

March 1998

Volume 24
Number 1

The President's Message

The Geological Society of America Northeast Section meeting in Portland was magnificent and we all owe a lot of thanks to those Mainers who did all the careful planning. I heard nothing but praise for the organization of the meeting, the safety of the streets at night and the great restaurants and bars! More than one person said they hoped we would host it every year...

It is difficult to even think about another meeting, but it is time for the Geological Society of Maine's Spring meeting. As announced elsewhere in this newsletter, the meeting will be at Orono and will focus on student presentations. The prestigious Walter Anderson Award will be presented to the best undergraduate oral and poster presentations.

Several things will come up for discussion at the meeting that I would like to mention in advance. First, it has been suggested that we hold our summer meeting/field trip jointly this year with the New Hampshire Geological Society. Their meeting is very much like ours and we might plan on some cross-border excursions. I will be asking people informally in advance, and bring it up for discussion at the business meeting. Any field trip volunteers will be greatly appreciated.

A second point to ponder is the opportunity to hold another short course this fall. The Geology of Maine course was such a resounding success last October, I suggest we go for a course on The Environmental Geology

of Maine. In this case we will look at applied aspects of our science, rather than the text book material we covered before. I will bring this up for discussion at the Orono meeting and try to scare up some likely presenters.

See you in Orono!
Joe Kelley

The Editor's Message

Transition to a new team sometimes takes a period of settling in, but we have 24 years of quality to build on. This newsletter is a bit later than normal because of the transition, but I'm getting organized. As this is my first experience in this area I had no idea how hard you have to twist some arms, while some eager folks had copy to me the week of my election!

I would like to take this opportunity to remind all that this is your newsletter - I am happy to add new features, or to expand on old. For example, in the past we have published exciting tidbits of breaking Maine science news. Please send along news, changes in your job or personal situation, and raise issues that are of importance to the group. This should be a clearinghouse and message board, but also a source of useful information to the academic, governmental, and professional geologists interested in Maine. I would also like to thank Susan Weddle for her excellent work as my immediate predecessor.

Next year will be the **25'th Anniversary of the GSM**. Let's start thinking of appropriate

activities: field trips, conferences and publications!

Spring Meeting

The Spring Meeting of the GSM will be held at the University of Maine, in Orono on Friday, April 24. Following our long-standing tradition, this meeting will involve student presentations and posters in the afternoon, and a key-note speaker in the evening. All advisors undergraduate and graduate students are urged to encourage their students to participate, to present their work in a verbal or poster format. Please submit your abstracts as soon as possible by mail or e-mail to:

Daniel F. Belknap
Dept. Geological Sciences
University of Maine
Orono, ME 04469-5790
belknap@maine.maine.edu

Abstracts will be compiled and handed out as a Program and Abstracts supplement to the newsletter at the meeting.

The evening speaker will be Dr. Brenda Hall, a Bates BS and University of Maine Ph.D. who will speak on "Abrupt climate change, from a southern hemispheric perspective." Brenda has worked with George Denton for her MS, Ph.D. and now a post-doc, working on the Dry Valleys of Antarctica and regional glacial and climatological problems.

For those of you unfamiliar with the new Bryand Global Sciences Center, the following are directions: **Driving north on I-95**, take Exit 50, turn right (east) on Kelly Road. At T intersection with Main St. (Rt. 2), turn left (N), proceed 2 mi. through Orono, through first traffic lights, and over Stillwater River. At top of hill turn left at traffic lights onto College Avenue. Continue approx. 3/4 mi to N to first University of Maine entrance (large brown sign). Stop at Public Safety in white clapboard

building on that corner for a visitors parking permit (you can get a campus map there if necessary). Go NE on Munson Road to the top of the hill and take the first road to the right (Sebago Road, at Merrill Hall). Take your next right, heading south on Grove Street Extension, past the greenhouses and parking lot. Bryand Global Sciences Center is the 3-story brick building with arched atrium windows, on the left (East). Park either in front or behind the building. Call 581-2152 if you get lost.

