

Later that evening we'll have a reception with the exhibitors. The Map Gallery will be open - be sure to vote for your favorite map or mapping application! *Hors d'oeuvres and drinks* will be served, and we will announce our new and exciting entertainment soon.

On Thursday October 18<sup>th</sup>, we'll continue with breakout sessions throughout the day. We'll vote for new board members at lunch, and conclude map gallery voting at the 3:00pm afternoon break. In the evening, we'll meet up on the terrace of the Flint Hills Discovery Center for light *Hors d'oeuvres and the opportunity to view exhibits*. *This is also another great time for networking with fellow GIS/Mapping professionals.*

On Friday October 19<sup>th</sup>, we'll have breakout sessions in the morning followed by closing business and lunch. The conference will end at 1:00 pm, and planning for the 2019 conference will start at 1:01 pm.

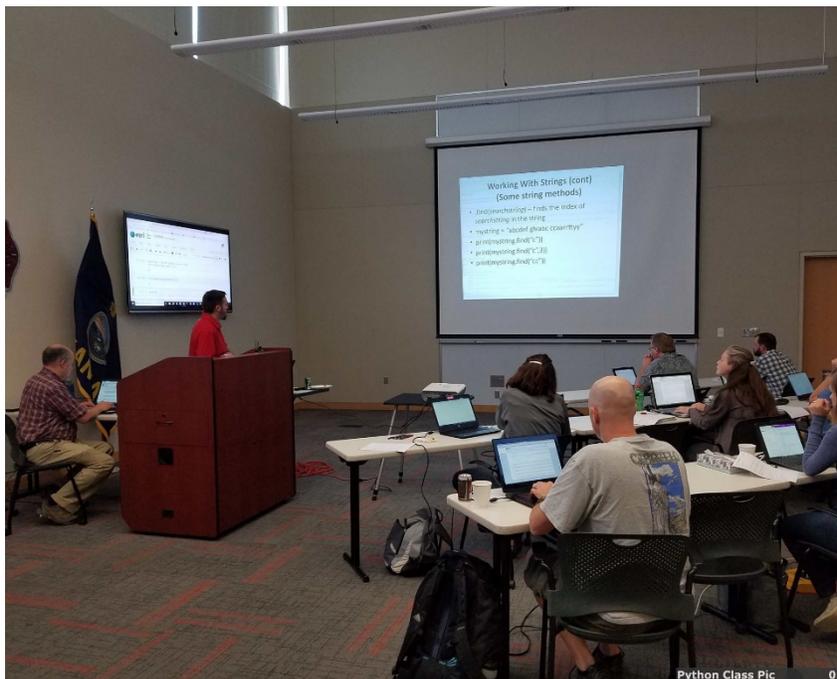
Linda Sibert

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## KAM Python Class 5/10-5/11 Wrap Up

The KAM Python Class was a great success, due in part to interaction with attendees and some hard work on the part of the presenters. The two day class covered the very basics of Python with plenty of hands-on examples to work through on day one. Topics included: variables, statements, string slicing, and functions, IDEs, among others. Day two focused on using the Python basics in GIS, including: field calculations, labeling, geoprocessing, and automating scripts.

This class was a bit revolutionary, utilizing the notebooks.esri.com (Jupyter Notebooks) as the main platform IDE (Integrated Development Environment) on day one. Jupyter Notebooks is a program very heavily utilized by Esri in many of their formal presentations. The education committee (including Micah Seybold, Mike D'Attilio, and Lee Allen) created this class as a way to develop and keep working class material that can be used repeatedly and enhanced as necessary. I would also like to recognize Kristen Jordan for her effort providing initial materials that we could expand upon. Look for another Python class coming soon to your area of the state.



Lee Allen

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