From the President

First, some committee changes:

-- Henry Zoller has replaced Carol Messick on the GeoRef Users Group Steering Committee
-- Carol Messick has replaced Barbara Chappel on the Ad Hoc Committee on the Union List of Geologic Field Trip Guidebooks, 6th ed.
-- The Anniversary Committee is just forming, with members Jean Eaglesfield (chair) and Dedy Ward.

An Executive Board Conference Call was held to handle any GIS business that may have needed attention on February 8, 1989. The Board chose that the Society be kept informed of the international meeting of the Congress of Cartographic Information rather than being directly involved on the planning committee. Connie Hanson will participate in the networking endeavors with this group. Mary Ansari's planning for the annual meeting is progressing nicely—we will be kept very busy. Budget call for all officers and committee chairs. The AGI meeting of Member Society presidents was discussed. Concern was expressed by members of the GIS Executive Board as to the money that may be needed to drive the projects they are currently discussing. As there is a precedent for stripping GeoRef of funds, we wish to carefully monitor the situation. GIS liaison responsibilities are still essentially on a volunteer basis. GIS will supply Newsletters for such groups on request. A.R. Berger has contacted GIS regarding the 4th International Conference on Geological Information. GIS has agreed to be an official sponsor. The first brochure will go out in March. (An aside—I have seen the first draft of the brochure. Mr. Berger gets things done!)

I have also enclosed a news release from AGI. I trust Connie will find some space to put it in the Newsletter.* I urge you to read it carefully as reports indicate an ambitious project may be forthcoming. I will keep you informed.

AGI has also asked each Member Society for a list of their members so that they may create a Master List. AGI's uses of the list will be restricted to AGI/Member Society business. Announcements of meetings, new publications and services, for example, would be considered legitimate and mutually beneficial uses. In no case will the list be made available to any commercial concerns, and AGI will make every effort to maintain its confidentiality.

* Editor's note: see Announcements section.
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**Publication Officers**

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The GIS Newsletter is published bi-monthly in February, April, June, August, October, and December by the Geoscience Information Society. Subscription to the Newsletter is $30 per year and is included in the Society's annual membership dues. All correspondence regarding dues, membership status, and address changes should be directed to the GIS Secretary.

GIS members are encouraged to contribute materials for publication. Research articles and technical reports should be submitted to the Editorial Board for review and possible publication. Information reports, officer and committee reports, publication notices, job announcements, and other news items should be submitted to the News Gathering Editor.

Material for the June, 1989 issue of the GIS Newsletter should be received by the editors no later than May 20, 1989. If possible please send materials on IBM-compatible disc (Wordstar or ASCII format).
FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT

The deadline for submitting your abstract to GSA is over a month later this year, which gives you even more time to come up with an intriguing idea. Abstracts are due to GSA Headquarters no later than July 19.

I would like to throw out an idea for a poster session. A number of you (Bier, Kidd, Newman, Spohn, and Wick that I know of) have been involved in planning new or renovated library facilities. This is the kind of presentation that lends itself so well to a poster session. I'm sure you have lots of other ideas for submittals.

Paper and poster session abstracts are submitted on the same form. You are to indicate on the form whether your abstract is to be considered for an oral presentation, a poster session, or both. As we will be able to select only a percentage of abstracts submitted, we need to have lots of abstracts to choose from to ensure interesting technical and poster sessions. Abstract forms are available from Mary Ansari, Director's Office, The University Library, University of Nevada, Reno, NV 89557-0044; 702/784-6533, or from GSA Abstracts Coordinator, The Geological Society of America, P. O. Box 9140, Boulder, CO 80301; 303/447-8850. DON'T FORGET TO SEND IN THOSE ABSTRACTS.

In 1989, GSA will be looking to the future with its conference theme of "Frontiers in Geosciences." It seems appropriate that GIS take this opportunity to look to the future in geoscience information with an invited symposium entitled "Frontiers in Geoscience Information." The emphasis of the symposium will be on state-of-the-art information technology and anticipated developments in information management, retrieval and dissemination over the coming decade. I feel that our symposium will have broad appeal to geologists as well as to information specialists.

GIS 1989 annual meeting symposium: "Frontiers in Geoscience Information." Speakers and abstracts:

1. Jim O'Donnell, California Institute of Technology, and Charlotte Derksen, Stanford University, will give the lead paper on CD-ROM products for the earth sciences.

2. Jerry McFaul, U.S. Geological Survey-Reston, will give a presentation on government publishing in electronic formats and how it will impact the geoscience literature.

