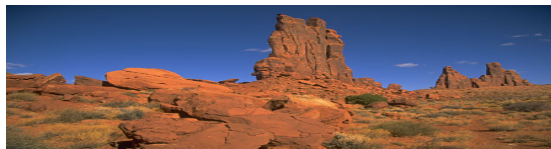




NEBOG NEWS

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State of Nebraska Board of Geologists

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Professor - Geosciences
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Message from the Board Chairman

By Terry Thonen

Over the past few months, the Nebraska Board of Geologists has been working on establishing "Geologist Intern" certification in the State of Nebraska. The goal of this effort is to help promote and further the careers of recent geology graduates. By participating in the Geologist Intern certification program, recent geology graduates can demonstrate their competency to potential employers by passing the Fundamentals of Geology (FG) examination and submitting required references. This certification is similar to the "Geologist-in-Training" status available to geologists in many other states with Professional Geologist registration. It also parallels the "Engineering Intern" status currently administered by the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects.

After passing the FG exam, and while working to gain their required five years of experience, Geologist Interns will be certified by the Nebraska Board of Geologists. Currently, the law allows for the FG to be taken once the academic requirements have been satisfied. However, the Practice of Geology (PG) exam may only be taken after gaining five years of professional experience.

The Geologist Intern status would recognize the geology graduates who have passed the FG

are currently fulfilling the experience requirements. This proposed bill language does not alter the current state law, which requires that a Professional Geologist must be in responsible charge and ultimately sign and seal geology work, especially work involving public health and safety.

In order to formalize the Geologist Intern certification program, the Nebraska Board of Geologists has prepared a draft revised Geologists' Regulation Act and is in the process of submitting it to the Nebraska legislature for the upcoming 2004 session. We ask for your support in implementing this program. Please contact your senator expressing your support for the upcoming Geologist Intern legislation.

Rules and Regulations Update

By Dick Ehrman

Since the passage of the Geologists Regulation Act in 1999, the Board has been actively working to draft and implement rules and regulations for the administration of the Act. The first draft of the rules was adopted and submitted to the Nebraska Attorney General's office in 2001, but was not approved, mainly because of discrepancies between the proposed regulations and the Act (see previous issues of the Newsletter for more details). Since that time, the Board has redrafted the rules to address the Attorney General's concerns. The revised draft regulations were put on public notice, and a public hearing was held at the Board's October 2003 meeting. There was no public comment at this hearing, and the Board is now in the final stages of gathering required information for submittal to the Attorney General. This submittal will take place in early 2004. Please check future Newsletters, the Board's website, or contact the Board office directly for further information as this process continues.

Special points of interest:

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The Mountain Spirit

Walking on walking,
Under foot earth turns
Streams and mountains
never stay the same.
Walking on walking,
Under foot earth turns

ten million years ago an
ocean floor
glides like a snake beneath
the continent crunching up
old seabed till it's high as
alps.
Sandstone layers script of
winding tracks
And limestone shines like
snow
where ancient beings grow.

--The Mountain Spirit and
me
like ripples of the Cambrian
Sea
dance the pine tree
old arms, old limbs, twisting
twining
scatter cones across the
ground
stamp the root-foot DOWN
and then she's gone.

*Ceaseless wheel of lives
Red sandstone and white
dolomite*

A few more shooting stars
Back to the bedroll, sleep
till dawn.

Earth Verse

Wide enough to keep you
looking

Open enough to keep you
moving

Dry enough to keep you
honest

Prickly enough to make you
tough

Green enough to go on
living

Old enough to give you
dreams

Poetry by Gary Snyder



Meet the Board

David J. Becker

Dave Becker began his first term in October of 1999, serving as chairperson from April 2001 to April 2002. He was reappointed in April of 2002 to serve another five-year term. Mr. Becker earned a Master's degree in Geophysics from Southern Methodist University and a Bachelor of Science degree in Interdisciplinary Studies in Geology from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. A geologist with the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste Center of Expertise in Omaha, he has provided quality assurance reviews of geologic reports, and training and consultation regarding hazardous waste sites for USACE districts around the country since 1991. Mr. Becker concentrates his efforts on in-situ environmental remedies and site characterization. Before taking his current position, he was Chief of Geology Section and a project geologist with the Corps' Omaha District.

