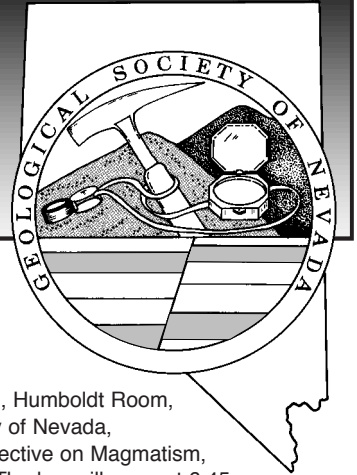


GSN NEWSLETTER



December 2000, Vol. 14, No. 10

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Dec 6** GSN WINNEMUCCA CHAPTER MEETING: Red Lion Inn, Humboldt Room, Winnemucca, Nevada. Speaker – Mike Ressel, University of Nevada, Reno and Newmont Mining Corp., Why Eocene? A Perspective on Magmatism, Extension, and Ore Deposition in North-Central Nevada. The bar will open at 6:45 pm, and the talk will begin at 7:30 pm. If you are not a GSNWC member, please contribute a \$5 donation at the door. Call Bruce Braginton, 775/625-5606 for information.
- Dec 13 (Wednesday)** GSN CHRISTMAS MEMBERSHIP MEETING, Elks Club, Reno, NV. Speaker - Sarah Andrews, Mystery writer/geologist, presents an evening of murder and mayhem in the mining industry. Social-6:00, dinner-7:00 (\$20), talk-8:00. Details on page 3. Call Laura Ruud, 775/323-3500.
- Dec 14** GSN ELKO CHAPTER MEETING: Hi Desert Inn, Elko, NV. Speaker - Bill Tafuri, Kinross Gold USA, Inc., A Whirlwind Geologic and Cultural Tour of the Russian Far East, in Summer. Reservations not required. Drinks and hors d'oeuvres will be served at 6:30, talk at 7:00 pm. Call Keith Bettles, 775/778-8149 for information.



GSN Newsletter is published monthly except June and July
Geological Society of Nevada, PO Box 12021, Reno, NV 89510-2021 USA, 775/323-3500

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ken Cunningham, GSN President 2000-2001

I am happy to report that GSN had a successful exhibit at the recent Geological Society of America's Annual Convention. Sales from GSN publications totaled approximately \$3,000 and fourteen new members joined the organization. In addition, author Sarah Andrews donated the profits from sales of her mystery novels to the GSN Foundation. Special thanks to Sarah and to all the members who volunteered their time at the GSN booth.

Sarah will be joining our group again on Wednesday, December 13 for our Christmas meeting and dinner. She will be signing copies of her novels and contributing the profits to the Foundation. She will also be our featured speaker and has promised "an evening of mystery and mayhem". We have planned a special menu of Prime Rib or Chicken Cordon Bleu for the occasion and encourage all members and their spouses to attend both the dinner and the meeting. The evening will feature a raffle with proceeds going to the GSN Foundation. Members are encouraged to bring items for the raffle. Suggestions include rock or crystal specimens, items commemorating

mine openings, mining antiques, wine, artwork, or other items that would be of interest to our group. This will be a great opportunity to pick up some Christmas gifts. Items are tax deductible. Either bring your items to the meeting or call **D.D. LaPointe** at 784-6691, ext 134.

Happy Holidays and good prospecting.

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News and Announcements

SEARCHING THE SYMPOSIUM PROCEEDINGS CD

Camille Prens, GSN Publication Chair
Alan Wallace, GSN Symposium Publication
Don Avery, AKA The Wizard

One of the greatest features of having the Proceedings from the Symposium on CD is the ability to search for particular subjects or locations.

This is possible in 2 ways using Adobe Acrobat Reader. The binocular button on the Adobe toolbar brings up the FIND function, which searches the current open PDF file.