3. Julie Bichteler, University of Texas at Austin, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, will give a paper on geoscience libraries of the future. Julie will define the future as the 1990s.

4. Larry Carver, University of California-Santa Barbara, Map and Imagery Laboratory, will talk about RLG's geoinformation project and its potential impact on geoscience libraries.

5. Donald Light, U.S. Geological Survey-Reston, will give a presentation on mapping technologies and formats for the 1990s and the 21st century and how they will impact geoscience libraries.

6. Gordon "Pete" Banholzer, Geogia Institute of Technology, will present a paper on present and future access to geoscience information in the online catalog.

7. Richard Walker, University of Wisconsin-Madison, School of Library and Information Studies, will address the past, present, and future role of the archival journal.

8. Barbara DeFelice, Dartmouth College, will speak on cooperative collection development and preservation projects. She will propose some solutions to the problems of developing and maintaining geoscience research collections in the 1990s.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

[pres release:]
AGI MEMBER-SOCIETY PRESIDENTS MEET, DISCUSS STRATEGY FOR UNITY AND STRENGTH

Alexandria, Va.--"The timing is right," Marvin E. Kauffman, executive director of the American Geological Institute, said in introductory remarks at a meeting, Feb. 2-3, of presidents and executive directors of AGI's member societies. Kauffman was referring to the immediate need for cohesion and cooperative action among geoscientists. The goal of the presidents' meeting, the first in nearly 20 years, was to open discussions and begin planning ways to strengthen and unify geoscientists.

After opening comments by Kauffman and AGI's president, Henry O. A. Meyer, Howard R. Gould, an AGI past president, presented a draft of objectives and goals for AGI through the 1990s. "AGI has never been as effective as it could be. The first and most important goal is to increase support of member societies." Gould's remarks set the tone for the remainder of the meeting.

The group heard Robert Krauss, of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, describe how his umbrella organization helps biologists work together more effectively.
"Unified you can do so much better," Krauss said. He urged geologists to "Stick together and get the best of all possible worlds." H. Michael Bowen, of the American Chemical Society, described his organization's efforts on behalf of chemists. The group also heard about programs and activities at AGI headquarters from staff directors and toured the office in small groups.

The meeting resumed Feb. 3 with invited statements from three presidents of AGI member societies: Christopher C. Mathewson, Association of Engineering Geologists; Randolph W. Bromery, Geological Society of America; and Norman Foster, American Association of Petroleum Geologists. They gave their views on what needs to be done to strengthen the geoscience community.

It was agreed that unity through communication, which became the theme of the meeting, is the only way AGI can effectively fulfill its mission of providing information services to professional geoscientists and increasing public awareness of the vital role geoscience plays in human interaction with the environment. The group recognized that the Institute will need the full support of its member societies, including financial support, to move forward into the 1990's with effective programs to benefit the societies as well as the geoscience profession. Participants expressed enthusiasm for AGI's initiative in organizing and sponsoring the meeting and urged the Institute to hold such meetings regularly, as often as twice a year.

The American Geological Institute is a non-profit federal of 19 member organizations representing geologists, geophysicists, and other earth scientists.

**PARTICIPANTS**

Frank W. Harrison, Jr., Vice President, American Geological Institute
Robert L. Heller, Chairman, AGI Foundation Board of Trustees
M. Frank Ireton, President, National Earth Science Teachers Association
Marvin E. Kauffman, Executive Director, American Geological Institute
Robert Krauss, Executive Director, Federal of American Societies for Experimental Biology
Harry A. Leffingwell, President, American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists
Christopher C. Mathewson, President, Association of Engineering Geologists
Henry O. A. Meyer, President, American Geological Institute
Susan Myers, Executive Secretary, Mineralogical Society of America
Elisabeth G. Newton, American Institute of Professional Geologists
John Pojeta, Jr., President, Paleontological Society
Edward C. Roy, Secretary, American Geological Institute
Marilyn J. Suiter, President, Association for Women Geoscientists
Robert M. Valentine, Treasurer, American Geological Institute
F. Michael Wahl, Executive Director, Geological Society of America
Kenneth N. Weaver, Member at Large, American Geological Institute

**EARTH SCIENCE EDUCATION MEETING**

Representatives of 23 organizations concerned with pre-college earth-science education met Jan. 8, 1989 at a conference organized by American Geological Institute (AGI).

The conference theme was the urgency of unifying efforts and coordinating activities in precollege earth-science education. The participants discussed the most pressing current issues in earth-science education, and identified problems, set objectives, and made recommendations.

