

NMGS NEWSLETTER

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President's Message Greg Mack

The New Mexico Geological Society had another active and successful year in 2013. In January, David Ennis was elected secretary of the Executive Committee, joining Treasurer Mary Dowse, Vice President Ginger McLemore, President Greg Mack, and past-President Nelia Dunbar. The Spring Meeting in April was among the best attended in many years, in large part because of the theme session entitled "History and Hydrology of the Rio Grande" and the keynote speaker, Fred Phillips.

The theme session for the 2014 Spring Meeting will be "Synergy between Academia and the Fossil Fuel Industry". The keynote speaker will be Dr. Katherine Giles (University of Texas at El Paso), who has worked closely with the petroleum industry for the past two decades.

In one of our most important roles, NMGS awarded \$37,200 in research grants to 15 graduate and 7 undergraduate students. Among the awards was the prestigious Kottowski Scholarship, which went to graduate student Annelise Riggins of New Mexico Tech.

The 2013 Fall Field Conference traced the path of Route 66 from Flagstaff, Arizona, to Gallup, New Mexico. The Society wishes to thank the organizers of the trip, Kate Zeigler, Mike Timmons, Steve Semken, and Jeffrey Martz, as well as guidebook managing editor Stacy Timmons and design and layout editor Brigitte Felix, for a job well done.

In addition to the conference leaders, who devoted hundreds of hours to planning and organizing this three-day event, others also played critical roles in making the conference a success, including Connie Apache, registration chair; April Brunson and Alex Holman, who managed the publications tables; Shannon Williams and Phil Miller, who kept the snack and drink truck well supplied; Gina Rhone, who produced the now-traditional annual conference tee-shirts; and the intrepid group of New Mexico Highlands flag people, who helped keep us from getting lost, and did so with great style.

The FFC photos have been posted to:
<http://nmgs.nmt.edu/ffc/2013/slideshow/index.html>

Twenty-seven student scholarships for the field conference were provided by NMGS, while four scholarships were provided by the Los Alamos Geological Society, one from Hydroscience Associates, Inc., and one from John Throne. During the meeting, Adam Read was inducted as the new Honorary Member of the New Mexico Geological Society for his years of service as the Society webmaster and for his involvement with

recent Fall Field Conferences. In addition, Jeff Dobbins, a graduate student from New Mexico Tech, received the Robert Wellnitz Scholarship.

The 2014 Fall Field Conference will be headquartered in Alamogordo and will explore the central and northern Sacramento Mountains and the Jicarilla Mountains, while the 2015 Fall Field Conference will be held in Las Vegas, New Mexico. Proposals for field conferences for 2016 and beyond are still being accepted, so if you wish to hold a future conference, please contact any of the aforementioned members of the Executive Committee.

On behalf of myself and the other members of the Executive Committee I wish to thank all of the people who have volunteered their time to make the New Mexico Geological Society the best state geological society in the country. It has been my pleasure to be associated with the Society for over thirty years, and I am gratified to see that the next generation of geologists in New Mexico is already taking up the reins of leadership.

Field Play – A New Smart Phone Ap

This year, the NMGS Fall Field Conference will be supplemented with *Field Play*, an augmented reality geologic field trip application. Developed by UNM Earth & Planetary Sciences PhD student Magdalena Donahue and NM Tech Computer Science PhD student John Donahue, this free, Android-based smartphone/mobile device application will digitally enhance the field experience by promoting scientific education in a way that is personal, interesting, relevant, easily accessible, and scalable to individual interest. Using *Field Play*, participants are given the opportunity to enrich their field experience by exploring interactive submodules that include location-based audio content, augmented reality binoculars, informational text, topographic and geologic maps, and short geological topic and concept YouTube video lessons. These field trips can also be accessed from any location via FieldPlay.org. We look forward to bringing augmented reality field trips to the NMGS FFC this September!

New Publications Chair

Nelia Dunbar has agreed to be the new publications chair. She and Shari Kelley will serve as co-chairs over the course of 2014 while Nelia learns about the job. Nelia will be looking for a co-chair for 2015. Are you interested? Let us know.

