

PACIFICA



The Association of Pacific Coast Geographers Fall 1999

DEVELOPING EMPATHY WITH LOCAL VALUES: OVERCOMING THE PROBLEM OF BEING A VISITOR

George Cathcart

The widest of Tlancualpican's dusty streets can barely accommodate two vehicles passing. The narrow metal doors on the blue and green and coral houses are painted the same colors as the houses; when closed they are often evident only by the stain of wastewater thrown into the street.

When doors are open, people stand in the entry or sit on the sidewalk in front of the house. They watch you pass, faces soft with shy curiosity until you say "buenas tardes," and then they light up and respond "buenas tardes" with enthusiasm, rolling the "r" and smiling. Occasionally one says "hi." Maybe those are the ones who have gone to the States to make money to buy money orders to send back to the villages, or they are the wives of those, perhaps still waiting for their husbands to return and wondering how they will pay for *masa* in the morning when the money is no longer arriving from New York, but fearing at the same time that their husbands have found some rich American woman or a *Chicana* with a job who will bear him children, and he will disappear and the money will stop coming just like the rain stops coming in November.

Boys with willow switches maneuver small burros carrying fat bags of squash, melons and sorghum straw beside the roads and through the village streets. The sorghum straw feeds the pigs that live behind the houses. The melons go to the tables in the plaza where women sit in the shade of thatched roof produce stands and sell the fresh produce that comes in daily from the fields and groves: bananas, tomatoes, potatoes, chilis, onions, melons, beans, squash and peanuts. Pale chicken carcasses hang from the rafters.

Tlancualpican lies about 110 kilometers southwest of Puebla, in the state of Puebla. Nearly half of the 3,000 residents are under 15 years of age, just seven percent are more than 65. The village is nestled against a steep wooded slope at about 1,000 meters altitude. From the top of the village's mountain you can see

volcanic Popocateptl puffing smoke like a lazy giant whose stirrings rattle the countryside in all directions. Nearly all of Tlancualpican's 600 ml. of annual rain falls between April and October.

"The visitor's evaluation of environment is essentially aesthetic," wrote Yi-Fu Tuan. "It is an outsider's view. The outsider judges by appearance, by some formal canon of beauty. A special effort is required to empathize with the lives and values of the inhabitants" (Tuan, 1990, p. 64).

Tlancualpican has no tourist industry, no hotels, no restaurants. American, European and Asian visitors do not seek its baths or its beaches, for it has neither, although the spring-fed community swimming hole does provide welcome relief for weary bodies, even those of foreigners, who are more a curiosity for the locals than the other way around.

The 11 Americans with whom I spent a week in Tlancualpican early in the dry season of 1997 went to the swimming hole about 2:30 every afternoon to wash off the dust and grime and let the cool water soothe aching muscles. Over the course of the week, we never lost our outsider's view entirely, to be sure, but we did indeed make special efforts that allowed us to be touched by the lives and values of the locals. In the end, our formal canon of beauty was altered permanently, changing our perception not only of Tlancualpican, but of our own home locations as well. Sweating heavily and coating yourself with the soil of the region is a special effort that develops strong empathy.

Of course, it helps that we went there with the conscious intent of having our perceptions changed. All middle-class, mostly middle-aged Anglos, we were the working guests of a Methodist missionary program called Give Ye Them To Eat, or GYTTE. The missionaries, Terry and Muriel Henderson, have been in Mexico more than 25 years, focusing at least as much on

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The Next Three APCG Annual Meeting Sites:

2000 Arcata, CA (Humboldt): September 13-18
2001 Santa Barbara, CA
2002 San Bernardino, CA

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and spring. The deadline for
submission of announcements and
reports for the Spring issue is
March 1 and for the Fall issue is
October 1.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Seeing, Sensing, and Sentience: A Geographer's Tools
Tina Kennedy, Northern Arizona University

I sat on the rock and took my shoes and socks off tying the shoes together so that I could throw them over my shoulder. I was unprepared for a "wilderness" experience. I finished the diet coke, crushed the cup, put it in my rear pocket and carried the rimrock plastic water bottle in my hand.

I had decided to see what the trailhead was like and then thought how good it would be to go towards the wall of rock with the cleft suggesting a canyon. And, after all, there was nowhere I needed to be at any particular time today. No one waited for me.

I'd signed in between two dead trees and walked down the road to a dilapidated fence and an easement through private land, a ranch. There, salt cedar with delicate pink racemes and thin fronds of pale green glugged the creek trying to force out the cottonwood. Once into the wilderness, the trail stopped dead at the creek. The water was only ankle deep, maybe knee deep in places. I wanted to go further.

As geographers, we seem to best understand and impart to others things we care most deeply about. For some of us that might be constructing intricate, informative maps or figuring out the social and economic implications of changes in resource use. For others it might be finding ways of applying our understandings to improving the community we live in. As Reg Gollidge in his July, 1999 column cogently points out, "...geographers have important things to say about the past, present, and future of Earth and its inhabitants."

Because we are individuals, it is natural that our interests vary (although I have found a majority of geographers to be deeply interested in a wide variety of topics). This diversity of interests and our holistic approach are two of our greatest strengths. One of the best ways to waken and strengthen these interests is through experiential learning. In other words, we need to get ourselves and our students out into the world experiencing places, cultures, situations with all our senses and intelligence.

Increasingly we depend on advanced technology (GIS, remote sensing, virtual reality, landscape simulations, videos, interactive TV, the web) to inform us about the world and as the basis of our research and teaching. All these things are exceedingly valuable tools and I would be the first to support an investigation of new ways to make use of them for our purposes. At the risk of being branded a dinosaur, however, I maintain that we will be better off in the long-term if we keep our sights on our heritage or mission — the study of what's happening on and near the surface of the earth. Remote sensing and mapping without field truthing can lead to serious misinterpretation. Virtual reality, landscape simulations and various media representations of landscape can tell us a great deal about processes at work in the landscape and offer new and exciting insight, but can they replace the actual experience of place — of being there? We can learn many things about a culture through reading, slides, movies, and watching documentaries. Can we gain the same understanding, however, that we would have from immersion in that culture? What happens to the educa-

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REPORT ON THE 62ND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE APCG

Reno, Nevada
September 29-October 2, 1999

Gary Hausladen & Kate Berry, University of Nevada

The return of the APCG annual meeting to Reno after nearly 20 years offered the Department of Geography at the University of Nevada the opportunity to showcase northern Nevada as a unique and sometimes provocative setting for geographical studies both human and physical, not to mention its role as a venue for having a good time. Northern Nevada welcomed 198 attendees to this year's meeting. Following in the footsteps of last year's Flagstaff meeting, student participation remained high at 90 or just over 45 percent. Geographically, California provided 105 attendees, followed by Arizona with 23, Nevada with 22, Oregon with 13, Washington with 12, Idaho with 11, and Alaska with 2. We were also joined by geographers from Ohio, New Hampshire, Kentucky, Louisiana, and--the winner for distance--Hong Kong. Special note is made of several schools whose students came *en masse*, including San Francisco State, Sonoma State, Arizona State, Western Washington, University of Oregon, and eleven people from the University of Idaho. Congratulations to faculty advisers, home institutions, and the students themselves for such outstanding representation.

The Poolside Terrace at John Ascuagua's Nugget provided the venue for Wednesday evening's opening plenary session, where it was not lost on a group of geographers that the Mayor of Reno was welcoming us while actually located in Sparks, once again reminding us that "Reno is so close to hell you can see Sparks." The 115 people who attended the opening plenary session heard artist Peter Goin, geographer Scott Mensing, and State Water Planner Naomi Duerr give three different approaches to understanding the Truckee River, a natural treasure of northern Nevada. A post-plenary session reception established the Great Basin Brewing Company as a favorite watering hole for the remainder of the meeting.

Thursday was filled with 12 paper sessions and the presidential plenary session, where James Allen, Peter Groth, and Phillip Pryde offered insights into the importance of locality in an era of globalization. Thursday's activities ended with a reception and poster session in the Poolside Terrace. On Friday, meeting participants chose one of three all-day fieldtrips with John James to the Tahoe Basin, Bill Kersten and State Historic Preservation Officer Ron James to Virginia City, or Scott Mensing and Kate Berry to Pyramid Lake. Despite low visibility as a result of the intrusion of smoke from California fires into the clean high desert air (surely a kind of symbolic statement of the relationship between the two states), participants returned tired but enthusiastically complimentary about their experiences in the field. The demanding field-trips did not diminish enthusiastic APCG students from competing in this year's GeoBowl later that afternoon. Saturday's paper sessions brought the total number of papers presented to 86, of which 33 were student papers! After the final paper session, AAG President Reginald Golledge spoke at the Business Meeting about current AAG issues of interest to the APCG.