Heading South on I-95, take exit 51 onto Stillwater Avenue. Continue approximately 1 mile on Stillwater Avenue, cross the Stillwater River, and take a right at the light (McDonalds and Kentucky Fried Chicken) onto College Avenue. Proceed approximately 1 mile south on College Avenue past the first entrance (hocky arena), the steam plant and second entrance (Sebec Rd.) to the third entrance (Munson Road) on your left, at Public Safety. Continue as above.

Geological Society of Maine

Spring Meeting

Friday, April 24

University of Maine, Orono

1:00-4:30 p.m. Student talks and posters

4:30-5:30 p.m. Social Hour and Business Meeting

5:30-6:45 p.m. Dinner

7:00-8:00 p.m. Keynote Speech: Dr.

Brenda Hall, Post-doctoral Associate, Institute for Quaternary Studies, University of Maine: "Abrupt climate change, from a southern hemispheric perspective."

GSM MEMBER NEWS

Susan Weddle is now a Chapter 1 Resource Assistant tutoring students in math and language arts at Brunswick Junior High School.

She is also taking courses at the University of New England toward her teaching certificate.

Charles Hebson has also joined the teaching ranks. He has his hands full teaching chemistry and physics to 11th and 12th graders at South Portland High School.

Jim Richard is now Director of Operations at Naturelle Spring Water in Greenville, Tennessee.

S.W. Cole has added two new geologists to the staff: **Gary Creaser** in the Bangor office and **Tammy Rasmussen** in the Gray office. **Gary Buckland**, also in the Gray office, is now a Maine Certified Geologist.

Former and current Maine State Geologists **Walter Anderson** and **Bob Marvinney** are organizing the annual meeting of the American Association of State Geologists to be held June 14-17 in Portland. They expect a contingent of geologists from many of the 50 states, as well as representatives of federal agencies, AGI, AAAS and NSF for the business meetings and field trips. The meeting is being co-hosted by **Gene Boudette**, New Hampshire's State Geologist.

Bob Gerber left Jacques Whitford at the end of January to assist a Portland law firm with developing a consulting subsidiary for large project management.

Sharon Locke is currently an adjunct assistant professor in geology at Bowdoin College where she will teach hydrogeology this spring. She will also be teaching an environmental modeling course at Bates College.

Glenn Stewart, former State Geologist of New Hampshire, passed away earlier this year.

Joanne Urquhart is the new lab instructor for geology courses at Bowdoin College.

Woody Thompson (Maine Geological Survey) and **Walter Anderson** have written the

"Geology of Wayne" for the upcoming bicentennial town history .

Ollie Muff is now working for Maine Medical Center on database programming.

Please send member news to Carolyn Lepage at clepagegeo@aol.com or PO Box 1195, Auburn, ME 04211-1195 or by fax to 207-777-1370 or just call 207-777-1049.

9th Maine Mineral Symposium

Mineral collectors are invited to attend the 9th annual Maine Mineral Symposium, to be held in Augusta on the weekend of May 15-17, 1998.

Indoor activities on Friday night and Saturday will again be held at The Senator Inn and Conference Center, located just off Interstate Route 95 on Western Avenue.

The Saturday program will include seven talks of interest to mineral and gem hobbyists. Hans Durstling of Moncton, New Brunswick, will lead off with a talk on the famous gem industry of Idar-Oberstein, Germany.

This will be followed by a talk on the fluorite deposits of Westmoreland, NH (James Tovey), and an introduction to crystallography by Jennie Smith (author of "Understanding Crystallography"). A series of afternoon talks will focus on Maine pegmatite minerals. Presentations will be given by Stephen Welsh (Berry Quarry tourmaline), Raymond Sprague (new finds at Emmons Quarry), Carl Francis (columbites and associated minerals), and Vandall King (history of Mt. Mica).