On-line Voting

The online ballot for choosing members of the Executive Committee and the Foundation is available at:

<https://nmgs.nmt.edu/ballot>

Members will need to log in to complete the online ballot.

The paper ballot, with online biographies has been posted on the website at:

<http://nmgs.nmt.edu/ballot/download.cfm>

Please vote by January 10.

Upcoming Events

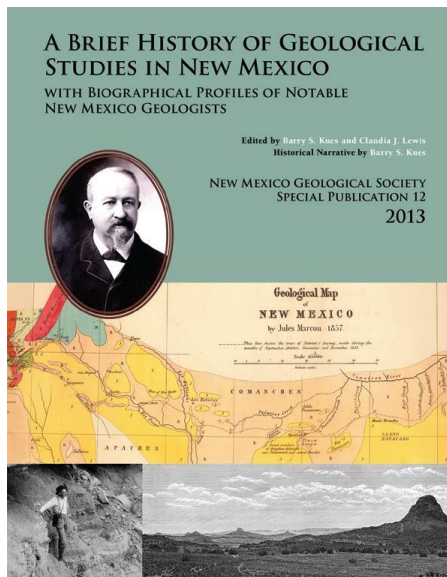
Several events scheduled for 2014 are worth your attention and are listed below:

Student Grant-in-Aid Proposals for research grants, the Kottowski Research Award, and the Pipkin Undergraduate Research Awards must be submitted through the NMGS web site: <http://nmgs.nmt.edu/scholarships>. The deadline this year is Friday, February 21, 2014.

The Annual Spring Meeting will be held on Friday April 11, 2014 at Macey Center in Socorro, NM. The theme will be "Synergy between Academia and the Fossil Fuel Industry in New Mexico" and the keynote speaker will be Dr. Katherine A. Giles from the University of Texas, El Paso. The program chairman is Greg Mack. Abstracts should be submitted through the NMGS web site <http://nmgs.nmt.edu/meeting/abstracts> between January 2 and March 21, 2014. Registration for this meeting will open on March 3, 2014.

The 2014 NMGS Fall field Conference will visit the Sacramento Mountains, Sierra Blanca, and the Tularosa Basin. The dates for the conference are September 24-27, 2014. Papers for the 2014 Guidebook will be due by March 1st, 2014 to technical organizers [Ginger McLemore](#) or [Geoff Rawling](#) (both at the NM Bureau of Geology). All papers must be peer-reviewed prior to submittal to a co-organizer. Minipapers will be accepted with approval from a conference organizer. Please send a co-organizer a brief email with a draft title for your paper or minipaper by December 31st, 2013. Stacy Timmons is organizing the logistics.

New NMGS Publication Scheduled to Be Out in Spring of 2014



A new book edited by Barry Kues and Claudia Lewis that highlights the lives of notable New Mexico geologists is due to be published this spring. The book, *A Brief History of Geological Studies in New Mexico with Biographical Profiles of Notable New Mexico Geologists*, contains 42 sketches of the lives of men and women who influenced our understanding the stratigraphy, structure, paleontology, volcanology, Precambrian geology, geomorphology, geologic history, and mineral, fuel and water resources of the state. The profiles were composed by current geologists who either knew these legendary scientists or were interested in their contributions. The individual profiles are woven together in an historic narrative that traces the evolution of our knowledge of the geology of New Mexico, from Puebloan and Hispanic use of geological materials and the first observations made during the Mexican-American War in the 1840s, to modern studies incorporating plate tectonics, radiometric dating of rocks, and use of advanced analytical instruments. We are sure that you will enjoy this inspirational book.

2013 NMGS Honorary Member – Adam Read



Adam Read receives his Honorary Member certificate from NMGS President Greg Mack during the NMGS banquet in Gallup, New Mexico. Adam was honored for his outstanding work in creating the NMGS web page, developing an online membership directory for the society, online registration for our meetings, and producing the online Grant-in-aid application and meeting abstract forms.