

# GIS newsletter

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## Nominating Committee For 1982 GIS Election Has Been Named

Members of the 1982 GIS Nominating Committee are Nancy Crossfield, Marie Dvorzak, Nancy Pruett, and Mary Scott.

New officers will be elected via mail ballot prior to the October Annual Meeting in New Orleans.

## USGS Branch Publishes Bibliography On Alaska

Information about the latest publications on earth science in Alaska can be found in the *Technical data bibliography* of the USGS Branch of Alaskan Geology. The monthly publication contains citations (some briefly annotated) gathered weekly from new acquisitions of the USGS Library, Menlo Park, and from journals available in its reading room. Four categories of publications are covered in the compilation: (1) USGS publications on Alaska, (2) Articles written by USGS personnel for outside publications, (3) Articles written by authors not associated with the Survey, and (4) Publications of general interest to Alaska Geology Branch personnel. (These are usually earth science literature of Canadian territory adjacent to Alaska or the northeastern part of the Soviet Union.) To receive a sample of the bibliography, contact Ellen R. White, Technical Data Unit, Branch of Alaskan Geology, USGS, Mail Stop 48, 345 Middlefield Rd., Menlo Park, CA 94025 (telephone: FTS 467-2342 or 415/323-8111, ext. 2342 or 2684).

## ELSE And EDITERRA Merge Into EASE

A new association of scientific editors, European Association of Science Editors (EASE), was founded May 14 in Pau, France. It is the result of a merger of the European Life Science Editors' Association (ELSE) and the European Association of Earth Science Editors (EDITERRA). Besides continuing publication of *Earth & life science editing* every four months, the new association will expand its program of regular conferences and workshops. The organization will hold a workshop in York, England, on 4-5 November 1982 and a joint conference with the Council of Biology Editors at Trinity College, Cambridge, in September 1984. Membership is open to all editors and those working in the dissemination of scientific knowledge. The first president of EASE is Dr. Stephen Lock, editor, *British medical journal*, and the vice-president is University of Helsinki professor Paul Fogelberg, who is editor of *Boreas*. Further information about the association may be obtained from the Secretary/Treasurer, Nancy Morris, P.O. Box 33, Farnham, Surrey, GU10 3JX, U.K. (telephone: 0252 723945).

## GCAGS Publishes New Volume Of Gulf Coast Bibliography

Volume 4(1975-1979) of the *Bibliography of Gulf Coast geology* has just been published by the Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies, Austin, Texas. The 242-page publication is based on citations from GeoRef files. It updates the previous bibliographies published in 1970 (volumes 1 and 2) and 1976 and contains some previously omitted older citations. Jules Braunstein, Earth Sciences Dept., University of New Orleans, is the editor. The bibliography is GCAGS' *Special publication no. 3* and may be purchased for \$8.00 (pre-pay) from Earth Enterprises, Inc., P.O. Box 672, Austin 78767. Foreign orders should add \$2.00.

## Coastal, Estuarine Sciences Featured In New AGU Series

*Coastal upwelling* is the first monograph in the American Geophysical Union's new *Coastal and estuarine sciences series*. The publication, edited by Francis A. Richards, "explores, studies and reports on a vital part of our ecosystem through a multidisciplinary perspective. Many articles in the volume are based on the results of intensive studies from expeditions of four different upwelling regions: off Baja, California; Oregon; Northwest Africa; and Peru." The 544-page monograph is available for \$23.00 from AGU, 2000 Florida Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20009. The purpose of the series is to "advance the knowledge of physical, chemical and biological processes in coastal and estuarine regimes and their relevance to societal concerns. Future volumes in the series will include state-of-the-art reviews, current research, reports from major meetings, outlines and special collections."

