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## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Since returning from St. Louis I have touched bases with many of you concerning committee assignments. It's been fun talking to so many of our members, and I am truly gratified at your collective eagerness to take on these challenging assignments. The committees are now in place, and each chair has received his/her committee charges and other relevant material. Committee assignments are listed herein. If any of these responsibilities cannot be met, please let me know as soon as possible so alternate arrangements can be made.

In December I wrote to Roger K. Summit, President of Dialog Information Services, concerning the need to reload GeoRef. His prompt response to Margy Walsh's letter is included in this issue (p. 3). He sent a similar, prompt response to me. Apparently we can look forward to the reload by mid-1990. This is good news indeed. My thanks to Margy Walsh and all the rest of you who conveyed your displeasure concerning the file to Mr. Summit.

The Proceedings volume is gradually taking shape. I'm pleased to report that it will contain 18 papers. I hope to put the finishing touches on it by mid-February.

Budget requests from officers and committee chairs are due to me by February 28. It is not necessary to submit a request if you do not expect your expenses to exceed \$50. If I do not hear from your committee, I will assume that its expenses will not exceed \$50.

The first Executive Board Conference Call of the year was held on January 8. Marie Dvorzak's plans for the Dallas meeting seem to be shaping up nicely. Michael Noga reported that our membership has increased to 258 members and that the response to his new membership form has been good. Our new treasurer, Janice Sorensen, has been busy preparing some guidelines for reimbursement. They should be ready for publication in the next Newsletter. Joni Lerud has been working hard on identifying ideas and potential authors for the planned special issue of *Compass* on using geoscience libraries. Possible topics include the value of information as a commodity, the development of library skills over time, the library as a reference tool, frequently overlooked sources (guidebooks, theses, microforms, maps), keeping track of information, and predictions for the future. I reported on the status of committee assignments, the Proceedings, and the planned Dialog reload. The next conference call will be held in mid-April.

## VICE-PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

For the Dallas meeting, several members have expressed an interest in presenting a paper on some aspect of mapping such as new production technologies or archival storage. These and other topics on mapping would be excellent for a poster session.

Submitting an abstract for a poster session or a paper presentation is done on the same form. On the GSA abstract form there is a place to indicate if your abstract is to be considered for an oral presentation, a poster session, or both. Abstracts are due at GSA headquarters by July 11, 1990. A general call for abstracts and detailed information on completing abstracts will be included in the next newsletter.

Planning for the Dallas meeting is continuing. The GIS Symposium is "Geological Societies and Information Transfer in the Electronic Age."

**Geoscience Information Society  
1990 Officers**

PRESIDENT	Mary Ansari Director's Office Getchell Library University of Nevada Reno Reno, NV 89557-0044 702/784-6533 fax: 702/784-1751	Publication Officers	EDITORIAL BOARD Chair	Robert A. Bier, Jr. U.S. Geological Survey Library Mail Stop 914 Box 25046 Denver, CO 80225 303/236-1004
VICE PRESIDENT/ PRESIDENT ELECT	Marie Dvorzak Geology-Geophysics Library 440 Weeks Hall, 1215 W. Dayton University of Wisconsin-Madison Madison, WI 53706 608/262-8956 fax: 608/262-0693		NEWSLETTER EDITORS	Judy Geitgey 6328 Mendius N.E. Albuquerque, NM 87109
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	Joanne Lerud Library West Park Street Montana Tech Butte, MT 59701 406/496-4283		Production and Mailing	Connie Manson Washington Division of Geology and Earth Resources PY 12 Olympia, WA 98504 206/459-6373 fax: 206/459-6380
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TREASURER	Janice Sorensen Kansas Geological Survey 1930 Constant Avenue University of Kansas Lawrence, KS 66046-2598 913/864-3965			

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 April, 1990 issue of the GIS Newsletter should be received by the editors no later than March 20, 1990. If possible please send materials on IBM-compatible disc (Wordstar, Wordperfect, or ASCII format).

Editors' note: For our silver anniversary year we've changed the look of the Newsletter, and we'll be including GIS historical notes in each issue.

Planning for several other events including the field trip and the 25th Anniversary Celebration is proceeding well.

A schedule for GIS activities in Dallas has been proposed to GSA. Included are requests for time slots for the customary GIS events. If you need meeting arrangements or space for other GIS business, please let me know as soon as possible.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### GeoRef Users Group

I'm pleased to report that Dialog's Roger Summit responded very quickly to GRUG's letter expressing concern about the lack of a reload of the GEOREF database (the text of that letter was published in the last GIS Newsletter).

