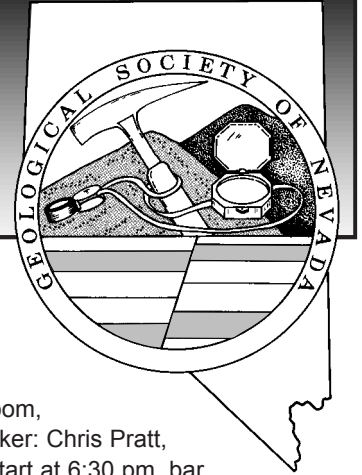


GSN NEWSLETTER



October 2003, Vol. 17, No. 8

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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**Oct. 8th
Wednesday**

WINNEMUCCA CHAPTER MEETING: Humboldt Room, Red Lion Hotel and Casino, Winnemucca, NV. Speaker: Chris Pratt, "Nevada Epithermal Vein Systems." Refreshments start at 6:30 pm, bar sponsored by Boart Longyear/Lang Exploration Drilling. Meeting starts at 7:00 pm. Contact Fred Breit 775/635-4704 (days) or Fred Holzel 775/625-4658 (evenings).

**Oct. 16th
Thursday**

ELKO CHAPTER MEETING: Western Folklife Center, Elko, NV. Speaker: To be announced. Refreshments at 6:30 pm, presentation at 7:00 pm. Contact Steve Kulinski for more information, 775/778-8867.

Oct. 17th

GSN MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Reno Elks Lodge, Reno, NV. Speaker: Steve Craig, Vice President, Golden Phoenix Minerals, "Regional Geology and Gold Deposits of the Silver Peak Area." Please contact Shannon Fitzpatrick at 775/323-3500 or gsn@mines.unr.edu.

Oct. 24th-26th

GSN FALL FIELD TRIP: Regional Geology and Gold Deposits of the Silver Peak Area. Mineralization Hosted by Metamorphic Core Complexes. Sign-up form on page 2.

**TBA
Thursday**

SOUTHERN NEVADA CHAPTER MEETING: Room 102, Lily Fong Geoscience Building, UNLV, Las Vegas, NV. Speaker and topic to be announced. Social with food and drink at 5:30 pm; talk at 6:30 pm. Contact Melissa Hicks at 702/895-1162 or hicksm@unlv.nevada.edu.

GSN Newsletter is published monthly except June and July

Geological Society of Nevada, PO Box 13375, Reno, NV 89507 USA, 775/323-3500, www.gsnv.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Clancy Wendt, *GSN President 2003-2004*

Well, the summer is over and we are getting ready for the annual meeting, fieldtrips, and an all-around get together. The month of October is already crowded with the first meeting on Friday, October 17th and the Fall Field Trip to Silver Peak the following weekend October 24th-26th.

The first meeting topic this year will be on Mineral Ridge near Silver Peak, Nevada. **Steve Craig**, from Golden Phoenix, will be giving the talk with our first field trip to the property the next weekend. We are again very fortunate to have the generous support of **Eklund Drilling** for the social hour at our inaugural meeting as well as the Fall Field Trip. The field trip is also being supported by **ALS Chemex**, **BSi Inspectorate**, and **American Assay Lab**. The great sponsorship of the GSN by all the groups that have done so throughout the lean years should not be forgotten. Please offer your personal "Thank You" to each of our sponsors and please use them when you are looking for contractors. It is still not too late to sign up for the field trip or a sponsorship of the trip. See page 2 for more information.

Please make an extra effort to be at the first meeting as we are going to vote on a By-Law change, see your last newsletter.

People are also urged to read the **Letter to the Editor** in the *Elko Daily Free Press* of September 9, 2003. **Curt Everson** outdid himself.

continued

October Sponsor



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News and Announcements

FROM THE PRESIDENT *continued*

Earth Science Week is coming and I am sure D.D. LaPointe can use some help. Any volunteers will be appreciated. Also remember to bring items for the Rock Raffle which takes place at the December 17th meeting.

Congratulations to **Tom Callicrate** and **April Barber** on their wedding. It was about time, Tom.

Long time Bureau geologist, **Joe Tingley**, is retiring. His smiling face will be missed by all.

Art Steelman, a Drilling Supervisor with **Eklund Drilling**, suffered the unexpected death of his wife **Diane Ray Steelman**. This has been a profound loss to Art, his family and his extended **Eklund Family**. We all send our condolences to Art and his family.

