Mark April 16 - 18!!

AIPG 1988
Governmental Affairs Conference Theme:
Strategic Minerals - Issues For The 1990's

Elisabeth Guerry Newton, new AIPG Washington Representative reports an exciting program with excellent participants is shaping up for this year's AIPG Governmental Affairs Conference. Panel discussants include participants from Congress, the U.S. Geological Survey, the American Mining Congress, and our own AIPG member, Ernest K. Lehmann, the 1987 recipient of the Ben H. Parker Memorial Award.

The program will run from 9:00 a.m. through 2:00 p.m. on April 18 (note that this April 18 date is correct and reflects a change from the April 16 date reported in February TPG) and will be followed by a luncheon. The location is at the Ramada Renaissance Hotel, 1143 New Hampshire Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20037, 202-775-0800. The Executive Committee urges active participation by members (see president's address on p. 1 of the February TPG) at this conference, particularly by those who are members of nearby AIPG sections.

There will also be an informal gathering on the evening of Saturday, April 16 for members of the nearby sections to meet with Executive Committee members. The exact time and place has not yet been determined but information will be available through the Ramada Renaissance Hotel. A special meeting on Saturday, April 16 at 1:00 p.m. in the afternoon will take place at the hotel with an attorney and the Executive Committee. The meeting will focus on potential liabilities of associations such as AIPG. The AIPG Constitution and Bylaws are being studied by the Executive Committee with respect to allowing AIPG to perform its functions in the current era characterized by litigation. The attorney has been called in for consultation. Section officers are being invited to sit in on this meeting and members also in accord with available space.

Aspiring AIPG Editors or Treasurers

The nominating committee will soon be completing its list of nominees for next year's AIPG Executive Committee. The two-year terms of Editor and Treasurer will expire in December of this year. Both are demanding jobs with considerable responsibilities but also yield great satisfaction and accomplishments.

The position of editor includes both the editing and the production of The Professional Geologist, the Membership Directory and additional AIPG publications. The editor is responsible for a large publication budget and may contract printing, publishing and bulk mailing services for periodicals. Printing and mailing may be arranged to be done from any location including the editor's home area or the headquarter's area. The combined duties as a member of the executive committee and the editorial and production duties now demand between 2 and 3 hours per day. The editor may appoint assistant editors to help with these tasks.

The treasurer is responsible for coordination with accountants and auditors to assure clear definition of the financial status of the institute and to keep the executive committee advised on management of institute funds. Time required varies through the year and this year the treasurer has furnished quarterly reports which help forecast expenditures and maintain a current accounting record. The duties of the treasurer require about 10 hours per month plus some additional time prior to executive committee meetings.

Members with interest in serving in the capacity of editor or treasurer should contact Nominating Committee Chairman Charles J. Mankin, Oklahoma Geological Survey, 830 Van Vleet Oval, Norman, OK 73019 (405) 325-3031.

APRIL 18
AIPG GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS CONFERENCE
STRATEGIC MINERALS
RAMADA RENAISSANCE HOTEL
1143 New Hampshire Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20037
202-775-0800
Russ Wayland Retires - Elisabeth Guerry Newton Becomes New AIPG Washington Representative

As you will note in Russ Wayland's column this month, Russ has retired as AIPG's Washington Representative. Russ's column, Federal Legislative and Regulatory Issues Reviewed, has been the longest-running column in TPG and has provided outstanding service to readers for many years. Russ's attention to detail and his witty reporting style drew consistently positive comments from members issue after issue. His name and address as Washington Representative are carried on the back page of TPG for the last time this month. Please take a moment from your schedule and use that address to communicate your personal thanks to Russ for a job that has been done so well for so many years.

Newton's duties as the new AIPG Washington Representative will include continuation in a format of her choosing. She is well qualified as the new Washington Representative and the institute is fortunate to have her in this position. Guerry received her degree in geology from the University of South Carolina and worked for 30 years in the U.S. Department of Interior's with the Mineral Management Service and the Bureau of Land Management. Her specialty area is engineering geology particularly hazard abatement studies. She is a lecturer on the 1988 Visiting Petroleum Geologist Circuit of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists and serves as a councillor on the Energy Minerals Division of that organization. She developed a short course on Management for Consultants for the Association of Engineering Geologists. She has served AIPG in several capacities including two years as chairman of the External Appointments Committee and on the ad hoc Committee for Career Development. She served two terms as president of the Virginia Section of AIPG and as treasurer of that section. Guerry was one of the AIPG winners of the presidential certificate of Merit for 1987 and is the principal organizer of this year's AIPG Governmental Affairs Conference. Guerry’s address as AIPG Washington Representative is P.O. Box 65694, Washington, D.C. 20035-5694 (703) 827-9597.

Ten Years in the Company of SMCRA

W. Clark Ashby, Professor, Department of Botany Southern Illinois University

Whittier, in his poem, "Maud Muller," wrote, "For all of sad words of tongue or pen, The saddest are these: 'T may have been!'" Was his Maud Muller a premonition of modern mining under P.L. 95-87, the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) of 1977? Let's look at the record.

In these comments I shall refer almost exclusively to surface mining reclamation, and chiefly to conditions in the Interior Coal Province (Illinois Basin). My experience includes 40 years of study and research on reclamation of lands after wildfire in California while working for the USDA Forest Service, lands barren from overgrazing by sheep while on a Fulbright research fellowship in Australia, lands eroded and abandoned from agriculture here in the eastern U.S., and pre-law surface-mined lands. The acceptance of research findings from the types of studies was never in doubt.

It has been a great shock to the professional reclamation community in the U.S. to witness the agonizing difficulties of getting acceptance for trial use of potentially better reclamation practices since SMCRA was passed. SMCRA itself overlooked many findings from decades of previous reclamation research by state, industry, and university professionals in this country and abroad. It was a cookbook written by amateur chefs with untired recipes.

Some of today's reclamation problems stem from the law. Some come from bureaucratic rigidity, accentuated in the early hectic years of the law by actions of some federal and state officials, who knew little or nothing about reclamation, to enforce the new public interest. Persons who did know something were often considered suspect—tools of the coal industry.

Trying to survive in the kaleidoscope of changing rules and regulations left little or no room for industry to introduce better reclamation practices. Getting new, or newly discovered old, and evidently better, practices accepted meant delays of months, or even years, in permit approval. Often, a coal producer was thrust into the middle between intransigent government agencies with differing interpretations of the law governing reclamation and environmental protection. Following a fixed formula for reclamation could give efficiency in operation. Changes in reclamation practices could mean costly new equipment which might have to be discarded if a regulatory authority was not pleased with the immediate results. Union opposition to better practices which might seem to cost jobs was a continuing concern.