I had previously offered GRUG's assistance in the testing phase and Dialog expressed interest in using us. If you are an experienced Dialog user interested in evaluating the test file later in the year, please drop me a note or give me a call at 713/954-6268.

Margie Walsh  
GeoRef Users Group

December 5, 1989

Margy Walsh  
Chair, Steering Committee  
GeoRef Users Group  
Texaco Inc.  
E&P Technology Division  
P.O. Box 770070  
Houston, TX 77215-0070

Dear Ms. Walsh:

Thank you for your November 22 letter regarding the future reload of the GeoRef database. We appreciate the time and effort that you and Dr. Bichteler took to prepare your detailed and thoughtful comments, and we take your comments seriously.

We acknowledge that the existing file is less than perfect. Much of this is due to content problems with the supplied data itself (e.g. the duplicate records, incorrect author names, changed subject headings, missing auto-posted terms from AGI for 1982-87 data). However, it is clear that regardless of the reason, it is now in everybody's best interest to redesign and reprocess the complete file.

We are pleased that AGI has taken steps to correct many of these problems, and we are currently working on the analysis for the reload. Our design efforts are well underway. Your detailed comments will be very helpful to us and we plan to address each of the problems you have identified.

We expect to receive a clean backfile tape in April 1990 that includes all of AGI's changes. We will start the processing effort shortly thereafter. We would invite you and your User Group to participate in the final file testing at that time. We expect to then have the new file publicly available around mid-year. A new Bluesheet would be issued at that time; a new chapter would be released several months later.

I hope this answers your questions and concerns. If you have any additional questions, feel free to address them to Charles Bourne, Director, General Information Division.

Sincerely yours,  
Roger K. Summit

cc: John Mulvihill

### Ad Hoc Committee on Geoscience Publication Prices

At its meeting on the Cost of Geoscience Literature, held November 7, 1989 in St. Louis, members of the Ad Hoc Committee on Geoscience Publication Prices distributed the following hand-outs:

- Geoscience publication prices: Society publications (M. Dvorzak)
- Journal price changes (M. Noga)
- Indiana University Geology Library: Serials costs (L. Heiser)
- GIS database of titles cancelled by geology libraries (S. Klimley)
- State survey publications (C. Manson)
- Geoscience publication prices: Commercial monographs (J. Rinaldi)

If you did not receive these hand-outs at the meeting and would like copies, contact:

Julie Rinaldi  
Earth Sciences Library  
230 Earth Sciences Building  
University of California, Berkeley  
Berkeley, CA 94720

### Best Geoscience Reference Book Committee

The Best Geoscience Reference Book Committee would like to solicit, from all GIS members, candidates for the 1990 Best Geoscience Reference Book award. We are interested only in books published from 1988 to the present and are particularly interested in books which librarians find useful in their daily work with faculty and students. Your suggestions will be part of the list from which committee members will make their final selection. Please send titles and authors to:

Lynne Fortunato  
Science and Technology Division  
Room 121, New York Public Library  
5th Avenue and 42nd Street  
New York, NY 10018

**GEOSCIENCE INFORMATION SOCIETY  
OFFICERS, COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES  
December 1989**

	Term
<b>ELECTED OFFICERS</b>	
President: Mary Ansari	1989-Oct. 1990
Vice President/President-Elect: Marie Dvorzak	1989-Oct. 1990
Past President: Joanne Lerud	1989-Oct. 1990
Secretary: Michael Noga	1988-Oct. 1990
Treasurer: Janice Sorensen	1990-Dec. 1991

**INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS**

Auditor: Bob Bier	1990-1991
Newsletter Editors:	
Judy Geitgey	1985 -
Connie Manson	1985 -
Publications Manager:	
Louise Zipp	1989 -
Publications Distributor:	
Aphrodite Mamoulides	? -

**REPRESENTATIVES**

AGI, GeoRef Advisory Committee:	
Miriam Sheaves	1987-Oct. 1990
AGI, Member Society Council:	
Joanne Lerud	1989-Oct. 1991
ALA, Magert: Jim O'Donnell	1987-Oct. 1990
Association of Earth Science Editors: Dena Stepp	1988-Oct. 1990
CUAC:	
Charlotte Derksen	1988-Apr. 1990
Connie Wick	1988-Apr. 1992
MOUG: Richard Soares	1988-Oct. 1990
North American Cartographic Information Society:	
Edward S. Hall	1989-Oct. 1991
SLA Geography and Map Division: Lynne Fortunato	1988-Oct. 1990
SLA Petroleum Division:	
Marilyn Stark	1987-Oct. 1990
WAML: Michael Noga	1987-Oct. 1990