"We at AGI accept the challenge of leadership in earth-science education," said Marvin E. Kauffman, AGI's executive director. AGI also plans to produce a newsletter for key geoscientists, teachers, and administrators interested in improving earth-science education.

For additional information, contact Andrew J. Verdon, Jr., AGI's Director of Education.
COOPERATION AMONG CARTOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SPECIALIST ASSOCIATIONS

At the Congress of Cartographic Information Specialist Associations meeting, held in Chicago Nov. 9-10, 1988 (summarized by Jean Eaglesfield in the Dec. 1988 GIS Newsletter), Alberta Auginger Wood gave a paper on "Cooperation among cartographic information specialist associations."

Alberta Wood has recently distributed an expanded version of that paper which includes GIS in the analysis of 1987 membership lists. (Copies of the full 23 p. paper are available from Jean Eaglesfield.) Below is one of the interesting tables from that paper:

Other tables show combinations of professional memberships

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ELSEVIER STRIKES AGAIN

Ugly memories of *Isotope Geoscience* come to mind when I see Elsevier’s new journal, *Global and Planetary Change*, a "daughter journal of Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, and Palaeoecology."

Why don’t we pool information about this title immediately so we are not all calling Elsevier?
1. Will those libraries that have subscriptions to Palaeo3 be billed an additional amount for *Global and Planetary Change*?
2. How will geology libraries house this new title? Will it be bound with the Palaeo3 set or shelved under its unique title?
3. Have any libraries written to Elsevier and (or) the Editors with these questions and what were the answers?

Jean Eaglesfield

4TH ANNUAL GIS BEST PAPER AWARD

The GIS Best Paper Award Committee is soliciting nominations from the membership for the best paper published in 1988 in the field of geoscience information. Authors need not be GIS members, and there are no restrictions on publisher or nationality. Both single-author and multi-author works are eligible.

Please send nominations with your comments by May 1, 1989, to:

Amanda R. Masterson
Chair, GIS Best Paper Award Committee
Bureau of Economic Geology
The University of Texas at Austin
Box X, University Station
Austin, TX 78713

GIS Newsletter, Number 117, April, 1989
INFORMATION EXCHANGE FORUM

Lois Heiser, Indiana University-Bloomington, received this letter from Mike Collins, Manager, Elsevier, Norwich, England:

"We are publishers of important abstract journals covering the international literature in earth sciences, geography, ecology and international developments.

Geo Abstracts publishes approx. 50,000 abstracts per year. These are subscribed to by academic, governmental and industrial bodies; thus recently published material is brought to the attention of academics, researchers, students, and specialists worldwide.

Our material is now available in our database, GEOBASE, on DIALOG file 292.

To further aid the dissemination of information to the research community, we wish to publish the abstracts of PhD/Masters dissertations in Geological Abstracts. To achieve this aim, we will need the cooperation of yourself, your department and the authors. We should be grateful if you could arrange for a photocopy of the abstract and title of each PhD/Masters thesis that has been accepted from your department during 1988 and thereafter to be sent to Geo Abstracts.

Please can you write on the photocopy the year that the Ph.D./Masters was accepted and the number of pages each Ph.D./Masters contains.

I am writing to all earth science departments in the United States and Canada. I have had very favourable responses from geology departments in Canada, UK, and Ireland."

BACKGROUND: A brief history of GEOBASE

GEOBASE was started in 1980 by the British publisher of the Geo Abstracts series in an attempt to meet the European needs for an online database in the field rather than using GeoRef. GEOBASE includes only literature published from 1980 to date. The public pricing of the database is the same as GeoRef ($67/hour plus 30/40 cents per citation). (GeoRef also has a 50% discount for academic subscribers to the Bib & Index—the print form of the GeoRef data base.)

THE CURRENT SITUATION

GeoRef contracts with University Microfilms International (UMI) to obtain information on current PhDs. Therefore, they only request new Masters abstracts from the universities.

For the larger universities with active Geology and/or Geophysics Departments it takes a lot of staff time and photocopying costs to provide just these Masters abstracts to GeoRef.

GIS MEMBER COMMENTS

-- The Geoscience Information Society should always support efforts to collect and disseminate geoscience information and always encourage cooperation between both professionals and organizations. [See Article II, the statement of purpose, in the GIS Constitution.]

-- We all recognize the value and elusiveness of theses. The worldwide geologic community would certainly benefit by increased access to North American Masters and PhD theses.

-- The full text of PhD abstracts is now available both on-line and in print via UMI's Dissertation Abstracts. Wouldn't the availability of the full text of Masters abstracts be a significant contribution?

