

The Eastern Section of the Society for Sedimentary Geology

~ ES-SEPM ~

Fall 2005 Newsletter

President's Column

Dear Colleagues –

Judging from the two-page long Announcements Section of this Newsletter there is a lot going on of interest to the members of the ES-SEPM. It is great to have so many events scheduled for this Fall and the upcoming Spring, but it is also challenging for the organizers and participants to “keep up” with so many interesting opportunities. I would like to sincerely thank all of you who took part in putting together these events, and especially to those who welcomed ES-SEPM sponsorship of your field trips at the New York State Geological Association (NYSGA) and the New England Intercollegiate Geological Conference (NEIGC) gatherings this Fall, and theme sessions and one field trip at the NE and SE GSA meetings in the Spring of 2006 (please see the **Announcements Section** for more details). I hope that many of you will take advantage of the opportunity to participate in these events.

This brings me to the topic of the need for more active member participation in various ES-SEPM activities, and especially for our members to take the initiative in organizing such activities. It may be perceived as “unfair” that the ES-SEPM offers sponsorship for events that have already been proposed and organized, and that by doing this the Section tries to take credit where credit is not deserved. Therefore, we need you – our members and supporters – to step forward and to start planning future field trips, theme sessions, symposia and other events with ES-SEPM in mind. Recently, there were instances where our members proposed such events but did not remember or think about the advantages of Section sponsorship. Our sponsorship mainly involves advertising these events to our members in our newsletters, on our web page (www.science.smith.edu/departments/Geology/ESSEPM/), and via e-mail (in rare cases, we may also be able to offer small financial assistance for organizing your event). Through such advertising we strive to encourage greater participation in the ES-SEPM sponsored events in particular, and in the host conference or meeting, in general. By bringing this topic up I hope to generate discussion at our upcoming gatherings about the current ways and future improvements in offering and organizing Section activities.

Next year our business meeting will be held at the SE GSA conference in Knoxville, Tennessee in March of 2006. We are very fortunate to once again have the National SEPM President-Elect agree to attend our business meeting and to give the keynote address. The address will be by Robert W. Dalrymple, Professor and Head of the Department of Geological Sciences and Geological Engineering at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, Canada. We will have more details about Prof. Dalrymple's talk in our Winter Newsletter, and for now I would like to thank him in advance for joining us in Knoxville. The Section will also hold a business meeting at the NE GSA meeting in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, again in March of next year. Thus, there will be plenty of opportunity for Section members to get together to share their thoughts, opinions and ideas. I look forward to seeing you at these gatherings.

As an additional effort to reach out to as many of you who might be interested in the ES-SEPM activities and to join the Section, we are sending this Newsletter via e-mail to SEPM members from our geographical region. I apologize in advance to our current members for any double mailings that this might create. I also hope that this outreach effort will be helpful in finding good candidates for the future Section officers. Therefore, I hope that you will respond affirmatively to any inquiries regarding this matter that might be directed to you in the near future, or that you will contact us with suggestions. Just to remind you that in addition to myself, the current ES-SEPM officers include Secretary/Treasurer

Al Curran from Smith College (acurran@email.smith.edu) and Newsletter Editor Dan Belknap from the University of Maine in Orono (Belknap@maine.edu). Please note that all of the current officers are from New England and that recently we have been operating without a Vice President and without ES-SEPM Councilors for the NE and SE GSA meetings. Please keep this in mind as you help us recruit our future leaders.

Finally, I would like to repeat my plea to send us newsletter contributions and to help disseminate this newsletter by sharing it with your colleagues and students. Thank you in advance for your assistance and ideas for how the ES-SEPM might serve you better. I look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,
Bosiljka Glumac
Geology Department, Smith College
Northampton, Massachusetts 01063
bglumac@email.smith.edu; 413-585-3680

Secretary/Treasurer's Report

As Bosiljka Glumac has reported above and as indicated by the following Announcements section, the level of activity of ES-SEPM definitely is strong. I urge all of you to be involved this year by attending an ES-SEPM-sponsored event and/or by sending us your ideas for future section activities!

\$\$\$\$\$: Regarding payment of dues, I remind you the members attending the annual business meeting held during the NE-GSA meeting in Saratoga Springs in March voted by a large majority to resume payment of membership dues for professional members. **Professional member dues are \$8 per year and are currently payable for 2006 and beyond.** At least for the present, student members are not required to pay dues. Receipt of dues payments has been strong since resumption of dues collection with the May 2005 newsletter.

