



Granite State Geologist

This issue published jointly by the NH Geological Society
and the NH Council of Professional Geologists

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President's Message

Lee Wilder, President - NH Geological Society

As we go to press, some spring weather at last! As a summit volunteer for the Mount Washington Observatory for a week at the end of May, I spent several days helping shovel snow away from the doors of the Sherman Adam's Summit Building on Mount Washington. To date, the summit has received some 40 inches of snow since the beginning of May! With valley temperatures in the mid 70's for the Memorial Day Weekend, there is hope of a return to spring.

The NHGSociety Board has been busy planning the annual Summer Field trip and Family Picnic. With everyone's busy schedules we are trying to run the two events concurrently. With a serious field trip scheduled for the morning, we will join the families at the Sunapee State Beach for the annual Family Picnic at noon on Saturday July 13, 2002. During the afternoon portion of the field trip, families may join us, as we explore the geology of the summit of Mt. Sunapee. Watch your mail for details and registration. It's fun, so, please plan to attend this annual NHGSociety event!

Enclosed in this newsletter you will also find a membership poll regarding efforts to merge the NHGSociety and the NHCPG under one NH Geological Association. After receiving correspondence from several concerned members, the NHGSociety and NHCPG Boards of Directors voted to poll both memberships to obtain more thoughts on this matter. Thus we ask everyone to please read and respond to the poll and mail it back to John Noble. Hopefully, we will get a significant number of returns so that the two boards can use your input to act according to the wishes of the majority. It is important that you take a moment to respond.

You should also notice that we are trying to make the newsletter as informative to the NH Geological community as possible. With each issue we are soliciting from more NH geology sources. If you notice something missing that we should have published, please contact anyone on the board of directors. Newsletter editor, Tania Coffin, has taken on a big task and anything that you can do to help making the Granite State Geologist better, will benefit all of us.

Don't forget to also mark your calendar for the October 17th Annual Dinner meeting. This is also one of the Society's events to celebrate Earth Science Week 2002. Earth Science Week is an appropriate time for members to help the general public understand the importance of the Earth Sciences in everyday life. What can you do? Lost for ideas? Check out:

<http://www.earthscienceworld.org/week/>

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President's Message

Timothy Stone, President - NH Council of Professional Geologists
PG-95

It was quite a year for the NHCPG with regards to our evolving to an organization representing and advocating for the profession of geology. This past year NHCPG joined the NH Business and Industry Association (BIA) and Legislative Committee members participated in monthly BIA committee meetings. NHCPG was also invited to be on an ad hoc NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) committee tasked to review and contribute to finalizing the proposed Chapter ENV-WM 1600 Reporting and Remediation of Contaminated Sites Rules. I have also been fielding a continuous stream of telephone calls and e-mails regarding completion of NH licensed geologist applications. The NHCPG Board of Directors also began exploring the process and details of merging with the NH Geological Society. Regarding the latter item, please find included with this newsletter a poll which we would appreciate that you complete and return to John Noble by July 1st. While the Board of Directors of both organizations support the merger, it was felt that the NHCPG and NHGS membership should be polled to determine the level of support within the organizations and provide a formal mechanism for members to provide their comments on the merger plan. Lee Wilder and I have spent many hours working out some of the details of the merger including development of the proposed organization chart for the tentatively named NH Geological Association, draft bylaws, and finally soliciting the opinions of the members of both organizations. The poll will be the final component of the merger decision process.

While attending the recent NH BIA annual meeting, I had the pleasure of watching NHCPG member Jim Griswold receive the "Above and Beyond" award for his contributions to BIA's monitoring of water resource issues, in particular Senate Bill 410 regarding large groundwater withdrawals. Jim also provided testimony at the Senate hearing both as an environmental consultant and as a farmer. I heard that Jim's testimony was very compelling and well received. Nice work Jim!

Finally, to those of you who have received your NH Professional Geologist license, CONGRATULATIONS. For those of you who have procrastinated to the last minute to apply within the grandfather period window, JUST DO IT, the last minute is less than two weeks away.

NHCPG Meeting Announcement

The next NHCPG Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for July 10, 5:30 PM at the Hazen Drive NHDES office. Please note that the date has been moved one week due to the July 4th holiday. The results of the NHCPG/NHGS merger poll will likely be a major topic of discussion. All members are welcome to attend.

Grant awarded from Lincoln R. Page Professional Development Fund

NHGS has awarded \$300 to the Keene Montessori School (KMS) in Keene, NH. KMS will incorporate geoscience education into the kindergarten curricula through the use of Rock Detective Kit "Rock Mysteries" aimed at the kindergartener's age level. The school received the kit from a parent. Grant funds will be used to bring a Rock Detective instructor to KMS to show the teachers the best techniques for presenting geoscience concepts to young children. A school representative will

report on the project at the
NHGS dinner during Earth
Science Week this fall.

