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Geology Newsletter- 1980

Department of Geology

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DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY

NEWSLETTER



Volume I No. 5

November 1980

Dear Alumni and Friends:

Another year has passed since I last wrote and there is much to report on the activities of the Department. Interest in our programs continues to be good and our enrollments are steady. A new group of graduate students arrived this September, and we are proud to report that an exceptionally large number are on assistantship support. Also, geology and earth science students received 4 of a total of 24 University Fellowships that were awarded. Considering there are more than 50 graduate programs at Western, this is an exceptional achievement. Our new students come from many different schools, helping us maintain a cosmopolitan make-up in our graduate student group. Our usual Fall "Icebreaker" was held on a warm and pleasant afternoon with the inevitable result of exhausting the supply of liquid refreshment early, necessitating an emergency run.

I am pleased to report that Raymond Freeman-Lynde joined the faculty this September. Ray is completing his doctorate at Columbia's Lamont-Doherty Observatory in New York and is in the final phase of writing his dissertation and preparing for his defense. Ray brings experience in carbonate geology and oceanography to our program. His research involves the Bahama escarpment which he has studied from dives in the submersible Alvin. Ray's wife Patty was employed by UNICEF while in New York and has expertise in foreign languages.

Work on the EPA Underground Injection Control Grant is progressing with much activity presently centered around preparation of the first report. A second grant valued at \$280,000 was received last Spring which will extend the research efforts to October 1981. The new grant provides for released time for R. Passero, L. Schmalz, and W. T. Straw. Coordinating the activities of the project are Dennis Curran and Don Leske. Linda Miller is the cartographer for the project. Both grants have enabled a large number of graduate and undergraduate students to gain valuable experience and receive financial support.

Chris Schmidt was awarded a National Science Foundation Grant valued at \$23,665 to study Laramide Basement Faulting in Southwest Montana. Kiff Samuelson is serving as graduate assistant on the project and developing field data for his thesis. Carolyn Rutland has accepted a fellowship at Michigan State and is beginning study for her Ph.D.

Ron Chase spent parts of this summer at the University of Kansas, dating lab, and in the field in Montana. Ron is completing his NSF Grant on the Idaho Batholith. Congratulations are due Ron; he was promoted to Professor.

Bill Sauck spent the major portion of the summer completing a magnetic study of the Albion-Scipio oil field which was funded by a \$21,000 grant from Hunt Energy Co. Students Steve Hoin, Mark Parrish and Stan Leja served as assistants on the project. Bill is teaching two new courses this year, Seismic Methods this Fall, and Electrical Methods this Winter. The geophysics program is growing with about 10 students interested in becoming majors. The Sauck's are expecting a new arrival in February; however, this has not slowed Elen much. She continues her studies for her Ph.D.

Bill Harrison and George Duba have completed their EPA contract study of Heavy Metal Input into Fisk Lake. Tom Mahan, a graduate student from Southern Colorado State University, and Bill presented a paper on Faunal Communities in the Kope Formation at the annual AAPG-SEPM meeting in Denver, Colorado last June. This was the same meeting that the Department had its first officially listed Cocktail Hour. Bill and I enjoyed seeing many of you at the meeting. Linda Harrison has just opened her own insurance office, and I expect will soon be doing a thriving business.

John Grace continues as undergraduate advisor and is able to squeeze in some time for his sulfides. John has been appointed to the Kalamazoo Energy Advisory Committee and is fast becoming an expert on paint and wallpaper. However, he refused to give demonstrations in application.

Tom Straw has spent a busy year with the EPA Project, and the study of Neotectonics in Montana with Chris Schmidt and others. Tom is a frequent speaker and resource person for citizens groups concerned with water and environmental problems.

Dick Passero has also had a very busy year with the EPA Project, the Governor's Environmental Review Board, and the study of groundwater contamination at the KL Ave. Landfill. Dick was able to squeeze in a few weeks of relaxation this summer when he visited Europe with his wife and daughter. He reports they had a most enjoyable time.

In addition to working on his dissertation, Bill Williams has helped the Department the last few semesters by teaching Earth Studies and Geology of the National Parks and Monuments. George Duba is also teaching those two courses during the fall and winter and expects to have his dissertation finished by the end of the winter semester.

Kathy Redmond, secretary, had a baby last April and named her Katie. During her leave of absence our part-time secretary, Carol Harkness, filled in for her. Our technician, Bob Havira, has been kept busy inventing and building new gadgets for the EPA Project.

