Greetings to all of you and my best wishes for a wonderful and prosperous 2017 for all!!

It is my pleasure to serve as President of AIPG MI Section in 2017. My commitment to all of you is to do my very best and carry on the longstanding tradition of leadership, continuation of growth in our section, providing informative, pertinent talks at both our quarterly meetings and at the annual June workshop, working in conjunction MDEQ to provide updates with any forthcoming changes to current environmental regulations and to foster and promote the geosciences via providing as much scholarship funds as we can raise.

The Executive Committee has been working hard during 2016 to ensure a successful 2017. We have planned joint meetings with other organizations which has been great for networking and interacting with other professionals from groups. We have had joint meetings in 2016 with the Michigan Basin Geological Society (MBGS) and the Michigan Association of Environmental Professionals (MAEP). Those of you who attended the September 30, 2016 joint meeting of MAEP and AIPG MI Section at Atwater in the Park Brewery in Grosse Pointe Woods can attest to the great social and professional success of this meeting.

This is our 40th anniversary year as a section of AIPG. We are planning to celebrate this year in various ways and hope you will attend as many meetings as you can to be part of this celebratory 40th anniversary year. We encourage you to stay updated with the newsletters and we are working to keep you surprised this year.

I urge you to contact me or anyone else on the Executive Committee with your ideas. Join me and the rest of the Michigan Section Executive Committee to make 2017 a banner year. Together we can and we will!

Support Our Sponsors!
The Section Executive Committee would like to remind its members to support the companies advertising in the newsletter. Consider working with these companies, and when you speak with their representatives, let them know that you saw their ad in the Michigan Section newsletter.

Annual Meeting Summary
The December 1, 2016 annual Michigan Section meeting was another sold-out success with a record number of students in attendance! Approximately 100 attendees enjoyed an evening of networking, dinner, a technical presentation, and Section awards.

MESTA Career Day
The Michigan Section participated in the first Michigan Earth Science Teachers Association’s career day.
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December Meeting Summary

The Section held its annual meeting at Weber’s Inn on December 1, 2016. Don Carpenter from ARCADIS discussed “Understanding TENORM-Related Challenges Associated with Michigan Basin Hydrocarbon Production.”

Students talking with attendees about their posters. Photo courtesy of Adam Heft.

Don presented to a sold-out crowd of 100 attendees following dinner and a social/networking hour. Brian Burke made his last appearance as Michigan Section President, and provided attendees with a review of the Section’s activities in 2016.

Attendees enjoying dinner and good conversation. Photo courtesy of Adam Heft.

The Michigan Section had a record turnout of students (30 were registered) for the meeting. The students took advantage of the free attendance to network with professionals from across the state. The student attendees included the three Michigan Section scholarship winners: Jason Bell of WMU (second runner-up - $500), Cody Garney of GVSU (runner-up - $1,500), and McKenna Thayer of U of M (winner - $3,000) who were presented with their scholarship checks, and also nine student poster contest entrants. The winners of the Student Poster Contest for 2016 are: Graduate Category: Tao Wen of U of M with his poster “Methane Sources and Migration Mechanisms in the Shallow Trinity Aquifer in Parker and Hood Counties, Texas – a Noble Gas Analysis” (winner - $1,000) and Matt Rine of WMU with his poster “Development of a Static Reservoir Model for the Niagara-Lower Salina Reef Complex of the Guelph Formation, Michigan Basin” (runner up - $500). Undergraduate Category: Hayley Schram of GVSU with her poster “Evaluation of Hand-Dug Wells in Rural Haiti” (winner - $1,000) and Conor O’Dowd of EMU with his poster “Comparative Analysis of Ash Deposits in New Zealand and Mount St. Helens” (runner up - $500).

Glenn Loriaux of EMU, Cameron Manche of WMU, Matt Schiffert of EMU, and Rebecca Butcher of WSU all received honorable mention prizes of $100 each for their posters.

Tim Woodburne with Tao Wen from U of M – Graduate Student Poster winner. Photo courtesy of Adam Heft.

