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GEOSCIENCE INFORMATION SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER no. 8

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1968 GIS CONVENTION in MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

The 3rd Annual Convention of the Geoscience Information Society will be held in Mexico City in conjunction with the meetings of the Geological Society of America, 11-13 November 1968. The one-day convention on Monday, November 11th, will feature a technical session on Information Exchange beginning at 9:30 A.M., followed directly by the GIS business meeting scheduled from 11:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Both gatherings will convene in Committee Room 2, Building A of the Congress Unit of the Medical Center (Centro Medico) of the Mexican Institute of Social Security.

Four papers have been scheduled for the technical session:

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|--|-----------|
| 1. Louis I. Briggs and Darinka Zigic (Univ of Michigan) | |
| <u>Design of information services and systems in the Subsurface Laboratory, University of Michigan</u> | 9:30 A.M. |
| 2. A.T. Miesch, George Van Trump jr, R.V. Mendes, and T.G. Lovering (U.S. Geological Survey, Denver) | 9:50 |
| <u>Computer processing of geochemical data</u> | |
| 3. William W. Doyel (U.S. Geological Survey, Washington) | |
| <u>Cataloging information to provide a user's guide to water data</u> | 10:10 |
| 4. Shirley, Howard B. (Battelle Memorial Institute) | |
| <u>Discipline-oriented national information networks</u> | 10:30 |

A five-minute discussion may follow each paper. Co-chairmen of the technical session will be Mrs. Julie H. Nott (Southwest Center for Advanced Studies, Dallas) and Dr. Calvin H. Stevens (San Jose State College).

There will be a one-day GIS Field Trip to the principal libraries of Mexico City on Thursday, November 14th. The libraries to be visited include those of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, the Comisión Nacional de Energía Nuclear, the Museo Nacional de Antropología, the Biblioteca Nacional, and the Centro de Estudios Avanzados of the Instituto Politécnico Nacional. Field trip leaders will be J. Licea and librarians of the institutions to be visited. The estimated cost of \$10 (U.S., prepaid) includes transportation and lunch.

There will be a meeting of the GIS Executive Committee on Tuesday, November 12th (time and place yet to be determined).

GIS members should have received, by now, Circular 2 of the Geological Society of America, describing the GSA meetings. All who attend any function, technical session, field trip, or social event are expected to register with GSA (fee is \$18) and wear attendance badges. Forms for pre-registration, hotel reservations, and field-trip fees are enclosed with Circular 2. Those members who have not received Circular 2 can obtain information from: Ing. Guillermo P. Salas, General Local Committee Chairman, Geological Society of America, Apartado Postal No. 7837, Mexico 7, D.F., Mexico.

Requirements regarding entering Mexico have been kept to a minimum. For U.S. nationals, a

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tourist card is obtainable, free of charge, at any Mexican Consulate, Government Tourist office, at the border upon proof of citizenship, or from the air lines. A small-pox vaccination card is no longer required. Canadian citizens must present valid passports, although no visa is required.

GSA recommends early arrival and registration on Saturday, November 9th, to avoid a last-minute rush and to enjoy those Mexico City attractions that take place only on Sunday, such as the Bullfights and the Ballet Folklórico. GSA Headquarters will be at the María Isabel Hotel. There will be a constant shuttle-bus service between the Medical Center and all the principal hotels.

NOTE: GIS members who are not members of GSA (or of an affiliated society that will provide the program with abstracts this year) may purchase the 1968 Program with abstracts, at cost, by sending a letter confirming personal use to Miss Lee Swift, Geological Society of America, Box 1719, Boulder, Colo. 80302. The at-cost price will be a considerable savings over the retail price. Library orders must be retail. We regret that we cannot provide the program with abstracts gratis to our members this year.

GIS ACTIVITIES

Thirteen GIS members and guests gathered for dinner at the Statler-Hilton Hotel on 4 June during the annual convention of the Special Libraries Association in Los Angeles. The group made several suggestions to be considered by the membership at the GIS convention in Mexico City. Arrangements, including the liquid kind (an achievement on primary-election night) were made by Carleton Clifford of Chevron Research, and the evening was a great success.

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A recent statistical summary of the GIS membership, conducted by William Sanders (U.S. Geological Survey, Menlo Park, Cal.), reveals that 36% of our members are em-

ployed in the academic setting, 25% by government (Federal, state, and local), 22% by industry (primarily petroleum), 14% by research institutes and professional societies, and 2% are self-employed. Almost half (47%) of our members classify themselves as librarians; and more than half (56%) have earned an advanced degree. Geographically, we are most populous in the Washington, D.C. area (including Maryland and Virginia), where 18% of our members work. The next three states are California (12%), Texas (11%), and New York (9%). A little more than 15% of GIS hail from any of 14 foreign countries, with Canada claiming exactly one-half.