Note for former Northeast Section members, the following is a repeat of my statement in the May 2005 newsletter: Since membership dues were not collected for the past three years, I advanced the paid-up status of each professional member by three years. To determine your paid-up membership status, please check the mailing label of this newsletter. Following your name you will see "Pro" and a year designation (for example, Pro 05 means paid up through 2005). For paid up members, dues received this year will be credited to 2006. If your paid up status is for a year earlier than 2005, you owe more \$\$\$, i.e. 2004 = \$16 and so on. That said, the real goal of the membership in reinstating dues payments at the March 2005 meeting was to foster an active and healthy ES-SEPM Section in the future, not to discourage members over past dues. So, please pay your dues as requested by the vote of the membership and send in a check in the amount that your conscience dictates. All members who are in arrears on dues and send in a check will be credited as paid up through 2006. This policy is largely a unilateral decision on my part, having received no specific guidance from the membership at the annual meeting regarding payment of back dues. The matter will be subject to review at our 2006 annual business meeting.

For former Southeast Section members: No record of past dues payments to the SE Section of SEPM was transmitted at the time of the reuniting of the sections at the Tysons Corner NE-SE GSA meeting in March 2004. Your mail labels appear with your name and address only. Dues payments are currently due in the amount of \$8 and will be credited for 2006. With payment, your dues status will be reflected on your mailing label.

All dues checks should be made payable to ES-SEPM and sent to me at the address below.

On behalf of ES-SEPM, I thank all members who have recently made dues payments, and I urge those of you who have not yet responded to do so as soon as possible. The challenge is to increase the level of activities of the section to meet the interests of the membership. Bosiljka Glumac, our section president, is doing an excellent job in this regard. We need your continued support of ES-SEPM activities, as well as your input with ideas and planning for the future.

Sincerely,
H. Allen Curran
Geology Department, Smith College
Northampton, Massachusetts 01063
acurran@email.smith.edu; 413-585-3943

Announcements

2005 Friedman Geosciences Conference

September 11-13, 2005, Troy, New York
Contact: Northeastern Science Foundation, 518-273-3247, gmfriedman@juno.com

34th Annual Meeting of the Eastern Section of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists

September 18-20, 2005, Radisson Hotel, Morgantown, West Virginia
<http://www.wvgs.wvnet.edu/www/esaapg05>
Contact: K. Lee Avary (West Virginia Geological Survey), 304-594-2331, avary@geosrv.wvnet.edu
or: aapg_es_05@geosrv.wvnet.edu

2005 NYSGA Meeting - 77th Annual Meeting of the New York State Geological Association

September 23-25, 2005, hosted by SUNY Oswego
<http://www.nysgaonline.org/meeting.htm>
Contact: David Valentino (SUNY Oswego), dvalenti@oswego.edu

ES-SEPM co-sponsored field trips:

Classic Localities of the Black River and Trenton Groups (Middle-Upper Ordovician) in the Black River Valley: Revisited Through Traditional and Sequence Stratigraphy. David Thomas (Department of Earth Sciences, State University of New York at Oswego), Sean Cornell (Department of Geology, Juniata College), Joseph Andrews (Department of Education, LeMoyne College) and Paul Agle (Department of Geology, State University of New York at Buffalo)

Eurypterids and Facies Changes within Silurian/Devonian 'Eurypterid Beds' of New York State. Samuel J. Cieurca, Jr. (Rochester, New York)

Coastal Geomorphology and Coastal Change, Eastern Lake Ontario Shoreline. Sharon Gabel (Department of Earth Sciences, State University of New York at Oswego), John DeHollander (Oswego County Soil Water Conservation District) and Robert Venczel (Department of Earth Sciences, State University of New York at Oswego)

2005 NEIGC - the New England Intercollegiate Geological Conference

September 30 to October 2, 2005, New Haven, Connecticut, hosted by The Department of Geology and Geophysics, Kline Geology Laboratory, Yale University
<http://www.geology.yale.edu/neigc/>
Contacts: Brian Skinner (Yale University), brian.skinner@yale.edu, 203-432-3175; Leo Hickey (Yale University), leo.hickey@yale.edu, 203-432-5006; Mabel Peterson (Yale University), <mabel.peterson@yale.edu>, Anthony Philpotts (UConn), <Anthony.Philpotts@uconn.edu>

ES-SEPM co-sponsored field trips:

Jurassic Cyclostratigraphy and Paleontology of the Hartford Basin. Paul E. Olsen, Jessica H. Whiteside and Philip Huber.

