



Allegheny-Ohio Section NEWSLETTER

January 2014

Editor: Nate Saraceno

Request for Technical Articles

Show off your research and/or applied experience by having your technical articles published in an upcoming issue of AEG's quarterly publication, the AEG *NEWS*!

Topics can be anything environmental or engineering geology-related that hasn't been covered in the previous two issues of the AEG *NEWS*. Articles are limited to 3-4 pages (2000-3000 words; 3-8 graphics).

Any member may submit an article! If interested in writing a short technical article, please contact AEG *NEWS* editor, Anna Saindon (rmsain@gmail.com). Be sure to mention you are an Allegheny-Ohio Section member!

March Issue Deadline: January 31st, 2014

June Issue Deadline: April 30th, 2014

The December 2013 issue of AEG *NEWS* is available to all for a limited time. Previous issues are always available to AEG members (must sign in, then access under "publications"). <http://www.aegweb.org/publications/aeg-news>

Also in this issue:

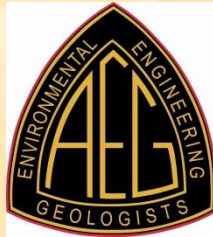
- Call for Abstracts: 12th Annual Student Night
- Member News from 2013
- AEG Members in the News



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

12th ANNUAL STUDENT NIGHT

Co-sponsored by:



Students, please consider taking advantage of an opportunity to present your research and compete in this sponsored event from PGS, AEG, and ASCE, at the 12th Annual Student Night on **Wednesday, April 23** at Foster's Restaurant, #10 Foster Plaza, Greentree. If you have been conducting undergraduate or graduate research in any geologically or geotechnically related field, here is an opportunity to show off your work to members of the three societies, and receive the benefits that go along with it. Students that present their original research grow from the experience by improving their public speaking skills, networking with professionals and experts in their fields, and even a cash award!

Abstracts of **300 words** or less should be emailed to Dr. Kyle Fredrick at kyle.fredrick@calu.edu by **Monday, March 17, 2014** for consideration.

Each of the three sponsoring societies will select one student paper (graduate or undergraduate) for oral presentation. Additional abstracts will be accepted for poster presentations. All presenters will receive certificates of recognition and appreciation, as well as complimentary dinner. The three oral presenters will each receive awards of \$100, while the three top poster presenters will each receive \$50.

Students: Please consider disseminating your research at this auspicious professional venue.

Professors: Please pass this information on to your students who are doing research.



Allegheny-Ohio Section Member News

Jim and Betsy Hamel of Hamel Geotechnical Consultants traveled through Ethiopia from September 24 to October 17. In the north they saw 13th century rock-hewn churches at Lalibela (Photo 1), spectacular geology and scenery in the Simien Mountains which have many peaks above 4000m (Photo 2), ancient monolithic granite stelae (maximum height 33m) at Axum, 17th century European style castles at Gondar, and the headwaters of the Blue Nile (Photo 3).

They then drove south into the Great Rift Valley, the world's largest graben, and met people from various tribes including the Mursi whose women wear clay plates (maximum 15cm diameter) in their lower lips. Finally, they drove east to Harar, a walled Muslim city (founded in 1520) which was an important East African trade center until it was bypassed by the railroad constructed from Addis Ababa to Djibouti ca. 1900. The people were very friendly and the food was good everywhere, although some of the accommodations were quite rustic. Ethiopia is a great place to study fault geology!

[Photos on next page]

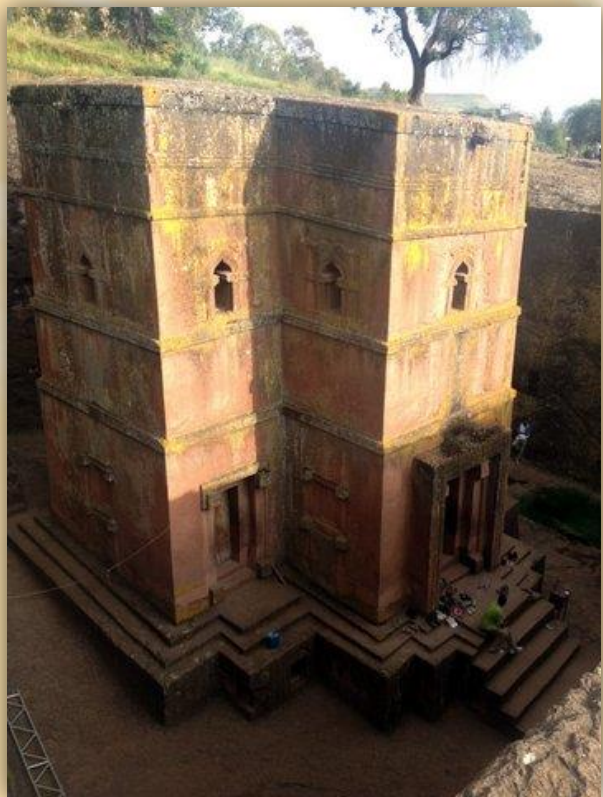


Photo 1: St. George's Church, free-standing, 15m high, hand-hewn from basalt, Lalibela



Photo 2: Gibar Waterfall, 500m high over basalt fault scarp, second highest waterfall in Africa, top elevation approx 3600m, Simien Mountains National Park



Photo 3: Blue Nile Falls, 32km southeast of river's source at Lake Tana (near Bahir Dar), height 40-45m, overflow length approx 250m here (up to 400m in rainy season), flow diminished by nearby hydropower plant



AEG Members in the News

AEG members strive to build “public appreciation for how environmental and engineering geology contribute to public safety and the protection of property.”

In order to demonstrate a portion of member advocacy and outreach efforts, the *AEG Members in the News* section was created as a permanent page on the AEG website:

<http://www.aegweb.org/about-aeg/aeg-members-in-the-news>

Some recent members in the news include:

- **Bill Lund** interviewed about rock slides in Utah (12/13/13)
- **Jennifer Bauer & Scott Burns** in *Earth Magazine* (12/20/13)
- **Greg Hempen** discusses flooding in St. Louis (1/6/14)

AEG is sharing anything from a short quote in a local newspaper to an exclusive interview on worldwide media outlets, and any contributions in between. If you have been in the news, speaking on behalf of our profession, we'd like to know!

Send details to Nate Saraceno (nrsaraceno@gmail.com), and we'll share the story in the next Section newsletter, as well as on the AEG website!



RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

It's that time of year! Don't forget to renew your AEG membership for 2014!

Renew online here: <http://www.aegweb.org/home/join>

Student membership is **FREE!**

Have you recently graduated or will you be graduating this Spring? AEG has a graduation gift for you: **1 FREE year of professional membership!** Contact aeg@aegweb.org to claim your graduation gift!

AO Section Calendar

- 12th Annual Student Night (April 23, 2014)
- September 2014 (Date TBD): [Gregory L. Hempen](#), 2013-2014 Richard H. Jahns Distinguished Lecturer

CALL FOR MEMBER NEWS

If you would like to submit member news for the AEG News: The Homefront,

please email Nate Saraceno at nrsaraceno@gmail.com



Your Section Officers:

Chair: Kristen Enzweiler

Co-Vice Chair: David Plas

Co-Vice Chair: Alex Prvanovic

Treasurer: Nichole Wendlandt

Secretary: Nate Saraceno

Other Section Positions:

Student Liaison: Brian Greene

Short Course Director: Terry Downs

VP Liaison: Vacant

Past Chair: Nichole Wendlandt



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