



---

# Geological Society of Nevada Southern Nevada Chapter Newsletter

---

June 2005

---

---

---

## The Devonian Alamo Breccia

**PRESIDENT/  
NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Robyn A. Howley  
UNLV Graduate Student  
702.895.5054  
robynhowley@yahoo.com

**VICE PRESIDENT/  
WEBMASTER**

Joseph Kula  
UNLV Graduate Student  
702.895.4255  
jkula@unlv.nevada.edu

**TREASURER**

R. Paul Bowen  
R.P. Bowen Engineering, Inc.  
702.247.7765  
paulbowen@cox.net

**SECRETARY/HOSTESS**

Melissa Hicks  
UNLV Graduate Student  
702.895.1162  
hicksm@unlv.nevada.edu

**FIELD TRIP CHAIRPERSON**

Walt Lombardo  
Nevada Mineral & Book Co.  
702.568.9977  
minbooks@aol.com

**ADVERTISING**

Jim O'Donnell  
Geophysical Consultant  
702.293.5664  
jim\_odonnell@cox.net

**DATE:** Thursday, June 30, 2005

**SPEAKER:** Maxwell Blanchard, CCSN

**LOCATION:** Room 102 Lilly Fong Geoscience Bldg.

**TIME:** 6:00 p.m. Social *Half-Hour*  
6:30 p.m. Chapter Business  
6:45 p.m. Presentation

**SPONSOR:** No Sponsor (*refreshments will be light*)

---

---

**Geological Society of Nevada, Southern Nevada Chapter**

University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
4505 Maryland Parkway, Box 4010, Las Vegas, NV 89154-4010  
<http://geoscience.unlv.edu/GSN/gsnsc.htm>

*Hello Everyone,*

Thanks to Nick Saines for talking to us about the glacial moraine at Kyle Canyon and then taking us to see it on our spring field trip. We would also like to thank Charley Pedro for sponsoring food and refreshments at the meeting.

June's meeting will be our last until September. Please continue to check out our chapter website for updates and news. Our web address is <http://geoscience.unlv.edu/GSN/gsnsc.htm>. We are in the process of planning a fall field trip and will discuss this during the meeting. We encourage input on this trip at the meeting so that the trip can be as successful as possible. We hope to see everyone at the meeting but if you can't make it please have a nice summer and we look forward to seeing you in the fall.

~ Robyn

## WEB UPDATES:

Joe has been very busy updating our chapter webpage with new job announcements and photos. Please check it out (see address on page 1). Also, if anyone would like to submit field trip photos to put on the website please email Joe at [jkula@unlv.nevada.edu](mailto:jkula@unlv.nevada.edu). Any other website updates or suggestions are greatly appreciated.

## MEMBERSHIP:

Each year GSN members pay \$5 to become members of the Southern Nevada Chapter. GSN in turn sends us a check each spring that includes this \$5 chapter fee per member and an additional \$5 per member that GSN has matched. This year we had 71 paid chapter members that brought us \$355 which GSN matched totaling \$710. Hopefully everyone has enjoyed being a member of our chapter and will renew their membership next September. We appreciate all of the involvement and support that our members have provided. Let's keep up the good work and try to increase our membership next year!

## PARKING:

For information on parking and obtaining a permit please visit the UNLV parking services website at <http://www.unlv.edu/studentlife/parking/>.

This site also includes campus maps and directions. If you do not have a permit or do not wish to purchase a daily pass, *we suggest* parking in the metered parking spaces near the Geoscience building or in front of the library. The meters are \$.75/hour and only need to be fed until 7 pm. We want to make sure that everyone has a place to park.

## ADS & SPONSORS:

GSN is a non-profit organization. If your business would like to sponsor social hour at one of our southern Nevada chapter meetings or would like to place a paid advertisement in this newsletter and on our website please contact Jim O'Donnell at 702.293.5664 or [jim\\_odonnell@cox.net](mailto:jim_odonnell@cox.net). Please see our current advertisements at the end of this newsletter and support our sponsors.

