



FOUR CORNERS GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

February 2006

Since 1950

Next Meeting and Presentation

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Four Corners Geological Society

February Meeting and Presentation

DATE:

Friday, February 24, 2006

SPEAKER:

Dr. Bruce Harrison, Assistant Prof and Associate Prof in the Earth and Environmental Science dept, NM Tech (see bio on page 5)

TOPIC:

“Dead Sea Geomorphology”

PLACE:

College Union Building, Fort Lewis College, Durango, CO
Members, this months meeting is in the Memorial Student Lounge.

AGENDA:

5:30 PM Social Hour

6:30 PM Dinner ----- **Buffet Italiano**

7:30 PM Presentation

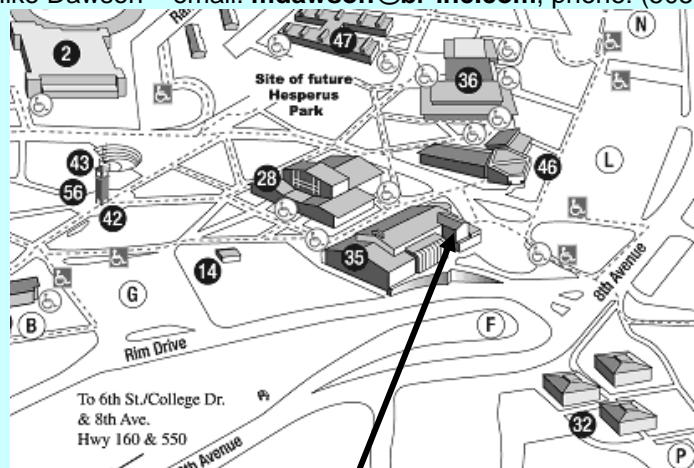
COSTS:

\$20.00 per person (dinner and talk), \$2.00 per person (talk only), students free (talk only)

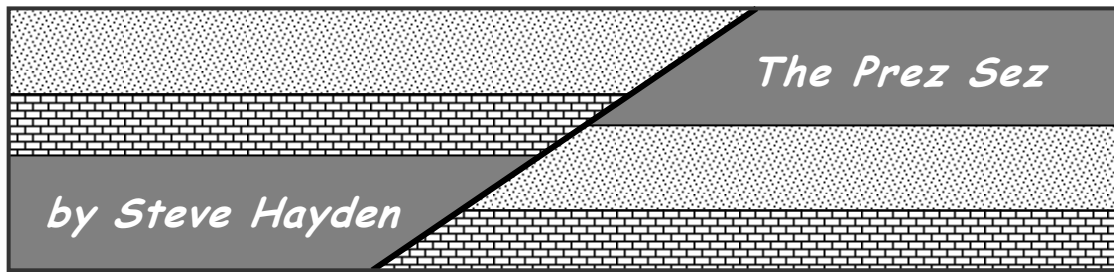
Reservations for the meeting and presentation should be made by Wednesday, Feb. 22.

Durango Contact: Mike Dawson – email: mdawson@br-inc.com, phone: (505) 326-9770

Farmington Contact: Mike Dawson – email: mdawson@br-inc.com, phone: (505) 326-9770



Memorial Student Lounge, College Union Building (#35)



We have an outstanding speaker this month. Dr Bruce Harrison is originally from New Zealand and is an Associate Professor at New Mexico Tech. He has taught at NMT since 1994 and has worked around the world. He is a soil scientist and has worked in many places around the world. He will be talking about a multidisciplinary study that he has worked on in the Dead Sea Rift in Israel and Jordan. I hope many of you will get to attend.

Our website is under construction.

www.fourcornersgeologicalsociety.org

Kim Gerhardt has covered some of the details elsewhere in this newsletter.

Mary Gillam is looking for people from industry and environmental firms to participate in a field trip for students from San Juan College in March or early April. This trip would get them out to field sites and facilities as well as introduce them to the natural history of the area. If you are interested, please contact Mary Gillam, or let me know and I will pass on the message.

Membership renewals have been lagging and I would like to remind those who have not signed up for 2006 to send in their forms.

I hope to see everyone at the meeting on the 24th in Durango.

