



# Arizona Geological Society Newsletter

ARIZONA GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC., TUCSON, AZ

FEBRUARY 2010

## February 2, 2010 DINNER MEETING

**Leslye Obiora**, UA Law Professor, former Minister of Solid Minerals in Nigeria will speak on the challenges of mining and mineral exploration in Africa.

**Sheraton Four Points**, Wild Cat Room: 1900 E. Speedway Blvd. in Tucson (Speedway at Campbell).  
Cash Bar at 6 pm, Dinner at 7 pm, Talk at 8 pm.

Cost: With reservation, members \$24, guests \$27, Students \$10. Without reservation, \$3 additional.

**RESERVATIONS: CALL 520.663.5295 by 5 pm on Jan. 29, 2010.** Indicate low-salt, vegetarian, or vegan meal preferences. A coffee/salad/roll/dessert option is also available for \$18.

Please cancel if unable to attend. We cannot guarantee that meals will be available without a timely reservation.

## Upcoming AGS Dinner Meeting Speakers

### March 2, 2010

Wayne Ranney, *supported by the Arizona Humanities Council.* **Topic:** to be announced

### April 6, 2010

Rachelle Wagner, *NAU Courtright Scholar* **Topic:** Miocene fault and basin analysis along the Boulevard and Dry Wash faults, northern Frenchman Mountain, Lake Mead domain, Nevada

### September 7, 2010

Marcia McNutt, *Director, U.S. Geological Survey* **Topic:** to be announced

### November 2, 2010

Peter Megaw, *Consultant* **Topic:** Discovery of the Fresnillo West Mining District, Mexico

### December 7, 2010

Susan Miller, *author* **Topic:** to be announced

## Employment and Job Postings

I was told early in my career that to be a geologist is to embrace temporary periods of unemployment. This will probably never change. The recent economic downturn has certainly affected AGS members in the mining, environmental, and water supply sectors. Things appear to be looking up, and **Careercast**, a job search website (careercast.com) seems to agree. They recently ranked the top 200 jobs for 2010 based on physical demands, work environment, income, stress, and hiring outlook. Geologist was ranked #32, behind actuary (#1), philosopher (#11), aerospace engineer (#18) and parole officer (#29). Mechanical engineers (#71) and attorneys (#80) were ranked well below geologists. If you have any friends who are aspiring lumberjacks (#199) or roustabouts (#200), you may want to show them this list.

The AGS website has a list of open positions for geologists. It currently contains an interesting mix of employment opportunities including a faculty position at U of A in the Economic Geology Department, Department Head and Professor of Geology at the South Dakota School of Mines, Geologist III at the Alaska Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys, and a Research Geologist at the U.S.G.S. in Reston, VA. Detailed descriptions and links are provided at <http://www.arizonageologicalsociety.org/jobs>. Postings are always changing, so check often for updates.

## Announcements

**John Lufkin**, former Colorado School of Mines faculty member and consultant, is offering geologic field trips through his business Lufkin Field Trips, LLC. Check out the offerings on his website [www.johnlufkin.com](http://www.johnlufkin.com).

**The 2010 Society for Mining Metallurgy, and Exploration (SME) Meeting** will convene in Phoenix February 28 through March 3. SME meets in Phoenix every five years. This meeting is expected to have a large attendance and over 450 exhibitors of state-of-the-art products and services. More information at [www.smenet.org](http://www.smenet.org).

The 2010 **Arizona Hydrological Society Symposium** will be held September 1-4 at the Westin La Paloma in Tucson, Arizona. The theme is Dryland Hydrology: Global Challenges / Local Solutions. More information at <http://azhydrosoc.org>.

### **Tucson Gem, Mineral & Fossil Showcase January 30 - February 14, 2010**

The "Gem Show" is more than a single event at one location. Thousands of participants and attendees at more than 40 sites around town make this one of Tucson's premier events. Dozens of shows take place at the same time at hotels, resorts and at exhibit halls.

There's something for everyone at the many open-to-the-public shows: gold and diamonds, granite bookends and glass beads, fine specimens of dinosaur fossils, and opals dug from the Australian Outback. The main event of this two-week showcase is the Tucson Gem & Mineral Show™ at Tucson Convention Center over the final weekend. This show attracts treasure hunters from every corner of the globe and is open to the public. There are displays from renowned museums and private collections along with over 250 mineral, gemstone, jewelry and fossil retail dealers.