-- However, since information on both Masters and PhD theses is already in GeoRef, wouldn't this be a duplication of effort? The universities would have to double their costs for processing and photoduplication—not to mention the overseas postage. And does Elsevier really want to pay for all that keystroking and proofing? Is such duplication necessary?

-- Rather than all this duplication, would it be more reasonable for Elsevier to contract with GeoRef for information on new theses? GeoRef requests the Masters abstracts (they use them to help determine index terms); could GeoRef send these on to Elsevier so that the full text could be included in GEOBASE?

This looks to be a lively debate.

Send your ideas and comments to the GIS Newsletter, and/or to Mike Collins at Elsevier

Mike Collins
Elsevier/Geo Abstracts
Regency House
Duke Street 34
Norwich NR3 3AP
England

FROM THE EDITOR

CORRECTION: A phrase was inadvertently left out of Trombore's review of the DNAG Centennial Field Guide GIS Newsletter, no. 116, p. 61. The section should have read:

In these field guide one should not expect to find cutting edge research, stimulating speculations, or smooth solutions to enduring problems, but rather a gathering of the life's work of many recognized experts.

We regret the error.

GIS Newsletter, Number 117, April, 1989
Authors of field trip guidebooks make a significant contribution to the geoscience literature. Their guidebooks are often the most current only synopsis of an area's geology and thus are recommended to colleagues and students by a field trip's participants. Recipients of such recommendations usually are told no more than the meeting with which the field trip was associated and the area explored. Geoscience Librarians have found that guidebooks, when they can be obtained, often lack that information, and consequently may be very difficult to identify and make available.

These concerns led the Geoscience Information Society to begin compilation of its UNION LIST OF GEOLOGIC FIELD TRIP GUIDEBOOKS OF NORTH AMERICA, soon to be in its fifth edition. Continued problems of identification have prompted the GIS to formulate guidelines for the guidebook author and publisher, who will contribute significantly to the identification and control of the guidebook literature by applying the following recommendations to any published guidebook.

The TITLE PAGE should include:

-- Specific geographic area as part of a descriptive title (e.g., county, state or province.)
-- Clearly indicated subtitle.
-- Name and place of meeting when the field trip is held in conjunction with a meeting. If it is a regular annual meeting, with several field trips, specify the number of the annual meeting and the number of the field trip.
-- Date(s) of the field trip, or the date of publication if guidebook is not compiled for a specific field trip.
-- Name of the organization(s) sponsoring the field trip.
-- Name and number of publication series, consistently phrased from year to year, when applicable.
-- Name of field trip leader.
-- A title which is identical to the title on the cover.
-- If a reprint, the publication series, guidebook number, and year of publication of the original.

The VERSO of the title page should include:

-- Name and address of the publisher and of the distributor.
-- Price of the publication.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS:

Publication:
-- Use good quality paper, printing, and binding (preferrably, not spiral binding.)
-- Number the pages consecutively.
-- Identify all illustrations.
-- List all unbound illustrative material in a table at the front of the volume, and include a pocket to hold all these pieces in the back of the publication.

Distribution:
-- Print more copies of the guidebook than are needed for the field trip participants. Remember: this is a contribution to the literature of geology. Your potential market may be several hundred geology libraries.
-- Send publication announcements containing all information that appears on the title page and its verso to GEO TIMES and EPISODES.
-- If possible, send announcements to all libraries listed in the UNION LIST OF GEOLOGIC FIELD TRIP GUIDEBOOKS OF NORTH AMERICA and to Geoscience Information Society members.
-- Deposit a copy of the guidebook in your national library, and a copy in the nearest library listed in the UNION LIST.

Prepared by the Ad Hoc Committee on Guidebook Guidelines, 1985; Updated, 1989
PUBLICATIONS

IGC GUIDEBOOKS AND SHORT COURSES

More than 7,500 geoscientists from at least 100 countries will meet in Washington, D.C. this summer at the 28th International Geological Congress (IGC). This is the first time in more than 50 years that this important gathering has been held in the U.S.

The written record of the IGC will consist of field trip guidebooks, short course books, and abstracts. The field trip guidebooks, being published by the American Geophysical Union (AGU), are thorough handbooks to the latest geologic knowledge of distinct geographic regions, mostly in North America. Written for the non-specialist who has a geologic background, these books contain road logs, describe geologic features, provide historical information, and discuss the geologic processes operating in the region. Guidebooks are illustrated with drawings, photos, and geologic maps. Some of the more comprehensive guides include rock formation descriptions, chemical compositions, stratigraphic sections, and cross sections.

