

Everglades Geological Society
BULLETIN

Volume 11, Number 1

November 2004

Meeting This Month: November 16, 2004
6:00 P.M. at Holiday Inn (Downtown Fort Myers)
2220 West First Street
(social hour starts at approximately 5:00)

Speaker: Frank Rupert
Florida Geological Survey

Topic: Diagnostic Fossils in Florida Stratigraphy

Meeting Sponsored by:  Diversified Drilling Corporation

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| 2 | Announcements/Speaker List |
| 3 | President's Message |
| 4 | This Month's Speaker |
| 5 | Ode to the Geologist |
| 6 | Map to Holiday Inn |
| 7 | Advertisers |

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The Everglades 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. The Bulletin is a publication of the Everglades Geological Society, Inc.

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EGS MEETING THIS MONTH

TUESDAY

November 16, 2004

Holiday Inn (Downtown Fort Myers)
2200 West First Street, Fort Myers
(please see map on page 6)

Members and Prospective Members Come Join Us!!

Thanks to Mike Weinberg for lining up the following guest speakers:

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>SPEAKER</u> | <u>TOPIC</u> |
|-------------|----------------------|--|
| 11/16/04 | Frank Rupert (FGS) | Diagnostic Fossils in Florida Stratigraphy |
| 1/18/05 | Bob Healy (USGS) | To Be Announced |
| 3/15/05 | Joe Haberfeld (FDEP) | To Be Announced |
| 5/17/05 | To Be Announced | To Be Announced |





President's Message

by
Gordon Kennedy

Dear EGS Members

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the 2004/2005 season of the Everglades Geological Society. We have a great group of speakers lined up for this, our 10th Anniversary year, and we are meeting at a new location that promises to be more conducive to the goals and objectives of the organization.

In spite of threatening hurricane activity and no official meeting site, the September EGS meeting was held at Joe's Crab Shack. At the meeting ballots for this year's offices were counted in the old fashioned way. No touch screens, no hanging chads, and no attorneys (or filmmakers) on hand to make sure there were no voting irregularities. This year's officers include: myself (President), Mike Weinberg (Vice-President), Curtis Klug (Secretary/Treasurer), Karen Cheney (Director), Duane Dungan (Director), and David Hoffman (Editor).

We all owe a debt of thanks to the current Past President, Terry Bengtsson, who did an outstanding job last season. I would also like to thank all of the speakers from last season: Yale Zheng, Don Lindeman, Gene Shinn, Jack Kindinger, and Tom Missimer. If you attended, you know that the talks provided new and thought provoking topics from some of the best in their fields. If you

did not attend, you really missed some good lectures, and we hope to see you this year.

Mike Weinberg has lined up an exciting group of speakers, starting with Frank Rupert on November 16th. Frank is a Research Geologist with the Florida Geological Survey. Although Frank provided a rather modest biographical sketch, he is one of the most prolific geologists at the Survey, having authored or co-authored nearly 50 publications. He is one of the select group of geologists to co-author the new Geologic Map of the State of Florida (Map Series #146). Frank has also been instrumental in educating the general public about geology and paleontology with his Fossil Hunter's Guide series (Open File Reports 63, 65, 66 and 67).

Frank's talk next Tuesday will be on Diagnostic Fossils in Florida Stratigraphy. It promises to be a "hands-on" demonstration, and it will be a good opportunity to have any questions about Florida's fossils and biostratigraphy answered. Also, no telling what he may bring along from the basement of the FGS.....

Please keep in mind that the November meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn on First Street in downtown Fort Myers. The meeting room is adjacent to the old "Shooter's Bar" on the Caloosahatchee River, so we will be meeting at the Tiki Hut bar for drinks prior to the meeting from 5:00 to 6:00 PM. The meeting will start at 6:00 PM.

The November meeting is being sponsored by Diversified Drilling Company. We would like to thank Diversified Drilling for providing a generous contribution to EGS to help defray the meeting room and speaker costs. We look forward to seeing all of you, along with some new faces this year. Please join us and help make this 10th anniversary year the best one yet.

Diagnostic Fossils in Florida Stratigraphy

Frank Rupert, Florida Geological Survey

Many of Florida's stratigraphic units were originally defined in a large part on the basis of their fossil faunas, primarily foraminifera, echinoids, and mollusks. Today the Code of Stratigraphic Nomenclature effectively prohibits this convention, now utilizing lithologic similarity as the fundamental unit. Nevertheless, a number of invertebrate fossil species still serve as useful index fossils to identify Florida's Cenozoic geologic formations.

Foraminifera are generally small, single-celled, shelled marine organisms that are well-represented in the geologic record. Due to their diminutive size and sturdy tests, they commonly escape destruction during drilling and, consequently, are useful stratigraphic indicators in well cuttings. Foraminifera are broadly divided in two types: *benthic*, or bottom dwelling forms, and *planktic*, or free-floating forms. Benthic foraminifera largely reflect their paleoenvironment and are commonly long-ranging in geologic time. Planktic species were typically rapidly-evolving forms, and were widely distributed by ocean currents. As such, planktic foraminifera are more paleoenvironment-independent, but, when present, can provide excellent sediment age resolution. Florida's shallow Cenozoic seas supported a prolific fossil benthic fauna. In some strata representing more open marine paleoenvironments, planktic species may be present in appreciable numbers. Foraminifera species helpful in differentiating the Paleocene through Pleistocene strata in Florida will be discussed, along with helpful tips for identifying them. Methodologies for working with fossil foraminifera, including tools and techniques, and creating personal reference collections, will be reviewed. Handouts illustrating the common index species for the Florida Tertiary will also be provided.