It has been contended that if John Ascuagua's can't do Basque,
(Continued on page 13)

APCG MEETS IN ARCATA IN 2000

September 13 to September 18

The Humboldt State University Department of Geography is pleased to host the Association's first meeting of the new millennium. We cordially invite you to join us for adventure and scholarship on California's scenic North Coast.

We are planning an exciting array of events, from touring lumber mills, to an evening kayak, to a first-ever student cartography competition. Preliminary Schedule includes:

- Wed., Sept. 13 - Opening plenary session. Don't miss Joe Leeper's "Emerald Triangle" talk, a (safe) behind-the-scenes look at one of Humboldt County's most lucrative enterprises.
- Thur., Sept. 14 - Field trips and self-guided tours followed by a local-style barbecue in the courtyard of Founder's Hall, home to the Geography Department.
- Friday, Sept. 15 - Paper and poster sessions, and student map competition. Dinner and libations on your own, in Arcata's Plaza or Eureka's Old Town.
- Sat., Sept. 17 - More sessions; a special Presidential Plenary; and an affordably priced banquet, for *everyone*.
- Sun., Sept. 18 - Optional Sunday morning breakfast at the Samoa Cookhouse - an unforgettable experience in an old company town dining hall.

Airfare

Without advance reservations, roundtrip airfares to Arcata can vary wildly (you thought Reno was a gamble!), so we recommend you purchase your tickets early. Look for a special in the next few months, and grab it. We'll even pick you up at the airport! Remember: buy low, and fly high. Following are some sample round-trip fares as of October 1999:

Reno - \$138	Portland - \$194
San Diego - \$142	Phoenix - \$192
Lhasa - \$950 (bring food)	

Accommodations

There are numerous hotels in the Arcata-Eureka area, but only two within walking distance of campus—Hotel Arcata and Fairwinds Motel. There are also two excellent bed and breakfasts in Arcata (Lady Anne and the Cats' Cradle). Students will have the additional option of staying free with HSU host students. Because parking on campus is tight, we recommend walking to campus. Fine campgrounds (Patrick's Point, Clam Beach) are just a short drive from HSU.

Stephen Cunha, Coordinator of 2000 Meeting
See directory on page 2 for contact information.

NOMINATIONS FOR APCG VICE-PRESIDENT

All members are invited to contact the nominations committee as soon as possible with their suggestions for nominations for vice-president (the only position we have to fill this year). The nominations committee is chaired by Elliot McIntire, California State University, Northridge, elliott.mcintire@csun.edu, (818) 677-3532. Other committee members include Bill Crowley, California State University, Sonoma, william.crowley@sonoma.edu, (707) 664-2195; and Martha Works, Portland State University, mworks@geog.pdx.edu, (503) 725-3165.

MINUTES OF THE APCG BUSINESS MEETING

Saturday, October 2, 1999

John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, Nevada

Bob Richardson, CSU Sacramento

1. President Datel called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. About 30 people attended.
2. Last year's Business Meeting minutes, as published in the Fall '98 issue of *Pacifica*, were approved unanimously.
3. Election results: Tina Kennedy, President; Roger Pearson, Vice-President; Bob Richardson, Secretary-Treasurer (offices begin at the close of these meetings).
4. (a) AAG Regional Councillor report (Jack Mrowka): the AAG Council was impressed with our meeting in Flagstaff, also with the support of Pacific Coast geographers at the AAG annual meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii. Attendance was about 3100, including many students. AAG leadership in recent years has overwhelmingly come from the Pacific Coast division. The AAG hopes to increase membership and is revising the *Annals* and *Professional Geographer* with an eye to attracting more GIS/technology-focused members. The *Annals* will have separate sections with separate editors. A potential benefit will be increased scientific citations. Reflecting the fact that GIS is the largest specialty group, the AAG had a booth at this year's ESRI user's group meeting in San Diego. The AAG web page is worth a look—lots of information for student advising on careers is there, also membership forms, for example [www.aag.org]. The next AAG Council meeting will be in San Marcos, Texas, in two weeks. Jack urged people to contact him at rivers@csus.edu with AAG-related questions or concerns.

(b) AAG President Reg Golledge added the following information and noted that he was here wearing three hats—as an APCG member, as a representative of the host institution for the Annual Meeting in 2001 (UCSB), and as President of the AAG. Hurricane Floyd cancelled the AAG Executive Committee meeting two weeks ago so he cannot report on what to expect in San Marcos two weeks hence. Some of the proposed “segment” titles that will appear in the new *Annals* are being reconsidered. Reg hopes that the new editors will be of the highest quality—suggestions are sought, including from the ranks of the retired perhaps for book reviews. A lot is at stake with the new publication formats. For the 100th anniversary of the AAG in 2004 a goal of 10,000 members has been set, a substantial increase from present numbers. Included in this goal is 1,000 new members from business and government, also many new students. The AAG is developing a list of businesses, corporations, and government agencies that regularly employ geographers and is assembling a list of geographers who have given their names as experts in particular fields, to facilitate matching them to the frequent inquiries for such contacts received at the central office.

Reg's own mission as President is to found a National Geographic Learning Network, including a National Learning Center, perhaps at the Smithsonian eventually, probably at the Fleet Museum of Science in San Diego initially. The goal is to put geography on display nationally. He envisions K-12 field trips to the Center where students may explore geography in new ways, using all their senses. Problem solving displays will challenge students to apply geographic concepts. Regional

centers will offer web-based distance learning and windows into research in geography. Reg wants us to think big as we enter the 21st century, to enhance the public image of geography, to attack geographic illiteracy in the U.S. He closed by noting that the APCG is the largest of the AAG regional divisions and can elect AAG presidents forever (the last three have been from our region). He urges us to vote on membership of critical committees and to tell our elected representatives what we want.

5. Publications reports: (a) *Pacifica* editor Michael Schmandt noted that the Spring '99 issue is on the web, as will be future issues. Members will continue to receive a printed copy. The Fall '99 feature article will be by George Cathcart; Herb Eder will provide the Fall '00 feature. October 20 is the deadline for submissions to the F'99 issue. Michael wants to emphasize the Map Corner and urges members especially to submit maps related to their research, noting that grants usually require dissemination of results. Maps generally will be full-page inserts in black and white, but color may also be used if the author pays for it, with grant money presumably. The Map Corner lends itself especially well to the work of applied geographers.

(b) *Yearbook* editor Darrick Danta proudly noted that two volumes (59 and 60) have already been published and distributed this year and that volume 61 is already at the printer, soon to be shipped. Publication is essentially back on schedule. Darrick has set December 1 as his submission deadline, hoping to have volume 62 out to members prior to the next annual meeting, perhaps in June. There are no immediate plans to put the *Yearbook* on the web, but long-term perhaps it or other types of presentations will be. Darrick would like more book reviews, prompting the suggestion that he contact editors of the *Annals* and *Professional Geographer* for possible overflow. Enthusiastic applause went to Darrick for his phenomenal publication schedule this year.

6. Committee reports: (a) Awards Committee Chair Mark Wilson was closeted with his committee selecting the recipients, to be announced at the banquet a few hours hence. See page 12 for the results.

Proposed new awards: Terry Simmons suggests two new categories of awards to recognize the work of independent scholars and of applied geographers working outside academia. His aim is not to provide trophies or cash awards but to encourage participation by the many non-academic geographers in our region. Bill Bowen suggested the many geographers employed by ESRI should be approached. Reg Golledge thought this a good direction, similar to what the AAG is attempting. He noted that Microsoft employs some 40 geographers (several are members) and said that many of these applied geographers drop their affiliation with the AAG saying the profession does not do anything for them. John Passerello described how the Applied Geographers SG evolved and urged a partnership between academic institutions and those geographers on the outside. John has urged applied geographers to describe their research at our annual meetings. Stephen Frenkel suggested contacting nonmember applied geographers

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(and academics) to see what they may wish from the organization that could be made available without major change. Letters to bosses, certificates, information to company newsletters, and titles such as Honorary Geographer for the Year were mentioned as potential attractants for applied geographers participating in our meetings. Reg Golledge urged departments to keep contact with alumni, many of whom become applied geographers. Larry Ford has observed that getting applied geographers to attend is not enough. They need to be integrated with others as well. Nancy Wilkinson expressed her pleasure in relatively small APCG meetings as they are, with students and faculty from similar backgrounds, with similar interests and concerns. Roger Pearson expressed concern that having an Applied Geographers category suggests that the work of academic geographers is not applied. Terry wrapped up the discussion by saying the kernel of his idea was to get more high quality participation by a wide variety of people who are not necessarily on the campus.

(b) Membership Committee report (Bill Loy and Stephen Frenkel): Bill thanked most of the people in the room for being among his "advocates," those he has tapped within departments of geography and some agencies to talk with their colleagues about joining the APCG. Bill's committee includes Tom McKnight, who handles S. California, and Carolyn Daugherty, who handles N. California. Bill takes the rest of the region. Membership stands at 624. Joint members are now counted as two, but there are only 21 of them, so membership is at an all-time high counted either way. Robin Datel announced that Bill is stepping down after chairing this committee for quite a few years, during which the membership has grown significantly. A vigorous round of applause for Bill ensued. Robin introduced Bill's replacement, Stephen Frenkel, who said he will not try to replicate Bill's system, but will use a wide variety of personal contacts and other means to sustain and try to expand APCG membership.