James C. Cannia

Jim Cannia began his first term when the Board originated in 1998. He served as secretary from April 2001 to April 2003 and also served on the Rules and Regulations Committee. Mr. Cannia represented the Board at the ASBOG Council of Examiners (COE) April 2003 Workshop in Lincoln, Nebraska, and also the COE October 2003 Workshop in Jacksonville, Florida. Traveling over 200 miles from Mitchell, Nebraska, to Lincoln, Nebraska, for each Board meeting, he has donated many hours of service to the Board. Mr. Cannia is employed as a District Geologist for the North Platte Nebraska Resources District. His responsibilities include District Groundwater Management Plan and groundwater model development for the western model of the Nebraska Cooperative Hydrology Study (COHYST). He obtained his Bachelor of Science Degree in Geology at the University of Wyoming. Mr. Cannia is also a committee member of the Platte River Basins Environments and a Hunter Safety Instructor.

Richard Ehrman

Dick Ehrman was appointed to the Board in October 2001. He is currently serving as vice-chairperson and has been instrumental in working on the Rules and Regulations recently submitted to the Attorney General's Office for approval. Mr. Ehrman is employed as the NRD/Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) liaison for the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts. He coordinates mutual resource issues for Nebraska's 23 Natural Resources Districts and the Nebraska Department of Environmental

Quality. His areas of emphasis include nonpoint source management and regional ground water quality management and monitoring. Mr. Ehrman has 17 years of experience working with water quality issues in Nebraska. He holds Bachelor of Science degrees in Earth Science and History from Chadron State College and a Master's degree in Geology from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He is an AIPG Certified Professional Geologist. Mr. Ehrman also serves as an adjunct Assistant Professor of Geology for Doane College at their Lincoln campus.

John (Jack) Shroder

Jack Shroder is the newest member of the Board, appointed in May 2003 as the Education Member. Dr. Shroder obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in 1961 at Union College in Missouri, a Masters Degree in 1963 at the University of Massachusetts, and a PhD in 1967 at the University of Utah. He was named a Geological Society of America Fellow in 1994, a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1992, and was presented the Distinguished Career Award from the Mountain Specialty Group and the Association of American Geographers (AAG) in 2001. For two decades, Dr. Shroder did active research in Hindu Kush and Himalaya. He presently serves as Regents Professor of Geography & Geology at UNOmaha. Much of his time is spent doing research in geomorphology as well as teaching Historical Geology and Geomorphology. Dr. Shroder also belongs to the Geological Society of America (GSA), American Geophysical Union (AGU), and the American Geological Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG).

An avid skier, Jack and his wife, Susie, enjoy visiting their home in Steamboat Springs, CO. They have three children; Sarah, Jason and Joshua and a grandchild, John.

Terrance L. Thonen

Terry Thonen was appointed in October of 1998. An original Board member, he has served as chairperson of the Board since April 2002 and served as vice-chairperson from the Board's inception to April 2001. Mr. Thonen obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and a Master's Degree in Geology in 1990 at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. Since that time, he has been employed by the URS Corporation in Omaha, Nebraska, where he works as a hydrogeologist and program manager. Mr. Thonen specializes in hazardous waste project management, CERCLA and RCRA groundwater flow and contaminant fate and transport modeling for the Department of Defense and private industry facilities nationwide.

History of the Registration of Geologists in Nebraska

By Dave Becker and N. Lindsley-Griffin



As early as the 1970s, geologists in Nebraska considered the possibility of establishing professional registration.

At that time, only a few states had geologist registration and not all geologists here felt the urgency to follow suit.

It wasn't until the early 1990s that geologists in the Nebraska Geological Society (NGS) felt the time was right to again consider advocating legislation regarding geologist registration. Several of the current and past Nebraska Board of Geologists members were part of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Registration formed in 1993 by NGS to pursue this legislation; including Dr. John Shroder, Terry Thonen, Bonner Bowden, Dr. Nan Lindsley-Griffin, and Dave Becker. Duane Eversoll and John Shroder jointly chaired the Committee during the early stages of the process.

