



AIPG GEORGIA SECTION

Ron Wallace, President
Eric Lowe, Vice President
Glen Faulkner, Treasurer
Joshua Poole – West Georgia student chapter
Semir Sarajlic – Georgia State student chapter
Bryan Victor – Columbus State student chapter

October 2011

NEXT MEETING

LUNCH AND AN AIR SPARGE/SOIL VAPOR EXTRACTION SITE

Leader: Steve Diamond, P.E., S&ME, Inc.

When: Friday, October 14, 2011, 2:00 PM

Where: Swifty Save 1025 Chastain Road, Kennesaw, GA

AIPG Members and guests call or email by Wednesday October 12, 2011, if you plan to attend
[Call Ron Wallace (404) 362-2589 or ronald_wallace@dnr.state.ga.us]

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

First of all I'd like to thank the membership that voted for me for President-Elect for AIPG. It's going to be a very busy three-year commitment. There are a number of subjects I'd like to cover in this message. We have added Columbus State University as a student chapter and I plan on going there in another week to present them with their chapter plaque and check for \$100.00 from National. We have also received the paperwork from the University of Georgia to start a student chapter in Athens. To have a student chapter with our Georgia Section it is important to have our professional geologists interact with the students and to help them with career decisions and the importance of being a professional geologist. I try to visit most of the departments in the spring and we had two career talks last spring at Georgia State and West Georgia. We need to be able to offer our student members other activities but we need volunteers and I'd really like to get some members that are alumni of our student chapter universities. This may only require one visit per year to the campus.

Some of you know that for the first three weeks of September I was out of the office almost the entire time. I visited three friends in Michigan from graduate school, attended AIPG annual conference and saw many friends there, flew to Houston and saw friends from my early years with Exxon, and then on to Kansas where I gave a talk on geology careers with six other speakers and attended meetings with the geology alumni advisors and saw some friends from graduate school. I tell you this to make two points. The first is to keep in contact with geologists you work with, were classmates, or geologists you met. There will be changes in your career that you will be able to point to that decided which direction you go in life. You will need these contacts to help with these decisions. The second point is my generation of geologists is nearing retirement and I know of a few friends that have already retired. There will be more geologists retiring than there are geologists coming up through the universities. It is important that we help the next generation of geologists.

For the members that are Georgia PGs, please renew your license by the end of the year. We will be doing another drilling demonstration in Americus on October 21, 2011, for Georgia Southwestern State University. In November I'll be giving a talk at the annual GTEC UST one-day conference. If you are able to help our section, please contact Eric Lowe or myself.

AIPG Annual Conference September 10 -13, 2011

The 2011 American Institute of Professional Geologist (AIPG) 48th Annual National Conference took place at the Hilton Chicago - Indian Lake Resort located in Bloomingdale, IL. I attended one field trip on the Upper Mississippi Valley Lead-Zinc District where we visited a number of the old sites and their reclamation. We also visited two museums where we went into underground mines. I attended a number of technical sessions and heard talks on remediation, brownfields, and energy issues. There was a good variety of exhibitors and I spoke to a few that may be interested in attending our remediation conference. I was the luncheon speaker on Tuesday and my talk was titled “Energy Use: What Are We Using? Where Do We Get It?”

Next years conference will be in Rapid City, SD from September 22-25, 2012. This conference will have some great geology field trips and I encourage all our members to really consider attending. If you haven't been out west lately or attended a geology field trip in many years then this will give you an opportunity to pull those dusty field boots out of the closet.

Drilling Demonstration at Sierra Piedmont:

We had a great time at Sierra Piedmont's office although it was pretty warm outside after a few hours. Sierra Piedmont cooked hamburgers and hotdogs for everyone. Jim Fineis, president of Atlas Geo-Sampling had his crew install a monitoring well on-site. We instructed the students in proper soil description, soil sampling, well development, and two types of well purging and groundwater sampling. To have over 50 students attend I'd like to thank our two student chapter presidents: Semir Sarajlic from Georgia State and Josh Poole from West Georgia. Also we had two faculty advisors Seth Rose from Georgia State and Randa Harris from West Georgia. From Sierra Piedmont I'd like to thank Scott Pate, Robert Mangum, and Katherine Neder. Robert can really cook up a hamburger. You can't pull off these types of activities without the help of some of our members. I'd like to thank Eric Lowe, Yo Sumartojo, Jim Ashworth, Duane Fulton, and Pat Baird. This is the fifth site that Jim Fineis has drilled for us and none of this would be possible without his help. For this I give a big Thank You.



