

# The Rock Record 2004

Saskatchewan Geological Society

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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:

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All advertising inquiries should be directed to **Andre Costa**

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**Wednesday, February 11, 2004**

### **Geology of the Black Hills, South Dakota: 2003 S.G.S. Field trip**

#### **Steve Whittaker**

Head Field Trip Participant, and  
Geologist, Saskatchewan Industry and Resources

#### **Lancaster Room, Royal Canadian Legion**

Cash Bar: 11:30; Lunch: 11:50

Meeting: 12:15 – 13:00

Members \$7.00, Non-members \$11.00

Contact: Andre Costa 787-9104

By NOON, Friday February 6, 2004

**Wednesday, February 25, 2004**

### **The Wascana Lake Project**

#### **Greg Vogelsang**

Clifton Associates, Regina

#### **Lancaster Room, Royal Canadian Legion**

Cash Bar: 11:30; Lunch: 11:50

Meeting: 12:15 – 13:00

Members \$7.00, Non-members \$11.00

Contact: Andre Costa 787-9104

By NOON, Friday February 20, 2003

#### **University of Regina Lecture Series:**

**Feb 4: Ken Ashton** - Paleoproterozoic Sedimentary Successions of the Southern Rae Province: Ages, Origins, and Correlations

**Feb 11: Gary Yeo** - Saskatchewan Geological Survey 2004 Summer Program Information Session

**Feb 18: Hasan Ferdous** - Viking allostratigraphy in Saskatchewan: depositional model for the reservoir units in Dodsland-Hoosier area

All Talks are at 3:45 pm, in Room 237.3 College West, University of Regina

**Geology of the Black Hills, South Dakota:  
2003 S.G.S. Field trip**

**Steve Whittaker**  
Head Field Trip Participant, and  
Geologist, Saskatchewan Industry and Resources

This talk will recap the past year's SGS field trip to the Black Hills of South Dakota. The trip took place during a scorching heat spell during August 21 to 25<sup>th</sup> with 15 members of the SGS participating. Three days of field trips lead by three different local geologists provided a great overview of the area; day one included a tour of gold mine sites including the spectacular Homestake Pit and equally spectacular environmental disasters; day two included a brief tour of most of the lower 48 states in search of Mesozoic outcrops; day three involved a death-defying driving exhibition which had the added bonus of including some great geology. The presentation will be a photo tour of the region with some vague geological recollections thrown in.

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**The Wascana Lake Project**

**Greg Vogelsang**  
Clifton Associates, Regina

Wascana Lake is considered by many to be the Jewel of the City of Regina. The lake was created in the 1930s as part of a make-work project during the depression years.

Over time, the quality of the lake, both from a recreational and water quality perspective has greatly deteriorated. The shallow nature of the lake provides ideal growing conditions for weeds and algae. Most Regina residents are familiar with the odor coming from the lake during spring break-up.

In order to restore the beauty and recreational characteristics of the lake, and Wascana Park in general, a significant effort is underway to deepen the lake. Three levels of government including the City of Regina, Government of Saskatchewan and the Federal Government through Western Economic Diversification have teamed up to provide funding to deepen the lake.

Design, tender preparation and contractor selection was done during the summer and fall of 2003. Work commenced in late November and currently well underway. When complete, the lake will be deepened to an average depth of 5.5 meters.

Project Management is being provided by Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation (SPMC). Clifton Associates Ltd. of Regina is the project consultant working on behalf of SPMC.

Greg Vogelsang, Vice President of Clifton Associates Ltd. will provide an overview of the project from the history of Wascana Lake, the main engineering components and some of the challenges facing the project team and contractor. Recent photographs from the work site will be provided.

## **2004 S.G.S. Honour Roll Inductees**

At the 2004 S.G.S. Annual General Meeting, three distinguished Saskatchewan Geologists were inducted into the S.G.S. honour roll. These were Dr. John Lewry, Dr. James Christopher, and Dr. Donald Kent. Following, is a brief biography of Dr. Lewry. Biographies of Dr. Christopher and Dr. Kent will be printed in upcoming Rock Record issues.

If you have any suggestions for other inductees to the Honour Roll, please make them known to the S.G.S. executive for consideration.