(c) APCG 2000 report: Local Arrangements Committee chair Steve Cunha sought opinions about format. The consensus was to have a Wednesday evening welcome session, Thursday field trips followed by a barbecue, Friday and Saturday papers, with banquet Saturday evening. With this schedule, people can arrive Thursday evening, participate in a social gathering, and not miss paper sessions. Steve mentioned that bargain airfare to Eureka generally requires staying overnight Saturday, and very early booking (see page 3).

(d) Women's Network report (Robin Datel for Coordinator Megan Ashbaugh): about 30 people attended the Women's Network luncheon where the main item of business was how to use Margaret Trussell's recently received bequest of just over \$49,000 to be used for scholarships for women in geography (page 11). Robin will head the committee to consider, with wide consultation, how best to spend this money in keeping with Margaret's spirit.

(e) Applied Geographers' report (John Passerello): John thanked Terry Simmons for his work with Kate Berry on the Program Committee to help place applied geography papers in the sessions. John's goals are to have more applied geographers present at the annual meetings and to help geography students find geography-related jobs in non-academic settings. Robin

mentioned the need for follow-up to the "interested in Applied Geographers" check box on our membership forms, probably by e-mail. Bill Kersten suggested having an applied geographer on the membership committee.

(f) Archivist's report (Robin Datel for Jim Scott): after many years as Archivist, and now having moved from Bellingham, Jim is stepping down. His replacement, also at WWU, is Andy Bach. Jim had few inquiries about the archives again this past year, apart from Robin D. and Bob R. Added are photos contributed by Bill Loy and Helen Proctor. Robin urged outgoing committee chairs or others who have had APCG-related correspondence to contribute materials to the archives. Jim prepared lists going back to 1935 of annual meetings, officers, and titles of Presidential addresses. Most of this information is on the APCG web site now. There is a new archivist at the Center for Pacific Northwest Studies at WWU, which is where our materials are housed.

(g) Budget Committee report (Nancy Wilkinson): Nancy and Ray Sumner (the other half of the committee) find the Treasurer's books to be in good order (as a former Sec/Treas herself, Nancy should know).

7. Treasurer's report (Bob Richardson): The Treasurer's Report (see page 6) shows receipts exceeding disbursements by about \$4400, thanks to the \$4900 profit from last year's meeting in Flagstaff, without which we would be in the red about \$500—worse yet without generous gifts from David Miller and Clyde Patton. With three *Yearbooks* finished in one year, net costs there are quite high, but we also had income from three *Yearbooks*. What will our financial picture be if we have someone else publish the *Yearbook* rather than continue self-publishing (see next item)? Assuming membership numbers and dues remain as they are, dues income is about \$8000, plus about \$800 rebated from AAG, \$650 from interest, and \$1200 in royalties from *Yearbook* sales (50% of total), giving total receipts of \$10,650. Expenses are projected at \$1600 for grants and awards, \$1600 for *Pacifica*, \$1000 for membership, and \$8000 for the *Yearbook*, for total disbursements of \$12,200. The projected deficit is \$1550. Realize that these numbers are a bit fuzzy. Profits from annual meetings, not assumed above, would help a great deal, as of course would gifts. Still, it looks like a dues increase will be necessary if we resume publication of the *Yearbook* by a university press (again, see the next item for details).

Special funds this year are shown separately from the main budget categories, to make our ongoing financial picture easier to see. The Bailey and McKnight/Clemons scholarship funds are earning more interest than giving out in awards. In addition to the substantial bequest from Margaret Trussell's estate (see item 6.d above), Women's Network funds previously held at Portland State University under Teresa Bulman's supervision have been transferred to the Secretary-Treasurer. These funds were donated to the Women's Network by David Miller and Teresa and are less restricted in use than the Trussell bequest; for example, they may be used to help pay for the Women's Network luncheon.

8. University of Hawaii Press report (Robin Datel & Bob Richardson): Robin contacted every university press in the west, including U. Texas (because they publish for CLAG), regarding publication of our *Yearbook*. The only serious reply came from

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Hawaii, who have provided a proposed contract. It is flexible, allowing us to do as little or as much as we like by way of preparation of copy. The more we do the more we save. We could continue using our present copy editor. They want to change the format somewhat, including going to somewhat denser type (line spacing now is rather large). The principal advantage in having a university press publish it is their ability to handle distribution to agents, resellers, and libraries, plus to generate new sales in that sector. They also can arrange for mailing to members, relieving the Secretary-Treasurer of a very big task. Dues would have to be raised to cover the anticipated increase in costs (see item 7 above), although rather modestly. If Regular dues were increased from \$15 to \$20, Student and Retired from \$8 to \$10, Contributing from \$20 to \$25, and Joint from \$18 to \$23, dues income would increase about \$2000, which should be sufficient. Larry Ford (and others) favored a larger increase for a larger cushion, given the uncertainty of the estimates, but we think the amounts proposed will be adequate. There was strong support from those present at the meeting for the suggested agreement with UHP and for the proposed dues increase. Changing dues requires changing the Bylaws. A proposed change to the Bylaws must be circulated to the membership and a vote taken, either by mail or at the next annual meeting.

9. New and Other Business: UCSB Geographers have offered to host the APCG in 2001 in Santa Barbara. CSUSB has offered to host in 2002 in San Bernardino so they can show off their new building and labs. Carol Jean Cox, President of the California Geographical Society this year, urged APCG and CGS to work together more. Bill Bowen reminded us to keep a Pacific Northwest focus. Jenny Zorn reported that the APCG GeoBOWL team has won third place each of the past two years and asked that APCG again provide \$250 in financial assistance to help send the team to the national event. The funds already are approved, this in essence being a Regional Division obligation.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10.

Special Thanks

Thanks to Tom McKnight and Joan Clemons for adding another \$700 to their scholarship fund (for a total of \$1,000 in this year's Treasurer's Report), bringing their total contributions to \$6,900. Four awards of \$100 have been made to date, at each of the last four annual meetings.

Thanks to past-President Dan Arreola for his inspired approach to "growing" the membership: a gift of \$50, of which \$15 was to be used to sign up a bashful colleague.

Upon reading of the difficulties faced by the APCG in publishing the *Yearbook*, two members were moved to contribute to help with its publication: David Miller, Emeritus Professor, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, who gave \$200, and Clyde Patton, Emeritus Professor, University of Oregon, who gave \$400. David and Clyde each did climatology dissertations in the early 50's under John Leighly at Berkeley, who proposed that the APCG publish the *Yearbook* and was its second editor.

Bob Richardson, California State University, Sacramento

APCG TREASURER'S REPORT

Robert T. Richardson, CSU Sacramento, October 2, 1999
Transactions for October 1, 1998—September 17, 1999.

Forward at close of books, 9/30/98 **\$17,670.54**

RECEIPTS

Dues	\$8,477.56
Gift from D. Miller (<i>Yearbook</i> help)	\$200.00
Gift from D. Arreola (membership drive)	\$35.00
Gift from C. Patton (<i>Yearbook</i> help)	\$400.00
Profit, 1998 Annual Meeting	\$4,910.91
AAG Regional Allocation	\$771.60
Interest on Regular Account	630.85
YEARBOOK income (mostly v.58)	\$1,804.94
YEARBOOK income (mostly v.59)	\$2,784.14
YEARBOOK income (mostly v.60)	\$2,309.04
YEARBOOK income (mostly v.61—prepaids, etc.)	\$82.48
TOTAL INCOME	\$22,406.52

DISBURSEMENTS

APCG '98 Annual Meeting Grants & Awards	\$1,628.59
Student Travel Awards (inc. GeoBowl)	\$1,345.00
Presidents Awards	\$200.00
Distinguished Service plaque	\$83.59
PACIFICA Printing Production Postage	
F'98 (650x16 pp)	\$634.50 \$140.00 \$116.19 \$890.69
S'99 (670x16 pp)	\$649.10 \$139.02 \$788.12
Corporate Filing Fee (Olympia, WA)	\$10.00
Membership Directory	\$127.78
Membership (Billing, Ballots, brochure, etc.)	\$1,637.76
YEARBOOK vol. 58	\$1.56
YEARBOOK vol. 59	\$4,635.56
YEARBOOK vol. 60	\$6,313.56
YEARBOOK vol. 61	\$2,000.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$18,033.62

Balance on books, 9/17/99 **\$22,043.44**

SPECIAL FUNDS

Bailey Schl. Fund (forward 9/30/98)	\$2,886.16
Interest earned on CD	\$119.88
Scholarship awarded (Flagstaff, 10/98)	\$-100.00
Balance 9/17/99	\$2,906.04

