

# American Institute of Professional Geologists Michigan Section

October 2011

## From the President's Desk

In the time it took to create a varve (only in a geologist's newsletter), the Michigan Section has accomplished a lot.

We have heard from speakers who are on the front line of some of the most visible issues of our day. Environmental Regulations: Patty Brandt and Rhonda Klann of the MDEQ presented the recent changes to Michigan's environmental regulations. Hydrocarbon fracking: Rick Henderson, Suzanne Biteman and Bill Duly of the MDEQ Office of Geologic Survey explained petroleum production fracking regulations including groundwater withdrawal and protection issues. Mining: Richard Lassin discussed how he came to discover what promises to be a new zinc, silver, and gold mine in Upper Michigan.

New for our Section this year was cosponsoring a training workshop. The subject matter was in-situ remediation. Thanks in large part to the hard work by Kevin Lund and Sara Pearson, the event was well attended, informative, and a great value to those who attended. Other successful Section activities included a field trip to northeast Michigan to view karst features and visit a quarry, and the annual Michigan Section golf outing.

And we are not yet done for 2011. During our meeting on December 1<sup>st</sup> in Ann Arbor, we will be awarding educational grants. Please note that there is still a limited amount of time to have educators submit applications. Also during the December meeting, the Section will be holding a student poster contest for Michigan college students, and we will elect a new person to participate on the Executive Committee.

While the Section has accomplished much in 2011, we are not without our challenges. Most notably is the economic climate in which we find ourselves. As geology professionals working in this climate, we must continuously work to hone our skills, stay informed and connected. Thanks to an active membership, the AIPG Michigan Section provides

opportunities to do all of the above. As my year as president concludes, I can say without reservation that it has been both pleasurable and rewarding to serve on the Section's Executive Committee. I highly recommend the experience to any member who may have given thought to participating.

If you think you can spare a little time and can participate in a section activity or work on a committee, please contact someone on the Executive Committee and contribute.

Don Conway, CPG – 2011 Michigan Section President

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## Section Officers Reports

President: Information presented in the "From the President's Desk" article above.

Vice President: No report.

Treasurer: Details of the Section accounts are summarized in the Secretary's report.

Secretary: September 29, 2011 Executive Committee meeting minutes are as follows:

### I. Call to Order: 2:00 PM

Attendees: Jason Lagowski, Don Conway, Dawn Prell, Adam Heft, Craig Savage, and John Barkach

### II. Treasurer's Report.

- The general membership meeting in Mt. Pleasant was well attended, but by many non-paying (student) members and resulted in a net loss. More than 40 persons were in attendance for that meeting, but only 21 of those were paying members. \$750 was collected at the door or by mail and will be deposited this week. The charge to the Section for hosting the event at CMU was about \$862, so financially, we realized a loss of \$112.
- The rollover of certificates of deposit (CDs) occurred in November 2010 and the next one is coming up in December 2011.

III. September 2011 AIPG National Meetings. Adam Heft attended the national meeting in September and indicated the take-away message was that AIPG wants to provide additional value to its membership. Some planned changes geared toward this goal include:

- Student membership is now free of charge
- Creation of the Young Professional Member category of membership, where newly employed geologists entering the work force pay ½ dues for three years
- Development of “On-Demand” training webinars with CEUs available to members.
- An effort to encourage better communication and networking between Sections.

Other items to report – 1) Michigan Section gained one vote, from 4 to 5, on the National Advisory board. This places Michigan 3rd in the ranking of the number of votes. 2) There are approximately 20 policy updates that are available on the National AIPG website. 3) There were about 180 registrants (including exhibitors) at the National meeting, which is fewer than hoped or expected. Next meeting will be in Rapid City, SD, and the 2013 meeting will be in Colorado.

#### IV. September 22 Meeting Summary

More than 40 attended the September 22 meeting to hear the presentation by Richard Lassin, former Director of Aquila Services (retired) on the development of the “Back 40” precious metals project in Menominee County Michigan. The talk was interesting and informative and we all left more knowledgeable than when we arrived. The meeting was well attended by CMU students and faculty, and the meeting was a great success in terms of our interactions with the CMU student group.

V. 2011 AIPG Section Meeting Schedules and Speakers. The following meetings are scheduled for the remainder of 2011:

December 1st, 2011, Webbers’ Inn, Ann Arbor, MI – no speaker has been confirmed. Notices will be sent to student organizations to seek participation in the “Student Poster Contest”. We will attempt to involve the EMU student group and faculty to recruit participants and potentially identify speakers. Christine Clark was identified as the faculty sponsor for the EMU chapter.

