



AGS NEWSLETTER

ARIZONA GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC., TUCSON, ARIZONA

September 2009

September 1, 2009 DINNER MEETING

Uranium Since the Middle Ages and the Atomic Legacy of the West

Tom Zoellner, Author of *Uranium* and *The Heartless Stone*

Praise for Uranium

"Who knew that a rock could be so endlessly fascinating? In this engaging geo-thriller, Tom Zoellner leads us through uranium's dark and colorful past and points us to its possibly terrifying future. Put on your haz-mat suit and prepare yourself for a wild and ultimately sobering ride."

—Hampton Sides, bestselling author of *Ghost Soldiers*, and winner of the PEN award for nonfiction

Tom Zoellner has written a stunning book about he calls the "apocalyptic pull of uranium." His reportage reads like a detective story with a cast of characters ranging from H.G. Wells to Robert Oppenheimer to A. Q. Khan. His writing is at once lyrical, historically informative and deeply investigative. Zoellner's engrossing history of uranium is a formidable achievement."

—Kai Bird, co-author of *American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer*, and winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Biography in 2006

"There may be nothing on this Earth that more powerfully symbolizes human hope and dread than the 'unstable element' known as uranium. Tom Zoellner has spun the curious, epoch-defining story of this yellow dirt into journalistic gold."

—Tom Vanderbilt, author of *Traffic* and *Survival City*

"A riveting journey into perilous terrain."

—*Booklist*

"Zoellner possesses the gift of making complex science clear, while weaving the saga of the historically unwanted rock into a compelling narrative."

—*Christian Science Monitor*

"In this fine piece of journalism, Zoellner does for uranium what he did for diamonds in *The Heartless Stone*—he delves into the complex science, politics and history of this radioactive mineral, which presents the best and worst of mankind."

—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

"A cogent, fascinating investigation of one powerful rock that offers a clear explanation of the current state of nuclear weapons and nuclear energy, readable for even those who would prefer not to dwell on the matter."

—*New West magazine*

"This multi-faceted investigation of uranium sheds light on the rock in new and interesting ways, but doesn't shy away from the controversy that surrounds it."

—*Santa Fe Reporter*

"One long, cool look at the history of uranium."

—*Salt Lake Tribune*

Antigone Books will have copies of *Uranium* available to purchase at the AGS dinner meeting and Tom Zoellner will be signing copies.

September Dinner Meeting — Sheraton Four Points, The Ball Room, 1900 E. Speedway

(DINNER SALAD, NO-SALT, AND VEGETARIAN/VEGAN MEALS ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.)

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED. PLEASE CALL 520-663-5295 BEFORE AUGUST 28, 2009, OR MAKE YOUR RESERVATION ON LINE AT THE AGS WEB SITE UNTIL MIDNIGHT, AUGUST 30, 2009.

Cash Bar @ 6 pm

Dinner @ 7 pm

Talk @ 8 pm

Cost: Members \$24, Guests \$27, Students \$10

A N N O U N C E M E N T S

AGS Membership

As of mid August 2009, AGS has 346 members, three of whom are Geological Societies.

DINNER SALAD

The Four Points by Sheraton is now offering AGS members the choice of a large dinner salad with beverages, rolls and dessert for \$18. Low-salt, vegetarian and vegan meals also are available for the regular price. Please request a special meal when making your dinner reservation.

Administrative and fiduciary actions taken on behalf of membership: August 2008 to July 2009

The following Actions were authorized by unanimous vote of the AGS Executive Committee between August 2008 and July 2009. Actions were taken only during the months listed.

August 2008:

- Moved AGS investments from Wachovia to H&R Block Financial Advisors, upon recommendation by the Investment Committee.
- Revised the AGS Investment Policy.

September 2008:

- Appointed Charles Miller to replace Gordon Wieduwilt on the Investment Committee.

