



newsletter

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

San Antonio seemed to be a meeting of meetings. Meetings on membership, the Society's member data needs, GeoRef, guidebooks and a lot more. I think that it is safe to say that the Guidebook Committee gets the award for the most meetings—in fact, rumor has it that they are still there. However, there were other events that we were able to get to. Of particular interest in the exhibits was a demonstration of Elsevier's new GeoAbs database, the online version of their GeoAbstracts, and the Survey's exhibit that included the library's LS/2000 automated library system from OCLC.

The trip to Enchanted Rock was a lot of fun and interesting. Bob Freed, chairman of the Geology Department of Trinity University, gave us the geologic blow-by-blow on the way out. I think for some of us that it was good to get out and "kick a rock". It is hard to find a good outcrop in an office.

There were a lot of good papers given in the symposium and technical paper sessions. The authors obviously had done a lot of work gathering their information and presenting it well.

Dr. Donald McIntyre's luncheon speech took us on an intellectual journey through geology, chemistry, physics, biology, astronomy and other subjects as he reflected on James Hutton and the history of the earth. It is amazing the number of special conditions that need to exist for us to have gotten where we are. This talk, along with other aspects of these meetings, help to clear the intellectual webwebs and to rekindle the fires of thinking.

Although I would have thought that attendance would have been down at GSA because of the state of the minerals and oil and gas industries, it wasn't. There were about 4,500 registrants, which is about average. Judging by the business meeting, GIS had about 50 or 55 registrants, which too, I believe, is about average.

Though I have poked a certain amount of fun at the number of meetings that we had, it is really an indication of the enthusiasm and dedication of our members and the fact that we are more than just

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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 \$30 per year and is included in the Society's annual membership dues. All correspondence regarding dues, membership status and address changes should be directed to the GIS Secretary.

GIS members are encouraged to contribute materials for publication. Research articles and technical reports should be submitted to the Editorial Board for review and possible publication. Informational reports, officer and committee reports, publication notices, job announcements, and other news items should be submitted to the News Gathering editor.

Material for the February *Newsletter* should be received by the editors no later than January 20, 1987.

a society of professionals, sharing ideas. As a society, we are actually providing useful products and services to the geoscience community, such as the *Directory of Geoscience Libraries, United States and Canada*, the *Union List of Geologic Guidebooks of North America*, the GeoRef advisory committee membership and others. I look forward to working with these groups in the coming year, and look forward to the Society's getting together again in Phoenix.

Bob Bier
President, GIS

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

What a whirlwind! It was meetings, meals, parties, committees, brainstorming— in short, being on the GIS Executive Board did not allow for any free moments at the Annual Meeting in San Antonio! Many thanks go to Bob Bier for organizing a smooth-running program for all of us to participate in, as well as running the Executive Board at the same time, and to Jim O'Donnell for that wonderful field trip and great Texas barbeque feast. A delightful time was had by all.

It was stimulating to have a first-hand experience of the inner-workings of GSA by attending the Joint Technical Program Committee meeting with Bob. This is the last-day feedback session where all sections and societies give a critique of how the convention went, concentrating mostly on logistics. It is an enormous task to arrange a meeting for 4,500 earth scientists— yes, geologists care about how their slides project in a room — but learned other things as well, such as: GSA is considering using only a small number of cities for future conventions and even eliminating field trips from the national conference! Watch *GSA News and Information* for future updates on these topics. If you would like a copy of my "Post-Election Remarks", field trip proposal, or Exhibit Booth proposal, let me know and I will send them to you.

I left San Antonio convinced that certain changes are long overdue for GIS. It is my opinion that our Vice President and President are burdened so much with program planning and publication tasks that other important Society business, such as communication with and coordination with committees, is being neglected— something a Society our size can ill afford.

First, we could establish a Symposium-planning committee that would begin work on symposia two years in advance, as does the rest of the GSA, rather than depending on our Veep to throw it together the month after he/she is elected as is now the case. The centennial symposium committee for the Denver conference that Dedie Ward is chairing serves as a model for this approach. I suggest that we adopt this model next year if the Denver symposia work, or else elect our symposium-convenor longer in advance than when the symposium plans must be submitted.

