

Middle States Division - Association of American Geographers

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2009, Volume 43, No. 1

Editor: Lawrence McGlinn



Summer 2009

Call for Papers and Posters

Fall 2009 Meeting
Lecture Center
SUNY-New Paltz, New Paltz, NY

November 6-7, 2009

Abstracts due by September 15, 2009
(see inside for details)

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President's Message

I hope summer is going well for all of you. If you like cool, moist conditions, then I am sure it has been a banner year.

First, I want to thank Kathy Schreiber for her service as last year's president, and for organizing the outstanding meeting we had in Millersville. Also, I want to thank Keith Henderson for his three years as a vigilant & active regional councilor.

The Middle States Meeting will be on November 6 & 7 in New Paltz, NY, 80 miles north of NY City just off the NY Thruway. We will be meeting right on campus so everything is close by.

New Paltz is noted for its vibrant downtown with restaurants, bars, and stores that serve a broad clientele of students, tourists, and New Paltzians. Historic Huguenot Street, an area first settled by Native Americans, and later by early Belgian/French arrivals, is nearby. Both downtown and Huguenot Street are within easy walking distance of campus, as is the Wallkill Valley Rail Trail, a popular route for walkers & bikers. Overlooking New Paltz is the Shawangunk Ridge, home to the Mohonk Preserve and Minnewaska State Park, both of which offer hiking, biking, and rock-climbing experiences lasting from one hour to a full day. Views are outstanding in early November when leaves have fallen, and humidity is usually low.

So, come to New Paltz in November and bring colleagues, classmates and students. We have pushed the abstract deadline back to September 15, so there will still be time for students & faculty to put something together after arrival back on campus in August. -Larry McGlinn

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Additional division information may be found on our website:
<http://departments.bloomu.edu/geo/msd/index.html>

Fall 2008 Meeting Report – Bolger Conference Center, Millersville University, Millersville, PA

The Annual Meeting of the Middle States region of the AAG was held in Millersville, PA November 7 & 8, 2008. One hundred geographers registered for the meeting, including 53 students. 44 papers and 5 posters were presented during four sessions covering everything from environmental health in SE Asia to Geographic Education.

World Geography Bowl

The 2008 – 2009 Middle States Bowl Team performed well at the World Geography Bowl in Las Vegas, finishing third, coming on strong after a slow start. Team members included: Chelsea Hanchett, Tim Yuskavage, Thomas Sigler, Chelsea Teale, and Tom Auer all of Penn State, and Bart Bogucki of Millersville University.

The World Geography Bowl is a friendly, fast-paced academic competition among college and university students. The game challenges teams of students on fundamental concepts and trivia with geographic themes. Each year, the MSDAAG conducts the division Geography Bowl at its annual regional meeting, this year Friday night, November 6th. The highest-scoring students are then invited to represent the Middle States Division at the World Geography Bowl Finals at the AAG annual meeting (Washington, DC Spring 2010). We invite all division undergraduate and graduate students to compete this fall at SUNY-New Paltz. Form a team (six people) of your own or sign up this fall to be placed on a team. Information on playing or setting up a team can be found at <http://www.geography.vt.edu/sedaag/WGB/WGBMain.htm>.

If you are interested in participating, or would like more information, contact Dr. Amy Krakowka, Dept. of Geography and Environmental Engineering, U. S. Military Academy, West Point Amy.Krakowka@usma.edu.

Middle States Geographer

The *Middle States Geographer* is the official academic journal of the Middle States Division of the Association of American Geographers. The journal is published annually and includes papers from external submissions and the division Annual Meeting. The *Middle States Geographer* contains papers authored by both faculty and students (with peer-review by at least two reviewers) and covers a wide range of topics. The journal is presently edited by Kelly Frothingham and Stephen Vermette, Department of Geography and Planning, Buffalo State College.

If you are presenting a paper at the Fall 2009 MSDAAG meeting, we invite you to submit it for publication in the next issue of the *Middle States Geographer*. Paper submission guidelines are available on the journal's website at <http://geographyplanning.buffalostate.edu/middlestates.html>. You may also contact the editors at frothikm@buffalostate.edu if you are interested in submitting a paper or serving as a reviewer.

Presently, *Middle States Geographer* is entirely an online journal. Articles from 1995 (Volume 28) through 2008 (Volume 41) may be viewed at the journal website. Manuscripts from the 2008 issue (Volume 41) have been recently posted. The online format of the journal widely increases accessibility to readers and exposure for authors, while reducing printing costs. Furthermore, color graphics are now possible and printed at no extra cost to authors. Many thanks to Kelly and Stephen for all their efforts on behalf of the journal.