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**JUNE 22-23, 2002 GILSUM, NH - GILSUM ROCK SWAP & MINERAL
SHOW.** Gilsum Recreation Committee. Gilsum Elementary Schoolgrounds.
22nd, 8am – 6pm; 23rd, 8 am-4 pm.
Dwayne Darley, 603-355-1180, rmitchell60@adelphia.net.

NH Geology Road Show Box

Lee Wilder

Work continues, to finish stocking this travel kit for those members who could use "NH Geology props", when asked to speak to school classes, civic groups, etc.

It is being stocked with NH rock and mineral specimens (clearly labeled, of course); NH geologic maps; NH geology publications; and useful posters.

With this kit, you should feel comfortable making a "geology presentation".

We hope to have the Road Show Box housed in Concord. All you have to do is call and arrangements can be made to get the box to you. If anyone has any ideas or appropriate materials for such a kit, please contact Greg Kirby (271-3624) or Lee Wilder (271-1976).

NHGSociety and the NHCPG Sponsor Teacher

This year, the NHCPG has joined with the NHGSociety in sponsoring a NH Science Teacher with a scholarship to the American Groundwater Trust's, Summer Institute. This two-day event provides a NH Science Teacher background training in the occurrence, availability, access and importance of this precious natural resource. Combined with workshop sessions and field trips, teachers reach a comfort level with this topic that allows them to convey the importance of Earth's ground water to their students.

AWG/NPS GEOLOGIST IN THE PARKS 2002

Looking for a unique field opportunity? Career enhancement? High-profile research project to broaden your graduate school experience? Planning a sabbatical? AWG, in cooperation with the National Park Service, is pleased to announce its support of three new Geologist-in-the-Parks positions for 2002. All appropriately qualified women geoscientists, including students are welcome to apply. As long as credentials match a position, any application is welcome; you do not have to be a member of AWG to apply. Stipend for each position is a flat rate of \$2500, payable in three installments, with the final installment contingent upon submission of a final report and photographs to AWG. Full descriptions of the positions, park geology, and park contacts can be found at the websites listed below.

Applications are due ASAP, contact GIP Coordinator, Maggie Toscano: Marguerite.Toscano@noaa.gov. Feel free to contact Maggie with any questions. A committee of experienced AWG members will evaluate the applications and forward candidates to the Parks. Park personnel make the final choices and may interview candidates by phone during the selection process.

More information on this year's GIP positions can be found on the AWG website at: <http://www.awg.org/about/gip.html>. AAPG has also published an excellent article about the GIP program entitled "Volunteering for Park Duty", which describes the experiences of former participants and more. Check it out at: <http://www.aapg.org/explorer/gip.html>.

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Geologist License Grandfather Period Closes 4 PM, July 1, 2002 Tim Stone, Tim Allen

Since the June 30, 2002 closure date for NH Licensed Geologist grandfather period falls on a Sunday, the NH Joint Board has announced that applications will be accepted within the grandfather period until 4PM, Monday, July 1, 2002. Applicants are reminded that only the initial application needs to be received by the closing deadline, the other components of the licensure process including professional references, transcripts, and verifications of licensure do not need to be submitted by the close of the grandfather period. Applicants who submit license applications after July 1st will be required to also pass the Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) exam and pay additional exam fees. At this time there are no provisions in the licensing regulations for reciprocity with other states.

As of May 23, 2002, a total of 136 licensed geologist applications had been approved by the Geologist Board and approximately 100 applications were in the pipeline. On average four applications per day are arriving at the NH Joint Board offices and this number is expected to increase dramatically as July 1 approaches. So far the biggest delay in completion of the application package has been receiving all of the references required. Therefore, it is suggested that applicants contact their references to confirm that they have completed the reference and forwarded it to the NH Joint Board.

NHCPG Legislative Committee Report Ken Milender

The NHCPG Legislative Committee busied itself the past few months in reviewing legislation proposed to the General Court. With our government affairs advocate Tim Fortier of the McLane Law firm, we delved into the workings of the NH Legislature. Quite an experience!

In January, the Committee met with Tim Fortier to plan our strategy and to identify bills that had been proposed for the 2002 Session. Tracking and identifying new bills of interest continued throughout the Session, which ran from January through May this year. The General Court handled approximately 750 bills during the 2002 Session; the Legislative Committee identified 31 bills that we judged to be of potential interest to the CPG membership. The Committee decided, because this was our first formal foray at legislative monitoring since passage of the licensing bill, that we would mainly watch "from the sidelines" by monitoring the progress of a number of interesting bills, and addressing only a few of bills that would be of the most concern or interest to professional geologists. The bills of interest generally addressed environmental (hazardous and solid waste, land application of sewage sludge) and water resource issues, but also included some wetlands, sand and gravel mining, and high school curriculum issues. As you probably know, there was a considerable interest in water resources-related legislation this year.