Georgia State University students



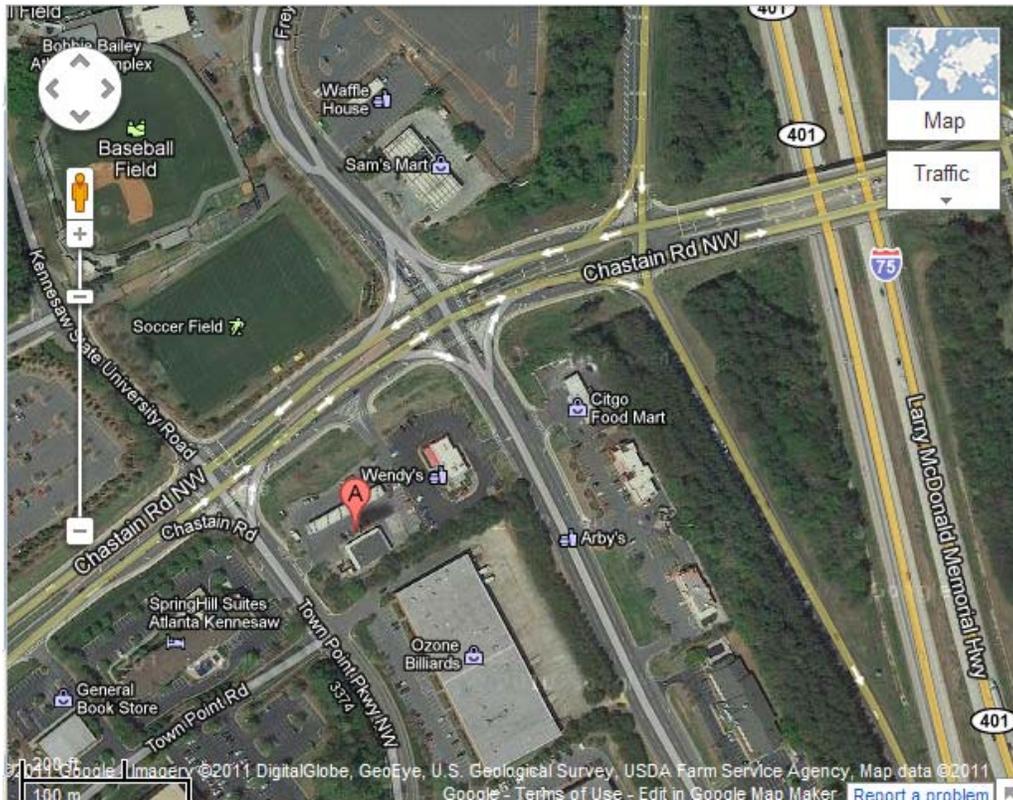
University of West Georgia students

UPCOMING MEETING

We haven't visited a remediation site in over a year so I thought this would be a good time to introduce some of our younger members how we remediate a petroleum release site. This is a good follow up of our drilling demonstration conducted in August. We set this meeting for 2:00 PM so that some of our student members could finish class and be able come out to the site. The site has a new AS/SVE system that was recently installed. We will spend approximately 45 minutes talking about the site and look at all the components. Then we will go next door for a late lunch at Wendy's. For some of the consultants if you are limited in time you may want to eat first then come to the site. My hope is that we will have some professionals at lunch to discuss any issues with the students.

FROM ATLANTA

Go north on I-75 and take the Chastain Road exit. At the traffic light take a left, cross I-75 and continue until you reach the intersection of Town Point Parkway NW. Take a left at the traffic light and the service station will be on your left. Try to park on the side of the building.



Swiftly Save at 1025 Chastain Road

OTHER ORGANIZATION'S MEETINGS

If members are in other organization and know of meetings or field trips that our members may be interested in, please contact Eric Lowe at 678-244-5043 or Ron Wallace at 404-362-2589.

Atlanta Geological Society

Speaker – To Be announced

Tuesday October 25, 2011

6:30 pm Social

7:00 pm Meeting

At Fernbank Museum of Natural History

767 Clifton Rd., NE

Atlanta, GA 30307

Georgia Ground Water Association

Speaker – To Be Announced

Friday November 18, 2011

12:00 pm

At GAWP office, Marietta

1655 Enterprise Way SE

Marietta, GA 30067

To contact Eric Lowe:

678-244-5043 office

elowe@smeinc.com

To contact Ron Wallace :

404-362-2589 office

ronald_wallace@dnr.state.ga.us

FEDERAL DOCUMENTS

EARTH SCIENCE WEEK BEGINS: OCTOBER 9-15

Earth Science Week (ESW), October 9-15, aims to encourage people everywhere to explore the natural world and learn about the geosciences. “Our Ever-Changing Earth,” the theme of ESW 2011, engages young people and the public in learning about the natural processes that shape the planet over time. Access the American Geosciences Institute’s ESW [web site](#) for more information about resources, activities and contests during ESW.

APPLY TO BE A GEOPOLICY INTERN AT AGI’S GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS PROGRAM

The American Geosciences Institute's Government Affairs Program offers [summer and semester internship opportunities](#) for geoscience students (undergraduates and/or Masters students) with an interest in public policy and in how Washington impacts the geoscience community. Interns gain a first-hand understanding of the legislative process and the operation of executive branch agencies while enhancing their writing, research, and web publishing skills. The deadline for online submission of application is October 15, 2011 for the spring 2012 semester internship.

