

Atlanta Geological Society Newsletter

Next meeting of the Atlanta Geological Society is
JANUARY 29, 2008

Fernbank Museum of Natural History (Clifton Road)
Social begins at 6:30 pm – Meeting begins at 7:00 pm

President's Perspective...

December 2007

This will be a short perspective because this is a short month for many of us; that is, no AGS meeting and time-off to celebrate the holidays. Firstly, I'd like to thank all of you who participated in the poster session held during the November meeting, as well as those of you who attended the meeting. We had some very interesting posters and one-on-one discussions.

A special thank you to Allison Keefer for putting together this session, which the Executive Committee voted to continue every November. Start planning your posters for November 2008! I'd also like to thank Advanced Chemistry Labs, Inc. for sponsoring the November meeting.

The Society also conducted its annual Officer elections during the November meeting. Those serving in 2007 were elected to continue their roles through 2008. Results included Nils Thompson as President, Allison Keefer as Vice-President, Ken Bechely as Treasurer, and Jim Kennedy as Secretary. Thank you for continuing to support our Society and I look forward to continue working with you during 2008.

The Executive Committee met on November 14th to discuss a variety of topics, mostly focusing on our 2008 budget and status of the various committees. A summary of the meeting minutes is provided in this newsletter. The full meeting minutes will be posted on the Society's webpage.

One last comment: Please remember that the AGS meets on Tuesdays (see the 2008 schedule listed in this newsletter) and that all of our Members are encouraged to attend. I hope to see all of you on January 29, 2008. Thank you.

Nils

AGS Career Development – Professional Registration

The next Professional Geologist Licensure Examination will be held on March 7, 2008, at 9:00 AM in Macon, GA. The AGS Continuing Education Committee will continue to hold study sessions each month until the test date. The October 27th workshop will concern study materials, strategies, and an overview of the last exam. The workshops are held in the Human Resources classroom at the Fernbank Science Center, 156 Heaton Park Dr from 10:00 am until 12:00 pm on the last Saturday of the month. If anyone would like to contribute to the workshops, we enjoy having speakers, almost any topic would be appropriate, from basic geology to industry specific. Please inform anyone who might be interested in becoming a professional geologist of our workshop. Everyone is welcome, AGS membership is not a prerequisite.

Ken

AGS ELECTION RESULTS

The Atlanta Geological Society held its annual elections for the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer during the November 2007 monthly meeting. The following individuals have been elected as the new officers for FY2008:

President: Nils Thompson

Essentially the orchestrator at monthly and Executive Committee meetings. The President conducts the monthly meeting by a review of officer and committee reports, old and new business, and important announcements.

Vice-President: Allison Keefer

Chief responsibility is to arrange speakers for monthly meetings and assist the President in pursuing AGS objectives. Historically, the VP has made the introductions for speakers at monthly meetings.

Secretary: Jim Kennedy

Record keeper and coordinator of special projects like elections, continuing education credit forms, etc. Really an easy position for those with only a little time to devote to the AGS. Responsible for recording the official records of AGS Executive Committee meetings and the Society.

Treasurer: Ken Bechely

Financial record keeper for the AGS. Responsible for maintaining the financial account, paying AGS expenses, and keeping an accurate record of Members and dues paid. Also participates on financial aspects of some committee functions (e.g., fund raising).

Please welcome the new and returning officers to the Atlanta Geological Society and consider volunteering to help the Society in some capacity. The job responsibilities are listed to allow you the opportunity to determine where you may provide some assistance. These four individuals cannot run a successful organization without the help of Society membership. A better AGS begins with you.

Graves Mountain - Lincolnton, GA

**Graves Mountain is a world-class mineral collecting site located in northeastern Georgia.
EXCEPT FOR THE TWO ANNUAL "ROCK SWAP" EVENTS:**

Graves mountain is ONLY accessible and open for mineral collecting by colleges, universities, and gem and mineral societies!

