

The Department of Geology University of Kentucky

The Round Up
(1975)



Boyman from the rear

Cover

You have seen the front of our quarters, so we thought you should see the back. Any good geologist wants to see both sides of the specimen. The picture clearly shows two cove porches which, if enclosed, would provide us with nearly 1200 square feet of space for a geological museum.

Our move to Bowman has necessitated, for lack of space, that most of our fine collections of minerals, fossils, rocks, etc. be stored and not available to students or the general public.

The renovation necessary to make these porches into a fine small museum is not exorbitant, but to date we haven't been able to acquire such funds within the University or interest a philanthropic donor. Don't you know a source of \$10-15,000 for this purpose. Would your name look good on a plaque at the entrance to the museum?

Geology Alumni Reunion

At the Dallas AAPG meeting in April, several of you suggested that it is high time we arrange a pilgrimage to Lexington. Vin Nelson said he would get something started, so here goes. We have a block of tickets reserved with the Athletic Association for the homecoming game with Tulane University on Saturday, November 1. The number of tickets are limited and we will be able to hold reservations only until September 15. We need to know your intentions as soon as possible. The sooner you make a commitment to appear, the better we will be able to complete our plans.

Let's meet at Bowman Hall on the afternoon of Friday, October 31, look over our facilities and then go on to a cocktail party and dinner that evening. Saturday the group will be seated in a reserved section for the game.

In order for this to be a successful event, we need to generate some enthusiasm within the group. Why don't you look over the list of alums in this issue of the Round Up and do a little writing or calling to some of your old classmates whom you would like to see in Lexington on the 31st.

Make a quick decision and fill out the blocks we have provided. Return it to Vin Nelson.

(Cut along this line)

If you want tickets for this game, please enclose payment with this form.

☐ I will attend the Geology Alumni Reunion.

☐ I will not be able to attend.

☐ I want reservations for the football game. Number indicated in the box @ \$8.00 per ticket.

☐ I will attend the Friday evening dinner. Price unknown, but we will try to keep it reasonable.

☐ I will not attend the Friday evening dinner.

If you would like us to make hotel or motel reservations for you, we will be happy to do so. If you have a preference, let us know. Accomodations should be made as early as possible. You know how Lexington fills up for football games, particularly Homecoming.

Name

Dallas AAPG Meeting

We were able to round up a small group at Dallas. There weren't as many of you as we had expected, but the quality made up for mere numbers. Please excuse us if someone's name is omitted, but it is rather hectic to keep track of and get people to write down their names. These are among the people we know were there: Russ Ford, Don Canada, Dick Hicklin, Bill Macke, J. O. Lewis, Ed Self, Ed Ray, Reaves Jackson, Ralph Freeman, John Hettermann, Ron Mackey, Charles Holbrook, Holmes Smart, and Harry Emmerich. We saw some others listed in the directory of hotel reservations, but we can't verify their presence. They are Clem Bruce and Sam Boggs. Probably were there and never left the technical sessions rooms!

There should be a large enough group show up in New Orleans this spring to warrant the arrangement of some sort of separate affair rather than the all alumni cocktail party. How about some of you in New Orleans getting together and making some arrangements through the convention committee?

Departmental Speaker's Program

In January we again hosted a successful one-day symposium. This was the Fourth Annual New Concepts in Sedimentology symposium. Sub-title for this year's event was "Oceanic Sedimentation, Processes and Tectonics". Our speakers were Dr. Charles Hollister, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute; Dr. George DeVries Klein, University of Illinois; and Dr. Robert S. Dietz, NOAA Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory.

Our attendance for the day meeting was 200. We hope to be able to continue sponsoring this annual activity. Some of you ought to be able to convince your companies that they should be sending you to this appropriate educational experience. Topics of this year's speakers were: **Dynamic** Processes of Abyssal Sedimentation - Sedimentary Tectonics of Southwest Pacific Marginal Basins and an Equatorial Plateau - Continental Margins and Actualistic Geosynclines.

We have had a number of other guest speakers during the academic year. We started off in the fall with a visit from Professor Edwin S. Hills of Australia who spoke on major tectonic features of Australia. Mr. Nugent Brasher, Jr., a distinguished AAPG lecturer, also made a presentation to faculty and students while in Lexington for a talk before the Geological Society of Kentucky. Professor Conrad Krauskopf of Stanford University also visited the department under the auspices of the Society of Economic Geologists. His formal lecture dealt with magmatic solutions in ore deposition. Dr. Paul Ragland of the University of North Carolina spent a few weeks in the Department conducting research with the department laser probe. During this period he was called on as one of our seminar speakers. Professor Igor Perchorkin of the University of Perm of the Soviet Union spent several days in the department. He gave one talk on solutional problems in connection with dam sites in Russia. Professor Perchorkin is interested in karst, and Mammoth Cave is what really brought him to Kentucky. Several of these persons were also gracious enough to speak informally to classes appropriate for their specialties. Our final speaker of the year was Professor Edward G. Lidiak from the University of Pittsburgh who discussed the 38th lineament.

