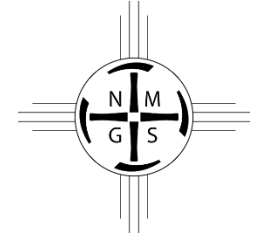


NMGS NEWSLETTER

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President's Message

David Ennis

The mission of the Society continues to be advancing the public interest in the geosciences, fostering the next generation of geoscientists through student scholarships, and researching the geology in our great state. Thanks to our wonderful group of energetic and dedicated volunteers, the New Mexico Geological Society had many accomplishments in advancing our mission in 2016.

2016 Scholarships

Student scholarships remain a priority for the Society in order to foster continued interest in the geosciences, and the Society awarded approximately \$34,000 in research and competitive scholarships during 2016. In addition, the Society granted students free memberships to the Society, a reduction in the price of NMGS publications, free attendance to the Annual Spring Meeting, and numerous field scholarships to attend the Fall Field Conference. Approximately 100 students attended the Annual Spring Meeting, which demonstrates the effectiveness of the Society in growing our students into the profession.

Scholarship Funding

The Society wouldn't be the success that it is without the generous charitable gifts from the estates of Lucille H. Pipkin, Beverly and Robert Wellnitz, and Frederick D. Trauger. These individuals donated reoccurring financial assets to the Society, which continue to support student scholarships to this day. In addition, the Los Alamos Geological Society generously sponsors students every year to attend the Fall Field Conference. NMGS invites, and would sincerely appreciate, your consideration to donate an endowment for a student scholarship during your tax and estate planning.

2016 and 2017 Annual Spring Meetings

The Annual Spring Meeting in April 2016 on "Geohazards in New Mexico and Surrounding Areas" saw record attendance by students, academics, and industry alike. Dr. John Ridley of Colorado State University provided the keynote address on the environmental legacy of historic mining and lessons from the Gold King Mine/Animas River spill. Thanks to the organizational and educational skills of Matt Heizler, Elaine Jacobs, Spencer Lucas, Dan Koning, Giday WoldeGabriel, John Ridley, Gary Axen, and numerous others, the Annual Spring Meeting was a

highlight of the year. If you missed it, well, you're in luck because the 2017 Annual Spring Meeting is just around the corner. This year's special theme is "Uranium in New Mexico: the Resource and the Legacy," with a keynote address by Bernard Bonifas of Energy Fuels Company. This meeting is being organized by Bonnie Frey and Virginia McLemore and is sure to be informative and insightful. Make your plans now to attend the meeting on April 7, 2017, at Macey Center in Socorro. Registration information and the call for abstracts can be found at: <https://nmgs.nmt.edu/meeting/home.cfm>.

2016 Fall Field Conference: Belen Area

Without a doubt, the highlight of 2016 was the 67th Annual Fall Field Conference featuring the Geology of the Belen Area in central New Mexico. Personally, I've driven *past* Belen countless times. But this is where the Fall Field Conference shines: in getting people to the outcrops to see and understand the wonderful New Mexico landscape. The 2016 Fall Field Conference wouldn't have been the success that it was without countless hours of effort from Bonnie Frey, Shannon Williams, Karl Karlstrom, Spencer Lucas, Virginia McLemore, Dana Ulmer-Scholle, Kate Zeigler, Phil Miller, and many others.



*Photographs from the 2016 Annual Fall Field Conference in the Belen, New Mexico area.
Photos by and used with permission from Laura Crossey, Shannon Williams, & Bonnie Frey.*

2017 Fall Field Conference: Ouray-Silverton Area

Planning for the 2017 Fall Field Conference is underway for a look at the geology of the Ouray-Silverton Area. This area has been called the Switzerland of Colorado due to its spectacular scenery and diverse geology. This conference is scheduled for September 27–30, 2017 and is one that you will regret missing. Organized by Matt Heizler, Karl Karlstrom, David Gonzales, and Matt Zimmerer, this conference is sure to delight and amaze. Registration for this conference will begin in late summer 2017. Keep an eye on the NMGS website at: <https://nmgs.nmt.edu/ffc/home.html>.

Future Fall Field Conferences

Groundwork is already being laid for future Fall Field Conferences. The anticipated schedule is shaping up for the following locations:

2018—Las Cruces, New Mexico. The last time the NMGS Fall Field Conference was based out of Las Cruces was in 1998. This conference will be organized by Greg Mack, Frank Ramos, Brian Hampton, and Jim Witcher, among others.

2019—Northeastern New Mexico. This conference will be based in Raton and is being organized by Matt Zimmerer, Kate Zeigler, and Frank Ramos, among others.

2020—Mt. Taylor Region. The 2020 conference is proposed to be based out of Grants, New Mexico with a focus on Mt. Taylor and the uranium deposits of Ambrosia Lake. Trip leaders include Bonnie Frey, Shari Kelley, Fraser Goff, Kate Zeigler, and Virginia McLemore, among others.

Suggestions, trip leaders, and volunteers to help with Fall Field Conferences are always welcome. Please submit your suggestions or interests to the Executive Committee.

2016 NMGS Honorary Member — Virginia McLemore

It was with a unanimous decision by the Executive Committee that the 2016 Honorary Member be awarded to Virginia McLemore. It was my pleasure to present her with the Honorary Member award during the NMGS banquet in Belen, New Mexico. Virginia has been a long-time NMGS member, executive board member, contributor, managing editor, author, drink truck wrangler, and organizer for many years. Among other duties, she continues to serve the Society by being on the NMGS publications committee. Many thanks to Virginia for her continued support to the Society.

Membership

As of January 24, 2017, the Society has 321 members, including 53 Active, 8 Associate, 40 Honorary, 201 Lifetime, and 19 Students. Don't forget to renew your membership!

Publications Committee

Virginia McLemore has chaired or co-chaired the NMGS Publications Committee since 2015. She has agreed to continue as co-chair with Andy Jochems in 2017. If any Society member would like to serve on the publications committee, please contact Andy, Ginger, or any of the Executive Committee members.

Publication sales for 2015 and 2016 were approximately \$21,855 and \$20,575, respectively.

NEW PUBLICATION SCHEDULED TO BE OUT IN 2017—*Energy and Mineral Resources of New Mexico*. This publication should be out during summer 2017.

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, and the Bureau's Pubs Editing Group doing the production and prepress work. 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*.

Guidebook and Special Publications Editors

NMGS guidebooks are some of the highest quality geologic publications in the nation. However, the Society needs additional managing editors and design and layout editors to continue in this tradition of excellence. We encourage NMGS members to reach out to qualified persons in an effort to create a candidate pool. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact the Executive Committee.

Final Thoughts

On behalf of myself and the Executive Committee for the Society, I want to thank all of the people who have contributed and volunteered their time to make the Society successful. I have enjoyed my time on the Executive Committee and am sincerely grateful for the experience. I leave the Executive Committee in excellent hands.

2017 Executive Committee Members

President: Matt Heizler, NM Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources, New Mexico Tech

Vice President: Susan Lucas-Kamat, NM Environment Department

Treasurer: Dan Koning, NM Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources

Secretary: Shannon Williams, AMEC Foster Wheeler

Past-President: David Ennis, State of New Mexico, Mining and Minerals Division