The guidebooks vary in length from 4 to 216 pages. All of the approximately 130 field trip guidebooks will be available for sale after June 30, 1989.

The AGU will also publish IGC short course books on: past and future climate; volcanic hazards; modeling groundwater flow; sedimentary basin analysis; hydrothermal systems; paleoenvironment, and many more.

IGC Field Trip Guidebooks Price Schedule

List prices vary from $6 to $35. Discounts are available for AGU/GSA/AAPG members.

Complete set of approximately 130 guidebooks: $1,800. (Orders received at AGU by July 14, 1989: $1,600.)

Complete set in 15 to 20 combined volumes: $1,200. (Orders received at AGU by July 14, 1989: $1,000.)

Individual copies of combined volumes will be available for sale. Information and prices to come.

Note: Special prices for bulk orders for the summer and fall field seasons. Guidebooks ordered from AGU shipping date—summer 1989.

Field trip participants will receive guidebooks directly from IGC as part of the trip fee.

For additional information, contact:

AGU — Orders 2000 Florida Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009
1-800/424-2488 or 202/462-6900
Fax: 202/328-0566

IGC FIELD-TRIP GUIDEBOOKS

Published by AGU

- Alaska & Hawaii -
  Modern Clastic Depositional Systems of South-Central Alaska (T101)
  Quaternary Geology and Permafrost Along the Richardson and Glenn Highways Between Fairbanks and Anchorage, Alaska (T102)
  Alaskan Geophysical and Geophysical Transect (T104)
  Glaciers and Glaciology of Alaska (T301)
  Geological Field Guide to the Hawaiian Islands (T304)

- Western United States -
  Snake River Plain-Yellowstone Volcanic Province (T305)
  Cascade Range (T306)
  Accreted Terranes of the North Cascade Range, Washington (T307)
  Geologic Evolution of the Northernmost Coast Ranges and Western Klamath Mountains, California (T308)
  The San Andreas Transform Belt (T309)
  Glacial Lake Missoula and the Channeled Scablands (T310)
  Oil in the counties of Monterey Formation (T311)
  South Cascades Arc Volcanism. California and Southern Oregon (T312)
  Quaternary Volcanism of Long Valley Caldera and Mono-Inyo Craters, Eastern California (T313)
  Grand Canyon River Trip (T315)
  Structure and Stratigraphy of Trans-Pecos Texas (T317)
  Geology and Geophysics of the Rio Grande Rift and Southern Rocky Mountains (T318)
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NEW GEOREF ONLINE WORKING TRAINING MANUAL
The new GeoRef Online Workshop Training Manual, 3rd edition, is now available from AGI.
The manual is a complete guide for anyone who searches the GeoRef data base—from getting a
password to fine-tuning complex search strategies. This new edition also includes instructions for coding GeoRef on STN International, the Scientific and Technical Information Network.

The manual costs $45 including shipping and handling, and is available from:
Customer Service
American Geological Institute
4220 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22302-1507

To charge on VISA, MasterCard, or American Express, call AGI at 800/336-4764.

INDEX TO GEOLOGICAL MAPS OF OREGON
The Index to geological maps of Oregon by USGS topographic quadrangle name, 1883-1987, by Peter Stark and Susan Trevitt-Clark of the University of Oregon Map Library, has been completed. The index is being published in sections in the WAML Bulletin. For more information, contact the authors at 503/686-3051.

WACEL DRILLERS GUIDE
The Washington Area Council of Engineering Laboratories (WACEL) has announced the second printing of the WACEL Driller's Guide, the group's handbook on subsurface drilling. Copies may be ordered directly from WACEL at 8811 Colesville Road, Suite G106, Silver Spring, MD 20910. The cost is $25 per copy.

AFSE DIRECTORY
The 1989/1990 Directory of the AFSE/The Association of Engineering Firms Practicing in the Geosciences has been published. It identifies the headquarters of some 300 geotechnical, geoenvironmental, geohydrological, geochemical, and other "ground engineering" firms, along with 650 of their branch offices. Each entry contains the name of a firm, its branch or headquarters status, address, telephone, and principal in charge. The AFSE Membership Directory is available free of charge when picked up at the AFSE office. Otherwise it is available for $1 per copy, to cover postage and handling, from AFSE, 8811 Colesville Road, Suite G106, Silver Spring, MD 20910.
MEETINGS

GEOREF TRAINING WORKSHOPS

GeoRef will hold two training workshops in May: May 9 at the DIALOG office, Houston, Texas, and May 11 at the Bibliographical Center for Research, Denver, Colorado. The workshops will cover searching on STN, ORBIT, and DIALOG. Registration Fee: $65 for either Beginners' or Advanced users' half-day session, or $110 for both sessions. Discount to academic registrants is $45 for each half-day session or $75 for both sessions. To register contact Sandy Holt at AGI.

