

New SEGS Treasurer Introduction:

Hello Friends, colleagues and SEGS Members that I have yet to meet. Thank you for the privilege of serving you and the opportunity to share our passion for earth sciences with communities of the southeastern United States. I commend Guy "Harley" Means on his many years of service as Treasurer of this prestigious organization, which was established in 1944, and hope to advance our Society with further recognition of our skills and trades as they contribute to science. One of my favorite slogans, which I hope to receive Member advocacy to obtain, among other SEGS merchandise, is "If you can't grow it, you have to mine it".

I cite your "advocacy", but I really mean your contribution to SEGS in one of several committees, the referenced being Merchandising, which would support another committee for Scholarships. Currently active committees include Field Trip, Newsletter, Membership and Nominating. Participation in professional organization committees is fun, educational and a terrific resume builder!

We currently have \$17,272.64 in our coffers that we'd like to distribute as \$1,000 to \$3,000 scholarship awards, but we need a committee Chair or co-Chairs. Note that our parent organization, the Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies (CGAGS) has offered us scholarship-match funding. I'm proud to say that the CGAGS awarded me a \$1,500 scholarship when I was in grad school at USF (that was a lot of money back then).

Know that we are an entirely volunteer organization. The SEGS Executive Committee and other greatly-appreciated Members contribute much to our mission and emphasis on field trips, with tasks such as nurturing relationships for private property, e.g. mine access, establishing protocols, preparing notices, planning logistics, food, security, safety and producing guidebooks - our legacy; check out the 64 SEGS publications listed on our website from the last 72 years of our Society's existence!

SEGS recently obtained 501c3 non-profit status, enabling us to raise funds, sell merchandise, award scholarships and of course pay taxes. We wish to encourage you to join in our camaraderie and develop professionally for the benefit of earth sciences and our communities.

Thank you,
Your SEGS Treasurer,
Andrew M. Lawn, M.S., P.G.