McKnight/Clemons Schl. Fund (forward 9/30/98)	\$5,962.48
Interest earned on CD	\$235.61
Additional gifts from T. McKnight/J. Clemons	\$1,000.00
Scholarship awarded (Flagstaff, 10/98)	\$-100.00
Balance 9/17/99	\$7,098.09

Margaret Trussell Mem. Fund	
Funds transferred from PSU, July '99	\$2,455.00
Bequest, Margaret Trussell Estate, September '99	\$49,054.77
Balance 9/17/99	\$51,509.77

Membership 6/10/94:	280	
Membership 5/31/95:	408	
Membership 5/15/96:	442	ultimate in '96: 479
Membership 8/29/97:	464	ultimate in '97: 476
Membership 9/30/98:	532	ultimate in '98: 555
Membership 9/17/99:	619	

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(Continued from page 1)

teaching people to use available resources and technologies as on preaching the Gospel. We were one of a series of American teams who come from all over the United States for dry-season week-long assignments on the mission's demonstration farm on a high plateau outside Tlancualpican. It is no accident that the Hendersons' mission affects us more than it does the locals. Indeed, the program we have signed on for, through our church in Tempe, Arizona, is called AWARE – Alternative Work/Study And Reality Experience.

Any notion we might have had that we were missionaries, there to enlighten the poor peasants of Tlancualpican through good news and good deeds, is eliminated on the first day, which Terry Henderson dubs "Rural Reality." We rise at 5 a.m. and eat a cold breakfast before climbing in the backs of pickup trucks for the ride to the farm. The trucks are marvels of Mexican ingenuity and perseverance. One of them crabs down the street on its bent frame. Another sags in the middle like an ancient horse. That one is affectionately called "*el burro*." The driver keeps the door closed by looping wire through the hole where the door handle used to be.

In the pre-dawn we divide into teams for different tasks, all of which are focused on the objective of building a house out of straw bales and concrete. The straw-bale house will be a dormitory for future work teams and visiting Mexican farmers.

On that first day I team with Bill and Beverly Engelsman on a sand-mining expedition. Our leader is a smiling Mexican named Omar Osorio, who speaks no English. We, who speak no Spanish, obey Omar's hand signals to board the pickup without a name. We ride back through the village and down a winding paved road into a broad valley of cane fields, until we turn off on a narrow lane to twist a couple hundred yards up a dry streambed. There, Omar maneuvers the truck to a halt and points to the sand, the shovels and the bed of the truck. We understand. We fill the truck until Omar is satisfied that the weight of the sand has bogged down the rear wheels as much as possible without getting us stuck.

Back at the farm, we unload at the construction site and clean the truck thoroughly. It is now 9:30 a.m., time for *almuerzo*, which on this day consists of cold beans and tortillas, which we use as edible spoons. We drink warm sodas and juices, and not nearly enough. We compare soreness with the people who have been busting rocks and the people who have been hauling straw bales. Rock duty seems the worst.

After lunch we get a new assignment – gathering sorghum straw from one of the fields to be chipped up for hog feed. When we unload at the chipper, we discover there is no electricity today, so we load the sorghum back in the truck and haul it intact to the village. Once it is unloaded, we return to the streambed for another load of sand. For some reason, even though it is drier in the afternoon, the sand seems much heavier now.

Quitting time is about 3 p.m. We ride back to the *casa grande*, the mission headquarters in the village, change into bathing suits and head for the washing stream, where we wash our clothes on

rocks beside the local women. Then we head for the swimming hole, where we wash away the day's residue of sweat and dust while the locals watch us politely. Dinner comes early, a small but tasty meal of beans, peas and diced carrots in a bed of white rice. We drink warm lemonade.

Terry Henderson explains that this is rural reality in Mexico: hard work, small meatless meals, no luxuries like ice. For the locals, reality is even harsher, to be sure. The average farm worker in Tlancualpican earns about 35 pesos (\$4.40 at that time) a day working in the tomato, peanut, chili, melon and squash fields that spread out in the valleys below the village. Piece workers who can pick quickly can earn more in harvest time.

Skilled masons, like the *maestros* who worked with us on the straw bale dormitory, can earn 65 pesos a day. There are a few other jobs, working in the local stores, for example, but the pay isn't much better. Since the cost of feeding an average-sized family of five or six people is about 50 pesos a day, such items as clothes, shoes, laundry detergent, toothpaste, toilet paper and municipal water become luxuries. It is little wonder that half the men of the village spend the rainy half of the year in the United States.

Terry explains these and other realities of rural Mexico at the end of our first day. Our early mornings and our evenings are devoted to different themes each day. In succession we learn from the Hendersons and the Mexicans who work for them about the land, the livestock, the people, health care and economic development. We visit the people of the village to see how they live and how the GYTTE program has helped some of them to gain at least a little control over their lives.

Example:

The State of Puebla several years ago dug up the streets of Tlancualpican to install sewer lines. Most of the villagers didn't even have outhouses; they merely fertilized the small gardens in their back yards with their own waste. The government offered to hook the villagers to the sewer for free. Almost nobody accepted the offer. The sewer was nothing more than a drain-pipe to the river, and the people of Tlancualpican knew better than to foul their water source. GYTTE had a better idea for Tlancualpican, and a number of the villagers have adopted it: dry compost toilets.

A dry compost outhouse is a two-seater, of which only one seat at a time is active. Urine, paper and feces all go to different



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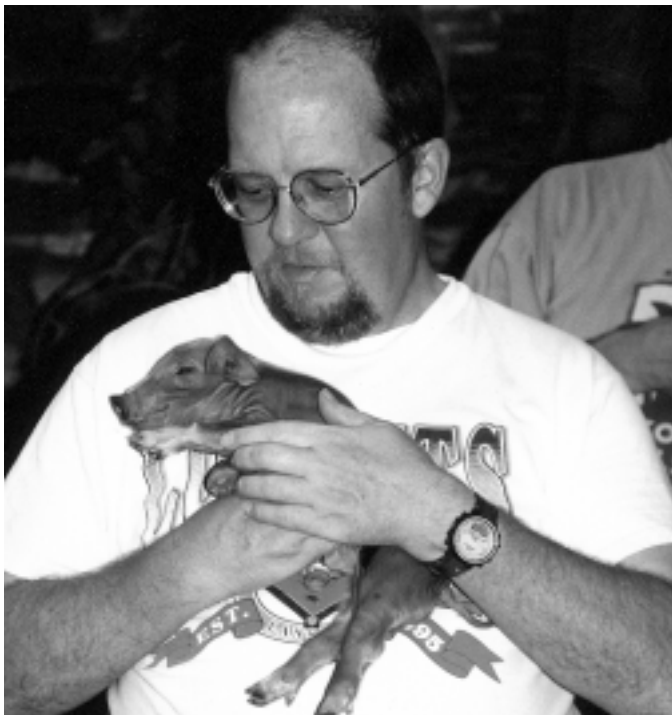
places, but the feces are the important part. Crushed limestone is added to the receptacle after each use. When a receptacle is full – it takes about a year for an average family – it is sealed off and allowed to decompose anaerobically. During that time, the other seat is activated, another receptacle is filled and then sealed, and then the first one is opened and emptied of the rich fertilizer within, in quantities sufficient to feed the home garden for the next year. As long as the residents continue to be regular, they will have fertilizer – and clean water.

On our first night in Tlancualpican, Terry tells us that one of the verses most important to the mission is not John 3:16, but Deuteronomy 23: 12-13: “You shall have a designated area outside the camp to which you shall go. With your utensils you shall have a trowel; when you relieve yourself outside you shall dig a hole with it and then cover up your excrement.”

Another example:

Traditionally, pigs have as much freedom as people to roam the streets. Traditionally, pigs make the streets unsanitary for the people and acquire for themselves a host of diseases and unsociable behaviors. The GYTTE program has established enough brood stock of pigs on the demonstration farm to offer pregnant sows to villagers willing to undergo thorough training in the proper care of pigs. After the litter is born, one female piglet is given back to the program, and the villager can keep the rest of the pigs to raise for table, for market or to build a small herd, as long as he continues to take proper care of them.

As busy as our daily construction work keeps us, the Hendersons ensure that we get a liberal dose of the lives and values of the inhabitants. We visit a family with a new brood of pigs and several others who show off their dry compost toilets. Omar Osorio, who supervised sand-mining on the first day, shows us the small pond he built that yields his family a fair harvest of carp and tilapia.



In 1997, the demonstration farm had only one permanent resident family: Joel Cruz and his wife, whose straw-bale house is mudded over and painted white and has a red tile roof like many others in the region. Joel's electricity comes from solar panels behind the house. The sun also heats his water, which falls from the sky and is collected in a rubber-lined bamboo cistern. His wastewater is divided into gray, which is directed to his vegetable garden, and black, which is filtered in a small swamp of plants outside the house before passing on.