NACIS ANNUAL MEETING 1989

The North American Cartographic Information Society (NACIS) will hold its 9th annual meeting at the Ann Arbor Inn, Ann Arbor, Michigan, October 11-14, 1989. NACIS is an interdisciplinary organization whose goal is to promote communication, coordination, and cooperation among the producers, disseminators, curators, and users of cartographic information. The NACIS membership includes professionals from government, academic, and private organizations.

The theme of this year's meeting is "New Perspectives," and topics will include:
  -- cartographic activities in Latin America and Canada
  -- cartographic education
  -- cartographic laboratories
  -- mapping of water resources
  -- cartography and the media
  -- cartographic software
  -- geological mapping
  -- geographic information systems
  -- navigation
  -- atlases
  -- map library technology

There will be a mixture of contributed papers, keynote speakers, invited papers, panel discussions, poster displays, exhibits, workshops, and field trips. The deadline for submitting abstracts is May 15, 1989. For program and registration information, contact:

Diana Rivera, NACIS Program Chair
University Libraries
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824-1048
phone: 517/353-4593

1989 TRAINING SCHEDULE FOR PETROLEUM ABSTRACTS

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<td>April 5</td>
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For more information about the workshop content, or for setting up or hosting a training program, contact Pam Weaver at (800) 246-8678 or (918) 631-3605.

TRACE SUBSTANCES IN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The 23rd Annual Conference on Trace Substances in Environmental Health will be held at the Westin Hotel, Cincinnati, Ohio, on May 29-June 1, 1989. This conference is sponsored by The Society for Environmental Geochemistry and Health. Questions regarding the conference should be directed to:

Conference on Trace Substances in Environmental Health
Dr. D. D. Hemphill, Chairman (314/882-2151)
Environmental Trace Substances Research Center
Route #3, UMC
Columbia, Missouri 65203

CALLS FOR PAPERS: ASSOCIATION OF GROUND WATER SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS

The Association of Ground Water Scientists and Engineers (AGWSE), a division of the National Water Well Association, invites abstracts for presentation at the Annual Meeting to be held in Houston, Texas, October 31-November 1, 1989. The title of the educational program is "Tracers in Hydrogeology—Principles, problems, and practical applications". Abstracts are due by June 1, 1989. For further information, contact:

Susan Crites
AGWSE
6375 Riverside Drive
Dublin, Ohio 43017
614/761-1711

The AGWSE is also co-sponsoring the 1989 Focus conference on eastern regional ground water issues, to be held in Kitchener, Ontario, October 17-19, 1989. Ground water professionals are invited to submit abstracts on ground water pollution, management, and related subjects.

NWFA SHORT COURSES

The National Water Well Association offers:
  -- "Environmental site assessments in conjunction with real estate transactions"
  -- "Environmental site assessments"
    July 14, 1989 Dallas
    August 25, 1989 Columbus, Ohio
    Sept. 28, 1989 San Francisco
    Dec. 1, 1989 San Diego
  -- "Legal implications of environmental site assessments"
    Sept. 22, 1989 Salt Lake City

GIS Newsletter, Number 117, April, 1989
JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

DIRECTOR, SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING LIBRARY, SUNY, Buffalo

The Libraries of the State University of New York at Buffalo are seeking applications for the position of Director of the Science and Engineering Library (SEL). The SEL Director will hold a tenure track, library faculty position at the rank of Senior Assistant Librarian or Associate Librarian.

Salary: $45,000 minimum, commensurate with experience and qualifications.

Responsibilities: Responsible for coordinating collection development and management policy, overseeing public services operations, and working with SEL faculty and staff to establish unit goals and objectives. Reports to the Associate Vice President for University Libraries and serves on the Libraries' Management Advisory Group.

The SEL Director will play an important leadership role in the development of the unit and in the overall development of the University Libraries. Viable candidates must be creative, innovative leaders and managers with demonstrated, successful experience in library problem solving.

Requirements: ALA accredited MLS; 5 years' experience in an academic, research or special library required. Public service or collection development background preferred. Two or more years of managerial experience at the level of department head or higher preferred. Advanced degrees in relevant fields highly desirable.