A further complicating factor was the intrusion of protest groups into the reclamation scene. The philosophical base of these self-serving groups seems to be that mining is a crime (The Strip Mine Handbook, Center for Law and Social Policy and Environmental Policy Institute, 1978). Unfortunately their actions in the past ten years illustrate all too clearly Nietzsche's observations of nearly 100 years ago: "Distrust all in whom the impulse to punish is powerful." To fight the perceived crime, these groups mounted an unrelenting ten-year campaign of harassment against regulatory agencies and the coal industry.
Although pre-law reclamation practices have been criticized, they were widely successful in meeting early forest or pasture production goals, as seen in these before and after photos. These photos are from reforested spoil in Kansas with the left photo taken in 1947 and the right about 30 years later. With current SMCRA requirements for compaction and grass cover, trees now do not grow as well as they did pre-law. Has SMCRA gone too far in decreeing that the birth of a restored landscape must be sanitized and instantly cosmetically attractive? Our goal should be the best possible reclamation, not the most rigid enforcement of a fledgling law. (Photo courtesy of USDA Forest Service.)

They repeatedly opposed implementation of better reclamation practices under P.L. 95-87 in permit reviews and at hearings. Fortunately, the audacity of their claims has often, though not always, been successfully countered in the courts and otherwise.

Where do we stand today? Many provisions of Title V, Control of the Environmental Impacts of Surface Coal Mining, such as return to original contour, elimination of highwalls, and replacement of surface materials, have largely been fulfilled, for better or worse. Mechanically, the law has worked. How to cope with resulting post-law problems such as widespread soil compaction has not been resolved. Whether much of the land affected has been or could be restored under SMCRA, “to a condition capable of supporting an uses which it was capable of supporting prior to any mining, or higher or better uses,” is debatable. For practical purposes, the provisions of Sec. 711, Experimental Practices, have scarcely been implemented. This is a tragic error in the history of SMCRA. Excessive regulations, promoted by protest groups, which inhibit the coupling of carbon-recovery operations with the restoration of pre-law sites should be eliminated.

Reclamation operations under Title IV, Abandoned Mine Reclamation, have affected only a small percentage of acreage. Too much of the tonnage fees money has gone into design and contracting for bulldozing which destroys plant cover and re-exposes toxic spoils. Needed wildlife, forestry, recreations, and allied uses for which these lands are best suited could better be achieved by low-level enhancement of natural recovery processes.

A major flaw of SMCRA is that it looks backwards instead of building for the future. This fixation with the past contradicts our whole pioneer heritage and the American tradition of finding a better way to do something. The rigidity of that law limits comparisons on very important reclamation practices such as grading. The potential of using total excavation of a landscape to build a better, more productive world, used so successfully in Germany and elsewhere, is undermined. Another flaw, recognized to some extent in the language of the Act, is that what may be good practice in Appalachia, or Wyoming, may not be good in Illinois, and vice versa.

My own belief is that important acreages in southern Illinois have had their potential productivity degraded to meet short-term cosmetic standards of grading and topsoil replacement. An insistence on presumed corn standards for all types of land use has adversely affected other land uses, such as forestry, in Illinois for untold years to come.

An acid test of SMCRA awaits us, in that a coal company which has faithfully followed all the minutely detailed prescriptions for untired reclamation practices demanded by the regulatory agencies is still responsible for meeting performance standards. If the company cannot do so, and had no freedom to use alternative methods which could have brought success, who is to blame? Can society escape that responsibility? The future of mining and reclamation waits for the deciphering of that handwriting on the wall.

From SIU Mineral Matters, January 1988

Symposium on Liability For Geologists

D. Richard Thompson, GPS 2537

AIGP members may wish to take advantage of a symposium being sponsored by the Harrisburg Section of the Association of Engineering Geologists. The Symposium, Professional Liability and the Practicing Geologist will be held May 19-20 at the Sheraton Inn in Frederick, MD. Preregistration is $65 with desk registration set at $75. Contact Lanny Helms of Schnabel Engineering Associates, 4909 Cordell Ave., Bethesda, MD 20814 (301) 652-8922.
Perhaps a great party the night before! Well, not exactly. This photo taken by Rick Rader was submitted by State Geologist Haig Kasabach, CPG 1461 and Bob Canace of the New Jersey Geological Survey in response to our request in the October 1987 TPG for photographs exemplary of geologic hazards. The photo is of the "Thomas Street Sinkhole" in Phillipsburg, NJ. The collapse resulted when a water main burst and piped away supporting silty and gravelly clay overburden. Further investigations discovered voids in excess of ten feet in height. The role of the geologist in abating the local hazard is well told by Robert Canace and Richard Dalton in their article on pages 343-348 of Sinkholes: Their Geology, Engineering and Environmental Impact, 1984, edited by Barry F. Beck. Only a few members have responded to AIPG's request in the October TPG. Members, we are serious - we want some of your choice photos for possible inclusion in the forthcoming AIPG book on geological hazards. TPG will carry some of these also. Please send that slide or photo today.

W. M. Keck Foundation’s 1987 Disbursements To Science and Medicine Total a Record $33.8 Million

The W. M. Keck Foundation, one of the nation’s largest foundations in terms of annual grants, announced today that grant disbursements to science, engineering, medical research and medical education nationwide totalled $33.8 million in 1987. An additional $2 million was authorized for payment over the next two years, bringing the total commitments to $35.8 million for science and medicine. The 31 grants represented the largest amount ever disbursed by the Foundation to recipients in these fields.

The W. M. Keck Foundation was established in 1954 by the late William M. Keck, founder of The Superior Oil Company, who also created in his will the W. M. Keck Trust for the benefit of the Foundation. At year-end 1986, the combined net assets of the Foundation and Trust were $644 million. The W. M. Keck Foundation makes grants biannually, in June and December.

Invitation from Beijing

Dear Sir,

The mineral resource has emerged as a vital sector of our national industry. To sustain this steady growth we must continue to effectively realize our potential in this area and so capitalize on the comparative advantage we enjoy, and to create opportunities for those in the industry to exchange informations and ideas about prospecting, mining and exploitation and knowledge in physical environment. Through this process our vast mineral resources can be fully exploited and our physical environment can be effectively monitored.

It is for this objective that our Council is organizing an International Exhibition on Geological Prospecting, Surveying, Seismology and Meteorology on October 11-17, 1988, in Beijing, China, namely GEOLOGY ’88. GEOLOGY ’88 has received top attention from the government and is strongly supported by the Ministry of Geology and Mineral Resources, the China Geological Technology Development and Import/Export Corporation, the China Mechanical and Electrical Equipment Supplies Corporation, the China National Bureau of Seismology and the State Bureau of Meteorology.

THE PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGIST
At this event, leaders of the related units will visit GEOLOGY, '88. Field engineers and technicians from all over the country will be invited to attend technical seminars and to discuss the possibilities of trade cooperation with exhibiting companies. We warmly invite you to be a part of GEOLOGY '88. Your participation will surely advance our mutual understanding in the geological sector.

We have appointed SHK International Services Ltd. and CIEC Exhibition Company (H.K.) Ltd. in Hong Kong as the overseas organizers of GEOLOGY '88.

We hope you will accept this invitation to promote extensive exchanges and sincere cooperation.

Address: CIEC Exhibition Company, (H.K.) Ltd.
21/F, China Resources Bldg.
26 Harbour Road, Wanchai
Tel: 5-8335078
Tlx: 81529 CIFC HX
Fax: 5-8931214

Illinois-Indiana Section
Co-Sponsor Illinois Groundwater Protection Act Workshops

The Illinois-Indiana Section of the AIPG co-sponsored (along with the Illinois Department of Energy and Natural Resources) a series of five workshops given in March on the new Illinois Groundwater Protection Act.