The binocular symbol with the page behind it is used to SEARCH the entire CD. The search index for our CD is called gsnindex. This needs to be activated to work. Click on the search button on the toolbar, which brings up the search window. Click on the Indexes button. This shows the indexes available and should have gsnindex with a box to the left. If the box has a check in it, the index is active; if it doesn't, click the box to put in a checkmark, then hit OK to return to the Search window. Type in any word and hit the Search button. This will bring up a list of the papers in which that word appears. Highlight a paper and click the View button. This will take you to the first page on which your word appears. Instructions for this are also in the Help menu for Acrobat. In order to SEARCH, you must have a version of Adobe Reader with the Search function. The Adobe website that lists this feature as a plug-in feature currently does NOT include this feature when you download it. We've notified Adobe of this broken link but we've also found it available on a couple of other websites; free to download. You can find Adobe Acrobat Reader with Search at:

<http://www.pdfzone.com/products/software/readerdownload.html>

It's also available at planetpdf.com

GSN FOUNDATION UPDATE

Joseph Anthony Kizis, Jr., Chairman of the Board

During the past 40 years, the GSN has developed several programs to advance the Earth Sciences in Nevada. These programs provide grants that assist K-12 school children from all over Nevada to go on Earth Science field trips, scholarships to assist students at UNR and UNLV, grants for basic geologic mapping in Nevada, and donations to UNR's DeLaMare Earth Science Library.

Earlier this year the GSN Foundation was set up as a 501(c)(3) public charity in order to accept tax-deductible donations from those wishing to help sponsor these programs. The Foundation can also conduct fund-raising activities, such as the Rock Raffle held during the "Big Party" at our Symposium last May.

The Rock Raffle generated about \$4,800 for the Foundation. In addition, several donations have been received from individuals. Funds received to date allowed the Board of Directors to approve up to \$5,000 for this year's field trip grants for K-12 school children.

We are now beginning efforts to build an endowment fund to provide financial support for future years. Our goal is to raise \$100,000 for the endowment fund. This amount should provide sufficient investment income to cover the majority of our annual funding requirements.

The Directors ask you to consider supporting the Endowment fund of the GSN Foundation. Donations for the Endowment fund should be clearly marked as such and sent to the GSN office. Donors will be featured periodically in the GSN Newsletter and GSN Foundation activities. Categories for your tax-deductible donations are listed below:

Donor	Up to \$499
Silver level	\$500 - \$999
Gold level	\$1,000 - \$4,999
Benefactor level	\$5,000 and above

As an added incentive, early donors will be forever designated "Charter Founding Donors".

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Thanks to Bondar Clegg for hosting the November Meeting

GSN December 13, 2000 Membership Meeting

Date: Wednesday, December 13, 2000
Time: Social-6:00, Dinner-7:00, Meeting-8:00
Cost: \$20.00 (dinner), Prime Rib or Chicken Cordon Bleu
Reservations: phn 775/323-3500; fax 323-3599 or e-mail: gsn@mines.unr.edu

Deadline: Reserve by noon Monday, December 11
Location: Elks Lodge, 597 Kumle Lane, Reno, Nevada
Directions: Across (W) from the Reno-Sparks Convention Center (S Virginia St), just behind the Les Schwab Tire Center
Speakers/topic: Sarah Andrews, Mystery writer/geologist



THE MOUNTAIN TO MOHAMMED Telling Tales about Geology

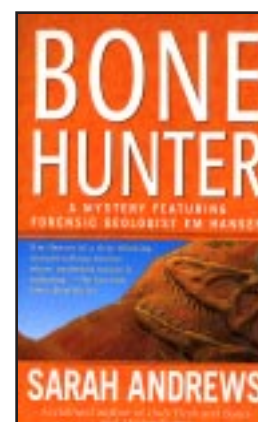
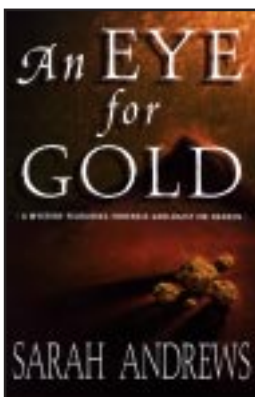
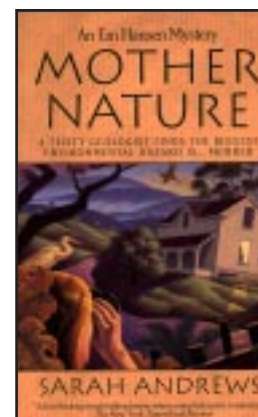
Sarah Andrews

Whatever my original reasons for writing mystery novels about geology and geologists, I now find myself in the odd position of providing an increasingly important link between the world of rocks and a largely uninformed public. Important because the geological professions are facing public sector budget cuts and private sector downsizing. Odd because few people with technical backgrounds do much to popularize geology.