Joel's house, the dormitory we are building and another like it and the house that the Henderson's will eventually live in all are constructed of straw bales impaled on rebar, set in concrete frames. Mud covers the straw, which provides an insulating factor of about R-42. Even with windows open, the inside of Joel's house is 10 degrees cooler than outside.

Throughout the farm are other examples of the affordable low technology solutions to the less pleasant realities of village life. A ram pump made of about \$23 worth of scrap materials lifts water 13 meters from a stream that provides just a one-meter head. A hand-cranked well pump lifts water through a PVC pipe by means of a series of rubber disks cut from old tires and strung on a rope at 30 cm intervals. An electric water pump is powered by the sun. These are some of the marvels GYTTE demonstrates to visiting local farmers.

For visiting Americans, seeing the solutions, especially the ingenuity of the solutions, amplifies the understanding of the problems. We are accustomed to store-bought solutions, technology we don't have to understand to use, toys developed elsewhere. The canon of beauty we brought with us has no meaning here, or at least it had better not. “We can't just run down to Home Depot for equipment,” Terry Henderson explains when we marvel at the way the Mexicans fix things on the fly. I reflect on my Army days, when we were taught to be resourceful. If I had to fight a war now, give me an army of Mexican farm workers.

On the third day of work, Bill and Beverly and I volunteer for rock duty. We leave in the darkness directly from the *casa grande*. We ride in the back of *el burro* to the opposite side of the village from the farm, across a ridge and down into a valley of organ pipe cacti that look as though they are growing out of the trunks of ancient oaks. We ride into the rising sun.

The road narrows and becomes a dry streambed plunging steeply downhill. Cattle graze randomly among the cacti. Our team leader for this day is Anastacio de la Rosa, Tacho for short, who seems undaunted by the way the rocks of this streambed road cause *el burro* to tilt wildly side to side. Of course, Tacho is driving. We are trying to keep our balance in the bed of the truck. Eventually, Tacho stops and backs the truck from the stream bed into a tributary that looks more like a road than what we've been on, although it is so narrow that the trees scrape both sides of the truck. We proceed backwards through cacti and scrub oak to the base of a rock cliff at the base of which is a violent scattering of rocks.

We Americans look at each other and agree this doesn't look so bad. Surely, all together we can carry these rocks to the truck,

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load up and head back to the farm. We're not sure why we need these long iron crowbars (*barettas*) or sledgehammers or chisels or axes. The language barrier with Tacho seems more acute than it was with Omar. That's because what Omar was telling us was logical. Shovels. Sand. Truck. Load up. Tacho is pointing to the tools and to us and to the cliff, gesturing in a way that seems to



indicate upward motion. Finally, he shoulders a couple of the crowbars, and we gather some tools, as does a young man named Jorge who has walked down the streambed to join us. Tacho motions for us to follow, and we do. Through the woods on a well-worn path, suddenly steeply upward, breathing hard, we climb on a slabbing route. When at last we level off, we walk through woods to a rocky clearing and gaze breathlessly down over the cliff at the rock pile and *el burro*.

Tacho indicates that our job is to harvest whatever rocks we can find and toss or roll them over the cliff. Finding the rocks is not a problem. This mountain produces a constant bumper crop. We're still not clear about why we've come up here when there seem to be plenty of rocks at the base of the cliff. Later that day I will politely ask Terry Henderson about that, and he will laugh. For some reason, that will be a sufficient answer.

We Americans set to work, hauling and heaving rocks according to our ability. Some we can carry and throw, but we let Beverly take those. Bill and I use the *barettas* to dislodge larger rocks from the ground. We try carrying some together, but it's not easy. Finally I resort to getting on hands and knees to roll the rocks – which are not round – through the clearing to the edge of the cliff and push them over. Some break into small pieces when they land, and we are happy, because that means there will be more small rocks to load on the truck.

Meanwhile, Tacho and Jorge are refining some of the larger rocks. When we stop to drink water, we watch them. They select and inspect large boulders, much too large for us to carry or roll. Consulting quietly with each other they examine the surfaces of the rocks until they find seams. Jorge holds the chisel against the seam, and Tacho lifts the sledge high over his head and crashes it onto the head of the chisel. He never misses. Jorge never lets

go, never flinches, and it never takes more than two blows before a daughter rock falls away. Jorge smiles and points at me, at the rock. Still astonished, I return to my duty and somehow get the rock over the cliff.



By this time, I have learned that each day's work in Tlancualpican is an exercise in faith. This is not the faith I was taught in Sunday School. It begins with the acceptance of the idea that nothing is what it appears to be. I am used to the idea that the Mexicans who speak no English can not explain to us what we are to do. They can only show us what to do right now. They can't tell us the plan for the day, who will do what or where or when. We have to accept that there is a plan, and that we are part of it. We learn to take what's directly in front of us and expect nothing beyond that.

So we were relieved when Tacho and Jorge finally carry the heavy iron tools to the edge of the cliff and toss them over. We understand perfectly when they gesture for us to take the wood-handled axes and sledges down the path to the truck. It's time to load up and head to the farm for *almuerzo*. We become almost too enthusiastic about loading the rocks, several times narrowly missing Tacho, who helpfully stands in the bed and arranges them so we can get in as many as possible.

We ride to the farm on top of the rocks, incredulous that *el burro* can climb back up the stream bed with a full load of broken granite. We get out at Joel's house while Tacho takes the truck to the building site for the farm workers to unload. We join the others for tortillas with beans and cheese, potato salad, apple salad and papaya for dessert. For some reason, I have managed to get dirtier than anyone else has on rock duty, and everyone wants to take pictures of me.

Back at the rock pile in the late morning, we listen to Tacho explain the plan for the afternoon, and we think we understand his words and gestures to mean that we are going to stay right here and load rocks from the pile into the bed of the truck. Then we will go back to the farm, unload and be done for the day. So we are a little surprised when, after we have filled the truck, Tacho smiles, waves, climbs into the truck and drives away, leaving us behind.

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Using our best interpretive powers, we figure out that Tacho's last gesture was not a wave, it was a command – to climb back up the cliff and throw more rocks over. Disheartened, we obey. We discover very quickly that we three middle-aged Americans do not work well without supervision. Between long breaks we do work; Bill and I even take turns with the sledge hammer, shattering rocks, but neither of us dares to hold the chisel.

We call on our faith that Tacho and Jorge will return. And of course they do, after a couple of hours. The return of *el burro* sets off a small celebration. We begin to gather the tools. But we soon realize that the Mexicans are not coming directly to join us. They are working their way up through the woods. They aren't following the path, they are walking through the woods, breaking up rocks and heaving them down through the trees. We carry a few more to the edge and throw them over. When Tacho finally reaches the top, he looks at my watch: 1:30. He shakes his head and says, "*Tardo.*"

Good, I think, we're late, we'll have to leave now. But Tacho and Jorge have found a VW Beetle-sized rock they wanted to take apart. The Americans give up any more pretense of working at that point. We watch as the Mexicans climb over the rock and find seams and pound them, peeling the rock away by layers and heaving the pieces over the edge. It takes them half an hour. They are pleased. We throw the iron tools over the cliff again and carry the rest down. We don't load any more rocks this time; we just climb in the truck and jostle back to the farm.

It is by far the hardest day. The rest of the week is much easier physically. I stack straw bales and seal forms for concrete wall headers and help lift bamboo joists to roof the house we are building. By the time we climb to the mountain overlooking the village for a twilight prayer service on the last night, we have certainly made the special effort that establishes empathy with local lives and values. We accept their small gifts and warm embraces at the end with grace, but in some substantial ways, I also feel farther from them. It has been a humbling experience. We sometimes wonder if the Mexicans go back to their dimly lit small houses at night and laugh about the puny Americans.

It doesn't matter if they do, because we have learned



how easy it is to laugh at each other and, more importantly, at ourselves. We find it easy because we understand ourselves so much better.

Throughout this essay, I have made references to a particular passage from Yi-Fu Tuan's classical *Topophilia*. The passage suited my purpose and established a theme for this topic, which I could have approached from many angles, including this seemingly newly introduced idea of self-discovery through travel (not a new idea, of course, just new to this essay). For context, I again turn to *Topophilia*. In the preface to the 1990 edition, Tuan tells a story of riding on an airplane and contrasting the beautiful panorama from his window with the harsh human structure inside the plane. "Suddenly, my perspective shifted," he wrote. "I realized, with distressing acuteness, that only a plate of glass separated me from instant death" (Tuan, 1990, p. xiii). This perspective shift opened for Tuan a new window on himself and his relationship with both the natural world and the human world. The crucial discovery was a self-discovery.

So it was for the mostly middle-aged, middle-class Americans who spent a week working on the GYTTE demonstration farm at Tlancualpican, Puebla, Mexico. Our perspective shifted, willingly, no doubt, but perhaps more dramatically than any of us expected, because it revealed to us new things about ourselves, the ones with the perspective.

