



AGS Distinguished Service Award – 1997

Norman Lyttle

I nominate Norman Lyttle for the Distinguished Service Award of the Atlantic Geoscience Society.

Norman's association with the Society goes back to the early seventies, when he was at Dalhousie University. He was elected to Council in 1976 as newsletter editor, a thankless task that everyone else tried to avoid. That explained some of the problems in the erratic nature of the publication of the Newsletter, until Norman came along and put it on a sound footing. He was instrumental in changing both the size and format of this venerable publication.

Great things were happening in the geological community of Atlantic Canada in the late 70s. One was organizing the GAC/MAC Annual Meeting for 1980 in Halifax. As a last minute substitute, Norman was brought in to take charge of publicity for Halifax'80, after the original choice faded into obscurity. That, fortunately was not Norman's way and he did a superb job.

Moving onwards and upwards, Norman Lyttle took on the most thankless task under the "old" system by becoming secretary/treasurer of the Society in 1980. As superman, Norman had to collect the exorbitant annual dues of \$2, as well as keep the minutes for all Council meetings. He performed this impossible task before becoming program chairman in 1983. In 1984, he became Vice President.

Depending on one's age, the mid-eighties were almost as exciting as the late seventies. The AGS Video Project kicked off in 1984 and Norman foolishly volunteered to be on the Committee. Naturally he was soon saddled with the job of treasurer, as well as being on the technical committee for the first video, "The Mineral Wealth of Atlantic Canada".

Norman Lyttle also volunteered to serve on the "Basins of Eastern Canada" committee and surprise, surprise, he became treasurer plus accepting responsibility for housing. The symposium, held in Halifax in 1986, was a resounding success. Meanwhile in 1985 Norman

became President of the Society, so that he officiated at the Colloquium, held at Acadia that year.

After reaching the pinnacle of power, Norman remained active in the Society, continuing as treasurer of the Video Committee. In his twelve years in this role, he has handled a total of about \$500,000, all of which has been accounted for. The Committee has succeeded in producing four videos and two video guides, with another two video guides waiting in the wings. This record is in no small part due to Norman's financial wizardry and his leadership role in drawing up legal contracts for each video.

For his outstanding service to the Atlantic Geoscience Society, I believe that Norman Lyttle would be a worthy recipient of the AGS Distinguished Service Award.

Yours sincerely,

Graham L. Williams