

CanGEA Honourary Member 2008

Dr. Jack Souther

Background

- Born 1924 in Chicago Ill; childhood in Alabama
- Young adult - Bar C ranch in Alberta
- First job - alpine guide and packer Mt Assiniboine Lodge; 1945 to 1947 - horse packer for GSC in Yukon
- 1952 graduated from UBC, Geological Engineering
- 1955 graduated from Princeton, PhD. geology
- 1956 joined GSC and started regional mapping in BC 1970 specialized in volcanology and spent a year as visiting scientist at Hokkaido Univ., Japan
- 20+ years with Geological Survey of Canada on geothermal
- Bancroft Award Winner 1984: Royal Society of Canada "given for publication, instruction, and research in the earth sciences that have conspicuously contributed to public understanding and appreciation of the subject"
- GSC, VIP Division Lifetime Achievement Recipient
- Geological association of Canada: Volcanology Division Career Achievement Award.



Research

- Leading authority: Cordilleran volcanism and geothermal resources "*Encyclopedia of work*"
- Vancouver (GSC); added several hundred Quaternary volcanoes to the map of Canada; including extensive work & regional mapping of the Stikine and the Mt. Edziza Area
- 1966 "Volcanism and its relationship to recent crustal movements in the Canadian Cordillera"
- Volcanoes of North America, the section "Volcano Tectonics of Canada"
- 1972. Volcanic rocks of the northern Canadian Cordillera
- 1976. Geothermal potential of western Canada. In: Proc 2nd United Nations Symp
- 1993. Crow Lagoon tephra--new evidence of recent volcanism in west-central British Columbia.

Character

- Adventurer: helicopters, volcanos, world traveller, powder days, mountain climber
- Open and Passionate: Willing to share his knowledge, inspiration/mentor to future scientists
- Multi-talented: Photographer, gifted writer, amazing athlete and accomplished scientist

Quotes

"Because of his ability to present scientific concepts in a lucid and informative way, he has long been in demand as a lecturer to lay audiences, as a principal in media interviews, as a participant in radio and television open-line shows, and as a central figure in television documentaries dealing with his scientific specialty. Following the eruption of Mount Saint Helens his talents for communication became ever more widely recognized, as he responded authoritatively and eloquently to a vast demand for information"

Exceptional Clear Writer: PIQUE Newsmagazine Whistler.

At present the volcanoes of the Garibaldi Belt are quiet, presumed dead but still not completely cold. But the flare-up of Meager Mountain 2,500 years ago raises the question, "Could it happen again?" Was the explosive eruption of Meager Mountain the last gasp of the Garibaldi Volcanic Belt or only the most recent event in its on-going life? The short answer is nobody really knows for sure. ...So just in case I sometimes do a quick check of the old hot-spots when I get off the Peak Chair.."

CanGEA thanks Dr. Jack Souther for all his support of Geothermal Energy in Canada!