The New Quaternary Geological Map of Connecticut and Long Island Sound Basin: Illustrated by two days of field trips along the Coastline and in the Connecticut Valley. Janet R. Stone, Mary DiGiacomo-Cohen, Jack Ridge, Jake Benner, Ralph S. Lewis, and Byron D. Stone

Hartford Basin Cross Section - Southington to Portland, Connecticut. Phil Resor and Jelle de Boer

Sediment Dynamics of the Branford River Estuary. Gaboury Benoit

.....

2006 Northeastern GSA Conference

March 20-22, 2006, Radisson Penn Harris Hotel & Convention Center, Camp Hill/Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
<http://www.geosociety.org/sectdiv/sections.htm>

Contacts: Noel Potter (Dickinson College), pottern@dickinson.edu, 717-245-1340

and Jennifer M. Elick (Susquehanna University), elick@susqu.edu, 570-372-4214

Abstracts due: 12/13/05

ES-SEPM Annual Business Meeting

ES-SEPM co-sponsored theme sessions:

Coastal Change: Natural and Anthropogenic Process-Response systems. Allen Gontz, University of Massachusetts, Boston, allen.gontz@umb.edu, (781)812-1684 and Dan Belknap, University of Maine, Orono, belknap@maine.edu, (207) 581-2159.

Paleosol Environments from Across the Landscape. Jennifer Elick, Susquehanna University, elick@susqu.edu, (570) 372-4214.

Oil and Gas in the Appalachian Basin. Langhorn "Taury" Smith, New York State Museum, ismith@mail.nysed.gov, (518) 474-2469, Rich Nyahay, New York State Museum, rnyahay@mail.nysed.gov, (518) 486-2161, and John Harper, Pennsylvania Geological Survey, jharper@state.pa.us, (412) 442-4230.

ES-SEPM co-sponsored field trip:

Cambrian Microbial Reefs, LWB Quarry, York County, Pennsylvania. Carol de Wet, Franklin and Marshall College, cdewet@fandm.edu, (717) 291-4388.

.....

2006 Southeastern GSA Conference

March 23-24, 2006, Marriott Hotel, Knoxville, Tennessee

<http://www.geosociety.org/sectdiv/sections.htm>

Contacts: Robert D. Hatcher, Jr. (bobmap@utk.edu), Linda Kah (lckah@utk.edu), Colin Sumrall (csumrall@utk.edu), and Claudia Mora (cmora@utk.edu)

Abstracts due: 1/5/06

ES-SEPM Annual Business Meeting and Keynote Address by the National SEPM President-Elect Robert W. Dalrymple (Professor and Head, Dept. of Geological Sciences and Geological Engineering, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada)

ES-SEPM co-sponsored theme sessions:

New Views on Old Rocks: Insight on Biospheric Evolution from the Precambrian Sedimentary Record.

Linda Kah and Chris Fedo (University of Tennessee, Knoxville)

Carbonates Then and Now: How Much Has Changed? A Session in Honor of Kenneth R. Walker. Bosiljka Glumac (Smith College) and Stan Dunagan (University of Tennessee, Martin)

Hands on Ichnology and the Union Chapel (Alabama) Tracksite. Andy Rindsberg (Alabama Survey)

NOTE: This form is for New Members or for Current Members to update membership information. If the information on your mailing label is correct and we have your e-mail address, there is no need to return this form with your dues payment. Current members – *please pass this form on to prospective new members, both professionals and students as appropriate.*

Membership type:

Please check one: Professional (\$8/year*) ___ Student (free) ___

* make checks payable to: Eastern Section SEPM

Name: _____

Title/Occupation: _____

e-mail: _____

Would you like to have your e-mail included on our online list of members? _____

Address: _____

Professional interests: _____

Web page (if you wish to have a link from the ES SEPM page):

Return completed forms with dues payment as applicable to:

H. Allen Curran
Eastern Section SEPM Secretary/Treasurer
Department of Geology, Smith College
Northampton, Massachusetts 01063

e-mail: acurran@email.smith.edu

You can find a copy of this form and other pertinent information at:

www.science.smith.edu/departments/Geology/ESSEPM/

(can also be accessed from: www.sepm.org/sections/sectionshome.htm)

Eastern Section-SEPM
Al Curran, Secretary/Treasurer
Department of Geology
Smith College
Northampton, MA 01063

Address Correction Requested