******* INDIVIDUAL mineral collectors can no longer reserve the mountain! *******

In order to gain access, you will need to contact the caretaker, Clarence Norman, Jr. (Junior) at 706-359-3862 (his business) or 706-359-2381 (his home). Call to reserve the mountain exclusively for your group. Please note that all of the mineral societies that visit Graves Mountain offer the caretaker a donation for his trouble and effort in keeping the mountain open and assessable. Please consider what it is worth to you to be able to collect minerals at Georgia's premiere mineral location!

<http://www.gaminerall.org/commercial-gravesmountain.htm>

Share your research and work experiences: The Georgia State University Geology Club invites AGS members to present research/work experiences at club meetings. Please contact Ms. Eliza Andrews at eandrews3@student.gsu.edu for additional information.

AGS Career Development – Professional Geologist Registration

The AGS sponsors a two hour workshop the last Saturday of every month to help prepare candidates for the Professional Geologists Licensure Examination. The workshops are held in the Human Resources classroom at the Fernbank Science Center, 156 Heaton Park Dr from 10:00 am until 12:00 pm. The December workshop is scheduled for January the 5th 2008, due to the Christmas/New Year holiday season. If you are interested in attending or would like more information, I can be contacted through email at kws876@yahoo.com. Everyone is welcome; AGS membership, while preferred, is not a prerequisite. If you are an AGS member and would like to contribute, people needed to lead the workshops. We do not “teach the test,” our aim is to review fundamental concepts and acquaint candidates with the industry specific information not easily obtainable from the literature.

If you are interested or would like further information, please send a message to the above address.
Ken Simonton
AGS Career Development Committee

Part-time Geology Instructors Needed at Georgia Perimeter College for Spring Semester 2008

Criteria needed to teach at GPC:

Masters degree in Geology with at least 18 graduate semester hours (27 graduate quarter hours) in geology.

Staffing need for Spring Semester on the Dunwoody Campus:

MWF 8:00 a.m. – 8:50 a.m. Physical Geology lecture

TR 6:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. Physical Geology lecture

Thurs. 11:00 a.m. – 1:45 p.m. Physical Geology lab

Tues. 7:30 p.m. – 10:15 p.m. Physical Geology lab

Tues. 2:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. Historical Geology lab

MWF = Monday, Wednesday, & Friday

TR = Tuesday & Thursday

Who should you contact:

Dr. John Anderson

Department Chair, Dunwoody Campus

770-274-5077

Geologic Image for December...

