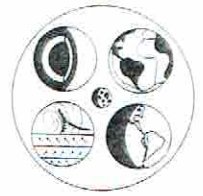




# DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY NEWSLETTER



Volume I No. 1

April 1, 1975

Dear Department Alumni and Friends:

This is the first issue of a long overdue newsletter, which I hope will serve to keep you informed of department activities. The success of this endeavor will in part depend on your response. One of the ingredients of the newsletter will be the activities and whereabouts of our former students. Here, in the department, we receive many requests for information about former classmates or friends that have since graduated and dropped out of contact. It will be up to you to keep us informed of such activities and address changes. In so doing, the department could keep a file that could serve all our former students and friends. Please fill in the attached form at the end of the newsletter and return it to me.

Much has happened to our department in recent years, and it would take many pages to report fully. However, let me briefly summarize a few major events. In 1970, our department moved into new facilities in Rood Hall, which we share with mathematics and physics. Also, we have a Computer (PDP-10) Center and a Physical Science Library. If you have not visited the department a cordial invitation is extended to you.

Programs offered by the department now include M.S.s in earth science and geology, with a new environmental option to our earth science degree. In addition, specialist degree work in earth science is available. In 1971, I stepped down as chairman and went on sabbatical leave to Arizona. Dr. Straw was elected to succeed me and completed his

term the spring of 74. Programs and student activities prospered under his leadership. Last September, I was elected to serve as chairman again.

Several staff changes have occurred in recent years which should be of interest to you. Dr. McGehee went on leave in the fall of 1972 to do research and teaching at the Institute of Geology, University of Mexico, Mexico City. In 1973 he resigned, and since then, has accepted a position at the new University of Texas at San Antonio where he will begin to build a department of geology. Dr. Davis resigned in 1973 to assume the chairmanship at the University of South Florida, in Tampa. Dr. Davis stopped by this past summer after completing several weeks of research on the west shore of Lake Michigan. Dr. Charles Scharnberger (71-72 to 72-73), has taken a position at Millersville State College in Pennsylvania and is currently involved in teaching and oceanographic research during the summer. Phil Mariotti who served as a leave replacement for Dr. McGehee is now at Michigan State University completing requirements for a doctorate.

As replacements for Dick, Skip, and Charlie, the Department hired Dr. Caspar Cronk, Dr. William B. Harrison III, and Dr. Ronald Chase. Dr. Cronk has his Ph.D. from Ohio State and he has been working in the petroleum industry as a geophysicist. He is responsible for teaching plate tectonics, geophysics, and physical geology. He presented a paper at AGU on Plate Tectonics of the Indonesia area. He is currently engaged in developing a research program and is anxious to use the department's new Worden Gravimeter.

In other developments related to exploration geophysics we have a 12-trace refraction seismograph on loan from Ohio State University and a non-dynamite energy source is presently being constructed. A



project using shear waves has been initiated by a graduate student. In addition, a single channel seismic unit is being built. We also have some resistivity equipment of loan from the highway department. This equipment may be used in some ground water pollution studies. For teaching material, the department has been given a considerable quantity of high quality seismic data to be used for instruction in seismic interpretation. Purdue University, through Bill Hinze has provided us with some modeling programs for gravity and magnetic interpretation and these are presently being adapted for our computer.

Bill Harrison completed his degree at the University of Cincinnati and is teaching oceanography, paleontology, and paleoecology. Bill's research interests center on the Brassfield Formation in the Cincinnati area and the molluscan fauna. Bill is also interested in the biological influences on sedimentation, surface water as resources in Kalamazoo County, and trace metal influences of modern pelecypods in Kalamazoo County. A paper on Molluscan Paleoecology is in press.

Ron Chase has a doctorate from the University of Montana and joins our department with extensive teaching experience in the area of petrology and structural geology. Ron has taught at Marshall University, and Southern Colorado State University. Ron is currently involved in a NSF research grant on the structural evolution of the Idaho, Batholith in western Montana. Rob Kell, a new graduate student from V.P.I., served as his field assistant. Rob is using part of this study for his thesis research.