The public is uninformed for a number of reasons. One is that most geologists, being colorfully shy people who would each really rather be alone out on a rock somewhere, have wrapped themselves in the mental cocoon of expecting hard work to be magically rewarded for its own sake. A second reason is that the public generally lacks the ability to perceive the work done by geologists, let alone its importance to everyday life. We think slow, subtle, abstract thoughts in a fast-moving, what-have-you-done-to-me-lately, sound bite kind of world.

Fiction to the rescue. Some people still read. But let's make it recreational reading, something with a nice, gratuitous murder in it, maybe a sprinkling of sex, and certainly an intriguing glimpse into a world Joe Public might never otherwise enter. It's a match made in heaven: I get

120,000 words to persuade Joe that that technologically undernourished sound bite he heard on the evening news was a couple of French fries short of a Happy Meal, that there's more to the story, that those nerds with the Brunton compasses are really out there doing something wonderful for him. And fiction has an interesting trick up its sleeve: by digging deep into fantasy, it has a special way of telling truth.



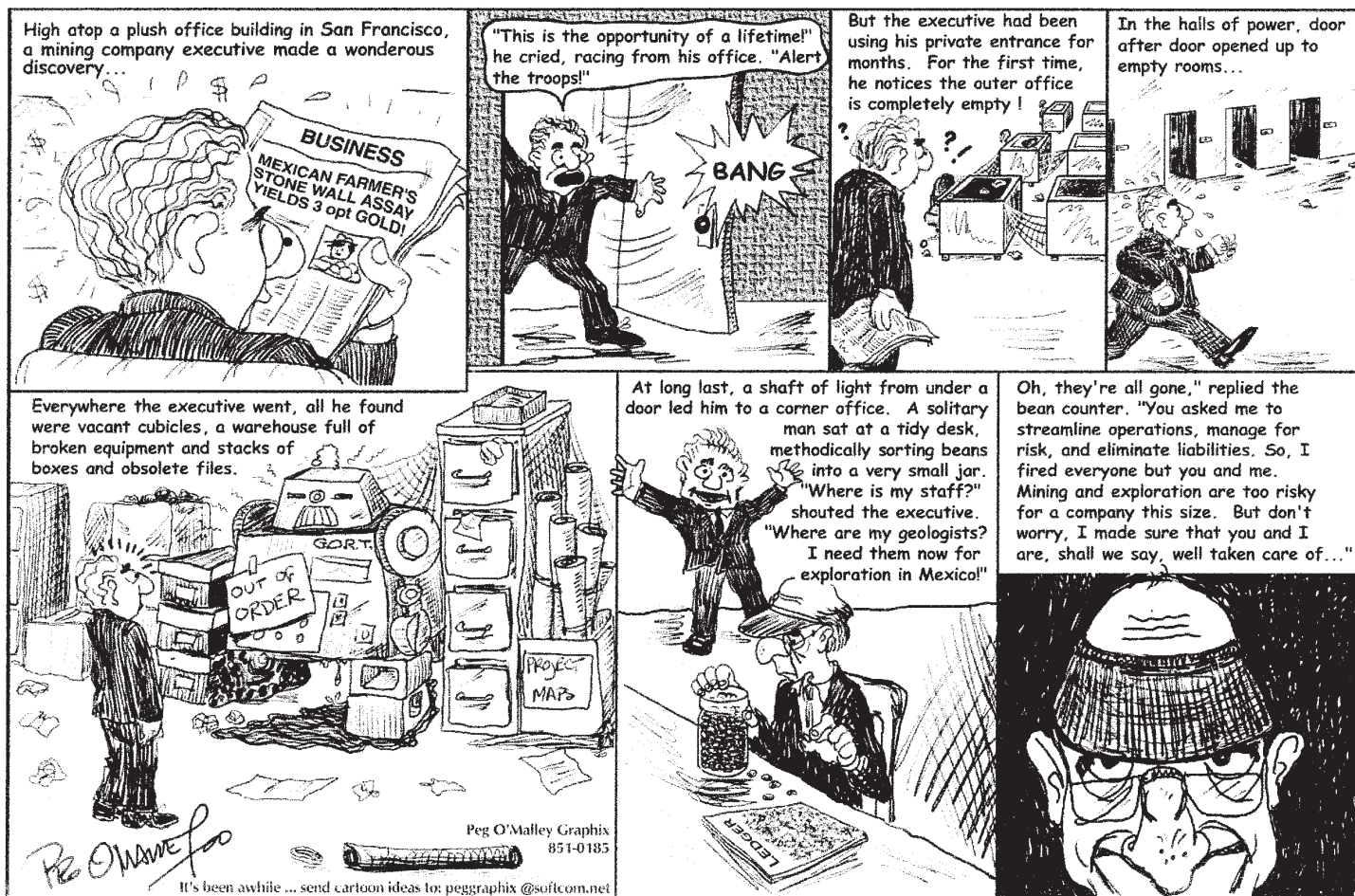
ROCK RAFFLE REPRISE

D.D. LaPointe, GSN Education Committee Co-Chair and Foundation Trustee

The Geological Society of Nevada Foundation will be having another fundraising "Rock Raffle" to be held during our annual Christmas meeting December 13th. We are seeking donations of any items suitable for raffle: gift baskets, attractive rock or mineral samples, wine or other spirits, logo items, geological equipment or publications, commemorative coins, or any geology or mining-related items will be gratefully accepted.

The raffle proceeds will be applied to the GSN Foundation's unrestricted fund to benefit GSN's educational projects which include grants to Nevada K-12 classes for transportation on Earth Science related field trips, scholarships to UNR and UNLV geology students, grants to the UNR DeLaMare Library, and grants for geologic mapping in Nevada.

Please send donated items to D.D. LaPointe, Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology/MS178, University of Nevada, Reno, NV, 89557-0088, 775/784-6691 ext 134, fax 775/784-1709, to arrive before Dec 12th, or call to arrange pick-up of donated items if you are in the Reno-Sparks-Carson City area. Thank you!



THE (SOMETIMES ON) FRIDAY SHEET

K. Brent Cook

The following is an excerpt from Brent Cook's November 17th "The (Sometimes on) Friday Sheet". If you've enjoyed his commentary, the full tirade is available by contacting Brent at: bcook@gril.net