NRC STANDSTILL MEANS UNCERTAIN FUTURE FOR YUCCA MOUNTAIN

On September 9, 2011, four members of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) voted 2-2 on whether to uphold a June 2010 decision by the NRC’s Atomic Safety and Licensing Board to prevent the Obama Administration from pulling DOE’s application for the proposed Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository in Nevada.

The 2-2 vote has been interpreted in different ways. Republican Commissioner William Ostendorff, who has publicly voiced his support for Yucca Mountain, said the split is “legally unambiguous” and that the licensing board’s decision should stand. Democratic Commissioner William Magwood argued that the indecision means Congress is now responsible for deciding the fate of Yucca Mountain. Though five members serve on the commission, including Chairman Gregory Jaczko, the vote was split because Democratic Commissioner George Apostolakis recused himself. Apostolakis previously participated in the project’s scientific review, which was conducted at Sandia National Laboratory.

The Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 requires the Department of Energy (DOE) to site, construct, operate, and close a repository for spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste. It was amended in 1987 to designate Yucca Mountain as the only site for waste disposal. In 2010, the Obama Administration pulled DOE’s licensing application from the NRC and has repeatedly zeroed out funding for Yucca Mountain. The DOE has indicated that Yucca Mountain is not an appropriate site for a nuclear waste repository.

DOE RELEASES QUADRENNIAL TECHNOLOGY REVIEW

The Department of Energy (DOE) [released](#) its Quadrennial Technology Review in September. DOE priorities with a limited budget include deploying clean energy, modernizing the electrical grid, increasing building and industrial energy efficiency, deploying alternative hydrocarbon fuels, electrifying the vehicle fleet, and increasing vehicle efficiency. The report found that DOE spends about half of its energy technology funds to support clean energy generation, 19% on building and industrial efficiency, 5% on electrical grid improvements, 9% on vehicle electrification, and 13% on deploying alternative fuels.

DEEPWATERHORIZON JOINT INVESTIGATION FINAL REPORT RELEASED

On September 14, 2011, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation, and Enforcement (BOEMRE) and U.S. Coast Guard Joint Investigation Team (JIT) released their final investigative [report](#) of the April 2010 BP Deepwater Horizon explosion and oil spill. The final report, also known as Volume II, concludes that BP, Transocean and Halliburton violated a number of federal offshore safety regulations. BP said that it "has accepted its responsibility for responding to the spill and is accordingly paying costs and compensation," while Halliburton has refused to accept any responsibility or accountability.

ITALIAN SEISMOLOGISTS ON TRIAL FOR MANSLAUGHTER

The trial of six Italian seismologists and one government official for alleged negligence and manslaughter for failing to sufficiently warn the citizens of L'Aquila before a magnitude 6.3 earthquake in 2009 that killed 308 people began on October 1, 2011. According to the prosecution, the seismologists downplayed the significance of nearly 400 tremors during the four months before the earthquake and provided assurances that an earthquake was not likely.

OHIO GEOLOGICAL SURVEY IN DANGER

The Ohio Geological Survey (OGS), which provides the state with critical information regarding its natural resources, is at risk of becoming extinct. Ohio currently relies on OGS for geologic records and samples, information for infrastructure development, support for research for the state's regulatory agencies, and information to reduce risks from hazards. OGS has lost its entire general-fund revenue budget and is down to 23 employees from 50. If OGS is lost then the state will also lose matching federal grant money that supports jobs and work within the state. A recent [study](#) conducted by Kleinhenz & Associates estimates that the products, services, and data provided by OGS contributed about \$575 million to the Ohio economy in 2010. In addition to these potential losses, the elimination of OGS would result in an increase of \$1.5 billion in project costs.

KEY REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS

Government Accountability Office (GAO)

Excess Uranium: Clarifying DOE's Disposition Options Could Help Avoid Further Legal Violations

In 2009, the Department of Energy (DOE) began using natural uranium to pay for cleanup work at a former uranium enrichment facility in Ohio, without having identified such transactions in its 2008 plan. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) conducted a report that examines DOE's uranium transactions and plans for future transactions, the extent to which these transactions were consistent with DOE's uranium management plan, and the extent to which these transactions were consistent with federal law. GAO found that DOE violated the miscellaneous receipts statute. GAO recommends that DOE update its uranium management plan and suggests that Congress consider authorizing DOE to, among other things, retain the proceeds of future uranium transactions.

Federal Register Notices

EPA – The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced the establishment of a Federal Underground Injection Control (UIC) Class VI Program for Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) Geologic Sequestration (GS) Wells under which EPA will directly implement the Class VI Program nationally as of September 7, 2011. [[Thursday, September 15, 2011 \(Volume 76, Number 179\)](#)]