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April 2006 Dinner Meeting Was A Great Success

Submitted By: Julie Spencer, GSNH Website Coordinator

On April 13, 2006, in what may be a new attendance record, 88 geologists and geology enthusiasts gathered at the Cat n' Fiddle Restaurant in Concord, New Hampshire for our spring meeting. After our usual buffet dinner, Carl Koteff entertained us with his talk on the "Deglaciation of New England: The Dirt Machine Revisited." Carl is the Chief Mapper of the New Hampshire Geological Survey Surficial Mapping Program and as many of you may remember, led us on our 1994 summer field trip to coastal central New England. Carl's new theory literally turns the dirt machine on its side. After the talk we held our mineral raffle. An azurite with malachite specimen from the Guichi Copper Mine in the Anhui Province of China was won by Sharon McKechnie, a new member who was attending her first meeting. Thanks go to Greg Kirby for the mineral donation. The second prize of the evening was a beautiful pair of earrings made of gold, lapis lazuli and freshwater pearls which were won by Mark Reinhold. Thank you to Tania Brice Coffin for creating and donating the earrings.

AGI Announces Earth Science Week Theme for 2006

The American Geological Institute (AGI) announces the theme for Earth Science Week 2006: "Be a Citizen Scientist!" The year's Earth Science Week, October 8-14, will engage students and the public in conducting real "citizen science" research and help to spread science literacy. "Citizen science affords everyone an opportunity to investigate earth science questions," says Ann E. Benbow, Ph.D., AGI's Director of Education and Outreach. "This Earth Science Week, we will be encouraging students, teachers, and the general public to become actively involved in a variety of citizen science programs with earth science themes. We hope that such involvement will highlight the value of Earth Science in everyone's life and raise the profile of the important work that geoscientists do."

AGI invites earth science educators, professionals, and interested individuals to get involved now. For this year's Earth Science Week, AGI is promoting and facilitating a number of activities. Central to this year's celebration is AGI's efforts to engage students and other members of the community to collect data related to scientific endeavors, to make discoveries. As in prior

years, AGI will be coordinating national essay, photography, and visual arts contests related to “Citizen Science.”

AGI Announces Earth Science Week Theme for 2006 (continued)

Starting in August, AGI will begin distributing Earth Science Week education kits to support individuals and groups interested in holding their own Earth Science Week activities and programs. Also, the Institute is supporting public events, awareness efforts, discussion forums, and much more.

Earth Science Week 2006 marks the ninth year AGI has sponsored this international event as a service to the public and the geoscience community. Each year, local groups, educators, and interested individuals organize celebration events. The goal is to offer the public opportunities to discover the Earth sciences and promote responsible stewardship of the Earth. Earth Science Week is supported by the U.S. Geological Survey and other geoscience organizations. Learn more at <http://www.earthsciweek.org>. More information about AGI can be found at <http://www.agiweb.org/>. The Institute also provides a public outreach site at <http://www.earthscienceworld.org/>.

New Hampshire Geological Survey's 5th Annual, Geologic Mapping Workshop 2006

The Hampshire Geological Survey's 5th Annual Geologic Mapping Workshop will be held on Monday, June 26, 2006 from 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM at the DES Auditorium at 29 Hazen Drive in Concord. This workshop provides a forum for regional geologic mappers and map users to address mapping-related issues such as funding, methods, map standards, science, and land access. An update on NHGS programs and research activities will also be provided. A poster session and oral presentations will be open to the public. Certificates will be given for up to five (5) hours of continuing education for those in attendance seeking NH Professional CEU's (contingent upon number of sessions attended). Please respond by email if you plan to attend so we can anticipate the number of attendees. Send you notice to attend to: galegaily@des.state.nh.us If you need further information on the program, please contact the NH Geological Survey at: geology@des.state.nh.us.

