



# The Rock Record - January, 2016

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*Please contribute to the SGS  
Newsletter*

The SGS Newsletter is produced by the SGS executive. Letters, announcements, notices, comments, photos, news and information about SGS members, etc. are always welcome. Call an executive member or write to us at:

Saskatchewan Geological Society  
P.O. Box 234  
Regina, SK S4P 2Z6

#### SGS e-mail address:

[Sask.Geol.Soc@hotmail.com](mailto:Sask.Geol.Soc@hotmail.com)

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## Saskatchewan Geological Society Luncheon Talk

**MONDAY, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

Antarctica's sedimentary archives of past glacial history:

Tools for understanding climate change

Julia Wellner, University of Houston

AAPG Distinguished Lecturer

### **NOTE VENUE:**

**The Artful Dodger, 1651 11th Ave**

**Lunch: 11:45 a.m. (Crepes)**

**Meeting talk: 12:15-1:00 p.m.**

For lunch the cost is:

Members: \$15.00

Student Members: \$5.00

Non-Members: \$20.00

**For those not having lunch the talk is free**

Please RSVP to Jason Cosford at [cosford@jdmollard.com](mailto:cosford@jdmollard.com)

before 12 noon, Thursday, January 21, if you are going to have lunch.

## DETAILS OF NEXT TALK – January 25<sup>th</sup>

### ABSTRACT – Antarctica's sedimentary archives of past glacial history: Tools for understanding climate change

During times of past extensive glaciations, the Antarctic ice sheet extended from its current position, reaching across the continental shelf. As the ice sheet retreated to its modern extent, the shrinking ice sheet left behind seawater, rather than ancient ice, leaving behind a sedimentary signature of deglacial history. Marine geophysical survey data, including 3.5 kHz profiles and multibeam swath bathymetry, combined with sediment cores, are used to map the extent of past ice, estimate the speed at which it was flowing, and understand the style of retreat. Radiometric dating gives ages of retreat and allows comparison to other global archives. Past periods of glacial retreat, which tend to be diachronous, are compared to the modern day retreat, which is happening across large areas in a short period of time. Ongoing work is targeting records from times of past high CO<sub>2</sub> conditions, like those predicted in our future.

### BIOGRAPHY – Julia Wellner, University of Houston



Assistant Professor, Stratigraphy, Sedimentology, Glacial Processes Stratigraphy

Wellner is a sedimentologist and stratigrapher who works primarily in the Gulf of Mexico and offshore Antarctica on questions related to sediment facies, stratigraphic architecture, glacial history, and sea-level change. She earned her PhD from Rice University in 2001 where she also completed a post-doctoral fellowship. She has been at the University of Houston since 2006, where she teaches stratigraphy, sequence stratigraphy, marine geology, and oceanography. Wellner has completed over a dozen ocean-going cruises collecting seismic data and sediment cores, including eight in Antarctica.

#### Research Interests

- Antarctic Ice Sheet history since the Eocene
- Geomorphic signatures of ice sheet retreat across the continental shelf
- Holocene climate of the Antarctic
- Sedimentation patterns in fjords and relation to oceanographic controls
- Plio-Pleistocene sequence stratigraphy from 3D seismic data



## President's Blog

Hard to believe that this is the last newsletter I have to craft. My first stint with the SGS Executive was in 1995, when Kim Kreis recruited me for the position of Program Co-chair, a newly created position at the time I believe. In those days, much as today, you were coaxed onto the executive, usually with a 'free' lunch or a bunch of beer: "it will be fun", that sort of thing. And it was fun then, spending 5 years in total on the executive and serving as President in 1998, again following Kim Kreis' lead. Not much has changed since then on how the Executive runs; but then again, everything has changed, most of these changes being 'digital' in nature shall we say. This time my stint on the executive is going to be shorter, being VP the year before and Past President next year. But somehow, this time, it seemed much more busy and way more intense than in the 90s, maybe it's just because I am older (sigh). It was/is still fun though.

In the intervening years between 1998 and 2014, as a regular member of our little organization and not always diligently reading what is written in this space, I kind of forgot how much the Society undertakes each year. It is quite phenomenal how much our Society accomplishes on a yearly basis with such a small member base and such a dedicated group of individuals. And this year was no exception. Although I will do this again at our AGM on February 6, I just wanted to thank the outgoing executive members for making our Society 'run' for another year. Everyone contributed a lot: Michelle Hanson as treasurer, which undoubtedly is the most work-intensive job on the executive (those will be huge boots to fill when her current two year stint ends in 2017); Ryan Morelli for making all you guys renew your memberships and recruiting new corporate members; Monica Cliveti for doing an awesome job managing our two big social events and for finding us a new venue for the luncheon meetings (one where we can enjoy a beer while listening to the great talks that Jason Cosford and Maria Velez 'landed' for the 2015/16 season; thanks Jason and Maria); Bernadette Knox did a great job keeping the website updated and taking minutes at our many meetings; and lastly thanks to Colin, who as past president, provided great guidance, particularly when it came to navigating the treacherous waters of the Open House committee. And finally a big thanks to, Jared Noll and his executive from the D.M. Kent Club, who showed amazing commitment in continuing to build the strong relationship that our two organizations share.