The Department conducted a lively seminar series last year. In addition to a number of faculty and student talks, the following list of speakers made presentations:

Harry King, Geologist, Conoco, Inc., "Petroleum Geology".

Dr. Mark Longman, Research Geologist, City Service Co., Tulsa, Oklahoma, "Diagenesis of Carbonate Sediments".

Mr. Robert Anderhalt, UCLA, "Small Scale Sedimentary Sequences -- The Character and Origin of Lamination".

Mr. Victor Cherven, Stanford University, "Late Cretaceous Sedimentation in the Sacramento Valley, California".

G. Wesley Rice, Co-ordinator, Computer Exploration Research Division of Conoco, "Applications of Geoseismic Modeling to Stratigraphic Petroleum Exploration and Techniques and Applications of Satellite Remote Sensing to the Non-renewable Resource Industries".

Mr. Jude Wilber, Department of Geology, University of North Carolina, "Carbonate Stratigraphy and Sedimentation and Early Diagenesis Along the Western Edge of Little Bahama Bank".

Dr. John Palmquist, Lawrence University, Wisconsin, "Basement Tectonics in the Rocky Mountain Foreland".

Funds from the alumni supported Geology Development Fund helped provide resources for the speakers program. This year the WMU Visiting Scholars Program will support the visit of Dr. Robert Weimer, Getty Professor of Geology, Colorado School of Mines. Dr. Weimer will be in the Department Dec. 1-3 and will present a varied program on energy, seismic stratigraphy, and cretaceous sedimentation. Alumni close to Kalamazoo are invited to contact the Department for details of his visit.

Steve Kimm, a senior from Beaumont, Texas, received the Kalamazoo Geological and Mineral Society Summer Field Trip Scholarship valued at \$250. Steve attended the Indiana University Field Camp. Lynne Aldrich received the Senior Honor Award in Geology for outstanding academic achievement. Lynne is now in Houston employed by Exxon as a geophysicist and working on offshore Louisiana prospects.

Last winter the Geology and Earth Science Club served as host for a dinner and faculty "roast". The faculty fared better than expected and a great time was had by all. The club may consider doing it each year. The Geology Club is again active at various projects this year. Officers include Kevin Prochaska, Tom Luby, Trish Dalian and Robin Geesey. The club sponsored a fall barn dance and hayride and helped Chris Schmidt paint the Geology Annex. Upcoming projects include a club T-shirt and alumni may purchase one by contacting the geology office.

During the Winter semester I will be away from the Department on Professional Leave. I plan to visit Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and possibly Colorado. I will be visiting a number of geology departments in these states and visiting former students in

Houston, Midland or wherever I have time to travel. Please let me hear from you. Possibly we can establish a few small reunions.

The Geology Development Fund continues to make modest progress in contribution. Last year the Fund helped support visiting speakers, student field trips and research, and travel to professional meetings by faculty. All gifts are greatly appreciated, and alumni are invited to send contributions to the Annual Fund with the designation for the Geology Development Fund. Please remember Michigan residents have an additional significant tax advantage which greatly reduces the out-of-pocket cost for gifts. Also, it is possible that your employer may provide a matching gift thereby greatly extending the amount of your gift. This has not been a good year for Michigan, and the future looks cloudy for state support for Western.

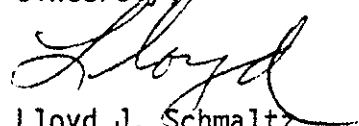
Contributions during the past year for the W. David Kuenzi Memorial Fund have been invested, and some interest has accumulated. It is the goal of the faculty to continually increase the principal and use the money gained as interest to support graduate student research in accord with Dave's wishes. The principal is modest in amount, and your continued support is needed. The faculty is presently developing selection criteria for the scholarship, and an award is expected to be made this semester.

As some of you may know, Dave left his library to the Department, and many of the volumes have been integrated into the library collection; however, a number of volumes are duplicates or introductory texts. These are going to be placed on sale with the proceeds to be added to the Fund. Since many of you are former students of Dave's, and were close to him personally, the Department would like to make these available to his friends. Please let me know immediately by writing or calling (616-383-1775) if you wish to receive a volume, and I'll arrange to have one sent to you. There is no charge; however, a contribution to the Fund would be appreciated.

The biggest problem in preparing and distributing this Newsletter is the work involved in keeping our mailing list accurate. On this account we need your help! Please inform us of any change of address, employer, promotion or other interesting news item.

