

structures. The great impact of this “Wisconsin School of Precambrian Geology” is something that I had researched and written about in the 1990s, so it was fun to present the topic to a group of Lake Superior geologists. There were several Badgers in the audience of course, including **Marcia Bjornerud, Bill Hinze, Gene LaBerge, Joe Mancuso, Gordon Medaris, Mike Mudrey, Bob Patenaude, and Laurel Woodruff.**

During the summer, I spent a few days again with colleagues from Amherst College and Canada in the Mosinee area studying remarkable Cambrian jellyfish impressions and associated trace fossils. I now let those other folks do the “heavy lifting” while I offer encouragement and occasional sage(?) advice. That, plus some further work with **Gordon Medaris** on our Proterozoic red quartzites, was the extent of my geological research in 2004. During the year I began instead focussing more on reminiscence writing.

While on a junket around Alaska in August, **Dave Hite** arranged a short barroom gathering with several of our many Anchorage alumni. Besides Dave, **Cole Abel, Paul Decker, John Larson, Jeff Pietras, and Greg Wilson** showed up to bend elbows and compare notes on who is doing what both in Alaska and back here in Madison. It was very nice to see all of them again.

Another big event of the year for me was a kind of Dottfest (see p. 35) at the annual GSA meeting in Denver, which was organized by former students **Jody Bourgeois, Marjorie Chan, and Gary Kocurek** with the enthusiastic participation of many others. There was a morning poster session and in the afternoon an oral session presented by former students and several associates, all of whom made exaggerated claims about my influence. Then, in the evening, most of the group regaled me and part of my family with a fine dinner and flattering comments. I had girded my loins for a roast, but the group was surprisingly gentle. It was a most heart warming occasion—the kind of thing that makes teaching so rewarding.

Nancy and I finished the year with holiday visits to family in Raton, NM and Durango, CO followed by travels south and west across southern New Mexico and Arizona. At Las Cruces, we had a pleasant visit with **Tom and Sue Laudon**, who had fled the Oshkosh winter. We then participated in an Elderhostel program in northern Sonora, Mexico, which touched the enormous early Cenozoic silicic volcanic pile of the Sierra Madre Occidental and the 16th Century Spanish silver mining community of Alamos with a charming, well preserved colonial flavor. To assure a full month away from Wisconsin’s winter, we finished with a few days in balmy Palm Desert, CA only to return home to a rude 7.5 inch blizzard and very cold temperatures. C’est la vie.

LOUIS J. MAHER

This was my first full year of retirement, and I am beginning to get the hang of it. I was called up for jury duty for the first time. I was asked to help out with signs for informational kiosks at Pheasant Branch Marsh, which led to giving a talk to the local high school teachers who were using Pheasant Branch for an environmental class, and that led to going along on an afternoon field trip. I also led two groups of 8th graders from Cross Plains on glacial field trips in their area.

During the spring, I drove to Flagstaff to see an old high school friend. On the way I stopped off in Durango and rented a Cessna Skyhawk with a pilot to fly me over the Animas and San Juan Rivers between the San Juan Mountains and Farmington, New Mexico. **Charles Mansfield** and I flew over the area in 1966, and I wanted to photograph changes that had taken place during the intervening 38 years. Many changes had taken place. The United States’ first and second largest coal-fired power plants had been built north and south of the San Juan River using the area’s low grade Cretaceous coal. The arid region with wonderful longitudinal dunes is now covered with round central-point-irrigated fields. Many new large houses have been built along the Animas River north of Durango. It seemed rather sad in its way. But I did get a chance to visit with **Gary Gianniny** and his wife Cynthia (Dott) at Durango’s Fort Lewis College before starting home in a snow storm.

The year saw the deaths of several department friends. Those of Bob Gates and Sharon Meinholz are discussed elsewhere, but I also attended the funeral of Ann Bauhs. Ann Bauhs was a departmental secretary who retired during the early 1980’s. She was always helpful and fun to be around. We purchased our first word processor while I was Chair, and Ann was assigned to use it. Early word processors were nowhere as easy to use as today’s. Ann took it in stride, and typed out most of our research papers before microcomputers became common.

Jane and I made our annual trip driving and camping around Lake Superior. We spent three weeks in France in the Lot Valley, and also visited La Rochelle where we had spent a year in the army. And I enjoyed seeing many of you at the annual meeting of GSA in Denver.

GORDON MEDARIS

2004 was another busy, enjoyable year of retirement, including snorkeling in Andros, savoring the delights of Tuscany, canoeing the Flambeau and St. Croix rivers with my grandson, road-tripping in Arizona and New Mexico for rock climbing, mountain biking, and petroglyph viewing, and biking with Nancy along the Danube from Donaueschingen to Regensburg, thus completing our journey of the Danube from its source to Budapest.

A highlight of the year was returning to the Yukon after an