The purpose was to inform participants of the Illinois Groundwater Protection Act (IGPA) and its impact on their work.

IPGA viewed as the intended audience: state and federal agency personnel, regional planning officials, county and municipal officials, well drillers, association executives, land use planning and zoning personnel, and other professionals dealing with groundwater.

SIPES to Produce Documentary

The Society of Independent Professional Earth Scientists (SIPES) and the SIPES Foundation have announced plans to produce an educational documentary film entitled, “America’s Energy Dilemma.” The 30 minute film will illustrate the importance of the small energy producer. Using the newest film techniques and computer graphics, the film will focus on a personalized story of how the independent works, moving from the conception of a geological idea through various stages to the drilling of a well.

Concern over the industry’s poor public image and over the number of independents who have ceased operations prompted the group to begin work on the film project, according to spokesman A. H. Wadsworth, Jr. of Houston. SIPES plans to begin filming early in 1988 after fund-raising efforts have been completed. Copies of the film will be distributed free of charge to colleges, churches, clubs and high schools for educational purposes.

For additional information, contact A. H. Wadsworth, Jr., 800 Bering Drive, Suite 206, Houston, TX 77057, 713-785-1522.

MARCH 1988

MEMBERS’ SCRAPBOOK

PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION

A. J. Sinclair, Head Dept. of Geological Sciences
University of British Columbia
Vancouver, B.C., V6T 2B4, Canada

Professional registration of geochemists commonly is required for legal reasons in various jurisdictions. Requirements for such registration vary dramatically and have been of some concern to various members of the association over the past few years. In Canada, for example, registration allowing legal professional practice of exploration geochemistry is obtained through various provincial associations of professional engineering. In most cases, individuals are evaluated for registration in an ad hoc manner and no uniform standards exist across the country. In only one province (Alberta) does a separate registration stream exist for Professional Geophysicists and Geologists (including Professional Geochemists). At least one other province (British Columbia) recently has been investigating the possibility of registering Professional Geoscientists (Geologists, Geochemists and Geophysicists). The British Columbian study has been undertaken by the Earth Science Task Group established by the Association of Professional Engineers of British Columbia and chaired by the writer. Part of the purpose of that task group was to establish demand for professional registration among geoscientists in B.C., a goal approached through a widely distributed questionnaire. The nature and results of that questionnaire were reported by the writer (Professional Engineer of B.C., 1986 July, p. 24), as one indication of local interest among geoscientists (including a significant geochemistry component) for professional registration.

Publication of such local information in the AEG Newsletter is principally to motivate discussion among members as to how the association should become involved. A number of factual situations should be addressed.

1. Registration of earth science professionals is required by law in many jurisdictions.
2. No national, let alone international, standards exist as to the qualifications that constitute a professional geochemist.
3. Registration implies a form of “policing” mechanism, not only to monitor acceptance of registrants but also to monitor continuing quality of work by members. In particular, the policing body requires a mechanism to respond to complaints about the quality of work by members.

The writer will act as a clearing house for members’ contributions directed towards establishing policy and action by the Association of Exploration Geochemistry. Outlines of government legislation that defines and controls “Professional Geochemists” would be appreciated, as well as detailed comments, opinions and discussions that will lead to policy development. It would be particularly useful to have contributions as to detailed requirements deemed important for a geochemist to attain legal registration.

from Explore, Oct. 1987, Assoc. Exploration Geochemists
Recommended for TPG by John Galey, Jr., CPG 2622
Meet Your Headquarters Staff

Wendy Davidson

Wendy Davidson, the secretary whose voice you will likely hear when to call headquarters, is a native of Colorado. She attended Pomona High School, and as part of the Business Education program worked part time for three years in the AIPG office. After graduation Wendy married and moved to La Jolla, California, where she was employed in the Loan Accounting Department of Merrill Lynch. In January of 1987 she returned to Colorado and was rehired by AIPG, this time as a full-time secretary. Although Wendy’s duties have focused primarily on member services, accounting and data processing, she has also become familiar with a wide range of other responsibilities in the office. She is currently typesetting the 1988 Membership Directory.

Symptoms of the NIMBY Syndrome

An opinion, by James Burling

Once a week, for six hours, southeastern Alaska could be rocked by an environmental event unparalleled in the state’s history. A small barge will sail into the waters of LeConte Bay near Petersburg and pluck a small iceberg from the water and then proceed south to Seattle. This activity will be for a cause no more urgent than to provide yuppies with gourmet ice cubes for their extra dry martinis.

Fortunately, an opposition group has formed to put a stop to this nonsense and is asking the state first to require permits for iceberg plucking, and then, naturally enough, to deny those permits. The iceberg-antis are worried that the sight of a barge plucking icebergs will drive the tourists away, perhaps to more scenic areas like New Jersey or Oakland.

It is plain that the iceberg-antis, all well-meaning folk no doubt, are suffering the classic symptoms of the NIMBY syndrome. Put simply, industry in Alaska is fine, but not in my backyard. And nowadays, the backyard is as large as all outdoors Alaska.

The NIMBY syndrome is nothing new and hardly unique to Alaska. A couple of years ago a man took photographs in the wilderness area in and around Yellowstone and sold those photographs at his nearby gas station. The ever-vigilant guardians of the public trust from the park service quickly moved in and brought an action against the hapless photographer. He was charged with exploiting a wilderness area for commercial purposes, which is of course unlawful. That park service concessions sold photographs of Yellowstone was irrelevant. The wilderness if everybody’s backyard and private enterprise should not be allowed.

Even nearby Eagle River is not immune to the effects of the NIMBY syndrome. A major Austrian developer has big plans to develop a $175 million world class ski resort in Chugach State Park at Eagle River. This obviously will have a larger impact than iceberg-plucking or nature photography, but the economic and recreational benefits to Alaskans will be equally dramatic. Yet the NIMBY’s are marshaling their forces to oppose, oppose, oppose. And, as usual, they are raising all sorts of arguments to mask the only argument they really have: “We don’t want it in our backyard - and our backyard is the state of Alaska.”

Some of the NIMBY’s claim that the resort should not be built because state parkland should remain undeveloped and ski areas should be put in “true multiple-use lands”. Quick — how many undeveloped skiable mountains can you name in the Anchorage area that are not part of some park or special designation category? Other anti-skiers tell us that we do not need any more ski areas, that one at Alyeska and one proposed at Hatcher Pass will be more than enough. That other states can fit a dozen ski areas around a single lake like Tahoe and still be filled to capacity somehow makes this claim difficult to swallow.

A few NIMBYs have even looked at the Eagle River plan and have said, “well that plan isn’t all that bad, but it will open the door to plans we don’t like. So we have to stop ‘em all.” That makes about as much sense as banning babies because one might grow up to be an ugly capitalist.