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Selected papers from the 1966 and 1967 GIS symposia are in the final stages of publication. Present plans call for the volume to appear before the end of October 1968, and hopefully it will be available during the GIS convention in Mexico City. Of the six papers in the 50-page volume, five were delivered during the 1967 GIS symposium in New Orleans.

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A paper entitled "The Geoscience Information Society, a forum for specialized scientific communication" by GISers Howard B. Shirley (Battelle Memorial Institute) and President Dederick C. Ward (Univ of Colorado) has been selected for presentation at the 31st annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science and for publication in the Proceedings of that meeting. The ASIS meeting will be held 20-24 October 1968 in Columbus, Ohio. Mr. Shirley will present the paper orally on October 22nd. The theme of the convention is "Information Transfer" and the GIS paper will be included in the "Case studies" session of that meeting.

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Jack L. Morrison (Project Director, Oil Information Center, Univ of Oklahoma) represented GIS at the 21 April meeting of the AGI House of Society Representatives. His statement: "GIS is vitally interested in the science information study presently underway and coordinated through AGI. This society desires to become more active and to continue to be represented on various committees. GIS representatives can be used for service and liaison and are interested in becoming more involved in AGI matters".

ELECTION of GIS OFFICERS

All GIS members in good standing are entitled to vote on three elective positions-- Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer--for the year 1969. Recent changes in the GIS Constitution have provided for a new office, that of Vice-President; also, the Secretary is no longer President-elect, as in the past. The 1969 GIS President is Eleanore E. Wilkins (U.S. Geological Survey, Menlo Park, Calif) who was elected to this position last year.

The Nominating Committee (Mrs. Kathryn N. Cutler, Stanford Univ, chairman; Sara Aull, Univ of Houston; and Bill L. Long, U.S. Science Information Exchange) has submitted the following slate of officers for 1969:

VICE-PRESIDENT:

Melvin Weinstock. Mr. Weinstock is Senior Analyst with Herner and Company, Washington, D.C., conducting information use and systems surveys, performing special studies, preparing compendia of information systems and project descriptions, and consulting in information systems as applied to biology, medicine, and agriculture. With a B.S. in Agriculture from Rutgers Univ, he is completing requirements for an M.S. in Information Science at Drexel Institute of Technology. A member of SLA and ASIS, Mr. Weinstock is the author of numerous papers on information systems, some of which were presented at conferences and seminars.

SECRETARY:

Mrs. Marjorie W. Wheeler. Mrs. Wheeler is a geologist and librarian, presently Librarian at the Southwest Center for Advanced Research, Dallas, Tex. A 1937 graduate of Smith College, she has an A.M. in Geology from Johns Hopkins Univ and took graduate course work at Texas Women's Univ. She and her husband, who teaches geology, have two grown daughters. A member of ALA, SLA, and the Texas Libraries Association, Mrs. Wheeler has also served on various GIS committees, including the Project Development Committee and the Guidebook & Ephemeral Materials Committee. She is also compiling a guide for the Earth Science Curriculum Project on how to find earth-science information, aimed at the high school and beginning college level.

TREASURER:

Donald H. Owens. Mr. Owens is Associate Chief of the Information Operations Division of Battelle Memorial Institute, Columbus, Ohio, where he conducts and supervises contracted information research and management projects. A primary assignment has been the management of the information storage and retrieval system of the Defense Metals Information Center. Mr. Owens has a B.Sc. in Geology from Ohio State Univ and is a member of GSA, ASIS, AAAS, and the Working Group on Extraterrestrial Resources (Mining and Processing Subgroup). He served on the GIS Project Development Committee for the past year.

A ballot is enclosed with this newsletter in the regular mailing to all members of the Society. Space is provided for write-in votes for each office. Ballots must be completed and returned before November 1st to: Mrs. Kathryn N. Cutler, Chairman, Nominating Committee, Branner Geological Library, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305.

AGI SCIENCE INFORMATION PLANNING GRANT

In April, the American Geological Institute received a \$190,000 grant from the National Science Foundation for "planning an information system program for the geological sciences". This two-year grant is a sequel to an earlier planning grant which supported several meetings of member-society presidents and the preparation of a report outlining a coordinated information program.

The new grant will support a detailed study of information systems by AGI's Committee on Science Information under the chairmanship of Dr. William C. Krumbein of Northwestern Univ. Two meetings have been held. At its first meeting, 1-2 April, each committee member was assigned a topic area in science information; after studying his topic with the help of consultants and interested individuals, each member is to deliver a preliminary report this fall. These reports will be discussed by the entire committee early in November and will then be summarized in a preliminary report to AGI's Board of Directors.