Check out these figures from the Minerals Information Institute: The average American now consumes 37mil lbs. of minerals, metals and fuel, over the course of a lifetime. That includes 2,000lbs of copper, 6,000lbs of aluminum, 1,000lbs of lead, 1,000 lbs. of zinc and 1.8 oz of gold per person. This years 4 million babies alone will use 8bil lbs. of copper, 7mil oz of gold ... you get the picture. And, that's to supply America alone! Remember, these totals don't take into consideration the aspirations of China, India and the rest of the billions of people in the world who are rapidly trying to buy all the stuff we got.

As an example, world copper consumption is about 33bil lbs. (15mil tonnes but I'll use pounds 'cause it sounds bigger) a year. At this consumption rate, this means that by December 2001 we effectively wipe out Escondida's current reserves. Escondida is one of the largest copper deposits in the world. The world famous Bingham porphyry copper deposit reserves are used up in about 4 more months.

Goldfields Mineral Services estimates that total cost of production in 1999 was \$257/oz. So even by high grading and with the help of declining local currencies, that's less than a \$20 per oz margin today. The industry as a whole loses money. The major gold miners are faced with a real problem. How does Newmont

replace over 4mil oz of annual production? Placer Dome 3mil oz. Barrick is ramping up to 5mil oz of annual production, again, where's the next one? How do you replace this production? More importantly, how do you do it with mines that offer a competitive rate of return?

As I see it, metal demand is not going away, regardless of the world economy, nor is the need for world class ore deposits. These mega companies are now faced with the need for even more and larger deposits just as they are laying off most of their best field people. That's very suicidal thinking for an industry that has been around for centuries. Add to this the need for competitive returns on capital and the billion tonne size of deposits needed to effect a major mining companies bottom line and we're looking at trouble. Or conversely, opportunity if you are a few very smart geologists with a micro-cap exploration company tying up the best conceptual world class exploration plays.

There's a big crunch coming, and when the dust settles from the M & A activity, the VP's are going to call down to their exploration department to find the phone's been disconnected and their geologists are all working down at Home Depot.

In all likelihood, I suspect that most of these companies will realize at about the same time that they have looming production declines, no exploration staff, no properties and nothing left to buy that offers a positive impact to the bottom line. The accountant running the company says to exploration, "here's the money, copper is up, find us a deposit. We'd like to schedule it into our production planning for next year. Make it so". When this happens, there is really no place left to turn for immediate satisfaction but the well positioned junior. More on this in subsequent sheets.

