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GIS newsletter

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GIS Annual Meeting, San Diego, November 4-7, 1979

Ms. Susan Coniglio, Sandia Laboratories, Livermore, California, will speak on *The technical report collection* at the symposium "Collection Development in Geoscience Libraries" on Sunday, November 4. We regret that her name was inadvertently omitted from the program in the June *Newsletter*.

Lee Swift of GSA informs us that the Society's publication *Geology* no longer contains information about the GSA annual meeting. That information is contained in *GSA news and information* which has been issued as a separate publication since January 1979.

Marge Wheeler is in charge of the GIS exhibit booth at the annual meeting. She would like to hear from GIS members who could help to work at the booth. Her address is: Lamar University Library, Box 10021, Lamar University Station, Beaumont, Texas 77710.

NTIS Issues Directory Of Computer Applications

The U.S. Department of Commerce's National Technical Information Service announces publication of the new *Directory of computer software applications—natural resources and earth sciences* (1970-December 1978), a convenient single reference source describing more than 700 research reports containing computer programs and their documentation. The abstracts cover approximately 1600 subject applications and provide details of software for such fields as mining, hydrology, soil and rock properties, earthquake modeling, forestry, remote sensing, cartography, and coastal zone management. The *Directory* is numbered PB-288-486/PCD and is available in paper copy or microfiche for \$25.00 (\$50.00 outside North America) from: NTIS, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22161.

HELP!!!

During the recent mailing of the 1979/80 GIS election ballots, a mailing label became separated from an envelope (domestic postage). In its inimitable fashion, the U.S. Post Office returned the envelope with this message stamped on it: "Returned for better address." Please notify the *Newsletter* editor immediately if you have not received a ballot. Thank you.

USGS Develops Computerized Map Information System

The U.S. Geological Survey, the nation's largest civilian map-making agency, recently demonstrated its new computerized national Map and Chart Information System (MCIS). According to Gary North, Acting Chief of the Survey's National Cartographic Information Center, the MCIS "is designed to provide overnight, detailed listings of maps available for any area of the United States. The new system substantially improves our capability to serve as the nation's 'one stop' map information facility." MCIS currently provides coverage for about 160,000 maps and charts. It is hoped that coverage will expand to one million maps by 1985. The system will list the many kinds of maps and cartographic products produced by USGS: geologic, hydrologic, land use, satellite image and topographic maps. (MCIS now contains over 125,000 of the 7.5- and 15-minute quadrangle maps that are the heart of the USGS topo map series.) Other maps to be included are national maps, such as historical maps held by the Library of Congress and the National Archives, nautical maps produced by the National Ocean Survey, and soil maps issued by the Soil Conservation Service.

"Under the new system, requests for information on map coverage of the U.S. received during the day are transmitted to the main computer in Reston and stored until the evening hours. Results of the searches are made available the next working day as a printout. The printout describes each map that meets the qualifications of the request through the use of thirty basic identifying terms, including the map name, date (publication, survey, revision, and photography), horizontal and vertical datum, contour intervals projection, grid coordinates, relief and microfilm availability. In addition, the printout provides information on the publisher, his address, and phone number. A special feature of the system is its capability to display graphically the outline of each map shown on the computer printout against a background of the state in which it is located. The display assists the requester in deciding if the map pinpoints his area of interest. It also shows gaps in map coverage that might otherwise go undetected." Most routine requests from the public will be handled without charge. Requests requiring considerable computer time may require nominal reimbursement.

A catalog describing all maps covered by the MCIS will be produced semiannually, with the first printing to coincide with the demonstration given in August 1979. Individual state chapters of the catalog will be available for purchase in a microfiche (\$.20 per fiche). Anyone wishing to use the MCIS may call, write or visit any of the

six regional National Cartographic Information Center offices or contact any of the seventeen NCIC state affiliate offices. Further information about these offices or about MCIS may be obtained by contacting Gary W. North, USGS National Cartographic Information Center, National Center, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia 22092, telephone 703/860-6187.