Early in the effort, the decision was made by the NGS committee to approach the existing Engineers and Architects (E&A) Board to see if the geologists could integrate geologist registration with legislation proposed by the E&A to update their registration law. The E&A were interested in expanding their board to include other professions. The geologists, who were only very modestly funded, felt this cooperation would foster professional interaction and would share the burden of shepherding a bill through the Nebraska Legislature. Ultimately, the E&A and the geologists were joined in an effort for a combined professional registration board by the landscape architects and interior designers. Despite extensive efforts during the legislative sessions in 1995 and 1996, opposition from various quarters caused the combined registration board legislation to be abandoned.

In late 1996, members of the NGS Ad-Hoc Committee on Registration approached Senator Chris Beutler of Lincoln about sponsoring a bill specifically creating a separate Board of Geologists. The bill was introduced with a number of co-sponsors and was passed by the Natural Resources Committee for consideration by the Legislature. The bill was held over following the 1997 session. On April 1, 1998, the Nebraska Unicameral passed LB 1161 establishing the Geologist Regulation Act. This Act (Statutes 81-3501 to 81-3541) provides for the certification and licensure of professional geologists in Nebraska whose activities may affect the public health and safety. Legislation became effective January 1, 1999. The original Board members, appointed in the fall of 1998, were Dr. Nan Lindsley-Griffin (Education Member), Bonner Bowden, Terry Thonen, Joni Rhiner, Jim Cannia, Jeff Kelley, and Jan McCarty (Public Member). No funds were provided for the creation of the Board.

During 1999, the Board had to create everything from scratch, including forms, fund accounts, and a web site. The Conservation and Survey Division was instrumental in assisting the Board in getting started through providing computer services, administrative assistance, and meeting space. The legislation set a grandfather period ending December 31, 1999. Applications began being accepted in January 1999. During 1999, the Board composition changed due to resignations and transfers: Karen Jensen replaced Jan McCarty as Public Member, Mike Felix replaced Jeff Kelley, and Dave Becker replaced Joni Rhiner. By the end of December 1999, over 250 applications for registration had been received. Initially, all applications were evaluated by the Board members, but during the height of the "Grandfather" registration period, evaluation committees were set up in Omaha and Lincoln to handle the load. Other volunteers helped draw up the Board's logo and critiqued draft forms and white papers, and many people participated in brainstorming sessions at public hearings and NGS meetings. These volunteers were instrumental in helping the Board get up and running. Among this group of hard working volunteers were Dan Blankenau, George Engelmann, Jeff Gottula, John Griffin, Jon Gross, Theodore Huscher, Denny Jorgenson, Jim Kearney, Robert Mallisee, Melissa Milner, Kevin Schwartman, Michael Sonderman, and Stephen White.

In 2000, the Board approached the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects and negotiated an agreement to share resources. This includes administrative help, computer support, and meeting space. This arrangement remains in force and represents an excellent example of cooperation between agencies and professions.

Many of the Board's procedures and policies have been clarified and the work of the Board has become less hectic. Monthly meetings, held from November 1998 through 2000, have given way to quarterly meetings. The rules and regulations for the Board were drafted in 2001, and following incorporation of comments, the Board continues to work with the Attorney General's office to finalize them. After almost 10 years of work, the Board looks toward the future and is grateful for the support of many people in making registration a reality.

Promoting Professionalism

By Jim Cannia

As professional geologists we have a common goal to provide excellence in our work and to build confidence in the public. When they see your seal on your work, they can be confident of its integrity. Your Board is here to provide the standards that all geologists within Nebraska work under. Toward that end we have developed standards that will provide Nebraska and the nation with the best professionals in the field.

To be a registered geologist in Nebraska, you must have completed a curriculum of study ending in a bachelor of science or arts, with not less than 30 semester hours of geology. The applicant must have completed a group of core courses including mineralogy, petrology, structural geology, stratigraphy-sedimentology-soils, field methods, and physical geology.