Second, we could establish a field trip czar or committee. Planning of field trips is an unnecessary burden on the Veep and because we have such a short lead time there are some years when field trips are not done at all. We sometimes miss opportunities to co-sponsor trips by not planning longer in advance as does the rest of GSA. I suggest that if GSA keeps the field trip program that we establish a committee that works up to 7 years in advance, to be in step with other sections of the GSA.

Third, in the publication realm, as most of you know, our President must publish the proceedings of the meeting that he/she organized as Vice President. It is my opinion that too few of us have enough experience in doing such a job to be able to do it easily— and at the same time while one is President of GIS! It is time that we move this responsibility off the shoulders of our Presidents. Does anybody know any small press which can do this for us, or a free-lance editor who is cheap?

All these ideas are food for the constitution and by-laws committee who will present suggested changes at next year's meeting in Phoenix.

And finally, while speaking of Phoenix, yes, plans are well underway for that. By the time this Newsletter reaches you, the Symposium, "Collections for the Future," will have been planned and the speakers designated. The Symposium should contain an interesting mix of viewpoints from archivists, curators, historians of geology, and librarians.

If your committee needs a room for a meeting, let me know by April. I doubt that there will be a special GIS field trip as there are no GIS members in Phoenix who could do local arrangements so I encourage everyone to look carefully at the GSA field trip programs and plan accordingly. There will be a few trips to the Grand Canyon. I encourage everyone to consider doing a poster session or a paper. Let's make GSA's 100th annual meeting something to remember!

Jean Eaglesfield
Vice President-President Elect

FROM THE EDITORS

The San Antonio meeting was a great success. San Antonio is a stunning city and, although the weather didn't always cooperate, the city did, with its fine convention center, great restaurants, and the wonderful Paseo del Rio (the River Walk).

Some results from the various meetings will be published in this issue, and the rest will appear in the February issue.

We got some great suggestions about the Newsletter, so we'll be making some changes in format and content this year.

The GIS Editorial Board reviews and edits research papers for publication by GIS. We discussed publishing those papers, not in the Newsletter, but in a special series of GIS Occasional Papers.

We'll have more information on that as it is available.

Don Holloway, a GIS member in Kent, England, and Tony Harvey have offered to be European correspondents for the Newsletter. As Don says, there is "a great deal of geological information in Europe which could be of use" to GIS members. We heartily agree, and look forward to their reports.

GIS ANNUAL REPORTS

SECRETARY

Memberships as of November 3, 1986 were as follows:

Personal memberships (U.S.).....	198
Personal memberships (outside U.S.)	27
Corporate memberships (U.S.).....	14
Corporate memberships (outside U.S.)	19
Total memberships	258

Last year at this time, the Society had 313 members. We have had a net loss of 55 members, or close to 18%.

This number reflects the 16 new members we welcomed this year. Without these members, we would have experienced a net loss of 23% of our members.

What do these numbers mean? Perhaps most important in our membership loss was our 50% dues increase during the past year. It was felt at the time that the Society would lose some members because of the increase, but that nonetheless the increase was warranted. From this point of view, our assessment was correct. We have brought in more dues-related money this year than during the past year.

Perhaps the downturn in the economic picture for the petroleum and related industries have had something to do with this, also. A recent article in *AAPG Explorer* reported on a survey that indicated that 25% of AAPG members are cur-

rently unemployed. It stands to reason that some of our members may be in the same situation, or perhaps if not unemployed have not received raises this year. Such a situation might force a person to closely scrutinize professional memberships and weed out those deemed marginal.

Questions which the membership should consider are:

- Should we be more actively recruiting members?
- Should GIS, through the membership committee, contact those who do not renew in order to ascertain why?

Or would such an exercise serve no purpose except to generate more work for the committee?

Respectfully submitted,
Connie S. Wick,
Secretary

PUBLICATIONS MANAGER

The most exciting publications news this year is the *Directory of Geoscience Libraries, U.S. and Canada*, 3rd edition, which became available in August. Already, notices of its publication have appeared in *base line*, and *College and Research Libraries News*. So far, 25 GIS members have taken advantage of the member's discount offer, which will continue indefinitely. Currently, we have 487 copies on hand.