Applicants must also possess a thorough understanding of research library collection development issues, access services, bibliographic instruction, and scientific research methods. They must demonstrate their ability to plan and implement library services and to development efficient, useful outreach to library users. Effective communication skills, experience in writing successful grant applications and in managing grant funded projects, and familiarity with computer and information technology are highly desirable.

Since the SEL Director will hold faculty rank, a candidate's vitae must include a body of relevant research and a plan for future publications. A history of significant professional involvement is also highly desirable.

The SEL Director must be able to conduct both long and short-range planning, be skilled at managing budgets, personnel, systems, and facilities, be skilled at analyzing, evaluating, and setting priorities for action. The Director will be expected to develop and maintain channels of communication with the academic areas served by SEL, to keep current with new areas of reach and academic program priorities, and will be responsible for staff development.

SUNY Buffalo has over 27,000 students. The Libraries have over 2,000,000 volumes housed in 7 major libraries on 3 campuses. They participate in RLG, ARL, OCLC, and CRL; and play an increasingly active role in meeting the information needs of the western New York community. A Geac automated circulation system is presently being used and an on-line integrated system, NOTIS, is being implemented.

The SEL serves the research and instructional needs of faculty and students in: Natural Sciences and Mathematics, Engineering and Applied Sciences, and Pharmacy, and has branches in Chemistry/Mathematics, and Geology. SEL collections include approx. 400,000 volumes, 1.4 million microfiche, and 2,000 current journal subscriptions. It has an acquisitions budget of over $630,000 per year and a staff of 7 professionals, 4 clericals, and many student assistants.

The University at Buffalo is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer.

Interested and qualified individuals should forward letters of application and resumes including the names of at least 3 references to:

Ms. M.E. State
Library Personnel Officer
University Libraries
State University of New York at Buffalo
432 Capen Hall
Buffalo, NY 14260

A representative will be at ALA mid-winter to discuss this position with interested applicants.

GIS Newsletter, Number 117, April, 1989
Four Books on Rock Collecting in Texas—Reviews and Comparisons:

by

Dennis Trombatore

Geology Library, University of Texas at Austin


Most geology libraries are specialist collections, primarily dedicated to professional education, graduate research, or corporate R&D. Nevertheless, there is a powerful interest in geology and earth sciences, here in Texas and elsewhere, from the general public. The school systems, where many geologists (however reluctantly) now teach, are another source of basic interpretive questions.

Our library must field a large number of phone calls and letters from people around the state and beyond, seeking ways to understand and interpret local geologic features and history, land forms, artifacts, and processes. Consequently we have a keen interest in the value of various new publications aimed at the non-specialist audience.

All but one of these 4 books are useful in a variety of ways, the exception being Rock hunting in Texas. Gulf Publishing of Houston has amassed a good track record publishing technically sound books in oil and gas, geology, and petroleum engineering. Perhaps illogically, one would expect them to produce and market a peripheral topical book with greater resourcefulness and more attention to detail than they seem to have paid to Rock hunting in Texas.

First, such guides serve a largely regional market, and Gulf seems to have overlooked the fine regional contributions of established and better materials, which was a big mistake. Gulf does have the advantage of mass marketing, but that brings up the question of the book's quality, which is low on all counts.

The photographs in Rock hunting in Texas are nothing short of pathetic, in spite of the snazzy cover, and they kill the whole concept. Someone with little experience, attempting to identify specimens from these photos, might as well be trying to identify people by looking at pictures of the backs of their heads from 10 paces. I'm tempted to go on and on about the photos, the lack of contrast due to bad paper choice, the total lack of depth of field in most shots, but you get the idea.

The size of the volume (8" x 11") is awkward for the field, as any look at successful field guides would have demonstrated. The choice of regional divisions also is non-standard; for example, "Central Texas" designates the area from Brownsville to Laredo and from Del Rio to east of Victoria.

Other general complaints center on the extremely general nature of the text and the small number of minerals described. As an example, the photograph to accompany the first mention of sandstone is described as a "Desert rose, weathered sandstone" with no other mention anywhere (including the index) of "Desert rose," or of the fact that this is a generic term also applied to crystal clusters of calcite and barite. In the West Texas section, part of the description of selenite includes mention of "rossettes" of selenite, and a murky photo of a "selenite rose," but the whole presentation is muddled, and starting with an object in your hand, it would be nearly impossible to work towards any sort of conclusion based on this text.