Steve



February 24, 2006 Presentation



Dead Sea Geomorphology

by

Dr. Bruce Harrison
Assistant Prof and Associate Prof in the Earth
And Environmental Science
Dept., New Mexico Tech

The Dead Sea transform fault system forms the plate boundary between Arabian plate in the east and the Sinai sub plate in the west. Motion in the transform is left lateral strike slip. Lateral displacement has taken place in two steps, 62 km of offset by early Miocene and 42 km since the late Miocene or Pliocene. Recently the proposal to build a canal from the Red Sea to the Dead Sea (the Dead Red Canal) to replenish the rapidly evaporating Dead Sea has highlighted the importance of assessing the seismic hazards of this area. Determining the magnitude and frequency of paleo-earthquakes depends on the application of a wide variety of techniques. This talk will cover some of the advantages and disadvantages of these techniques including geomorphic parameters, soil development, offset archeological sites in three different areas of the Dead Sea Rift. Site one is at Safi at the southern end of the Dead Sea in Jordan, the second at Aqaba (of Lawrence of Arabia fame), and the third at Elat on the Israeli side of the rift at the head of the Red Sea.



Speaker Biography

Born in NZ

B. Agricultural Science, Lincoln University, NZ

M. Agricultural Science, Lincoln University, NZ

PhD. Geology, University of New Mexico

Assistant Prof and Associate Prof in the Earth and Environmental Science Dept., NM Tech since 1994

General Announcements/News from other Geo-Societies



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Minutes from Executive Committee Meeting, January 27, 2006

The committee moved to request that the FCGS Foundation approve an expenditure of \$500 to reimburse Fort Lewis College students for expenses incurred while attending the GSA Meeting in Gunnison. Dr. Doug Brew, representing the FCGS Foundation, stated that they won't know until April how much money will be available for scholarships this year. The secretary reported that FCGS now has a webhosting agreement with America Data Technology, Inc. for one year, and we have reserved the domain name

“FourCornersGeologicalSociety.org”. Fees for these services were \$224. Robin Kelly is working on setting up our website. Her anticipated bill to the society is expected to be in the range of \$1500-\$2000. Mailing costs decreased this month from \$123.82 to \$85.81, mainly due to double-sided Xeroxing and having already purchased envelopes and labels the previous month. If you are on our Email list but have been getting the newsletter by snail-mail, then you are a “bounceback”. We can’t deliver to you electronically. Please contact Kim Gerhardt (kim@mydurango.net or (970) 375-2700) to confirm that we have the correct email address for you in our file. Also, please empty your inbox.

American Association of Petroleum Geologists

Call for papers – 2006 Rocky Mountain Section, AAPG Annual Meeting, June 10-13, 2006 at the Holiday Inn Grand Montana, Billings, Montana. There will be both oral and poster sessions covering: Oil and natural gas in the Rocky Mountains, Advances in stratigraphic and structural analysis, Technological advancements, and Environmental and Regulatory matters. The deadline for abstracts has passed, but for more information on the technical program contact Steve VanDelinder or David Lopez at (406) 657-2632.

The AAPG annual meeting will be held April 9-12, 2006 in Houston, Texas at the George R. Brown Convention Center. Register online (www.aapg.org/houston) by February 17th and save. There will be 465 oral presentations and 415 posters.

The AAPG is running several short courses and field trips this spring. These include; “E&P Methods and Technologies: Selection and Applications” April 7-9, 2006, “Modern Terrigenous Clastic Depositional Systems” April 23-30, May 22-29 and September 18-25, “Strategic Play Analysis”, April 8-9, and “Clastic Reservoir Facies and Sequence Stratigraphic Analysis of alluvial Plain, Shoreface, Deltaic, and Shelf Depositional Systems” April 23-29. There will also be a Geologic Field trip to Trinidad and Tobago April 26-May 2. For more information email the AAPG education department at educate@aapg.org, log on to www.aapg.org/education/index.cfm, or call (918) 560-2678.

Arizona Geological Society

The AGS has finally sent out a formal announcement and call for papers for their conference, “Ores and Orogenesis: Circum-Pacific Tectonics, Geologic Evolution, and Ore Deposits” honoring the career of William R. Dickinson. The meeting will be held September 24-30, 2007 in Tucson, Arizona. Visit their website for more information, <http://www.agssymposium.org/>.

Arizona Geological Survey

The winter, 2005 issue (Vol. 35, no. 4), is titled, “Abrupt Initiation of the Colorado River and Initial Incision of the Grand Canyon”. This 4-page article is authored by Jon E. Spencer and Philip A. Pearthree of the AGS. To order these, or any other publications of the AGS, visit their website at www.azgs.az.gov. Or contact the AGS at 416 W. Congress St., Suite 100, Tucson, Az. 85701.

Nevada Petroleum Society

The NPS will organize a field trip over July 18-24, 2006, titled “The Great Field Trip - Great Basin Paleozoic Carbonate Platform: Facies, Facies Transitions, Depositional Models, Platform Architecture, Sequence Stratigraphy, and Predictive Oil and Gas Reservoir and Mineral Host Models”. The trip will be led by Harry Cook, USGS. Call Jon Price for information and reservations (775) 784 – 6691.