The members of the committee and their assigned topic areas:

- William C. Krumbein (Northwestern Univ): services providing information on current research and development
- C.F. Burk, Jr. (Geological Survey of Canada): specialized information and data services
- James M. Forgotson, Jr. (independent geologist, Tulsa, Okla): specialized information and data services
- William W. Hambleton (Kansas Geological Survey): library sources and services
- Clayton E. Ray (U.S. National Museum): bibliographic services and publications
- John S. Steinhart (Carnegie Institution of Washington): meetings, symposia, and personal information exchange
- Robert Van Nostrand (Teledyne Industries, Alexandria, Va): vocabularies, definitions and nomenclature
- Raymond E. Whitla (U.S. Dept of Army, Office Chief of Engineers): primary

and informal publications

George Becraft (U.S. Geological Survey): translations

The working group on library sources and services, headed by Dr. Hambleton, held a 2-day meeting in Dallas, Tex, on 31 July and 1 August. Those in attendance (all GIS members) were: Marjorie W. Wheeler, Mark W. Pangborn, Carleton M. Clifford, Eleanor Maclay, and H. Robert Malinowsky.

The group considered a wide range of problem and policy areas, and its report is expected to emphasize the importance of library services in an integrated science-information system in the geosciences.

PALEONTOLOGICAL INFORMATION

The American Geological Institute has received a grant of \$15,000 for liaison of science-information activities in micropaleontology; as a result, a Micropaleontology Information Committee (MIC) has been formed.

The chairman of MIC is William R. Riedel of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. The committee includes representatives from 6 other organizations (American Museum of Natural History, Colorado School of Mines, Pennsylvania State Univ, Smithsonian Institution, U.S. Geological Survey, and National Oceanographic Data Center), some of which have agreed to implement common procedures in their handling of scientific information.

As part of the grant activity, a Joint Committee on Paleontologic Information will be formed in October. The joint committee is being sponsored by the Society of Economic Paleontologists & Mineralogists, the Paleontological Society, the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology, and the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists.

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The AGI has been elected to membership in the Abstracting Board of the International Council of Scientific Unions. The Institute now represents the earth-science abstracting services in the English language. Board headquarters are in Paris.

GISers in the NEWS

Mrs. Nancy D. Anderson, formerly geology librarian at Columbia Univ, is a member of the Serials Records Dept at the Univ of Illinois, Urbana.

Wm. Rucker Greenwood is now at the Geology & Geochemistry Branch, U.S. National Aeronautics & Space Administration, Manned Spacecraft Center, Houston, Tex. 77058; he was instructor of geometrics in the geology & geography dept at the Univ of Idaho.

Mary Grier, bibliographer in the Foreign Bibliography Office of the Geological Society of America for 17 years, has resigned to accept a position at the Arctic Institute of North America.

Donna Lemon, head of the business and technology dept at the Tulsa City-County (Okla) Library System, represented GIS at the 13-14 Sept convention of the Oklahoma Section of the American Institute of Professional Geologists.

Howard A. Meyerhoff has been awarded an honorary membership in the Geological Society of Puerto Rico.

John F. Price has been promoted from assistant head to Head, Referral Services Section, National Referral Center for Science and Technology at the Library of Congress.

Dr. Peter J. Smith, formerly with the USGS Branch of Theoretical Geophysics, is now at the Dept of Geophysics, Oliver Lodge Bldg, Univ of Liverpool, England.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS by GIS MEMBERS

Cramer, Howard R., and others (1967) Annotated bibliography of Georgia geology through 1959. Georgia. Geological Survey. Bulletin no.79. 368p.---Arranged by author; indexed by county, subject, and geologic age.

DUBACH, Harold W., and Taber, Robert W. (1968) Questions about the oceans. Washington: U.S. Naval Oceanographic Office. 121p. (National Oceanographic

Data Center. Publication G-13).---Available for 55¢ from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D.C.

Emery, K.O., and SINHA, Evelyn (1967) Oceanographic books of the world, 1957-1966. Washington: Marine Technology Society. 57p. (Technical publication no.2) ---Bibliography of 574 titles.

Lea, Graham (June 1968) A methodology for geological modelling. Geocom bulletin, v.1, no.6, p.165-167.

Matthews, William H., III (1968) A guide to the national parks; their landscape and geology. Garden City (N.Y.): Natural History Press. 2v. 767p.---Vol.1: The western parks. Vol.2: The eastern parks. Written in nontechnical language to explain the geology of each of 32 national parks. Illustrated with more than 100 photographs and maps.