Standalone Geographers (SAGE)

The AAG has launched an effort to identify standalone geographers (individual geographers and geographers in non-geography departments) and involve them more in national activities. There are many ways that this networking could benefit geographers working outside of a geography department including: external reviewers for tenure, access to geographic resources, funding for research, and recognition for awards. The AAG has established a standalone geographers' affinity group and will have a reception at the annual meeting in D.C. The Middle States' SAGE representative is David Fyfe from York College of PA. He is compiling a network of standalone geographers in the region. Standalone geographers contact David at dfyfe@ycp.edu

Fall 2009 Meeting – SUNY-New Paltz, New Paltz, NY - Call For Papers and Posters

The 2009 Annual Meeting will be held at the State University of New York, College at New Paltz in New Paltz, NY, roughly halfway between New York City and Albany, in the Hudson Valley. The conference will be hosted by the SUNY-New Paltz Department of Geography on campus on Friday, November 6 and Saturday, November 7.

SUNY-New Paltz is only 1 mile west of Exit 18 of the NY Thruway (www.newpaltz.edu). With strong connections to NY City, New Paltz is a center of activities ranging from music and art to hiking and rock climbing. The New Paltz Chamber of Commerce web site has links to restaurants and attractions around town (<http://www.newpaltzchamber.org/>). Noteworthy New Paltz institutions include Historic Huguenot Street (<http://www.huguenotstreet.org/>), a restored 17th-century settlement in the village of New Paltz where tours, demonstrations, and research are all ongoing. Also, atop the Shawangunk Ridge, overlooking New Paltz, the Mohonk Preserve (<http://www.mohonkpreserve.org/>) has spectacular hiking, biking and rock climbing opportunities for visitors. Neighboring Minnewaska State Park offers lakes, streams and trails exploring more of the Shawangunk Ridge (<http://nysparks.state.ny.us/parks/info.asp?parkID=78>). A more leisurely walk or ride can be had along the Walkkill Valley Rail Trail, which runs directly through the village of New Paltz and for miles north and south (<http://www.gorailtrail.org/>). On campus, the Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art (<http://www.newpaltz.edu/museum/>) has ongoing programs throughout the year.

As usual, the fall 2009 meeting will consist of two days of paper and poster sessions. Friday night will include a hot buffet supper and the Geography Bowl competition. On Saturday, a morning of papers will be followed by a hot buffet luncheon, speaker, and student paper awards. Please join us for this event. Contact Larry McGlenn (middlestatesmeeting@yahoo.com) with questions or for help in organizing a session or panel. To participate, please submit an abstract (not exceeding 250 words) by 15 September 2009. Please note whether your abstract is for a paper, a poster, or a discussion panel. Please attach your abstract as a WORD file and send to Larry McGlenn at middlestatesmeeting@yahoo.com. NOTE : Posters will have to be on Tri-fold displays appropriate for placement on tables. We do not have easels or hangers for large, flat poster displays. To ensure your place on the program, please also fill out the accompanying registration form, enclose a check, and send it to: Lawrence McGlenn, Department of Geography, Hanmer House, SUNY-New Paltz, New Paltz, NY 12561.

MAKE YOUR LODGING RESERVATIONS

Hotels in New Paltz provide basic accommodations. Recommended as the best deal/newest option (although further away) is the Super 8 in Highland (7 miles) where a block of rooms for MSDAAG has been set aside UNTIL OCTOBER 4. Please reserve your room early. There are limited room choices in this small motel. Rooms will NOT be held after that date. Room rate is \$80 with 10% tax for up to 4 people per room. Mention MSDAAG when you reserve a room at 845-691-6888.

Other options are older units and include:

Rodeway Inn and Suites (2 miles) 801 Main Street, New Paltz 845-883-7373 (www.rodewayinnandsuitesnp.com) \$89.99-129.99 (plus 10% tax).

Super 8 New Paltz (1 mile) 7 Terwilliger Lane, New Paltz 845-255-8865 (www.super8.com) \$68 and up (plus 10% tax) depending on how early you make reservations

EconoLodge (1.5 miles) 530 Main Street, New Paltz 845-255-6200 (www.econolodge.com) \$105.99 (plus 10% tax).

More luxurious hotels can be found 10-15 miles away, across the Hudson River in Poughkeepsie on route 9 (try www.priceline.com for deals) or in Kingston (18 miles north).