**COMMITTEES**

Archives Committee	
Jean Eaglesfield	1989-Oct. 1992
Best Geologic Reference Book	
Lynne Fortunato, chair	1987-Oct. 1990
Barbara DeFelice	1987-Oct. 1990
Barbara Haner	1988-Oct. 1991
Connie Wick	1989-Oct. 1992
Best Paper Award	
Amanda Masterson, chair	1987-Oct. 1990
Ed Jestes	1987-Oct. 1990
Priscilla Johansen	1987-Oct. 1990
Thelma Thompson	1988-Oct. 1991
Sylvia Bender-Lamb	1989-Oct. 1992
Kathy Kjaer	1989-Oct. 1992

Digital Data Committee	
Charlotte Derksen, chair	1989-Oct. 1992
Pete Banholzer	1989-Oct. 1992
Bob Heidlage	1989-Oct. 1992
Clara McLeod	1989-Oct. 1991
Jim O'Donnell	1989-Oct. 1991
Julie Rinaldi	1989-Oct. 1991

Editorial Review Board	
Bob Bier, chair	1988-Oct. 1990
Richard Walker	1988-Oct. 1990
Nancy Blair	1989-Oct. 1991

Exhibits Committee	
Elaine Watson, chair	1987-Dec. 1990
Clara McLeod	1988-Dec. 1990
Kay Baker	1988-Dec. 1990
Mary Batchelor	1989-Dec. 1991

GeoRef Users Group Steering Committee	
Barbara DeFelice, chair	1988-Oct. 1990
Margie Walsh	1987-Oct. 1990
Henry Zoller	1988-Oct. 1990
Regina Brown	1989-Oct. 1992
Julia Triplehorn	1989-Oct. 1992
Suzanne Larsen	1989-Oct. 1992
Charlotte Derksen	1989-Oct. 1992

Guidebooks Standards Committee	
Claren Kidd, chair	1989-Oct. 1991
Rosalind Walcott	1989-Oct. 1992
Dorothy McGeary	1989-Oct. 1992

Membership Committee	
Lois Heiser, chair	1987-Oct. 1990
Faith Daniel	1988-Oct. 1991
Marjorie King	1987-Oct. 1990
Carolyn Laffoon	1987-Oct. 1990
Lisa Dunn	1989-Oct. 1992

Nominating Committee	
Joanne Lerud, chair	1989-Oct. 1990
Jean Eaglesfield	1989-Oct. 1990
Miriam Sheaves	1989-Oct. 1990

Collection Development Issues Committee	
Julie Rinaldi, chair	1989-Oct. 1991
Lois Heiser	1989-Oct. 1991
Susan Klimley	1989-Oct. 1991
Connie Manson	1989-Oct. 1992
Michael Noga	1989-Oct. 1992
Rosalind Walcott	1989-Oct. 1992

Ad Hoc Committee on the 4th International Conference on Geoscience Information	
Julie Bichteler, chair	1987-Jun. 1990
Susan Klimley	1987-Jun. 1990
John Mulvihill	1987-Jun. 1990
Rosalind Walcott	1987-Jun. 1990

Ad Hoc Committee on the 5th International  
Conference on Geoscience Information

Richard Walker, chair 1988 -  
Marie Dvorzak 1988 -  
Claren Kidd 1988 -  
Marjorie King 1988 -  
Unni Rowell 1988 -  
Lois Heiser 1988 -  
Dedy Ward 1988 -  
David Reade 1989 -

Ad Hoc Committee on the Gala 25th  
Anniversary Celebration

Jean Eaglesfield, chair 1989-Oct. 1991  
Marie Dvorzak 1989-Oct. 1991  
Robert McAfee, Jr. 1989-Oct. 1991  
Linda Newman 1989-Oct. 1991  
Connie Manson 1989-Oct. 1991  
Richard Spohn 1989-Oct. 1991  
Dedy Ward 1989-Oct. 1991  
Elaine Watson 1989-Oct. 1991

Ad Hoc Committee on the Union List of,  
Geological Field Trip Guidebooks, 6th Edition

Richard Spohn, co-chair 1987-Oct. 1991  
Dorothy McGarry, co-chair 1987-Oct. 1991  
Clara McLeod 1987-Oct. 1991  
Jack Mount 1987-Oct. 1991  
Dena Stepp 1987-Oct. 1991  
Phil Stoffer 1987-Oct. 1991  
Nancy Thurston 1987-Oct. 1991  
Barbara Haner 1988-Oct. 1991  
Thelma Thompson 1988-Oct. 1991  
Janice Sorensen 1988-Oct. 1991  
Marjorie King 1989-Oct. 1991  
Charlotte Derksen, advisor  
Joan Sandoz, AGI liaison

Ad Hoc Committee on the Directory of  
Geosciences Libraries, 4th ed.