Matthews, William H., III (1968) Wonders of fossils. New York: Dodd, Mead. 64p. ---Illustrated with photographs and drawings.

Meyerhoff, Howard A. (March-April 1968) Graduate training in geology. GeoScience news, v.1, no.4, p.16-19,30.---Among the points raised by the author: "How many first year graduate students display familiarity with the methods of bibliographic research, source of literature, classical treatises, key maps or the development of geologic concepts?"

Pangborn, Mark W., Jr. (April 1968) Buying list of geological books for high school libraries. Journal of geological education, v.16, no.2, p.65-68.---A revised reprint of A buying list of 100 good geology books for the high school library, the first formal publication of GIS in cooperation with the National Association of Geology Teachers. The reprint was sponsored by the Public Information Committee of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists.

Pearl, Richard M. (1968) Gem identification simplified. Colorado Springs: Maxwell. 43p. \$1.

Pearl, Richard M. (1968) Geology simplified. New York: Barnes & Noble. 89p. (Barnes & Noble keynotes 712). \$2.25. ---A programmed review of a course in geology, with self-tests and final exam, and answers with explanations.

Sinkankas, John (1968) Van Nostrand's standard catalog of gems. Princeton (N.J.): Van Nostrand. 286p. \$7.95. ---Not a textbook, but a "standard reference on values to which the buying public can turn for guidance". Discusses gem evaluation, pricing, supply, and marketing, and lists current retail prices for all kinds of rough, cut, carved, or otherwise worked gemstones, including pearls.

NEW MEMBERS of GIS

- Allen, Walter C.: Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Library Science, Univ of Illinois, Urbana, Ill. 61801
- Basler, Thomas G.: Librarian, American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79th Street, New York, N.Y. 10024
- Bell, Rex R.: Hydrologist, U.S. Geological Survey, 550 West Fort St, Boise, Idaho 83702
- Berleant, (Mrs) Riva S.: Librarian, Nassau County Museum of Natural History, Garvies Point Preserve, Glen Cove, N.Y. 11542
- Capritta, Dianne: Acquisitions Librarian, Moon Memorial Library, State College of Forestry, Syracuse, N.Y. 13210
- Gay, Thomas E., jr.: Senior Geologist and Manager of Information and Educational Sciences Program, California Division of Mines and Geology, Ferry Building, San Francisco, Calif. 94111
- Hoffer, F.B.: Librarian, Virginia Geological Survey, Box 3667, Charlottesville, Va. 22903
- Jeffery, (Mrs) Kathryn C.: Geological Assistant and Reference Librarian, Texas Gulf Sulphur Co., 1804 Houston Club Bldg, 811 Rusk, Houston, Tex 77002
- Kiessling, Ed: Geologist, California Division of Mines and Geology, 107 South Broadway, Rm.1065, Los Angeles, Calif 90012

- Lormand, Robert L.: Principal Investigator VELA Seismic Information Analysis Center (VESIAC), Univ of Michigan, Box 618, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48107
- Miesch, Dr. Alfred T.: Chief, Branch of Geological Census, U.S. Geological Survey, Federal Center, Bldg.25, Denver, Colo. 80225
- Orosz, Barbara: Head Librarian, Union Research Center, Union Oil Co. of California, Box 76, Brea, Calif. 92621
- Sim, (Mrs) H. Jennifer: Librarian, Geology-Exploration Library, Rm.2726, Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10020
- Smith, Jean Chandler: Special Assistant to the Director of Libraries, U.S. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

- The 1968 GIS membership directory has been prepared by Secretary Eleanore E. Wilkins and is being sent to all members. The following names were received too late for inclusion in the new directory:
- Harvey, Anthony Peter: Librarian, Palaeontology Library, British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Rd, London, S.W. 7, England
- Harvey, Carlotta G.: Librarian, Mobil Oil Canada Ltd, Box 800, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
- Lea, Graham: Data Processing Consultant, Graham Lea & Assoc, Box 1024, Calgary 2, Alberta, Canada
- Lécorché, M.: Laboratoire de Géologie, Faculté des Sciences, Université de Dakar, Dakar-Fann, Sénégal, West Africa
- Merrill, Dr. William M.: Chairman, Dept of Geology, Univ of Kansas, Lawrence, Kans. 66044

The Western Association of Map Librarians is planning a meeting for this fall. Carlos Hagen of UCLA presented a program on map acquisitions at a meeting held this past spring at the U.S. Geological Survey Library in Menlo Park, Calif.