Tuan, Yi-Fu, *Topophilia, A Study of Environmental Perception, Attitudes and Values*, New York: 1990.

George Cathcart, Director of University Relations, University of Maryland, gcathcar@accmail.umd.edu

APCG World Geography Bowl

Jenny Zorn, Coach

Students, representing the APCG in the National Championships of the World Geography Bowl at the AAG meeting in Honolulu, won third place. Jeffrey Davis, Jocelyn Hunter and Joe Palermo from Northern Arizona University; Chris Lukinbeal from San Diego State University; Kenneth Madsen from Arizona State University; and Cynthia Taylor from the University of Oregon played with brilliance, tenacity, excitement and laughter. Jeffrey Davis placed third in the overall individual competition for Most Valuable Player. Congratulations!

J. B. Jackson Issue

The October 1998 issue of the *Geographical Review*, now at Allen Press and to circulate shortly, is a rather remarkable issue on a figure in American geography who abounds in genius, eccentricity, influence, and breadth of awareness, none other than John Brinckerhoff Jackson, the longtime editor (18 years) of *Landscape* magazine, and a pivotal figure in cultural geography. The issue includes a highly effective introduction by geography and architecture professor (and Jackson student) Paul Groth, of the University of California; eight articles; two record notes; eight reviews of significant books; and the annual index of the *Geographical Review*.

Paul Starrs, Editor

In the Spring 1999 issue, President Robin Datel invited students who graduated with a geography degree to write short statements describing how their major led to meaningful employment. The following is the first of a series.

I graduated from UC Davis with a B.A. in Geography in June of 1996. I studied geography because I have an interest in how humans relate to the environment, including how they choose where to live, work, and play. I chose to focus on regional planning and analysis. My course work consisted of classes, including geography classes, relating to planning although UC Davis did not have a formal planning major. In fact, I took only two formal planning courses: general planning and parks and recreation planning. I was convinced that city planning was the job for me, and in my junior year I took an internship with a city. Right away I found out that planning was not the job for me. This was a problem: I loved my geography classes and my professors, but what would I do with a degree in geography? Like many young people graduating from college, I was at a loss when it came to choosing a career.

It was finals week, and I called home to talk to my father to find out when my family was coming for graduation ceremonies. He picked up the phone, and told me he was outside trying to re-stake his young trees in the front yard. All winter my father had been complaining about how his trees kept falling over and how much he hated pounding in new stakes. There had to be a better way to stake a tree than pounding a wooden stake into the ground. I had an idea: why not develop a metal stake that screws into the ground and can be reused once the tree no longer needs a stake? This was the answer to my career problems. I decided to develop a new tree-staking product and start a business. At the time, I had no idea what I was getting myself into.

My first step was to develop a prototype that worked. I taught myself to weld and work with metal. My first prototype worked. I could not believe it! Next, I went to the U.S. patent library in Sacramento to conduct a search to see if my product could be patented. I drew a rough copy of a utility patent and found a young patent attorney who was willing to clean it up and write the claims. With my patent application completed, I named my product the Reddy Stake and began manufacturing, marketing, and distributing the product on a small scale. I had no knowledge of business and had never taken any courses relating to accounts payable and receivable, marketing, finance, or sales. I was forced to learn by doing, and I made plenty of mistakes along the way.

At this point most people might be wondering how geography has helped me in the business world. My target market was municipal government. I was selling the Reddy Stake to people involved in city planning. I knew this market; I could understand the language, the people, and planning process, at least in part because of my academic background. Because of geography I could "talk shop" with the people to whom I sold my product. Rather than trying to just close a sale I would talk to my customers about what was going on in their city with regards to planning, development, landscaping, and environmental conditions. I was sincerely interested in what my customers were doing in their jobs. Because I showed an

(Continued next column)

Margaret Trussell Fund Ad Hoc Committee

The main topic of discussion at the Women's Network Luncheon in Reno was Margaret Trussell's bequest of over \$49,000 and how best to spend it. She specified only that it be used by the Women's Network for scholarships for women in geography. At the four luncheon tables, preliminary thoughts were shared and recorded. These notes, and a great deal of other input, will be considered by the newly formed Margaret Trussell Fund Ad Hoc Committee, which has been charged with making recommendations regarding the Fund to next year's gathering of the Women's Network at the Arcata meeting.

Members of the committee are Robin Datel (CSU, Sacramento), Committee Chair; Megan Ashbaugh (San Diego State University, KEA Environmental, and Coordinator of the Women's Network); Carole Ann DeLong (Victor Valley College); Barbara Fredrich (San Diego State University); Roxane Fridirichi (CSU, Sacramento); Martha Henderson (Evergreen State College); and Martha Works (Portland State University).

Please communicate with the chair or any of the other committee members (their various addresses and phone numbers are in the APCG Directory) your ideas and concerns regarding Margaret's gift. Dan Arreola already has submitted guidelines for some scholarships given through the Arizona State University Department of Geography. If you have other possible models to offer, please share them with the committee. At this point, no idea is too wild for us to entertain. "Scholarships" can be interpreted widely. Please consider how we can best make a difference in the lives of women geographers and so honor Margaret's wishes and memory.

Robin Datel, California State University, Sacramento

Call for APCG Yearbook Submissions

All APCG members who delivered papers at the 1999 Reno Meeting are strongly encouraged to submit their work for consideration to be published in the 2000 APCG Yearbook. Send three hardcopies of your paper, including illustrations, maps, tables, etc. to Darrick Danta, APCG Yearbook Editor, Department of Geography, California State University Northridge, Northridge CA 91330-8249. Members are also encouraged to send other manuscripts of potential interest for consideration. Complete instructions can be found in the back of any recent Yearbook. Deadline for manuscripts is December 1, 1999. If you have any questions, contact the editor at 818-677-3522 or e-mail at ddanta@csun.edu.

interest in and some understanding of my customers and of their particular localities, I was not treated like someone selling a product. I truly believe that my geography background and perhaps even my lack of traditional business training helped me get the Reddy Stake into the market.

My advice to undergraduate students is to study what you enjoy—and presumably that includes geography! Also do as many internships as possible because academia is far different from other worlds. *Brian Kempf*

**California Geographical Society's
54th Annual Conference**

Borders and Boundaries
May 5-7, 2000

The department of geography at San Diego State University cordially invites you to attend California Geographical Society's 54th Annual Conference. The conference's theme, *Border and Boundaries*, seeks to encapsulate the nature of the meeting in many ways. Fieldtrips with the US Border Patrol will explore the International border between San Diego and Tijuana. An all day fieldtrip will "cross the border" and explore Tijuana and Baja's regional geography. On the US side of the border, you can join a fieldtrip that will investigate some of the 99 distinct neighborhoods found within San Diego's city limits. Or perhaps you might enjoy a walking touring of a downtown that will be transformed in the 21 Century by over 70 different redevelopment projects, including the Padres' baseball park. While the fieldtrips will explore the cultural, physical and urban borders and boundaries, Saturday's free computer workshops will highlight the geographical boundaries of the new millennium. These workshops will be hosted in the geography department's new Spatial Analysis Laboratory and provide attendees "hands on," practical experience with cutting edge geo-technologies and Internet geographies. Two Internet workshops already in the works include, *About.com's Guide to Geography*, hosted by their Webmaster, Matt T. Rosenberg (<http://geography.about.com>) and Dr. Bill Bowen tour of the wonderful Internet resource, *The California Geographical Survey* (<http://geogdata.csun.edu/>).



Other events scheduled include:

- Keynote address by Dr. Larry Ford
- \$900 in Scholarships Awarded Annually
- \$775 in Poster and Presentation Awarded Annually
- Teaching Workshops Hosted by The California Geographical Alliance
- Cinco De Mayo Dinner plus and Awards Banquet
- Multiple Travel Discounts to help you get to San Diego
- Student-host-Student housing
- Interactive and up-to-date conference website scheduled to premiere, January 2000
- Plus, much more!

We hope to see you May 5-7, 2000 in San Diego. For further information about the California Geographical Society and this conference please see our website at: www.calgeog.org

Or, contact: Chris Lukinbeal, *CGS-Y2K Conference Coordinator*
Department of Geography, 5500 Campanile Drive
San Diego State University, San Diego, CA, 91982-4493
lukinbea@rohan.sdsu.edu

Awards Presented at Sparks Meeting

Lay J. Gibson, University of Arizona, Distinguished Service Award (full treatment to appear in volume 62 of the Yearbook).

Jacqueline J. Shinker, University of Oregon, President's Award for Outstanding Paper by a PhD Student ("Global Climate Animations: A New Tool for Visualization of the Climate System").

Peter Killoran, University of Oregon, President's Award for Outstanding Paper by an MA Student ("Circulation Controls of Warm Season Precipitation for the Asian Continent: Implications for Paleoclimatic Reconstructions").