Jim O'Donnell, chair 1989-  
Louise Zipp 1989-  
Ian Gordon 1989-  
Dena Stepp 1989-  
Connie Manson 1989-  
Carol Gill 1989-  
Lynne Fortunato 1989-

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**NEW MEMBERS**

Personal

Barry Brown  
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Lawrence, KS 66045

Susan Means  
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Employer: Geological Survey of Canada

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Littleton, MA 01460

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Gen Dir. Gen Est Pet & Min Res  
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Roxanne Roebroek  
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3303 33rd Street, NW  
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CANADA T2L 2A7

Sue Sachdev  
Dept. of Mines & Energy  
95-Bonaventure Ave.  
St. John's, Newfoundland  
CANADA A1B 4J6

Leah Watson  
National Hydrology Research Centre Library  
11 Innovation Boulevard  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
CANADA S7N 3H5

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## JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

MATHEMATICS LIBRARIAN/ASSISTANT ENGINEERING  
LIBRARIAN, UNIVERSITY OF IOWA LIBRARIES, Iowa  
City, Iowa

Under the direction of the Engineering Librarian, the incumbent is responsible for the management of the Mathematics Library and for assisting in the provision of users services in the Engineering Library. Principle duties in the Mathematics Library are the supervision of one full-time library assistant and several student assistants, the provision of reference services and bibliographic instruction, and collection management in the areas of mathematics, computer science, statistics, and actuarial science. Principle duties in the Engineering Library are assisting in the provision of reference services and bibliographic instruction, and special projects as assigned by the Engineering Librarian.

The Mathematics Library contains 44,000 volumes and serves 104 faculty and 324 graduate

students. The Engineering Library contains 86,000 volumes and serves 72 faculty and 1,700 students.

**REQUIREMENTS:** An ALA accredited graduate library degree; a strong service orientation; excellent interpersonal and communication skills; a strong professional commitment. Desired characteristics include professional experience in science reference and/or science collection management and experience in management and supervision; educational background in the mathematical sciences, engineering or the physical sciences; experience in electronic bibliographic searching, a working knowledge of one European language other than English.

**SALARY:** Appointment will be made at the Librarian I (\$21,565 minimum) or Librarian II (\$27,310 minimum) rank, salary and rank determination based on a combination of educational background and experience. The University offers an attractive package of additional benefits, including 25 days of paid vacation per year, TIAA/CREF retirement, Social Service disability and medical/dental insurance.

**APPLICATION PROCEDURE:** Applications received by 1 January 1990 will receive first consideration. Minorities and women are particularly encouraged to apply. Qualified individuals should submit a letter of application, vita information, and the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of three references to:

Barbara I. Dewey, Assistant to the University Librarian  
The University of Iowa Libraries  
Iowa City, IA 52242  
319/335-5867

The University of Iowa is an equal opportunity/affirmative active employer.

ASSOCIATE LIBRARIAN II, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND/  
COLLEGE PARK LIBRARIES, College Park, MD

Associate Librarian II, reference/technical reports Librarian, The University of Maryland/College Park Libraries, Engineering and Physical Sciences Library. Subject areas include engineering, physics, mathematics, computer science, and earth science. Background in one or more of these disciplines is desirable. Deadline for application is February 28, 1990. Contact:

Marjorie Simon, Library Personnel Office  
McKeldin Library  
University of Maryland,  
College Park, MD 20742-7011

In 1966, GIS dues were \$5 per year and the registration fee for the GIS annual meeting (paid to GSA) was \$10. But remember: In 1967 the USGS had openings for librarians at Grade GS-7-- and offered \$6,451 per year.

## REFERENCE TOOLS FOR STUDENTS IN GEOLOGY: A SURVEY RESPONSE

by Phil Stoffer

First, I want to thank everyone who responded to the survey in the last GIS Newsletter. The most surprising aspect of the survey was how consistently inconsistent the responses were. Only the first two titles on the list appeared on about half the questionnaires. The first 45 questionnaires provided over 150 reference sources! The list below includes the most popular 25 titles recommended for student training by this survey. You might use it to supplement your own bibliographic instruction. Perhaps I'll prepare a more lengthy list of all the references after I decipher the meaning of many of the citations and search for more accurate bibliographic data - my fault for asking for vague answers. (I should note that the "PET PEEVES" question produced some wonderful gems - a common remark was related to bad, misleading or "abridged" citations. To pass this frustration along to you the list below is also "abridged". You get an "A+" in collection development if you 1) know what they are; and 2) have all of these in your library!