Sales of the *Proceedings* were not as high this year as in 84/85, but with no volume published (versus 2 in 1984/84) that is not surprising. There was sales activity on all volumes, with emphasis on volumes 13 and 15, the most recent.

Sales of the *GIS Membership Directory* have been as close to a total bust as might be: we've sold a total of 3 copies. I recommend that in future we print only enough for members, reserve a few for new members throughout the year, and forget sales.

Effective with the next volume of the *Proceedings* (v. 16), standing orders total 45. That number, plus copies for members and 25 complimentary/review copies, equals our total guaranteed distribution. It think it is reasonable, therefore, to recommend that the number of copies printed should be no more than 125 over the year's membership, which would leave 50 copies to sell.

Our subscription price increase has left *GIS Newsletter* subscribers unabashed: we have 27 current subscriptions, as opposed to 23 last year. In addition, we now distribute only 2 free subscriptions, compared to 5 previously.

A copy of our current inventory follows. Once again, hearty thanks are due to Aphrodite Mamoulides, inventory manager.

PUBLICATION SALES ACTIVITY

<u>Volume</u>	<u>Current Inventory</u>	<u>Net Change</u>
2	90	- 1
3	91	- 2
4	40	- 2
6	27	- 2
7	81	- 3
8	48	- 4
9	128	- 4
10	81	- 5
11	28	- 4
12	33	- 8
13	90	- 21
14	101	- 12
15	180	- 40

GIS BEST PAPER AWARD

The GIS Best Paper Award for 1986 was presented to Susan Klimley, Tuesday, November 11 at the GIS luncheon in San Antonio. Susan received the award from GIS President Annette Bourgeois for her paper "Saving Geology Libraries: What's Available?", which was published in Volume 15 of the *GIS Proceedings*.

The GIS Best Paper Award Committee stated that Susan's paper was a signif-

icant and original contribution to the field of geoscience information. The paper addressed the problems of preserving large, often colored and folded maps which accompany texts in the geoscience literature. The paper was particularly recommended for the wealth of technical detail presented, cost options given, and for tackling a long-standing, difficult problem in the geoscience literature.

Susan Klimley is the Geological Sciences Librarian at the Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory of Columbia University. She has written other papers dealing with preservation problems in the geoscience literature, and also papers on collection coverage and collection sharing in the geosciences.

GIS BEST REFERENCE BOOK AWARD

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION:

1. The book must have been published within 3 years preceding the date of the annual meeting at which the award is presented.
2. The book must have significant value to the geoscience information community. It should be judged the most valuable contribution during the period in question. Reasons for significant value might include: uniqueness (either in approach or subject coverage), comprehensiveness, usefulness (particularly to information providers), quality, authoritativeness. Although it should be of general interest within the geoscience information community, a local product which is particularly high in quality and could serve as a model for other works could be considered. A work which is not strictly geoscience but which has significant value to the geoscience information community could also be considered. Also, works which are not books may also be considered.
3. Although no work is specifically excluded from consideration, textbooks or monographs in geoscience or library and information science would not normally

be considered. The award is meant to honor geoscience reference works or monographs focussed on the information aspects specifically of geoscience.

MECHANISM FOR SELECTION:

1. Establish an Awards Committee. The GIS President appoints a committee of 3-5 GIS members to the Awards Committee. (This should be established in the By-Laws as a new standing committee, but could be Ad Hoc until this is done.)
2. The Committee compiles a list of candidate books. Nominations may be solicited from the membership, and the Committee will examine those books nominated and any other books they wish to consider. If an award is to be made, the decision should be made by the end of August so the deserving author(s) or editor(s) can be invited to attend the conference and receive the award. If no book is considered worthy, no award need be made.
3. The award should be a certificate, "Best Geoscience Reference Book of 19--", signed by the GIS President and the Chairperson of the Awards Committee and a token check for \$25.
4. The award should be presented at the GIS luncheon.