January 2009:

- Appointed Ted Eyde to replace Don Hammer on the Investment Committee.
- Accepted the 2009 budget presented by the Treasurer, as reviewed and revised.

February 2009:

- Authorized Greta Orris, Web Master, to contract with Anchor Wave for designing and hosting the AGS web site.

March 2008:

- Priced the Digest 22 at \$75 plus shipping and handling, and provided a \$20 refund voucher to those in the U.S. who purchased the digest at the O&O Symposium for \$95.
- Voted to make Don Hammer a life member.

May 2008:

- Established a Publication Committee and provide it with \$2,000 seed money.



In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that AGS announces the death of W. Richard Hahman on August 10, 2009, following a stroke. Many of you may not remember Dick, as he was relatively inactive in AGS in recent years due to failing health, but he will be with us a long time into the future. It was Dick who designed the AGS logo. Thanks, Dick, and rest in peace.

Summer/Fall Geo Activities

Looking for something fun to do this summer and into the fall? Here are some ideas for family and friends:

Copper Queen Underground Mine Tour. Open daily in historic Bisbee, www.queenminetour.com, \$12 for adults, \$5 for children 4-15

Morenci Copper Mine Tour. 2-hr tours through one of the world's largest open pit copper mines on Fridays and Saturdays, 8:30 am and 1pm, \$8. Call 877-646-8687 for reservations and information.

Arizona State Parks. See www.azstateparks.com for seasonal activities and fees.

Kartchner Caverns. Open daily. Reservations required for Big Room and Rotunda/Throne Room Tours. For online reservation go to www.azstateparks.com or call 520-586-2283.

Colossal Cave Mountain Park. Open daily, near Vail. www.colossalcave.com

THE SEPTEMBER MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE BALL ROOM OF THE FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON, WHICH IS IN THE CONFERENCE CENTER BEHIND THE MAIN HOTEL.

Please make your AGS dinner-meeting reservation BEFORE Friday, August 28, 2009.

Call 520-663-5295 today or go online to www.arizonageologicalsoc.org/

2010 SLATE OF AGS OFFICERS

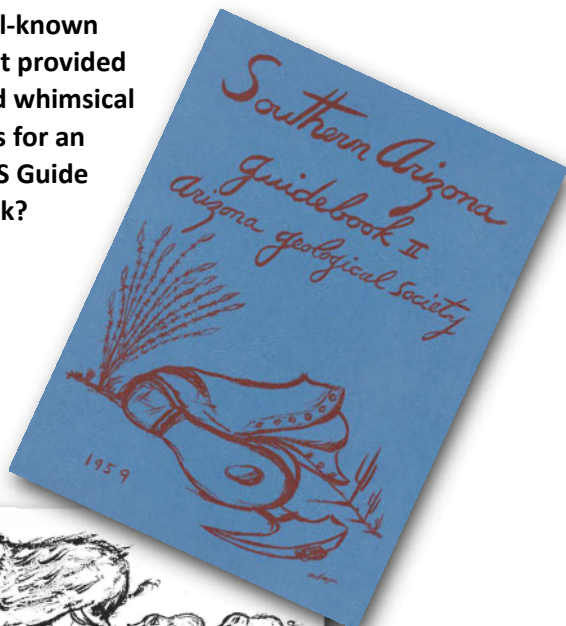
The AGS Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following slate of AGS Officers and Councilors for the 2010 calendar year:

President	Mark Cocker, U.S. Geological Survey
VP Programs	Robert J. Kamilli, U.S. Geological Survey
VP Field Trips	Doug Shakel
VP Marketing	Corolla K Hoag, SRK Consulting
Treasurer	Kris Hefton, VANE Minerals
Vice Treasurer	Coleen Brown
Secretary	Alison H. Jones, Clear Creek Associates
Vice Secretary	Greta Orris, U.S. Geological Survey
Past President	Kevin C. Horstman, Independent
Councilor 1 (10-12)	Jeff Cornoyer, Rosemont Copper
Councilor 1 (10-12)	Claudia Stone, SRK Consulting
Councilor 2 (09-11)	M. Lee Allison, AZGS
Councilor 2 (09-11)	Diana C. Kamilli
Councilor 3 (08-10)	Ann Pattison (Finance Committee rep)
Councilor 3 (08-10)	Karl Sandwell-Weiss, U.S.F.S.