VI. Awards. AIPG Educational Grants for 2011 will be awarded during the December 1 meeting. There was a discussion of increasing the awards for 2011 as funds are available from the grant received this year from National. Possible options discussed

were to award two \$500 grants, and other smaller grants if warranted by the number of applicants. We will attempt to extend invitations to more students and educators through our university contacts. Plaques (John) and raffle tickets (Craig) will be needed at the meeting.

VII. Secretary for 2012: Adam will send out a notice to the membership next week seeking nominees for the 2012 AIPG Section Secretary Position.

VIII. Status of Student Chapters: We plan to push again for formation of a student chapter and student members at Wayne State. This effort stalled earlier this year.

IX. AIPG-National and Michigan Section Field Trip reviews:

August 12-13, 2011 – The Michigan Section AIPG Annual Field Trip, to the Northeast Michigan Karst Features went well. The weather was suitable on August 12 and Ty Black and David Lawrence led the group on a tour of local sink holes. The Alpena Glass Bottom Boat Shipwreck Tour scheduled for August 13 was rained out, so participants went early to the Rockport Quarry for fossil collecting. The rain posed challenges and limited participation to the hard core geologists.

September 16-18, 2011 - MBGS hosted a geologic field trip to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan to look at Precambrian rocks that range in age from 3.2 Ga (or more) to 1.0 Ga years, and represent some of the oldest known rocks in the North American continent. The trip was led by Dr. Robb Gillespie from Western Michigan University, and made news in the local newspapers.

X. Newsletter: The newsletter publication date is October 14, so articles for the newsletter needed by October 7th. We are seeking volunteers to write articles for the Members Corner. Advertisements are lower than newsletters for other Sections, so direct potential advertisers to Adam to get on the Ad list.

XI. Other: No other items were discussed.

Adjournment – 3:00 p.m.

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## Coming Events

**October 19, 2011:** Northeast Section Meeting at Dinosaur State Park starting at 2:30 pm, 400 West Street, Rocky Hill, Connecticut. Cost is \$25 each, which includes dinner. Please contact [neaipg.editor@gmail.com](mailto:neaipg.editor@gmail.com) for additional details if you are interested in attending.

**October 21, 22, & 23, 2011:** Central Michigan’s 46th Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil, Lapidary & Jewelry Show. The show is in the Main Arena of the Ingham County Fairgrounds in Mason, Michigan.

**October 20, 2011:** Ohio Section Meeting, talk titled "Hydraulic Fracturing and Horizontal Drilling for Shale Gas Development" by Jeffrey J. Daniels, Professor, School of Earth Sciences, The Ohio State University, LaScala Italian Bistro; <http://www.lascalaitalianbistro.com/LaScala.html>, Social Hour 5 pm; Dinner 6 pm; Presentation 7 pm. RSVP to President-Elect Greg Kinsall, (614) 526-2040 [Greg\\_Kinsall@coxcolvin.com](mailto:Greg_Kinsall@coxcolvin.com).

**October 22, 2011:** Ohio Section Field Trip. Fossil Hunting in the Devonian Silica Formation at Lafarge North American Limestone Quarry. RSVP by October 20<sup>th</sup> to President-Elect Greg Kinsall, (614) 526-2040 or [Greg\\_Kinsall@coxcolvin.com](mailto:Greg_Kinsall@coxcolvin.com).

**November 10, 2011:** Ohio Section Annual Meeting, talk Dr. Patrick Leahy, National Executive Director American Geosciences Institute, LaScala Italian Bistro; <http://www.lascalaitalianbistro.com/LaScala.html>, Social Hour 5 pm; Dinner 6 pm; Presentation 7 pm. RSVP to President-Elect Greg Kinsall, (614) 526-2040 [Greg\\_Kinsall@coxcolvin.com](mailto:Greg_Kinsall@coxcolvin.com).

**December 1, 2011: AIPG Section Annual Meeting:** "Why Geology and Chemistry Form the Foundation in Sustaining Urban Areas" by Dan Rogers.

Location: Weber's Inn, Ann Arbor.

Dinner: Choice of: London Broil, 8-ounces Marinated London Broil, Broiled and Served Thinly Sliced; Chicken Piccata, Sautéed Breast of Chicken with Mushrooms, Artichokes, Capers, Lemon and White Wine; or Canadian Whitefish, Oven Broiled with Honey Dijon and Pecan Glaze.

Schedule: Cash Bar 5:30-6:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM, and Speaker 7:30-9:00 PM.

