President’s Message

Dear Members:

Wow, time flies. It seems like only yesterday that we held our annual meeting. I don’t know about you, but “busy” is the only way to describe the last number of months. WGWA activities included. For the last few months, the Fall Field Trip Committee has been burning the midnight oil putting together the Field Trip. The Committee has taken input from all corners of the membership and formulated a Field Trip/Symposium structure that will exceed all expectations.

The Field Trip will cover the Driftless Region of southwestern Wisconsin on Friday and Saturday, October 5 and 6, 2007. We’ll spend time on both sides of the Mississippi River and expect colleagues from Illinois, Iowa, and Minnesota to join our group as we explore this remarkable area. If you would like to get involved, contact Lee Trotta, President-Elect and offer your help. Many hands make light work. I hope you plan on attending the Field Trip. This will surely be one not to miss.

In the late afternoon and evening Friday October 5, 2007; we will also convene a technical symposium. We have named it “The Upper Mississippi Valley Trout Symposium” with the theme “Influence of Ground-Water Discharge on Coldwater Trout Streams”. Most of you know that the Driftless Region is home to world-class trout fishing due in large part to natural ground water discharge that fills these streams with nutrient-rich water, ideal for inland trout. Whether a fisherperson or not, this is one of the true treasures of Wisconsin and the Driftless Region. We’ll have speakers and poster sessions from experts related to this wonderful resource that I know you will enjoy. We’re still accepting speakers and posters so visit the web site (www.wgwa.org and click on the “EVENTS” button on the left ) or call Lee Trotta or me to discuss.

Come and join us on the field trip and participate in the symposium. It will be casual with plenty of opportunities to meet old friends, make new ones, and meet some experts along the way.

And don’t forget to thank the folks who made it all possible.

P.S. Planning for the 2008 Annual Meeting has started. If you would like to help or provide input, give me a call.

Michael S. Raimonde
President of the Wisconsin Ground Water Association

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Climate Change and Water Supply – The Fall 2006 Meeting of the American Geophysical Union included a session focused on the effects of global climate change on aquifers and other water sources – particularly in Western North America. The abstracts of these talks can be viewed at the following website. http://www.agu.org/meetings/fm06/fm06-sessions/fm06_GC32A.html

Will We Need New Watches? - What if Global Warming resulted in a redistribution of the water on the planet? What happens then? A new study predicts it will happen and what the results will be. http://www.world-science.net/othernews/070507_warming-day.htm

New view on Old Life - So you thought you knew all there was to know about water, oceans, and species diversity! Well where do you think living species evolved from? Certainly not the deep abyss, right? http://www.world-science.net/othernews/070516_antarctic.htm
Need Suggestions on Expanding WGWA’s Profile

The principal focus of the Wisconsin Ground Water Association is to further the education of its membership and the general public in issues related to groundwater. To that end, the WGWA Board is requesting suggestions from the membership on other groups that WGWA might interact with or meetings WGWA might take part in. Such groups and meetings should be educational or technical in nature, while avoiding specific political advocacy. Please provide any suggestions WGWA President Mike Raimonde at 262.909.8316.

WGWA Announces 2007 Fall Field Trip

WGWA will be holding its Annual Field Trip on Friday and Saturday, October 5-6, 2007, in conjunction with the Iowa Ground Water Association. The trip will provide a good look at the driftless area of Wisconsin and Iowa. The field trip will include features and stops focusing on a wide variety of aspects of the geology and hydrogeology of this area which includes well exposed Paleozoic geology, historical lead-zinc mining, caves, and the potential impacts of ethanol plants and feedlots on groundwater supplies. The trip will feature additional stops of unique interest and of course some scenic stops. The first day of trip will focus on stops in northeastern Iowa. The second day will focus on stops in southwestern Wisconsin. Headquarters will be at Grand Harbour Hotel in Dubuque, Iowa. The trip itinerary is located on the web page. <<MORE>>

This year’s event includes a special feature: a symposium which will be held for both trout lovers and for people interested in the interplay between groundwater and wildlife habitat. The symposium will cap the first day of the field trip and will be held at the Grand River Center adjacent to the Grand Harbour Hotel in Dubuque. Keynote Speaker, Bill Pliesticker of Trout Unlimited, will focus on topics relevant to the effect of groundwater on the coldwater streams that provide habitat for trout. <<MORE>>

A Tale of Two Dams: Hydrogeology and Dam Failures

By Troy Thompson

Editor’s Note: This article is the fourth and final in a series of four that review the role that groundwater can play in various geological hazards and catastrophic events that have occurred, and may occur again.