These are also the basic classes from which the Fundamentals of Geology (FG) test are developed. An article on the ASBOG test in this newsletter goes into greater detail on this subject. Testing is a requirement of any person seeking registration as a Professional Geologist in Nebraska. The board is a full member of ASBOG and therefore is part of the national testing program. The test, given nationwide, is an important part of your professional status. By passing the exam you are qualifying yourself for licensure in all other states that are ASBOG members, without further examination. The majority of states that require registration are part of this organization.

The ASBOG test is a two-part test consisting of the Fundamentals of Geology (FG) section and a Practice of Geology (PG) section. As a new geologist coming out of the university, you may take the FG test as soon as you graduate.

After you have gained 5 years professional experience you may take the PG section of the test. Remember, if you do not pass the exam the first time you may retest. The experience you gain from the first test will prepare you for the second examination. Other applicants that have professional experience meeting board approval will be allowed to take test sections at the same time. If you are a professional from another state and have passed the ASBOG test or an equivalent exam approved by the board you may be registered without exam. There are three different paths to take to become a Professional Geologist in Nebraska.

As Professional Geologists, you can take pride knowing that you are promoting professionalism by being a registered Geologist in Nebraska.

Renewal Information

In October of 2003, renewal notices were sent to all licensees. Renewal licenses are valid for one year. The renewal fee is due on or before December 31, 2003. Those who have not received a renewal notice or have an address change please notify the office by email at geology@nol.org.

Those who become licensed prior to December 31 of each year will be sent a renewal notice.

How to Renew a License

- Complete and make any changes to the renewal form on or before December 31 and return with the \$55 fee made payable to the: Nebraska Board of Geologists.
- A renewal card with your expiration date and receipt is sent after payment is received.
- All renewal notices are sent out on an annual basis in October of each year.

Penalty Information

After 12/31/03, add \$5.00 for any month or any part of a month, up to \$55. After 4/1/05, a new application will be required.



Scottsbluff, Nebraska

Photo by Dr. N. Lindsley-Griffin

How are ASBOG exams put together?

Any professor will tell you that there's no such thing as a perfect exam. Although ASBOG has a test bank of questions that have accumulated over the past decade, the test bank is continually being reevaluated and improved, and the questions on individual exams are carefully critiqued. This is done by the professional psychometricians in conjunction with the Council of Examiners (COEs), composed of a representative from each state board, plus Subject Matter Experts (SMEs). All of these volunteers are registered professional geologists themselves. COEs and SMEs meet at workshops held twice a year, about a month after each national exam. Typically, some 15-20 experts will focus on each of the two exams, keeping in mind that the FG exam is testing the knowledge that a properly trained geologist with a baccalaureate degree would have, and the PG exam is testing the skills needed by the working professional after five years of experience.

The SMEs begin by taking the most recent exam in their focus area (FG or PG). After an hour or two to read and answer the questions, they go down the list and item-by-item give their answer. If all the SMEs agree on the correct answer, that's a good sign – the item is well written and clear. If the SMEs disagree on the correct answer, both the item and its key are subjected to intense scrutiny. Comments written by examinees on specific items are read to the group at this time and their concerns are addressed. If an item has two possible answers the group may decide to double-key it, or even to discard it from the exam. This is rare – but in such cases the exams are re-scored. No item that has performed poorly is ever returned to the test bank. If the SMEs feel that any item is vague, out of date, or inappropriate in the light of current professional practice, it will be revised or even discarded and replaced with one or more new items appropriate for that task. The SMEs also review items selected for the next upcoming examinations. Items are selected randomly from each of the test bank categories by the psychometricians, in percentages based on the exam blueprints developed from the task analysis study. The SMEs read each item on their focus group's draft exam critically for clarity, applicability, and correctness. Questionable items are revised or replaced before the new exam is finalized. SMEs are encouraged to bring new items to the workshop as well as to write additional items for future use. This can be a very humbling experience, because every new item (as well as every revision) must be approved by three other SMEs, each of whom is free to "improve" your original item. By the time your original write-up works its way around the table back to you, it may be unrecognizable – but it probably will be much better than you thought it was!