Editor's note: This proposal, developed by Nancy Pruett, was presented to and accepted by the GIS Executive Board.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

- Feb. 24-27, 1987—Society of Mining Engineers; annual meeting; Denver, CO
Mar. 16-20, 1987—Lunar and Planetary Science Conference; Houston, TX

NEW MEMBERS

Susanne Jerome, Librarian
Sergent Hauskins & Beckwith
3940 Clarendon Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85019

SUGGESTED LIST OF FIRST PRIORITY CORE JOURNALS

The AGI Task force on Serials and Coverage for GeoRef has prepared the following suggested list of serials and journals to be given first-priority indexing. Suggestions and comments on this list are welcome— Send them to Charlotte Derksen.

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| <p>Acta crystallographica. Section A:
Crystal physics, diffraction, theoretical and general crystallography</p> <p>Acta crystallographica. Section B:
Structural crystallography and crystal chemistry</p> <p>Advances in earth and planetary sciences</p> <p>Advances in geophysics</p> <p>Advances in organic geochemistry</p> <p>Advances in petroleum geochemistry</p> <p>Advances in physical geochemistry</p> <p>Akakemia Nauk SSSR, Doklady, Earth sciences sections</p> <p>American Association of Petroleum Geologists Bulletin</p> <p>American Association of Petroleum Geologists. Memoir.</p> <p>American Journal of Science</p> <p>American Mineralogist</p> <p>Annales geophysicae</p> <p>Annual review of earth and planetary sciences</p> <p>Boreas</p> <p>Bulletin de mineralogie</p> <p>Bulletin of Canadian petroleum geology</p> <p>Bulletin of volcanology</p> <p>Bulletins of American paleontology</p> <p>California. University publications in geological sciences</p> <p>Canada. Geological Survey. Bulletin.</p> <p>Canada. Geological Survey. Map. A series.</p> <p>Canada. Geological Survey. Memoir.</p> <p>Canada. Geological Survey. Paper.</p> <p>Canadian journal of earth sciences</p> <p>Chemical geology</p> <p>Clays and clay minerals: journal of the Clay Minerals Society</p> <p>Climatic change</p> <p>Computers and geosciences</p> <p>Contributions to mineralogy and petrology</p> <p>Deep-sea research. Part A: Oceanographic research papers</p> <p>Earth and planetary science letters</p> <p>Earth science</p> <p>Earth surface processes and landforms</p> <p>Earth-science reviews</p> | <p>Earthquake information bulletin</p> <p>Eclogae geologicae Helvetiae</p> <p>Economic geology</p> <p>Engineering and mining journal</p> <p>Engineering geology</p> <p>EOS: transactions, American Geophysical Union</p> <p>Geochemical journal</p> <p>Geochemistry. Trans. Geokhimiia</p> <p>Geochimica et cosmochimica acta</p> <p>Geological magazine</p> <p>Geological Society of America. Bulletin</p> <p>Geological Society of America. Memoir.</p> <p>Geological Society of America. Special papers</p> <p>Geological Society of London. Journal</p> <p>Geologische Rundschau</p> <p>Geology</p> <p>Geophysical journal of the Royal Astronomical Society</p> <p>Geophysical research letters</p> <p>Geophysics</p> <p>Geotectonics</p> <p>Geotimes</p> <p>Ground water</p> <p>Journal of foraminiferal research</p> <p>Journal of geochemical exploration</p> <p>Journal of geological education</p> <p>Journal of geology</p> <p>Journal of geophysical research</p> <p>Journal of geophysics. Zeitschrift fur Geophysik</p> <p>Journal of glaciology</p> <p>Journal of hydrology</p> <p>Journal of metamorphic geology</p> <p>Journal of micropaleontology</p> <p>Journal of paleontology</p> <p>Journal of petroleum geology</p> <p>Journal of petrology</p> <p>Journal of physics of the earth</p> <p>Journal of sedimentary petrology</p> <p>Journal of structural geology</p> <p>Journal of volcanology and geothermal research</p> <p>Lethaia: an international journal of paleontology and stratigraphy</p> <p>Lithos</p> |
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- Marine geology
 Marine micropaleontology
 Mathematical geology
 Micropaleontology
 Mineralogical magazine
 Modern geology
 Nature
 Neues Jahrbuch fuer Geologie und
 Palaeontologie. Monatshefte
 Neues Jahrbuch fuer Mineralogie.
 Monatshefte
 Oceanologica acta
 Oceanology
 Oil and gas journal
 Organic geochemistry
 Palaeogeography, palaeoclimatology,
 palaeoecology
 Palaeontographica. Abt. A and B
 Palaeontology
 Petroleum geology
 Physics of the earth and planetary
 interiors
 Physics of the solid earth
 Precambrian research
 Pure and applied geophysics
 Quaternaria
 Quaternary research
 Remote sensing of earth resources
 Remote sensing of environment
 Reviews of geophysics and space physics
 Rock mechanics and rock engineering
 Royal Society of London. Philosophical
 transactions
 Science
 Sedimentary geology
 Sedimentology
 Seismological Society of America.
 Bulletin
 Societe Geologique de France. Bulletin
 Societe Geologique de France. Compte
 rendu sommaire des seances
 Society of Economic Paleontologists and
 Mineralogists. Special publications
 Society of Exploration Geophysicists.
 Yearbook
 Society of Exploration Geophysicists.
 Monograph series
 Soil science
 Soil Science Society of America. Journal
 Tectonics
 Tectonophysics
 U.S. Geological Survey. Bulletin
 U.S. Geological Survey. Miscellaneous
 Field Studies Maps
 U.S. Geological Survey. Miscellaneous
 Geologic Investigations
 U.S. Geological Survey. Oil and Gas
 Investigations; charts
 U.S. Geological Survey. Oil and Gas
 Investigations; maps
 U.S. Geological Survey. Open-file report
 U.S. Geological Survey. Professional
 Paper
 U.S. Geological Survey. U.S. Geological
 Survey annual report
 U.S. Geological Survey. Water-supply
 paper
 Water resources bulletin
 Water resources research
 Zeitschrift fuer Kristallographie

ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOUR PARTICIPATION IS REQUIRED TO SAVE THE GIS TECHNICAL SESSION

The size of the GSA requires them to reject a certain percentage of technical papers (for 1986 it was 30%) and all the Society technical sessions are subject to the same percentage cut no matter what their size.

Therefore, it is essential that as many of you as possible submit abstracts for the 1987 technical session.

If you have ideas but are not sure how they could be translated into papers, or if you feel that it is too much to do on

your own, or if you just hate speaking before an audience, let me know. The Executive may be able to put you in touch with someone else who would be willing to co-author with you.

If your topic of interest is not suitable for a paper, have you considered presenting a poster session?

If you are interested in giving a paper I need to know by MARCH 1, 1987. May 15 is the deadline for final submission of abstracts to GSA.

Annette Bourgeois
Past-President, GIS

GIS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

GIS membership renewal forms will be mailed in December so that dues can be paid before the new U.S. tax laws take effect. The Executive Board has also approved a multiple-year renewal with these new tax laws in mind. If you have any questions, contact Miriam Sheaves.

GIS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The Membership Committee (chair: Dena Stepp) got all fired up at the Annual Meeting, and vowed to plunge into the membership drive with a vengeance.

We (or rather, Lois Heiser) will re-design the membership brochure. Copies of that will be available in a few months.

We'll be targeting non-GIS members listed in the *Directory of Geoscience Libraries*, as well as WAML members, SLA Geography & Map members, AGI workshop attendees, the various library schools, as well as various other libraries and service companies.

If you have ideas for individuals or other kinds of libraries to contact, talk to Dena Stepp. If you need copies of the brochure, talk to Lois Heiser.

GIS is a splendid organization: it's energetic, influential, and enormously informative. And perhaps most importantly, for many of us, it's our only contact with people who do what we do. (Ah— the joy of talking with another librarian and not having to define USGS, GSA, AAPG, GeoRef, GSC, or an open-file report.)

We've been too exclusive. We need to share the wealth.

FOR SALE: Complete and unused set of Benchmark Papers in Geology (90 volumes). \$2700 or best offer. Contact C. Hutchinson, P. O. Box 1202, Stroudsburg, PA 18360.