WGA Offers Microfiche Edition Of Guidebooks

Wyoming Geological Association is offering a microfiche edition of its guidebooks, covering the years 1946 through 1978. The thirty-six volumes, plus the index, are on 220 microfiche. They contain geological data from the Rocky Mountain region, involving Wyoming and surrounding states. The set, complete with a metal file with individual dividers, is being offered, on a one-time basis, for \$85.00. The microfiche alone are available for \$65.00. All orders must be *prepaid* and received by November 1, 1979. After that date, the microfiche with file will cost \$100.00; the microfiche alone, \$80.00. Updates will be available as new guidebooks are completed. Orders should be addressed to: Wyoming Geological Association, P. O. Box 545, Casper, Wyoming 82602, Attn.: Reprint Committee.

SLA Division Issues Call For Papers

Special Libraries Association's Geography and Map Division has issued a call for papers for its annual meeting June 8-12, 1980, in Washington, D. C. "In addition to papers relating directly to the theme, 'The Realities of the 80's—Challenging the Individual,' such as those on financial support for map libraries or the impact of the automation of cartography on map libraries, papers on 19th century cartography, surveys, etc., and on the cartography of Washington, D. C., and surrounding states are encouraged. Because of a planned emphasis on visits and tours to geographically and cartographically oriented institutions the number of papers accepted for presentation at the conference will be limited. Therefore, it is *essential* that abstracts of proposed papers be forwarded, prior to *September 30th, 1979* to: John R. Schroeder, Head, Cataloging Unit, Geography and Map Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C. 20540."

Janet Meserve, astronomy-geology subject cataloger at the Library of Congress, points out that librarians can affect both cataloging and classification in their subject areas. LC welcomes input from the field. Send cataloging suggestions to: Eugene T. Frosio, Principal Subject Cataloger, Library of Congress, Subject Cataloging Division, 10 1st Street, S. E., Washington, D. C. 20540.

Tsunami Data Now Available From World Data Center A

Tide gage records, photographs and seismograms associated with the occurrence of tsunamis (ocean waves generated by earthquakes) are now available from World Data Center A (WDC-A) for Solid Earth Geophysics, Boulder. *Tide gage records recorded at Pacific tide stations* describe 33 tsunami events that occurred from 1963-75. The file now contains about 500 records, but will total 2,000 upon completion. Present plans call for collecting records for the United States back to the year 1850. NOAA's National Ocean Survey (NOS) has contributed these important records to the National Geophysics and Solar-Terrestrial Data Center (NGSDC) for further distribution. The tide gage records are available on microfiche for \$.50/fiche (minimum order is \$5.00). Each tide station has supplied records that contain a five-day span of wave data encompassing the tsunami event with adequate gage quiet time. Complete station-months of data are also available for U.S. stations recording tsunamigenic events. Additional mareograms from other nations are also available in film format.

Literature Citations

Currie, William W. Annotated list of the publications of the Michigan Geological Survey, 1838-1977. Indexed by author, mineral, and county. *Michigan Geological Survey Division. Circular 16*. 1978. 38 p.

The information manager: meeting information needs at Atlantic Richfield—America's 13th largest corporation. *The information manager*, vol. 1, no. 5, July/August 1979, p. 12-16.

Lander, James F. The World Data Center system. *Episodes*, geological newsletter, International Union of Geological Sciences, vol. 1979, no. 2, July 1979, p. 26-28.

McLemore, Ethel Ward. Dallas library (letter to the editor discussing the Geological Information Library of Dallas). *Geotimes*, vol. 24, no. 8, August 1979, p. 10-11.

Seidman, Ruth K. Access to environmental information through EPA. *Education libraries*, vol. 4, no. 2, Winter 1979, p. 29-31.

Taylor, Graham and Kanasy, James E. Special challenges and problems in a technical information service serving the mineral and energy industries. [Canada Centre for Mineral and Energy Technology—CANMET]; in *Canadian Association for Information Science. Proceedings of the Sixth Canadian Conference on Information Science*, 1978, p. 197-211.

Tiberio, Barbara. The acquisition of free cartographic materials: request and exchange. *Special libraries*, vol. 70, nos. 5/6, May/June 1979, p. 233-238.

New Publications

Atlas of Australian resources. Second series. Summer 1979. 30 map sheets (29 x 28 in., ranging in scale from 1:36,000,000 to 1:250,000) and accompanying commentaries. \$100.00. Available from: Unipub, 345 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10010.