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

**RSVP by November 28, 2011:** RSVP to Craig Savage at [csavage@gfnet.com](mailto:csavage@gfnet.com). Please remember to include your meal choice. Notice by e-mail is preferred, and please include AIPG in the subject line. Craig can also be reached at (734) 753-5880.

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## Annual Field Trip

The 2011 summer field trip was a two-day event to northeast Michigan on August 12 and 13. The first day of the trip was led by Ty Black and Dave Lawrence to view sinkholes and karst features. Participants caravanned to the Shoepac Lake recreation area to view several large sinks, including one in the lake. Everyone then walked the rim of several large sinks (several hundred feet across and up to about 110 feet deep) and descended into one via a staircase. The bottom of this sink was about 90 feet lower than the surface of the nearby Shoepac Lake, which was about 500 feet from this location.



Trip participants at the bottom of one of the sinkholes at the Shoepac Lake recreation area. The elevation of the bottom of the sinkhole is about 90 feet lower than Shoepac Lake, which is about 500 feet away. Photograph courtesy of Adam Heft.

From there, participants drove to the overlook of the limestone quarry at Rogers City, which is currently the largest limestone quarry in the world. Quarry operations were ongoing at the time of the visit, and several of the younger participants were amazed that the very large trucks hauling stone appeared so small from the vantage point.



A view of the Rogers City limestone quarry. The truck hauling stone visible as a small speck in the background to the left of the dust plume has tires 10 feet high. Photograph courtesy of Adam Heft.

Additional stops to view sinkholes were made in the vicinity of Posen. A disappearing stream, earth cracks (some of which were up to three feet wide and over 12 feet deep but accessible to walk in) and additional large sinkholes were among the features viewed in the afternoon. Rain threatened between stops, but didn't begin to fall on the participants until everyone was getting back in their vehicles at the end of the day.





Trip participants standing on the narrow trail between two large sinkholes at the "Stevens Twin Sinks" area near Posen. Photograph courtesy of Adam Heft.

The second day was unfortunately plagued by rain. The group gathered at the Thunder Bay Maritime Museum for the glass-bottom boat ride to view shipwrecks in Thunder Bay; however, the bay was living up to its name that morning, and the boat trip was cancelled due to storms. The group therefore headed north to the Rockport Quarry for fossil hunting earlier than originally planned. Jeff Spruit, Senior Geologist with the MDEQ Remediation Division, met the group at the Quarry to give some of the history of the quarry. Jeff completed his master's thesis on the Rockport.

While most of the participants elected to make the walk into the quarry, the light rain deterred others. In less than an hour, however, it was raining so hard, that only a few diehard individuals were still collecting.



Trip participants gathering on Day 2 at the Rockport Quarry. Photograph courtesy of Adam Heft.

Fortunately, the participants had a good time viewing the sinkholes and collecting fossils (even if Day 2 was cut short by the rain). As an added bonus, there were no injuries and no blood left on the rocks this

time. Thanks to all attendees and to Ty Black, Dave Lawrence, and Sara Pearson!

Adam Heft, CPG – Michigan Section Newsletter Editor

## Small Note About Educational Grants

How many of you know that the Michigan Section has an awards program and provides grants to educational applicants each year? Did you know that over the past several years the Section has provided Grants to a variety of applicants that ranged from \$500 to \$1,000 each? The educational grants are a great opportunity to help your local school or organization that is involved in earth science to raise additional funds for a specific project. So spread the word that these grants are available for deserving groups and remember that the kids involved in these types of programs are the future membership of this and/or other AIPG Sections. The application forms can be found on the Section website at <http://mi.aipg.org/awards.htm> or by contacting me directly at [Jason.lagowski@arcadis-us.com](mailto:Jason.lagowski@arcadis-us.com). Completed applications are due by November 15, 2011.

## September Section Meeting Summary

The AIPG Michigan Section held its third quarter meeting on Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at the University Center on the campus of Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant.

The meeting was attended by about 40 people, and half of them were students. The Section Executive Committee and several members were impressed with the turnout and the enthusiasm of the students. When the students arrived, they split up among the tables to drop off their jackets and note pads and spent the social hour and dinner talking with the members, not just each other.



CMU student chapter members at the meeting. Back row (L to R) Martin Steinbis, Matt McDonald, Jamie Hockemeyer, Sven Morgan, John Bay, Ashley Saelens. Middle Row (L to R) Seth Dever, Megan Schaner, Joe Sadorski, Jordan Redwine, Angie Degratis, Chelsea Brooks. Front row (L to R) Daniella Daniels, Anthony Vanhorn, Mona Sirbescu, Isabee

The presentation by Richard Lassin on the “Back 40” mineral deposit followed dinner and general Section business and a summary by Adam Heft regarding the recent Annual Meeting held in Bloomingdale, Illinois.



