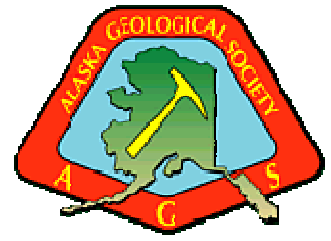


# ALASKA GEOLOGY

Newsletter of the Alaska Geological Society, Inc.



## 2008 AGS Technical Conference Oral Program: Prudhoe Discovery at 40 – A Retrospective

### Conference Organizers:

Greg Wilson

Art Banet

Peter Johnson

*This newsletter promotes the 2008 Technical Conference of the Alaska Geological Society to be held Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at the BP Energy Center, Anchorage.*

Where were you 40 years ago? If you were like many of our speakers for the 2008 AGS Technical Conference commemorating the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Prudhoe discovery, then you were quietly going about your job as an explorationist or civil servant – but making history! For better or worse, this single event changed Alaska like none other. Few Alaskans can say that the Prudhoe discovery has not had an affect on their life.

Assembled for the 2008 Technical Conference are a variety of speakers to give us a flavor for the strategic, geologic, economic, and political atmosphere that surrounded events of the 1960's and early 1970's. All are centered upon the Prudhoe discovery and how that event perpetuated its impact to this day and beyond. However humble our speakers for the conference may be, most were either actively making history or caught up in it.

Just as exciting as the oral program is the lineup of posters that will be on display. Alaska continues to give up its secrets, thanks to all the dedicated geoscientists who continue to interrogate it. A complete listing of the posters follows this page. In addition, we will hear reflections from our State Geologist, Bob Swenson, on the State of the State in geology.

Don't delay in registering. Because of constraints at the BP Energy Center venue – a facility for which we are all grateful – **we may have to impose an upper limit** on registration for the Technical Conference. As of this writing, AGS is more than halfway to that limit with about fifty registrations.

See you there!

- Greg

### Alaska Geological Tech Conference

**Date & Time:** Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

**Program:** 2008 AGS Technical Conference

**Various Speakers and Poster Authors**

**Place:** BP Energy Center

**Reservations:** Please make your reservation before noon Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008. With reservation, the payment option is cash or check at the door.

**ONLY IF** registration has not reached its maximum will there be any registration without reservations at the door on the day of the event.

Abstracts with Program & Lunch is included with registration.

<b>Cost:</b>	<b>Members:</b>	\$25
	<b>Nonmembers:</b>	\$30
	<b>Student Members:</b>	Free
	<b>Student Nonmembers:</b>	\$5*
	(*note – student membership is \$5!!)	

**E-mail reservations:** [peterags@acsalaska.net](mailto:peterags@acsalaska.net)  
Or phone (907) 334-5329

**For more information: visit the AGS website:**

[www.alaskageology.org](http://www.alaskageology.org)

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**8:00 a.m.** Doors open for registration and poster setup.

**9:00 a.m.** Opening Remarks and **Oral Program**, including:

**Tom Marshall, Jr.**

Early North Slope Statehood Lands Selection

**Charles G. "Gil" Mull**

The Road to Prudhoe Bay: Geological Exploration of the Alaskan North Slope, 1900 – 1968

**H. C. "Harry" Jameson**

(by correspondence) – Prudhoe Bay Discovery! Forty-Year Memories

**Break**

**John Sweet**

The Prudhoe Discovery; A Perspective from the ARCO District Explorationist

**Harold Heinze**

Anomalous Bid & Behavior Patterns in the Great Alaskan Lease Sale, Including Personal Reflections of a Young Petroleum Engineer

**Lunch**

**Robert Swenson, State Geologist**

Anything (and everything) but Prudhoe!

**BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc.**

Prudhoe Today

**Scott Goldsmith**

Imagining Prudhoe Bay's Economic Impact to Alaska

**From the conclusion of the oral program until 5:00 p.m. is reserved for informal discussion with poster authors.**

Paleozoic-Triassic Biogeographic Affinities of Fossil Biota from the Arctic Alaska Plate Indicate an Origin from Siberia (rather than from the Canadian Arctic Islands) - *Robert Blodgett and James Clough*

Paleogeography of the Devonian Woodchopper Volcanics, Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve, East Central Alaska – *Robert B. Blodgett, David M. Rohr and Douglas Beckstead*

Active Faults In or Near the proposed Trans-Alaska Gas Pipeline Corridor, East-central Alaska - *Gary Carver, Sean Bemis, Diane Solie, Kyle Obermiller, Ray Weldon*

What's HAPpening with Clean-Burning, Low-Sulfur coals of Arctic Alaska - *James Clough, Ronald Affolter, Gary Stricker and Ema Ziatkina*

Detailed Permeability Characterization of the Schrader Bluffs Sands – *Aditya U. Deshpande and Catherine Hanks*