1. Bibliography and Index of Geology (GEOREF)
2. Glossary of Geology (3rd Edition): AGI.
3. USGS Monthly list of Publications. (Includes annual and cumulative indexes and the OCLC CD-ROM product.)
4. Lexicon of Geologic Names of the United States. (USGS Bulletins 896, 1200, 1350, 1520, and 1564.)
5. Geographical Abstracts (GEOBASE).
6. Encyclopedia of Earth Sciences: Series (Fairbridge).
7. Union List of Geologic Field Trips of North America.
8. Directory of Geoscience Departments: AGI.
9. all USGS geological and topographic map indexes.
10. Applied Science and Technology Index.
11. all state survey publication lists.
12. CRC Handbook of Physical Property of Rocks and Minerals.
13. Petroleum Abstracts (TULSA).
14. Treatise of Invertebrate Paleontology.
15. DNAG Guidebook Series.
16. Geologic Reference Sources (2nd Edition): by Ward, Wheeler and Bier, 1981.
17. Chemical Abstracts (CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS).
18. Geotitles Weekly (GEOARCHIVE).
19. Selected Water Resources Abstracts (WATER RESOURCES ABSTRACTS).
20. Science Citation Index (SCISEARCH).
21. Dissertation Abstracts International.
22. COSUNA charts.
23. GeoRef Thesaurus.
24. AAPG Geological Highway Map Series.
25. AGI Data Sheets.

### "PET PEEVES" - THE ENLIGHTENMENT OF A SURVEY

An open-ended survey about "pet peeves" of working in a geology library was perhaps a mistake. Fortunately, I allowed only two lines for a re-

sponse which provided more like 4-10 lines of text from many respondents. Aside from simple complaints - such as gripes about titles in unknown languages, in dispersed series, shelved in obscure locations, and "if we have it, it's at the bindery" types of problems - a much deeper, more complex system of problems exist apparently centered on the "librarian/patron interface." Perhaps a psychoanalyst is needed to provide some answers about the nature of things. Confounding the problems of this interface are a variety of problems commonly associated with the "library environment," which include external factors such as physical facilities, funding, and politics, and more internal problems like the quantity and quality of information sources and access tools. However, these environmental problems are secondary.

The problems, suggested by my analysis of the questionnaires, are more of a reflection of general attitudes of librarians about service; there seems to be two extremes. On one extreme is the over-eager-to-serve librarian (probably new in the profession). To the patron this kind of librarian may prove to be anything from a god-send to an annoyance, if not to be considered dangerous - especially when it comes to on-line charges. Over-eager-to-serve librarians remind me of an experience I had with an over-eager-to-serve chiropractor - I still have pains from that experience (both in body and mind). (I don't think I've ever met a dentist I would not consider over-eager.) At the other extreme is the librarian who gives the impression that any work is too much work, and that any basic reference question is not only a reflection of the patron's stupidity, but also an intrusion into the librarian's privacy. I think we all know personalities which match these extremes, and on some days we might classify ourselves into one or the other. No wonder we have been classed into the typical librarian stereotypes ranging from Super-Woman or Pee-Wee Herman's "El Hombre - amigo de todos" to Conan or Medusa.

On the other side are patrons that we as librarians can classify in an instant: 1) the over-bearing, demanding type; 2) the over-appreciative type; 3) the quiet and shy type; and, 4) the bewildered. The first type seemed to draw the greatest criticism in the survey, but I think they aren't so bad - at least you know what they want (lot of these in New York). The other three types leave holes in the feedback loop; they will either thank you whether you helped or hurt them (type 2), leave you standing without a clue (type 3), or leave you bewildered (type 4).

Do you want to know more about pet peeves? How's this pet peeve suit you?.. "When librarians have information but won't give it to you!" I have more information about pet peeves that I won't give you here. (However, I'll keep the data in a fire-proof container - until it spontaneously combusts.)

## NASA MASTER DIRECTORY AVAILABLE FOR USE BY EARTH SCIENCE RESEARCHERS

The NASA Master Directory (MD) is a free, multidisciplinary directory to earth and space science data sets (NASA and non-NASA data) that are of potential interest to the research community. The MD contains high-level descriptions of data sets and provides mechanisms for searching for data sets by important criteria such as parameters measured, time and spatial coverage, etc. The MD also provides information on where to go to order the data.

The MD is more than just a directory, however. Toward the end of making it easy to get more detailed information about the data and perhaps the data themselves, the MD provides automatic connections to a number of data systems such as NASA's Climate Data System, the Planetary Data System, the NASA Ocean Data System, the Pilot Land Data System, etc. The MD also provides general information about many data systems, data centers, and coordinated data analysis projects.