Mount Washington Observatory, Spring Workshop: White Mountains Geology

Submitted by: Gregory Kirby, P.G., NHDES

On May 13 and 14, the MWO's Spring Geology Workshop was lead by co-leaders Thom Davis of Bentley College and Greg Kirby of NH Department of Environmental Services. The workshop focused on the bedrock and surficial geology of the Conway area and Pinkham, Crawford and Franconia Notches. A brief indoor presentation introducing the participants to the general geologic history of New Hampshire was provided. With a splash of plate tectonics, glaciology, radiocarbon and other radiometric dating thrown in, the group embarked on a somewhat rainy weekend to observe bedrock exposures coupled with continental and alpine glacial features of the northern and eastern White Mountains.

Day 1 of the field trip focused on the features of Pinkham Notch, with visits to Glen Ellis Falls, the Glenn House and Emerald Pool (and a visit back to Conway to Cathedral Ledges). The group was given presented with enthusiastic synopses of the progression of Paleozoic regional metamorphism (from diagenesis to migmatization) and mountain building events within the Mt. Washington Valley and Presidential Range by observing exposures along Route 16. A passionate history of Pleistocene glaciation and deglaciation of the area was provided to the group by observing glacial features such as striations, roche moutons and cirques. Although the weather was largely uncooperative, the question of the timing of cirque development in the area led to a thought-provoking discussion as to whether alpine glaciers created the features before or after the continental ice sheet retreated.

Day 2 was spent describing the intricate geology at Crawford and Franconia Notches. A short walk to the top of Elephant Rock along a water-saturated trail led to the discussion of magmatic stoping within the White Mountain Batholith. While atop the rock, an explanation as to how the timing of glacial advance/retreat could be obtained by using a cosmic radiogenic dating from samples collected from polished quartz aggregates. Evidence of the

explosive nature of Mesozoic magmatism was shown in detail in the form of volcanic breccias in exposures found within the Basin at Franconia Notch. The highlight of the day occurred at Profile Lake with a thought-provoking discussion of the demise of the Old Man in the Mountain coupled with a summary of post-glacial landslides that impacted Profile Lake using radiometric dating of isotopes from nuclear fall-out from 1950's era test blasts.

The MWO field geology workshops are held in May and October of each year. Woody Thompson of the Maine Geologic Survey serves as host in October where he focuses on the bedrock and surficial geology north of the notches. For more information on these events you can go to the Observatory's website at www.mountwashington.org, or call the Conway office at 603-356-2137 (x203) or 800-706-0432 (x203).

Earth Science Teacher Workshop

The AEG will be offering a fascinating Earth Science Teachers Workshop during the AEG 49th Annual Meeting in Boston at the Park Plaza Hotel. The Teachers' Workshop will be held on Saturday, November 4, 2006 at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel. This year's workshop will be aimed at 7-12 Earth Science teachers. In the morning session several forensic geology modules will be presented that can be used to introduce students to basic geological principles. Participants will come away with several classroom activities that they can use with their students.

The afternoon session will consist of a field trip to several geologically interesting areas in the "Boston Basin." At the end of the field trip, teachers will be provided a CD, containing a virtual version of this field trip, suitable for classroom use, and a student activities sheet based on the virtual field trip. Mark your calendar for this worthwhile event and check the AEG website for upcoming registration information. For more information: www.aegweb.org.

Online Credit Courses

You may be interested in checking out the on-line courses offered by GeoScience Data Management. Currently they are offering [Understanding Natural Geologic Hazards](#) and [An Introduction to Landslides or Mass Wasting](#). Earn CEU's from these AIPG accredited courses in Geoscience. For details see: <http://www.geodm.com/profinst.shtml>.

Speaking "New Hampsha"

As you all know, natives have their own rules for speaking certain words. I am told Alstead is pronounced Al - stead by the locals...Al as in a man's name...Al - stead. Now we know...and if you come with us on the August Geology Field trip, you can practice this lesson. See you there!

