



NMGS NEWSLETTER

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2015 Officers

- **President:** Mary Dowse, Western New Mexico University
- **Vice President:** David Ennis, New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division
- **Treasurer:** Matt Heizler, NM Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources
- **Secretary:** Susan Lucas-Kamat, NM Environment Department
- **Past President:** Virginia McLemore, NM Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources

If you haven't [cast your ballot](https://nmgs.nmt.edu/ballot) for the 2016 NMGS Election, please take a minute to do so before the January 6th deadline at <https://nmgs.nmt.edu/ballot>.

President's Message

The principal activities of the New Mexico Geological Society are the Spring Meeting and Fall Field Conference that serve as ways to share research and information about the geology in the state of New Mexico and to make that information available through our publications. So it is really gratifying to win, once again, the **Best Guidebook Award** from the Geographic Information Society for the 2014 Geology of the Route 66 Region and heartfelt congratulations to the editors of that volume: Kate Zeigler, J. Michael Timmons, Stacy Timmons, and Steve Semken, with Brigitte Felix who did the design and layout. Well done! This award is particularly impressive when you realize that nearly all of the work of organizing the conference and editing the guidebook is a volunteer effort!

Volunteers will always be at the heart of the society, because we simply could not afford to pay people for the services they provide. So a thank you to all of the following for their efforts (and the many who contribute when and where they can):

- Spring Meeting: Matt Heizler and Peter Fawcett.
- Scholarship Committee: Kate Ziegler, Adam Read and David Ennis
- Fall Field Conference: Jennifer Lindline, Mike Petronis and Joe Zembrowski
- Our support staff:
 - Registration chair and office stuff: Connie Apache
 - WebMaster: Adam Read

And of course the Executive Committee, who have each stepped up and helped to get things done and made my life so much easier in my tenure as president.

One of my greatest pleasures this year was making the award for the 2015 NMGS Honorary Membership to Laura Crossey. Laura has helped to organize field conferences and spring meetings, but more importantly she has served as treasurer for the NMGS Foundation. Nearly all of those checks that students have gotten for scholarships came from Laura's hand. She often was asked to write several dozen checks on short notice. She was always a pleasure to work with!

Alas, the society had hoped to publish the volume on Energy and Mineral Resources of New Mexico this year, we didn't quite make it, but it will be out soon. This special publication will be released as a separate volume on each commodity or as a boxed set of each volume.

As we look ahead the 2016 Spring Meeting will be April 8 in Socorro. The topic will be Water Resources in New Mexico. The 2106 Fall Field Conference: *Geology of the Belen Area* will be September 14th – 17th. Shannon Williams, Bonnie Frey and Phil Miller are busy working on the details for what will be exciting excursions on both sides of the Rio Grande.

One of the most significant activities of the society is the support of students through scholarships both for research and participation in society events by way of the NMGS Foundation. These scholarships are possible because of the generosity of former members like Lucille Pipken and Robert and Beverly Wellnitz. I would like to encourage members how are interested in supporting students studying the geology of New Mexico at any of the universities in the state to consider making a contribution to the Foundation.

Membership

The current membership is 572. Active: 173, Student: 137, Associate: 24, Lifetime: 199 and Honorary: 39.

2015 Annual Spring Meeting

The 2015 Annual Spring Meeting was held on April 24, 2015 with a theme of “*Paleoclimate: Is the past the key to the future?*” Connie Woodhouse, from the University of Arizona, presented the keynote entitled “*Paleodroughts: Analogues for the future?*” There were 203 registrants for the meeting including 77 students.

2015 Fall Field Conference

The 66th Fall Field Conference was held in Las Vegas, NM with a registration of 157 with 29 scholarship students. This is the first time Las Vegas was the headquarters for the meeting although the society has had passed through several times. The historic Plaza Hotel was a spacious and accommodating venue that launched participants into the surrounding mountains and plains to look at Proterozoic rocks to ground and surface water. Jennifer Lindline, Mike Petronis and Joe Zembrowski working with their students did an excellent job or organizing the conference and writing another excellent guidebook.

A reminder that all of the guidebooks (from 1950 on) and publications of the society are [available for purchase](#). The guidebooks cover most of New Mexico and some adjoining areas and include both road guides and peer-reviewed papers relevant to the area. Individual papers in the guidebooks can be downloaded from <https://nmgs.nmt.edu/publications/guidebooks>.

Publications Committee

Virginia (Ginger) McLemore and Nelia Dunbar co-chaired the publications committee. Nelia Dunbar will be rotating off the committee for 2016. If any member would like to serve on the publications committee, please contact Ginger, or any of the executive committee members.

Publication sales for 2014 were approximately \$21,600.

NEW PUBLICATION SCHEDULED TO BE OUT IN 2016

Special Publication 13 — Energy and Mineral Resources of New Mexico — will be a comprehensive summary of New Mexico’s energy and mineral resources, and will be co-published with the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources. This volume is a companion to the volume on New Mexico’s Geologic History (Special Publication 11). Virginia McLemore, Maureen Wilks, and Stacy Timmons are the editors with Brigitte Felix Kludt doing the layout design. The book will begin with an Introduction by Virginia T. McLemore, Ron Broadhead, and Gretchen Hoffman. Chapters include:

- Petroleum Geology of New Mexico by Ronald F. Broadhead
- Coal in New Mexico by Gretchen K. Hoffman
- Uranium Resources in New Mexico by Virginia T. McLemore and William L. Chenoweth
- Metallic Mineral Deposits in New Mexico: An Overview by Virginia T. McLemore and Virgil W. Lueth,
- Industrial Minerals and Rocks of New Mexico by Virginia T. McLemore and George S. Austin

- The Valles Caldera (Baca) Geothermal System, New Mexico by Fraser Goff and Cathy J. Goff.

The volume should be out by early summer 2016.

Student Scholarships

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: <https://nmgs.nmt.edu/scholarships/application>. The deadline this year is Friday, February 19, 2016.

Upcoming Events

2016 Annual Spring Meeting

Water Resources in New Mexico, April 8, 2016

Macey Center, Socorro, NM

2016 Fall Field Conference

Geology of the Belen Area

September 14 – 17, 2016

Future Fall Field Conferences

2017: Durango

2018: Las Cruces

2019: Raton

If you have suggestions for Spring Meeting themes, Fall Field Conferences, members of the Executive Committee or wish to volunteer for the society, please contact any member of the Executive Committee with your suggestions.

Thank you for being a part of the New Mexico Geological Society.