



Geological Society of Nevada Southern Nevada Chapter Newsletter

February 2007

PRESIDENT

Bruce Hurley
U.S. Department of
Energy
702.295.1284
hurley@nv.doe.gov

VICE PRESIDENT

Jean Cline
UNLV Professor of Geology
702.895.1091
jean.cline@unlv.edu

TREASURER

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

SECRETARY/WEBMASTER

Joseph Kula
UNLV Graduate Student
702.895.4751
jkula@unlv.nevada.edu

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Lora Griffin
UNLV Undergraduate
Student
702.419.7661
lora.griffin@unlv.edu

FEBRUARY MEETING:

Field trip to dinosaur track sites in Warner Valley and Johnson Farm, St. George, Utah

DATE: Saturday, February 24, 2007

MEETING

LOCATION: Speedway Casino/Ramada Inn parking lot, southwest
corner, just off the I-15 North exit at Cheyenne

MEETING

TIME: 8:00 a.m.

NOTIFICATION DUE: Tuesday, February 20, 2007

Those planning to participate send an e-mail notification to
rocks2bwh@aol.com

SPONSOR: OPEN

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>

Although none of the upcoming events are scheduled for February 14, there is a lot to love about the opportunities available for GSN SNV members in the days ahead. Our February meeting will be a field trip on Saturday, February 24 to see some of the country's most impressive fossils. The trip will take members to Warner Valley to see dinosaur track fossils, and to the Johnson Farm Discovery Site, which is known for its extensive fossil collection. Remember, those planning to attend must notify Bruce Hurley at rocks2bwh@aol.com by February 20.

Dr. Steve Rowland, who has developed an educational video unfolding the stories the teeth of local megafauna have to tell, gave an entertaining interactive talk at our last meeting. His creativity and imagination in teaching this important subject was enjoyed by all and is sure to have an impact on the earth science education of area students. Also during the meeting, former chapter presidents Amy Brock (2004 -2005) and Robyn Howley (2005-2006) were honored for exemplary performance during their terms. Congratulations Amy and Robyn!

-- Lora Griffin

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FEBRUARY FIELD TRIP

St George area dinosaur track sites

The GSN SNC meeting for February will be a field trip to tour the remarkable dinosaur track sites of the Warner Valley and Johnson Farm sites in St. George, Utah. This field trip is scheduled for Saturday, February 24. Any member planning to attend the field trip should notify Bruce Hurley via e-mail at rocks2bwh@aol.com by noon on February 20. Those individuals with larger vehicles, especially higher clearance vehicles, who are willing to drive for the trip, should express this in the e-mail and describe the type of vehicle they will be bringing. Those riding in the vehicles are expected to contribute to the reimbursement of fuel costs for that vehicle.

The trip will begin at 8:00 am in the parking lot of the Speedway Casino/Ramada Inn, just off the I-15 North exit at Cheyenne. To access the Speedway/Ramada, exit east from I-15 and turn left at the first stop light, which is Civic Center, and then left again, into the southwest corner of parking lot.

The Johnson Farm Site is considered by some to be among the most significant dinosaur track sites in North America. It contains a unique collection of reptile, fish, plant and trace fossils.

The Johnson Farm Discovery Site (right) contains a large concentration of dinosaur track casts.



Photo provided by Bruce Hurley

As an added treat, at 1:00 pm there will be a lecture by Utah State Paleontologist, Dr. Jim Kirkland. Unfortunately, **collecting of fossils is prohibited at both sites.** These sites are, however, excellent sites for photographing fossils. It has been suggested that members bring along a small broom or brush, as the tracks at Warner Valley tend to get covered by blowing sand.

UNLV GeoSymposium



The 2nd Annual Las Vegas GeoSymposium is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, April 20 & 21, 2007 at the Marjorie Barrick Museum on the UNLV campus.

The GeoSymposium is a student-run geology research colloquium designed to provide graduates and undergraduates with an opportunity to present posters, or talks on their original research and receive feedback from industry, civic, and government professionals as well as academics. Local and national scientific and professional companies are invited to attend.

The first day of this mini-conference will include poster presentations, talks and plenty of time for students and professionals to interact. The second day, there will be a field trip exploring local geologic formations of the Lake Mead area.

The research presented at the 2007 Las Vegas GeoSymposium represents some of the most recent science advanced in the Geoscience Department over the last academic year. At the 2006 symposium more than 30 students presented.

Some of the topics from last year's talks and posters included the latest information on Great Basin soils, Costa Rican speleothems, high-resolution seismic reflection, shear zone constraint mechanisms, and Nevada groundwater systems.

The symposium encourages businesses looking for future scientists to attend. They are also looking for sponsorship from the scientific community. If you are interested in attending, sponsoring, or just want more information contact Shelley Zaragoza at zaragoz3@unlv.nevada.edu.

Student Presidents Honored



During the January 2007 meeting GSN SNV president 2005-2006, Robyn Howley (left), and GSN SNV president 2004-2005, Amy Brock (right), received plaques honoring their exemplary service.

Help Area Schools Promote Earth Science Education

Students and professionals who would like to contribute to the advancement of Earth Science education in Southern Nevada now have an opportunity to support local educators. Many opportunities are open to volunteers at the 18th Annual Clark County Earth Science Education Workshop (CCESEW), April 2-4, and as guest speakers for the McCaw School of Mines.

18th Annual Clark County Earth Science Education Workshop, April 2-4, introduces local teachers, K-12, to innovative techniques and creative ideas to help to make learning Earth Science informative and fun.

Gordon McCaw Elementary School Earth Science Guest Speakers Needed to provide regular guest speaker sessions on various earth science topics to the fourth and fifth grade students at Gordon McCaw Elementary School.

