



AIPG GEORGIA SECTION

Ron Wallace, President
Eric Lowe, Vice President
Glen Faulkner, Treasurer
Hanna Hill – West Georgia student chapter
Rebecca Pickering – Georgia State student chapter
Don Osborne – Columbus State student chapter
John Harper and Patti Northcutt – University of Georgia student chapter

March 2013

NEXT MEETING

HISTORY OF FORD PLANT UST REMEDIATION AND VISIT

When: 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM Monday, March 18, 2013

Where: 4244 International Parkway, Suite 104, Atlanta, Georgia

AIPG Members and guests call or email by Friday March 15, 2013, if you plan to attend
[Call Ron Wallace (404) 362-2589 or ronald.wallace@dnr.state.ga.us]

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

On Monday night Eric and I enjoyed meeting with our student members and we both had a great time at the career night at the University of Georgia. The students really have a lot of questions dealing with employment. We brought over to the university copies of the article in the TPG “Getting a Job – Resumes, Networking, and Interviews”. We were planning to visit two remediation sites in Athens in April but we are now going to wait until the fall semester. Both sites are being remediated under the direction of the UST program. One site has impacted a small creek and both sites have rather large gasoline plumes.

In April I have been invited to attend University of West Georgia career night for the geoscience students. I’ve attended the last few years and it’s a lot of fun.

In this newsletter you will see that our drilling at Berry College was rained out so we have scheduled it for Monday March 25, 2013, at 12:00 PM behind the Science Building.

In the next few months our Treasurer Glen Faulkner will be retiring from being an officer in our section. Susan Kite will be taking over his duties. Glen has been treasurer for almost 20 years.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Our section continues to grow. Please welcome the following new Member, Associate Member, Young Professional, and Student Members.

Tara Mitchell, Tammy Neal, Amy Jo Tweedell, Kayla Griffin, Troy Mosac, Tyler Boyd, Sara Welter, Thanh Nguyen, Khalil Lezzaik, and Hannah Hill.

To each of our new members the officers of the Georgia Section welcome you to our section and encourage you to attend our field trips and other activities.

LONGEVITY AWARD

We have mailed a certificate to the following members for their years of membership in AIPG.

30 Years – Sam Almaee

20 Years – Robert Krasko

10 Years – Martha Carr, Dan Centofanti, Rob Deal, John Dozier, Duane Fulton, Steve Jarvis, Eric Lowe, Yo Sumartojo, and James Wilson.

CAREER NIGHT AT UGA

On March 4, 2013, AIPG UGA Chapter and Geology Club sponsored a career night. We had six professionals speaking including Mark Hall, Eric Lowe and myself representing AIPG. We presented the chapter a \$500.00 check and gave AIPG hats to John Harper and Patti Northcutt. There were over 40 students in attendance and we answered the student's questions for almost two hours.



Students at University of Georgia



Ron, John Harper and Patti Northcutt

UPCOMING MEETINGS

The Ford Plant meeting will begin at Georgia EPDs office. David Wilderman, P.G. works for Arcadis and will discuss the history of the facility and the fast progress being made to reach a No Further Action letter. Ron Wallace will show a few pictures of the remediation history and EPDs overview of the site. We will spend approximately 45 minutes at the EPD office then drive over to the Ford site. To go onsite you must wear a hard hat, safety glasses or your own glasses, steel-toed boots if you have them but no high heels or open toed shoes. I'd like to thank Ford, Porsche, JDI, and Arcadis for giving us permission and the opportunity to visit the site.



One of the remediation systems at the former Ford Plant



If you are traveling south on I-75 take exit #239 and follow the signs to the International terminal and C.W. Grant Parkway. At the top of the ramp get into the left turning lane at the traffic light. Take a left onto C.W. Grant Parkway and at the second traffic light the intersection will be International Parkway. Take a right at the traffic light and go approximately 50 yards and take the first left into our complex. Drive straight and go around the traffic circle to the stop sign. Park any place you can. The entrance is Suite 104 to the left of the stop sign in the building directly in front of you. There should also be parking in front of the building on your left as you come into our complex.

