PRESIDENT’S COLUMN
Kay G. Johnson

The GSIS Board met recently to discuss conference planning and other issues. Lisa Johnston has the conference planning well under control, including Geoscience Librarianship 101. Jan Heagy set up the teleconference and helped us with the software. The board had a good discussion about the conference planning, finances, publications, and other matters. The board discussed moving the Newsletter from a bi-monthly to quarterly publication schedule in 2012. It was felt that it is still important to produce print copies of the Proceedings. Jan, Lisa, Cynthia Prosser, Angelique Jenks-Brown, Janet Dombrowski, and Ellie Clement all have my thanks and gratitude for their board work for GSIS. Janet Dombrowski’s new GSIS website looks terrific. Angelique’s debit card has made conference payments much easier. We no longer need to use personal credit cards to pay for conference expenses. Cynthia and Ellie have been conscientious about producing quality meeting minutes and conference proceedings, respectively. Jan is gathering a slate of election candidates and helping me and others wherever possible. I thank all of you for your continuing service, support and interest in the Geoscience Information Society. I also hope all of you had a good summer solstice day (it’s June 20 as I write this).

VICE PRESIDENT’S COLUMN
Lisa Johnston

Summer is here and it is time for us to start thinking less about work and more about fun, outdoor activities...well, some of us anyway. Those of us in academic libraries know that even if summer is here, work is still in session! So to compromise between work and play, my recent efforts for GSIS have been around planning the field trip for our upcoming annual meeting during GSA 2011 here in Minneapolis, which is just around the corner, October 9-12th. I have several options on hand, some interesting conference field

(continued on page 3)
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trips, as well as a GSIS-specific field trip in the planning stages.

First, there are several great GSA field trips already planned for the Twin Cities area that I'd like to highlight. (For a complete list visit http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/2011/fieldTrips.htm.)

- **415. Cycling the Mississippi River Gorge** (Saturday, Oct. 8, US$68). The best way to explore the Twin Cities is by bike! This day long trip will cover a lot of ground (30 miles) and is a great way to discover why Minneapolis was rated America's Best Biking City (Bicycling Magazine, 2010).

- **420. St. Anthony Falls Laboratory: Flumes, Experimental Landscapes, and a Waterfall**. (Saturday, Oct. 8, US$70). I recently toured this impressive laboratory, situated directly on top of the Mississippi River, and it was spectacular. They are about to undergo a major renovation, so it may be the last time to see this facility in its “original” 70-year-old state.

- **424. Subterranean Twin Cities**. (Tuesday, Oct. 11, US$62). Part of me did not want to highlight this trip as it will coincide with our GSIS programming...however, this bus tour, lead by the author of the popular book of the same name, will explore urban geologic environments such as caves and man-made tunnels. If you do sneak away, please tell me how it was!

- **427. Springs and Waterfalls of the Twin Cities**. (Wednesday, Oct. 12, US$62). A tour of the city via the various waterfalls and water ways, including the beautiful and iconic Minnehaha Falls...what's not to like!

Next, not to be outdone by some excellent GSA field trips, our Wednesday GSIS field trip will visit one of the historic, and partially underground, landmarks in the Twin Cities: the Mill City Museum (http://www.millcitymuseum.org). Located on the historic Mississippi Riverfront in downtown Minneapolis, the museum is built into the ruins of what was once the world’s largest flour mill. Our group visit, reserved for 1:30-4:30, will include an hour-long guided walking tour of the museum and historic Washburn A Mill and access to all the museum's exhibits. The tour will be $10 per person and I will be sending out more information and asking for RSVPs on Geonet. After the tour, and free to anyone, I encourage you to walk across the Stone Arch Bridge and view the ruins from the river...a “must see” view of Minneapolis.

Finally, I suspect that a few of you may just want to skip the historic and scientific spots and head straight to do some shopping and people watching at the Mall of America. I'm happy to help arrange a group to take the light-rail from downtown (also connects to the airport) out to the final stop: the Mall O'. More details to follow, and I look forward to seeing you all in the Twin Cities this fall!

**CALL FOR PAPERS (and POSTERS)**

Abstract Submission Deadline is July 26

It’s time to get serious about submitting an abstract for an oral or poster session at this year’s GSA/GSIS Annual Meeting, which will be held October 9–12 in Minneapolis. There are two technical sessions to choose from – our usual oral session by the Geoscience Information Society (GSIS) –and another joint oral session with the GSA Geoinformatics Division. Also, we will have a GSIS poster session, as in the past.

**Here are the session titles:**

**T191. GSIS Oral Technical Session:**

“Printed Past, Digital Future: the Key to..."
Geoscience Information is in your Library.” Geoscience information professionals provide access to numerous print and electronic resources that need to be maintained, organized, preserved, and made discoverable to geoscience researchers. This session will address the associated issues, challenges, and solutions.