For More Info: <http://www.visittucson.org/visitor/>

## Top 10 Scientific Discoveries of the Decade

Discovery.com's "Top 10 Science Discoveries of the Decade" were listed in December. Seven of the ten discoveries fit into the geology/astronomy/planetary sciences category, including #1. Technically, the decade is not over until the end of 2010, but this is a pretty impressive list, nevertheless.

10--Eris (27% larger than Pluto) discovered in our solar system.

9--T. Rex soft tissue found in femur bone. Amino acids resemble that of chickens.

8--Dark Matter existence confirmed directly.

7--New human ancestors found.

6--Alien planets (exoplanets) seen directly.

5--Humans meld with machines. Control of robotic limbs and computers is possible with brain waves.

4--New sources of stem cells found. Adult skin cells are a new source, without the ethical concerns of embryonic stem cells.

3--Water on Mars (!) found by the Phoenix lander.

2--Human genome mapped.

1--Glaciers are melting--fast.

## In Memoriam

**Mike Pawlowski**, President and Director of Copper One, Inc. passed away on November 22, 2009. An expert in porphyry copper oxide systems, he first came to Arizona in the early 80s to work for Phelps Dodge at Morenci. He was involved in the exploration and development of porphyry copper deposits worldwide during his 28+ year career. Mike will be missed by his wife, Sheila, their three children, five grandchild-

dren, and many geologist friends.

Long-time AGS member **David L. Kuck**, Oracle, passed away at age 85 on December 21<sup>st</sup> owing to complications related to leukemia and Alzheimer's. David was a graduate of both the geology and mining engineering departments at the University of Arizona and researched fields as diverse as water in asteroids to water in the desert southwest.

## February Member Spotlight—Walter Heinrichs

Sometimes seemingly minor decisions have major consequences. Case in point: *Walter Heinrich's* grandmother's decision to live in Golden, Colorado eventually resulted in the discovery of the Pima Mine.

It was the mid 1930s, and the country was in the depths of the Great Depression. Young Walter was deciding where to attend college. His first choice was to study electronics at the University of Colorado in Boulder. But Walter's grandmother lived in Golden, and he would have free room and board if he lived with her. So Walter attended the Colorado School of Mines, and the rest is history...

*Walter Heinrichs* is the deserving subject of our first MEMBER SPOTLIGHT column. Born in Superior, AZ on January 16, 1919, Walter received a degree in Geological Engineering from the Colorado School of Mines in 1940. Walter was awarded Honorary Life Membership to AGS in 2008, as a result of his long and distinguished career as a geologist and as a 50-year AGS member. Walter is still on the go, and you can meet up with him at monthly AGS dinner meetings. He lives in Tucson with his wife, Rosie.



**When did you first become interested in geology?** As a junior at the Colorado School of Mines. I was a geophysics major. But on even numbered years, geophysical majors took one more course in geology (sedimentology) than they did on odd years. Thus, on even years, the geophysical degree was Geological Engineering with a Geophysical Major. I enjoyed the geology courses very much so getting a Geological Engineering degree did not particularly bother me.

**What was your first job?** My very first job was in 1940-44 for Bill Salvatori, founder of National Geophysical Co. and younger brother of Henry Salvatori. Henry Salvatori founded Western Geophysical and was a prominent southern California figure in Republican politics... one of the three-some who first sponsored Ronald Reagan as Governor. The job was as geophysical recorder on a petroleum seismic crew based in Greenwood or Greenville, Mississippi, near to the Arkansas River, the western boundary of the state.

**What was your first job as a geologist?** My first job as a geologist was as a Navy Ensign for The Office of Naval Petroleum Reserves in 1944-45, based in Umiat, on the northern slope of Alaska, on the Colville River, in Naval Petroleum Reserve No.4. I was assistant geologist on Navy crew no.5. We were assigned to map the Umiat anticline and measure the geologic section of the Chandler River, a southern tributary of the Colville.

**What is your most memorable field experience?** Mapping in Alaska while in the Navy was my most memorable field experience. We lived in 2-man mountain tents and boated down the Chandler River in collapsible canvas row boats! During July it snowed. We couldn't decide whether it was the last snow of winter or the first snow of fall!

**What do you consider your greatest professional achievement? Greatest achievement EVER?** My greatest professional achievement was the geophysical discovery of the Pima Mine, Pima County, Arizona. This was also my greatest achievement ever.

**What are your hobbies?** Professional organizations, skiing, and electronics.

**Thank you, Walter!**

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Do you know someone who would be an interesting subject for a "Member Spotlight" column? Email his/her name and contact information to [ajones@clearcreekassociates.com](mailto:ajones@clearcreekassociates.com).