Other opponents have declared that the snow will be too wet, or the weather too lousy to develop a world-class resort in Eagle River. Fortunately, most people have dismissed these smokescreen arguments and are more willing to work with someone with a long history of successful resort development than swallow the arguments of people who can be instantly galvanized into opposing anything for the sake of opposition.

Whether it’s iceberg-plucking, skiing, or even nature photography for profit, there are some people who will be opposed as a matter of principle, never mind the facts. It is true not all development proposals are well considered, but the NIMBY’s risk losing credibility when their anti-arguments lapse into total irrationality.

James Burling is an attorney with Pacific Legal Foundation, a non-profit, public interest law firm with an office in Anchorage.
Consultants’ Column

Well, here’s our chance! A vehicle now exists whereby we can communicate and, even better, put our thoughts and problems out in front of the entire profession. But it’s up to us to make it go.

Stever Haverl — where are you? So far I’ve received two letters of encouragement and one from Jim Gibson (CPG 7181) decrying the subservient (to PE’s) position of the geologist in NJ. Jim writes that since the PEs do a questionable job of policing their own members “regarding ethics and morality”, they shouldn’t “be allowed to have even a hint of control over anyone else.” What do you think? I’ll tell you what I think.

I think that before we go about trying to solve a problem — any problem — we had better define that problem. We might start by defining ethics and morality.

Modern ethics (?) have drifted away from their classical roots, which were basically moralistic. The “new improved” ethics are “logical” and rationalistic. Sound familiar? These are two terms rather definitive of engineering. In fact, modern “professional” ethics tend toward downright elitism. That’s a far cry from the true basis of ethics — MORALITY. A professional code of ethics founded in sound moral principles wouldn’t permit what some professions have been getting away with for more years than Jim knows. Here we have a problem which most engineers in particular probably don’t even recognize. What do we do about it? You tell me!

This gets at a big problem faced by consultants. We have to operate in the real world. That means we have to compete with engineers, usually on their terms. In many instances, we’re at their mercy. We’d better have our own act together before we take shots at the guy who owns the field we’re playing on.

How’s our own code of ethics? Look it over. And what’s our own attitude regarding registration. Do we want to be registered for our protection (elitist?) or the public’s? You tell me!

Another issue is responsibility. Do our reports give the client enough information so that he can figure his odds, and do we make the right recommendations for him, and give him an accurate picture of his chances? Do we stand behind our work — guarantee it — or do we hedge? I’ll tell you this — geologists have a reputation for being vague (a holdover, I think, from when academicians were the only consultants available). Things have improved significantly (we have learned, believe it or not, from the engineer), but we still have a way to go.

Still another issue is qualification. A consultant has to first sell himself, then sell his profession, and finally sell the job (not to mention completing the project in a professional, timely and cost-effective manner). We must be qualified. Does AIPG membership count? It should, but does it? You tell me! Do the qualifications for membership qualify the member as a competent consultant? Should they?

I’ve mentioned three or four key issues here, and I hope I’ve raised a few hackles. I don’t have any problem with telling you what I think, but that’s not what this column’s about. This is an exchange. Tell me what you think. We’ll get the issues out front...I guarantee it. Make your letters as long as you want, but get them in! What are the major problems faced by consultants? How can we go about solving them? Can AIPG help? Think, and CONTRIBUTE.

My mailing address is: Fred L. Fox, CPG 1273
GEONICS
P.O. Box 5356
Clinton, N 08809

Editor’s Note: Fred Fox has gone all out for us. He has not only agreed to serve as an editor for this column, but he has written number one of its entries. Members, do not leave this good man hanging! There’s no sadder situation for an editor than no submissions. Blow the dust out of that word processor or typewriter. We want to hear from you.

Mineral Management Service’s Final Product - Valuation Rules Potential Impact on Frontier Area Development

E. G. Newton - CPG 4785

The final rules which took affect March 1 do not allow deductions for extraordinary post-production costs. The costs pertain to drilling in deep water and above Arctic Circle. The agency intends to address such costs through royalty reduction. The decision has substantial future implications and has triggered alarm among companies interested in frontier development. The American Petroleum Institute considers the decision “unfortunate and disappointing”.

Director’s Position in Office of Fossil Energy Available

Word was received from Guerry Newton, our Washington Representative, that the position for the Director of Geoscience Research in the Office of Fossil Energy is still open. This is a senior Executive Office Position that carries a salary between $65,999 and $73,400. Applicants should contact Jack Walsh, U.S. Dept. of Energy, Mail Stop FE 10 Room A-117, Germantown, MD 20874 (303) 353-2617.

President Advocates “Privatization”

E. G. Newton - CPG 4785

The administration will recommend a “series of pilot projects to determine if privatization is the best way to go in other government programs” including management of multiple-use federal lands by public and private groups. The president will recommend also, the direct privatization of all or some of existing federal programs, including Naval Petroleum Reserves and the Alaska Power Administration.
Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. RCRA’s spending authorizations expire 9-30-88, so Congress will busily consider solid waste disposal problems this year. Emphasis may shift from hazardous waste to ordinary household and commercial trash, with landfills reaching capacity and sites for new ones difficult to find. “Special wastes”, including mining wastes, oil, and municipal lagoons may get special attention. Wastes from oil and gas production are already regulated under the Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, and state pollution control laws, but there are also those who want the 12 billion barrels of wastewater and 360 million barrels of drilling muds, etc., from 842,000 wells also to be regulated under RCRA.

U.S. satellite photography is to become more competitive. Landsat’s onetime monopoly of remote sensing is now in the hands of EOSAT, a company with two satellites of 30-meter resolution and with plans to have a 15-meter sensor by 1991. But SPOT Image Corp., a French company, sells 10-meter resolution pictures. Now the Soviets have announced 5-meter availability, and Japan, Canada, and the European Space Agency have similar commercial plans. So the White House has finally overridden Defense Department objections to U.S. civilian photography that could reveal military secrets.

Toll free telephone recordings on events concerning high-level nuclear waste. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has changed the number to 1-800-368-5642 and has enlarged the scope of its reporting of coming meetings with the Department of Energy (DOE) or with its advisory committee. The DOE’s Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management also has such a service, on 1-800-368-2235. 53FR2302

Seabed nuclear waste disposal. Staff members of three House committees are to be briefed 2-24-88 by NOAA, USGS and academia on the feasibility of storing nuclear waste in the sub-seabed.

Waste dumps on BLM land. BLM is under some pressure from a House Government Operations Subcommittee to increase its surveillance of its 450 leased garbage dump and landfill sites, as well as up to 3,000 abandoned dumps, for hazardous waste.

Revised list of regulated substances in drinking water. EPA has made additions and changes in its list of contaminants known or anticipated to occur in public water systems. 53FR1892-1902

In-process sludge is not solid waste. By court order, EPA is proposing to exclude from regulation those sludges, byproducts and spent materials, including some in petroleum refining, that are reclaimed as part of continuing, ongoing manufacturing processes. Comments are due 2-22-88. 53FR519-529

Proposed ocean dumping sites for dredged materials. EPA is proposing a site in Massachusetts Bay (53FR2640); one off Pensacola, FL (53FR 2640); one off Coquille River, OR (53FR564); and one in San Pedro Basin off the Palos Verde Peninsula, CA (52FR49480).

