

# IMAGIN's Geospatial Achievement Award

The IMAGIN Geospatial Achievement Award honors an IMAGIN member in recognition of their dedication and commitment to the IMAGIN organization, its geospatial professionals, colleagues, members and the public that it serves.



2022 IMAGIN Annual Awards Lunch  
Tuesday, June 7, 2022  
Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island, MI

# 2022 IMAGIN GEOSPATIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER

Presentation being given by  
Darcia Little, GIS Specialist  
Michigan Army National Guard



2022 IMAGIN Annual Awards Lunch  
Tuesday, June 7, 2022  
Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island, MI

# 2022 IMAGIN GEOSPATIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER

## Carla Elenz

GIS Manager, Retired  
Michigan Army National  
Guard – Camp Grayling

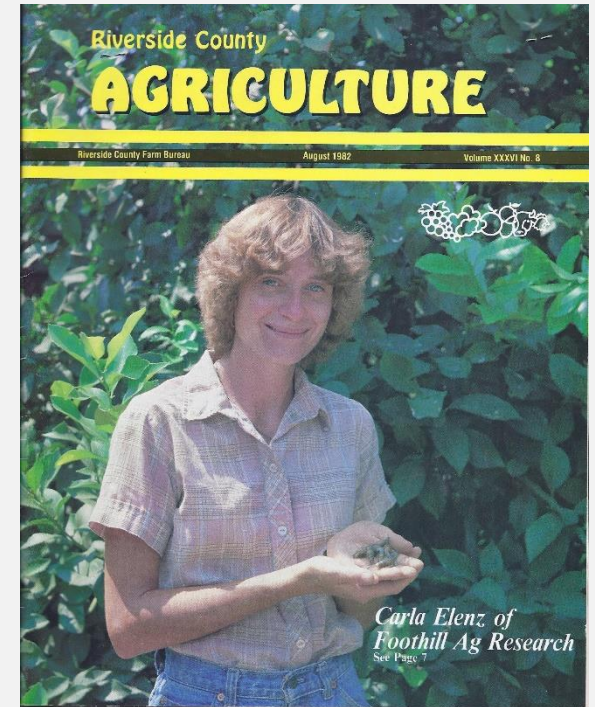


2022 IMAGIN Annual Awards Lunch  
Tuesday, June 7, 2022  
Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island, MI

# 2022 IMAGIN GEOSPATIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER – CARLA ELENZ

## PROFESSIONAL CAREER

- B.S. in Natural Resources, University of Michigan, 1977
- M.S. in Integrated Pest Management, University of California, Riverside, 1980
- Commercial insectary raising beneficial insects, 1980
- Otsego/Crawford-Roscommon Conservation District Administrator and Energy Technician, 1987
- Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs-Camp Grayling Hazardous Waste Specialist, 1992
- Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs-Camp Grayling Environmental Office (Michigan Army National Guard) GIS Manager, 1992
- GIS Instructor for North Central Michigan College, 2009-Present
- GISP Certification, 2012



Early career picture of Carla raising bugs  
in California



2022 IMAGIN Annual Awards Lunch  
Tuesday, June 7, 2022  
Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island, MI

# 2022 IMAGIN GEOSPATIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER – CARLA ELENZ

## PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- Began the GIS Program for the Michigan Army National Guard
- Grew the program from a one-person team to a staff of five with over thirty GIS users
- Expanded the program from the Environmental Department to include Operations & Training, Facilities & Construction and Emergency Response
- Developed the first web presence of spatial data and GIS applications in the Michigan Army National Guard



# 2022 IMAGIN GEOSPATIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER – CARLA ELENZ

## GIS INVOLVEMENT

- National Guard Bureau GIS Committee Member
- ESRI Northern Michigan Users Group Host and Presenter
- IMAGIN Newsletter Contributor and Conference Attendee
- ESRI Federal Users Conference Attendee
- ESRI International Users Conference Attendee



Carla with the NGB GIS Committee and Jack Dangermond at the ESRI Users Conference



2022 IMAGIN Annual Awards Lunch  
Tuesday, June 7, 2022  
Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island, MI

# 2022 IMAGIN GEOSPATIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER – CARLA ELENZ

## COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS

- Crawford County Multipurpose Trail Committee Member
- Higgins Lake – Lake Saver Day Presenter
- Bike Safety Presenter for Grayling Elementary School
- Participates in Various Runs, Rides and Other Events to Better the Community



Bike Trail Map Created by Carla for the City of Grayling



# 2022 IMAGIN GEOSPATIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER – CARLA ELENZ

## FAMILY LIFE AND PERSONAL INTERESTS

Two adult children; 4 grandchildren (and one on the way)

Avid bicyclist (including two cross country bike trips)

Dog enthusiast (combines her love of geography, dogs and biking by naming her dogs after cities she's biked through- Lander, WY, Afton, VA, Chama, NM and Riggins, ID)

Completed Half-Ironman Triathlon (although she says she is not a runner)

In training to hike up Pikes Peak this summer

Actively involved with Lutheran church ladies mission group, serving as president of Northern Michigan region. Last year, she biked to Kentucky to raise money for mission projects

Retired four years ago, bought 80 acres of Northern Hardwoods, and has been working hard to finish building the house with her husband



Carla with her husband, children and grand-children



29<sup>th</sup> Annual  
IMAGIN CONFERENCE  
June 5 to 7, 2022

Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island



# 2022 IMAGIN GEOSPATIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER – CARLA ELENZ KUDOS FROM COLLEAGUES

Brooks E. Kelley, Senior Consultant, Technical Services  
Avineon, Inc.