T186. Geoinformatics/GSIS Oral Technical Session: “Registration and Discovery of Geoscience Information Resources: Metadata, search, and catalogs.” The proliferation of online data increases the need for more effective methods to register and discover resources on the Web. This session will include papers on the description and discovery of geoscience information resources.

T190. GSIS Poster Session: “Geoscience Information: Preserving access to the past is key to future discoveries.” Librarians and information professionals provide researchers with numerous print and electronic resources, including older literature. This session will discuss the issues associated with the organization, preservation, and discoverability of geoscientific literature, from new to old.


The deadline for online submission of abstracts is Tuesday, July 26. Mark this date on your calendar!

If you have any questions, please contact Technical Session Convener Rusty Kimball at: rkimball@tamu.edu.

MID-YEAR COMMITTEE REPORTS

Guidebooks Committee
Current members of the Guidebooks Committee are: Jody Foote, Lura Joseph (committee chair), Linda Musser, Erin Palmer (award subcommittee chair), Thelma Thompson, and Louise Zipp. Erin Palmer, Linda Musser, and Jody Foote are working on the Best Guidebook Award selection, and they are now in the evaluation stage.

Louise Zipp and Thelma Thompson are contacting field trip leaders in several geographic areas in order to distribute the “Guidelines for Authors, Editors, and Publishers of Geologic Field Trip Guidebooks” (AKA “Guidebook Standards” or “Guidebook Guidelines”). Louise has these comments:

“My task is to discover field trips being planned for an area covering Ohio to Nebraska and north to the border and from Manitoba to Alberta and Nunavut. I contact the field trip leaders and recommend that they use the Guidebook Guidelines as they prepare their guidebooks. This is my second year covering this area. So far I have sent 24 e-mails (one bounced). I have received three very nice responses. In my internet travels, I have discovered recent guidebooks available for sale or in pdf. I have sent about 5 titles to the Waiting List (for indexing) and have sent about 5-6 messages to Erin Palmer to provide information for her Newsletter column.”

Louise also notes, “overall, more organizations are having field trips this year, but there remain some organizations whose websites are completely obsolete or lack notice of activities and newsletters. I have had to contact society officers to place my name on mailing lists for field trip information and newsletters. This reinforces my observation from last year that
organization websites are no longer serving as the primary medium for communication. Non-members are unable to find out what these organizations are doing. Field trips, and thus, guidebooks, are even harder to discover and acquire. Is anyone tracking these changes in communication patterns?"

Thelma has been covering Pennsylvania to New Jersey and north to the U.S. border, then in Canada everything from the Maritimes west through Ontario, but not Nunavut. She has checked about 40 websites, but found that information is not yet posted for many trips happening this summer/fall. She has sent about 10 e-mails to leaders so far.

Lura has recently created a set of web pages about the Guidebooks Committee and geologic field trip guidebooks: https://netfiles.uiuc.edu/luraj/GSIS/Guidebooks/GuidebooksPortal.html. These are in the beta stage, so please send Lura comments and suggestions (luraj@illinois.edu).

The committee has been discussing whether there is a need to revise the Guidebook Guidelines. Some suggested topics to consider are: digital format, especially with regard to a permanent URL; copyright issues (do we want to encourage copyright holders to explicitly allow full copying for the preservation of a paper copy in a library or full copying for educational use?); and also, should we include more about new ways to replicate field trips (GPS, river miles, etc.)? If you have any comments relative to revising the standards, e-mail Lura.

We could use more people to contact field trip leaders to distribute the Guidelines; there are geographic areas and societies that are not being covered. Very few people are sending us titles of new guidebooks that they have added to their collections. Please send that information to Lura Joseph. There is an online form that you can use, if you prefer that way of sending the information: http://www.library.illinois.edu/gex/gis/GuidebkForm.html. The Waiting List (for indexing) is located at: http://www.library.illinois.edu/gex/gis/GuidebookWL.html.

Lura Joseph, Chair

**Nominating Committee**
The 2011 GSIS Nominating Committee announced nominations for two offices, Vice-President/President Elect and Treasurer in the April GSIS Newsletter. Members interested in either position are also encouraged to apply. To date, we have received no nominations or inquiries. We plan to make additional announcements in the Newsletter and on Geonet.

The committee hopes to conduct an electronic election this year. Options are currently being assessed.

Jan Heagy, Chair

**Archives Committee**
There have been no new activities since the year-end report. The GSIS archives holdings can be viewed at http://www.library.uiuc.edu/archives/ (search on “geoscience”). As a reminder, members are invited to submit library histories, biographies, vitae, photographs from GSIS meetings and field trips, or other manuscripts that document the history of GSIS or its members. Documents can be mailed to: Anne Huber, Prairie Research Institute, Illinois State Geological Survey, 615 E. Peabody Dr., Champaign, IL 61820.