ASBOG and the Council of Examiners have strict guidelines concerning confidentiality, so please don't ask your Nebraska COEs and SMEs for specifics about the exams. For examples of the kinds of questions you might see on the exams, as well as other information about the exams, log on to the ASBOG web site at <http://www.asbog.org>.

A TRIBUTE TO ONE OF OUR OWN

Nebraska Licensed Professional Geologist Since February 9, 2000

John William Buffington

John William Buffington "Buff" passed away on August 23, 2003, after a two-month battle with pancreatic cancer.

John was born in Omaha, Nebraska, on October 22, 1937. He spent his childhood living in Omaha and at his grandparent's ranch in Crawford, Nebraska. He attended Benson High School in Omaha and earned a Bachelor of Science and a Master's Degree in Geology at the University of Nebraska.

In 1959, John married his high school sweetheart, Donna. They moved to New Orleans, Louisiana, where he began his oil and gas career with California Company. Three years and two children later, they moved to Denver, Colorado, with Pan American Petroleum. In 1969, John accepted a job with Davis Oil Company where he spent ten years. In 1979, with two partners, he started Four-Ten Exploration, an independent oil and gas exploration company. Swearing never to retire, John was still actively working at the time of his death. He loved life and took great pride in his family. He leaves behind his adoring wife of 44 years, four children, six grandchildren and numerous friends. His wife and daughters are still actively involved in the management of Four-Ten. A tribute to the field of geology, John set a standard of excellence for others to follow.

THE ASBOG EXAMINATIONS

By Dr. Nan Lindsley-Griffin
(Approved for publication by ASBOG)

The ASBOG (National Association of State Boards of Geology) examinations have become the national standard for evaluating professional competence for licensing or certification. Given twice annually (in October and March) on the same date and time in all ASBOG member states, the exams consist of two parts: the Fundamentals of Geology (FG) and the Practice of Geology (PG). The FG exam is designed to assess knowledge attained during the completion of the baccalaureate degree in geology, and the PG exam is designed to evaluate skills and knowledge developed during the first five years of professional geological experience. Most states require applicants to have completed the baccalaureate degree or to be within a semester of completion before attempting the FG exam. In many states the PG exam is not open to applicants until they have completed five years of experience. Some states also require an additional state-specific exam.

ASBOG member states (as of October 1, 2003) include:

Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico (Inactive), South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

**Nebraska Board of Geologists
Professional Geologist Examinations**

Plans are in progress for the March 5, 2004, Nebraska ASBOG Exam. The Association provides exams for State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) at a fee established by their Board. The exam fees on the registration form below reflect the cost from ASBOG. The reservation fee covers the proctor and other administering costs of the exams. Applications must be submitted and approved before registering for the exams. The final date to submit exam fees to the Nebraska Board is January 15, 2004, so applications need to be completed by the first week in January. Please remember all fees are non-refundable and not transferable.

Arrangements can be made to take the Nebraska exam at another state Board's examination site (e.g. Wyoming), provided they are also an ASBOG member. If you require this option or would like more information please contact us by email at geology@nol.org



ASBOG Schedule

2004

Friday, March 5, 2004
Friday, October 8, 2004

2005

Friday, March 4, 2005
Friday, October 7, 2005

Examination "site" information can be downloaded from the website at <http://www.geology.state.ne.us/board/nbg.htm>.

Fee Schedule

Application Fee		\$50.00
Licensing Fee (payable upon approval of application)		\$240.00
TOTAL		\$290.00
Other Fees		
Annual Renewal Fee		\$55.00
Expired Registration Penalty \$5 fee per month, not to exceed \$55		
Temporary Licensing Fee*		\$175.00
Emeritus Fee (lifetime fee)		\$25.00
Certificate of Authorization for Organization (2 year period)		\$100.00
Examination Fees:		
Fundamentals (FG)		\$125.00
Practice (PG)		\$150.00
Both (FG & PG)		\$275.00
Reservation Fee (For one or both tests)		\$35.00
Duplicate Certificate Fee		\$15.00
Licensee Listing		\$25.00

*A Temporary license is good for one project only, for a period of one year. An individual or company may receive a temporary license only once in each 3-year period. If you do not have an active PG license in another state, you must apply for registration in Nebraska on our regular application form.