“Carla Elenz is precisely the sort of selfless professional who should win this award! Her service to the Michigan GIS community via her lengthy associations with the Michigan National Guard, AmeriCorps, North Central Michigan College, IMAGIN, and other GIS groups provides a road map for positive change. I for one am so happy to see this quiet leader finally get the recognition she so rightly deserves. Well done Carla!”



2022 IMAGIN Annual Awards Lunch  
Tuesday, June 7, 2022  
Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island, MI

# 2022 IMAGIN GEOSPATIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER – CARLA ELENZ KUDOS FROM COLLEAGUES

Darcia Little, GIS Specialist, Michigan Army National Guard – Camp Grayling

“Carla Elenz has been a friend and mentor since I began my GIS career. She has a love and enthusiasm for GIS that is contagious and magnetic. I greatly enjoyed my years of working with Carla and miss her guidance and direction every day. Carla single-handedly built the Michigan Army National Guard GIS program into the successful and essential program it is today. Her contributions to GIS will be valued by many for years to come. This award couldn’t be bestowed on a more deserving individual. “



2022 IMAGIN Annual Awards Lunch  
Tuesday, June 7, 2022  
Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island, MI

# 2022 IMAGIN GEOSPATIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER – CARLA ELENZ KUDOS FROM COLLEAGUES

Everett Root, Outreach Specialist at Office of Technology Partnerships, DTMB,  
State of Michigan

“Congratulations Carla on the IMAGIN Geospatial Achievement award!  
I think we first met around 2010 and our conversation was about aerial photography. It was the usual discussion around "who has what and where can I get a copy?" We were working on our imagery services and that whole .mil versus .gov provided a unique challenge but we eventually figured it out.  
It was great to have you as part of the State GIS family representing National Guard/DMVA and northern Michigan. I know you helped me several times when I was looking for contacts. You were always gracious, patient and knowledgeable, and I appreciated that help very much.  
I also always enjoyed catching up at conferences and ENMUG meetings. You had a unique role in the Michigan GIS community and it was always interesting to hear about the projects you were working on.  
The IMAGIN Geospatial Achievement award is well-deserved and I wish you continued enjoyment in your retirement.”



2022 IMAGIN Annual Awards Lunch  
Tuesday, June 7, 2022  
Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island, MI

# 2022 IMAGIN GEOSPATIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER – CARLA ELENZ KUDOS FROM COLLEAGUES

Eric Starn, GIS Specialist, Michigan Army National Guard –  
Joint Forces Headquarters

“When I came on to Carla’s GIS unit, I was inexperienced in the field. Carla quickly became a great mentor. We could spend many hours collaborating in this unique setting. I will always be grateful for the time and effort she invested in me. She has a wealth of knowledge and deserves to be celebrated. I can’t think of anyone more deserving. I would like to extend my congratulations to her! Well done.”



2022 IMAGIN Annual Awards Lunch  
Tuesday, June 7, 2022  
Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island, MI

# 2022 IMAGIN GEOSPATIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER – CARLA ELENZ



Carla with husband Jon



Carla with her husband and grandchildren in Colorado



Carla and her family in Colorado



2022 IMAGIN Annual Awards Lunch  
Tuesday, June 7, 2022  
Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island, MI

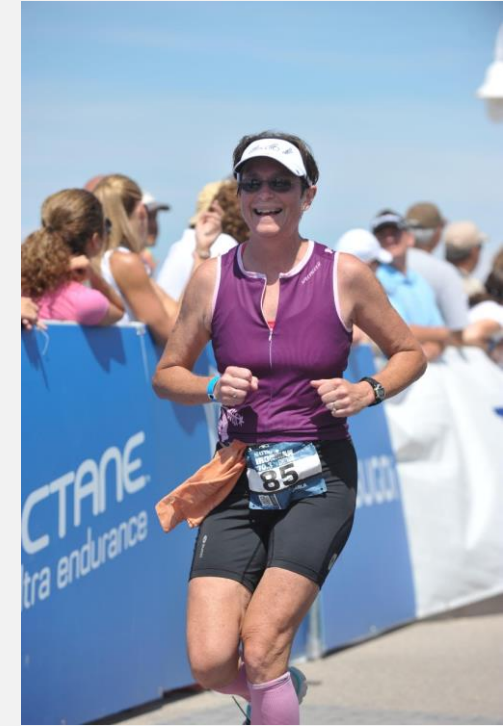
# 2022 IMAGINE GEOSPATIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER – CARLA ELENZ



Solo bike trip from Gaylord to Lexington,  
KY to raise funds for church missions



Enjoying retirement at home with Chama and Riggins



Completion of half-ironman triathlon



2022 IMAGIN Annual Awards Lunch  
Tuesday, June 7, 2022  
Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island, MI

# 2022 IMAGIN GEOSPATIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER – CARLA ELENZ



Pittsburgh to Washington DC on the  
GAP/C&O Canal Trail



Riding from Canada to Mexico on the Great  
Divide trail with riding partner Afton



At the end of a 3 month coast to coast  
trip with her husband Jon,  
daughter, Jodie, age 15  
and son Todd, age 12



2022 IMAGIN Annual Awards Lunch  
Tuesday, June 7, 2022  
Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island, MI

# 2022 IMAGIN GEOSPATIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER – CARLA ELENZ

CONGRATULATIONS

Carla Elenz

Imagin's 2022 Geospatial  
Achievement Award Winner



A very rainy day for backpacking on Isle Royale



2022 IMAGIN Annual Awards Lunch  
Tuesday, June 7, 2022  
Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island, MI