Even if we grant that Texas is not brimming with publicly accessible collecting areas, Rock hunting in Texas covers a paucity of collecting localities, many of which are on the side of the road. The only good point of Rock hunting in Texas is the list of state clubs and associations.

The result of such slipshod work is a volume that is confusing, misleading, and destructive to amateur inquiry. This would seem to be the exact opposite of the intention of such a book, and an injustice to those, especially young people, who will attempt to learn by using it.

GIS Newsletter, Number 117, April, 1989
By stark contrast the other 3 texts mentioned are well qualified to serve beginners' needs. The 2 guidebooks from the Texas Bureau of Economic Geology are mentioned here primarily to present alternatives, and to show how easily good work can be done at a better price. While both of these texts are dated more than 25 years old, they demonstrate some crucial points about guides for beginners and amateurs.

Both texts are small format, have sufficient detail carefully intermingled with generalized statements to encourage re-reading, and they consistently point to the existence of more information. They have better than adequate illustrations, are inexpensive, and make use of a variety of illustrative materials, including charts, drawings, and maps. If all this could be accomplished by a state agency 25 years ago, what should a major publisher be capable of producing today? Consider that you can purchase BOTH Texas fossils AND Texas rocks and minerals and have almost enough change left over to buy Gem trails of Texas for the cost of Rock hunting in Texas.

I found the revised Gem trails of Texas, which is a brand new edition of an old classic by Bessie Simpson, while I was starting this review. Many years ago, Bessie Simpson and her husband, working out of a post-office box in Glen Rose, Texas, published a series of pamphlets for "rock-hounds." This series, titled Gem trails, covered Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah. The guides were written and produced in a style that exemplified the down-home, rural values of the dedicated hobbyist subculture, and indeed the new edition strikes a similar chord.

Mrs. Simpson was careful to remind people to be cautious and courteous, to look for landmarks ("the white house 3 miles on the left"), and to remember to ask permission and close gates. These wonderful little guides were unavailable for some years following Mrs. Simpson's death, and only recently have they reappeared under the editing of James R. Mitchell. I'm happy to report that they are as easy-going and unpretentious as ever. The only real nod to the realities of our times are an increased effort to place legal distance between the publisher and the users of the guides through ever more stern warnings in the introduction about land access and collecting rights.

Gem trails of Texas makes no effort whatsoever to explain the how and why of geology; it is strictly a guide for hobbyists. Nevertheless, it accomplishes what it sets out to do, clearly, matter-of-factly, and at a reasonable cost. It has grace and style and is a revealing glimpse of an authentic Southwest type—the rock-hound. With Gem trails in one hand, and one or both of the Texas Bureau of Economic Geology's Guidebooks in the other, many an informative geologic outing can be enjoyed by amateurs and beginners. Leave Rock hunting in Texas on the shelf.

[Special thanks to Jeff and Mary Crabaugh for their consultation.]

VALUE OF EARLY GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

by Barbara Haner

University of California, Riverside

The time has arrived when those early geological and geographical surveys which used to be around everywhere are no longer there. The platers, collectors of old maps and plates, have discovered them. Suddenly, they are much sought after items. As we recently discovered at Riverside, it is a good idea to put the King and Hayden Surveys under tight security as they might otherwise develop legs, clamber down from your shelves, and mysteriously walk through your security system. All accomplished with the help of sticky fingers. If you receive any old survey publications as gifts, do a little research to insure that they receive the most productive utilization before sending them to the gift department, or perhaps do some of your own promotion. You might be amazed how much they are worth, and they could create some money for that new project.

The value list below was generated from a study of Catalog 78. Old, New and Rare Books on the American West published by Jack D. Rittenhouse of Albuquerque. I will keep you all posted of new values as I see them, and let me know if you find this useful. Please note, these values are meant to serve as a guide as they will reflect the condition of the item being sold.

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<th>$ Value</th>
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<tr>
<td>150.00</td>
<td>Barney, Joshua...</td>
<td>REPORT OF THE SURVEY...OF A ROUTE FROM ST. LOUIS TO THE BIG BEND OF THE RED RIVER. Wash. 1852. 32nd Cong. 1st sess., Ex. Doc 49.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hayden, Ferdinand V. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL AND GEOGRAPHIC SURVEY OF THE TERRITORIES, Embracing Colorado and Parts of Adjacent Territories... Wash. 1876. (9th Annual Report)

Hayden, Ferdinand V. TENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL AND GEOGRAPHIC SURVEY OF THE TERRITORIES, Embracing Colorado and Parts of Adjacent Territories... Wash. 1878.