Richard Passero and W. D. Kuenzi are on sabbatical leave for 1974-75. Dick is in Palo Alto, California where he is jointly involved with Stanford University and the U.S.G.S. at Menlo Park. He is vitally interested in environmental geology and will be working with the U.S.G.S.

in environmental research projects in the bay area. Before settling down in California Dick attended an international conference in Hawaii on CircumPacific Resources of Man.

Dave Kuenzi is at the University of Texas at Austin working with Robert Folk and others on carbonate geology. He intends to pursue his research activities in Guatemala in collaboration with Dick McGehee. At Texas, Dave has an office across the hall from John Lufkin who is now on the staff there. John served as an instructor at Western for several years and he went on to Stanford where he completed his doctorate.

As replacements for Dick, and Dave, the department is pleased to have the talents of Linda Harrison from the University of Cincinnati, and John S. Monroe, University of Montana. Linda has taken over Dick's responsibilities in the earth science area and is presently teaching Earth Studies 100 (Geological Science 112) and Planetary Science 107. Planetary Science is a new, and very successful 3-part course involving Geology, Astronomy, and Meteorology for elementary teachers. The course is staffed by faculty from geology, geography and physics with each instructor handling 1/3 of the students for three, 5 week periods. Also, this semester Linda will be handling Teaching of Earth Science. Professionally, Linda is co-author with Bill of a research study on mollusca community in the Brassfield (Lower Silurian, Ohio) presented at A.A.P.G. in San Antonio. She is co-author of another paper to be presented in Dallas at S.E.P.M.--A.A.P.G. this Spring on Holocene sediments of the Rio Grande Delta. Stu Monroe is involved in Earth History and Evolution, Earth Studies 100, and a select group of 11 students in a specialized class on vertebrate paleontology. This semester, Stu will cover depositional systems (formerly stratigraphy and sedimentation).



Bob Havira has been active handling the many responsibilities he has. Last spring Bob taught a most successful new course in photography for scientists. The response was great and Bob will be doing this again for the department.

The staff is currently involved in the preparation of a major publication on the environmental geology of Kalamazoo County. Each faculty member is writing a section of the publication along with contributions on climate, soils, and urban problems from experts outside our department.

Some of the highlights of last year's departmental activities include visiting lecturers Alexander McBirney, Willard Parsons, John Steinhart, Louis Briggs, and Henry Pollack. Dr. McBirney (University of Oregon) served as a University Visiting Scholar and gave a series of lectures on volcanoes and volcanic activity. Dr. Parsons is Professor of Geology at Wayne State University and presented some outstanding slides on the recent eruptions of Mauna Ulu on the island of Hawaii. Drs. Briggs and Pollack are from the University of Michigan. Dr. Briggs presented a program on Silurian reefs and Dr. Pollack spoke on geophysics and plate tectonics in east Africa. Dr. Steinhart is from the University of Wisconsin and spoke on world energy problems.

In 1973 the Department initiated a departmental senior honor award in both Earth Science and Geology. The award is given to students with superior academic achievement and professional involvement. The first recipients were: Connie Chenard, Tom Belchak, and Tom Drean.

A significant highlight of 1973 was the spontaneous reunion party held in Dallas during the November meeting of GSA. Approximately 12 students and 5 faculty attended from Western along with many former students and friends. Alumni able to join in the party were: Grace Stolle, Burt Bordine, Taylor Mayou, Bob Lo Piccolo, and John Pinchot.

Congratulations to Bob and Burt for presenting papers on their doctoral research. Burt is W.M.U.'s first geology major.

John Grace has been having a busy year. This past summer he went on a Colorado River raft trip with the Michigan Earth Science Teacher's Association. The fall semester has been the usual busy time with large classes and many informal meetings in the Knollwood Seminar building. John will be going on sabbatical leave for next year and hopes to spend some time in Cambridge England and Riverside California working on sulfide minerals.