---

## A Discussion at GSN, June 30, 2005, about the Geologic Field Trip on March 19 & 20, 2005, to Examine Structure & Rocks affected by a Meteorite that impacted during Devonian time in So. NV

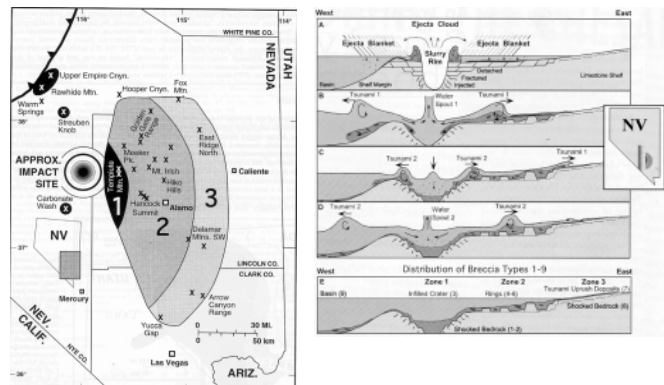
Presented by: **Maxwell Blanchard**

Currently: **Astronomy Instructor, CSSN**

Formerly: **Planetary Scientist, NASA-Johnson Space Center & Ames Research Center**

---

**BRIEF SUMMARY OF EVENT:** Exposures of the Alamo Breccia, a widespread fossiliferous limestone of Late Devonian age (~380 Ma), occur in parts of south-central NV. At the time of impact, the proto-Pacific coast was near this portion of NV & the ocean depth was ~ 50 ft. The breccia was deposited in the form of tsunami deposits during the meteorite impact. Features found in the breccia supporting the event include: impact generated shocked quartz grains, an iridium anomaly, carbonate accretionary lapilli, & Pre-Devonian limestone containing conodont microfossils.



### Speaker's Background & Education

Max has published over 80 papers and abstracts in leading earth and planetary science journals and symposia proceedings. The range of subjects in these papers include: planetary geology, cosmic dust, meteorites, multi-spectral remote sensing, thermal infrared imaging, x-ray diffraction and fluorescence, electron microprobe and scanning electron microscopy, and mineralogy-petrology.

He currently teaches classes about the solar system in the astronomy department at CCSN. He has taught advanced mineralogy, x-ray analysis in geology using XRD, XRF & electron microprobe, photo-geology, and been a principal advisor for MS theses in planetary geology as an adjunct instructor in the Geology Department at San Jose State University. For over 32 years he was a research scientist with NASA & DOE. While with NASA-Ames Research Center his research focused on cosmic dust, meteorites, thermal infrared and multi-spectral remote sensing, and a project scientist for returned missions to the Moon and Mars. While at NASA-Johnson Space Center he was a curator of lunar rocks and cosmic dust. While with DOE he was in science management. Previously, he also worked as a design engineer for General Dynamics-Convair designing and building the Atlas & Centaur missiles

Max received his Bachelors degree from San Diego State University in 1962, a Masters degree from San Jose State University in 1968, and did additional graduate work at Stanford University and University of Michigan. He holds a current Credential for teaching in California Community Colleges and is a current licensed consulting geologist in the State of California. Max has been a member of the following organizations: America Geophysical Union; Geological Society of America; Meteoritical Society, Society of Economic, Paleontologist & Mineralogists; and Division of Planetary Science in the American Astronomical Society.

---

---

## PAID ADVERTISEMENTS

---

---

**Jim O'Donnell**  
**Geological/Geophysical Consultant**

GEOTECHNICAL APPLICATIONS  
& ENGINEERING SEISMIC SURVEYS

Refraction Microtremor & Refraction  
Downhole Velocity & Tomography

702.293.5664  
702.281.9081 cell

geophysics@mysite.com  
jim\_odonnell@cox.net

**R.P. BOWEN ENGINEERING INC.**

**R.P. "Paul" Bowen**  
Minerals Exploration Management

6598 West Mesa Vista Ave.  
Las Vegas, NV 89118-1817  
Phone: (702)247-7765  
Fax: (702)876-0237

Cell: (702)290-1255  
E-Mail: paulbowen@cox.net

**NEVADA MINERAL & BOOK COMPANY**  
*A UNIQUE EARTH SCIENCE BOOKSTORE*

BOOKS, MINERALS & FOSSILS, JEWELRY  
ANTIQUES, DECORATOR & GIFT ITEMS

Walter Lombardo - Geologist  
Sandy Lombardo - Sci. Educator, Certified Gemologist

645 N. Pueblo Blvd. Henderson, NV 89015  
Approx. 2.5 miles east of Boulder Hwy. on E. Lake Mead Drive  
Phone:(702) 568-9977 E-mail:minbooks@aol.com  
Website: <http://minbooks.net>