

# THE HISTORY OF GEOLOGY DIVISION

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## DIVISION ACTIVITIES AT THE BOSTON GSA MEETING

We're please to notify all members of the History of Geology Division and their colleagues about the interesting programs planned for the GSA Annual Meeting in Boston, and we encourage all of you to submit abstracts. We also hope you will attend one or more field trips and the reception (new!) and lunch. Details available thus far are given below. The schedule for the technical sessions will not be set until August.

### **Pardee Symposium K4, Monday, November 5, 2001, 1:30-5:30 p.m.**

#### **Invited speakers for GSA Pardee Symposium and Topical Session on Ophiolites as Problem and Solution in the Evolution of Geological Thinking**

##### **Tentative titles for proposed talks** (in alphabetical order)

**J.Bedard**: Evolution of the debate on crustal magma chambers in ophiolites as reflected in studies of the Bay of Islands.

**N.A. Bogdanov & G.S.Zakariadze**: The Russian team of the International Ophiolite Community (1970-1990)

**V.Bortolotti, L.Beccaluva, E.Saccani, G.Principi, M.Marroni & L.Pandolfi**: Development of the ideas on the ophiolites of the Alpine-Apennine and the Dinaride-Hellenide orogenic systems.

**J.R.Cann**: The influence of ophiolites on the concepts of seafloor spreading and on the ideas of metallogenesis.

**R.G.Coleman**: Ophiolites and the plate tectonic revolution.

**J.Dewey**: Ophiolites and mountain belts in plate tectonics.

**W.G.Ernst**: Evolution of thought concerning high-P, low-T metamorphism: tectonic melanges, ophiolites, and subduction/regurgitation.

**H.Furnes**: Identifying bio-interaction with basaltic glass and its importance in mapping the depth of the oceanic biosphere.

**J.Hawkins:** The geology of supra-subduction zone systems and the relevance to the origin of ophiolites.

**A.Ishiwatari:** Ophiolites and greenstones in the Japanese orogenic belts: multiplicity and diversity of the accreted oceanic lithosphere from Cambrian to Tertiary.

**E.M.Moores:** Brongniart to Boston: a history of the ophiolite concept 1813-present.

**A.Nicolas:** Mantle and deep crustal dynamics at oceanic spreading centers as deduced from ophiolites.

**J.Pearce:** Identifying modern analogues for ophiolite complexes: a history of integrated marine and land-based research.

**A.G.Smith:** Ophiolites: extension in a convergent setting.

**R.van der Voo:** Paleomagnetic perspectives on ophiolites in the Tethys and Iapetus Oceans.

**B.R.Windley:** Precambrian ophiolites in collisional and accretionary orogenic belts: increasing evidence to constrain an evolving concept.

**D.Young:** N.L.Bowen and the origin of ultramafic rocks.

[Call for monetary contributions to defray expenses - please see the note below.]

Participation in the following three sessions can be either oral or poster.

**Topical Session #70:**

Same title as the Pardee Symposium. We have four excellent invited speakers for this session and welcome abstracts from any of you who wish to address the topic.

**Topical Session #69:**

Geobiography: Life Histories of Geologists as a Way to Understand how Science Operates. Co-Conveners: Michele Aldrich and Alan Leviton. Biography will be used to describe the lives and careers of geoscientists to demonstrate how it enhances our understanding of the evolution of geological knowledge. Please don't hesitate to send your abstract about your favorite "old boy" or "old girl." This should be a most informative session.

**Discipline Session:**

For all of the other work you may be doing, we welcome abstracts to explain it to the rest of us.

**Field Trips:**

The History of Geology Division is sponsoring the following three field trips:

**Field Trip from Boston:** Sat and Sunday Nov. 3-4

History of Geology Division. **Gerald M. Friedman** field leader Max 20 min 12 Cost \$190

The trip begins in Boston and travels to Lee Massachusetts, to see the limestones made classical in 1820 by T.N. Dale. It proceeds to Troy, the hallowed grounds of the pioneers in American geology. The field trip follows in the footsteps of Amos Eaton (1776-1842) James Hall (1811-1898) and Ebenezer Emmons (1799-1863). We shall visit classical Appalachian outcrops and pause at the graves of the founders of our science

**November 4: Jim Skehan:** Aspects of the Urban Geology of Beacon Hill and Vicinity, Boston, MA, in honor of Jim O'Connor. Jim O'Connor was a geologist's geologist, and a teacher's teacher. You will learn a great deal about Boston, its geology and history.

**November 9-10: Paul Washington:** The Taconic Question: Revisiting the Scenes of the Great American Controversies.

**Reception:** There will be a reception with a keg donated by generous members of the Division. We've requested Tuesday, November 6, 5:30-7:30 p.m. All are invited and, particularly, bring your students. There will be tables available to display materials from your latest work. We hope for interaction with students and each other.

**Luncheon and Award Presentation:** This is our awards and business meeting lunch. We will get to cheer for Celal for next year! We've requested Wednesday, November 7, at noon. Please come and bring your students and your colleagues. I'd rather like to invite the Pardee speakers, but it is first most important to get them all to the meeting.