In addition to the student posters, Adam Heft brought his “Rocks of Michigan” exhibit. Members were able to view samples of most of the Michigan bedrock formations. The exhibit included a few new samples this year, bringing the exhibit a little closer to having representative samples of all of the Michigan bedrock formations.

Tim Woodburne with Hayley Schram from GVSU – Undergraduate Student Poster winner. Photo courtesy of Adam Heft.

Most of the student members that attended the meeting. Photo courtesy of Adam Heft.

The Section presented its annual Longevity Awards to members following dinner. Members were recognized for 10 years of membership (Rimmer De Vries, Aaron Martin, Hannah Pankratz, Nicole Rottet, Kim Steinmann, Eric Walters, and Victoria Wetzel), 15 years (Bruce Beltman, Scott Cesarz, Tom Cok, Joyce Dunkin, Rick Dunkin, Ryan Dunning, Kristopher Nolan, William Prall, Matthew Stuk, and Michael Zach), 20 years (James Arduin, Charles Brumleve, Neil Chamberlain, Lee Ann Claucherty-Thor, Kurt Cunningham, Andrew Foerg, Linda Hensel, Gordon Hotchkiss, Eric Kimber, Eric Larcinese, Michael Leahy, Joseph Mark, John Marsh, Richard Peck, Michael Pozniak, David Regalbuto, Jeffrey Simsa, Jean Talanda, and Michael Wolf), 25 years (Thomas Brunelle, Donald Carpenter, Curt Cramer, Michale Colvin, Timothy Hebert, Virginia Himich, Erik Johnson, John Rodwan, and Michael Serafini), 30 years (Thrasos Eftaxiadis and Duane Jorgensen), and 35 years (Gary Dannemiller). The 30 and 35 year members received a plaque instead of a certificate.

During the social hour and dinner, the section ran a slideshow of photographs from all of the 2016 events that members participated in – meetings, golf outing, summer workshop, field trip, and the Annual Meeting in Santa Fe. If you attend any of the events and have photographs you would like to share, please forward them to Adam Heft at heft@pbworld.com.
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The final piece of Section business was the announcement of the election for Section Secretary. This year’s winner was Sara Verbrugge-Pearson. Please congratulate Sara next time you see or talk with her!

**Member Input Sought**

The Section Executive Committee is seeking input from members on a variety of topics. Do you have any suggestions regarding speakers/presentation topics that you would like to hear? What about field trips or other events? Some place you’d like to see us go, or something you think the membership would enjoy doing? Then make your voice heard; please send your suggestions to one of the members of the Executive Committee; any of the six members would be glad to hear from you. AIPG is your organization. Please help keep it relevant and interesting for all by participating.

**13th Annual Michigan Section Golf Outing Planning**

We are beginning to plan for the 13th Annual AIPG Golf Outing. Please spread the word to your suppliers/colleagues, and plan to participate in this event which takes place on Tuesday May 16, 2016 at Moose Ridge Golf Course in South Lyon, Michigan. The rolling topography and excellence in design and construction makes Moose Ridge a golf course that will entice and challenge golfers of all skill levels.

Please consider a sponsorship this year. Recently, sponsorships have been down. There are several different levels of sponsorship listed on the registration form. These sponsorship opportunities offer great exposure to some of the most influential professionals in our industry.

The money raised is put toward the Michigan Section’s K-12 Educational Grant recipients. To insure continued success, please join us by; participating, sponsoring, soliciting sponsors, and/or donating prizes or items. Call or e-mail me at 248-773-7986 bob.reichenbach@ergrp.net for registration or sponsorship information.

This event is a great opportunity to spend time with colleagues, and celebrate the return of warm weather to Michigan. It is open to everybody, so please come and take advantage of the opportunity. You don’t need to be an avid golfer to participate. You’re encouraged to take advantage of the “Early Bird” discount if you register/pay for golf by April 15, 2017.

The registration and sponsorship form is included in this newsletter and has been posted to the Michigan Section’s website. Click on “Golf Outing”. Forms can be e-mailed, or faxed to me at (248) 924-3108. You can also register/pay for golf or secure a sponsorship via Eventbrite: We hope to see you May 17, 2016.

