



American Institute of Professional Geologists Michigan Section

www.mi.aipg.org

February, 2006

From the President's Desk

Over the past three years I have had the opportunity to talk one-on-one with members about AIPG and discuss issues with fellow geologists at various section meetings located across the State, including the National Meeting in Kentucky. I have asked many of you for ideas and suggestions on how AIPG could become a stronger association that meets the needs of its members. One comment that I have repeatedly heard is that AIPG needs to better communicate the value of membership, in other words answer the question, "Why should I join AIPG?" This is such a fundamental and important question to any association, and certainly to the growth of the Michigan Section of AIPG, that I would like to share my thoughts and invite you to send me your ideas on what you believe are important and relevant to Michigan geologists.

I think professional growth is significantly enhanced by membership in the AIPG Michigan section. Recognition as a Certified Professional Geologist in Michigan brings experience and responsibility for regulatory activities that are intended to safeguard life, health, and protect property. As CPG's, you and I have an important job to do. Our mission as professionals is to make those important geological determinations that affect public health and the environment in this State.

The Michigan Section of AIPG is an association which establishes the framework of competent practice and is intended to improve the status and well-being of the Michigan geologist. Geologists do not join associations simply for what they get, but because they wish to give of their time and expertise to promote the profession. The Michigan Section of AIPG provides the best platform for interacting with one's peers and leveraging individual input. In my mind, that really is the purpose for the existence of the Michigan Section of AIPG. The Michigan Section allows CPG's to have the opportunity to "weigh in" on issues and to influence policies that will have a long-term impact on the profession. Members, particularly those active in committees, by giving their time and expertise, become part of that voice

and conscience as fellow CPG's work together to promote competent and ethical practice in Michigan. So the short answer to, "Why should a Geologist join AIPG?" is to safeguard life, health, and property, and to promote the public welfare. No other geological association can do that as well as this unique association of dedicated professionals. I think there are opportunities for all geologists to promote the profession, whether starting their career in a student chapter or nearing retirement, each will benefit from an active membership role in the Michigan Section of AIPG. Some members will accept the free ride, but they will not derive the satisfaction that comes from contributing to one's profession and seeing the results of those contributions.

We have an opportunity to showcase the Michigan Section in Traverse City at the National AIPG Meeting in October 2007. We need support from everyone to meet the financial goals necessary to make the meeting a success. Not everyone has the desire, personality, or time to volunteer, but we all possess the capacity to financially support those that do through contributions, perhaps buying a business card advertisement, or asking our employer to sponsor an activity or advertisement. If you have any questions regarding how you can help with the National Meeting, please contact me or Adam Heft.

This year will be a very busy year of fund raising and planning the National Meeting, as well as follow up with the legislators to get a vote on the Geologist Licensure Bills. The golf committee is planning the golf "fun" raiser. Based on response from members and availability of courses the event will be scheduled in August. There will be more information posted on the web site and in future news letters. We have posted quarterly meeting dates and we are arranging speakers. The executive committee will do their best to bring you interesting speakers and topics to the quarterly meetings

Kevin Lund
Section President

Coming Events

February 8, 2006: MBGS meeting. Speaker: John Esch, talk is entitled, "How I Spend My Summer Vacations, A Michigan Geologist Volunteers to Provide Clean Water in Africa." Convening in Room 116 of the MSU Natural Science Building. Details: www.mbgs.org.

February 9, 2006: MAEP Professional Development Meeting: Genoa Woods Conference Center located at 7707 Conference Center Drive, Brighton. Speakers: John Barkach, MS, CPG, Great Lakes Environmental Center, Rhonda Klann, MDEQ-RRD, and Steve Luzkow, LaSalle Bank Midwest, ABN/AMRO. This meeting will provide the perspective from the regulators, consultants and, end users' points of view to shed light on the new AAI rules and their effect on Michigan's Brownfield programs and the BEA process. Details: www.maep.org

March 26, 2006: 33rd Annual Metro Rock Swap, Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society, Taylor, MI. Sat 10:00-5:00, Free Admission. Details: www.amfed.org/mwf/calendar/2005/march.htm

March 30, 2006: AIPG Chapter meeting; Speaker to be announced AND a student poster session, and sale of rock items by the CMU geology club. Meeting is hosted by the **CMU student Section of AIPG**.

Location: Comfort Inn, 2424 S. Mission St., Mount Pleasant, Michigan 48858. Phone (989) 772-4000.

Dinner: Buffet style - Chicken or Beef.