Last year the department established an Environmental Geologic Research Center with Dick Passero and Tom Straw as co-chairman. Currently, Tom is involved with the Citizens Advisory Council for the Kalamazoo, Black, Paw Paw and Mocatawa River Basin Study, as a consultant to governmental units in Region III (a five-county area including Kalamazoo County), and as a staff member of the planning group for area-wide wastewater treatment in Region III. As work in these areas progresses it is becoming apparent that much basin geology needs to be done in southwestern Michigan--this is a major challenge for the center. Tom is current president of the Michigan Basin Geological Society.

My own activities include running the Grand Canyon raft trip in 1974 for the second time. Enroute we study the geology of the Front Range, Canyonlands and Arches National Parks, and Lake Powell. The raft trip runs from Lee's Ferry to Phantom Ranch, a distance of 90 miles through the Marble and Grand Canyons. After leaving the rafts, members must pack-out a distance of 10 miles along the Bright Angel Trail and climbing 5,000 feet on the way. Last year's group included 31 W.M.U. students along with Drs. Chase, Kuenzi, and Macurda (U of M). The stage is set for another trip in April of 1975. This past summer Drs. Passero and Grace organized a raft trip through the Canyon for the Michigan Earth

Science Teachers Association.

In conclusion, I wish to request that everyone receiving this letter complete the attached form and return it to me. I'd like to know your current address, what you think about the Newsletter and something about yourself and professional activities. If you were not mentioned it is because our record keeping is poor, or the department has not heard from you. If you know the whereabouts of other students send us their address, that way I can check it against the one in our file.

In recent weeks the Department received a contribution from an alumnus through the annual alumni drive. I am pleased to report the \$10 will be supplemented by \$15 of department funds to provide a summer field trip scholarship of \$25 to a deserving student. The summer field trip for students of geology or earth science is an expensive undertaking and we are anxious to assist students whenever possible. The Department is appreciative for this contribution.

Thanks are due Betty Garrett, Ellie Papadopoulos, and Warren French for their assistance in the preparation of this Newsletter.

Sincerely,

Lloyd J. Schmaltz



## THIS 'n THAT

Cathy, Ron and Brad (1 year old) DeWitt were recent visitors to the department. They now live in Flagstaff, Arizona. Cathy is with the USGS doing fascinating computer imagery studies on Mars while Ron is with the City Water Dept. and trying to find another well field. They like it out west and sing praises of Flagstaff's weather.

Ernie Kern is in Cape Girardeau, Mo. Ern is teaching Earth Science at Southeastern Missouri University. He has taken-up spelunking and is completing a geological study of Klump's Cave, in Perry Co, Mo. Ernie received his Specialist Degree from W.M.U. in December.

The Peterson's, Carol and Jim, are with Texaco in Denver. The welcome mat is out to all ex-grads wandering through the mile high city. Jim presented a paper at GSA in Flagstaff last April. The John Heinsius' are also "in oil" with Texaco in Midland, Texas. John is interpreting the log of a 21,000 ft. well in the Delaware Basin.

Art Vaholn has taken an earth science teaching and coaching position at Millington, Michigan. Julie Stein is a graduate assistant at the University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota. Julie is in an archeology-geology program. Harriet Cloft has enrolled in the graduate program at the Colorado School of Mines, Boulder Colorado.

Dick Meade is working with John Yellich, Kerr-McGee, at Rawlins, Wyoming. He thinks he'll go to Colorado School of Mines beginning the winter term. John and family visited the department last winter. John is in uranium exploration and has done well in recovering from his back injury.

Bill Middleton is in Tulsa, Oklahoma attending orientation school for Cities Service Co. He'll be out in a field office in February. Bill



writes good things about Cities Service. Connie Chenard is living in Chassell, Michigan and working on ore samples with the atomic absorption unit in the Michigan Tech. School of Mines Lab.

Sue Stone was in checking the billboards the other day. She spent her summer with DNR in the Traverse City area and is looking for an environmental-type job. In the meantime she is taking some classes.

George Fingleton is doing his best for the Army and is now the proud father of a little girl. George Williams was at the G.S.A. meetings in Flagstaff in spring and Ron DeWitt reports he's just the same (whatever that means).