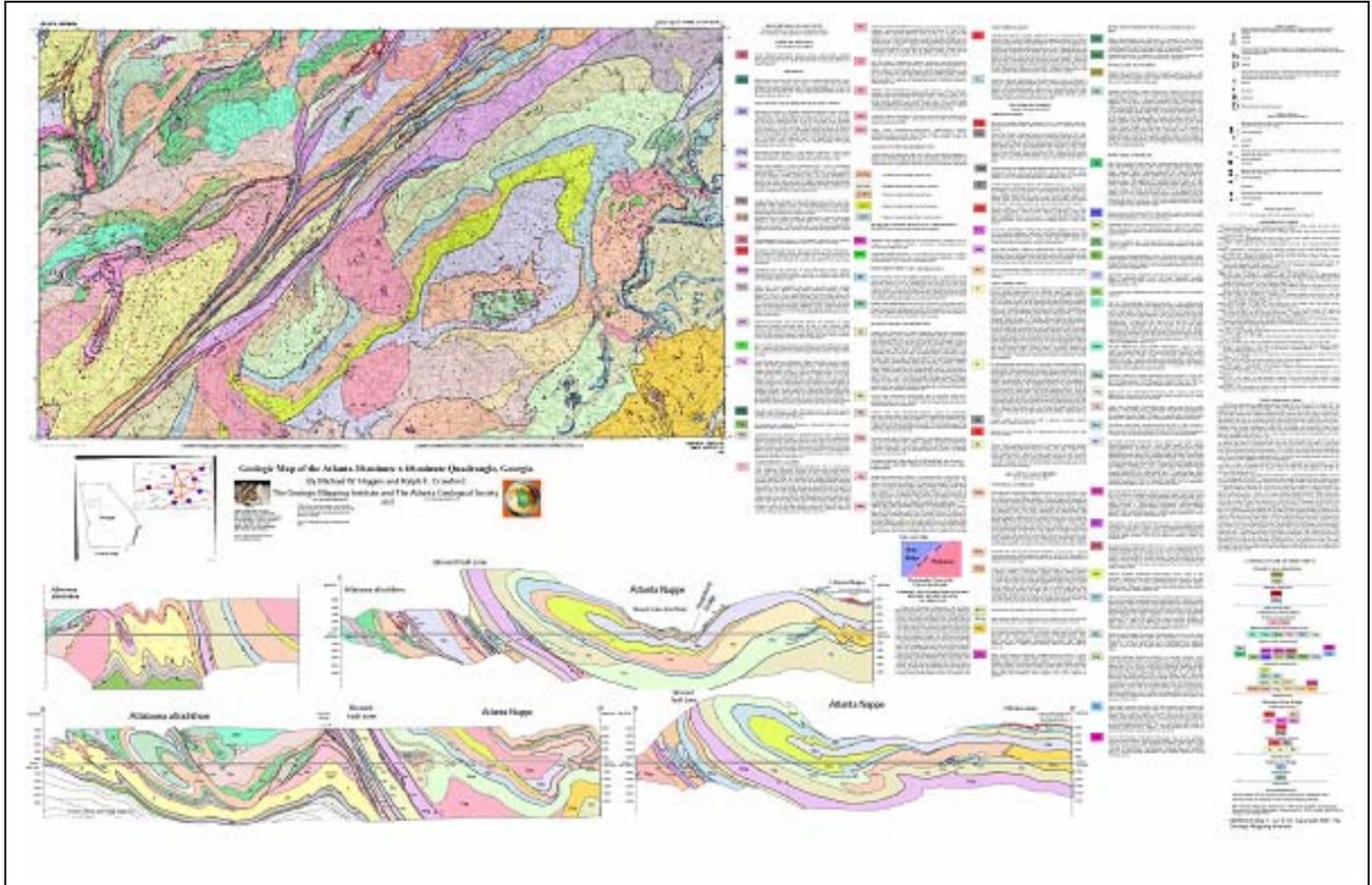
Wedge sets, large scale, Navajo Sandstone, Utah

Used with the permission of Dr. Duncan Heron. For more interesting geological images please visit:

<http://southeasterngeology.org/SedimentaryStructures/ss1.htm>

Note that the use of any of Dr. Heron's images requires permission.





GEOLOGIC MAP OF THE ATLANTA 1-DEGREE X 30-MINUTE QUADRANGLE, GEORGIA

By Higgins, M.W. and Crawford, R.F. (2006)

The Geologic Mapping Institute

(\$25.00 – Contact David Keefer [(404) 562-8932] for more details)