Schedule: Cash Bar/Check-in 5:30 to 6:30 PM, Dinner: 6:30 Speakers: 7:30 to 9:00. Prize Raffle.

Cost: Students \$20.00, Members \$35.00, Non-members \$40.00. Dinner is buffet style.

RSVP by March 27. Telephone or e-mail registration with Name, Company, Address, Phone, Fax, and Amount Due to AIPG-Michigan Section, c/o Mr. Tim Woodburne at woodburne@preinnewhof.com or (616) 364-8491. Reservations not cancelled by October 28 will be billed. Checks to AIPG-Michigan.

Additional: Several student members are graduating or are looking for summer internships - they will bring resumes and contact information.

Please plan on coming out and supporting the AIPG Student Section. Student résumés obtained at the meeting are available to AIPG members seeking job candidates by contacting Kevin Lund, kevin@insights.com.

April 7-9, 2006: Annual Show, Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club, Rogers Plaza, 28th St, Wyoming, MI. Details: www.amfed.org/mwf/calendar/2005/april.htm

April 22-24, 2006: 28th Annual Show, Mt. Clemens Gem & Lapidary Society, Roseville, MI. Details: See same as above.

April 29-May 1, 2006: Annual Show, Kalamazoo Geological & Mineral Society, Kalamazoo County Center Bldg, County Fairgrounds. Details: See same as above.

May 4, 2006: AIPG Chapter meeting. Kalamazoo.

May 8-12, 2006: Institute of Lake Superior Geology meeting and field trips. See info at following link. www.lakesuperiorgeology.org/Sault2006/index.html

July 13, 2006: AIPG Chapter meeting. Mt. Pleasant.

August 22(?), 2006: AIPG Chapter Golf Fundraiser.

September 23-28, 2006: National AIPG meeting, St. Paul, Minnesota.

October 5, 2006: AIPG Chapter meeting, Traverse City.

December 7, 2006: AIPG Chapter meeting, SE MI.

October 7-10, 2007: National AIPG meeting, Traverse City. See www.mi.aipg.org for developments.

Golf "Fun"d Raiser

The golf "Fun"d Raiser Committee is working out the details for the 2nd Annual Golf outing. This much has been determined. The event will be held at a course in southeast Michigan around the week of August 21. The format of the event will include mid morning technical session(s) with the golf activity starting after lunch. We are still working out the details with a course and working on the technical agenda. If you have an idea for a technical presentation, we are interested to hear your thoughts. We will have all the details together before the March 30th meeting in Mt. Pleasant. If you have any questions or you are interested in helping with the event, please contact either Kevin Lund or Robert Reichenbach at 517-545-2825.

2006 Golf "Fun"d Raiser Committee

AIPG Michigan Section Officers Bruce Beltman, Past-president, (517) 346-5082 (bbeltman@gwsibiz); Kevin Lund, President, (517) 545-2825 (kevin@insights.com), Scott A. Cesarz, Vice President, (313) 271-2223, (sac@msg-dearborn.com); Tim Woodburne, Treasurer, (616) 364-8491 (twoodburne@preinnewhof.com); Tim Woodburne also acting temporarily as Secretary.

Newsletter Editors Tyrone J. Black, 989-705-3402 (blackt@Michigan.gov) and Adam Heft, 517-887-1100 (hefta@fitzhenne.com).

Committees Awards, Jim Brode (jwbrode@ftch.com); Educational Outreach, Jim Brode (jwbrode@ftch.com); Membership, Mark Sweatman (marks@insights.com); Regulatory Affairs, Vacant; Screening, Jim Ferritto (ferritti@michigan.gov); Student Chapters, Eric Wallis (Ewallis@WM.com); Quarterly Meetings, Scott A. Cesarz, (sac@msg-dearborn.com); Treasury, Bruce Beltman (bbeltman@gwsibiz).

Circulation of the Michigan Section Newsletter is to over 290 members, a number of prospective members, several geology departments, and companies for a total over 450. Distribution is by USPS and e-mail notice of web posting. Copy in PDF format is posted at <http://www.mi.aipg.org>.

Newsletter Sponsors and Advertisements: The Sponsor section is \$15 per name or column inch for copy ready art. Copy preparation at an additional charge is available.

Professional Postings: The Professional Posting section, where you may advertise positions, is \$10 per column inch.

Seeking Employment: Members seeking employment may submit a 50-word listing at no charge.

Articles: The newsletter will feature topics on a quarterly basis, and will have a quarterly deadline for submissions. If you have ideas for topics or articles, query us or submit it!