Dams -- Probably no structure built by man can have a more devastating impact when it fails to perform as designed. Some of the worst disasters in history have been the result of dam failures. The 1889 Johnstown flood was the result of a dam failure. With a death toll of 2,209 it is one of the most deadly disasters in U.S. history. <<MORE>>
The Wisconsin Roots of Ground Water Hydrology

During the period 1920 to 1940, Professor Cyrus F. Tolman played an important role in the history of ground water hydrology in the United States by establishing and fostering a program of ground water hydrology at Stanford University (Remson 2002). During this same period, O.E. Meinzer, often called the Father of Ground Water Hydrology in the United States, was assembling and mentoring a team of scientists who would establish ground water hydrology as an important force within the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS).

However, we can trace the roots of ground water hydrology in the United States further back in time to Wisconsin. During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, there was a remarkable confluence of talent at the University of Wisconsin (now the University of Wisconsin-Madison), including Thomas Crowder Chamberlin, Franklin H. King, and Charles Sumner Slichter. Although none of these men likely would have identified himself as a hydrologist, each did seminal work in ground water hydrology. <<MORE>>

Conferences, Meetings, and Courses

Ground Water-Related Conferences and Meetings


Groundwater Law Conference, San Francisco, CA, June 1, 2007

International Conference on Karst Hydrogeology and Ecosystems, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY, Aug 13-15, 2007

26th Biennial Groundwater Conference and 16th Annual Meeting of GRA, Sacramento, CA, Sep 18-19, 2007

2007 WGWA Fall Field Trip and Special Symposium, Dubuque, IA, October 5-6, 2007

Ground Water-Related Courses in Midwest and Online


NGWA Webinar on Inert Gas Tracers in Ground Water, September 19, 2007, 1 p.m. EDT

NGWA Webinar on Cable Tool Drilling: Module 1, September 26, 2007; Module 2, October 24, 2007. Both will be held at 1:00PM EDT

NGWA Webinar on Ground Water Flow and Chemical Transport in Fractured Rock: From Cores to Kilometers, October 9, 2007, 1:00PM EDT

EPA Ground Water-Related On-Line Courses (free, see www.clu-in.org)

Nanotechnology - Environmental Sensors, May 31, 2007, 2:00PM-4:00PM EDT

ITRC Radiation Site Cleanup: CERCLA Requirements and Guidance, Jun 5, 2007, 2:00PM-4:15PM EDT

ITRC Protocol for Use of Five Passive Samplers, Jun 7, 2007, 11:00AM-1:15PM EDT

ITRC Risk Assessment and Risk Management: Determination and Application of Risk-Based Values, Jun 14, 2007, 11:00AM-1:15PM EDT

Ground Water Sand Model
Reservations (continued)
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Area Coordinators

We are looking for coordinators in many of the following areas. If you are interested, please contact Rebecca Caudill at rcaudill@naturalrt.com

Area Coordinators

Western Area
(LaCrosse, Black River Falls, Eau Claire, Chippewa Falls, surrounding area)
Position Open.

Southern Area
(Madison and surrounding area)
John Tweddale
Phone: 608-224-2830
jtweddale@bt2inc.com

North Central Area
(Stevens Point, Wisconsin Rapids, Wausau, Rhinelander, surrounding area)
Tod Roush
Phone: 715.845.4100

Northeast Area
(Green Bay, Appleton, Oshkosh, Fond du Lac, surrounding area)
Position Open.

Southeast Area
(Milwaukee, Sheboygan, Racine, Kenosha, surrounding area)
Michael Raimonde
Phone: 262.909.8316
mike.raimonde@m-e.com