

# IDAHO BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS



## BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Volume 1, Issue 3

March, 2013

Each year the Governor makes an appointment to the State Board of Registration for Professional Geologists. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please visit <http://gov.idaho.gov/boards/boards.cfm> or contact Ann Beebe in the office of Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter at 208-334-2100.

The following code sections deal with board appointments:

54-2803. A state board of registration for professional geologists is hereby created in the department of self-governing agencies whose duty it shall be to administer the provisions of this chapter. The board shall consist of five (5) members, who shall be appointed by the governor and shall have the qualifications required by section 54-2804, Idaho Code.

The board shall be comprised of members representing at least three (3) of the following categories: academic geologists, government geologists, salaried company geologists, and independent or consultant geologists.

On the expiration of the term of any member his successor shall be appointed in like manner by the governor for a term of five (5) years.

### 54-2804 QUALIFICATIONS FOR BOARD MEMBERSHIP.

Members of the board shall be citizens of the United States and residents of this state, and they shall have been engaged in the practice of geology for at least seven (7) years and shall never have been the subject of a disciplinary action under the provisions of this chapter.



### Geology Board

#### Members:

Dale Osterman, Chair  
John Monks  
Mickey Gunter, Ph.D.  
Richard Reed

### CONTACT:

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**Board Specialist:**  
Deborah Sexton

## Board Appointment Update



The Board would like to thank Paul Link, Ph.D. for his service to the board and Idaho Professional Geologists. Dr. Link is a professor in the Department of Geosciences at Idaho State University and served on the Board as the educator from 2007 to 2012.

The Board appreciates your service and commitment to your profession.



The Board would like to welcome Mickey Gunter, Ph.D. aka Na4(H2O)16 (H2V10028)-6H2O to the Board. Dr. Gunter is a professor at the University of Idaho and also Chair of the Department of Geological Sciences. Professor Gunter

brings a wealth of knowledge to the Board along with a great sense of humor.

### The Mission

*To regulate the practice of geology in the state of Idaho in order to safeguard life, health, and property, and to promote the public welfare, for the public interest.*

## Association of State Board of Geology Update

By Dale Osterman –Chairman

I represented Idaho at the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) at the annual meeting held in Omaha, Nebraska. One of ASBOG's principle services is to develop standardized written examinations used in evaluating the qualifications of applicants seeking licensure as professional geologists. The meeting agenda included a Field Trip "Missouri River Sedimentology, Geohydrology, Geomorphology, and the Flood of 2011 in the vicinity of Omaha, Nebraska" on November 2, 2012 and a General Session on November 3, 2012.

The field trip was led by local geologists Dennis Anderson, P.G. (Thiele Geotech, Inc.) and Sam Bass, P.G. (USACOE). Subjects included protecting and dewatering efforts at Eppley Airfield, dike evaluations and protection, and characteristics of sediment flow and deposition before and after the 2011 Flood.

The annual meeting was conducted on November 3, 2012 and included adoption of the "Slate of Officers for 2013", presentation of Summary Reports by board delegates, and a number of by-laws were presented and vote on. Idaho's Summary Report is included in this newsletter.

## Idaho Association of Professional Geologists

By Rich Reed

I am continuing my efforts in revamping the IAPG and holding respective professional monthly meetings to share geologic information with fellow geoscientists and the general public. The effort was stalled with the loss of historical data bases which have since been retrieved. I have also retained a geology student from BSU to assist me with our efforts to now finalize a current IAPG-IAG membership so we can go forward with our efforts of revitalizing the organization. On a personal level, it is my intent to continue to

work with the current IAPG-IAG membership and its officers and fellow professional geologists and geologist-in-training to revitalize the organization. This would include renewing monthly professional meetings in support of the geologic and geo-scientific professional community regarding the exchange of non-confidential geologic information for the benefit of the public. Anyone who may have an interest in assisting with this effort is encouraged to contact me at: 208-863-2112 or richreed@cableone.net.

## Code of Ethics reminder

When applying to become a Registered Geologist, the Board requires that a "Code of Ethics" document is signed. We would like to take an opportunity to remind everyone of the important items that they have agreed to adhere to:

Brings credit, honor and dignity to the geologic profession in his dealings with clients, other geologists, and the public.

Acts for his clients as a faithful agent or trustee and accepts remuneration only in accordance with his stated charges for services rendered.

Exchanges non-confidential geologic information with other geologists, students, and the public;

encourages the public understanding of geology, and ensures proper credit for geologic work.

Does not reveal nor seek the revelation of geologic work performed for a paying client.

Does not advertise or solicit geologic work assignments in a fraudulent, misleading or deceptive manner.

Promptly reports to the Board unethical conduct on the part of any geologist.

Undertakes professional service or renders expert opinion only when qualified in the specific technical areas involved.



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## Announcing the 2012 New Idaho PG's & GIT's

The Board wishes to congratulate the following new Professional Geologists and Geologists in Training.

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BRUNDIGE SETH A	PGIT-1427
GORDON LAUREN	PGIT-1442
WHITSON MICHAEL	PGL-1417
SWOPE STEPHEN	PGL-1425
HOWARD DAVID B	PGL-1426
THOMAS JEREMIAH	PGL-1428
ELIAS ELIZABETH A	PGL-1430
NELSON DENNIS O	PGL-1433
BROWN PHILLIP A	PGL-1434
WESTHOFF BRIAN D	PGL-1435
LEHMAN BRETT	PGL-1436
HUGHES ALAN R	PGL-1437
EARNEST DANIEL	PGL-1439
ALLEN TYLER	PGL-1440
GUNTER MICKEY	PGL-1441
REID KEVIN	PGL-1443
PORTILLO STEPHANIE	PGL-1446



There are currently 572 licensed Professional Geologists in Idaho and 11 Geologists in Training.