The school is hoping to find enough interested volunteers to provide monthly or bi-monthly presentations. The presentations would typically involve 4 one-hour sessions of hands-on activities for 110-120 fourth and/or fifth grade McCaw students.

For more information about the workshop contact jkaufman@nevadaming.org and for more information about becoming a guest speaker for McCaw students contact bdurbin@govmail.state.nv.us.

Geologists for a Cure

The **12th Annual Race for the Cure** will take place, **Saturday May 5, 2007** at the Fremont Street Experience in downtown Las Vegas. Local geologists will gather together to raise money for the *Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation*.

There are **6 Ways to Participate:**

5k Run (timed) ~ \$20 registration
5k Walk (timed) ~ \$20 registration
1 mile walk ~ \$20 registration
Sleep in for a Cure ~ \$20 registration
Kids for the Cure® (ages 3-12; \$10 registration)
Babies for the Cure® (under 3 yrs; \$10 registration)

Prizes will be awarded to the top run finishers, largest teams & individuals who raise the most money for the breast cancer foundation.

For more information on how you can join with geologists from the UNLV Geosciences team email rhowley@unlv.nevada.edu or visit http://race.komenlasvegas.com/site/TR?team_id=7210&pg=team&fr_id=1020 &/or <http://race.komenlasvegas.com>.

Start Times:

5K Run – Start Time: 8:15am
5K Walk – Start Time: 8:20am
1 Mile Fun Walk – Start Time: 8:45am
Sleep In for the Cure® - For those individuals or team participants who are unable to attend the Race but wish to support the fight against breast cancer.

Register as a Sleep In for the Cure® participant and receive a special Sleep In for the Cure® T-shirt (vs. the Race T-Shirt).

You must register online by April 26, 2006

Registration is only \$20 if part of a team!
Robyn Howley will pick-up all team packets and distribute them before Race Day!

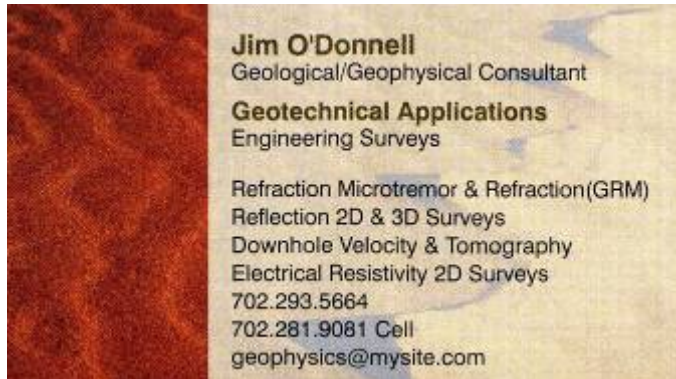
If you don't wish to join the team you can still support the cause by donating to a single team participant or by making a team donation!

MEETING SPONSORS ADVERTISING

***Sponsorship of the February
Field Trip "meeting" is open!***

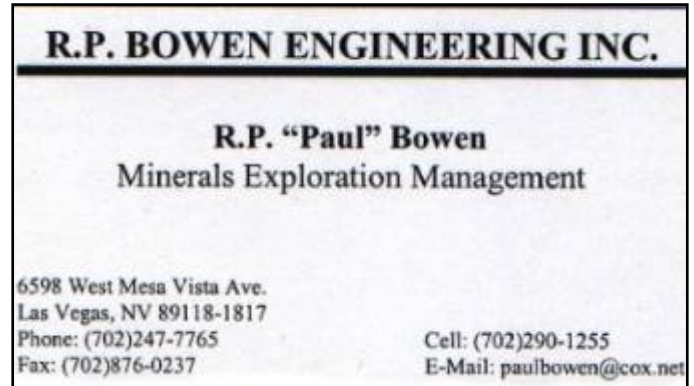
would like sponsor a social hour at one of our GSN Southern Nevada Chapter meetings or would like to place a "Paid Advertisement" in our monthly newsletter should contact Bruce Hurley at (702) 295-1284 or hurley@nv.doe.gov.

Meeting sponsorship has always been important to the goal of keeping operating costs to a minimum to ensure that funds are available for chapter functions and scholarship awards. Now, in appreciation, meeting refreshments sponsors receive newsletter advertising on our "Meeting Sponsors" list through the end of the fiscal year. Businesses or individuals who



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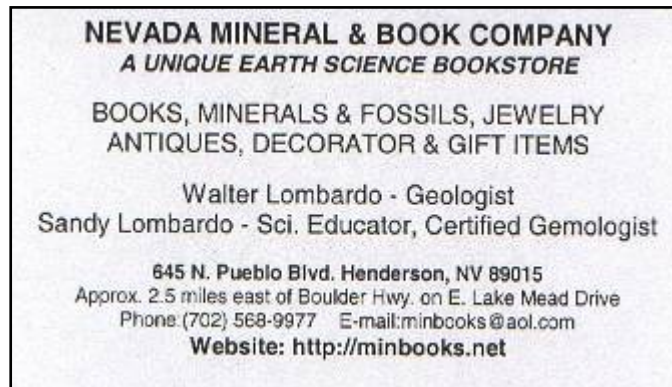


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UPCOMING EVENTS

February 24: Field Trip - St. George area dinosaur track sites

March 29: Meeting/activity TBD

April 12: Spring 2007 GSN Field Trip Day One – Nevada Test Site

April 13: Spring 2007 GSN Field Trip Day Two – Southern NV geology

April 26: Meeting – Wayne Belcher
Death Valley Regional Groundwater Flow Model