About Students

We have 47 declared undergraduate majors in the department this spring. Some will undoubtedly fall by the wayside, but the number indicates increasing interest in geology as a major. We had 32 graduate students enrolled in the spring semester. The May Commencement program listed our first two Ph.D. graduates. They are Enrique Navarro and Franco Urbani. Both are from Caracas, Venezuela and teaching at the National University. The same commencement program listed 12 master's degree candidates and 10 bachelor candidates. One of our graduate students, Mike Ammerman, has received a \$440 grant from AAPG to complete field work in Kentucky for his Master's thesis.

Departmental Field Trip

During the fall semester we set out on our seventh annual department field trip. We filled up one Greyhound bus and a department vehicle. The group included some staff and students from Eastern Kentucky University. We looked at the geology of the Baraboo area of Wisconsin for two days. The district has some good structural and sedimentation features in the upper pre-Cambrian and lower Paleozoic rocks. We suspect the greyhound drivers found us a bit difficult to get along with as we wound up with 9 drivers during the 4-day period. Nelson made the mistake of suggesting the area, so guess who got saddled with the planning and execution of the trip. People are catching on. To date, we have heard no suggestions for next fall's affair.

Eastern Section Meeting AAPG

As we announced last year, the Geological Society of Kentucky will sponsor the Eastern Section meeting in Lexington in 1976. The dates are set and planning has begun. The meeting will be on the 7th and 8th of October and of course a number of us in the department are involved in the planning. We hope that a number of you might find this meeting a good excuse for returning to the Blue Grass. Races should be on so you should have no problem in making expenses.

Southeastern GSA, Memphis 1975

Again this year the department was well represented at the annual Southeastern Section Meeting in April. Six papers appeared on the technical program which involved staff and student authorship. Staff participating were Blackburn and Keller, and the students participating were Bland, Deister, Graham, Greenberg, Norton, and Survant. Two of these, Deister and Survant, had previously left the department but the papers resulted from research conducted while they were graduate students.

Staff Changes

Several of us have been around the department for a rather large number of years, so I guess it's about time to be expecting some retirements. There will be several in the next few years. The first of these came along this year. Erwin Lyons is retiring as of July 1. He came to the department in 1958 so is completing 17 years of service. The department hosted a dinner in May at Spindletop Hall in his honor. Erv has handled all of the engineering geology classes over these years. We all wish him many useful and satisfying years doing the things one never has time for while meeting the obligations of full employment.

We have secured a staff replacement for Lyons. He is Frank Ettensohn who expects to complete his Doctoral degree at the University of Illinois in August. Ettensohn received his bachelor's and master's degree from the University of Cincinnati. His master's research covered Pleistocene-glacial geology and his doctoral dissertation is a study of paleoecology-paleontology of the upper Newman Limestone in northeastern Kentucky. Among his duties, Ettensohn will take over the responsibility of the field program in the department.

Miscellaneous Department Notes and Happenings

Bill Dennen returned to the department in January after a year's leave working on gibbsite deposits in the lower Amazon Basin of Brazil. When school closed this spring semester he was off again for a shorter stint in Australia. Bruce Moore, who has been on sabbatical this spring semester working with Australian mineral deposits, got Bill into this activity.

Bill MacQuown is on sabbatical for the fall semester and has just taken off for Europe. He plans to attend an international sedimentological conference in Nice, France this summer and an international Carboniferous conference in Moscow (Russia, not Idaho) in early September. He is also planning some research activities in Belgium and Wales in the fall.

Tom Roberts plans to cross the waters at the close of summer school to attend the Carboniferous conference in Moscow and will be participating on the program co-authoring a paper with two others.

Blackburn, Brown, and Keller are conducting quite an onslaught on the Piedmont area of Virginia with the aid of several graduate students. They are conducting joint studies of structure, petrology and geophysical problems within the area.

John Thrailkill, our department chairman, left for Europe on May 17 to attend the bi-lateral U.S. - Yugoslavia Seminar on karst hydrology and water resources. John is to deliver a paper at this meeting. The 10 U.S. participants are sponsored by the National Science Foundation.

Lois Campbell has been elected President of the Geological Society of Kentucky for the coming year. This assures us that the society is in good hands for another year.

Bud Fisher is on a geode kick. If anyone wants to know where in the stratigraphic succession and geographically where within the state one can find geodes in addition to their mineral content, Fisher is the man with the answers.

Vivian Hall, our librarian, has been elected President of the national Geoscience Information Society. This organization has its annual meeting in conjunction with the annual Geological Society of America meeting. We are all proud of this recognition given to the director of our excellent geological library.

Phyl and Vin Nelson plan to be on Cement Creek from June 14 to August 7 this summer. Should you be anywhere in the vicinity, they expect you to put in your appearance.

McFarlan Fund

We hope all of the contributors to the McFarlan Fund have received a personal thank you. It is our intention that they do, so that if we have failed to do so, it was an unintentional oversight. Your contributions have continued to make modest grants available to students who have financial need for laboratory materials, field expenses, etc. incurred in thesis research or other study programs. There are a number of things which cannot be handled legally from state generated money even if it were available, so your contributions serve a unique purpose in our attempt to provide a quality education to our students.

We are not attempting to build an endowment fund with this money, but rather spend it pretty much as it is received. Each year's operation is dependent upon the income realized on a year to year basis. We hope many of you will continue your generous support and that others will feel that they would like to join in this endeavor. It is easy. All you need to do is send your contribution to the University and designate it for the Geology-McFarlan Fund.