## From the Chairman

By Dale Osterman—Chairman

The Idaho Board of Registration of Professional Geologists is currently served by the Idaho Bureau of Occupational Licenses (IBOL), providing administrative, legal, investigative, and fiscal support.

The Board is currently reviewing our Idaho law to correct and clarify problems uncovered in recent complaint investigations. These changes should be brought before the Idaho Legislature in 2014.

The Idaho renewal fee continues to be \$60.00 a year. Review of the Boards fiscal trends indicates that an increase should not be necessary

in the foreseeable future. This has been possible in part due to the Board joining the other Idaho Boards served by the IBOL.

The Idaho Board has also undertaken an effort to reach out to professors and graduating geologist by offering exams at locations near the three major universities in Idaho.

Mr. James Spalding passed away recently; Jim was a noted phosphate geologist and had served on the Idaho Board since 2004. A new member is being sought for his position.

## ~ In Memory Of ~

James (Jim) Spalding - PGL - 59

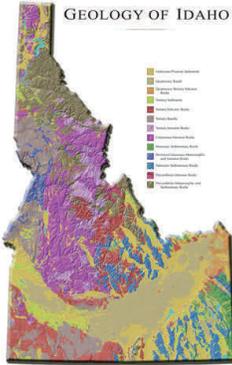


Jim Spalding (PGL-59) served on the Board from 2004 to 2012. Jim was one of the earliest geologists to be licensed after the Idaho geologists organized and the Idaho Law was passed. He worked for Morrison-Knudsen, FMC and Jacobs Engineering. In 1998, he started his own business as a consultant. His expertise was in phosphate mining. Jim traveled the world throughout his career working in such places as China and Saudi Arabia. His wife Rebecca (pictured above) and those that knew him often referred to him as “the Phosphate King”.



## Exam Schedule

Fall Exam	10/04/2013
Application Cut Off	07/04/2013
Spring Exam	03/07/2014
Application Cut Off	12/07/2013
Fall Exam	10/10/2014
Application Cut Off	07/10/2014



## Idaho Geological Survey—2012 maps

The new Geologic Map of Idaho, 2012, compiled by R. Lewis, P. Link, L. Stanford, and S. Long, scale 1:750:000, is available for purchase from the Idaho Geological Survey.

<http://www.idahogeology.org/>



**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

### Workshop on Late Cenozoic to Recent Geologic and Biotic History of the Snake River

**March 24-26, 2014  
Pocatello, Idaho**

This workshop will discuss research on late Cenozoic drainage changes and associated biotic history of the Snake River basin.

**Conveners:**  
Robert Hershler,  
Smithsonian Institution  
([hershler@si.edu](mailto:hershler@si.edu))

Paul Link,  
([linkpaul@isu.edu](mailto:linkpaul@isu.edu)) and  
Scott Hughes, Idaho State  
University  
([hughscot@isu.edu](mailto:hughscot@isu.edu))

**ABSTRACT DEADLINE is  
5:00 pm, January 10, 2014**

Please visit:

[http://geology.isu.edu/  
SnakeRiver](http://geology.isu.edu/SnakeRiver)

### Guest Opinion

By Paul Link, Ph.D.  
Edited by Dale Osterman

Having served four 5-year terms on the PG Board I thought it would be interesting to consider how things have changed. In the 1980's the Board wrote, proctored, and graded our own exams. Now we use the ASBOG exams. The Idaho Board is a member of ASBOG and currently one member of the Board attends the ASBOG meetings and participates in exam preparation. So things are much easier both for the Idaho Board and for applicants who may use the ASBOG exam for recognition in many states. But the Board's work is also less interesting, since writing our own exams required that we think about Idaho geology and try to ask questions that were relevant to our state.

Prior to 2007, we had our own administrative staff and were responsible for all the day to day operation of the Board. In 2007,

the Board contracted with the Idaho Bureau of Occupational Licenses to provide its administrative, fiscal, legal, and investigative services. The Board is the decision making authority and under contract directs the Bureau as to how it is to provide the day to day services for the Board.

Over the years, changes in the open meeting law have affected the Board. For example, the Board is not even permitted to discuss anything by e-mail because this is viewed as a serial meeting and all of the Board's business must be conducted in an open meeting that is properly noticed. This ensures that the public and Registered Professional Geologists have an opportunity to be involved in the process. The IBOL attorney, always present at our meetings these days, was very predictable in shutting me up when I tried to bring up items that seemed of interest but were not on the

agenda.

Finally, except for new Board member Mickey Gunter, I was nearly a total failure in persuading my Idaho academic colleagues to become registered. The good news is that the Board has not been so unsuccessful with State agencies, and so geologists with IDEQ, IDWR, etc. are now required to be registered.

While many geologists believe the role of the Board is to advocate for the profession, the Board's charge is to protect the public. The Idaho Association of Professional Geologists was formed to provide advocacy. I wish the Board luck in continuing its work in Idaho. This is a worthwhile cause.