Determination of Bedrock Weathering Rates in the Juneau Area, Northern Southeast Alaska – *Louis Hooek, Cathy Connor and Kelly Lawrence*

Geologic Map of the Prince William Sound and Kenai Peninsula Region, Alaska – *C.P. Hults, F.H. Wilson and Nora Shew*

Pleistocene Age for Basalt Porphyry on Suemez Island, Southeast Alaska - *S.M. Karl, J.F. Baichtal, P.W. Layer, J.P. Drake and E.P. Klimasauskas*

Changing Lake Bathymetry with Deglaciation; The Mendenhall system – *Nick Korzen, Ed Knuth and Cathy Connor*

The Historical Development of Prudhoe Bay Petrophysical Models – *Shujie Liu*

Evidence for a Northern Transitional Continental Margin Flora in the Cretaceous (Campanian to Maastrichtian) Matanuska Formation, Talkeetna Mountains, Southcentral Alaska – *Sabre Reid*

Interpretation of Soil Hydrocarbon Gas Data for Assessing Thermogenic Gas Migration over the Eileen and West Sak Fault Zones, North Slope, Northern Alaska - *Sudipta Sarkar, Anupma Prakash, Paul Layer and Timothy S. Collett*

Porosity Calculator for Digital Thin Section Photomicrographs – *Sunny Remmy*  
New Geologic Map of the Kuskokwim Bay Region of Southwest Alaska – *Nora Shew, F.H. Wilson and C.P. Hults*

Preliminary Results of a Paleoenvironmental Study of Sediments from Canyon Lake, Alaska; geochemical proxies, plant macrofossils and tephra analysis – *Grant Shimer and Nancy Bigelow*

Jurassic Dinosaurs & Tordrillo/Denali Plutons in the Alaska Aleutian Batholith - *Joan Tovsen*

Detrital Zircon Ages from the Yukon-Tanana Terrane - a One Page Discussion - *Nicholas Van Wyck*

Structural Geometry and Evolution of the Central and Eastern Foothills of the Brooks Range, Northern Alaska - *Wesley K. Wallace*

*New Geologic Map of the Northern Alaska Peninsula Region of Southwest Alaska* – *F.H. Wilson, Nora Shew and C.P. Hults*

## Community Education Corner – Volunteers Needed

By Jana DaSilva Lage

The Alaska Science and Engineering Fair is celebrating the International Polar Year with Cool Science. The fair is scheduled to take place on April 11-13, 2008 at Begich Middle School in Anchorage. I am still looking for a volunteer to help me judge for the Special Award sponsored by the Alaska Geological Society on April 12<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in helping me judge this year, please send me an email at [jana.lage@asrcenergy.com](mailto:jana.lage@asrcenergy.com) or call me at 339-6452.

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**PLATE TECTONICS OF SOUTHERN ALASKA**  
**UAA Geology Seminar & Public Lecture Series**  
Wed. 4 – 5:15 pm  
BMH 104

Feb. 6 – Robert Blodgett (USGS) - *Triassic Faunas of Southern Alaska: Biogeography and Accreted Terranes*

Feb. 20 – Peter Haeussler (USGS) - *Neotectonics of Southern Alaska*

Mar. 5 – Dwight Bradley (USGS) - *Detrital Zircons and Geochronology of Terranes*

Mar. 26 – Marti Miller (USGS) - *Tectonic Setting of Late Cretaceous Gold and Mercury Metallogenesis in Southwest Alaska*

Apr. 9 – Jeanine Schmidt (USGS) - *Geophysical Illumination of Structural History of Talkeetna Mountains*

Apr. 23 – Sue Karl (USGS) - *Tectonic History of Southeast Alaska*

**PUBLIC IS INVITED – REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED**

Seminar sponsored by UAA Geological Sciences and UAA Geology Club

BMH is Beatrice McDonald Hall – behind Lake Otis School near the corner of Lake Otis and 36<sup>th</sup>/Providence Av.

Parking costs \$1/ hour – Purchase tickets at *Pay n Park* machine in the West parking lot just off Lake Otis – Look for yellow pole with green lights in center of lot – Place ticket on dashboard



