

has been turning up exciting new insights about our venerable Baraboo Quartzite—its age, metamorphism, and regional tectonic relationships. Moral: it pays to revisit old problems with new questions and techniques!

❖ Gordon Medaris

2000 was another busy and enjoyable retirement year. The highlight of the year was returning in August to Norway after an absence of 13 years. I spent the first two weeks doing field work with Hannes Brueckner on high- and ultrahigh-pressure rocks in the Western Gneiss Region, followed by a spectacular two-week tour with Basil Tikoff and an intrepid group of graduate students, traveling from Oslo to the Karmøy ophiolite, Bergen arcs, Devonian extensional basins, Western Gneiss Region, Jotunheimen, the Røros area, and back to Oslo. Then it was off to Vienna to meet Nancy and spend the next month biking along the Danube from Vienna to Budapest, including side trips to savor a great variety of Hungarian wines, including the famous Egri Bikaver (Blood of the Bull) in the Valley of Beautiful Women. While in Budapest we heard an excellent concert in the Franz Liszt Hall, and have now been fortunate enough to have attended performances in the three most famous concert halls of central Europe—the Rudolfinum in Prague, the Musikverein in Vienna, and the Franz Liszt Hall in Budapest.

I'm continuing to do research on the Precambrian geology in the Lake Superior Region and on high-pressure and mantle rocks in central Europe. In May I presented two papers at the 46th Institute on Lake Superior Geology—one on the geochemistry of the Barron saprolite and another on the occurrence of foitite, an alkali-deficient tourmaline, in quartz veins in the Baraboo Quartzite. My review paper on "Garnet peridotites in Eurasian high-pressure and ultrahigh-pressure terranes", which originally appeared in 1999 in *International Geology Review*, was reprinted in 2000 in vol. 4 of the new GSA International Book Series, and another paper with Hannes Brueckner on "A general model for the intrusion and evolution of 'mantle' garnet peridotites...." appeared in the *Journal of Metamorphic Geology*. A comprehensive paper on spinel lherzolite xenoliths from Kozákov volcano in the Czech Republic with Nik Christensen, Herb Wang and Emil Jelínek is in press with the *Journal of Geophysical Research*—it provides a continuous petrological and geophysical view of the upper two-thirds of the lithospheric mantle in central Europe! Viorica Iancu from Bucharest visited our department in November, when we completed probe analyses on our project on South Carpathian eclogites, the results of which we plan to present at the Sixth International Eclogite Conference in Japan in September, 2001.

❖ Lloyd Pray

The year 2000 found me "alive and cheering" with my wife, Carrel, and my Los Angeles son's family, as Wisconsin beat UCLA in the Rose Bowl game. Since then the year has gone far too rapidly with a pleasant mix of many family activities and keeping in touch with my hobby—Geology. During the year I continued to appreciate the "Emeritus" status during retirement, with the privilege of Weeks Hall activities, of colleagues and students, an office, a library and other science support systems. In early April, I enjoyed the annual SEPM-AAPG convention in New Orleans, especially the well-attended UW Geology Alumni gathering, replete with snacks and libations. Mary Anderson, Geology and Geophysics chair, summarized departmental news, and together with Toni Simo, Allan Carroll, and others visited with the many returning former students, including geologist and certified magician, Eric Frodesen who regaled us with some of his tricks.

The geological highlight of my year was the May 12-20 SEPM-IAS International Carboniferous Conference in El Paso, Texas. The conference included two three-day field trips both before and following the El Paso technical sessions. The trips focused on the geology of my career-long "Happy Hunting Grounds" of the Sacramento Mountains of New Mexico and the Guadalupe Mountains, New Mexico and Texas and Toni Simo's research in the Hueco Mountains. The mountain sides seemed a bit steeper than in days of yore but remaining intriguing as succeeding generations of geologists glean new interpretations from their marvelous outcrops. This conference was truly international with many from the UK, Europe and the republics of the former Soviet Union as international petroleum geologists are understandably excited about the potential of multi-billion-barrel Carboniferous (Carbonate) reservoirs in the area of the northern Caspian Sea. Two confirmed are Tengiz, long known but coming into new production significance and the newly discovered, apparently giant, Kashagan field. The carbonate strata of the Sacramento Mountains, with its bioherms and associated facies of Mississippian age, and its well-displayed cyclic Pennsylvanian strata, including their algal buildups, have been the target of much research in recent years. Their interpretations now have gained more economic significance. The technical sessions had numerous papers on the potential large oil fields in Kazakhstan and excitement of outcropping surface analogs in little-studied mountains of Kazakhstan's bordering republics to the south. It was fun to have the conference dedicated to three octogenarians, Alan Lees of Belgium—the Waulsortain guru and to James Lee Wilson and myself, who have long crawled over Carboniferous outcrops in southwestern USA.