Speaker Richard Lassin presenting information on the “Back 40” deposit in Menominee County, Michigan. Photograph courtesy of Adam Heft.

The presentation by Mr. Lassin was informative, and illustrated how a mineral deposit can be discovered by accident; in this case, because of high concentrations of metals in someone’s drinking water well.

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## Welcome New Members

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

Eric Kimber, Emily Caskey, Michael Cox, Phillip Backers, Anthony VanIom, Dana Erley, John-Carl Grech, Amanda Dragos, Benjamin Hinks, Katherine Pollard, Chris Denison, Erica Dalman, Thomas Howe, Tony Anthony, and Mary Carnegie.

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 events. You are also welcome to provide information for the Member’s Corner articles.

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## MDEQ Update - Remediation Division Evaluating Applicability of Multi-Increment Sampling

The Department of Environmental Quality’s Remediation Division is evaluating the applicability of multi increment sampling for sites. The evaluation is

being conducted by a group of professionals within the Remediation Division to assess the applicability to sites regulated under Parts 201 and 213. This group is in the process of identifying the types of sites and contaminants where this approach will work best within the programs as well as developing a frequently asked questions document.

Incremental sampling is a developing protocol designed to reduce data variability and increase sample representativeness. The objective of incremental sampling is to obtain a single sample for analysis that has an analyte concentration representative of a particular area of concern that is part of a designated “decision unit.” The intent of sampling using this protocol is to improve the reliability and defensibility of sampling data by reducing variability when compared to conventional discrete sampling strategies.

The DEQ RD is considering sites for case studies, one in particular may include surficial soils impacted with lead. The DEQ is also interested in partnering to find sites that could be used as good case study examples.

Please contact Patty Brandt at [brandtp@michigan.gov](mailto:brandtp@michigan.gov) if you would like to propose a site or have any questions.

Sara Pearson, CPG, MDEQ RD Senior Geologist, Grand Rapids District

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## Newsletter Notice via E-mail

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](mailto: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.

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## Section Website Reminders

As you may have noticed, the Michigan Section is working on building a database of geologic photographs on our website. We would like to continue building this collection. Please submit photographs that you are willing to share to Adam Heft at [heft@pbworld.com](mailto:heft@pbworld.com). Don’t forget to include

your name and a short explanation of what the photograph depicts. The photographs will be periodically uploaded to the website once several have been received.

You will also note that the Section website now has a history page. Currently, it includes information on Douglas Houghton, Michigan's first State Geologist. We will be including information on the Section's officers in the near future. If you have suggestions on other items that should be included on this page, please let a member of the Section Executive Committee know.

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## **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 information to the Editor for inclusion in this section.*

*No Member's Corner submission was received for this edition of the newsletter.*

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## **Employment Opportunities/Seeking Employment**

*To serve our members, and provide added value, the Michigan Section Executive Committee has decided to allow ads for employment 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.*

PG with 30 years experience with EPA is available at no cost, except for expenses. Can work as your man Friday. Background includes AST's, UST's, petroleum clean up, and air monitoring. Call 810-659-3157 with your needs. Thanks, Jon Ercole



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**Michigan Chapter  
American Institute of Professional Geologists  
MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT**

**December 1, 2011**

**WHY GEOLOGY AND CHEMISTRY FORM THE FOUNDATION IN  
SUSTAINING URBAN AREAS**

Featured Speaker:

[Dan Rogers](#)

**Location:** Weber's Inn, Ann Arbor, MI (Map attached)

**Cost:** Students Free, Members \$35.00, Non-members \$40.00 **Registration is payable at the door by cash or check; however, prepayment is preferred and speeds up the check-in process at the door.** *Please note: Cancellations made within 24 hours of the meeting and/or "No Shows" will be charged and expected to pay the registration fee.*

**Dinner:** Choice of: London Broil, 8-ounces Marinated London Broil, Broiled and Served Thinly Sliced; Chicken Piccata, Sautéed Breast of Chicken with Mushrooms, Artichokes, Capers, Lemon and White Wine; Canadian Whitefish, Oven Broiled with Honey Dijon and Pecan Glaze.