Bob Reichenbach, Golf Outing Chairman

**Welcome New Members**

The Michigan Section is continuing to grow. Please welcome the following new CPGs, Professional Members, Young Professional Members, Associate Members, and Students:

Charles Grant, Laura Lambert, Abigail Varner, Tyler Martin, Michael Muenich, Alyssa Olson, Colin Plank, Barrett Walquist, Gerg Zellmer, Kailey Gray, Karlee Harding, Garret Nowakowski, and Noah Tibbitts.

To each of our new members, the Michigan Section Executive Committee would like to welcome you to our Section, and encourage you to attend Section meetings and other
Where in Michigan? Contest
The October edition of the newsletter featured a photograph of the Arvon Slate Quarry with the Michigamme Slate, located northeast of L'anse. Al Blaske correctly identified the photograph.

This edition features a new photograph at the top of the first page. The first person to correctly identify what the photograph depicts (feature name, location, and formation) will win AIPG swag! Submit your entry to the editor; only one per person per issue please.

MESTA Career Day
On November 11, 2016, the Michigan Earth Science Teachers Association held their first Earth and Space Sciences STEM Career Day at the Oakland Schools Intermediate School District facility in Waterford Township, Michigan.

Michigan Section AIPG was one of several organizations present to talk to the approximately 700 students of 6th through 12th grade that participated in the career day.

By all accounts, the MESTA Career day was a great success, and Michigan Section AIPG appreciated the opportunity to talk with the students that attended.

Regulatory Roundup
In recent years, there has been more initiative in changing the rules and regulations under which we work in the environmental industry. The movement is to streamline processes, add flexibility to programs, and update old practices based on advances in science and technology.

As an organization with the majority of our 500+ members working in the environmental industry, we feel that keeping membership informed of regulatory changes is an important service that we can provide. Additionally, we are calling on our members, as experts in this field, to join the dialogue. Our goal is for AIPG and our members to be recognized as leaders in the geological community and all of the industries that we touch. Geoscientists provide valuable service to society and impact our everyday lives. We feel strongly that we should be sharing this message and also step up to be part of the conversation for subjects that impact our industry, the outcome of our work, and the credibility of our members. One way that we feel AIPG can achieve this is keeping up with legislative actions and making our voices heard.
This new “Regulatory Roundup” will be a regular feature in our Michigan Section newsletter, and we will be sending bulletins to our members when “hot topic” issues come up that need timely attention between editions. This is our livelihood. We have the knowledge and experience. It is our duty to provide input on the future of our industry.

We would also like your input and feedback on other ways that AIPG and our members can step up as leaders in the geological community and the industries that our profession touches and make a difference.

The following lists the bills up for consideration by the legislature with a direct link to the bill and a brief description and status.

**EMERGENCY RULES**

**1,4-Dioxane** – Establishes Cleanup Criteria for 1,4-Dioxane. Effective from October 27, 2016 until April 27, 2017.

**NEW RULES**


**RULES UP FOR CONSIDERATION**

- **2015-094 EQ Environmental Contamination Response Activity – Remediation and Redevelopment Division – Revision of Cleanup Criteria under Part 201 Environmental Remediation Act.**

- **2016-002 EO Part 6. Emission Limitations and Prohibitions-Existing Sources of Volatile Organic Compound Emissions – Air Quality Division – These rules are meant to transfer adoptions by reference to another rule section, to clarify testing requirements for cutback and emulsified asphalts in R 336.1618, and to simplify references to federal test methods by making the citations consistent throughout the Part 6 rules.**

- **2016-007 EQ Hazardous Waste Management - Office of Waste Management & Radiological Protection – The purpose of these rules is maintain federal authorization to administer the state’s Hazardous Waste Management Program under Act 451 in lieu of the federal Hazardous Waste Management Program under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) of 1976, as amended by the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984, to improve the overall quality of the rules, both in terms of clarification of existing requirements and areas of program coverage; and to reduce some of the regulatory burdens on the regulated community by providing streamlined and flexible requirements.**

**2016-037 EQ Water Resources Protection -- Part 17. Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control – Water Resource Division - The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), in partnership with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and the County Road Association of Michigan, would like to revise the definition of landowner to provide for entities authorized by transportation agencies to perform work in the right-of-way to obtain soil erosion permits from the appropriate permitting agencies when permit coverage is required.**

**NEW LAWS**


**PENDING LAWS**

**SB 1051-1053 UST Fees** - Eliminates underground storage tank fees. This bill will take effect 90 days after filing with the Secretary of State and becoming law.