The Atlanta quadrangle, roughly centered on the City of Atlanta, spans from the Valley and Ridge province in its northwestern corner across the Blue Ridge and into the inner Piedmont. The Brevard zone crosses the quadrangle diagonally. The Blue Ridge in western Georgia and Alabama consists of a pile of nappes made up of folded thrust sheets. In the Villa Rica nappe Chilhowee Group rocks are both above and below the core of Great Smoky Group rocks. Southwest of the Brevard zone is the Atlanta nappe, which preserves a klippe of the Lake Russell allochthon, Carolina superterrane, at Soapstone Ridge. Carolina superterrane rocks (Paulding Complex) are also found northwest of the Brevard. Mylonites along the S.E. edge of the Brevard zone dip under the Atlanta nappe. These mylonites also dip under the N.E. end of the nappe, where they belong to the Dacula shear zone. East of the Atlanta nappe the Lithonia Gneiss consists of a granitoid phase and the Mount Arabia Migmatite. The migmatite occurs mostly around the edges of the granitoid phase and was probably formed when the Ordovician granitoid phase intruded Stonewall biotite gneiss, which occurs around the edges of the Lithonia and locally as roof pendants on/in the granitoid phase. Atop the Lithonia, the Stonewall Gneiss and units of the Allatoona allochthon are the aluminous schist and Chattahoochee Palisades Quartzite of the Sandy Springs Group that have been thrust upon the underlying rocks. The Lithonia and its country rock, the Stonewall Gneiss constitutes a mantled gneiss dome assemblage. Sandy Springs Group rocks emerge from beneath the Brevard and form an outcrop belt along its N.W. side. Northwest of the Sandy Springs outcrop belt the Allatoona allochthon occupies the upper synformal limb of the Talladega nappe and is arched over the Dog River window to expose western Blue Ridge rocks of the Great Smoky and Chilhowee Groups. Northwest of the Allatoona allochthon Great Smoky Group and Chilhowee Group rocks emerge from beneath the allochthon and are part of the Talladega belt. Ordovician granitoids have intruded the Great Smoky rocks, providing evidence that the Emuckfaw/Lay Dam/Bill Arp rocks are older than Ordovician.

Fernbank Museum of Natural History
Upcoming Public Programs and Events
 (All programs require reservations, including free programs)

Fernbank Museum of Natural History

767 Clifton Rd, NE Atlanta, GA 404-929-6400
 For details on exhibits, films, and events, please visit our website at www.fernbankmuseum.org

On Exhibit:

- *Frogs: A Chorus of Colors*
- *Nature's Jewels: Butterflies and Other Insects* (photography)
- *APALACHICOLA RIVER: An American Treasure* (photography)

Now Showing in IMAX: (Check our website for special screenings)

- *The Alps: Giants of Nature*
- *Sea Monsters: A Prehistoric Adventure*
- *Africa: the Serengeti*
- ***Martinis and IMAX***: 2007 Season Closes on November 23 and remains closed through December.



Who are these people and why are they smiling?

They are AGS members who attended the Atlanta Geological Society field trip conducted in January 2005. This trip visited various stops along the top of Lookout Mountain that were fogged in on the previous 2004 Georgia Geological Society field trip. This particular locale is in the Zahnd Natural Area along the rim of McClemore Cove.

Atlanta Geological Society Treasurer Report – December 2007

Membership Status - 2008

Professional	Student	Corporate
9	0	0

Delinquent - 2007

99	12	-
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**Account Balance as of 12/1/2007:
\$3,838.52**

January 1, 2008, marks not only the first day of the New Year, but also the time that you, as a member of the Atlanta Geological Society, need to submit your annual dues. The Society voted several years ago to follow a calendar year. The new AGS officers begin in January and your membership dues are also due. **Please pay your dues in a timely manner.** Too many individuals allowed their membership to lapse last year (see **delinquent members listed in red above**). This represents a significant loss of revenue and prevents the Society from meeting philanthropic commitments. If you cannot attend the January meeting then please consider mailing your dues to the AGS Treasurer along with the completed last page of this newsletter. Also, please make sure that we have your most current e-mail address. Thank you.

Newsletter Editor Corner...

Please keep in mind that the newsletter needs interesting geology-related information from you the AGS member. One member has suggested a book review section where book reviews (both fiction and nonfiction) of geologic interest could be shared. If you have read an interesting geological book then please consider sending me a review. I will also need author, year, title, and publisher information regarding the book. Thanks.

News Release

U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey

For release: November 14, 2007

Contact: Stephen Blanchard, 703-648-5629, sfblanch@usgs.gov
Jennifer LaVista, 703-648-4432, jlavista@usgs.gov

Access Historical Instantaneous Streamflow Data with the New USGS Online Database

Visit the Instantaneous Data Archive (IDA) website at <http://ida.water.usgs.gov/ida/>.