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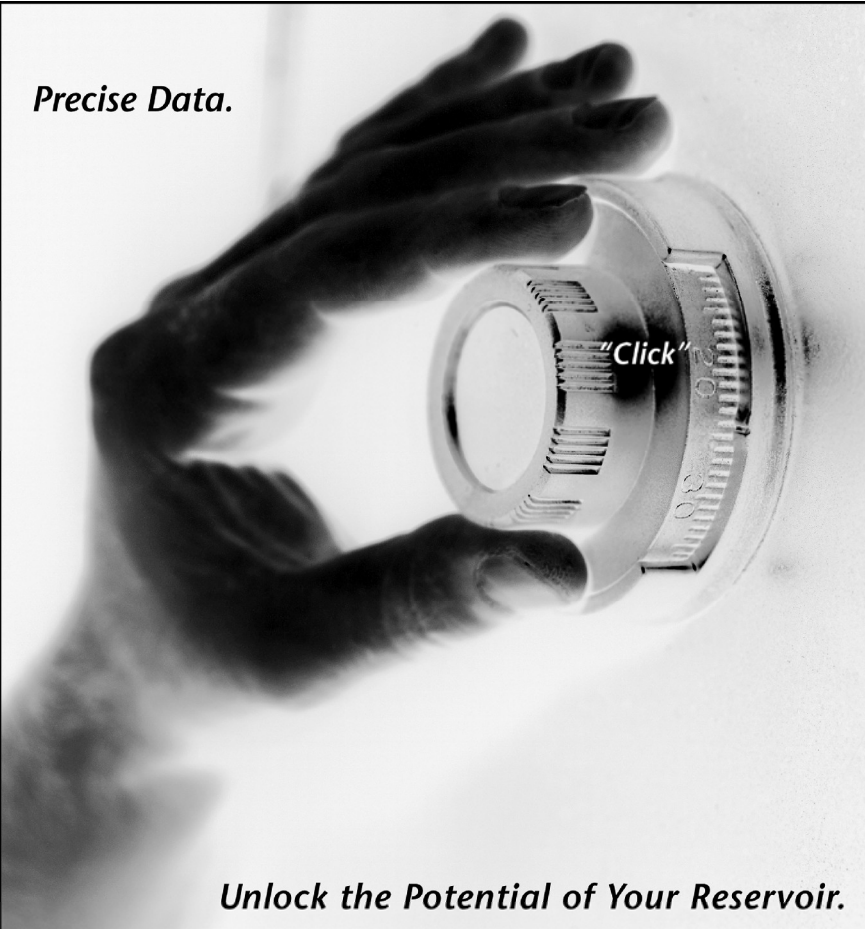
## 182 WELL NORTH SLOPE - BEAUFORT SEA BIOSTRATIGRAPHIC DATABASE OF INTEGRATED FORAMINIFERA & PALYNOMORPH ZONE TOPS

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### The Alaska Geological Society

#### LUNCHEON SCHEDULE 2007 - 2008

Updates on the web at:  
<http://www.alaskageology.org>

- |                |                                  |  |
|----------------|----------------------------------|--|
| September 2007 | Thurs., Sept. 20 <sup>th</sup>   | Bryan Sralla<br>Hewitt Mineral Corp., Ardmore OK<br>(See abstract, this volume)  |
| October 2007   | Thursday, Oct. 25 <sup>th</sup>  | Kirk Johnson<br>Denver Museum of Nature & Science<br>(AAPG Distinguished Lecturer)<br>Crocodiles in Greenland and Hippos<br>In London: A Fossil-Fueled Tour<br>of Past and Future Climates |
| November 2007  | Thursday, Nov. 15 <sup>th</sup>  | Robert Hunter,<br>Results from Milne Point Gas Hydrate<br>Test Well.   |
| December 2007  | Thursday, Dec. 13 <sup>th</sup>  | Naresh Kumak &<br>Menno Dinkelman: Stratigraphic and<br>Tectonic Framework of the US<br>Chukchi Shelf: Insights from 9-km<br>Long-Offset Arctic SPANTM 2-D<br>Seismic Data.                |
| January 2008   | Thursday, Jan. 17 <sup>th</sup>  | Dwight Bradley,<br>USGS, Detrital Zircon in Alaska   |
| February 2008  | Thursday, Feb. 21 <sup>st</sup>  | Tom Hamilton,<br>Consultant, Glaciation of the Pebble<br>Project Area, SW AK   |
| March 2008     | Thursday, March 20 <sup>th</sup> | Marti Miller,<br>USGS, Tectonics of Gold<br>Mineralization in the Kuskokwim Basin  |
| April 2008     |                                  | AGS Tech Conference, Anchorage   |
| May 2008       |                                  | Jerry Siok, BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc  |

Please contact Peter Johnson (Peter.Johnson at mms.gov), Program Chair, if you have suggestions for luncheon talks on the open dates.



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## ALASKA GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY 2008 SCHOLARSHIPS

AGS Scholarship recipients will receive their awards at the April 2008 AGS Technical Conference.

If you have any questions, please contact Micaela Weeks ([micaela.weeks@bp.com](mailto:micaela.weeks@bp.com), 907-564-5635).



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  - *Well locations*

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**The Alaska Geological Society, Inc.  
P.O. Box 101288  
Anchorage AK 99510**

**On the web at:**

**<http://www.alaskageology.org>**

The Alaska Geological Society is an organization which seeks to promote interest in and understanding of Geology and the related Earth Sciences, and to provide a common organization for those individuals interested in geology and the related Earth Sciences.