## Paleontological Institute Issues New Monograph Series

The Paleontological Institute, publisher of *The University of Kansas paleontological contributions*, has added a new serial to those already issued under the general title. The first title in *The University of Kansas paleontological contributions. Monographs* will be *Echinoderm faunas from the Bromide Formation (Middle Ordovician) of Oklahoma*. Edited by James Sprinkle, the publication has 360 pages, 41 tables, 113 figures, and 42 plates. *Monographs* will be distributed on exchange to scientific institutions and libraries throughout the world. They may also be purchased from the Exchange and Gifts Dept. (Library Sales Office), University of Kansas Libraries, Lawrence 66045. The ISSN number is 0278-9744.

## National Climatic Center Revises Monthly Publication

*Storm data*, a monthly publication issued by the National Climatic Center (NCC), an arm of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Environmental Data and Information Service, has just been revised and improved. *Storm data* is the only issued climatological data source that uses the T. Theodore Fujita F-Scale to classify the severity of tornadoes. New features include "Outstanding Storms of the Month," a section that highlights severe weather and includes descriptive photographs of storms, their tracks, analyzed maps, death and injury reports, and estimated damage or destruction figures. Storm summary reports and National Weather Service narratives on tropical storms have also been added to the new publication. *Storm data* serves a wide range of users such as insurance companies as a basis for risk assessment, establishing rates, and settling damage claims; utility companies for design in maintaining power and communications systems; and academic institutions for instruction and environmental research.

Decision-making information is derived from rare event disasters affecting locations and designs of public buildings, nuclear plants, bridges, food production, transportation, and engineering design. Listed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission as a recommended reference, the bulletin provides a basis for statistical descriptions of tornadoes, lightning, thunderstorms, floods, and other severe weather. It tells specifically what extreme weather has done to people, their property, and their activities. *Storm data* is available at \$12.60 annual subscription. Those interested should contact the National Climatic Center, Federal Building, Asheville, NC 28801-2696 or Ward R. Seguin (704/258-2850, ext. 733).

## New Publications

✓ *Bibliography of Minnesota geology, 1951-1980*. Compiled by G.B. Morey, Nancy Balaban, and Lynn Swanson. *Minnesota Geological Survey Bulletin* 46, 1981 (publ. 1982). \$10.00 plus \$1.00 postage and handling fee. Minnesota residents should include \$.50 sales tax.

The bibliography updates *Minnesota Geological Survey bulletin* 34, *Bibliography of Minnesota geology*, published in 1951 and still available for \$1.00. It incorporates the literature cited in a supplement published in 1962.

✓ *Ch'ung-kou kou-tsaot'i-hsiyu ti-chen t'u (Seismotectonic map of China)* by Ch'ung-kou Ti-chih k'o-husueh yuan. Wu-liu-erh tsung-ho ta-tui (Chinese Institute of Geology, Group 562). Ti-t'u Ch'u-pan-she (Map Publishing Co.) (1979, 1st ed., second printing). Distributor: (New China Bookstore, Peking Distributor, People's Republic of China). Try this export dealer: China National Publishing Industry Trading Corp., P.O. Box 614, Beijing, The People's Republic of China. Scale: 1:4,000,000. 1 sheet, in color, with text. 3.75 RMBY.

✓ *Continental shelf research*. Vol. 1, no. 1, Spring 1982. Quarterly. Annual subscription: US \$75.00; two-year rate (1982/3), \$142.50. Pergamon Press, Fairview Park, Elmsford, NY 10523; Headington Hill Hall, Oxford OX3 0BW, England.

✓ *Geological literature on the North Slope of Alaska, 1974-80*. 1981. 127 p. \$5.00. State of Alaska, Dept. of Natural Resources, Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys, P.O. Box 80007, College, AK 99708.

"Includes references to most geological literature published on that part of Alaska north of 68 degrees. Special emphasis is placed on petroleum geology."