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Legislative Committee Report, continued

The following is a list of bills passed into law which were monitored in varying degrees by the Committee:

HB 1102: Establishing a hazardous waste coordinator certificate program
HB 1106: Repealing the water pollution control revolving loan fund advisory committee, the local government advisory committee, and the NH industrial heritage commission; establishing a reporting requirement for the environmental research advisory committee; and creating a radon study committee
HB 1111: establishing a committee to study regulation and procedures for lake level investigations and orders
HB 1112: relative to the notice period for hearings on excavation permits
HB 1119: relative to landfill closing costs reimbursed by the DES
HB 1170: extending the environmental audit program
HB 1231: implementing a pre-engineering technology curriculum in the public high schools in the state
HB 1252: relative to the membership of the wetlands council
HB 1305: relative to the pollution prevention program
HB 1402: designating segments of the Isinglass River as protected under the rivers management and protection program
HB 1414: relative to taxation of excavation areas
HB 1449: establishing a pilot program to study and establish protected instream flows and water management plans on the Lamprey River and Souhegan River.
SB 419: relative to notification of groundwater contamination and repealing certain MTBE notification requirements for public water systems
SB 437: relative to the protection of public water supplies during emergency conditions and establishing a committee to study the formation of regional water systems and the eligibility of such systems for state construction grants
SB 440: relative to rules for water conservation

The Committee maintained a neutral position on all bills except two: HB 1231 listed above relative to large groundwater withdrawals, and SB 410 which did not pass. We supported HB 123 to encourage technical education and also considered what efforts might be warranted to improve earth science curriculums. SB 410, the cornerstone of the Governor's water resources initiative for this year, was the only bill we chose to voice our viewpoints in a detailed fashion. A task force from the Business and Industry Association (BIA) solicited our opinion on the proposed bill which the Committee felt contained many provisions that were too vague and poorly defined, and therefore, we objected to the bill as written. The Committee did support an amendment to SB 410, which called for the formation of a study committee to look into the hierarchy of water users in the state. In the end, SB 410 and amended versions were not passed into law. Note that there were no bills proposed to repeal or weaken the Geologists Licensing Act during the 2002 Session.

Other Legislative Committee activities included:

Tim Fortier has been guiding the Committee in navigating the legislative process and submitted a 2002 Legislative Session final report.

NHCPG sponsored a member who attended the "Salute to the Senators" dinner.

Legislative Committee members have also been regularly in attendance at monthly meetings for the various committees of the BIA (environmental affairs, energy affairs, and economic development), one of the important benefits of our membership in that organization.

Please contact Ken Milender@mcttelecom.com if you want more specific information about any of the bills that were tracked during the past session or if you are interested in getting involved with the Legislative Committee or any of our other activities. The Legislative Committee had a busy legislative session this year and we are looking forward to the General Court's summer vacation! In the fall we will begin preparations for the next legislative session.

USGS NH-VT Current Projects

Rich Moore

A list of current projects is provided below. Contact the U.S. Geological Survey New Hampshire/Vermont District, USGS, 361 Commerce Way, Pembroke, NH 03275, USA for more information.

Surface Water:

- Surface Water Data Collection Program
 - Stream measurement outreach and educational site
- Dye tracer (Time-of-Travel) study of New Hampshire Rivers
- Englesby Brook, Burlington, Vermont: streamflow and water quality
- Flow Frequency Characteristics of New Hampshire and Vermont Streams
- USGS Updating Flood Hazard Maps
- Spicket River Flood Information Systems Pays Off
- Real-time Precipitation Gages Installed

Ground Water:

- Bedrock Aquifer Assessment
- New Containment Sampling Method Tested at Superfund Site in Milford, NH

Water Quality:

- NAWQA: New England Coastal Basins Study Unit(National Water Quality Assessment)
 - Arsenic, Radon, and Radium in Ground Water
 - Mercury Distribution in New England Streams
 - Shallow Ground-Water Quality in the Boston Metropolitan Area
 - Effects of Urbanization on Surface Water
- Bacteria Study in Hampton Harbor
- Water Quality Trends in the Lake Champlain Basin
- Lake Champlain Mercury Transport Study
- Development of a New England Nutrient Water-Quality Model (SPARROW)

Interdisciplinary:

- Sleepers River WEBB (Water Energy and Biogeochemical Budgets)

NHGS/NHCPG

**PMB 133, 26 South Main Street
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