FALL 2003 FIELD TRIP

REGIONAL GEOLOGY AND GOLD DEPOSITS OF THE SILVER PEAK AREA

Mineralization Hosted by Metamorphic Core Complexes

Itinerary for Fall Field Trip, October 24th - 26th: The trip will begin Friday evening with a stay-over in Hawthorne, followed by a first day in the field visiting the metamorphic core complexes and associated structures of the Silver Peak region, a night in Tonopah, and a second day in the field at Mineral Ridge - a precious metal system hosted by the regional core complexes.

Friday, October 24

- 6:00 pm Vans leave UNR parking lot
- 8:00 pm Arrive in Hawthorne
Overnight lodging: El Capitan Motel, Hawthorne (dinner on your own)

Saturday, October 25

- (breakfast on your own)
- 7:00 am Leave Hawthorne for regional tour led by Dr. John Oldow, University of Idaho
Lunch in field
- Afternoon Continue regional geologic tour
- 7:00 pm Hosted social hour and complimentary dinner at the Tonopah Museum
Overnight lodging: Tonopah Best Western-High Desert

Sunday, October 26

- 7:00-8:00 am Continental breakfast at Best Western
- 8:00 am Vans leave Tonopah for tour of the Mineral Ridge Gold Deposit, led by Steve Craig, Golden Phoenix Minerals
Lunch at Mineral Ridge
- Afternoon Continue Mineral Ridge tour
- 2:00 pm Depart for Reno
- 6:00 pm Arrive at UNR campus in Reno

Price includes: transportation, two nights lodging, lunch & dinner Saturday, breakfast and lunch Sunday, field trip guidebook, snacks, beer, and soft drinks.

Reservations will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Since we will be using rented 15-passenger vans, we are looking for **volunteer drivers**. To keep the entourage down to a reasonably small number, **the field trip is limited to 50 participants**. Payment must be in the GSN office for your reservation to be guaranteed.

Many thanks to the following sponsors: **ALS Chemex**, **American Assay Labs**, **BSi Inspectorate**, and **Eklund Drilling**.

Please complete and submit.



Fall 2003 Field Trip Sign Up

Name _____

Daytime Phone _____

Fax _____

Company _____

Address _____

Email _____

Person to contact in case of emergency:

Name _____ Phone _____

Lodging needed in Hawthorne & Tonopah:

N__ Y__ Single__ Double__

Roommate (or we will assign) _____

MEMBER COST:

double room-\$155.00 _____

single room-\$195.00 _____

w/o lodging-\$105.00 _____

NON-MEMBER COST:

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(as it appears on card)

Payment must be made by Oct 10, 2003.

No refunds after Oct 17, 2003

Fax: 775/323-3599 or mail to GSN office: P.O. Box 13375, Reno, NV 89507, or email to: gsn@mines.unr.edu

GSN October 17, 2003 Membership Meeting

Date: Friday, October 17, 2003

Location: Elks Lodge, 597 Kumle Lane, Reno, NV

Time: Social-6:00, Dinner-7:00 (\$17.00), Meeting-8:00

Directions: Across (W) from the Reno-Sparks Convention Center (S Virginia St), behind the Les Schwab Tire Center

Reservations: 775/323-3500; fax 323-3599,
e-mail gsn@mines.unr.edu

Speakers/topic: Steve Craig, Vice President, Golden Phoenix Minerals, Regional Geology and Gold Deposits of the Silver Peak Area

Deadline: Reserve by noon Wednesday, October 15th

RECENT HISTORY, GEOLOGY AND GOLD MINERALIZATION OF THE MINERAL RIDGE GOLD MINE, ESMERALDA COUNTY, NEVADA

Steven D. Craig, Golden Phoenix Minerals, Inc.

Executive Summary

The Mineral Ridge Gold Mine is located on the northeast flank of the Silver Peak Range in an area of rugged relief in Esmeralda County, Nevada, and approximately 4.5 miles northwest of the village of Silver Peak, 35 miles southwest of the town of Tonopah.