Any interest in another Gulf of Alaska/Cook Inlet OCS lease sale? The Minerals Management Service (MMS) would like to know by about 3-10-88. 53FR2208-2212

A Wild and Scenic River in Illinois? The Governor has asked the National Park Service to designate 17 miles of the Middle Fork of the Vermillion River as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Public comments by 3-7-88 are invited. 53FR1525
Some Fiscal Year 1988 bureau appropriations: (in million dollars)

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<td>Department of Energy (nuclear waste disposal)</td>
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National Strategic Materials and Minerals Program. The Advisory Committee has met again in Washington on 2-4-88, this time to consider, among other matters, the final report of the Advanced Materials Task Force. 53FR1521

Preparing for new federal oil and gas leasing regulations. In response to the recently enacted omnibus appropriations bill which eliminated "known geologic structures" as a determinant, BLM will soon issue lists of lands available for competitive leasing. In some states, confidential nominations from the list will reduce the area available for oral auction. In other states, the plan is to skip the nomination step and go directly to oral auction. Experience with the two procedures will lead to appropriate leasing regulations. Listed lands not nominated, or not sold at auction, will become available for noncompetitive leasing. (Interior's news release)

Final oil and gas valuation rules. These were issued on 1-15-88 by MMS and BLM to be effective 3-1-88. The regulations codify procedures, remove some ambiguity, and should reduce litigation, according to MMS. (53FR1184-1227 for oil; 53FR1230-1284 for gas).

Amending the California Desert Plan. Proposed amendments to the plan are being accepted from the public by BLM until 3-18-88. Proposals should be based on new data not considered when the plan was developed. 53FR2648

Amending a Coeur d'Alene land use plan. BLM proposes to create 12 areas of critical environmental concern (ACECs) or research natural areas (RNAs) in the Emerald Empire and Chief Joseph management framework plans, Idaho. Comments are due about 3-21-88 53FR1945

Arizona mineral interests acquired by BLM. As a result of an exchange with a private company, BLM has acquired 48,000 acres of mineral interest in seven townships. 52FR49526

Proposed rewriting of regulations for solid materials other than coal. BLM proposes non-substantive amendments to 43CFR Part 3590 that would, among other things, eliminate duplication of regulations that are currently under the authority of the Minerals Management Service (MMS). Comments are due 3-28-88. The rules concern exploration and mining operations.

Mineral reports on Montana wilderness study areas (WSAs). BLM requests any new minerals data, or new interpretation of data presented in five USGS/USBM Mineral Survey Reports prepared for WSAs (53FR956). Comments are needed by 3-15-88.

BLM District Advisory Council open meetings
Craig, CO, on 2-17-88 53FR
Las Cruces, NM, on 3-22-88* 1685
Eugene, OR, on 2-18-88 2542
Prineville, OR, on 4-7-88 2793
Roseburg, OR, on 2-18-88 2542
Rock Springs, WY, on 2-17 & 18 - 88 954

*rescheduled

Environmental Impact Statements (EISs)

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Decision Regarding Validity of Mining Claims

Northern Alaska Environmental Center v. Hodel

The Federal District Court in Anchorage has handed down a significant precedent-setting decision ruling that validity determinations need not be made prior to approving operation plans for mining in national parks.

The Northern Alaska Environmental Center had moved for an order to compel the National Park Service (NPS) to determine the validity of all mining claims before allowing mining operations to proceed. Traditionally, validity determinations have been discretionary with NPS. Requiring this for all claims would have placed an onerous and unnecessary burden on NPS. Validity determinations consist of inspection of the site and an assay of the ore to be mined. It would severely delay miners in commencing work on their claims. PLF represented the Alaska Miners Association and the Resource Development

Continued Next Page
Council for Alaska opposing the motion. This lawsuit was brought by a coalition of environmental groups which secured an injunction against mining in three national parks until NPS completes environmental impact statements evaluating the cumulative effects of mining in these parks.

Had this motion been successful, it would have brought disastrous results to individual and family miners who operate small mines.

From Pacific Legal Foundation, December, 1987

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**THE BOOK NOOK**

Review: "The Central Role of the Earth Sciences in Understanding Science?"
A Videotape featuring Stephen J. Gould

Edward B. Nuhfer - CPG 2808

Sometime long ago (the January TPG to be exact) I suggested that a book review column might be a welcome addition to TPG. In fact, I went so far as to send out a couple of my own personal copies of books for review to some members (and you guys know who you are!). At the moment, being a couple of books poorer and not having received any reviews, one might say that I struck a dry hole. However, your editor is a persistent cuss and has decided to try salting the mine a bit to see if he can get a few members to buy in. Therefore the first entry in this review column is going to be mine and since there is no tradition to break, I'm not even going to review a book. Instead, I'm going to review a little known 55 minute VCR tape available from the American Geological Institute.

Stephen Gould is a superb speaker. My first contact with him was several years ago at a Nobel Laureate Conference in a huge auditorium at Gustavus Adolphus College in Minnesota. The Nobel Conference is usually put on for students and several of mine were there for an unanticipated lesson that a trait of greatness is guts as well as genius. At that time, Gould, who was undergoing treatments for cancer, hauled a very tired body before the podium and then commenced to bring the house down. Ever since then I have been an admitted "Gould Groupie".

The availability of the taped speech, "The Central Role of the Earth Sciences in Understanding Science?", an address given by Stephen J. Gould to the National Science Teachers Association, is almost a well-guarded secret. The talk was mentioned a couple of times in news articles in Geotimes and I finally phoned AGI to see if a transcription was available. The tape of the talk is, in fact, readily available and at a reasonable price of $15.00. Delivery from AGI was prompt and I had the tape in hand four days after my phone order.

Although Gould probably did not have the AIGP audience in mind for this tape, I have yet to see a presentation that so clearly distinguishes the uniqueness of the science of geology. In conveying what geology is about to the public, Gould is a grand master and perhaps his only serious "competitor" in modern literature in this regard would be John McPhee. In communicating with the public, AIGP members can learn a lot from this tape. Early in the talk, Gould explains why geologists are often perceived by other scientists as being of lower status. He then goes on to explain how perception of THE scientific method has resulted in misapplication of the method as a standard by which to compare geology to other physical sciences. Gould notes, in a manner that is absolutely enthralling, that it is geologists who discovered deep time and it is geologists, of all scientists who best understand ordering of events in time and change through time. His examples of why these concepts are so important to understand in any application of science provide a profound finale.

The only weak parts of the tape were in its technical production. Slide illustrations provided in the talk are not shown at a scale that allows clear viewing, although they are recognizable in the context of points being made in the talk. Gould is a fast-paced speaker and his clarity was slightly hindered by acoustics of the tape. Lack of tone controls on most VCRs allows little enhancement of the rough spots. I noted upon showing it to my introductory classes that the students with quick minds followed it and were fascinated. I know that there are 36 AIGP sections out there holding meetings and all are attended by those with quick minds and an appreciation of quality. I would highly recommend the viewing of this tape as a program at a sectional meeting.