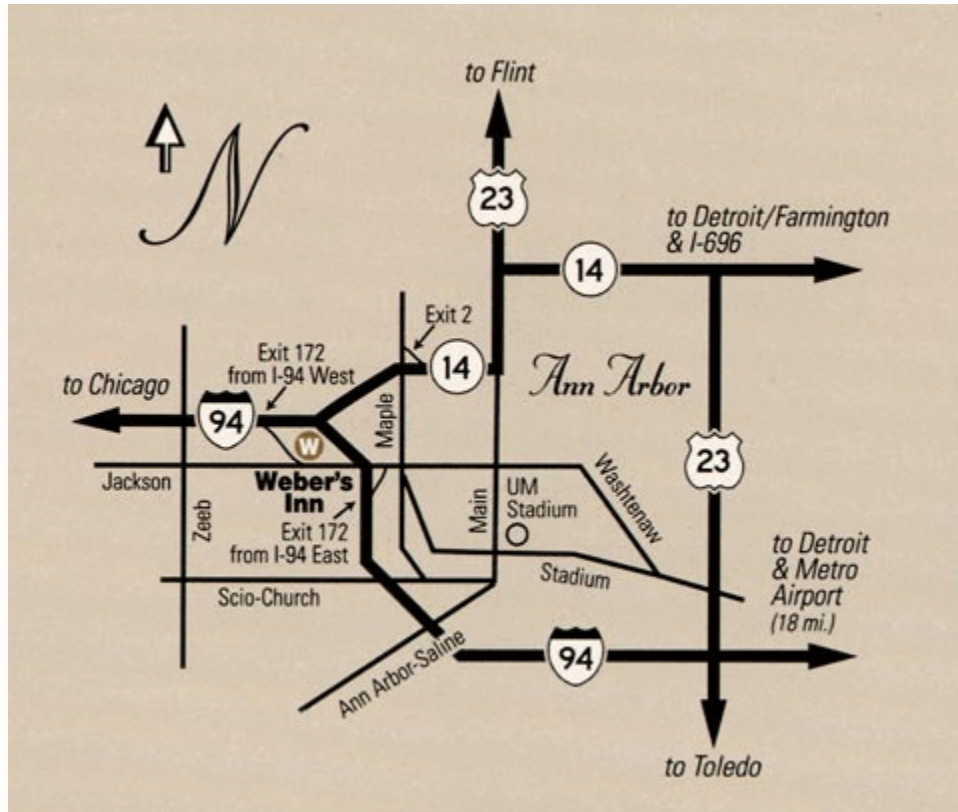
**Time:** Cash Bar 5:30-6:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM, and Speaker 7:30-8:30 PM

**RSVP:** Craig Savage, at [csavage@gfnet.com](mailto:csavage@gfnet.com) no later than November 28, 2011 and include your meal choice! Please include AIPG in the subject line. Checks may be mailed to Craig at this address: c/o Gannett Fleming of Michigan, Inc., 17901 Woodland Drive, Suites 900-1000, New Boston, MI 48164. Payment may also be made at the door.

**Dan Rogers** is the director of environmental affairs at Amsted Industries Incorporated in Chicago, Illinois. Amsted Industries is a diversified manufacturing company of industrial components serving primarily railroad, vehicular, and construction and building markets. It has more than 50 manufacturing locations in 11 different countries. Throughout his career, Rogers has managed and conducted hundreds of geologic and hydrogeologic investigations and remediated and successfully closed industrial sites in the United States and internationally. He has published over 75 research papers in professional and academic publications and peer-reviewed journals on subjects such as environmental geology, hydrogeology, geologic vulnerability and mapping, contaminant fate and transport, urban geology, conducting environmental investigations, contaminant risk, brownfield redevelopment, and remediation. He is also the author of *Environmental Geology of Metropolitan Detroit* (1996) and has published surficial geologic maps of the Rouge River watershed in southeastern Michigan. He has taught geology and environmental chemistry at Eastern Michigan University and the University of Michigan and has presented guest lectures at several colleges and universities both in the United States and internationally. He has a BS and an MS in geology from Utah State University.

# AIPG Section Meeting December 1, 2011

## Weber's Inn, Ann Arbor



From Metro Airport

Take I-94 west toward Ann Arbor approximately 26 miles west, Exit 172, Jackson Avenue, turn left. 1/2 mile

From Chicago/Kalamazoo

Take I-94 east toward Detroit/ Ann Arbor. Exit 172, Ann Arbor, turn left into Weber's parking lot at end of exit ramp.

From Birmingham / Farmington area

Take I-696 west to I-275 south. Take M-14 west towards Ann Arbor. Exit at exit 2, Miller/Maple Road. Turn left on Maple Road. Go 1.5 miles to Jackson Road. Turn Right on Jackson and go 3/4 miles to Weber's.

From Lansing/Grand Rapids

Take I-96 east to US-127 south. Exit to I-94 east at Jackson, take I-94 to exit 172. Weber's Inn is just on the left.