GIS Newsletter, Number 103, December, 1986

The following journal back runs are available for donation:

Journal of Sedimentary Petrology,
1971-1972 (complete)
AAPG Bulletin, July 1973-September
1979 (except July 1978); May 1980-
June 1983.
GSA Bulletin, 1973-1974 (complete)

For more information, contact:

David A. Kirchgessner
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
LIMB Development Branch
Research Triangle Park, NC 27711
919/541-4021

He would like to make the donation in 1986, if possible.

PBS SERIES, "PLANET EARTH" RETURNS

The 1986 Emmy-winning public television series PLANET EARTH return to PBS Monday, January 19. (Check your local listings for the schedule in your areas.)

The 7-part series explores the most significant achievements in geosciences as it tracks the work of the men and women who have contributed a wealth of information to our field. Computer graphics and special effects accompany location footage taken on all seven continents, in the oceans, and in outer space.

A companion book, *Planet Earth*, by Jonathan Weiner, is available in bookstores and libraries.

The series is also offered as a college and university level telecourse at participating institutions, and there is a faculty-customized textbook, *Planet Earth and the new geosciences*, by Victor A. Schmidt. For more information about the course, call 1-800-LEARNER.

The series was made possible by major funding from the Annenberg/CPB project and corporate funding from IBM, and was produced by WQED/Pittsburgh, in association with the National Academy of Sciences.

PUBLICATIONS

Comstock place names—The names of Storey County, Nevada, by Mary B. Ansari has been published as the first volume in a planned place name series on Nevada. The volume is arranged by site name (with generous *see* and *see also* references) and the entries include coordinates, elevation, population, and a description and history of the site (much of it drawn from country records and old newspaper accounts), followed by the origin of the place name when available.

The volume sells for \$9.50 from:

Camp Nevada
P. O. Box 13798
Reno, NV 89507

ISBN 0-933504-06-3

Theses on Washington geology, 1901-1985, compiled by Connie J. Manson, is now available. It includes citations to about 1200 bachelors, masters, and doctoral theses on the geology and mineral resources of Washington, with notes on abstracts of the theses and publications resulting from the theses. There is also an extensive subject and geographic index, an index-by school, and an index to thesis geologic mapping.

(A discussion of the computer-based preparation of this index was presented at the 1986 GIS annual meeting symposium.)

The volume sells for \$8.00, plus \$1.00 postage and handling per order from:

Publications
Washington Division of Geology and
Earth Resources
PY 12
Olympia, WA 98504

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

MARY SCOTT had a baby: Abigail Mary Scott was born May 16, 1986, and Mary says the baby is growing and keeping her busy. Mary hopes to be able to return to graduate school soon.

ROSALIND WALCOTT was awarded the certificate in Advanced Librarianship from Columbia University's School of Library Service, October, 1986. She successfully completed the ten courses necessary for the Certificate in spring semester, 1986. She also passed her Comprehensive Examinations for the Doctor of Library Science degree, and is now writing her proposal for her dissertation. Her topic will be "Citations in Doctoral Dissertations in the Field of Geoscience"



INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONTRIBUTORS

The GIS Newsletter welcomes original, previously unpublished English language papers related to geoscience information. Manuscripts should be typed on opaque paper, on one side only, double-spaced throughout, with 3 cm margins on all sides, and all pages numbered consecutively. Length should not exceed 12 pages.

The title page should include the title, the name(s) of the author(s) and their institutional address(es). References should be mentioned in the text (author and date), with a list of "References cited" appearing at the end of the paper, following GSA reference style. Provide on a separate sheet an informative abstract of no more than 200 words and a biographical sketch of the author(s), of

no more than 100 words, which includes current position and education.

Clear, black and white (glossy) photographs and illustrations with strong contrast should be submitted on separate sheets from the text and numbered consecutively in order of reference in the text. Tables and figures should be submitted on separate sheets from the text, numbered, and referred to in the text by number.

Send two (2) copies of the manuscript to the Chairperson, GIS Newsletter Editorial Board. Include a phone number where the author(s) may be reached and a self-addressed stamped envelope for notification of receipt of manuscript. Each manuscript will be reviewed by at least two persons.



LIBRARY OF THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



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 Olympia, WA 98506

NON-PROFIT ORG.
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 Urbana, IL 61801