Authors' opinions in articles are not necessarily the opinions of the Michigan Section or National Headquarters of the AIPG.

Pearson Candidate for Secretary

Sara Pearson, CPG 10650: I have been a certified professional geologist for four years, and in this timeframe, I have observed positive growth in the Michigan Section. The invitation of high quality speakers and good attendance at the membership meetings, encouragement of student participation and outreach through funding of educational geologic projects, enthusiasm of state licensure for geologists, and participation at the national level in leadership positions and facilitation of the 2007 National Meeting represent this positive growth. Michigan's Section is one of the stronger AIPG components, and I would be honored to have the privilege of serving as secretary to ensure that this group remains strong and continues to make positive strides in the field of geology.

I received my B.S. degree from Aquinas College in physical geography and environmental studies with a minor in political science in 1992. I was a graduate fellow at Western Michigan University and completed my M.S. degree in environmental earth science with an emphasis in hydrogeology in 1994. In 1992, I started in the consulting industry as a field technician, progressing to project manager during my twelve years of employment with Superior Environmental Corp. Since August 2004, I have been working as a geologist for the MDEQ RRD in the Grand Rapids district.

This is an exciting time to be a geologist in Michigan, and I see many opportunities for AIPG to play an influential role in the professional development of geologists. I believe that as secretary I can help the Michigan Section achieve current goals and reach beyond.

VOTING – To cast your ballot send your choice to Tim Woodburne at woodburne@preinnewhof.com or at 3355 Evergreen Dr. NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525; or cast your vote at the March meeting.

2007 Annual Meeting Update

It is time once again for an update on the status of the planning for the 2007 national meeting. As you are aware from my previous articles, the venue has been set and a contract executed. We are currently in the process of finalizing the contract with the company that will handle the setup of the exhibit area.

My last article informed you that the Program Chair position was vacant. I am pleased to inform you that Eric Wallis has stepped up and filled the position. While we have each of the planning chairs filled, we can always use the input and help from the members of the section. Everyone is always welcome to attend the Planning Committee meetings.

In late December, the Planning Committee sent out letters to potential sponsors and advertisers for the meeting. Exhibitor letters will be sent out in the next few weeks. We have had a few positive responses, but although it is still early, we would like to see more. Everyone can help with this. The costs are not unreasonable, and even if individuals are unable to personally contribute funds, please ask your employers to consider contributing. A business card add in the program book is only \$75 (larger adds are more). Sponsorship of the meeting can be in any amount, although we have minimum amounts for certain events. The money can be submitted in installments (with a commitment for a total amount) if that is preferred. The Planning Committee is hoping to have around 30 exhibitors, and up to a few hundred meeting attendees, so either sponsorship or advertising will be a good way to promote yourself or your company's business to a national audience. If you would like more information about sponsorships or advertising, please contact Ed Everett, or check out the Michigan Section website for details. Inquiries about exhibiting should be directed to Ty Black.

If you are unable to help financially, please offer your time, or commit to attending the 2007 meeting. We will need help with monitoring events during the meeting, manning the registration booth, etc., and volunteers to help with these tasks (even if for a day) will be welcome. This is the first time in the organization's 44 years that Michigan has hosted the meeting; let's make it one that our colleagues from around the country will remember.

Students, we have not forgotten about you. First, and as usual at these national meetings, it is a good way for you to meet the experts in the field. We will be having a "Career Day" where you will be able to meet with prospective employers and arrange private interviews. Students (both graduate and undergraduate) will also be able to present posters depicting their research. The best posters in the graduate and undergraduate categories will be awarded cash prizes to support their education efforts. As an added incentive, the Planning Committee has decided to have either a nominal (\$10) fee for student registration, or waive the registration cost altogether. Other incentives may be implemented, depending on how the planning process proceeds.

The Planning Committee intends to have the final list of field trips, spouse tours, short courses, and evening events completed by June 1, 2006. The selected events are based on member responses and availability of someone to lead them.

The Michigan Section will have a booth at the 2006 meeting in Minneapolis to promote the 2007 meeting. We intend to open registrations for the

2007 meeting at that time; registration during the 2006 meeting will be at a reduced rate. If you plan to attend the 2006 meeting, stop by our booth and get registered for the meeting in Traverse City. It is a good way to save costs, get signed up for the events you are interested in (without worry that the event will be full), and it will also help the Planning Committee to get an early idea of the potential attendance for the 2007 meeting.