Canadian mines handbook 1979-80. Compiled by *The Northern Miner*. Pap. \$14.00; leatherette cover, \$17.00. Northern Miner Press Ltd., 7 Labatt Ave., Toronto M5A 3P2.

Cold regions science and technology. Quarterly. Volume 1, 1979- Amsterdam, Elsevier Scientific Publishing Company. Subscription: U.S. \$75.50/Dfl. 155.00 including postage.

This international journal will discuss "scientific and technical problems of cold environments, including both natural and artificial environments. Its primary concern is problems related to the freezing of water, and especially with the many forms of ice, snow and frozen ground. Emphasis will be given to *applied science*, mainly in the physical sciences, with broad coverage of the physics, chemistry and mechanics of ice, ice-water systems, and ice-bonded soils. Relevant aspects of *earth science* and *materials science* will also be primary concerns. Technological aspects are expected to be dominated by research, development and professional practice in *engineering*."

Marine science newsletters - 1977, an annotated bibliography. Compiled by Charlotte M. Ashby. Wash., D.C., U.S. Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Environmental Data Service, 1977. 32 p. (NOAA technical memorandum EDS NODC 5). Available without charge from: Technical Records Branch, EDS, NOAA, Wash., D.C. 20235.

Stommel, Henry and Fieux, Michele. *Oceanographic atlases: a guide to their geographic coverage and contents.* Woods Hole, Mass., Woods Hole Press, 1978. 98 p. Cloth \$15.00; paper \$8.50.

Yska, Gerda and Martyn, John. *Databases suitable for users of environmental information.* 1979? UK: £5.00; £4.00 to Aslib members. Overseas: £6.25; £5.00 to Aslib members. North America: \$15.00; \$12.00 to Aslib members. (ISBN 0-85142-113-X). Available from: Aslib Publications, 3 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PL.

New Members

Edith B. Chase
Technical Publications Editor/Writer
U.S. Geological Survey,
Water Resources Division
439 National Center
Reston, Virginia 22092

Ruth Joan Sobanski
754 Holly Drive
Mentor on the Lake, Ohio 44060

GIS Members In The News

JULIAN H. GREEN, formerly with the Geology Library, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, is now Librarian, Department of Geological Sciences Library, Harvard University.

JOHN G. MULVIHILL, formerly Project Manager, GeoRef, has a new title effective September 1: Director, GeoRef Information Systems.

Position Open

POSITION IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE for person with MS degree in library science; BS degree in geological sciences and/or experience in mineral economics and commodities research; and at least five years of professional library experience. Responsibilities will include organization and operation of library, collection development, reference and bibliographic services. Salary negotiable.

Send résumé to: Mr. Walter H. Garza, Administrative Services Manager, Molycorp, Inc. (a wholly-owned subsidiary of Union Oil Company of California), P.O. Box 54945, Los Angeles, California 90054.

An affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.

1979 GIS Officers

PRESIDENT: Julie H. Bichteler, Graduate School of Library Science, The University of Texas at Austin, Box 7576, University Station, Austin, Texas 78712 (512/471-3821)

PAST PRESIDENT: Richard D. Walker, Library School, University of Wisconsin, Madison, 600 North Park Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53706 (608/263-2919 or 263-2900)

VICE-PRESIDENT and PRESIDENT-ELECT: Rosalind Walcott, Earth and Space Sciences Library, State University of New York at Stony Brook, Stony Brook, New York 11794 (516/246-3616)

SECRETARY: Caryl L. Shields, U. S. Geological Survey Library, Mail stop 914, Denver Federal Center, Box 25046, Denver, Colorado 80225 (FTS: 303/234-4133; commercial: 303/234-4133; home 303/449-9146). *Please send mail to home address: 510 22nd Street, Boulder, Colorado 80302.*

TREASURER: Robert A. Bier, Jr., U. S. Geological Survey Library, National Center - Mail stop 950, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia 22092 (FTS: 703/928-6671; commercial: 703/860-6671)

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 \$12.00 per year and is included in the Society's annual membership dues. All correspondence relating to dues, membership status and address changes should be directed to the GIS Secretary.

GIS members are invited to contribute articles or news of general interest to the membership. Please submit all material to the Editor.

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