**NEBRASKA BOARD OF GEOLOGISTS
Examination Registration Form**

(Please use one form per individual registrant. Copy as needed.)

Name _____ PG# _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ Phone _____ Fax Number: _____

Company Name _____ E-Mail _____

Mail Examination Fees to: State of Nebraska Board of Geologists
P.O. Box 94844
Lincoln, NE 68509-4844

I will take the: (Please check all that apply) * Exam fees are due on or before January 15, 2004, for March exam.**

FG Exam (8:00 – 12:00) (\$125.00) **PG Exam (1:30 – 5:00) (\$150.00)**

Reservation Fee is **\$35.00** (For one or both tests)

Please direct any questions to Sandra Weaver via email at geology@nol.org or phone at 402-471-8383.

Reciprocity and Comity - Defined

The Board spent a great deal of time discussing the issues of reciprocity and comity before coming up with our current policy [see below]. According to Webster's New World Dictionary, *reciprocity* refers to equivalent or interchangeable things; *comity* (in law) is the principle by which courts in one jurisdiction may accept decisions made under the laws and decisions of another jurisdiction. Although the concepts are similar, they are not quite the same, and even ASBOG states have not been able to agree on a uniform application of reciprocity/comity. The main reason for the difficulty is that each state's law (or province, territory) is slightly different than the others.

The Geologists Registration Act (Nebraska Statutes 81-3501 to 81-3541) lists four requirements for professional registration: 1) character; 2) B.S. degree in Geology; 3) 5 years of post-baccalaureate experience working in geology; and 4) passing scores on examinations covering the Fundamentals of Geology and the Practice of Geology. Although the Act does not specifically define either reciprocity or comity, it does state that the first three criteria...

"may be considered by the board to be fulfilled if the applicant maintains a current certificate of licensure to practice geology issued pursuant to the authority of any state or possession of the United States or the District of Columbia based on requirements that do not conflict with the Geologists Regulation Act and were of a standard not lower than that specified in the applicable licensure in effect in this state at the time the certification was issued."

In other words, we are authorized to offer reciprocity (but not comity) provided the applicant has been licensed elsewhere on the same basis as Nebraska registrants, AND HAS TAKEN THE ASBOG EXAMS OR THEIR EQUIVALENT.

Reciprocity Policy

The Board's position is that reciprocity will be granted if the applicant for reciprocity meets the following requirements listed below:

TO APPLY FOR A PG LICENSE:

1. Must have a current geologist registration or license in good standing in another state. (Contact your local state board of registration and ask them to send a "verification of your registration" and good standing to the address below).
2. Submit a completed application form with a \$50.00 application fee to the Nebraska Board of Geologists. (Transcripts or letters of reference are not required at this time if in good standing).
3. Must have passed the ASBOG examinations Fundamentals of Geology and Practice of Geology, or their equivalent. (The Board

may waive the requirement for passing the ASBOG examinations or equivalent, if the applicant has continuously held a geologist registration or licensure in good standing since December 31, 1991. Such applicants may be asked to submit additional material, including transcript or letters of reference.)

4. Meet the Nebraska statutory education requirement: Have "...a minimum of thirty semester hours or forty-five quarter hours of course work in geology and have received a baccalaureate or advanced degree in geology or a geologic specialty...."

5. Meet the Nebraska statutory requirements for experience: "...a documented record of a minimum of five years of progressive experience, obtained subsequent to completion of the education requirements, in geologic work of a grade and character which indicates to the board that the applicant is qualified to assume responsible charge of such work upon licensure as a geologist."

An application packet and verification form may be downloaded from our website. <http://www.geology.state.ne.us/board/app.htm>.