As always, the full details of the status of the planning process are available on the Section website. Anyone interested in helping out the Planning Committee would be welcome. Please contact me or another member of the Planning Committee if you have any comments, suggestions, or ideas on any aspect of the meeting.

Adam W. Heft, CPG
2007 General Chairman

INQUIRY ON MICHIGAN LICENSURE OF GEOLOGIST

Please make any replies to this inquiry via e-mail to Walter Bolt at WBolt@mannaiksmithgroup.com.

As you may know, over the past two years the Michigan Section of the AIPG has been leading efforts to pass House Bills 4440-4442, which would provide for the licensure of professional geologists in the State of Michigan. This effort has been a significant undertaking requiring a great deal of time and energy, which we believe will ultimately benefit our profession as a whole, us individually, as well as public we serve.

Throughout this process we have communicated with (and solicited feedback from) other professional groups who may be stakeholders in this effort such as Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Michigan Environmental Council, Michigan Groundwater Association, Michigan Association of Environmental Professionals, Michigan Aggregate Association, and Michigan Oil & Gas Association. In addition, we successfully met with the Michigan Society of Professional Engineers (MSPE) to resolve concerns that they had to the initial bill language and have garnered their support for our effort. In addition to support from MSPE we have received letters of Support from organizations such as:

1. American Institute of Professional Geologists
2. Michigan Basin Geology Society
3. Michigan Waste Industries Association
4. Michigan Association of Planners
5. Michigan Water Environment Association

If passed, we believe this legislation will enhance the credibility of professional geologists, protect the public's health, safety, welfare and the environment,

and demonstrate a higher level of educational attainment and technical competency.

We believe that the areas of practice that geologists operate in is of fundamental importance to public safety, not only to promote the wise and safe extraction of minerals, water, and energy resources, but also to protect the public from natural disasters, environmental contamination, and to provide information to other licensed professionals which is essential for safe and responsible land use.

The bills, and information regarding these bills -- including current status, Frequently Asked Questions, a Fact Sheet, and Letters of Support -- are currently on the Section home page at <http://mi.aipg.org>. However, discussion on the merits of the proposed bills should continue. All AIPG members and geologists working in Michigan may not be in agreement with proposed licensure legislation or may not be fully informed regarding these bills, which are now before the Regulatory Reform Committee in the Michigan State House of Representatives.

The Michigan Section Executive Committee is interested in your comments regarding licensure of geologists. The Executive Committee believe that professional discussion regarding licensure is an on-going process and if appropriately applied your input will result in even better legislation.

The Executive Committee seeks your input to which we will present information in the next newsletters that address questions or concerns that are raised. Please reply including:

- 1) Are you a Michigan Resident?
- 2) Do you support the licensure of geologists? Why or why not?
- 3) Do you have any specific comments or issues to improve the legislation?
- 4) Are you able to assist in this legislative effort?
- 5) Are you a member of another geology-related technical or professional organization? If you are, does that organization support licensure?
- 6) What specialties or areas of geology do you practice?
- 7) Are you licensed as a geologist in any other states? If so, what states?
- 8) Do you work exclusively in Michigan? If no, what other states do you work? Do those states require licensure?
- 9) How many years of experience do you have practicing geology?



Chuckles *Image by Tyrone Black*
(Gowanda Formation conglomerate)

Newsletter Sponsors



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AIPG Chapter Meeting

March 30, 2006

Speaker to be announced AND

A Student Poster Session, AND

Sale Of Rock Items by the CMU Geology Club

Hosted by the CMU Student Section of AIPG

Location: Comfort Inn, 2424 S. Mission St., Mount Pleasant, Michigan 48858. Phone (989) 772-4000

Cost: Students \$25.00, Members \$35.00, Non-members \$40.00

Dinner: Buffet style - Chicken or Beef

Time: *Cash Bar 5:30 - 6:30*

Dinner 6:30

Program 7:30 followed by Q&A

Affiliation & Registration Fee (circle one): Students \$25.00, Members \$35.00, Non-members \$40.00

Name(s): _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Amount Due \$ _____ (Includes Dinner)

Payable at the door by cash or check however, prepayment is preferred and speeds things up at the door.

Please respond by March 27 by mail, fax or e-mail to:

Mr. Tim Woodburne, C.P.G., C/O AIPG-Michigan Section

Prein&Newhof

3355 Evergreen Drive NE

Grand Rapids, MI 49525

Phone: (616) 364-8491

Fax: (616) 364-6955

Email: twodburne@preinnewhof.com

Make checks payable to "AIPG-Michigan Section"

Reservations not cancelled by March 27, 2006 will be automatically billed

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