This report has grown longer than expected, so I'll close for now. I hope to see some of you this Winter.

Sincerely,



Lloyd J. Schmaltz
Chairman

INFORMATION SHEET

Name _____ Year Graduated and Degree _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Major _____

Current Position _____

Professional Interests _____

Other News _____

Return to: Dept. of Geology, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49008

ALUMNI NEWS

Bob LoPiccolo is now with Superior Oil in Denver. He attended the A.A.P.G. meeting in Denver. Mel Troyer is an Environmental Engineer with Western Casualty and Surety, Co. in Illinois. Mel was married this last September. Congratulations!

Warren French joined Texas Oil & Gas Corp. as a geologist in the West Texas district in Midland. He was previously with Arco Oil & Gas in Lafayette as a geologist. The University of Minnesota-Duluth, Dept. of Geology Newsletter reveals that John Yellich, who is employed by Rocky Mountain Energy Co., presented a lecture on Copper Mountain Wyoming Uranium Deposit Rediscovered.

Doug Thompson is an economic analyst for the Exxon Minerals Company in Houston. He received his M.S. in Mineral Economics from Penn. State Univ. Phil MacLearn stopped by enroute home from one of his many field trips last August. Phil is as energetic as ever.

Ron Parker is employed by Cascade Testing Laboratory in Seattle. He sent the Department some ash samples from the Mt. St. Helens eruptions. Thanks, Ron. Julie Stein Chernicoff received her Ph.D. in May from the Univ. of Minn. She accepted a teaching position at the Univ. of Washington. She will be running a GSA geochronology field trip in 1981 from Cincinnati to Green River and Mammoth Cave. All are invited. Julie is also living in Seattle.

Jim Peterson was featured as the geologist in a half-page ad in the Wall Street Journal and Forbes Magazine in October. He is employed by Anadarko Oil Co. and was working in the Williston Basin last spring. Nice going, Jim. Gary Konwinski is employed by the U.S. Dept. of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management in Denver. He is working on environmental impact statements for energy type projects.

Thomas Sherman is in Liberia doing field work. He has been recently prospecting for gold, bauxite, and manganese. Brad Jordan is studying Igneous Petrology at the Univ. of Rhode Island. In June he married Sallie Ann Ventz.

Sue Zimmerman Merrill and her husband Ray are the proud parents of a daughter who arrived this past August. Congratulations! Howard Nevins is working for Ashland Oil Co., Kentucky.

Dave Naas is a M.S. student at Wright State Univ. He is doing a petrology study in Sicily. Dennis Gebben has finished his M.S. and is with Williams and Works in Grand Rapids. Terri Reed is working for Texas Instruments in Houston. She is in a geophysics training program there.

Mari Krull Hall is working for Pennzoil and has been promoted to Assoc. Geophysicists. Bill Phillips is employed by Dresser Industries. He finished mud logging school and will be stationed in the Williston Basin.

Ken Beiser is in Denver working in hydrogeology with Central and Southwest Fuels, Inc. Nate Fuller is with the Ohio Geological Survey in Sandusky. He recently did some sand and gravel research on Lake Erie. Nate visited the Dept. in October.

When the Department last heard from Nancy Meade, she was applying for a position as an exploration geologist with Columbia Gas Company. Let us hear what your status is, Nancy. Don Drozdenko is back in school and looks forward to graduating as an engineer.

Cam Streidle is a mud logger for Monaco Tech. in Wyoming. Sue Kaschner Jagoda recently visited the Department. She is currently finishing up her thesis and is expecting a baby soon.

Gary Miller is working for Sam Adams, Consultant, in Boulder and Golden, Colorado in uranium exploration. Gary Myers is an M.S. candidate at Michigan State University, and he is interested in geophysics.

Jim Smith will be working for Phillips Petroleum Company in Bartlesville, Oklahoma. Buffy Brown is in Japan working on computer applications in geophysics. Steve Pierce is employed by Conoco and has moved from Casper, Wyoming, to Denver.

Greg Yund is employed by Siescom Delta. Mike Jurgenson teaches science in Bloomingdale, Michigan. Bob Zamboras is finishing up his M.S. degree from Washington State Univ. Tom Drean is now with a gas company in West Virginia.

Terry and Mary Schmaltz have a new son, Cory. They are building an energy efficient house above Golden and hope to have it enclosed for winter. Terry is teaching in Cherry Creek and attended the cocktail hour at the A.A.P.G. meeting. Also attending were Tom and Mary Robyn. Tom is employed by Anaconda in Denver.