Members will be asked to vote on the nominees at the September dinner meeting. Forms also are available on the AGS web site that may be used for voting by mail or fax.

A Little Bit of Trivia...

What well-known Tucson artist provided cover art and whimsical drawings for an early AGS Guide Book?



See page 4 for the answer...



—restored artwork thanks to Kevin Horstman

2009/2010 EVENTS CALENDAR

10/06/09

AGS DINNER MEETING

Fleetwood Koutz, *Geology and mineralization of the Hard-shell silver, base-metal, manganese oxide deposits, Santa Cruz County, AZ*

10/10/09

AGS FALL 2009 FIELD TRIP

RED MOUNTAIN AND HARDSHELL SILVER PROSPECT
Leader: Fleetwood Koutz

11/03/09

AGS DINNER MEETING

Leslye Obiora, UA Law Professor, formerly Minister of Solid Minerals in Nigeria: *The challenges of mining and mineral exploration in Africa*

11/13-15/09

AIPG FIELD TRIP

La Herradura Mine (NW Sonora*) and Petroglyphs (Caborca*)
Overnight in Puerto Peñasco (Rocky Point)

12/4-6/09

AGS WINTER 2009 FIELD TRIP

PINACATE VOLCANIC FIELD (NW Sonora, Mexico*)
Leader: Dan Lynch

12/01/09

AGS DINNER MEETING

Lawrence Krauss, ASU, *Topic to be announced*

01/05/10

AGS DINNER MEETING

Kenneth J. Hollett, USGS Retired, *Water: An Emerging Challenge for US Foreign Security*

02/02/10

AGS DINNER MEETING

Mike Zientek, *Topic to be announced*

Late March / Early April 2010

AGS SPRING 2010 FIELD TRIP

MOROCCO (via Frankfurt am Main, Germany).
Leader: Doug Shakel

*Passport will be required.



ARIZONA GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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AND UPCOMING EVENTS
VISIT OUR WEBSITE
www.arizonageologicalsoc.org

AGS books and maps are sold at the monthly
dinner meeting and by the
Arizona Geological Survey. Visit the
AZGS website www.azgs.state.az.us
and click on Non-AZGS Publications

Answer to A Little Bit of Trivia...

The worn boot, geology pick, and cacti shown on the cover of the 1959 Southern Arizona Guidebook II and numerous sketches of desert wildlife inside the book were by Ted DeGrazia. It's still a mystery how this came about, but the guidebook (aka AGS Digest 2, ed. L.A. Heindl) is uniquely attractive and charismatic.

You can now update personal information on line as you move, change jobs, or change your e-mail address. Visit www.arizonageologicalsoc.org and log in with your email address to get your password.

2009 AGS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL FORM

Please mail check with membership form to: Arizona Geological Society, P.O. Box 40952, Tucson, AZ 85717. Dues (circle one): 1 year: \$20; 2 years: \$35; 3 years: \$50. (Full-time students receive free membership. The newsletter is by e-mail only, and a membership application form must be returned to AGS annually to remain on the membership list.)

Name: _____

Position: _____

Company: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Street

City

State

Zip Code

Work Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Fax Number: _____ Cellular Phone: _____

E-Mail (business) _____ E-Mail (home) _____

Please send the newsletter by e-mail only ☐ by regular mail only ☐ by e-mail AND regular mail ☐

If registered geologist or engineer, indicate registration number and state: _____

If American Institute of Professional Geologists member, indicate registration number: _____

Enclosed is a _____ tax-deductible contribution to the J. Harold Courtright Scholarship Fund.