### **Dr. John F. Lewry 1939-1999**

John Lewry was born in Middlesex, England, January 20, 1939. He attended Ealing Grammar School where he first developed his love of geology. John completed his bachelor's and Ph.D. in geology at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth and went on to teach Geology at Hendon College of Technology. In 1968, John emigrated from Great Britain with his wife, Marilyn, to take up the second appointed faculty position in the fledgling Department of Geology at the then University of Saskatchewan, Regina Campus. From the outset, John was heavily involved in field mapping, ultimately covering over 24,000 km<sup>2</sup> of the Precambrian Shield in northern Saskatchewan (more than any past or current full-time Saskatchewan Geological Survey geologist), while under contract to Saskatchewan Geological Survey. His broad research objectives required a multi-disciplinary approach and to this end he established numerous collaborative projects, not only with friends and co-workers within the Saskatchewan Geological Survey, but also with numerous geoscientists from all over North America, many of whom sought out John's recognized expertise. These collaborative efforts resulted in much of what we know today about the Precambrian



**Dr Kent and Dr Christopher accepting the Honour Roll plaque, AGM, 2004**



**Marilyn Lewry accepting the Honour Roll plaque on behalf of her late husband, Dr. John Lewry**

geology of Saskatchewan, and established John as the foremost expert in this field. His ability to synthesize the observations he had made over the years, from the microscopic to the regional scale, together with analytical data acquired in his collaborative efforts, was nothing short of brilliant.

His records show that his findings and those of his co-workers were reported in more than 155 publications and oral presentations. As a result, he was supported by almost one

million dollars in grants or contracts, received continuous NSERC funding since 1969, and was awarded the University of Regina Alumni Award for Excellence in Research in 1996. There were many other accomplishments and accolades of which John was equally proud, including his ten-year stint as co-leader of the LITHOPROBE Trans-Hudson Orogen Transect, and his membership on the NSERC Solid Earth Sciences Grant Selection Committee from 1995 to 1997.

John's teaching career was equally prestigious. He took immense pride in both the quality of graduates and in the program, teaching 14 different undergraduate and graduate classes during his 30 year career. John expected the same strong work ethic and high standards of his students as he did of himself, which was not always to every student's liking, but a sincere effort and a genuine interest was always rewarded. Many former students were influenced by his dedication, inspiration, intelligence, and infectious passion for geology in making their own career choices.

As impressive as those accomplishments are, John was also known for his wry sense of humour and his ability to enjoy 'the moment'. Of the countless tales and legends that surround John, many of the most memorable had to do with the great bush parties he threw in the DREE days, when virtually every float plane in northern Saskatchewan would descend into John's camp for a mid-season party. John saw conferences as workshops in which to discuss science and exchange information, rather than forums in which to further one's career. Consequently, many of his talks were presented informally, wearing work pants and an old T-shirt. In spite of this intentional break with convention, the logic and eloquence of his presentation was always sufficient to properly focus the audience's attention on his most recent insight.

### **2003 AGM a success!**

41 participants braved the cold weather to attend the 2004 S.G.S. annual general meeting. In spite of lower than usual number, a good time was had by all. Brian Brunskill and Kate Grapes gave an overview of the "Geoscape Southern Saskatchewan" poster, and what its production will mean to the society, and the resources available to Saskatchewan teachers. The highlight of the night was the induction of John Lewry, Don Kent, and Jim Christopher into the S.G.S Hall of Fame. The evening concluded with the outgoing president (Alain Legault) giving a talk on the geology of Puerto Rico. The photos of warm beaches and palm trees made us all forget (briefly) the extreme freezing weather outside.

The society would like to thank Dr. Don Kent for supplying the wine for this years AGM dinner.

The student awards were presented as follows:

Robert Milner Award for top undergraduate student at the U of R: **Nadine Eglan**

Walter Kupsh Award for top undergraduate student at the U of S: **Brenana Uzelman**

President's Award for best graduate student poster at open house: **Rebecca Hunter, U of R**

Lazlo Fuzesy Award for best undergraduate poster at open house: **Rachel Sulz, U of R**

### **Renew Your Membership!**

The time of year to renew your S.G.S. membership is here. Please send a cheque to our address on the front of the newsletter, and indicate your name and any address changes so that our records can be kept up to date. Thanks.