Gold was discovered in the Mineral Ridge area in 1864 with intermittent mining operations occurring from that date to the present. Early production was from underground high-grade gold ores that averaged from 0.243 opt Au to 1.45 opt Au. This production was greatly facilitated by the first use of cyanide in Nevada in 1893. After World War II, activity on Mineral Ridge was minimal until the early-1970s. Through the 1970s and early-1980s, a number of companies conducted geologic investigations and exploration programs on the Mary and Drinkwater claims at Mineral Ridge. Open pit mining was initiated in 1989 at the Drinkwater deposit. These gold ores were transported to the nearby 16 to 1 mill for processing. Even though this operation ended in 1992, the district remained viable when Cornucopia Resources completed consolidation of key lands in the district in 1994. Their work culminated with the construction of a heap leach facility with leaching beginning in 1997. Vista Gold took the property over in 1998, but because of record low gold prices, their operation failed and they filed for bankruptcy in 1999. Golden Phoenix Minerals purchased the property in late 2000 and is preparing to operate it with new higher gold prices assisting their effort.

Mineral Ridge is a double-plunging uplift of intermediate to felsic intrusive rocks, including granodiorite, granite, pegmatite and alaskite. The uplift fits the metamorphic/intrusive core complex model, with the core intrusive locally exhibiting foliation and lineation, along with interlayers of ductilely deformed gneiss and schist parallel to the contacts with the overlying metasediments. The metasediments of the Wyman Formation have undergone complex multiple stage deformation and metamorphism. The core intrusive has also been involved in at least the latest stage deformation as indicated by the consistent foliation pattern in the metasediments and the intrusive. The Wyman Formation is overlain in thrust fault contact by the weakly metamorphosed Reed Dolomite, which in turn is overlain in low-angle fault contact by the unmetamorphosed Deep Springs Formation. The gold deposits of the Mineral Ridge are localized along the shallow or near-flat late-stage shear structures surrounding the intrusive core. These gold-bearing shear structures are generally located near the intrusive/metasediments contact and within the lower unit of the Wyman Formation.

Gold mineralization on the Mineral Ridge property is generally controlled by the shearing structures associated with the metamorphic core complex and is sub-parallel to the intrusive/metasediments contact. These mineralized shear structures are commonly located within the lower unit of the Wyman Formation near the contact and are generally conformable to the foliation in the host rock. Gold-bearing white milky quartz infilling these shear structures and other fractures forms the primary targets of gold mining in the Mineral Ridge district. Several gold-bearing shear structures could be over-stacking each other, forming a broad mineralized zone over 100 feet in thickness. These mineralized shear zones generally dip at a shallow angle at the northeastern side of the metamorphic/intrusive core complex, such as the Mary and Drinkwater deposits, but they are nearly horizontal at the top of the complex, such as the Brodie and the Gold Wedge deposits.

The gold deposits in the Mineral Ridge area have been exploited by both underground and open-pit mining operations from 1864 to the present. An estimate of the early production from 1864 to 1941 found that approximately 1.7 million tons of material with an average gold grade of 0.273 opt (462,000 contained ounces) was mined by various companies and individuals. With the advent of open pit mining in 1989, the three year period from 1989-1992 1.4 millions tons of ore was mined, which averaged 0.082 oz/ton for about 109,000 ounces of recovered gold. For the period from 1997 to the present, a total of 1,658,000 tons of crushed ore was placed on the pad, of which about 58,000 ounces of gold have been produced. In summary, the total gold production of the district through 2002 is estimated to be about 629,000 ounces of gold.

The current ore reserves are contained in two main deposits and three secondary deposits. The largest is the Drinkwater Deposit, which consists of two or more gold-bearing shear zones with an individual ore zone thickness of 5 to

continued on page 6

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEVADA K-12 EARTH SCIENCE FIELD TRIP GRANT PROGRAM

**GSN members: Please pass this information
along to Nevada K-12 teachers**

The Geological Society of Nevada (GSN) supports K-12 geoscience education, especially the first-hand experience gained through field trips. GSN Foundation has given up to \$5000 annually to K-12 school classes across Nevada for the past ten or more years. The GSN Foundation will award up to \$300 per field trip for transportation expenses for geoscience-related field trips, including mine visits, mineral deposits, geomorphology, paleontology, volcanology, and seismology trips. Guidelines and Applications for field trip grants are located on the GSN website at:

<http://www.gsnv.org/documents/edguide.htm> and
<http://www.gsnv.org/documents/grant.htm>

Requests must be made by the teacher leading the field trip who must also provide to GSN a notification of trip completion following the field trip. If requests exceed budgeted funds, funds will be equitably divided among the schools with particular consideration given to "at risk" schools and those classes which are using supplemental fund-raising efforts to fund field trips. **Field trip grant applications for the entire 2003-2004 school year are due by Nov. 1, 2003.**

D.D. La Pointe, NBMG, UNR/MS178, Reno, NV 89557-0088 (FAX 775/784-1709; PHONE 702/784-6691, ext. 134).