Petroleum Recovery Research Center, division of the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (Biannual Newsletter, Vol. 21, No. 1 / Winter 2005-2006)

The PRRC was recently awarded three new projects from the DOE for energy-related studies. They are, Carbon Sequestration, San Juan Basin Data and Nanotechnology Research. The first project will identify CO₂ sources and sinks in the region, as well as developing sequestration technologies. The second project is titled, “Petrophysical Analysis and Geographic Information Systems for San Juan Basin Tight Gas Reservoirs”. The investigators will compile a digital database from the NW New Mexico San Juan Basin oil and gas wells, much of which is presently only available on paper, for the Mesaverde and Dakota tight gas sands. This project is expected to make critical data much more easily accessible. The third project will attempt to create miniature gas sensor capable of in-situ monitoring of gas composition in flues or hot gas streams. For more information contact Liz Bustamente at (505) 835-5406.

Rocky Mountain Association of Geologists

The Colorado Oil and Gas Association and the Rocky Mountain Association of Geologists are again presenting, “Two Great Meetings, One Great Event” August 7-9, 2006 at the Colorado Convention Center. This event will focus on the business side and the scientific side of Rocky Mountain natural gas. The deadline for abstracts is already passed, but for information on attending contact the RMAG at RMNG2006@aol.com.

The 12th Annual 3-D Seismic Symposium, “Resource-full Rockies” will be held Friday, March 10th, 2006 at the Marriott Hotel in downtown Denver. Registration begins January, 2006 at www.rmag.org.

Wyoming Geological Association

The WGA is soliciting papers for inclusion in a new series of books designed to embrace the diversity of Wyoming's geology. The series will be a high quality, peer-reviewed publication in both hardbound and digital formats. Please turn in your abstracts as soon as possible to Tim McCutcheon, Wyoming Geological Association, P.O. Box 545, Casper, Wyoming 82602. Phone (307) 237-0027.

The WGA has improved their website. Go to www.wygeo.org to view their publications for sale.

Around the Corner

It's Time to Apply for Float Permits!

We had a great FCGS float trip on the upper San Juan River last May and are hoping to float the lower San Juan this coming spring. To do that, without paying for a commercial raft outfitter, we need someone in the society (who would be able to go on the trip) to win a BLM float permit in the February lottery. If every member who is interested in going applies for a permit, our chances of winning a slot will be higher than if just one or two people apply.

To apply for a permit you must write to the BLM's Monticello Field Office and request an application form. Yes, snail mail! They will send it to you, (yes, snail mail!). You fill it out and send it back to them (again, snail mail!) before February 1st. If there is a space for asking which section you want to float, put down Mexican Hat to Clay Hills, i.e., the lower San Juan. They run their "lottery" in February – presumably they pull applications blindly out of a giant hat – and notify the winners by (again) snail mail by March 1st. If you win a trip, they will send you the location of the section of the river you can float, and the date you must start your trip. Then you can ask 15 of your closest friends in the FCGS to come with you! You don't need to have a boat personally to apply for a permit. We have enough members with boats that can supply all the gear.

The address is:

Monticello Field Office

B.L.M.

P.O. Box 7

MonticelloUtah, 84535

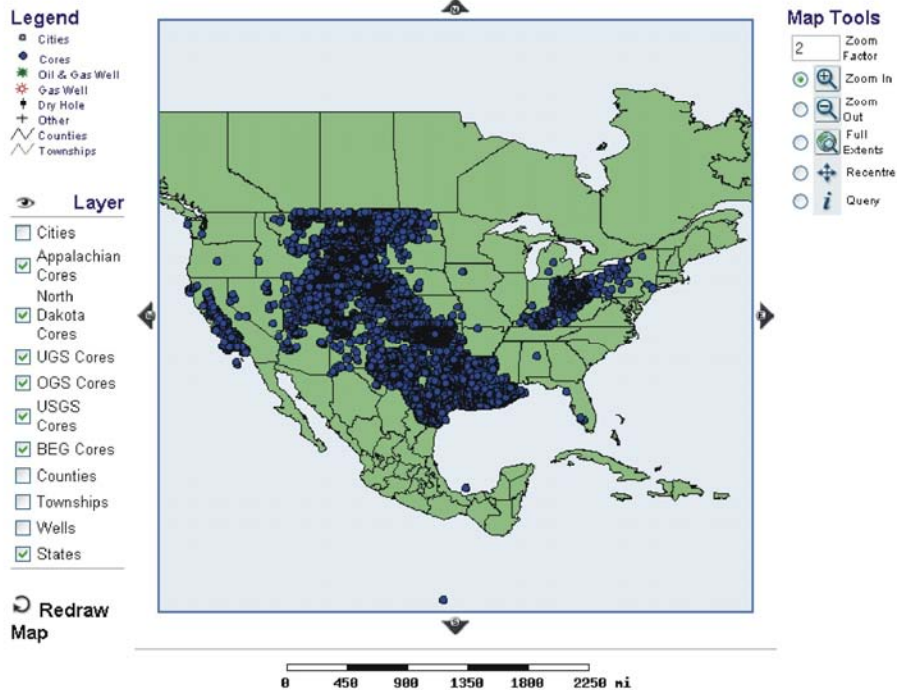
(435) 587-1544 (only open from 8am – 12 noon)