Features of the MD include:

- \* Capability of searching for data sets by any combination of keywords (discipline, location, parameter measured), start and stop dates, spacecraft or data source, sensor, geographic coverage, scientific project, and investigator;

- \* Easy-to-use menu, command, and screen-form interface that can be used with most terminal types (including "smart" and "dumb" terminals);

- \* Displays of data set information including title, summary, keywords, temporal and spatial coverage, archive information, data set personnel, and bibliographic references;

- \* Displays of data center information including data center services, contacts, access procedures, available distribution media, and costs;

- \* Displays of science project information such as scientific objectives, data characteristics, and contacts;

- \* Automatic connections to selected data systems or catalogs through a simple LINK command;

- \* HELP from every MD screen.

The MD currently holds over 500 descriptions of earth science data sets from NASA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Geological Survey, the Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center (CDIAC), and many other agencies and institutions. Data set information in the MD is routinely updated and new data set descriptions are added to the system regularly.

The MD may be accessed via SPAN, Telnet, and Telenet, as well as through direct dial-in lines. Access procedures are as follows:

Via SPAN: From SPAN nodes, enter "SET HOST NSSDCA" from the \$ prompt and enter "NSSDC" at the USERNAME: prompt (there is no password).

Via Direct Dial: Set your terminal to full duplex, eight bits, no parity, one stop bit and 300, 1200, or 2400 baud. Dial 301-286-9000 or FTS 888-9000. At the ENTER NUMBER: prompt enter MD and a carriage return. When the system responds CALL COMPLETE, enter a few more carriage returns and the USERNAME: prompt will appear. Enter "NSSDC"

Via Telnet: From a Telnet node, enter "TELNET NSSDCA.GSFC.NASA.GOV", or "TELNET 128.183.10.4" at the system prompt. Enter "NSSDC" at the USERNAME: prompt.

Via Telenet: Enter "ID ;32107035/GSFC" at the @ prompt within Telenet. Enter "036156" when prompted for a password. At the USERNAME: prompt enter "NSSDC".

For those wishing to advertise data availability, the MD is an excellent tool to increase the visibility of useful data sets. Persons holding interesting data sets who would like to have them described in the MD should contact Dr. James Thieman at (301) 286-9790 or Dr. Joy Beier at (301) 794-5289.

The MD is intended to be usable without prior training, but if you would like to have an MD reference guide, or if you have any questions about or problems with the MD please contact Joy Beier at the number given above.

### GIS HISTORICAL NOTES

GIS's work on field-trip guidebooks has been one of our longest-standing concerns, and one of our biggest successes. Skip McAfee mentioned his concern with them in his earliest correspondence with Ruth Bristol (March, 1963). It was one of the burning topics discussed by the "Panel of Eight" at their Nov. 21, 1964 meeting. A guidebooks committee was one of the first committees established by the newly-formed GIS. The 1st edition of Geologic field trip guidebooks of North America, compiled and edited by John A. Chaffin, was published in 1968. The 2nd edition was published in 1971, the 3rd in 1978, the 4th in 1986, and the 5th in 1989. The committee to compile the 6th has been formed.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

A joint task force of the American Geological Institute (AGI) and the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) issued the 1st edition of their Earth Science Examination in 1988. This multiple-choice high school level exam provides teachers with a tool for evaluating student achievement and program design in the earth sciences. AGI/NSTA are now requesting feedback about the 1st edition, and new questions for inclusion in the 2nd edition, scheduled for release in the 1991-92 academic year. If you would like to participate, write to:

AGI/NSTA Earth Science Examination  
American Geological Institute  
4220 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22302-1507

GULF.MEX, a new electronic bulletin board for researchers working in the Gulf of Mexico is now available on Onnet's SCIENCEnet. It is intended to serve a variety of people working in a wide range of fields, such as physical oceanography, engineering, remote sensing, optics, modeling, biology, chemistry, and fisheries. Graphic representations of data should be available on the bulletin board during the coming year. SCIENCEnet is an international electronic mail system for researchers in the earth and environmental sciences. GULF.MEX is just one of more than 100 electronic bulletin boards available on SCIENCEnet. For more information, call 617/265-9230.

From EOSAT: Until further notice, EOSAT has suspended production of some black and white photographic products created from Landsat Thematic Mapper (TM) data. EOSAT will, however, continue to offer black and white imagery of any Landsat archive data stored at EROS Data Center, which includes processed TM data and all Multi-Spectral Scanner (MSS) data collected to date.