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#### EDITOR

Greg Wilson

ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc.,

P.O. Box 100360

Anchorage AK 99510-0360

e-mail: [Gregory.c.wilson@conocophillips.com](mailto:Gregory.c.wilson@conocophillips.com)

(907) 263-4748 (office)

#### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

AGS annual memberships expire November 1. The annual membership fee is \$15/year. You may download a membership application from the AGS website and return it at a luncheon meeting, or mail it to the address above.

[http://www.alaskageology.org/membership/memb\\_app.txt](http://www.alaskageology.org/membership/memb_app.txt)

Contact membership coordinator Mark Olson with changes or updates (e-mail: [mark.a.olson@conocophillips.com](mailto:mark.a.olson@conocophillips.com); phone: 907-263-4250)

All AGS publications are now available for on-line purchase on our website. Check to see the complete catalogue.

<http://www.alaskageology.org/publications/>

#### ADVERTISING RATES

Advertisements may be purchased at the following rates:

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Contact Tim Ryherd (907) 269-8771 for advertising information.

Meeting Information:

These links were all active as of 03/08/08. Please send updates to the editor: Greg Wilson 263-4748, or e-mail to Gregory.c.wilson at conocophillips.com

The **American Geological Institute** provides a comprehensive list of national and international geoscience meetings at: <http://calendar.agiweb.org>

**Local Meetings:**

**American Water Resources Association—Alaska Section**

<http://www.awra.org/state/alaska/index.html>

**Alaska Geological Society**

<http://www.alaskageology.org>

Lunch meetings are held monthly September through May in Anchorage. For more information, contact Art Banet, 334-5316.

**Alaska Miners Association**

<http://www.alaskaminers.org/>

The Anchorage branch of the AMA holds weekly meetings at 7 AM every Friday at the Denny's on Northern Lights and Denali. They hold regular luncheon meetings in association with SME. For more information, contact the AMA office at 563-9229.

**American Institute of Professional Geologists**

<http://www.aipg.org>

AIPG holds regular quarterly evening Section meetings in Anchorage and Fairbanks. For more information contact Nino Muniz, President, at Oasis Environmental, 264-4880.

**Chugach Gem & Mineral Society**

<http://www.chugachgms.org>

CG&MS holds all meetings at the First United Methodist Church on 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Contact their hotline at 566-3403 for information on regular monthly business meetings, monthly potlucks, and guidebook sales, including the new Alaska Rockhound Guidebook.

**Geophysical Society of Alaska**

<http://gsa.seg.org/>

Luncheon meetings are held monthly September through May at the ConocoPhillips Tower. For more information, contact Monte Mabry, 265-1653

**Society of Petroleum Engineers**

<http://alaska.spe.org/>

For more information, contact Jack Hartz at 375-8239.

**UAS Environmental Science Program**

<http://www.uas.alaska.edu/envs>

**National Association of Geology Teachers (NAGT)**

<http://www.nagt.org/>

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## **From the President's Desk ....**

### *Looking at the Discovery of Oil at Prudhoe Bay; 40 Years Ago*

It was a dark and stormy night.... (Please bear with me). All great epics begin with a catchy phrase or two and the quest for that which is Prudhoe Bay is no different. Pretty much everyone agrees that there's a lot of dark during North Slope drilling seasons and storms are a way of life there. But the story of the Prudhoe Bay discovery has many more interesting and sublime facets.

Our AGS Spring Technical Conference, April 17<sup>th</sup>, commemorates the Prudhoe Bay oil discovery. Our speakers program will address how Prudhoe happened. It's a story that includes how the Prudhoe acreage became part of the State of Alaska's selection and was available for exploration. We will hear different views about how and where and why North Slope exploration began and evolved through successes and failures. We will also be entertained with not only the geologic and engineering aspects of

exploration, but also some of the perspectives from management and how they wrestled with expending large sums of money to operate in our comparatively cold and remote location when oil was about \$3.30/barrel (almost \$19.00/bbl in today's \$\$) in a world which was geo-politically a lot different than it is today. And if all of this isn't enough we will also be asked to consider how the Prudhoe discovery has and continues to shape the economic landscape of Alaska.

But wait! There is more than Prudhoe Bay. We will hear of the State of Alaska's more recent promotions. In addition, Posters from the University of Alaska, USGS, industry, consultants and others will bring us up to date on what else is currently going on in Alaskan geology today. AGS hopes you will attend, enjoy the Conference and acknowledge our generous contributors who help to make this possible.

- Art

## 2006 - 2007 Alaska Geological Society Board

Note: e-mail addresses now contain "at" instead of "@" Please change to @ when typing.

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