The drilling demonstration was rained out so we have scheduled it for March 25, 2013, from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM at Berry College. Call or email Ron if you plan to attend.



From Cartersville take the Rome exit onto Hwy 411 Cartersville Hwy. Stay on this highway until you almost reach Rome. Take a right onto State Loop 1 and follow it around until you come to Martha Berry Blvd NE. Take a right and drive to the main entrance of Berry College and take a left onto campus. At the traffic circle go $\frac{3}{4}$ around and take the exit to Fairfield Drive. The building on your left will be the science building. Go behind the building and park in the parking lot.

To contact Eric Lowe:
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To contact Ron Wallace:
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FEDERAL DOCUMENTS

AGI's 2013 AIPG/AGI Summer Internship Applications Due March 15

The American Geosciences Institute's Geoscience Policy program offers summer and semester internship opportunities for geoscience students (undergraduate students 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. Deadlines for online submission of applications are March 15 for summer, April 15 for fall, and October 15, 2013 for spring 2014.

The American Geophysical Union, the Soil Science Society of America, the American Institute of Physics, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Chemical Society offer similar internships that may be of interest to geoscience students. Please visit their web sites or contact Wilson Bonner at bonner@agiweb.org for more information.

Sally Jewell Nominated for Secretary of the Interior

In February, President Barack Obama nominated Recreational Equipment Inc. (REI) Chief Executive Officer Sally Jewell to serve as the next Secretary of the Interior. Jewell would replace outgoing Secretary Ken Salazar who served during Obama's first term.

As Secretary of the Interior, Jewell would oversee the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the United States Geological Survey, and several other land management and regulatory agencies. She previously worked as an engineer for Mobil and commercial banker and has experience in conservation. The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee will hold a hearing to review her nomination on March 7, 2013.

OSTP Issues Open Access Order to Science Agencies

On February 22, 2013, White House science advisor John Holdren released a memo directing those federal agencies that invest over \$100 million in research and development to provide free open access to publications of federally funded research. The memorandum mandates that open access to articles be available one year after publication.

The memo follows a petition to the White House demanding open access that garnered 65,000 signatures. Holdren's announcement has elicited a variety of responses. Some praise the decision while others worry about additional monetary costs to researchers, reduced funding for scientific journals, and problems maintaining the integrity of the peer-review and selective process for publishing in existing journals. The Geological Society of America provides a position statement on open access issues.

House Proposes Bipartisan Bill to Avoid Helium Shortage

Representatives Doc Hastings (R-WA) and Edward Markey (D-MA) introduced the Responsible Helium Administration and Stewardship Act (H.R. 527) on February 6, 2013.

The bill would keep the Federal Helium Reserve open until nearly all the helium is sold, raise BLM helium prices closer to market value, open the sale of helium to more than just a few companies by implementing a semiannual auction, improve transparency, and prevent supply disruptions. It would require studies of international and domestic helium resources as well as the development of domestic and global helium

demand forecasts, domestic helium use accounts, and assessments and research into the extraction and refining of the isotope helium-3 and the viability of creating a facility to separate the isotope helium-3.

On February 14, 2013, the House Committee on Natural Resources held a hearing to receive testimony evaluating domestic helium demand and the role and future of the Federal Helium Reserve in the domestic market, and the proposed H.R. 527. AGI submitted a letter of support for H.R. 527 to the Natural Resource Committee and the Geoscience Policy web site includes a summary of the hearing.

The Federal Helium Reserve provides 42 percent of the domestic and 35 percent of the global helium supply. The Helium Preservation Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-273) directed the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to sell the helium supply until the Reserve's debt was paid. The debt is set to be paid in October and the Reserve will close ahead of the predicted closure date with significantly more helium remaining than the target amount.

Sanders and Boxer Unveil Climate Change Bill

Senators Bernie Sanders (I-VT) and Barbara Boxer (D-CA) introduced the Climate Protection Act of 2013 (S. 332) on February 14, 2013 that would price carbon, end the exemption of hydraulic fracturing from the Safe Drinking Water Act, require disclosure of fracturing chemicals, increase investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies, establish a monthly rebate program for legal U.S. residents, and assess a carbon fee on imports from countries without similar carbon pricing standards. Sanders intends to introduce a companion bill that would eliminate fossil fuel subsidies and preserve the renewable energy tax incentive program.

