



Donna Anderson

COUNSELOR

Why I'm running for the Counselor position on the RMAG Board of Directors

As Counselor I want to help shape the changes that will position the RMAG for the next decade. I have been an RMAG member for about 35 years. For the last 22 of those years I have been active on both RMAG and AAPG (national and Rocky Mt. Section) boards and committees, including Foundation Boards for those societies, and in a community leadership organization. I will leverage the perspectives and contacts derived from those experiences.

What does membership in RMAG mean to me?

The RMAG has been a huge professional lift to my career. Of all the geologic organizations that petroleum geologists can belong to, the RMAG is the organization in the Rocky Mountain region that has the most impact, because it provides a local and regional professional network (I have gotten jobs through that network) and activities that are fun, educational, and timely, not to mention publications that have focused directly on my own work at a given time.

Where I want to see RMAG in 5 years

In five years, I want the RMAG be a highly recognized, vibrant and healthy geoscience organization in the Colorado Front Range and beyond. Because of the unpredictable yet inevitable business cycles, the RMAG needs to sustain a healthy financial portfolio to carry it through the lean times. A robust educational and activity program increases RMAG exposure as an outreach organization to current and future members including the K-12 crowd. Increasing and engaging the RMAG membership and developing new organizational leadership is a constant challenge. An active social media program along with a broad portfolio of inclusive activities is a basis for a sound organization going forward.

Brief description of your geological background, and any previous board of director's experience

A native of southern California, I received a B.A. in Earth Science at California State University at Fullerton (1974), M.S. in Geology from UCLA (1980), and Ph.D. in Geology from Colorado School of Mines (1997). My professional career includes being an engineering

geologist in southern California (1974–78), a petroleum geologist at Mobil Oil Corp. in Denver (1980-92), and a petroleum industry consultant (1997–2006), all leading to my last petroleum position at EOG Resources (2006-2015). In 2015 I retired as a geological advisor at EOG Resources where I participated in unconventional tight gas and oil plays and discoveries in the DJ, Powder River, and Uinta basins. Since 2000, I was concurrently a Research Faculty member in Geology at Colorado School of Mines where I advised or co-advised 8 M.S. students and taught undergraduate classes and field camps. Post-retirement I continue this passion as an Affiliate Faculty member, where I am engaged on many thesis committees, teach a graduate class once a year (always rock-based), and pursue stratigraphic research. Change has been a constant factor in my career.

For the RMAG I have been Treasurer (1997), First Vice-President (1999), President-Elect (2003) and President (2004). I have also been co-editor of the Outcrop, editor of the Mountain Geologist, and chairman of the Publications and Finance committees. I have co-edited several RMAG books and written numerous articles. Currently I am having fun with the On-the-Rocks field trip committee and this year became co-chair of the newly formed RMAG 100th Anniversary committee.

Tell us something fun and interesting about yourself.

Recently, driving down a dusty washboard road in the Park Range of Colorado, my husband of 40 years turned to me and said, "You know, you really ARE a nerd." That's probably because I lured him into going to an obscure outcrop in the Ferris Mountains that required some fun 4WD maneuvering just hours before. Those who know me would not be at all surprised at this, and they would likely agree with my husband. Due to that "nerdness" though, I have a strong commitment to "paying it forward." I am happy to say that the RMAG and AAPG (national and regional) have recognized my service and science with several awards. I also like to write, travel, and hike, and I indulge in some sewing from time to time.