Here are a few closing pleas:

- Please go to our website and renew your membership now; please don't wait for repeated reminders; it's \$25 for an active membership and it takes about 3 minutes and a credit card to renew: <http://sgshome.ca/membership>
- At the time of writing this, I believe not all of the executive positions are filled. As per usual no one has been nominated (but it is not too late to volunteer). Otherwise it will be up to current executive members to recruit new people. We always strive to get a few new faces onto the executive and we certainly strive for balance. So if you get approached please be open to the idea. Some positions are still up for grabs; please check with an executive member...
- Be a little more engaged. If you see a good talk, send the next program chair an email and let him or her know about it. If you read something interesting somewhere, submit a little article for inclusion in the newsletter.

It's been a pleasure to be allowed to do this once again and it's been fun. Although it was often a bit of a scramble to assemble the newsletter once a month, that has been fun too.

Ralf Maxeiner



## NEWS AND EVENTS

### Notice of Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held on February 6, 2016 at the Travelodge Hotel on south Albert Street. A slightly changed format will have the business meeting after the outgoing president's address. We will also commence the evening half an hour sooner than last year, at 5:30 pm with cocktails.

Ralf's talk will be on Mt Vesuvius and Pompeii, both of which he visited in the fall of 2014.

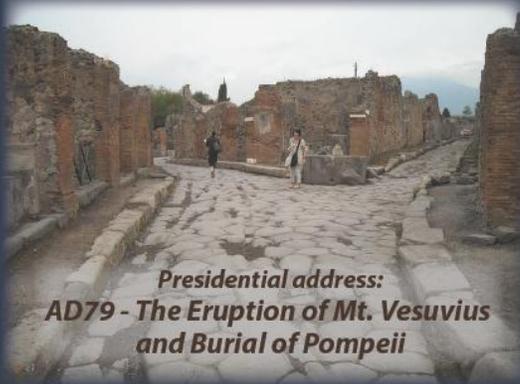
Please secure your tickets soon.



# Saskatchewan Geological Society



## AWARDS DINNER & Annual General Meeting



*Presidential address:  
AD79 - The Eruption of Mt. Vesuvius  
and Burial of Pompeii*

## Saturday, February 6th, 2016

TRAVELODGE HOTEL 4177 Albert Street South, Regina

<b>Cocktails</b>	5:30 p.m.
<b>Buffet Dinner</b> <i>Prairie Classic Buffet</i>	6:30 p.m.
<b>Awards &amp; Honour Roll</b>	8:00 p.m.
<b>Presidential address</b>	9:00 p.m.
<b>Business Meeting</b>	9:30 p.m.

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**Tickets: \$35**  
**Student Tickets: \$15**

*Please purchase your tickets before Feb. 2nd, 2016.*

*Ticket Agents:*

Monica Cliveti  
Jason Cosford  
Michelle Hanson  
Dan Kohlruss  
Kate MacLachlan  
Jared Noll



## Membership Renewals PLEASE

SGS membership is on a calendar year basis. It is now time to renew your membership for 2016. The most convenient way to renew your membership is to do it online and pay by Paypal; you do not need a PayPal account to do this: <http://sgshome.ca/membership>.

## News from the D.M. Kent Club

Members of the D.M. Kent Club attended the 52<sup>nd</sup> Western Inter-University Geosciences Conference (WIUGC) in Saskatoon last week. Ryan Bachynski was awarded first place in the poster presentation and Sienna Johnson won first place for the technical presentation she gave on “Bitumen-filled natural fractures of the Souris Valley Marker Bed ‘B’ in Southern Saskatchewan”. Please follow the link below to view a feature of Sienna:

<http://www.uregina.ca/external/communications/feature-stories/current/2016/01-13.html>.

## Other Upcoming Talks

And here is what is in the works for the months to come, submitted by Jason Cosford and Maria Velez. All are still quite tentative, as you can see. It has been difficult this year to firm up the AAPG talks.

- Luc Chabanole: Bakken - Mid February?
- Dr. Joyce McBeth, U of Sask: Environmental microbiology of mine sites - February 19
- William McKinnon: Public lecture on Pluto - Weeks of April 19th
- Mike Demuth – U of Sask: Glaciers - Delayed until autumn

Waiting for Details:

- Dr Murray Gingras (2015-2016 W.W. Hutchison Lecturer).
- Second AAPG lecturer (details in the next few weeks).
- Colin Card (Uranium exploration).
- Kate MacLachlan (Ethics in Geoscience).
- Emily Bamforth (Royal Sask Museum) Life Before Impact: Exploring Biodiversity Trends Immediately Prior to the End

Suggestions for other potential speakers are always welcome. Please contact either Jason Cosford or Maria Velez with your ideas.

## Royal Saskatchewan Museum still looking for a Provincial Fossil

Please visit the museum to cast your vote. Learn more details by visiting their website:

[Saskatchewan Provincial Fossil Video Contest](#)



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