The Maine Mineral Symposium will also include exhibits as part of the Saturday program. Saturday night features an auction of fine minerals and related collectibles to benefit future symposia. Dealers will have a large selection of minerals and gems for sale at The Senator, beginning on Friday afternoon. They

will be open both evenings and other times when talks are not in progress.

The Sunday field trips are always a popular part of the symposium. The 1998 program will include trips to quarries where you can find your own specimens. The registration fee for the Maine Mineral Symposium is \$10.00 per person, and includes all indoor activities and access to the field trips. Further information is available from Woody Thompson at the Maine Geological Survey (287-7178). For a registration form, contact Robert Hinkley, Yarmouth Rd., Route 115, Gray, ME 04039. Phone: (207) 657-3732.

GSM Treasurer's Report

Will be available at the April meeting.

GSM Secretary's Report

GSM Fall Meeting

Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine

December 5, 1997

by

Rebecca Hewett

The Fall meeting began with an afternoon open house tour of the Geology Department Druckenmiller Science Center. The items listed below were discussed at the meeting:

1. Summer 1997 Meeting Minutes: accept as is.
2. Treasurer's Report: Marty Yates

Total Bal.: \$9,336.31

General Fund: \$4,248.88

Education Fund: \$658.70

Anderson Fund: \$4,428.73 -- the CD makes about \$200 annually in interest. We still receive contribution and will continue to set up to promote student research.

The Short Course in October 1997 brought in about \$4400, expenses were about \$1500 and the net was about \$2800.

3. Geology of Maine Short Course: About 187 people attended. Breakdown as follows: State 43%, Consultants 13%, Teachers 13%, Environmental groups 2%, US Government 5%, Students 2% and Unsure 22% (probably teachers & environmental groups). Sent a mailing to teachers, most notice was via e-mail, we did not issue a press release. Comment forms - Joe can send a summary of the results to anyone who wants it. Teachers - interested in bringing students to it.

Do we do it again? Joe suggested doing it again, maybe next fall and specialize in Environmental Geology.

Dan Belknap's comment: many people liked Chris Dorion's "hands on" presentation, therefore, maybe we could break up the next one with lectures and lab.

We will discuss this again at the Spring 1998 meeting. If there are no other suggestions, we will go with environmental geology.

4. The next meeting will be held at University of Maine, Orono in the new building in April 1998.

5. Field trip Summer 1998: Any suggestions? Maybe we should meet with the Geologic Society of New Hampshire? Bob Marvinney suggested opening up the field trip to people outside of our group. Maybe put out a press release and reach others or maybe have a laypersons field trip. If anyone wants to undertake this, see Joe Kelley later.

6. Election of officers: Officers listed below were voted in:

President: Joe Kelley
Vice President: Walter Anderson
Treasurer: Liz Champeon
Newsletter: Dan Belknap
Secretary: Rebecca Hewett
Postal Chairman: Arthur Hussey
Directors: Carolyn Lepage,
Fred Beck and
Marty Yates (98-01)

7. NEGSA - March 1998 in Portland, ME. Do we want a booth to sell materials? It will likely cost \$200 and will have to be manned.

8. Certification Board will be meeting soon. Let them know soon if you have an opinion on going to the National Exam. Going towards the National exam and a short Maine exam. Applicants will have to pay more per year. If we adopt, it will take effect the fall 1998.

9. Ruth Deike, retired from USGS, spoke on educating young people. She has a Rock Detective Kit (25 activities). She wants to get hands on materials into teachers & school children's hands. Use the kits for outreach. The kits sell for \$100, and the money goes to fund a retreat for adults abused as children at a farm in Dresden. She is looking for rocks too.

10. The evening speaker is Don Koons

11. Meeting adjourned.

Following the business meeting and social hour, Dr. E. Donaldson Koons, former head of the Geology Department at Colby College, gave a talk on the history of geologists in Maine and what they have contributed to the geology of Maine. Dr. Koons began teaching at Colby College in 1947. He provided the audience with a history of the previous and subsequent

geology faculty members at Colby College starting in 1833. In addition, Dr. Koons described the beginnings and subsequent changes that have occurred to the Geology Department at Colby College.