*Quaternary science reviews*. 1982. Quarterly. Annual subscription: US \$70.00; two years (1982/3), \$133.00 including postage and insurance. Pergamon Press. 014-

## Letter To The Editor

By this time you have probably seen the "Lament of an Indexer" in the November 1981 issue of *The GeoRef newsletter*, but I am sending it along just to highlight the real needs it expresses and to suggest you consider reprinting it in a forthcoming issue of the *GIS newsletter*. I am hoping that a general outcry from map and atlas users (from librarians and indexers to the public) will reach publishers' ears. Some of them already do an excellent job of providing needed information, e.g., sources (where can I get this map?). Another way of bringing these needs to the attention of publishers is personal contact at meetings and in the normal flow of correspondence. The problem of insufficient information (e.g., date, publisher/distributor address) on maps and atlases has long concerned the Geography and Map Division of the Library of Congress, and I know it has been a problem to GIS members and their library users.

Barbara Christy  
Geography and Map Division, Library of Congress  
Washington, DC

## The Lament Of An Indexer

(Reprinted with Ms. Christy's addenda.)

To all the map-makers and publishers of the world—a plea: What a bibliographer and an indexer would love to have in a map but rarely does:

1. Title.
2. Indication of location plus longitudes and latitudes.
3. Publication date.
4. Responsible organization or person or publisher—or anything! And the address.
5. Scale.
6. Legend.
7. Edition indication (with previous editions indicated also).
8. Serial information.
9. Relation, if any, to monograph publication.
10. An indication that the blasted thing is a map in the first place.
11. Price (effective for a given date).

## Literature Citations

(GIS members in caps)

*Bibliography of theses and dissertations on Colorado, 1968-1980*, prepared by The Rocky Mountain Association of Geologists Titles Committee (Bibliographic Subcommittee: CHERYL L. KIRK, William J. Byrd and Robin L. Dow; Map Subcommittee: Joseph R. Lukas and Kathy A. Barrie). *The mountain geologist*, vol. 18, no. 4, October 1981, p. 96-113.

Cox, Dennis P. et al. The nature and use of copper reserve and resource data. *U. S. Geological Survey. Professional paper* 907-F, 1981, 20 p.

Fulton, Patricia and Johnson, Harold. Geindex (data base and data-base management system for the index to geologic maps). *U. S. Geological Survey. Professional paper* 1172, 1982, 298 p.

Hill, Dorothy. The first fifty years of the Department of Geology of the University of Queensland. *Queensland University. Dept. of Geology. Papers*, vol. 10, no. 1, 1981, 68 p.

MacPherson, H.G. and Livingstone, A. Glossary of Scottish mineral species 1981. *Scottish journal of geology*, vol. 18, pt. 1, 1982, 107 p.

Oceanographic data: tactical lifeblood of the U. S. Fleet. *Sea technology*, vol. 23, no. 2, February 1982, p. 10-15.

Processing ocean coring data. *Sea technology*, vol. 23, no. 2, February 1982, p. 36-37.

Sullivan, Daniel H. Seismic data processing: yesterday, today and tomorrow. *Sea technology*, vol. 23, no. 2, February 1982, p. 16-19.

Swanson, R.W. et al. Geologic names of the United States through 1975. *U. S. Geological Survey. Bulletin* 1535, 1981, 643 p.

Whitmore, Jr., Frank C. Resources for the 21st century: summary and conclusions of the International Centennial Symposium of the U.S. Geological Survey. *U. S. Geological Survey. Circular* 857, 1981, 41 p.

Wilson, Charles W., Jr. State geological surveys and state geologists of Tennessee, a history of the development of the Division of Geology, Dept. of Conservation. (150th anniversary, 1831-1981). *Tennessee. Division of Geology. Bulletin* 81, 1981, 62 p.

## Update On Efforts To Expand The GIS Newsletter

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We are beginning to expand the *GIS newsletter* (see the December 1981 issue of the *Newsletter* for further background). We're off to a great start with the appearance in this issue of a new column "Online

Databasics" by Nancy Pruett. Those who have topics they would like to see discussed in Nancy's online column are encouraged to contact her. (For Nancy's address, see the "1982 GIS Officers" section of the *Newsletter*.)

Another addition soon to appear is a "forum" type of column which will focus on concerns of those dealing with geoscience information in an industrial/business environment. It will be authored by MaryAnn Whitney. I am sure that many of you in company libraries face different problems than those in academic geoscience libraries. If you have ideas or particular concerns you would like to see this column address, please contact MaryAnn Whitney, Standard Oil Company of California, Library, Room 1410, 225 Bush St., San Francisco, CA 94104, 415/894-3370.