Respectively submitted,
Anne Huber
CARNEGIE ACQUIRES A.L. DAY PAPERS
by Shaun Hardy

Two significant manuscript collections of noted geophysicist Arthur L. Day (1869-1960) have been acquired by the library of the Carnegie Institution’s Geophysical Laboratory.

Day was the first Director of the Carnegie’s Laboratory and one of the leading American scientists of his generation. His research spanned high-temperature and high-pressure geophysics, physical chemistry, volcanology, and seismology. He also distinguished himself in industrial research and development, overseeing the modernization of America’s optical glass industry during World War I. Day helped organize large-scale cooperative studies of earthquakes in southern California during the ‘20s and ‘30s, including the establishment of the Seismological Laboratory at Caltech. His book, *Hot Springs of the Yellowstone National Park*, coauthored with E. T. Allen in 1935, remains a classic.

Day served as President of the Geological Society of America and in 1948 GSA established the Arthur L. Day Medal in his honor. The award is presented for outstanding distinction in contributing to geologic knowledge through the application of physics and chemistry.

For decades it was presumed that Day’s personal papers were either lost or destroyed. Then, just last year, two private collections surfaced unexpectedly. The first consists of 450 letters Day wrote to his parents between 1889 and 1898 during his association with Yale University and the Imperial Physical-Technical Institute in Germany. The second, spanning 1900-1920, includes correspondence, technical reports, and research files connected with the Carnegie Institution and Corning Glass. Taken together, they illuminate the breadth of Day’s career and research interests.

The Day Collection has not yet been processed, but interested scholars may apply for access by contacting the Geophysical Laboratory Library and Archives at library@dtm.ciw.edu or by visiting http://www.library.gl.ciw.edu.

MEMBER NEWS

USGS Libraries
Submitted by Richard Huffine

Robert Bier retired from the U.S. Geological Survey in February 2011 after almost 40 years of service. Bier was the quintessential Map Librarian and had managed collections for the USGS in both Reston, Virginia and Denver, Colorado. His last role was Chief of the Public Services Division of the Clarence King Memorial Library in Reston, Virginia.

The U.S. Geological Survey has hired a new librarian for the position of Chief of the Public Services Division in Reston. Lisa Adamo joined the Survey in March, 2011. Adamo is a licensed geologist with her Master’s Degree in Library and Information Science.

AGU’S Meeting of Librarians

In May, GSIS members Amanda Bielskas, Shaun Hardy, Lisa Johnston, and Michael Noga participated in a “Meeting of Librarians” hosted by the American Geophysical Union's publications division in San Diego. The meeting provided an opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with key AGU staff about their products and...
services, as well as the future of scholarly communication.

GEONET E-MAIL LIST MOVES TO PRINCETON

With the retirement of Carolyn Laffoon, Louise Deis has volunteered to take on the role of moderator of the Geonet e-mail list. The new address for posting to Geonet is Geonet@princeton.edu.

All 377 members of the list have been subscribed to the new Geonet. New subscribers may join the list at https://lists.princeton.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A0=Geonet; members may also use this link to change their subscription options.

Geonet Archives from May 17, 2011 forward are on the Princeton site. You will need to register your e-mail address, select a password, and then login before you can view these archives. Archives of postings before May 17, 2011 remain on the Purdue server at https://lists.purdue.edu/pipermail/geonet/.

IT’S NOT TOO LATE!

The GSIS Nominations Committee invites you to submit candidate suggestions for Vice-President/President Elect and Treasurer.

If you have a candidate suggestion, an interest in serving as an officer yourself, or would like details about the positions, please contact:

Jan Heagy
Chair, Nominations Committee
jan.b.heagy@exxonmobil.com

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Marie Funseth
Newmont Mining Corporation, Denver

Monica Pereira
University of Georgia Libraries, Athens

FIELD TRIP GUIDEBOOKS

As a means of highlighting new or newly discovered guidebooks of interest to geosciences librarians, the GSIS Guidebook Committee inaugurates this column. Please submit items along with information on how to obtain copies to Erin Palmer, Northwest Territories Geoscience Office, erin_palmer@gov.nt.ca.

Titles Submitted by Louise Zipp

The Rocky Mountain Association of Geologists

RMAG has a new guidebook coming out in June 2011 titled, Revisiting and Revitalizing the Niobrara in the Central Rockies. Edited by Jane Estes-Jackson and Donna Anderson, it is a compilation of new and old material on the Niobrara Formation and includes a comprehensive bibliography. This publication should be available in the RMAG Store http://www.rmag.org/i4a/ams/amsstore/category.cfm?category_id=1 soon.