Alan R. Lloyd, Western Washington University, President's Award for Outstanding Student Poster Presentation ("A Comparative Analysis of State Brownfield Redevelopment Programs").

Ross M. Fenton, Western Washington University, President's Award for Outstanding Paper by an Undergraduate ("Three Gorges Resettlement").*

Benjamin Stabler, Western Washington University, President's Award for Outstanding Paper by an Undergraduate ("The Path to Three Gorges Dam: The Impacts of China's Historical Dealings with Involuntary Resettlement").*

William F. Manger, Arizona State University, Harry and Shirley Bailey Award for Outstanding Paper by a PhD Student ("Mexican American Housescapes of Phoenix, Arizona").

Mike Applegarth, Arizona State University, Tom McKnight and Joan Clemons Award for Outstanding Student Paper ("Use of Debris Characteristics and Soil Development to Assess Stability on Bedrock Hillslopes, South Phoenix, Arizona").

Student Travel Grants: **Natalya Antonova** (Western Washington University), **Mike Applegarth** (Arizona State University), **Marc Beckel** (Portland State University), **Craig B. Clements** (University of Utah), **Ross Fenton** (Western Washington University), **Peter Killoran** (University of Oregon), **Alan Lloyd** (Western Washington University), **Chris Lukenbeal** (San Diego State University), **Kenneth Madsen** (Arizona State University), **Barbara Yablon Maida** (California State University Northridge), **Susan P. Mains** (University of Kentucky), **Erik Prout** (Louisiana State University), **Jacqueline J. Shinker** (University of Oregon), **Emily H. Skop** (Arizona State University), **Benjamin Stabler** (Western Washington University).

*Shared award owing to a tie in the judging.

Mark Wislon, Humboldt State University &
Bob Richardson, California State University, Sacramento

In Memory of Arnold Court (1914-1999)

Arnold Court was born in Washington State in 1914, but grew up in Oklahoma. He received his bachelor's degree from University of Oklahoma in 1934 and a master's degree in Climatology from the University of Washington in 1949. His Ph.D. in Geography was from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1956. After a brief stint as a journalist, Court served as a meteorologist with the U.S. Weather Bureau, stationed in Antarctica just before World War II, and then in the Aleutians with the U.S. Army during the war. After receiving his Ph.D. he worked at the Army research center in Natick, Massachusetts and then served as a consultant with various aerospace firms, including Lockheed Aircraft in Burbank, California. He joined the faculty at California State University, Northridge (then San Fernando Valley State College) in 1962 and was Professor of Climatology there until he retired in 1986. Author of over 200 notes, articles, and monographs, he maintained his scholarly output throughout his retirement years, researching the early history of weather records and weather instrumentation, and presented papers at innumerable professional conferences.

Arnold was guest editor of the 1968 *Yearbook* (v. 30), titled *Eclectic Climatology*, a selection of essays in memory of David Blumenstock. He served as President of the APCG in 1978-79 and received the Association's Distinguished Service Award in 1986. He published several times in the *Yearbook*, presented many papers, and perhaps will best be remembered by APCG stalwarts for his habit of offering insightful questions and comments, often at length, at the completion of a presentation or at the annual Business Meeting. His frequency of attendance at APCG Annual Meetings during the past thirty years is probably unsurpassed.

Arnold died September 13, 1999, at the home of his daughter Lois, in Denver, Colorado. His second wife, Mildred, son David, and daughter Lois survive him.

Elliot McIntire, California State University, Northridge

National Geographic Society Award

Martha Works and Keith Hadley (Geography Department, Portland State University) received a \$19,960 grant from the National Geographic Society for a research project on cultural and ecological aspects of deforestation in the Meseta Purepecha of Michoacan, Mexico. Forests of this region have long formed an integral part of the regional economy and have historically provided wood furniture and railroad ties for export to other parts of Mexico, as well as material for local housing. Cultural and economic change are affecting forest use with some trees now being logged for avocado crates and for an escalating market in "rustic furniture." This research looks at how forest structure and composition differs in areas controlled by communities with different forest resource needs, how the manner of extraction and end use of timber have an impact on forest ecology, and at the cultural and economic impacts on communities with degraded forest resources. Fieldwork began this summer with Works and Hadley accompanied by PSU student John Chase. Fieldwork continues in the summer of 2000 with an additional student to begin vegetation sampling and interviewing in selected communities.

Teaching Award

The National Council for Geographic Education recently awarded Robert W. Christopherson from American River College, its annual Distinguished Teaching Achievement Award for 1999. Awards were given to 34 K-12 teachers and 9 college/university professors from the United States and Canada. The awards recognize outstanding contributions to geographic education. Nominations for the awards were submitted by colleagues, and awardees were chosen by judging panels at the elementary, middle/junior high, senior high or post secondary level. Congratulations!

REPORT ON RENO MEETING (Continued from page 3)

nobody can. Saturday's closing banquet proved this true. Ninety-nine people enjoyed this northern Nevada dining experience. Incoming APCG President, Tina Kennedy, served as MC for the evening's program. As a special treat, University of Nevada President Joe Crowley entertained the crowd with stories and anecdotes about geography and life as explained to him by his kid brother, Bill. As always, Bill Crowley was a good sport after being spitted in the mini-roast. The evening concluded with outgoing APCG President Robin Datel's Presidential Address, in which she offered insights into past APCG and AAG presidential addresses.

Now that the attendees have departed and the skies cleared of California smoke, it is possible to stand back and appreciate what we believe was a challenging, yet worthwhile endeavor. We now look upon conference organizers with greatly more appreciative eyes. What is most rewarding, however, was the dedication and hard work of all the faculty and many of the graduate students from the Department of Geography at UNR. Scott Mensing and John James organized the fieldtrips; Chris Exline served as co-chair for local arrangements. Graduate students worked the registration tables and helped with logistics. Of special note, Barbara Friedsam served as program assistant and was also responsible for design and production of handbooks, field guides, and other graphics, and Conrad Wong maintained the website. Terry Simmons from our local community volunteered to co-chair the program committee. And again, thanks to Reno Mayor Jeff Griffin, State Water Planner Naomi Duerr, and University of Nevada President Joe Crowley for giving of their time to help make all attendees feel welcome.

To help us put on a uniquely Nevada meeting, with hosted events and fieldtrips included, we sought financial support from the greater Reno-Sparks community, and we found it. Once again our sincerest gratitude to our donors who proved that many in this community take pride in the University and its Department of Geography – Wells Fargo Bank, Aztech Cyberspace, Nichols Consulting Engineers, the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs at UNR, the Office of the Vice President for Research at UNR, the University of Nevada, Reno Foundation, the Department of Geography at UNR, the American Geographical Society and the *Geographical Review*, the Geographic Alliance in Nevada, John and Lois James, and Gary and Marilyn Hausladen.

Most of all, thanks to the many geographers who came to Reno for stimulating discussion and debate, fellowship and good cheer. It was fun while it lasted – now, on to Arcata!

APCG Applied Geography Specialty Group

www.csus.edu/apcg/index.html

John Passerello, California's Office of Emergency Services

This last year Applied Geographers were engaged in assisting geography graduates with job opportunities in GIS, city and regional planning, emergency management and other endeavors. We also worked with graduate students on research topics involving natural and technological hazard analysis, hazard mitigation and land use planning. We meet by e-mail (please see the APCG July, 1999, Directory of Members), at various college and university geography clubs and at annual meetings. Applied Geographers presented several papers at the recent meetings in Reno and thanks to Terry Simmons, assisted in planning the paper sessions. For more information concerning Applied Geographers please see page 5 of the minutes of the APCG Reno conference in this *Pacifica*. For more information about Applied Geographers you can e-mail either John Passerello at: John_Passerello@oes.ca.gov or Terry Simmons at: terry@simmons.reno.nv.us.

Additional contributions to the Margaret Trussell Memorial Fund are welcomed. Please make check out to "APCG" and indicate that it is for the Trussell Fund. Please send contributions to: APCG, Department of Geography, CSU Sacramento, Sacramento, CA 96819-6003.

APCG Women's Network

Megan Ashbaugh, KEA Environmental, Inc.

At the Women's Network Luncheon in Reno, representatives of the Women's Network announced the creation of the Margaret Trussell Memorial Fund. This fund has been established to promote mentoring of undergraduate and graduate geography students and progress of women geographers.

The purpose of the mentoring program is to promote and recognize excellence in faculty mentoring of undergraduate and graduate students. In recognition of their achievement in mentoring, faculty will be honored with a plaque that describes their achievement and each faculty honoree will be asked to name a student to receive a Travel Award to the APCG annual meeting. The Network will also promote good mentoring practices by providing information on mentoring and by hosting mentoring sessions at future APCG meetings.