EOSAT is evaluating new techniques to provide an improved black & white, single-band photo product. Customers will be notified immediately when production of the new photo products is initiated.

There will be no disruption in the production of color TM and MSS imagery. EOSAT will continue to offer its full line of color imagery products.

If you have any questions or require any searches for data availability in the EROS processed data archive, contact EOSAT Customer Services, 4300 Forbes Blvd., Lanham, MD 20706 USA; (800) 344-9933; (301) 552-0537 in Maryland; Telex: 277685 LSAT UR.

### GIS HISTORICAL NOTES

The GIS annual meeting has been held in conjunction with the GSA annual meeting, every year, beginning in 1966.

## PUBLICATIONS

Two new AGI publications are available:

The 28th edition of the *Directory of geoscience departments* is available and sells for \$19.95 plus \$2 postage and handling.

The *Earth Science Education Connection* is a new newsletter from AGI's National Center for Earth Science Education. Contact AGI for subscription information:

Customer Service Department  
American Geological Institute  
4220 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22302-1507  
phone: 800/336-4764

Camp Nevada has just released number 8 in its Monograph Series, *Mines and Mills of the Comstock Region, Western Nevada* by MARY B. ANSARI. There are chapters on the mines and mills of Sevenmile Canyon, Virginia City, Sixmile Canyon, the "Divide", the Brunswick Lode, Gold Hill, American Flat, and Silver City. Other chapters cover the Sutro Tunnel, Carson River mills, and Washoe Valley Mills. The 101-page volume contains 16 illustrations and a detailed index. ISBN 0-933504-07-01, softcover, \$10.95. Order from:  
Camp Nevada  
P.O. Box 13798  
Reno, NV 89507.

The *Directory of geoscience libraries, United States and Canada*, 3rd ed., 1986, is now on sale at half-price for \$10.00 (U.S.). This sale will continue until the 4th edition, now in preparation, is published, updating this essential resource. Prepayment is required; send orders to

Louise Zipp, GIS Publication Manager  
Geology Library  
University of Iowa  
Iowa City, IA 52242  
319/335-3084

Four indices to the 28th International Geological Congress guidebook volumes (containing volume titles, trip titles, and LC call number) are now available:

- IGC brochure list with call numbers
- Alphabetical trip title list
- Numerical trip list
- Volumes list with call numbers and trip titles.

To order, send an IBM compatible disk, postage, and \$1.00 per index to:

Lois Heiser  
Geology Library  
Indiana University  
Bloomington, IN 47405

Tectonics of suspect terranes--Mountain building and continental growth, by David G. Howell, published by Chapman and Hall, sells for \$79.95 for cloth; \$29.95 for paper.

Tibet--Where continents collide: Part 1. South Tibet and the Uarlung Tsangpo suture, presented by David G. Howell, is a 46-minute, VHS video, featuring both the geology and cultural history of this region of Tibet. Cost is \$75 for universities, libraries, and other institutions; \$45 for individuals; shipping and handling is \$5. For more information, contact

EarthVision, Inc.  
52 Cook Hill Road  
Cheshire, CT 06410  
203/9311

The National Geophysical Data Center has announced the release of two new products.

United States Tsunamis 1690-1988, compiled by James F. Lander and Patricia A. Lockridge, gives the historical records, descriptive data, and effects of tsunamis that have been observed or recorded in the United States coastal waters and possessions in the Pacific; Puerto Rico; and the Virgin Islands. The cost is \$15.00 for soft cover, \$30.00 for hard cover; plus a \$10.00 handling fee. Orders should be prepaid and may be made by check, money order, Visa, MasterCard, or American Express. For more information, contact the National Geophysical Data Center, NOAA/NESDIS E/GC4, 325 Broadway, Dept. 799, Boulder, CO 80303, or call (303) 497-6958.

The Geophysics of North America CD-ROM contains a collection of land and marine geophysical data for North America in an easily accessible format. Data includes magnetics, gravity, earthquake seismology, thermal aspects, and stress. Color representations can be customized. The price is \$580.00 for the entire data set, including compact disc, access and display software, and User's Manual; \$235.00 for an additional compact disc; and \$65.00 for an additional copy of the User's Manual; plus a \$10.00 handling fee. Checks or money orders should be made payable to COMMERCE/NOAA/NGDC. Orders may also be charged to major credit cards. For more information, contact National Geophysical Data Center, NOAA, Code E/GC1; Dept. 720; 325 Broadway, Boulder, CO 80303-3328; Telephone: (303) 497-6419; Telex: 592811 NOAA MASC BDR; Telefax (Rapidcom): (303) 497-6513.