As I have previously mentioned, we would like to expand the *Newsletter* by including refereed articles. We are currently investigating setting up an editorial review board and guidelines for the format of manuscripts. In the meantime, if you have ideas for the expanded *Newsletter*, topics you would like to see addressed, or articles you would like to submit, please contact me.

## Online Databasics (Or . . . The Holocene Online Scene)

Nancy J. Pruett  
3144, Technical Library  
Sandia National Laboratories  
Albuquerque, NM 87185  
505/844-6430

In this column we will be exploring online databases in the geosciences. There are four areas within the scope of this column:

- (1) Changes and improvements needed in online bibliographic geoscience databases (GeoRef and GeoArchive).
- (2) The geoscience content of and access to other bibliographic databases such as Inspec, Chemical Abstracts, BIOSIS, DOE's Energy Database, etc.
- (3) Search techniques.
- (4) Numeric databases.

The emphasis of the column will be on the bibliographic databases, since that is where my current expertise lies. But some of the issues concerning numeric databases in the geosciences will occasionally creep in. Readers who have issues they'd like to see discussed are urged to contact me.

In this first column, I'd like to discuss writing SDI profiles (selective dissemination of information) on the Dialog system. GeoRef has recently become available for SDI on Dialog and I am getting considerable experience setting up SDI profiles on Dialog. SDC also has SDI capability available; if anyone with more experience than I have would like to write about that system, please contact me. GeoArchive is not available for SDI, but if or when it is, the basic system on Dialog will be the same.

The purpose of SDI on any system is to help people keep current with the literature of interest to them. How does SDI work on Dialog? You start by doing a search on the file of interest, in this case GeoRef, and storing that search profile by entering the command "end/SDI." Each month when Dialog updates the GeoRef file with tapes from AGI, they also run your profile automatically against the update and send you a printout of citations which match your profile.

Dialog charges \$8.95 for up to 25 citations per update of GeoRef. You can get more citations by paying extra for them; you set the limit on the citations when you store the profile. The price goes down a couple of dollars if you have 300 profiles on one password. Without the volume discount, the cost would be \$107.40 a year for the 12 updates. But you also have to consider the online time to test, store and modify the profile. That time is difficult to estimate, but you should figure at least half an hour (or \$35). So the total cost for the first year of targeted current awareness is less than \$150.

Since there is a limit on the citations, profiles work best for relatively narrow subjects, for instance, a profile on the mechanical properties of tuff, one on a particular formation, or one on ostracod pores. But I have some successful profiles running on broader topics, such as one on the geology of southern Nevada and one on radioactive waste disposal.

So how do you go about setting up a profile? First, do a search just as you would ordinarily. (If you don't know how to search on Dialog yet, you should learn that before you start doing SDI's.) At the end of the search you enter a print statement, limiting to 1-25 or whatever you're willing to pay. You may also want to enter a line as "sdi profile for joan geologist" to help identify the printout. (Dialog mails to the address identified with your password, not to individual users.) Then enter "end/sdi." Dialog comes back with a four-character serial number (e.g. APQR) which is like a savesearch number. By using the A--- number, you can recall the search at any time to review it, modify it, run it against other databases, or delete it.

Of course, these directions are somewhat simplified. You will want to test the profile to see how many hits to expect in each update. You can do this by entering Dialog's code for the latest update (UD=9999) and combining that set with the set you printed from. You also should look at some of the results (if you haven't already) to be sure you're getting relevant materials. If there were too many hits in the last update, consider modifying the profile.

To modify, you "begin" in the file again, because when you say "end/sdi" again Dialog will save all search statements from the last begin command. Rerun the profile or the parts of it you want to use by using it like a savesearch (e.g. ".exs APQR/1-5"), adding the new statements, a new print statement, and end/sdi again. You will get a new profile number and must cancel the old one just as you would cancel a savesearch ("recall APQR" and then ".release").