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**Letters to the Editor . . .**

Letters from Harding and Kistler in the January 1988 TPG expressing their appreciation for being granted Emeritus Membership made me realize that I had neglected to express my own appreciation for receiving that same recognition some months ago. This note is to atone for that neglect.

Congratulations on the new brighter format of TPG as exemplified by the January issue. Congratulations also to the deserving recipients of awards who were featured in that issue.

I read with interest the paper by John Williams and the "roast" letter by Charlie Rich. These articles show an increasing awareness by AIGP of environmental concerns and problems of hazardous waste disposal and the ongoing contamination of air and groundwater. This concern was not evident a few years ago. In fact, many members, particularly in the Colorado Section, were in adamant opposition to all aspects of the environmental movement. It is refreshing to note that some AIGP members now have a different point of view. I happen to believe that the energy and mineral industries can and should conduct their operations so as to reduce contamination of the environment to the lowest possible level permitted by state-of-the-art technology. The idea that clean air and clean water have no economic value in comparison to the costs of compliance with environmental standards is no longer accepted by thoughtful and concerned citizens.

Sincerely,
Robert B. Hall
CPG 284
Section Editors Please Note: We Need Your Newsletters

Section editors should include a copy of their section newsletters sent directly to the national AIPG Editor Edward Nuhfer whose address is shown on the last page of TPG. Articles from your section newsletters are valuable because they show national readers what problems AIPG members are encountering in their particular region and also suggest projects and activities of your section to others. Also furnish headquarters Administrative Manager Carol Beckett with a separate copy. Even though headquarters has not been involved with production of TPG for several months, the staff at headquarters benefit from knowing as much about the institute as possible.

Oral Argument Heard in Mining Case
Sierra Club v. Penfold

Oral argument was held December 9, 1987, by the United States Circuit Court of Appeals in Seattle on the Sierra Club's latest attempt to halt mining operations on federal lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Alaska.

The action was brought initially against BLM by the Sierra Club in 1986 in federal court in Anchorage. The District Court ruled on two occasions that very small operations (under five acres) should be permitted to proceed free from any injunctions, but that larger operations (five acres and over) on four major river drainages must be shut down until BLM completes further environmental studies. The court ordered the mines to be shut down despite its finding that the miners were “innocent parties” and many miners would likely become bankrupt.

PLF appealed the order shutting down the larger mines, and Sierra Club appealed the decisions not shutting down the very small mining operations. Sierra Club also appealed a ruling that it must challenge individual mine approvals first in front of the Department of Interior instead of the District Court. A decision on these appeals is expected in early 1988.

From Pacific Legal Foundation, December 1987

Production of 1988 Directory in Progress

The 1988 directory is in the final stages of composition and should be delivered during April. “Ed the Editor” Nuhfer, assistant editor John Parker and Wendy Davidson, headquarters secretary, have spent many hours on this project. Several glitches present in the computer base caused extra work but now that these have been overcome, production of future directories will be a much easier process.

MARCH 1988

INSTITUTE ALBUM
Edward E. (Bud) Rue, CPG 12

Early in March of 1963, the late Jim Wheeler, CPG 109, and many other good Texans were busily making the final plans for the AAPG Annual Convention at Houston. Activities were scheduled for March 24 through 29. Few geologists were aware what a really significant event this would be. It was the end of an era in which many geological organizations had, for too long, swept the professional practice of geology under the rug. Years before this convention many local geological societies were struggling for direction, some actually organizing local professional groups solving problems with some degree of success but never with the degree that the backing of a national organization might have accomplished.

During the 1950's there were some ominous currents that were undercutting the image of geologists and the whole profession of geology. It was in the wake of several mass firings of geologists that enrollment in some of our well-established geology departments gyrated wildly. In that heyday of the oil and mineral industry there were many half educated promoters pushing themselves on the investing public as geologists. As if this was not bad enough, the very managers who were so boldly firing fairly new geologists then turned to an even bolder spree of hiring new young talent who were willing to work eighteen hours each day to gloat about a salary that might sound high to young graduates working banking hours. The havoc that this operation played with geology departments was well documented, but the hardships imposed on the lives and families of individual geologists will never be fully known.

It was no wonder that the guilty parties were saying that our efforts smacked of guildism even closed-shop unionism. Articles were written about “indiscriminate quiting of your company”. (Were they suppose to wait to be fired?) All of the people that I knew who were active in effecting a change in the practice of geology were intelligent enough to know that we didn’t want someone to look out after us. A shop steward, Ben Parker, was not. In fact, it was Ben H. Parker’s 1961 Presidential Address to the AAPG entitled, “The Attributes of the Geologic Profession” that spelled out the necessity of a code of ethics, recognition by the public, public responsibility and many other attributes that he was seeking for the geologic profession.

But enough for background. What happened in 1963? On March 25 the AGI Professional Standards committee met under the chairmanship of B. Warren Beebe, CPG 156. Frank Conselman, CPG 4, presented a list of definitions which were formulated by the Sub-committee on Definitions. A resolution was made and unanimously approved that: "The problem of professionalism is one of the most pressing now confronting practicing geologists. The committee feels that a time for decision is rapidly approaching, if it is not already here." It was also recommended that: "If a unanimous viewpoint cannot be attained, then the matter should be decided by democratic process on the basis of the greatest good for the greatest number. Continued indecision or evasion by AGI can only result in independent and uncoordinated action by splinter groups on a piecemeal basis that will operate to the detriment of the profession of geology as a whole. We therefore urge that AGI adopt firm policies looking to the solution of this problem at the earliest practical time."
Hold It! Have You Checked Your Skeletons Lately? (Part I)

by Hugh Hay-Roe

No, not the skeletons in the family closet. It’s the bare bones of your sentences that require attention — skeletons like the one underlined in this sentence:

(1) A detailed study of unemployment in the earth sciences was recently conducted by the GeoScience Association. (16 words).

As this sample demonstrates, the sentence skeleton is composed of a subject and verb (minimum) — plus a complement, if any. (For a longer discussion of sentence skeletons see *Engineered Writing* by Murray and Hay-Roe; PennWell Books 1986). But we don’t need a definition to identify sentence skeletons. We’ve been living with them since we learned as children to speak our language. We’re “programmed” to use them to bear the burden of communication. All the other words in a sentence just flesh out the skeletal idea.

At least that’s the way it should be, for the simple two- or three-word skeleton can be extremely powerful. Properly used, it ensures direct, to-the-point organization at every level of a report. The length of any document depends in part — believe it or not — on the content of sentence skeletons. And the clarity and brevity, not to mention impact, of sentences, depend on the structure of the skeleton.

The careful writer will therefore check skeletons with a sharp eye and a sharp pencil.

Be sure the skeleton carries the message.

Read sentence (1) again. You’d never guess it, but the main point of the document introduced by that sentence was this:

(2) According to a recent study by the GeoScience Association, 3000 geologists lost their jobs last year. (Also 16 words).