Applications are also available from the Geological Society of Nevada office, Phone 775/323-3500, Fax 775/323-3599.

THE GSN FOUNDATION STILL NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT!

Members, please consider including a donation to the Foundation along with your GSN membership dues. Even a small donation of \$5, if received from a majority of our members, would provide a significant portion of our annual funding requirements. Members can also help by encouraging corporate sponsors to give generously. X-Cal's donation at the Benefactor Level last year, encouraged by member Win Rowe, was a huge boost to the Foundation.

Thanks to your previous support, the Board of Directors was able to approve a budget of \$8,500 to fund three programs for the 2003/2004 fiscal year: \$5,000 for the K-12 field-trip program, \$2,000 for the UNR scholarship and \$1,500 for the UNLV scholarship. This is the highest level of funding in the Foundation's short history. Contributions made now, along with proceeds from our Annual Rock Raffle, will determine the level of funding for our next fiscal year.

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The GSN Foundation is a 501(c)(3) public charity that sponsors several programs advancing the Earth sciences, primarily in Nevada. These programs are the K-12 Earth science field trip grants, scholarships for students at UNR and UNLV, grants for basic geologic mapping in Nevada, and donations to UNR's Earth science library. The Foundation is run entirely by volunteers.

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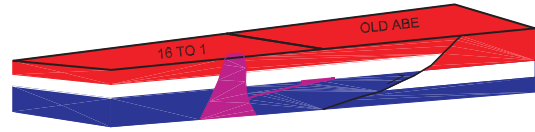
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY *(continued from page 3)*

40 feet and an overall thickness of more than 100 feet. The second largest deposit is the Mary Deposit where the mineralized zones have a similar strike and dip as those in the Drinkwater, but are generally thinner and less continuous. Unlike the Drinkwater, the gold ore shoots display a distinct north trending strike direction, which the early miners discovered and followed. The three smaller deposits include the Brodie, Solberry and Blue Lite deposits, which are found on the southern side of the uplift.

Using a 0.005opt cut off grade, the overall drilled resource of the Mineral Ridge mine is 11,722,400 tons averaging 0.047opt Au for a contained 551,245 ounces of gold. The following table summarizes the mineable reserves of each deposit using a 0.035 opt Au cutoff grade.

Deposit	Tons of Ore	Average Au Grade	Total Au Ozs
Drinkwater	1,618,247 tons	0.074 opt	119,746 ozs Au
Mary	773,996 tons	0.095 opt	73,368 ozs Au
Brodie	120,712 tons	0.059 opt	7,127 ozs Au
Solberry/Blue Lite	145,385 tons	0.062 opt	8,985 ozs Au
Total	2,658,340 tons	0.079 opt	209,226 ozs Au

NBMG ANNOUNCEMENT

Joe and Susan Tingley are retiring from the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology after 25 and 33 years respectively. Check the November newsletter for information about their retirement party.

ROCK RAFFLE REQUEST

It's not too early to be thinking about donations for the Geological Society of Nevada Foundation's fundraiser "Rock Raffle and Silent Auction" to be held during our annual Christmas meeting. We are seeking donation of any items suitable for raffle – gift baskets, attractive rock or mineral samples, gems or gemstones, jewelry, 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 at the following address to arrive before the December meeting date, or call to arrange pick-up of donated items if you are in the Reno-Sparks-Carson City area.

D.D. LaPointe

GSN Educational Committee Co-Chair and
GSN Foundation Trustee
Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology/MS178
University of Nevada, Reno
Reno, NV, 89557-0088

Phone: (775)784-6691, ext.134, FAX: (775)784-1709
e-mail: dlapointe@unr.edu

Thank you!

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCT. 8th, Wed. – WINNEMUCCA CHAPTER MEETING: Humboldt Room, Red Lion Hotel and Casino, Winnemucca, NV. Speaker: Chris Pratt, "Nevada Epithermal Vein Systems." Refreshments start at 6:30 pm and the meeting starts at 7:00 pm. Contact Fred Breit 775/635-4704 (days) or Fred Holzel 775/-625-4658 (evenings).

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OCT. 24th-26th – GSN FALL FIELD TRIP: Regional Geology and Gold Deposits of the Silver Peak Area. Mineralization Hosted by Metamorphic Core Complexes. Sign-up form on page 2.

NOV. 2nd-5th – GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA'S ANNUAL MEETING & EXPOSITION: Seattle, WA. Brenda Martinez at 303/357-1038 or bmartinez@geosociety.org.