**SB PACKAGE 908-913 Brownfield Redevelopment Authority** Modifies definitions and program changes of brownfield redevelopment authority. This bill will take effect 90 days after filing with the Secretary of State and becoming law.

**SB 950 Military Base Water Supplies**—Directs U.S. Armed Forces to provide Alternative water supplies to owners of private wells if the drinking water has been contaminated by substances used by the military. This bill will take immediate effect upon filing with the Secretary of State and becoming law.

**SB 1079 Landfill Projects** - Extends terms for research, development, and demonstration project permits. This bill will take effect 90 days after filing with the Secretary of State and becoming law.

**SB 962 JCAR** - Provides power to suggest changes to proposed rules. This bill will take immediate effect upon filing with Secretary of State and becoming law.

**HB 5333 Water or Sewage System Lien**—Modifies term enforcing a municipal or sewage system lien. This bill will take immediate effect upon filing with Secretary of State and becoming law.

**HB 5320 Water Quality** - Requires notification of the public water supply users of noncompliance with certain drinking water standards. This bill will take effect 90 days after filing with the Secretary of State and becoming law.

**BILLS UP FOR LEGISLATIVE CONSIDERATION**

**SB 1167 Pollution Prevention** - Prohibits use and sale of coal tar sealant or other high PAH sealants for pavement. Bill was introduced by Senator Rebekah Warren in November 2016 and was referred to the Committee on Transportation.

**HB 5862 Mining**—Eliminates inland lakes and streams permit requirements. Bill was introduced by Representative Andrea LaFontaine in September 2016 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

**HB 5866 Brownfield Redevelopment Authority**—Eliminates ability to capture future special millages. Passed in House and was referred to the Senate Committee on Economic Development and International Investment.

**HB 6024, Environmental Protection** - Requires cleanup to residential and safe drinking water standards unless technically infeasible. Bill was introduced by Representative Jeff Irwin in November 2016 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

**HB 6025 Environmental Protection** - Provides process for development of cleanups criteria and extends sunset. Bill was introduced by Representative Jeff Irwin in November 2016 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

**HB 6027 Environmental Protection** - Requires permits for industrial facility within certain
distance of residential or other uses to have vegetative buffer or buy-out of dwellings. Bill was introduced by Representative Stephanie Chang in November 2016 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

**HB 6028 Air Pollution** - Creates ombudsman for air quality. Bill was introduced by Representative Stephanie Chang in November 2016 and was referred to the Committee on Government Operations.

**HB 6018 Environmental Protection** - Creates commission of environmental quality. Bill was introduced by Representative Stephanie Chang in November 2016 and was referred to the Committee on Government Operations.

### 2017 Section Secretary Election Results

Election results are in for the Section’s new secretary! This year’s candidates were Sara Verbrugge-Pearson and Bill Mitchell. Votes continued to come in right up to a few hours before the deadline. After tallying the votes, Sara was announced as the Section’s new Secretary for 2017. If you haven’t already, please congratulate her.

### Did You Know?

*This article is intended to remind members of various aspects of AIPG and benefits of membership. If there is something you would like to see featured in this column, please contact the Editor…*

There are a wide variety of benefits to membership in AIPG. A comprehensive list of benefits is presented on the AIPG National website. Some of those benefits include:

- Networking with other professionals
- Free resume posting
- Group insurance
- Job listings
- Online courses
- Professional Certification
- Reciprocity Agreements

### Newsletter Notice via Email

Please be sure that you continue to receive the Section newsletters and other announcements. Submit an updated e-mail address to Adam Heft at heft@pbworld.com. If you move or change places of employment, don’t forget to send your new contact information to both the Section and to National. If you are not receiving announcements directly from the Editor, it is because your email address is not up to date.