Over the years, many geology faculty members of Colby College and other universities/colleges in the state did geologic work in Maine and published their work. Also, faculty members served as the State Geologist. This position was moved around from one state department to another which resulted in spotty but good geologic work for the State of Maine. Eventually, the State Geologist became a full-time position that heads the Natural Resource Information and Mapping section (formerly the Maine Geologic Survey) under the Department of Conservation. Ties between the State Geologist and the geology faculty members of the universities and colleges across the State of Maine exist today as they did in the past.

Former State Geologist **Walter Anderson** was honored for his years of service and great influence on research into the geology of Maine by a symposium at the Northeast Section of the Geological Society of America Meeting in Portland on March 21. The symposium entitled "Two Decades of Progress in Maine Geology, a Tribute to Walter Anderson's Years as State Geologist" was convened by present State Geologist Bob Marvinney, and featured talks by 11 colleagues representing research groups in bedrock, surficial, hydrology, and cartography. The meeting was well attended, and a splendid measure of the respect and affection that all geologists in the state hold for Walter.

MEMBERSHIP DUES STATEMENT

The GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF MAINE, INC. is a non-profit corporation established as an educational Society to advance the professional improvement of its members; to inform its members and others of current and planned geological programs in Maine; to encourage continuing social contact and dialog among geologists working in Maine; and to further public awareness and understanding of the geology of the State of Maine; and of the modern geological processes which affect the Maine landscape and the human environment.

The Society holds three meetings each year, in the late fall (Annual Meeting), early spring, and mid-summer (usually field trips). A newsletter, *The Maine Geologist*, is published for all members three times a year. The Society year runs from August 1 to July 31. Annual dues and gift or fund contributions to the Society are tax deductible. There are three classes of memberships:

- \$7.00 REGULAR MEMBER Graduate geologists, or equivalent, with one year of practice in geology, or with an advanced degree.
- \$6.00 ASSOCIATE MEMBER Any person or organization desirous of association with the Society.
- \$4.00 STUDENT MEMBER Persons currently enrolled as college students.

A \$2.00 APPLICATION FEE is a one-time fee for all new members, payable when applying for membership.

THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF MAINE ANNUAL RENEWAL / APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

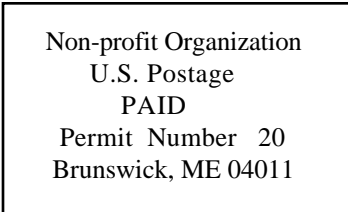
Application Fee	\$2.00	\$ _____	Name _____	Make checks payable to: Geological Society of Maine Elizabeth Champeon, Treasurer Six Liberty Drive Bangor, ME 04401
Regular Member	\$7.00	\$ _____		
Associate Member	\$6.00	\$ _____	Address _____	
Student Member	\$4.00	\$ _____		
Contributions to GSM		\$ _____		
	(please write gift or fund on check)			
TOTAL ENCLOSED		\$ _____	_____	

(Geological Society of Maine funds include the Walter Anderson Fund, the Education Fund, and discretionary gifts as noted by contributor)

1998/99 SOCIETY YEAR BEGINS AUGUST 1 - PLEASE SEND DUES TO TREASURER

THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF MAINE

c/o Arthur M. Hussey, II, Postal Chairman
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THE MAINE GEOLOGIST is published three times a year, in early fall, mid-winter, and summer, for members of the Geological Society of Maine.

Address Correction Requested

Correspondence about membership in the Society should be mailed to:
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- President Joseph Kelley
- Vice President Walter Anderson
- Secretary Rebecca Hewett
- Treasurer Elizabeth Champeon
- Newsletter Editor Daniel Belknap
- Postal Chairman Arthur Hussey
- Directors Carolyn Lepage (97-98)
Fred Beck (97-00)
Martin Yates (97-01)