Access to U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) historical instantaneous streamflow discharge data, dating back to around 1990, is now easily available online through the Instantaneous Data Archive (IDA). In this new system users will find streamflow information reported at the time intervals at which it is collected, typically 15 minute to hourly intervals.

The USGS has provided historical daily streamflow data on the Internet for more than a decade, but for many scientific and engineering purposes it is very useful to have the historical data in shorter time increments. The instantaneous data has been available for many years, but was not accessible through the web. This new database saves time and effort by giving users the information through a user-friendly automated process.

“A user-friendly archive of historical instantaneous streamflow data are important to many different users for such things as floodplain mapping, flood modeling, and estimating pollutant transport.” said Robert Hirsch, USGS Associate Director of Water. “The new IDA site should be very helpful to research scientists and engineers for a wide range of hydrologic analyses. We are delighted that we have the ability to provide this treasure trove of high-quality data for these uses.”

The IDA web site currently has about 1.5 billion instantaneous data values from 5,500 streamgages in 26 states. Populating this web site takes effort and resources that are being provided "as available," and not all states and streamgages are available at this time. The number of states and streamgages with data will continue to increase. It is possible that the IDA database will expand to include other variables such as temperature and pH in the future.

For more than 125 years, the USGS has monitored flow in streams and rivers across the U.S. The USGS collects data from more than 7,400 streamgages, many of which provide real-time data in 15 minute increments (explore this information at <http://water.usgs.gov/waterwatch/>). USGS streamflow data is routinely used for water supply and management, monitoring floods and droughts, bridge and road design, water availability and quality planning, and for many recreational activities.

Access an even larger variety of USGS data, such as for ground water and water quality, through the National Water Information System Web Interface (NWISWeb), which contains over 1.5 million sites, and averages over 25 million successful visits per month (log onto at <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/>).

USGS provides science for a changing world. For more information, visit www.usgs.gov.

(Information provided by Pat Balaban)

AGS Officers

President: Nils Thompson
nwthompson@mactec.com
 Phone (770) 421-3309

Vice-President: Allison Keefer
allison_keefer@dnr.state.ga.us
 Phone (404) 675-1679

Secretary: Jim Kennedy
jim_kennedy@dnr.state.ga.us
 Phone (770) 421-3402

Treasurer: Ken Bechely
ken.bechely@earthtech.com
 Phone (770) 990-1415

AGS 2008 Meeting Dates

Listed below are the planned meeting dates for 2008. Please mark your calendar and make plans to attend.

January 29th – Dr. Timothy M. Chowns - "Evolution of the Georgia Coast in Response to the Holocene Transgression"

February 19th

March 25th

April 29th

May 27th

June 24th - Social (Members and Guests Only)

July - no meeting

August 26th

September 30th

October 28th

November 18th

December - no meeting

Continue to check the newsletter and website for details regarding upcoming speakers/topics.

AGS Committees

Georgia PG Registration: Ken Simonton
ken_simonton@dnr.state.ga.us

Career Networking/Advertising: Todd Roach
 Phone (770) 242-9040, Fax (770) 242-8388
tdr@piedmontdrilling.com

Continuing Education: Nils Thompson
 Phone (770) 421-3309
nwthompson@mactec.com

Membership: Ben Bentkowski
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AGS Publications: David Keefer
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keefer.david@epa.gov

Fernbank Liaison: Chris Bean
 Phone (404) 929-6313
chris.bean@fernbank.edu

Field Trips: David Wilderman
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dwilderman@arcadis-us.com

Grants & Scholarships: Bill Waggener
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Hospitality: David Sanders
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froede.carl@epa.gov

Website Design: DeLyn Thompson
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dmthompson@mactec.com

**AGS Executive Committee
November 14, 2007 Meeting Minutes Summary**

Attendees:

Nils Thompson – President Allison Keefer – Vice-President Ken Bechely – Treasurer
Ken Simonton – GA-PG Development Todd Roach – Career Networking
Bill Waggener – Grants & Scholarships Carl Froede Jr. – Newsletter Editor
Chris Bean – Fernbank Liaison DeLyn Thompson – Web Mistress Ben Bentkowski

Old Business:

Career Networking on the AGS Web Page – Todd Roach still needs to work with DeLyn Thompson on producing a format for “positions needed.”