### Michigan Department of Environmental Quality News

**Public Act 381 Amends Leaking UST Regulations**

As Michigan’s lame duck legislative session comes to a close, several bills affecting environmental regulations are stacked up waiting for Governor Snyder’s signature.

One bill amending the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Act (Part 213) was already signed and filed with the Secretary of State on December 22, 2016 becoming Public Act 381 of 2016. The amendment adds greater flexibility for institutional controls when leaving contamination in place. These provisions become effective 90 days after the bill became a law on March 22, 2017.

The amendments include the addition of a definition for the term “public highway.” A “public highway” is a road or highway under the jurisdiction of the state transportation department, a county road commission or a local governmental unit. Language regarding mechanisms for limiting exposure to contaminants left in place was also modified and aligns closely with the requirements for institutional controls under the Environmental Remediation Act (Part 201). For example, an ordinance that is adopted after March 22, 2017 must include a requirement that the local unit of government will notify the Department of Environmental Quality 30 days prior to modifying, lapsing or revoking the ordinance.

Language was also added outlining requirements for license agreements with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for public highways owned or controlled by them where contamination is left in place. An allowance for a financial mechanism to account for the potential costs caused by activities that may expose or disturb the contaminants left in place. There are also provisions for implementing an alternative mechanism in cases where MDOT fails or refuses to issue a license agreement within 120 days of the submission of the license agreement request and for roads owned by county commissions or local units of government.

Additionally, liability for corrective actions does not become the responsibility of the owner of the public highway. If the alternate mechanism that is used as part of closure remedy is modified, lapsed or revoked, the owner or operator who is liable for the contamination is responsible for completing additional corrective actions in cases where there is an increased risk of exposure to the contaminants from this action. For example, if a road is used as an alternate mechanism to prevent exposure to contaminants and that road is abandoned for a redevelopment project, the owner or operator who is liable for that contamination is required to conduct any additional corrective actions that may be necessary to prevent exposure.


Article provided by Sara Verbrugge-Pearson, CPG – MDEQ RRD Unit Chief

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### Section Website Reminders

As you may have noticed, the Michigan Section is building a database of geologic photographs on our website. Please submit photographs that you are willing to share to Adam Heft at heft@pbworld.com. Don’t forget to include your name and a short explanation of what the photograph depicts. The photographs will be uploaded to the website periodically.

If you have suggestions on other items that should be included on the History page, please let a member of the Section Executive Committee know.

### Interesting Geology Links

*The Editor has received links to various interesting geology-related sites. Some of the more interesting links are included here. If you have any links to geology-related links that you would like to share, please forward them (with a citation, if applicable) to the Editor.*

Thanks to Mark Francek of Central Michigan University for sharing via the “Earth Science Site of the Week” emails.

- **Glaciers of Yosemite Video:** [Video: Lake Superior and the Midcontinent Rift: The Billion Year Story](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QGkO4WJQkWk)
- **How Might Flint’s Water Contamination Affect Garden Soils?**
Employment Opportunities

To serve our members, and provide added value, the Michigan Section Executive Committee has decided to allow ads for employment or other opportunities to be posted in the Section newsletters. Employment ads will run for one edition unless renewed. There is no cost to our members or sponsors for this service. Send your employment opportunities to the Editor.

No employment ads or seeking employment ads were received by the editor for this edition of the newsletter.

2017 Michigan Section Executive Committee

Here are the current officers of the Michigan Section. Be sure to talk with them at the Section’s events when you see them...

Member’s Corner

The Member’s Corner includes information about the Section’s membership. This is your chance to provide information on where you are and what you are doing. Simply send the...
informtion to the Editor for inclusion in this section.

Steve Taplin, founder of Terra Contracting, a local environmental remediation company that worked on the Kalamazoo River Superfund site and the oil spill in Marshall, MI., is opening a group of new environmental service firms that include Taplin Group, Taplin Holdings and Taplin Enterprises (Taplin).