DEC. 1st-5th – NORTHWEST MINING ASSOCIATION'S 109th ANNUAL MEETING: Exposition and Short Courses. Red Lion Hotel at the Park, Spokane, WA. For more information contact Pat Nelsen 509/614-1158 or pnelsen@nwma.org.

TBA, Thur. – SOUTHERN NEVADA CHAPTER MEETING: Room 102, Lily Fong Geoscience Building, UNLV, Las Vegas, NV. Speaker and topic to be announced. Social with food and drink at 5:30 pm; talk at 6:30 pm. Contact Melissa Hicks at 702/895-1162 or hicksm@unlv.nevada.edu.

The GSN Foundation wishes to thank the following donors:

Del Flint, Richard Nielsen and Roger Steinger

**Dues renewal month was September.
Renew today using the form on page 7.**



GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEVADA

9/03

P.O. Box 13375, Reno, NV 89507 USA

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GSN Annual Dues Are Now Due!

Please renew dues now by pulling out (or printing) the membership form and mail it in with your payment to GSN, PO Box 13375, Reno, NV 89507. If you are paying with Visa or MasterCard, you can fax the form to 775/323-3599 or call Shannon Fitzpatrick at 323-3500 to renew over the phone.

Please read the form completely and make any necessary changes to addresses, position, company, etc. and especially email changes. We are offering a number of different options for the new dues period. Please select the proper one for you.

If you want to receive GSN email announcements, you must check the box on the renewal form. If you had it checked last year, then GSN will continue to email you the announcements. These emails can be anything from a job opening to upcoming events to special notices from other members.

Please remember the GSN Foundation when you are renewing. Foundation dollars are used for the Kindergarten through 12th grade Field Trip Grant Program, Nevada Mapping Grants and University of Nevada scholarships.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEVADA

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Date _____

NAME: _____ POSITION/TITLE _____

CONSULTANT COMPANY NAME: _____

STUDENT UNIVERSITY: _____

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CITY: _____ STATE/PROVINCE: _____

ZIP: _____ - _____ COUNTRY: _____

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(Donated funds will be used for unrestricted grants and scholarships unless otherwise specified _____.)

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Return with payment to: Geological Society of Nevada, P.O. Box 13375, Reno, NV 89507

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2003 EARTH SCIENCE WEEK FIELD TRIP

October 18 or 19, 2003

“Get Out, Stay Out, and Stay Alive!”

In celebration of National Earth Science Week, Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology (NBMG), is once again organizing a free public field trip, and we would like the help of GSN members to come along and help tell people about the geology on the trip. The trip is designed to encourage people to get out into the backcountry surrounding the Reno-Sparks area to explore and appreciate both our rich geologic history and our mining heritage, while at the same time educating people to “Stay Out and Stay Alive” when it comes to abandoned mine workings. We will highlight the Nevada Division of Minerals’ “Stay Out and Stay Alive” Abandoned Mine Lands (AML) program with a visit to some secured AML sites in the Pyramid Mining District north of Reno. We will also visit a fossil leaf site near Mullen Pass, and collect pyrite and enargite from the mine dumps up Perry Canyon. The same field trip will be offered on two successive days, Saturday, Oct. 18, and Sunday, Oct. 19; choose the date that best fits your schedule. We drive our own vehicles, carpooling as much as possible to cut down on the number of vehicles. Find a detailed field trip description and sign-up by following the links on our website at <http://www.nbmge.unr.edu>.

The detailed road log for the trip will be available on the website in October in case you want to preview it. No special preparation is required – your basic geologic knowledge in any area is all you need to help people in simple identification of rocks, fossils, minerals, and landforms. This is a great opportunity to educate the public about the importance of geology and the minerals industry in an informal field setting.

NORTHWEST MINING ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

December 1-5, 2003

Check out the great program featuring gold and silver, grades and tons, copper & zinc, growth companies & investor opportunities, technological innovations, industrial minerals, reclamation success stories and much, much more. In addition, there are 3 great short courses that will be held at the end of the convention (No Thanksgiving weekend travel!).

This year’s Convention will be held at the Red Lion at the Park (formerly Cavanaugh’s or the Westcoast Grand at the Park). This will enable us to serve you better with more exhibit space and larger meeting rooms

The brochure, program, exhibitor information and registration forms are available on our website at <http://nwma.org/>
New this year is On Line Registration. Check it out and register today! See you in December.