Graduate students joining the Department this year and their interests are:

James M. Barnett, Urbana, Illinois, University of Iowa, Pleistocene Geology.

Clifford N. Brandon, III, Racine, Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin-Parkside, Economic Geology.

Katharine D. Fulker, Troy, Ohio, Wittenburg University, Ohio, Environmental and Economic Geology.

William Gierke, Menasha, Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, Hydrogeology.

Kevin Kincare, Kalamazoo, MI, Western Michigan University, Hydrology.

James McLaughlin, Union City, Michigan, Central Michigan University, Hydrology.

Cynde Sears, Washington, D.C., George Washington University - D.C., Isotope Geology - Geochronology.

Michael E. Streeter, Charlevoix, Michigan, Central Michigan University, Sedimentary Petrology - Sedimentology.

Joseph VanderMeulen, Hickory Corners, Michigan, Western Michigan University, Earth Science.

Maurice Arthur Williams, Royal Oak, Michigan, Albion College, Michigan, Geophysics.

Mary Anne Wunderlich, Nokomis, Illinois, Illinois State University, Igneous Petrology.

Current graduate students and recent graduates are:

Charlie Arruda has joined Amoco in Houston as a geophysicist.

Jim Bartel spent the summer doing regional geologic mapping for Houston Oil and Minerals Corp. in the Brooks Range of northwestern Alaska.

Marcus Bowen is working for Gulf Science and Technology Company in Houston as a geophysicist.

Jim Dexter is working with Bendix Field Engineering Corp. in Colorado as a research geoscientist evaluating uranium reserves.

Jim Farnsworth is employed by Gulf Oil Exploration & Production in their geophysics department in New Orleans.

Linda Fenner is interested in the environmental earth science program, specifically in water resources.

Rich Gubitosa transferred to Northern Arizona University to pursue graduate studies in carbonate and fluvial depositional systems.

Jim Hahnenberg is an exploration geologist with Marathon Oil Co. in Houston.

Dave Hall is working on his thesis on the depositional history of the Copper Harbor conglomerate in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

Steve Hoin is working on his thesis in geophysics with Dr. Sauck.

Jon Hermann is working on his thesis concerning the petrology and structural analysis of Chaffin Creek Canyon, western Montana.

Bill Johnston accomplished some thesis field work for a detailed gravity survey over a Silurian reef in southwestern Michigan.

Barb Leonard received her B.S. degree in Biology and Earth Science from WMU in Spring, 1979. She is interested in graduate work in environmental geology and fish and wildlife biology. She is doing a thesis on Silurian rocks of the Michigan Basin.

Tom Luby received his B.S. degree in Geology and Chemistry from Bridgewater State College in Massachusetts. His interests include igneous and metamorphic petrology and environmental geology. Presently he is working on a thesis on the Jacobsville sandstone.

Tom Mahan is completing his thesis on depositional environments in the Ordovician Kope Formation. He is going to work for Cities Service Oil Co. in Tulsa, Oklahoma, after the first of January.

Jeff Martin is presently working for Gulf Science and Technology Co., in Houston.

Val Naeve Dillon married last year and received her M.S. degree on Paleocology and Post-Glacial History of a Bog in Southern Kalamazoo County. She is currently living and working in Chicago.

Clark Niewendorp is working on a thesis on economic geology, specifically on ore deposits of SE Missouri.

Don Penniman is working on a thesis related to environmental geology.

Nick Pogoncheff's thesis is centered around environmental geology.

Kevin Prochaska has done field work on the geochemistry of a differentiated lopolith and its associated ore emplacement mechanism. His study area is in Sudbury, Ontario.

Randy Reichert has just completed his thesis defense and has left for a job with Amoco Oil Co. in Houston.

Kiff Samuelson worked on a structural thesis with Dr. Schmidt in Montana this past summer.

Jeff Spruit accomplished much of the lab and field work on the Rockport Quarry limestone for his thesis research.

Gary Stefaniak is working on a thesis in Mid-Ordovician rocks of Northern Kentucky.

Hall Taylor is working for Phillips Petroleum Company in Oklahoma as a geophysicist.

Lisa Varga is presently completing her thesis on carbonate geology in southern Ohio.

She will go to work for Conoco Oil Co. in Spring, 1981.

Dave White is working as a geologist with Phillips Petroleum Co. in Oklahoma.