NHGS Groundwater Level Monitoring – March and April 2006

Submitted by Genevieve Al-Egaily, NH Geologic Survey

Ground water level measurements were collected by NHGS staff member Genevieve Al-Egaily on March 22-24, 2006 and April 24-26, 2006.

March 2006: During March, the statewide average showed a 0.49 foot decrease in ground-water levels from last month. Decreases were observed in all wells except Greenfield and Concord (the well at the Concord airport). The Hooksett bedrock well and the New London dug well showed the greatest changes, with decreases of 1.20 feet and 1.19 feet respectively. When compared with March 2005, the statewide average ground-water level decreased 0.26 feet.

April 2006: During April, the statewide average showed a 0.08 foot increase in ground-water levels from last month. The Enfield well showed the greatest change with an increase of 0.92 feet. When compared with April 2005, the statewide average ground-water level decreased 0.90 feet.

General Announcements

Would you like to write a short/quick blurb for the GSNH Summer 2006 News Letter, reminding membership of the availability of Rock and Mineral Talk Boxes? We usually have a reminder, but I think it needs a "fresh" rewrite. They are available for pick up here in Concord at DES. Sign them out by contacting, Lee Wilder at: geology@des.state.nh.us. Send the writing to Bettina Eames, GSNH NL Editor at beeames@loureiro.com indicating "What do you think?"

Mark your calendars now! Watch for additional information forth coming on the UNH Earth Science Website (<http://www.unh.edu/esci/>) and GSA Website (<http://www.geosociety.org/>).

The GSNH is looking for members interested in serving on the Board of Directors for the coming year. Elections will be held at the October 2006 annual meeting. Several members of the current board are finishing up their third and final terms. If you have ever considered serving you earth science brethren in a volunteer position, this would be your opportunity. The nominating committee will be looking for interested individuals over the summer. Please contact Mike Robinette, GSNH President, or Lee Wilder, GSNH Past President, if you or someone you know would be interested.

GEO PHOTOS



Photo 1 - Gravel Pit south of Hillsboro. Particle sizes from silt to VW sized boulders. Geologic origin of such features?



Photo 2 - Glacial erratic north side of the Concord Road, east of Henniker, NH. This boulder is Kinsman Granodiorite (Dk2x). It is sitting on Concord Granite (Dc1m).



Photo 3 - This is an actual photo, taken recently in NH. What happened here?



Photo 4 - A Road in Henniker, New Hampshire after the May 14, 2006 Mother's Day Flood (*Source: Accuweather*).

GSNH Summer 2006 Field Trip – First Announcement

Your GSNH Board of Directors has organized a Summer 2006 Geology Field Trip to Alstead, New Hampshire to view the flooding of October 2005. We have all seen the pictures in the newspaper and on TV. This trip will give you the opportunity to visit the site of this geologic hazard, one year later. Believe us when we say, that the pictures did not do this geologic event justice... it is MUCH better "on the ground"! You won't believe it! Dick Lane, geologist for the NH DOT and staff from the NH Geological Survey has offered to lead this trip. Jack Ridge has also agreed to help. We will spend the morning of Saturday August 19, 2006 exploring the geology and flooding along Warren brook and the Cold River. After a GREAT "picnic" lunch, Bob Whitmore is getting us into the famous Wm. Wise (Fluorite) Mine in Westmoreland, NH. The trip is currently scheduled to run from 0930-1530 and would give PGs 6.5 CEU's. Traditionally, there is no charge for current GSNH Members at the Summer geology Field Trip. There will be a charge of \$10 for non-members. We would like folks to send an e-mail that they are coming...but we will try and have the lunch structured so that we can accommodate however many show up at 0930 on the 19th. Watch your early August 2006 US and E-mail for a trip reminder and an RSVP e-mail address. Mark your calendars now!