Mike Cote, last report, was teaching High School Earth Science in New Jersey. He and Barb brought their new daughter in to meet everyone last spring. Mike presented a paper at the NAGT session in Dallas. Tom Sherman has travelled throughout much of Europe, U.S.S.R. and the U.S. as a representative of the Geological Survey of Liberia. Tom stopped by the department this past summer and he is hopeful he will be able to return to school soon.

Terry Schmaltz spent a year with the geophysics unit of the U.S.G.S. in Denver, but has recently taken a teaching position in the Boulder, Colorado area. Terry is the only male teacher on the school staff. (What luck)! He intends to work with the U.S.G.S. during summers. Jim Bohlin is teaching at Bridgewater State in Massachusetts. Jim spent the summer in the Cascades and took a course in volcanology out there.

Sandy Scheetz is teaching at Palomar Jr. College near San Diego in California. Sandy loves it out there. Congratulations to Bill Kohland. Bill was selected as the outstanding teacher for 1973-74 at Middle Tennessee State University.

Betty Garrett, the perennial student, is back once more. This time-- the Specialist Program. She is now looking around for a wheelchair, or at least a walking cane, as she has achieved grandmotherhood. Monica Kay the prettiest and very best baby there ever was (a totally unprejudiced opinion) arrived Sept. 20th.

In rather ungrandmotherly fashion she spent the summer "digging" at a large Pueblo site near Magdalena, New Mexico with WMU's Field School. Visitors to the "Dig" were Julie Stein, Harriet Cloft, and Dr. Grace who were "doing" the southwest. After Western's "dig" she joined the U of M archaeology crew in Pinedale, Arizona as she is to do a petrographic analysis of some of their ceramics.

Tom Belchak is a graduate student at the University of Cincinnati and is currently majoring in areal photography and remote sensing. Sue Kaschner is teaching Middle School at Holly Oaks, Michigan. She frequently comes into town to check on the department. Mike Moss is currently surveying in the Kalamazoo area for Mobil Oil. Robert Garrison surprised us all by getting married. He is now a graduate assistant in paleontology at the University of Cincinnati. George Grover was in recently to visit us. He is working with Devonian carbonates at V.P.I. Tom Robyn came to visit us. He and Dr. Kuenzi chatted about volcanology and the volcanoes of Guatemala. He reports that Mary (Mayer) is working in a Lab at the University of Oregon.

Rich Kimmel is a geologist with the Michigan Geological Survey in Lansing, Michigan. Dennis Gaulden is teaching high school near Milwaukee and is currently taking flying lessons. He became a proud father in May (daughter Carol Lyn). Eric Swainson is working on his Ph.D. at the University of Texas. His thesis will involve a study of the volcanoes of Northern Mexico. Rich Saunders is studying oceanography with Dr. Davis at the University of South Florida. Bruce McLeod is



teaching high school in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Dennis Gebbens is working with an engineering firm in Grand Rapids. Gregg Squire is with an environmental consulting firm. Cena Homan teaches Earth Science and Astronomy at Central High School here in Kalamazoo.

Bill Coons is in the Ph.D. program at Arizona State. Dick Cookman teaches at Northwestern Community College in Traverse City. Charlie Cookman (Dick's brother) is a grad student in the department. Dave Waltrip is involved with creating an alternate elementary school in the Traverse City area. The Department has just published his guidebook for West-Central Michigan. Jerry Allen is with a geologic consulting firm in California. Jim Schmidt has taken a teaching position at University Liggett School in Grosse Pointe, Michigan. Sam Yoveff is Science Department Chairman at Bellvidere Jr. High School, Bellvidere, Illinois. Sam took the plunge last July, and has permanently given up his Casinova title. Brian Shaw plans to stay at the University of Michigan to work on a Ph.D.

## GEOLOGY-EARTH SCIENCE CLUB-NEWS

The Geology - Earth Science Club is in action once again this year, as it has been for the past 10 years. The club is earning money again this year, as last year, by selling donuts to all the inhabitants of Rood Hall and Everett Tower, W.M.U. Geology coffee mugs, and t-shirts. There are also tentative plans to assemble geology rock-fossil kits, of Michigan origin, which would serve as an educational teaching aid in the Kalamazoo area elementary and secondary science curriculums. The money which the club earns is spent in updating the department with such things as new show case displays, geological maps, etc. Remaining funds are spent on an annual Geology-Earth Science Trip, open to all members and their families.