These Taplin companies come from a rich history of experience in the environmental services industry, which dates back to 1952 when Steve’s father Al Taplin started A&B Sewer. And Steve’s former company, Terra Contracting, was the primary subcontractor on the initial cleanup of the Kalamazoo River Superfund in Plainwell from 2007 to 2010 and was also a key responder to the oil spill in Marshall, MI.

Taplin will bring its expertise and reputation as an industry leader and offer a broad range of environmental services that will include industrial cleaning, underground infrastructure, abatement, energy and other environmental services."

Taplin opened its doors with over 150 employees and is headquartered in Kalamazoo with additional offices in Kalkaska, MI – Romulus, MI and San Antonio, TX.

For more information, contact Craig Rupnow at 269-375-9595 or e-mail at: craigrupnow@taplinenterprises.com.

**Coming Events**

**January 11, 2017:** MBGS and SPE joint membership meeting. The speaker will be Doug Elenbaas, independent consultant, who will be presenting “History of Oil and Gas in Michigan.” Meeting will be held in Room 116 of the Natural Science Building, Michigan State University at 7:00 pm.

**January 13, 2017:** Ohio Geological Survey’s 19th Annual Winter Gala. Holiday Inn Columbus-Worthington, OH. The event begins at 6:30 pm, cost is $25 per person; dinner, drinks, and music by Bill Foley. Register and pay online by January 9th at: https://ohiogeosoc.org/events/19th-annual-winter-gala/.

**February 8, 2017:** MBGS meeting. The speaker will be Colin Plank of AECOM, who will be presenting “The Importance of Detailed Site Stratigraphy in Understanding Site Contaminant Transport and Storage.” Meeting will be held in Room 116 of the Natural Science Building, Michigan State University at 7:00 pm.

**February 9, 2017:** Michigan Section AIPG Meeting, University Center, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant. Jeff Lippert of the US EPA Region 5 will be speaking about “Flint Drinking Water Response.”

Location: University Center, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant.

Dinner: Choice of: TBA.

Schedule: Cash Bar 5:30-6:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM, and Speaker 7:30-9:00 PM.
Cost: Students free, Members $30.00, Nonmembers $50.00.

RSVP by February 6, 2017: RSVP for the meeting on the Eventbrite website at:

March 8, 2017: MBGS meeting. The speaker will be Chad Kotke of the MDEQ-WRD, who will be presenting “Stamp Sands in Michigan.” Meeting will be held in Room 116 of the Natural Science Building, Michigan State University at 7:00 pm.

April 13, 2017: Michigan Section AIPG meeting at the Kellogg Center, Michigan State University. Speaker and topic TBA.

May 16, 2017: 13th Annual Michigan Section AIPG Golf Outing at Moose Ridge Golf Course in South Lyon. Full details, including sponsorship and registration information, are attached to this newsletter, and are also available on the Michigan Section website at: http://mi.aipg.org/Golf/golf.htm.

June 13-14, 2017: 7th Annual Michigan Section AIPG Technical Workshop, RAM Center, Roscommon. This year’s theme will be “Environmental Risk Management: Characterization’s Role in Remedy Selection.”

August 11-13, 2017: Joint Michigan and Wisconsin Section summer field trip to the western Upper Peninsula of Michigan and northeastern Wisconsin. Additional details forthcoming.

September 7, 2017: Michigan Section AIPG meeting in Kalamazoo. Location, speaker and topic TBA.

September 23-26 2017: 54th Annual AIPG Meeting to be held in Nashville, TN. Details forthcoming.

November 30, 2017: Michigan Section AIPG Annual meeting at Weber’s Inn, Ann Arbor. Speaker and topic TBA.

Fall 2018: 55th Annual AIPG Meeting to be held in Colorado Springs, CO.

Fall 2019: 56th Annual AIPG Meeting to be held in the Northeast Section; location TBD.
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Don Carpenter presenting his Tenorm talk to the attendees.