
NEWS IN BRIEF

Compiled by Lorraine A. Manz, Editor



Core Workshops

Julie LeFever and Steve Nordeng presented six core workshops from the end of April to the beginning of July. The core workshops were presented as part of the Williston Basin Petroleum Conference and Expo (WBPC) in Minot, the Rocky Mountain Sectional Meeting of the Society for Sedimentary Geology (SEPM) meeting in Denver, and the Rocky Mountain Sectional Meeting of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG) also in Denver. Julie presented a Bakken core workshop at each of the meetings and Steve assisted her at both the WBPC and AAPG meetings. At the SEPM meeting, Steve presented a core workshop on the Ratcliffe Interval of the Mission Canyon Formation. The theme of the SEPM core workshop was that in addition to the Bakken Formation, the Williston Basin contains a number of other important oil-producing horizons. At each meeting, the demand was so high that two workshops had to be presented

rather than the traditional one. Both Bakken core workshops filled up quickly at the WBPC and we could have easily filled a third and fourth one had we been able to find time slots. In Minot, the 110 workshop registrants were treated to 1,355 feet of Bakken core from 14 wells scattered throughout the North Dakota portion of the Williston Basin, including a section of relatively rare core from a horizontal Bakken well. The cores were chosen to highlight the various lithofacies and variable fracture content of the Middle Bakken. Geologists from many of the oil companies involved in the Bakken play in both the U.S. and Canada, along with companies that were contemplating becoming involved, attended the workshops. Feedback from all of the workshops has been very positive. We quickly sold out of the colored-paper version of the WBPC Bakken core workshop volume, but it is available on CD (Geologic Investigation 62 – see page 25).



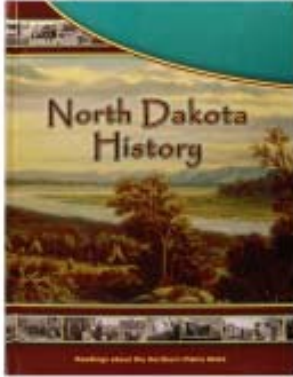
Julie LeFever lecturing to a group of 50 geologists at one of two Bakken core workshops held during the 2008 WBPC. Bakken core was laid out on 26, six-foot tables.

Dinosaurs, Sharks, and Woolly Mammoths: Glimpses of Life in North Dakota's Prehistoric Past Receives National Recognition

Dinosaurs, Sharks, and Woolly Mammoths: Glimpses of Life in North Dakota's Prehistoric Past by John Hoganson received recognition as a Notable Government Document of 2007. This publication traces the history of life in North Dakota from its humble beginnings about 500 million years ago to the appearance of humans in the state about 12,000 years ago. It is a joint publication by the State Historical Society of North Dakota (North Dakota History, Journal of the Northern Plains, v. 73, no's 1 & 2) and the North Dakota Geological Survey (Educational Series 31).

Every year the American Library Association's Government Document Round Table Panel chooses state and federal government documents for national recognition. The board consists of representatives from state libraries and universities. Other Notable Government Documents for 2007 are listed in the following article: Church, Jim, 2008, Blogs, Battles, and Bees: Library Journal, v. 133, no. 9, p. 60-66.

North Dakota History: Readings about the Northern Plains State – A New Book about North Dakota



North Dakota History: Readings about the Northern Plains State, a new book to encourage a better understanding or North Dakota's history has just (2008) been published by the State Historical Society of North Dakota and the North Dakota Center for Distance Education. This book is a compilation of articles published previously in *Collections of the State Historical Society of North Dakota*, 1906-

1924, *North Dakota Historical Quarterly*, 1926-1944, and *North Dakota History: Journal of the Northern Plains*, 1945-2008. The book is edited by Kathleen Davison (Editor, State Historical Society of North Dakota), Bonnie T. Johnson (Assistant Editor, State Historical Society of North Dakota), and Neil D. Howe (Coordinator, North Dakota Studies Project). University of

North Dakota Associate Professor Emerita Barbara Handy-Marchello wrote unit introductions. This is a book for use in North Dakota's high schools but would also be appropriate in introductory university classes. The general public reader will also find fascinating articles about North Dakota history and prehistory in this volume.

This tome, which is 426 pages in length, is divided into seven units:

Unit I:	The Natural World
Unit II:	Life on the Northern Plains Before 1800
Unit III:	Commerce, Culture, and Conflict, 1800-1878
Unit IV:	Building a New State, 1878-1914
Unit V:	Modernizing North Dakota, 1914-1929
Unit VI:	Hard Times and War, 1929-1945
Unit VII:	Pretty Good Time On the Prairie, 1945-Present

There are several articles in each unit by North Dakota scholars. The first article in the book is about the prehistoric life of North Dakota written by North Dakota Geological Survey paleontologist, John Hoganson.

Public Meetings

The North Dakota Geological Survey participated in two public meetings this quarter. The ND Department of Mineral Resources sponsored a public meeting in the Belfield Legion Hall on March 10 to discuss our proposed rules for *in situ* leach mining of uranium. Presentations were given by Lynn Helms, Ed Murphy, Dave Glatt (ND Health Department), Bob Shaver (ND State Water Commission), and Jim Deutsch (ND Public Service Commission). Approximately 125 people attended the meeting.

On April 1, the North Dakota Department of Health and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sponsored a public meeting in the cafeteria of the Killdeer school to provide information on a fibrous mineral (erionite) that is present in the area. Ed Murphy presented information on the local geology and where in the Killdeer Mountains the Geological Survey has documented the stratigraphic occurrence of erionite in the area. Approximately 80 people attended that meeting.



Jim Deutsch, ND Public Service Commission, speaks at the informational uranium meeting in Belfield.