The skeleton of sentence (2) is stronger than that of (1) because “geologists lost jobs” says more than “study was conducted.” Number (2) is also stronger because it is an active verb, whereas was conducted is passive. Moreover, (2) leads to a briefer document because it introduces the main point, leaving the details of the study to support that point. It takes fewer words to make a point and then support it than to support a point not yet made. Finally, (2) enhances readability because stating the main point gives the reader a perspective from which to view subsequent details intelligently.

Be sure the skeleton sets the right theme.

Whether we recognize it or not, the skeleton of a lead (or topic) sentence sets the theme for discussion. Whatever appears in that skeleton is what we follow up with. In sentence (1), “study was conducted” leads naturally into a chronological report on the study and how it was conducted. The main point will be delayed. In sentence (2), “geologists lost jobs” leads into the why’s and how’s and now what’s of unemployment (which is, after all, vastly more interesting to readers than the fact that “a study was conducted”). The supporting details of the study fall in naturally where relevant.

This article will be continued in next month’s issue.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

I would like to call your attention to the key role that Mr. Kenneth M. Euge, CPG 6061of your Arizona AIPG chapter played in the planning and staging of the 1987 Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of America in Phoenix. As General Chairman of the meeting on behalf of the host institution, The University of Arizona, I can testify that his contributions were invaluable.

From the standpoint of scholarly endeavor and intellectual inquiry, the Geological Society of America is the premier organization of geoscientists in North America, and is the largest society of comparable scope in the world. The Phoenix meeting was the first time that the Geological Society of America has held its annual meeting in the state of Arizona in the 100 years of its history. Technical sessions ran for four days, October 26-29; pre-meeting and post-meeting field trips and shorter courses occupied the periods October 22-24 and October 30-November 1. More than 5000 registrants heard nearly 1800 scientific papers scheduled concurrently in 12 different lecture halls, and nearly 1000 registrants participated in 32 separate field trips that visited every corner of our geologically diverse state.

As one of the 15 members of the Local Organizing Committee, dubbed “Team Phoenix”, Ken took part in the whole process of planning and staging the meeting. His judgment and advice were positive factors throughout the committee effort which occupied more than two years. Essentially the whole geological community of Arizona was represented, one way or another, on the committee or its subcommittees.

In addition, Ken served as transportation chairman, which gave him the specific responsibility of arranging transportation of registrants by shuttle bus from hotel clusters in several parts of Phoenix to the convention center downtown. Buses had to run frequently night and day to get the job done. With a wary eye to the potential pitfalls involved, Ken attacked the whole problem as a professional challenge, and developed model formats for bus bids and bus contracts that should serve the society well for many years to come.

The whole affair was the largest and most important gathering of geoscientists ever held in Arizona. In my view, the contribution made by Mr. Kenneth M. Euge should earn him a solid credit under the heading of distinguished professional service to the geological community of the state and of the nation.

Sincerely,

William R. Dickinson
General Chairman
1987 GSA Meeting

Members In the News Continued on Next Page

THE PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGIST
MEMBERS IN THE NEWS . . .

Peter R. Rose Appointed First Visiting Distinguished Professor of Geology at Kansas State University

Kansas State University is pleased to announce that Peter R. Rose, CPG 3676, has been appointed the first Visiting Distinguished Professor of Geology. The Visiting Distinguished Professorship is partially supported by the generous donations of alumni and friends of the Department of Geology and was established to provide students and faculty the opportunity to interact with an individual whose career in the application of the geological sciences to the understanding, discovery, and development of energy resources has been truly distinguished. Dr. Rose began his appointment in January 1988 and will continue through the 1988-89 academic year.

At the annual meeting of the Society of Mining Engineers (SME) and the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers (AIME), held January 24 through 28, 1988 in Phoenix, Arizona, Haydn H. Murray, CPG 279, Indiana University Professor of Geology, and president of the Illinois-Indiana Section of AIPG was installed as 1988 President of SME. SME is headquartered in Denver, Colorado and has approximately 22,000 members. SME consists of four divisions: Coal; Industrial Minerals; Mining and Exploration; and Mineral and Metallurgical Processing. Dr. Murray is a member of the Industrial Minerals Division where he was very active in programming and scholarship activities and was a member of the AIME Board of Directors from 1981 to 1984. He authored the chapter on Clays in the 3rd, 4th & 5th editions of the AIME volume entitled *Industrial Minerals and Rocks*. In conjunction with his presidency of SME, he is a trustee and member of the board of directors of AIME which is headquartered in New York City.

SECTION NEWS

Kentucky Response to KSPE/CEC Position

Dear Sirs:

One of our members, who is also a registered engineer and a KSPE member, sent me a copy of your recent publication, 1988 Legislative Position, in which the registration of geologists is addressed.

The comments made about geologists either are based on incorrect information and false assumptions or are intentional misstatements. At the moment, I’ll allow you the benefit of doubt and assume the latter to be the case.

1. To say that the registration of geologists does nothing to protect the public’s interest could just as easily be stated about the registration of engineers and be just as erroneous. Professional geologists will not make such an absurd statement about registered engineers and, consequently, I find it difficult to believe that truly professional engineers would believe the statement in question about registered geologists.

2. That geologists do not take as many courses in natural or physical sciences and mathematics as engineers is another questionable and misleading statement. An examination of the 1986-87 bulletin of the University of Kentucky shows that all engineering students, regardless of specialty, are being required to take three courses in mathematics (calculus), one year of chemistry (two courses usually with a laboratory), and one year of calculus-based physics (two courses with laboratories). Depending on the engineering specialty chosen by the student, some additional courses in the above mentioned disciplines will be taken. For example, the chemical engineering student will obviously take more chemistry courses.

For geologists, the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG) strongly discourages programs of preparation that are not rigorously backed by strong requirements in the supporting fields essential to a professional geologist. As a consequence, programs are not acceptable if they do not require an absolute minimum: one semester of calculus (UK requires two and students may substitute two more semesters, namely calculus III and IV, for major requirements), one year of chemistry (two courses accompanying laboratories and UK allows the inclusion of a physical chemistry course in lieu of a major requirement), and one year of physics, preferably calculus-based and with accompanying laboratories.

Typically, both the baccalaureate degrees in engineering and geology require completion of at least 128 semester hours of satisfactory course work. The preparation of geologists includes a 36-semester-hour major in addition to the specified supplemental requirements in the supporting sciences. Furthermore, geology majors are expected to complete a 21-semester-hour minor in a supporting discipline, usually mathematics, chemistry, physics or biology.

3. How many geology courses do engineering students take? According to UK’s programs of study, which I expect to be representative, only civil and mining engineering students take geology, and only one course, namely an elementary geology course for engineers. I hardly believe that to be sufficient training for civil and mining engineers who have to make adequate technical judgments relating to matters involving protection of the public safety, health and welfare and dealing with toxic and hazardous waste disposal, groundwater use and protection, mined-land reclamation, sanitary landfill, surface-water quality evaluations, and subsurface investigations.

4. All versions of registration bills submitted to the General Assembly with which I am familiar have never contained any language to permit registered geologists to perform services defined as engineering. Professional geologists merely wish to practice geology, that is to perform services for the public in connection with the geological description, location, or behavior of earth materials and the natural processes acting upon them. On the other hand, all bills proposed to exempt from registration those professional engineers registered in Kentucky under KRS Chapter 322, who are deemed competent in

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Continued Next Page

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the professional practice of geology or who apply geology to the practice of engineering.