Student Paper Competition

All **STUDENTS** are urged to come and present a paper at the fall conference. The reduced rate for enrolled students is \$45.00 before October 6. MSDAAG also encourages all graduate and undergraduate students to submit and present research papers to the Student Paper Competition. **CASH PRIZES** are awarded. Student status is as of May 1, 2009. Conference fees are waived for students who both submit the completed paper in writing by the deadline and present the paper at the conference. Completed papers must follow the *Middle States Geographer* guidelines and can be no longer than 8 pages, single spaced, 10 point Times Roman or equivalent font. Further details on the guidelines are specified at the Middle States Division AAG web site at (http://geographyplanning.buffalostate.edu/msg_guidelines.html) Entrants should send abstracts of no more than 250 words to Larry McGlenn at middlestatesmeeting@yahoo.com by September 15, 2009 and send electronic copies of completed papers to John F. Dobosiewicz at jdobosie@kean.edu

Election for Secretary of MSDAAG

Please vote according to the accompanying ballot directions, and then consider serving yourself in an upcoming year. The success of MSDAAG is dependent upon the willingness of our region's members to serve in leadership positions!

What do the officer duties involve? The Secretary position runs from January – December. The Secretary will then progress in subsequent years through the positions of Vice President and President. The secretary is in charge of keeping the meeting minutes from board meetings and judging the student paper competition; the Vice President is in charge of writing questions for and leading the Geography Bowl at that year's regional meeting, and the President is in charge of organizing the MSDAAG bowl team for the national competition, meetings of the board, communication with the regional division including newsletters, and the annual meeting for that year.

Candidate for Secretary – Paul Marr

I have been with the Geography-Earth Science department at Shippensburg University for 13 years and a member of Middle States about the same number of years. I teach a number of courses at Ship—transport, historical, medical, Latin America, world regional and quantitative methods. While finishing on my PhD at the University of Denver I worked for the EPA in the Office of Policy and Management doing a wide variety of tasks, ranging from GIS to tribal liaison. My research interests include historical transportation and landscape abandonment, and I have examined these in a number of locations: south-central Pennsylvania (where I live), Colorado, central Mexico, and northern Chile. Middle States is an extremely productive and collegial division, and if elected Secretary, I would work continue making our division one of the AAG's most vibrant.

Cut and mail in the ballot portion of this page to:

Larry McGlenn, Dept. of Geography, Hanmer House, SUNY New Paltz, New Paltz, NY 12561

Middle States AAG Ballot Secretary Election

Biographical information above

Paul Marr _____

Write-In _____

Do not identify yourself on the ballot, but please make sure your name is legible on the mailing envelope so that voting status can be verified. Please mail your ballot to arrive by October 6, 2009.



Postal mail this page with check to:
 Larry McGlinn, MSDAAG Conference, Department of Geography, SUNY New Paltz, 1 Hawk Drive, New Paltz, NY 12561

**Association of American Geographers - Middle States Division
 2009 Meeting Pre-Registration Form (Complete a Separate Form for Each Person)
 November 6-7, SUNY New Paltz, New Paltz, NY 12561**

Last Name	First Name	(_____)_____ Phone #	Email	
Address		City	State	Zip
Affiliation				

<u>REGISTRATION FEES</u>	<u>Before Oct. 6</u>	<u>After Oct. 6</u>	<u>Enclosed</u>
FULL REGISTRATION (Friday supper, Saturday Lunch, all sessions)	\$95.00	\$105.00	\$ _____
STUDENT REGISTRATION (Friday supper, Saturday Lunch, all sessions)	\$45.00	\$50.00	\$ _____
LIMITED REGISTRATION (Includes all sessions, no meals)	\$50.00	\$60.00	\$ _____
FRIDAY ONLY (Friday supper, all Friday sessions)	\$60.00	\$70.00	\$ _____
SATURDAY ONLY (Saturday Keynote Lunch, all Saturday sessions)	\$60.00	\$70.00	\$ _____
<u>CIRCLE YOUR CHOICE</u>	TOTAL ENCLOSED		\$ _____

Make Checks Payable to MIDDLE STATES DIVISION AAG. Postal mail registration form and check or money order to: Larry McGlinn, MSDAAG conference, Department of Geography, SUNY New Paltz, 1 Hawk Drive, New Paltz, NY 12561.

NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN AFTER OCTOBER 6. Credit cards are NOT accepted with postal registration or at conference.