The Michigan Basin Geological Society

A list of pre-1999 guidebooks that are either available through print-on-demand or in their Historical CD series, as well as Special Papers and Manuals still in print, may be

GSIS Newsletter No. 249, June 2011 page 7
REDESIGNED WEBSITE LAUNCHES

The GSIS website has been given a facelift. With the help of Indiana University Library Science student Samantha Endres, a new layout utilizing CSS (Cascading Style Sheets) has been implemented. CSS facilitates a consistent look and navigation scheme, and supports across-the-board implementation of changes by editing a single “style-sheet.”

Some content has not yet been added to the new site and the layout will be tweaked as issues arise. Please contact the Webmaster by e-mailing janet.dombrowski@gmail.com with concerns and issues. I am also soliciting input for the Geoscience Resources section and intend to add links to specific, high-quality free web sources.

The GSIS Board hopes to move the website into a content management system (CMS) so that authorized members may easily update content.

Visit the new website at http://www.geoinfo.org/ and take a look for yourself.

Wisconsin Section of AIPG


(continued on next page)
**Titles Submitted by Linda Musser**

**Oklahoma Geological Survey**


**New Mexico Geological Society**

James E. Fassett, Kate E. Zeigler, and Virgil Lueth (editors). *Geology of the Four Corners Country.* Socorro, NM: New Mexico Geological Society, Guidebook 61, 2010. This guidebook is from the 2010 NMGS Fall Field Conference. There is a complete version of the guidebook as well as a version with just the road logs. A table of contents with abstracts is available online, however; papers are only available in print. Ordering information is on the website: [http://nmgs.nmt.edu/publications/guidebooks/61/](http://nmgs.nmt.edu/publications/guidebooks/61/).

**Utah Geological Association**


**The Field Conference of Pennsylvania Geologists**


**Geological Society of Connecticut**


**Wyoming Geological Association**


**South Coast Geological Society**

**New York State Geological Association**


**San Diego Association of Geologists**


This book covers geology of the northern Anza-Borrego desert region, including the 2010 joint field trip for SCGS and SDAG. It is useful for anyone interested in geology, mines, history, groundwater, geologic structure, or Holocene and older faulting. Local geologists contribute both newly published and classic papers on the region covering everything from Fonts Point to Yaqui Pass, Banner Grade, the Salton Sea, the “Sky Art” metal sculptures of Borrego Valley and more! See the SCGS Newsletter for an order form: [http://www.southcoastgeo.org/newsletter.pdf](http://www.southcoastgeo.org/newsletter.pdf).

**Lunar and Planetary Institute**

David A. Kring. *Guidebook to the Geology of Barringer Meteorite Crater, Arizona (a.k.a. Meteor Crater)*. Houston, TX: Lunar and Planetary Institute, LPI Contribution No. 1355, 2007. This volume was prepared for the 70th Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society held in August 2007. Individual chapters, as well as the complete volume, are freely available for download at [http://www.lpi.usra.edu/publications/books/barringer_crater_guidebook/](http://www.lpi.usra.edu/publications/books/barringer_crater_guidebook/).

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**The August 2011 Newsletter Deadline is Friday, August 12.**

Please e-mail your submissions to

janet.dombrowski@gmail.com

*Content may be sent at any time.*
**Geoscience Information Society. Proceedings.** ISSN 0072-1409. Each volume has also a distinctive title and ISBN. $45.00 each; standing orders are $45.00/year. Backlist in stock:


Volumes prior to 1995 are out-of-print. A complete list of the titles can be found here: [http://www.geoinfo.org/proceedings.html](http://www.geoinfo.org/proceedings.html). GSIS Proceedings are indexed and searchable in GEOREF.
Proceedings of the International Geoscience Information Conferences


Also still available:


**Geoscience Information Society. GSIS Newsletter. ISSN 0046-5801**

Digital format; published bi-monthly; calendar year subscriptions only. $40.00. (Paper subscription prices: $40.00 USA & Canada, $45.00 International). Back issues are available, please contact the Publications Manager for availability of specific issues. Non-member access to digital archives: [http://www.geoinfo.org/newsletter.html](http://www.geoinfo.org/newsletter.html).

**Ordering GSIS Publications**

- All orders (except standing orders for Proceedings) must be prepaid in U.S. dollars drawn on a U.S. bank.
- Checks must be made payable to: Geoscience Information Society or GSIS.
- Prices include Library Rate (uninsured) or International Surface Mail (uninsured).
- For First Class handling, please add $5.00 to your prepayment for each title ordered.

E-mail orders to the Publications Manager ([clement@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:clement@fas.harvard.edu)) or mail orders to either of the following addresses:

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