The carbon price proposed of \$20 per ton of carbon emitted with an annual 5.6 percent increase for ten years, is projected to raise \$1.2 trillion in revenue in ten years and decrease greenhouse gas emissions by 20 percent by 2025 from 2005 levels. Investments in efficiency and renewables include weatherizing one million homes every year, tripling the budget for the Advanced Research Projects Agency - Energy, investing \$500 billion in efficiency and renewable technology, and creating a worker training program for the clean energy industry.

Sanders and Boxer hope the momentum initiated by President Obama's call to address climate issues in his State of the Union will help move the bill forward. Environmental groups supporting the bill include 350.org, the Sierra Club, Public Citizen, the National Community Action Foundation, and the Center for American Progress.

CRS Report: Oil and Gas Production on Federal and Non-Federal Lands

The Congressional Research Service (CRS) released a report on February 28, 2013 outlining trends of decreasing oil and gas production on federal lands and increasing levels on non-federal lands.

The percentage of oil produced on federal lands decreased by seven points from fiscal years (FY) 2007 to 2012. Within that time frame, production on federal lands surged to a high of 36.5 percent of total U.S. production in FY2010, and then fell below FY2007 levels to 26 percent by FY2012. Historically, oil production on federal lands amounted to less than 20 percent and only rose to 30 percent in the early 2000s. On non-federal lands, modest shifts in production levels between FY2008 and FY2010 were followed by substantial growth between FY2010 and FY2012.

Domestic natural gas production increased 20 percent or four trillion cubic feet since 2007. Non-federal lands witnessed an increase in production by 40 percent, while federal lands witnessed a decrease of 33 percent. The report noted that major shale gas plays are located principally on non-federal lands.

Landsat Data Continuity Mission Launch Successful

On February 11, 2013 the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) launched the Landsat Data Continuity Mission (LDCM), or Landsat 8, from Vandenberg Air Force Base, CA. Landsat 8 is equipped with visible, near-infrared, short wave infrared, and thermal infrared imaging capabilities and a moderate-resolution of 15 m to 100 m. One hundred days after the launch, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) will take control of Landsat 8's operation and data collection and dissemination.

The Landsat program has provided 40 years worth of continuous data and Landsat 8 ensures the continuation of data collection beyond the operation of the aging Landsats 5 and 7. Landsat images assist in tracking, understanding, and managing landscape changes, especially in terms of food, water, and forest resources.

2013 USGS Mineral Commodity Summaries Released

On February 7, 2013, the U.S. Geological Survey announced the release of the Mineral Commodity Summaries for 2013 which details events, trends, and issues related to each mineral commodity. The report contains data on domestic industry structure, government programs, tariffs, 5-year salient statistics, and world production and resources. Over 90 minerals and materials are included as well as information on government stockpiled mineral commodities.

The report indicates that the reopening of Molycorp Inc.'s Mountain Pass mine in California has created a domestic source of rare earth elements (REE), reducing dependence on importing REE's. Exports of raw mineral and scrap amounted to \$21 billion. For the third year in a row, U.S. nonfuel mineral production increased. Almost all metals experienced a decrease in production and prices while other industrial mineral commodities witnessed an increase.

DOE Defends Decision to Continue Collecting Fees for Nuclear Waste

On January 31, 2013, the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) filed a motion to reopen a 2011 case against the Department of Energy (DOE) and review its 2010 Secretarial Determination of the Adequacy of the Nuclear Waste Fund Fee. On February 14, DOE responded saying it would not object to reopening the case.

Under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act (24 U.S.C. 10101), nuclear power generators have to pay a fee of one mill per kilowatt hour of nuclear-generated electricity. Revenues generated by the fee are deposited into a Nuclear Waste Fund and available to DOE to pay for the permanent disposal of commercial spent fuel and high-level radioactive waste. NARUC originally opened the lawsuit because of the Obama Administration's decision to terminate the proposed Yucca Mountain geologic repository.