Complaints

By Jim Cannia

The Nebraska State Board of Geologists exists to protect the public health and safety of the people of Nebraska. This citation from the law outlines the responsibility of the board:

81-3502. Geology; regulation; prohibited acts. In order to safeguard life, health, and property and to promote the public welfare, the profession of geology is declared to be subject to regulation in the public interest. It is unlawful for any person to (1) practice or offer to practice geology in this state, (2) use in connection with his or her name or otherwise assume the title professional geologist, or (3) advertise any title or description tending to convey the impression that he or she is a licensed geologist; unless the person is duly licensed or exempt from licensure under the Geologists Regulation Act. The practice of geology and use of the title geologist is a privilege granted by the state.

In the few years we have been active as a Board, several complaints have been investigated. Mainly, these complaints involve unlicensed individuals allegedly practicing without a license or advertising themselves as a geologist. All cases brought before the board are investigated as quickly as time permits. As of this date, only one investigation has resulted in a warning letter to the offending party.

Please take note that the board will act quickly to investigate all complaints presented. As professional geologists, we all have a duty to be aware that people practicing outside the law are subject to having a complaint filed against them and possible action taken by the Board. The Board is your vehicle to protect your profession. Allowing people to violate the law weakens us all.

LICENSURE UPDATES

August 1, 2002 through August 1, 2003

Corey S. Anderson; Omaha, NE; **5/15/2003**

Suzanne E. Bailey; Overland Park, KS; **4/18/2003**

Dustin J. Cruikshank; Valley, NE; **1/06/2003**

Maurice A. Gilbert; Omaha, NE; **2/04/2003**

Steve B. Kelly; Oklahoma City, OK; **1/30/2003**

Xiaodan Song; New Orleans, LA; **1/02/2003**

Derek W. Ryter; Lincoln, NE; **7/22/2003**

Catherine M. Woehr; Creve Coeur, MO; **4/30/2003**

James D. Wonder; Indianola, IA; **1/02/2003**



**Congratulations to those that passed the
March 2003 and/or October 2003 ASBOG Exams!**

Fundamentals of Geology Examination

Corey S. Anderson, Omaha, NE
Michael R. Daugherty, Fremont, NE
Richard L. Hahler, Omaha, NE (Intern)
Derek W. Ryter, Lincoln, NE
Dawn R. Stock, Omaha, NE
John J. Wyciskalla, Des Moines, IA

Practice of Geology Examination

Corey S. Anderson, Omaha, NE
Michael R. Daugherty, Fremont, NE
Derek W. Ryter, Lincoln, NE
Dawn R. Stock, Omaha, NE
John J. Wyciskalla, Des Moines, IA



Wildcat Hills of the Nebraska Panhandle
Photo by Dr. N. Lindsley-Griffin

WHO SHOULD BE REGISTERED IN THE STATE OF NEBRASKA?

THE GEOLOGISTS REGULATION ACT [81-3501 through 81-3541]

Purpose: to safeguard life, health, and property and to promote the public welfare through the regulation of the profession of geology.

Board of Geologists: established to oversee the registration and licensing of professional geologists for the state of Nebraska, and to enforce the Geologist Regulation Act. In general, if you are a geologist whose work is in areas affecting public health and safety, you should be registered. Examples include, but are not limited to, geologists working in environmental geology, engineering geology, and hydrogeology.

A Geologist is a person who is qualified to practice geology by reason of special knowledge and use of the earth sciences and the principles of geology and geologic data collection and analysis acquired by geologic education and geologic experience.

Geology means the science which includes treatment of the earth and its origin and history, in general: investigation of the earth's constituent rocks, soils, minerals, solids, fluids including underground waters, gases, and other materials; the study of the natural agents, forces, and processes which cause changes in the earth or on its surface; and the application of this knowledge of the earth.

The Practice of Geology means "any service or creative work if the adequate performance of the service or work requires geologic education, training, and experience to include such services or creative work as geological consultation, investigation, planning, surveying, mapping, and inspection of geological work, and the responsible supervision thereof, the performance of which is related to public welfare or the safeguarding of life, health, property, and the environment and teaching, including research and service, of advanced geological subjects." [81-3515]

Nebraska Licenses Not Renewed for 2003

Richard J. Newill, CO ■ Raymond R. Burchett, AZ
Grant Ming Yang, WA ■ Rick O. Horner, KS

Nebraska Licenses Lapsed on 4/1/2003

Eric E. Swanson, CO