Looking forward to seeing you all there. Sally Newcomb, Chair History of Geology Division.

**A NEED FOR ASSISTANCE:** The allotted support for the Pardee Symposium covers little of the true expenses, and our Division dues monies have decreased by the count of our members who have retired. We welcome contributions that any of you may wish to give to our Division operating funds to help defray costs for the Symposium. The note below has instructions as to how to make the donations so they can be used for the Boston meeting.

**Donna Russell (GSA Foundation)** sent the following note to Sally concerning donations for the meeting expenses: "As for donations to the HGA Fund. If the donors will note on the check, or attach a note, telling me they want this contribution to be spent in Boston, we will add it to the HGA Fund, but designate the dollars for use this year. Those donations can be turned over to your GSA Division account with no problem. But it is imperative that these contributions be marked for the Boston meeting."

**Important note!** Also please be sure that your Division dues are up to date; many members who paid two-year GSA dues for 2000 and 2001 inadvertently missed paying Division dues for 2001; this is putting a real dent in Division funds. You can check your Division status by contacting [member@geosociety.org](mailto:member@geosociety.org) or by calling (303) 447-2020 or (888) 443-4472. Thank you!

## OTHER ACTIVITIES IN THE HISTORY OF GEOSCIENCES

**Gerald M. Friedman**, Past-Chair of the HoG Division, became Chair of the History of Petroleum Geology Committee of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists in 2001 and organized its forum titled Petroleum-Geology in Selected States. Four states seen through the eyes of the state geological surveys were selected as examples of the history of petroleum geology: two mid-continent states (Oklahoma and Kansas) and two coastal states (California and New York). Seeps of petroleum were known to Indians, and in the mid-continent giants of geology, including Sidney Powers and Wallace Pratt, were involved in exploration early in the 20th century. California has produced about 25 million barrels of oil, but in New York mostly gas production and storage have been the hallmarks of the industry. The New York State Geological Survey is the oldest continuous survey in the U.S., and its geologists were the leaders in the science, including such eminent stalwarts as Amos Eaton (1776-1842), James Hall (1811-1898), Ebenezer Emmons (1800-1863), and in the 20th century George H. Chadwick (1876-1953). Speakers were Gerald M. Friedman (chair), Daniel F. Merriam (Kansas), Charles J. Mankin (Oklahoma), Kenneth P. Henderson (California), and Arthur M. VanTyne (New York).

Next year's AAPG annual meeting will use a logo picturing a geologist in heavy boots and knickers with plane table and alidade. The description cites " 'Our Heritage: Key to Global Discovery' The theme is meant to honor and derive value from our predecessors and their vast experience. As geologists, we can then use that heritage as a key to unlock new discoveries worldwide. It is the belief of the convention organizers that it is truly a case of the past being a key to our future!" Our history of petroleum geology committee is, of course, central in "our heritage program" and has started to prepare an outstanding program.

**Re: A need for (Pardee Symposium) Assistance.** I spent last year "not a single penny" on our Pardee Symposium. All costs were individually subscribed. GSA saved the entire cost. Perhaps some of last year's savings can be budgeted for this year. Gerry.

## INTRODUCTION: DIVISION WEB MASTER - HUGH RANCE

At last our Division has someone with both skill and enthusiasm to look after our web page:

Hugh Rance, a Professor at Queensborough C.C./CUNY, has kindly volunteered, and has been approved by the Division officers, to be the web master for the Division. Hugh comes originally from South Africa with degrees from the University of Natal, but he did his Ph.D. at the University of Western Ontario. He has been associated with CUNY since 1967. In addition to his web work, Hugh has published several laboratory manuals and *The Present is the Key to the Past* (1996) an introductory historical geology text; check the web site: <http://geowords.com/> for a preliminary version of the book.

We welcome Hugh as our web master, and if you have items that should be included or suggestions about the Division web page, forward them to Hugh at: [hrance@nyc.rr.com](mailto:hrance@nyc.rr.com)

The division web site is: <http://gsahist.org/> for the History of Geology Division. Please have a look and see what Hugh has done.

Speaking of web sites, **Cecil Schneer** has created one which has a facsimile edition of William Smith's *Strata Identified*. The site is: [www.unh.edu/esci/wmsmith.html](http://www.unh.edu/esci/wmsmith.html). If you have difficulty with the direct link, then use [www.unh.edu/esci](http://www.unh.edu/esci) and look for the wmsmith link at the very bottom of the department web page.