SYMPOSIUM 2000 PROCEEDINGS BOOKS AND CD'S

The GSN Symposium Proceedings Volumes will be available for purchase at the GSN Christmas Meeting on December 13th. **Cami Prenn**, GSN Publications Chair, will be selling the 2-Volume hardbound sets for \$110 and the CD-ROM version for \$50. If you are out of the area you can always order from **Laura Ruud** at the GSN office 775/323-3500, 775/323-3599-fax, or e-mail gsn@mines.unr.edu (please include shipping).

GSN Newsletter Monthly Advertising Rates

Business card size (3 1/2" x 2")	\$ 50.00
Quarter page (3 1/2" x 4 3/4")	150.00
Half page (4 3/4" x 7 1/2")	300.00
Classified ads \$10/line (up to business card size)	

For an advertising form, call the GSN office at 775/323-3500 or fax 323-3599. Camera-ready ads must be received by the 20th of the month to appear in the following month's newsletter.

Geological Society of Nevada Membership Directory Advertising

Advertise your business, products, or services in the 2000-2001 GSN Membership Directory "Gold Pages" due for distribution in January 2001. A complimentary copy of the directory will be provided to you.

The following advertising space sizes are available:

2" x 3 1/2"	Business Card - Horizontal	\$ 50.00
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5" x 7"	Half Page - Horizontal	200.00
3 1/2" x 10"	Half Page - Vertical	200.00
7" x 10"	Full Page - Vertical	400.00
7" x 10"	Inside Front Cover - Vertical	750.00
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UP-COMING EVENTS

Dec 4-8 NWMA Annual Meeting & Expo in Spokane, WA. Pat Bronchetti, 509/624-1158, www.nwma.org. GSN will be in Booth #1500. Stop by and see us!

Dec 6 GSN Winnemucca Chapter Meeting, Red Lion Inn & Casino, Humboldt Room at Winnemucca, NV. Speaker - Mike Ressel, University of Nevada, Reno and Newmont Mining Corp., Why Eocene? A Perspective on Magmatism, Extension, and Ore Deposition in North-Central Nevada. Social-6:45 pm, talk-7:30 pm. If you are not a GSNWC member, please contribute a \$5 donation at the door. Bruce Braginton, 775/625-5606 for information

Dec 12 AIPG, Nevada Section, 10th Annual Exploration Outlook Symposium & Dinner, Eldorado Hotel at Reno, NV. 6:00 – 10:00 pm, AIPG & GSN members-\$35, Others-\$40. Kel Buchanan 775/786-4515

Dec 13 (Wednesday) GSN Christmas Membership Meeting, Sarah Andrews, Author of mining oriented mystery books at Reno, NV. Laura Ruud at 775/323-3500 or gsn@mines.unr.edu

Dec 14 GSN Elko Chapter Meeting, Hi Desert Inn at Elko, NV. Bill Tafuri, Kinross Gold USA, Inc., A Whirlwind Geologic and Cultural Tour of the Russian Far East, in Summer. Drinks and hors d'oeuvres will be served at 6:30, talk at 7:00 pm. Call Keith Bettles, 775/778-8149 for information

Dec 16 Society of Mining Engineers Reno Chapter will hold it's Annual Christmas Party at Harrah's Prospector Club at Reno, NV. For information call Bill Clem at 775/677-9546

Jan 23-26 18th Annual Cordilleran Exploration roundup at Vancouver, BC. Contact B.C. & Yukon Chamber of Mines. 1/604-681-5328. www.bc-mining-house.com/rdup2001/welcome.htm

Feb 26-28 SME Annual Meeting and Exhibit at Denver, CO. 800/763-3132 or 303/973-9550

TMCC COURSES

TMCC is offering two new courses for the spring term. For those wanting to learn a little something new, there is Fundamentals of GIS, a three-credit course meeting Tuesdays from 7:00 – 9:50. The reference is GIS 102B, with a call number of 74887, and the fee is \$139.50.

If you have an acquaintance wanting to know more about the local geology, there is Geology of Nevada, another three-credit offering, meeting Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 – 6:45. This reference is GEOL 201, the call number is 74692, and the fee is also \$139.50.

Call **Dan Robertson** at TMCC for further information (673-7262).

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