#### GIS HISTORICAL NOTES

The first GIS annual meeting was held Nov. 14-16, 1966, in San Francisco. The symposium was titled, "The Use of Automated Systems in the Storage, Retrieval, and Publication of Geoscience Information."

Two new publications are available from the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy. The first is Mining and the Environment 2, a list of 500 records on pollution, reclamation, waste disposal, and the environment. It's a companion to Mining and the Environment - a selected reference list, published in 1986. Both publications are available either in printed copy or on floppy disk. The price is £20.00 for the new publication; £15.00 for the 1986 edition.

A similar publication on recycling has also been produced. It is Recycling of Non-ferrous Metals - a reference list. References are arranged by metal and cover the recycling of scrap and the recovery from waste of precious, base, and minor metals. This publication is available in printed form or on floppy disk for £25.00. For more information, contact Information Services, The Institution of Mining and Metallurgy, 44 Portland Place, London W1N 4BR; Telephone: 01-580 3802; Telex: 261410.

The Institute for Scientific Information (ISI) has announced a new multidisciplinary current awareness product called FOCUS ON: GLOBAL CHANGE. It is a biweekly research tool that provides bibliographic information from thousands of scientific and social science journals. Topics covered include current research on the physical, chemical, and biological processes that affect the earth, public policy developments, and government regulations, social, economic, and political issues. It may be used on IBM PC and compatibles, Macintosh, and NEC computers.

A 1-year charter subscription is being offered for a limited time at the rate of \$245.00 for 26 issues. This is \$100.00 less than the regular price of \$345.00. You can examine FOCUS ON: GLOBAL CHANGE on a risk-free trial-review basis by contacting: Institute for Scientific Information, 3501 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104; Telephone: 1-800-336-4474.

ASFE/The Association of Engineering Firms Practicing in the Geosciences has published its 1989-1990 Directory. It contains headquarters listing for more than 300 geotechnical, geoenvironmental (hazardous materials), geohydrological, geochemical, and other "ground engineering firms," as well as some 650 branch offices. The Directory is available free of charge from the ASFE office. Requests made by mail must be accompanied by \$2.00 to cover postage and handling. Requests should be sent to ASFE, 8811 Colesville Road, Suite G106, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

## GIS HISTORICAL NOTES

"The purpose of this Society shall be to initiate, aid, and improve the exchange of information in the earth sciences through mutual cooperation among librarians, earth scientists, documentalists, editors, and information specialists" (GIS Constitution, rev. 1967)

### MEETINGS AND COURSES

The 8th Thematic Conference on Remote Sensing for Exploration Geology will be held April 29-May 2, 1991, in Denver, Colorado. Deadline for summaries is October 1, 1990. For additional information please contact either Robert H. Rogers or Nancy Wallman, at (313) 994-1200, ext. 3234. Fax number: (313) 994-1575.

The 4th Short Course on Soil Dynamics and Foundation Engineering will be held from April 2-6, 1990, in St. Louis, Missouri. For further details, contact:

Shamsher Prakash, Course Director  
Fourth Short Course on Soil Dynamics  
Professor in Civil Engineering  
University of Missouri-Rolla  
Rolla, MO 65401

Telephone: (314) 341-4489/4461  
Telefax: (314) 341-4729

### THE HIGH PLAINS DRIFTER

The High Plains Drifter was looking forward to family time over the Christmas holidays. White Christmases lend themselves to days of reading books under blankets in front of a fire. The small Plains Drifter brought home a book for us to read. It was not Charlotte's Web or The Polar Express--it wasn't even Dr. Suess or Mercer Mayer--it was a 92-page tome titled Insects. We read about legs, antennae, noises, cocoons, larvae, other peculiar bahibs, how insects annoy humans (that was the part that makes you itch as you read), and how various insect's eyes look. For one brief moment, I lost my head and declared, "This book should be banned! No parent should be forced to read this." A little water in my face brought me back to reality. I am wonder though if my utterance of this blasphemy cancelled by MLS diploma. So I am currently being sensitive to banned books and just by change I found a small list of banned books that you might like to be reminded of--these are provided by the American Library Association.

Tarzan (1929, California) - "Tarzan and Jane living in sin"  
Catch-22 (1972, Ohio) - "anti-American"  
Doris Day's biography (1982, Alabama) - "shocking"  
Catcher in the rye (1982, Canada) - "violent"  
Rosemary's baby (1970, Massachusetts) - "immoral"

The HPD would have to add:

Insects (1989, HPD House) - "causes aberrant behavior in parents"

\* \* \* \*

The small Plains Drifter adds this to the humor section:

What kind of shoes can you make from banana peels? Slippers.

Connie Manson Co Editor  
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