At the Luncheon, members of the APCG recognized and honored Dr. Margaret Trussell, founder of the Women's Network and the first woman president of the APCG and Dr. David H. Miller, Professor Emeritus, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee for his generous support of the Women's Network. Dr. Miller's contributions to the Women's Network over the past several years have been in the form of monetary support for the Network's programs and also intellectual support through his ideas and suggestions for ways to support and promote women geographers, especially students.

The main topic of discussion at the Luncheon was the recent receipt of Margaret Trussell's bequest of over \$49,000 and how the Women's Network should best use this generous gift. Margaret Trussell was dedicated to mentoring students and had specified that the gift be used by the Women's Network for scholarships for women in geography.

Information on Women's Network scholarships, the mentoring program, and travel awards will be announced in a forthcoming edition of *Pacifica* and posted on the APCG website: <http://www.csus.edu/apcg/index.html>

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (*Continued from page 2*)

tional experience when student and professor can only communicate through the filters of TV cameras and monitors or through the Internet? These are important questions that will need to be addressed as our options in these areas appear to be increasing exponentially.

I asked one of my colleagues why he became a geographer. His response was, I was excited about and interested in things that were happening on the surface of the earth. These were things that he was experiencing first hand. Many departments, due to budget cuts, are unable to include a significant field component in their curricula. Still, even within these constraints, we can get our students "outside". We might lead a walk or teach field techniques. We might simply give an assignment where students go out in teams or alone to look for specific things or to simply record what they naively experienced in a landscape or cityscape.

J. B. Jackson implored us to look and to ask questions, often questions that didn't necessarily have "nice" answers. He asked us to understand. Of the many thought provoking, excellent presentations at the recent Reno meeting one particularly stands out in my mind. Two San Francisco State University students, Sara Marcellino and Christopher Campbell presented their research on "Perceptions of Danger and Safety in a Homeless Environment". What first caught my attention was their willingness to go into the field and listen to homeless people's fears and desire for a "voice". What impressed me more, was that through actual research and experience their perception of the homeless changed.

If geography is a holistic discipline there must be room for innovation, technology, different viewpoints, different voices. Underlying these all, however, is our excitement and caring for "what's happenin'" on the earth's surface. It is our experiences that raise questions - fun questions and difficult ones. It is through seeking answers and gaining understanding that we learn to care deeply. Hopefully that understanding leads to more questions and caring, innovations and creative thinking, then deeper understanding until we are caught up in a positive feedback loop. We need to keep field-truthing whether we are remotely sensing or not...

How long had it been since I waded in a creek? My feet felt like they were reborn, newly alive with the sensation of water, rock, sand, and mud. They sensed the changes in temperature from wet to dry sand from sunlight to shadow, the cold debouchment of another tiny tributary, the difference between sand and slick, clay mud. I walked warily, remembering that I was alone. I didn't need to go far. I smelled the dankness of the creek, watched the ripples of light and shadow, listened to the tones of water sliding over rock into eddies — rubbing up against the sandstone wall of the canyon. One wall was in shadow, the one towards which I walked in light.

NEW MEMBERS

102 new members from
3/21/99 to 10/19/99:

More new members joined
when they registered at the
annual meeting. They will be
listed in the next issue of
Pacifica.

Susan Ahn
Natalya V. Antonova
Karen Arabas
Paul W. Blank
Sarah Blue
Shawn Boeser
Jeffrey S. Boggs
Dr. M. P. Brown
Christopher Campbell
Frankie Carey
Shannon J. Casey
Ronald Chan
Darren A. Cook
Michael Cooper
Lisa Cronce
Suzanne Dallman
David D. Davis
Cary de Wit
Fred K. Dent
Mark Drayse

Tom Edwards
Barbara Feist
Ross Fenton
Tim Flanagan
Tom Frazier
Ethan Frommholz
Kurt Goering
Michael F. Goodchild
Richard Goodenough
Carolyn Groessl
Paul Groth
Carrie Guiles
John T. Gunn
Joan Hackeling
Timothy W. Hawkins
John Heppen
James Herink
Darrel Hess
Thomas Irion
John E. Isom
Steven M. Jett
Jennifer J. Johnson
Susan M. Johnson
Natalie Jolly
Kris Jones
David Kaplan
Cary Karacas
Carolina M. Katz

Brenda Kayzar
Matt Kelley
Robert M. Kerr
Peter Killoran
Martin D. Lafrenz
R. Alan Lloyd
Travis Longcore
Dr. Mark Lowry II
Laurence J. C. Ma
Kristin S. MacDonald
Barbara Yablon Maida
William F. Manger
Sara Marcellino
Sallie Marston
Gordon Matzke
Justin McDermott
Carol A. Medlicott
John Meligrana
Meta Mertens
Fred Metcalf
Susan lee Miles
Marianne Mollring
Ron Morgan
William A. Noble
Stanley F. Norsworthy
David Nunes
Alex P. Oberle
Breandán ÓhÚallacháin

Clyde Patton
Gary Peters
Donna Prince
Pauliina Raento
Michael Reibel
Loretta Rose
Erinanne Mooney Saffell
Gwen Gustafson Scott
Irina V. Sharkova
Jorge M. Sifuentes
Loretta Simmerman
Benjamin Stabler
Janet L. Stang
Dr. William LeRoy Thomas
Nathaniel S. Trumbull
Peter Walker
Alys Wall
Marc Weber
Peter C. Wester
Harold A. "Duke" Winters
Aaron Wolf
Jason Wood
Lin Wu
Joanne Scott Wuerker
Killian P. Ying
Joan F. Ying

MAP CORNER

Introduction:

The state of California, Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) was established in 1950 to provide information for planning response and recovery throughout the state. They coordinate overall state agency response to major disasters in support of local government. OES is the "grantee" for federal disaster assistance, principally from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). During the recovery phase of a disaster, OES helps local governments assess damages and assists them with federal and state grant and loan applications to repair damaged public property.

Their GIS unit produces maps and modeling scenarios for emergency response and mitigation such as earthquakes, fires, floods, law enforcement activities, nuclear power preparedness, and urban search-and-rescue. The inserted map is an example of the work they produce. This map identifies 100 and 500-year flood zones, areas prone to inundation, within Sacramento County and adjacent areas. It can be used to visualize surface runoff and where flooding may occur during a rain event. Major flooding episodes occurred throughout this region in 1995, 1997, and 1998.

Data Input and Conversion:

The basemap is a scanned USGS 1:100,000-quadrangle map. The overlaying flood zones were obtained in a digital format from FEMA. These digital files were converted into MapInfo, a desktop GIS.

Data Output:

The enclosed map was exported from MapInfo in a Postscript (PS) format and then converted from Postscript to a PDF format in Adobe Acrobat Distiller. PDF is their favored format for disseminating information because many of their customers are non-GIS users or do not have access to printers with Postscript drivers. This makes the PDF format more universal. PDF files can be sent to any printer or plotter without the use of GIS software. Adobe Acrobat, a free Internet download, is the only necessary software to view and print the PDF file.

Written by *Michael Schmandt*, *Pacifica* Editor, through conversations with *Kris Higgs* and *Dave Kehrline* of OES.



APCG MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Founded in 1935 by a gathering of geographers including graduate students and faculty from universities, normal schools, and junior colleges, the Association of Pacific Coast Geographers has a long and rich history promoting geographical education, research, and knowledge. Members gather at the annual meetings for social and intellectual interaction. They receive the annual *Yearbook*, first printed in 1935, that includes abstracts of papers from the meetings and a number of full-length peer-reviewed articles. Members also receive the bi-annual newsletter *Pacifica*. Since 1952 the APCG has also been the Pacific Coast Regional Division of the Association of American Geographers, serving AK, AZ, CA, HI, ID, NV, OR, WA, BC, and YT.

Questions about membership should be directed to Bob Richardson at the address below, or phone (916) 278-6410, fax (916) 278-7584, or e-mail apcg@csus.edu. Visit our web site at <http://www.csus.edu/apcg/index.html> for various tidbits about the organization and for a new member application form.

ANNUAL DUES

The APCG has always been known for its low cost of membership: Regular \$15; Joint (2 people at same address) \$18;

Student and Retired \$8; Contributing \$20 or more (any contribution over \$15 is tax deductible). Joint members receive only one *Pacifica* and one *Yearbook*.

Dues are paid on the calendar year. Unless you indicate otherwise, checks dated before November 1 will be credited to the current year, while those dated after November 1 will be credited to the next year. Only current year members receive the *Yearbook*. Current members will be sent a membership renewal notice at the end of the calendar year.

HOW TO JOIN THE APCG

Send your check payable to "APCG," along with your name and address to the return address shown below. We can only accept checks in US dollars. For our next Membership Directory, please also indicate your title and affiliation, phone, fax, and e-mail. Indicate also if you are interested in the APCG Women's Network and the APCG Applied Geographers Specialty Group. Students must provide some form of proof of current status, such as the name, department, and signature of a faculty professor.

APCG
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