Last year the club traveled to the Ozarks of Missouri during spring break. There they toured the Magmont Lead Mine, which is one of the most modern lead mines in the Missouri lead belt. They were able to collect such samples as galena, sphalerite, quartz, and botryoidal chalcopyrite. They also toured a barite mine and a Polished Granite Quarry. They were able to tour the Geology Department of the University of Missouri, at Rolla and were housed, during their stay, at a university fraternity house. Those who ventured to the Ozarks were pleased to report that the geologists at Missouri share the traditional love for beer - for when they arrived, they were greeted by 2 kegs of beer - besides the Missouri geology students. This year's trip will be to Washington, D.C. to see the Smithsonian and new U.S.G.S. facilities.

Club officers for 74-75 are President - Steve Wilmoth, Vice President - Gayle Napolitano, Treasurer - Mari Ann Squires, Secretary - Ellie Papadopoulos, and Social Chairman - Ruta Bormanis.

Ellie Papadopoulos



## GRADUATE STUDENTS

### Warren French

Received his B.S. in Geology from Murray State University, Murray, Kentucky. He is from the Buffalo, New York area and is working on an M.A. in Earth Science.

### Nate Fuller

B.A. in Geology, 1967 from Hope College. 3 years working at West Indies lab in the U.S. Virgin Islands. 1 1/2 years of the three as a geology tech. Research interests lie in modern carbonate sedimentary environments.

### Norm Lovan

Did his undergraduate work at Murray State University. He is a first year graduate from Clay, Kentucky and is working towards a masters in Geology.

### Larry Mascotti

Is from Bessemer, Michigan and received his undergraduate degree from Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota. Larry is in the Earth Science M.A. program.

### Phil McLaren

Is presently a faculty member at Bethel College, Bethel, Indiana. Phil is actively involved with the compilation of his dissertation for the Ph.D. of Science Education which is concerned with student evaluations of science professors in small four year colleges. He is currently writing a paper for Sea Frontiers pertaining to the analysis of beach face and shoreline environments of Narragansette Bay, Rhode Island.

### Gene Murray

Will be completing a master's in Geology this spring. He is doing his thesis work on the trace fossils of the Brassfield Formation (Silurian) in southern Ohio and northern Kentucky. Gene is from Boston, Massachusetts where he attended Boston State College.

### Valerie Naeve

Did her undergraduate work at Bridgewater State College in earth science. She is a first year graduate student from Burlington, Massachusetts and will be working towards a master's in Geology. Valerie is interested in the field of environmental studies.

### Jean Shogquist

Received her B.S. degree in Biology at Central Michigan University. She is a first year graduate student doing a master's in the field of paleontology.

### Jim Smith

Is a second year graduate student from Southfield, Michigan. Jim did his undergraduate work at WMU and is doing thesis work in the Permian sills of Montana.

Jim Staebler

Received his undergraduate degree in Earth Science at WMU. Jim is a second year graduate student and will complete his master's in Geology.

Jack Stevens

Has received a bachelors degree in Subtropical Horticulture at UCLA. He will complete his master's requirements in Earth Science in the winter semester.

Steve Tripp

Is a first year graduate student from Brunswick, Ohio. He received his bachelors in Geology from the University of Akron, Akron, Ohio. Steve is a first year graduate with interests in petrology and structural geology.

Rob Kell

Graduated from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. He is presently working under Dr. Ronald Chase mapping the north central border zone of the Idaho Batholith.

Doug Daniels

Is a 1973 graduate of Western in Geology. His thesis work concerns shoreline processes of Lake Huron.

Brendon Gauthier

Graduated from WMU in 1973 in Earth Science and is a second year graduate student.

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Name _____	Phone _____
Address _____	Year graduated _____
_____	Major _____
	Degree received _____
Current position _____	
Professional interests _____	
_____	
Other news _____	
_____	
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