**A REMINDER:** Please examine the GSA 2001 Professional Development Program for the 2001 Boston meeting. There will be some very interesting sessions:  
[www.geosociety.org/meetings/2001](http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/2001)

**KUDOS: Malcolm Weiss'** book *Frederick William Sardeson, Geologist, 1866-1958* (Bulletin 48, Minnesota Geological Survey, \$16.00) is now available. Sardeson, a native of Wisconsin, was an innovative stratigrapher and paleontologist. There was a very nice article about the career of **William A. S. Sarjeant** in the August 24, 1999 edition of *The StarPhoenix* newspaper, and several names from his four-book fantasy series, *The Perilous Quest for Lyoneese* (have been used to name seabed formations. The names, including *Lyonesse*, *Owlsgard*, *Sandastre* and *Swithin* (from his pen-name, Antony Swithin), now grace the seabed near the island of Rockall in the North Atlantic. **Gerald M. Friedman** received the following awards: At the 2001 Graduation on May 12 the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute awarded Gerry the department's "In Appreciation-in recognition of your outstanding contributions in preserving the rich tradition and history of Geology and its pioneers". The Division of Environmental Geosciences of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists awarded **Gerry** its Teaching Award "For excellence and dedication in the field of teaching environmental geology", and the National Association of Geoscience Teachers - Eastern Section- presented **Gerry** with the 2001 Distinguished Service Award "in Grateful Recognition of Outstanding and Dedicated Service to Geoscience Education". **ROCK STARS:** Eugene M. Shoemaker and the Integration of Earth and Sky Our thanks to **Mary G. Chapman** of the USGS (Arizona) for her "Rock Star" work on Gene Shoemaker. It appeared in the April 2001, GSA Today, p. 20-21.

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENT** (Period ending 31 December 2000)

Net Assets (January 2000) \$ 2545.67

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Revenue:	Dues	\$1,360.92
	Contributions	200.00
	Misc. Income	1,075.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,635.92</b>

Expenses:	Travel	\$ 350.00
	Annual Mtg.	143.65
	Newsletter	<u>310.57</u>
	Award	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 854.22</b>

Net Income for 2000 \$1,781.70

Balance: 31 December 2000 \$4, 327.37

Submitted by William R. Brice, Secretary-Treasurer  
Information supplied by GSA

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### **German Commission for History of Geophysics and Cosmical Physics founded**

A commission for the history of geophysics and cosmical physics has been founded under the leadership of the internationally well-known physicist Professor Dr. Hans-Jürgen Treder, formerly director of the Einstein-Laboratory for theoretical physics. The commission published a journal entitled "Contributions for the history of geophysics and cosmical physics," which is open to all authors. It is a discussion forum for the interdisciplinary discussion of problems in history and philosophy of geosciences and its sub-disciplines, including solar-terrestrial physics and its special problems in development and history.

The commission welcomes comments, suggestions from all colleagues. Contact Web master **Hans Gaab** email: HansGaab@t-online.de or contact Professor Dr. Hans-Jürgen Treder and the scientific secretary under E-Mail: Geomoppel@t-online.de or any other member of the commission.

Visit the Website <http://huhu.franken.de/history-geophysics/english.html>

# HISTORY OF GEOLOGY DIVISION AWARD 2001

## Professor Walter O. Kupsch

We are please to announce the recipient for the Division Award for 2001. Professor Kupsch is at the Department of Geological Sciences, University of Saskatchewan, 114 Science Place, Saskatoon, SK S7N 5E2, CANADA.

Please join us at the Division luncheon during the Boston Meeting to honor Professor Kupsch. We will have more about him in later Newsletters.

## HISTORY OF GEOLOGY AWARD FOR 2002 CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The History of Geology Division gives this award to an individual for contributions of fundamental importance to the understanding of the history of the geological sciences. Achievements deserving of the award include, but are not limited to: publication of papers or books that contribute new and profound insights into the history of geology (based upon original research or synthesis of existing knowledge); discovery of and making available reare source materials; comprehensive bibliographic surveys; editing a thematically integrated collection of articles; organizing meetings and symposia in the history of geology; research into original sources; original interpretations of data; translations of key material; and exceptional service to the Division. The award, established by the History of Geology Division in 1981, consists of an engrossed certificate and a Pewter Revere bowl. The deadline for receipt of nominations by the selection committee is April 1<sup>st</sup> each year.

### FORMER AWARDEES

1982 George W. White	1992 Michele L. Aldrich
1983 Claude C. Albritton, Jr	1993 Martin Guntau
1984 Mary C. Rabbitt	1994 François Ellenberger
1985 Cecil J. Schneer	1995 Robert H. Dott, Jr.
1986 Ursula B. Marvin	1996 Gordon L Herries Davies
1987 Martin J. S. Rudwick	1997 Kennard B. Bork
1988 Stephen Jay Gould	1998 Hatten S. Yoder, Jr.
1989 Albert V. Carozzi	1999 David R. Oldroyd
1990 Gordon Y. Craig	2000 Hugh Torrens
1991 William A. S. Sarjeant	2001 Walter O. Kupsch

Please send the name and supporting information for you nominees to: *William R. Brice, Secretary-Treasurer* (see "Division officers" for the address) and mark the envelope **AWARD NOMINATION**. As the chair of the review committee changes each year, Bill will forward the material to the review committee.

**UP-COMING METINGS:**

**XXIst INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF HISTORY OF SCIENCE**

Mexico City July 8-14, 2001 Theme: Science and Cultural Diversity

For more information: [www.cilea.it/histoy/DHS](http://www.cilea.it/histoy/DHS)

Or: Prof. Juan José Saldañ, Apartado Postal 21-873, 04000 México, D.F., MEXICO

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**2001 Division Officers**

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