Fossil echinoids and mollusks also serve as convenient index fossils. Although larger and less common than foraminifera, and usually obliterated in well cuttings, they may be well-preserved in core and outcrop samples. Several macrofossil species which are useful in picking the Eocene and younger units in Florida will be described and discussed.

Biography

Frank Rupert is a Licensed Professional Geologist with the Florida Geological Survey (FGS) in Tallahassee, Florida. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in geology from Florida Atlantic University in 1976, and a Master of Science in geology from Florida State University in 1980. During graduate school at FSU Frank worked as a part-time geology research assistant at the FGS, describing well cuttings and cores from northern Florida. Upon graduation in 1980 he joined Texaco in New Orleans as a micropaleontologist. His duties included the paleontologic description of petroleum wells, biostratigraphic mapping, and correlation of strata in the faulted oil fields of southern Louisiana and Texas. Frank rejoined the FGS in 1986 and served as the district geologist for the Northwest and Suwannee River districts of northern Florida. During his tenure at the FGS he has worked on a variety of geologic projects including geologic mapping, spring and sinkhole studies, county stratigraphy, and hydrogeology and mineral resource studies. Frank currently serves as the FGS publication editor and pre-press coordinator in addition to his district geologist duties.

ODE TO THE GEOLOGIST

The following are excerpts originally taken from an Ann Landers' column and reproduced in the BAPG Geogram, April, 1997, volume 10, no. 4.



Dear Ann Landers:

This letter, my first to a columnist was sparked by your column about geologist's wife who asked "are all geologists the very embodiment of all the virtues and qualities that are universally admired by mankind? Have they alone, of all the professions, achieved a state of grace far beyond that ever speculated by history's most hopeful philosophers and theologians?" The answer is ABSOLUTELY!

My father was a geologist. My three brothers and four uncles are geologists. Geologists ARE a different breed. They are wise, often strikingly handsome, kind to small children and animals, sensitive to the subtleties of everything around them and when it comes to relationships, well, Mom, my three sisters-in-laws and my four aunts seem to always have a serene, deeply satisfied look of complete contentment. If only I could have hitched up with one, too.

A Jealous and Bitterly Presently Wife

A RESPONSE FROM ANN LANDERS

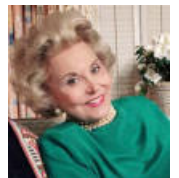
Dear Jealous:

I've been swamped with letters from lucky wives, daughters, husbands, mothers, and sisters of geologists. They've given me a real education, and made me feel a little jealous, too. Read on:

FROM PORTLAND:

Geologists ARE different. And I say "Vive La Difference!" I thought maybe I was the luckiest woman ever to have been born, but I have found that other geologist's wives have similar experiences. My husband has more sensitivity and consideration than 10 normal men.

He is absolutely wonderful with our children. After he puts in his usual 12 hour day at the office he rushes home to be with the kids so I can spend a few hours of quiet time alone. During this time he teaches the children cheerful songs while he prepares a delicious meal, balances the checkbook, and catches up on his letters to a group of shut-ins he has "adopted". After dinner and the dishes, he helps the kids with their homework. Once the kids are in bed he hurries to a downtown rec center where he coaches an inner-city youth basketball team. He gets back home at 2:00 am, treats me like a young bride on her honeymoon, if you catch my drift, and after four hours of sleep he starts all over again, selflessly making life safe and meaningful for others. I am blessed to have this man in my life!



FROM DENVER

"Ann, the best piece of advice you could pass along to readers is this: If you can't be one yourself, do whatever it takes to associate with as many geologists as you can. My life has been so rich, so meaningful since I divorced the



!@#% ^&* I was married to for 12 years. If I weren't so ecstatic nearly all my waking hours I would be in despair over all that wasted time. But in retrospect, I would have traded fifty years with Mr. Wrong for just a few weeks of the blissful experience I have with my big lovable rockhound. He has shown me all the richness that life holds. I spend hours just basking in the warmth of his vast knowledge of life, the universe and everything. He has so much beauty and understanding. And he's always ready to share that gift. He's able to explain the most complex concepts in a way that helps you understand, and makes you feel just plain good all over. And how can anyone be so perfect, yet so warm and sensitive in the needs of others? Think of the world we would have if everyone were geologists!

*EGS MEETING CALENDAR
2004-2005
November 16
January 18
March 15
May 17*

Everglades Geological Society
Meets on the third Tuesday every other month.
Social hour starts at 5:00 PM. The meeting
begins at 6:00 PM. No meetings are held in
July or August.

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available at meetings and
by mail.*



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