Further details for SDI storing are in Dialog's *Technical note 1: SDI service.* You may also want to brush up on savesearch technique.

Overall, the SDI system on Dialog works well. You can test a profile online, look at some of the output and check the number of citations in the last update and in previous updates if you wish. It's easy to turn a retrospective search into an SDI. However, once you have a profile working and you want to make modifications, the current system is needlessly cumbersome. For instance even if you merely want to correct a type in the last line of a 40-statement search, you have to "begin" again, run the whole search against the whole file, change the bad line, store it again, and cancel the old one. However, we expect that as more people begin doing SDI profiles, Dialog will find ways to make the modification process less burdensome.

The real virtue to an SDI profile is that it is automatic and that it can be closely targeted to the user's interest. If you are already searching you should offer it as an additional service. If you have someone who comes back after six months for an update to a search you did for him or her, you have a good candidate for SDI. If you have to recharge, you could use the estimate of \$150 per year. Don't let inertia or the difficulty of budgeting for SDI keep you from offering a service that has great potential value for your users.

## New Members

Janis M. Mattinson  
Exploration Editor  
Information Services  
University of Tulsa  
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918/592-6000 ext. 305

Public Archives Canada  
Library  
395 Wellington St.  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N3, Canada  
(L. Cardinal)

**1981 Financial Report**  
**January 1, 1981 To December 31, 1981**



GEOSCIENCE INFORMATION SOCIETY

	Checking Account	Savings Account	Net Gain (Loss)
Balance as of January 1, 1981	\$ 710.87	\$4,339.39	
<b>Income</b>			
Dues - Individual	\$4,858.00		
- Corporate	909.04		
Newsletter Subscriptions	724.50		
Publications - Directory	40.00		
- Proceedings	<u>3,275.46</u>		
	\$9,807.00		\$ 9,807.00
Interest		248.86	<u>248.86</u>
Total Income			\$10,055.86
<b>Expenses</b>			
Newsletter - Printing	\$1,279.00		
- Postage and Misc.	554.24		
Proceedings	1,901.60		
AGI Dues and Fellow Program	496.00		
GIS Expenses - Secretary	132.40		
- Treasurer	18.03		
- Publications Manager	92.53		
- Travel	205.00		
- Misc. Printing and Postage	524.25		
GIS Committees - Guidebooks	10.62		
- Membership	196.12		
- Thesis	619.51		
GSA/GIS Annual Meetings - 1980, 1981	558.33		
International Conference	<u>1,000.00</u>		
Miscellaneous	90.32		
Total Expenses	\$7,677.95		<u>\$ 7,677.95</u>
Funds transferred to 1982 Treasurer	2,839.92		
Balance as of December 31, 1981		\$4,588.25	
Total Net Gain			\$ 2,377.91

Submitted Marie Dvorzak Date 4-15-82  
 Marie Dvorzak, Treasurer

Audit

I have examined the financial records of the Society and to the best of my knowledge, the figures given in this report are true.

Terese S. Gign April 19, 1982

**1982 GIS Officers**

PRESIDENT: Mary W. Scott, Bibliography Department, Chester Fritz Library, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, North Dakota 58202 (701/777-4638 or 777-2617)

PAST PRESIDENT: Nancy J. Pruet, 3144 Technical Library, Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87185 (505/844-6430). Home: 1604 California Street, N.E., Albuquerque, NM 87110 (505/268-2946).

VICE-PRESIDENT and PRESIDENT-ELECT: Regina Brown, Orton Memorial Library of Geology, The Ohio State University, 155 South Oval Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43210 (614/422-2428)

SECRETARY: Nancy L. Crossfield, Geology-Geophysics Library, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 430 Weeks Hall, Madison, Wisconsin 53706 (608/262-8956)

TREASURER: Beatrice Lukens, Earth Sciences Library, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, California 94720 (415/642-2997)

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 \$20.00 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, by the first of the month, one month prior to publication.

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 614/422-2428