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Four Corners Geological Society

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL or APPLICATION for 2006

PAGE 1

*** Please Print and Complete BOTH Pages***

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

EMPLOYER: _____

Bus. PHONE: (____) _____ Res. PHONE: (____) _____

Fax Number: (____) _____ E-Mail: _____

Web page URL: _____

Please Identify a Membership Category:

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ACTIVE MEMBER 1 | \$20.00 | Person holding a degree in geology or an allied science and receiving the FCGS Newsletter via <u>email</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ACTIVE MEMBER 2 | \$25.00 | Person holding a degree in geology or an allied science and receiving the FCGS Newsletter via <u>U.S. mail</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ASSOCIATE MEMBER 1 | \$20.00 | Person whose interests are closely associated with geology or an allied science and receiving the FCGS Newsletter via <u>email</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ASSOCIATE MEMBER 2 | \$25.00 | Person whose interests are closely associated with geology or an allied science and receiving the FCGS Newsletter via <u>U.S. mail</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | HONORARY MEMBER | no charge | Year Honorarium was awarded _____ (optional) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | EMERITUS MEMBER | no charge | Year Emeritus status was awarded _____ (optional) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | STUDENT MEMBER | \$5.00 | Undergraduate student majoring in geology or an allied science
Year you expect to graduate: _____ |

Four Corners Geological Society

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL or APPLICATION for 2006 PAGE 2

My professional interests are:

I would like to include a Tax Deductible Contribution to the Four Corners Geological Society Foundation.

Amount of Donation: _____
(Please include a separate check made payable to the Foundation.)

In Memory of (optional): _____

To be used for (optional): _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Please print, complete and return **both pages** of this form with your check for dues made payable to:

**Four Corners Geological Society
P.O. Box 1501,
Durango, CO 81302**

The dues year begins on January 1.
For dues paid after March 1, add a \$5 late fee (does not apply to new members).

Advertising rates for the Four Corners Geological Society newsletter:

Full Page Ad (7½" x 9½") \$100/mo. or \$1000/yr. Half Page Ad (7½" x 4½") \$50/mo. or \$500/yr.
¼ Page Ad (3½" x 4½") \$25/mo. or \$250/yr. Business Card (3½" x 2") \$10/mo. or 100/yr.

Odd sizes are \$3.50 per column inch per month, minimum \$10.00

For more information, please contact the FCGS Treasurer, (vacant). Proceeds will go toward the further development of the Society (i.e., offset meeting costs, publications, etc.).

Four Corners Geological Society

P.O. Box 1501, Durango, CO 81302

<http://www.canyonwinds.com/FCGS/index.html>

2005-06 Officers

President – Steve Hayden: phone: 505.334.6178, email: Steve.Hayden@state.nm.us

Vice President – Mike Dawson: phone: 505.3269770, email: mdawson@br-inc.com

Secretary – Kim Gerhardt: Phone: 970.375.2700, e-mail: kd@mydurango.net

Treasurer – Steve Cossey: phone: 970-385-4800, email: cosseygeo@aol.com

Book Chairperson – Tom Ann Casey: phone: 970-247-1500, email: mtmassive@frontier.net

Newsletter Editor – Luke Titus: phone: 505.324.6108, email: jtitus@br-inc.com

Past President– Ed Heath: phone: 970-375-1997, email: ewheath@frontier.net

Web Coordinator– Tom Getts email: getts@mindspring.com

Field Trip Coordinator– Kim Gerhardt: Phone: 970.375.2700, e-mail: kd@mydurango.net

Foundation President– Jason Hooten: phone: 970.563.5353, e-mail: jhooten@rwpc.us

Foundation Secretary – Joe Hewitt: phone: 505.599.6365, email: jhewitt@blm.gov

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