Gilsum Rock Swap & Mineral Show

The Gilsum 42nd Annual Rock Swap and Mineral Show will be held on June 24 and 25, 2006 from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m on Saturday and from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday at the Gilsum Elementary School and Community Center, on Route 10 in Gilsum (just 10 minutes from Keene). Also you might want to check out the Capital Mineral Club's Gem and Mineral Show on their website for the time and location of this years event at <http://www.capitalmineralclub.org>.

In Memory of Sam Adams - "A Man For All Seasons"

One of our members has passed away and will be fondly missed. Sam was very active in the geologic community. He was a former AGI President and spoke to the GSNH at our Fall 2000 Dinner Meeting. A Sam Adams Memorial Salute (SAM'S) will take place on Saturday, June 17 at 2:00 pm at the South Congregational Church, 27 Pleasant St, in Concord, NH followed by a tent celebration at the Adams' home in Canterbury. Everyone is welcome! For additional information please call 603-783-4335. Contributions in Sam's honor may be made to NAMI NH (15 Green Street, Concord, NH 03301), the Canterbury United Community Church (Canterbury Center, Canterbury, NH 03224), the Concord Hospice Visiting Nurse Association (205 Pleasant St., Concord, NH 03302) or any organization in which Sam was involved.



Our “Man for All Seasons”, Samuel Sherman Adams, died on May 5, 206 at his home in Canterbury, NH. His wife-partner-best friend of 50 years, Nancy Morris Adams, was with him. Born in Lincoln, NH in 1937, he is the son of Sherman and Rachel Adams. Sam is the father of Melinda Adams McGregor of Del Ray Beach, Florida, Katrina Adams Moran of Empire, Nevada and Jonathan Sherman Adams of Thornton, NH. He is the father-in-law of Daniel Moran and Angela Marie Adams, and the GrandDad of Megan McGregor, Adam and Molly Moran and MacKenzie and Leeson Adams. Sam is survived by his older sisters, Sarah Adams, Jean Adams Hallager and Tinker Adams Freese. Sam graduated from Cardigan Mountain School in 1951, Saint Paul’s School in 1955, Dartmouth College BS, 1959 and MS in 1961. He received his PhD from Harvard in 1968. Dr. Samuel Adams was an economic geologist, active in the mining community as a geologist in industry, a consultant and the department head of Geology and Geologic Engineering at the Colorado School of Mines. Sam was well-known in the geology field as a bridge between industry and academia, providing leadership in his professional career. In 1991, he became president of the Loon Mountain Ski Resort in Lincoln, NH, where he served until the area was sold in 2000.

Later on, he and his wife Nancy became very involved with NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Sam was NAMI NH president from 2003-2005. Throughout his life, Sam continued to provide leadership and soothed troubled waters when needed, in the organizations in which he was involved. He was a problem solver, a people-person, a creative thinker and an empowerer; providing these skills in whatever project in which he participated. Sam survived CUPS (cancer of unknown primary) in the same way. For 18 months, he researched his options as if it were a PhD thesis. Through the Payson Center at Concord Hospital, alternate therapies and lastly, at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas, he continued his treatments. Sam and Nancy left no stone unturned.

Throughout their 50 years, even during the cancer journey, Sam and Nancy traveled together. They explored, camped, fly fished and skied while driving the back roads in their beloved blue ’89 Syncro VW camper, Blu-Ox. On one of their trips, they found Jonesport, Maine, a small lobster fishing village way ‘down east’, fell in love with it, and bought a small second home on the ocean. We say: “Good-bye for now, our beloved ‘Man of the Year’ from your wife, family and friends. We love you!”

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Dates to Remember!

- **JUNE 26, 2006 (MONDAY) – NHGS Mapping Workshop at DES, Concord**
- **AUGUST 19, 2006 (SATURDAY) - GSNH Summer Field Trip, Alstead, New Hampshire**
- **OCTOBER 8-14, 2006 - Earth Science Week**

**Geological Society of NH
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