New Business:

Election Committee Chairperson – Ken Simonton volunteered to run the November 2007 elections; all nominations should be directed through Ken.

Accepting 2008 Officer nominations – Nils Thompson (2007 Interim President) to remain as President; Allison Keefer to remain as Vice-President; Ken Bechely to remain as Treasurer; and Jim Kennedy to remain as Secretary

2007 Honorary Life Member nominations – Michael W. Higgins and Ralph F. Crawford (authors of the “Geologic Map of the Atlanta 30-minute x 60-minute Quadrangle, Georgia”)

2008 Society Budget – Webpage Maintenance = \$20/mo. (~\$220/yr.); Fernbank Donation = \$1,000; MiniGrant Fund = \$2,000; Monthly Executive Dinner = \$630; Honorary Life Member Plaques = \$140; Speaker Expenses = \$500; June Social = \$500; Bank Fees = \$20; State Registration = \$30

2008 Society Dues – Professional Membership will remain at \$25; Student Membership will be lowered from \$10 to \$5

Secretary – New responsibilities include producing and maintaining “Past Speakers/Topics List” for inclusion in the webpage, and producing speaker appreciation certificates for lecturers and Career Development speakers

Monthly Topics – November meetings to include annual Society elections and poster session; June meetings for annual Society Social; August meetings for upscaled event with distinguished speaker; September meetings for GGS field trip discussion

Career Development – Changed committee name to “Professional Registration”; need speakers; list topics in Newsletter; speakers compensated for expenses and receive certificates; Chairman responsible for producing an advertising poster for state university geology departments

Society Field Trips – We’ll limit to the annual Georgia Geological Society (GGS) field trip (typically Columbus-day weekend) and two other trips throughout the year

MiniGrants – 2008/2009 grant applications due on webpage in December 2007; applications due to Society by June 15th; Society checks up to \$500 maximum mailed on August 1st; grants now available to entire State of Georgia

Hospitality/Sponsors – David Sanders to continue with the Hospitality Committee and responsibility for sponsors

Newsletter – Carl Froede identified that deadline for submission of Newsletter items is the Friday of the monthly meeting week

Membership – Ben Bentkowski has volunteered to chair this committee, which has been inactive for several years; Chris Bean will assist Ben

Join the Atlanta Geological Society

Membership Application/Update Form

Annual membership dues for the Atlanta Geological Society are \$25 for professional membership, **\$5 for students (new reduced rate)**, and \$100 for corporate sponsorship (which includes up to 4 professional memberships). For further details, contact the AGS Treasurer:

Ken Bechely

Phone: 770-990-1415

Email: ken.bechely@earthtech.com

Make checks payable to the "Atlanta Geological Society" and remit with the completed form to:

Atlanta Geological Society

Ken Bechely, Treasurer
1455 Old Alabama Rd., Ste. 170
Roswell, GA 30076

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: (Work) _____ (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

Fax: _____

Email 1: _____

Email 2: _____

Ready to Serve the Society in Some Capacity?

Remember that although we have officers and various standing committees, it is ultimately the membership that keeps the Atlanta Geological Society active and growing. If you have ideas, please share them. Consider how you can step up, even for a limited time, and make our Society better. This is an all-volunteer organization and if everyone waits for someone else to do something – then nothing will ever happen. Please consider how **YOU** can share with the Society and make it an even better organization. We have a world of experience within our membership and we need to tap into it in a way that makes us better geologists. Please consider volunteering. Your Atlanta Geological Society needs you.