Your kind and careful attention to the comments I have made herein will be appreciated. I do hope that in some way you can set the record straight and that in subsequent printed materials you will not resort to such misleading prejudicial statements about geologists. If a registration bill deserves to be defeated, then let it occur in an open forum on the basis of fair and honest treatment of the facts.

Sincerely,
John C. Philley, President
Kentucky Section

Wyoming Response to Published Statement by Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers

This response is based on my experience dating back to 1964 which has involved doing hydrogeology work with and for both professional geologists and engineers. In that time I have seen professional geologists do faultless work in managing groundwater projects as well as a few professional engineers also. However, I have also seen several examples of professional engineers who reached too far into the geological aspects of projects which resulted in botched or grossly overexpensive projects. Both professions can and must work closely together, but with clearly defined areas of responsibility and without the apparent presumption of universal preeminence of engineers regardless of the degree of geology involved.

Unfortunately, the attitude of presumed and total superiority presented by the KSPE is very prevalent among engineers. Therefore, I have chosen the presentation of the KSPE for a response to all engineers who share their opinions.

First, let me stipulate that “public safety, health, and welfare” is and always has been a basic concern of professional geologists and for this reason they should be allowed to be registered by a state board consisting of their peers after a reasonable period of experience and the passing of a comprehensive test. Such a board should be composed of, at the very least 60% professional geologists selected on the basis of their qualifications and experience.

Although it may have been true of some geologists 40 years ago, the statement that geologists “do not take as many courses in natural or physical science and mathematics as engineers” does NOT hold today. Further, many engineers today are deficient in the formal training and experience in surface and subsurface geological skills particularly in relation to subsurface hydrology, tectonics and seisimicity.

It has been my experience and observation that professional geologists and the public have much more to fear from “conflicts of practice and unlawful encroachment” by engineers into the field of geology than the other way around as claimed by the KSPE.

To anyone with sufficient practical geological training and experience the many facets of geology and the evaluation of the efforts of groundwaters on various types of sediments or strata should place geology as the lead profession in mining, mine permitting, toxic and hazardous waste disposal, groundwater development, use and protection...and subsurface investigations. Again this is frequently where “encroachment” by engineers is prevalent.

In summary the reference by the KSPE to the dilution of “public protection” is mere obfuscation in the interest of restraint of competition for management roles in projects basically dependent on geological expertise. I believe the public is ill-served by such an attitude and that professional geologists should also be allowed to assume their rightful status and responsibilities through the process of official registration by the states in which they chose to practice.

Respectfully,
Harold C. Mosher, CPG 2492

NEW MEMBERS
(as of March 1, 1988)

BARRASH, Warren, CPG 7442, Laramie, WY
BLICKWEDEL, Roy S., CPG 7434, Vilanova, PA
BODCOMB Jr., Frederick M., CPG 7435, Englewood, CO
COUNCIL, Lorraine C., CPG 7443, Norman, OK
HARRIS, Ray E., CPG 7446, Laramie, WY
HENDERSON, Thomas, CPG 7436, Arvada, CO
KLINGEL, Eric J., CPG 7447, Mooresville, NC
LAWTON, Dennis R., CPG 7437, Cedarburg, WI
MCKELVEY, Gregory E., CPG 7448, Spokane, WA
MCLEMORE, Virginia T., CPG 7438, Socorro, NM
MARTIN, Phillippe L., CPG 7444, Denver, CO
METZGER, Chris W., CPG 7439, Parker, CO
MIKELS, John K., CPG 7445, Austin, TX
MURIN, Timothy M., CPG 7440, Upper St. Clair, PA
PRESLEY, Travis E., CPG 7449, Katy, TX
TRAUTMANN, Charles H., CPG 7441, Ithaca, NY

NEW ASSOCIATES
(as of March 1, 1988)

*BALEN, Michael D., A392, Indian, AK
*HANKINS, John B., A393, Willimatic, CT
*HOGARTH, Craig G., A387, Houston, TX
*HUTTON, J. Phares, A389, Pittsburgh, PA
*JONES, Craig S., A388, St. Ann, MO
*TIPTON, Ronald M., A391, Toledo, OH
*WOOD, Bruce R., A390, Tustin, CA

*Associates accepted if applications were in processing before December 31, 1987
APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

Applicants for certification must meet AIPG's standards as set forth in its Constitution on education, experience and competence and personal integrity, and for associate status the same except for experience. If any member has any factual information as to any applicant's qualifications in regard to these standards, whether that information might be positive or negative, please mail that information to Headquarters within thirty (30) days. This information will be circulated only so far as necessary to process and make decisions on the applications.


ANAGNOSTOU, Jeffery T., 1164 Rowena, Grass Lake, MI 49240. Sponsors: George Kunkle, Robert Hayes, Lawrence Austin, P. D. Deo, Hakim Shakir.

BAKER, Bruce W., 2001 N. Rever Road, Akron, OH 44313. Sponsors: Robert North, William Thompson, John Austin, Doug Hardgrove, David Pyles.


CLAY, Robert, 26 Lewis Run Road, West Mifflin, PA 15122. Sponsors: Robert S. Stewart, Charles H. Feldmiller, John M. Best, Keith N. Mangini, Charles R. Bishop.

GOUDEAULT, Paul R., Route #2, Box 272, River Falls, WI 54022. Sponsors: Robert Karls, Kelton Barr, Michael Convery, Olaf Pfannkoch, Donald Rosenberg.


KLEIN, Jerry Z., 5321 Powdermill Road, Kent, OH 44240. Sponsors: Ed Need, Dave Pyles, Ron Fitzpatrick, Larry Mencin, Jackie van Bosse.


REID, George, 596 Gerard Court, Pleasanton, CA 94566. Sponsors: John LaViolette, Richard Proctor, Erik Olsborg, Rick Haltenhoff, Darrell Klingman.

ROSE, Bryant R., P.O. Box 60222, Grand Junction, CO 81506. Sponsors: Loyd A. Carlson, Owen Kingman, Max A. Krey, Frosty Kepler, James Swaisgood.

SHERWIN, Jo Ann, Box 63, Summerfield, TX 79085. Sponsors: Emmy Booy, Liz Brenner, Glen L. Faulkner, Albert M. LaSala, Jr., Vincent Adams.


TURKA, Robert J., 185 Stotler Drive, Delmont, PA 15626. Sponsors: Richard E. Gray, James M. King, James P. Nairn, Henry A. Salver, Peter Michael.

IN MEMORIAM . . .

Headquarters received the sad news that Edward Brown, CPG 2561 of PENACO died in Corpus Christi, TX in October of 1987.

We were notified by Sherman Wengard, CPG 108 that Silas "Buzz" Brown, CPG 36, one of the earliest charter members, died in Tempe, Arizona in November.

We learned recently from Mrs. William F. Beuck of the passing of her husband, William F. Beuck, CPG 1677, of Midland, TX on October 21.

Word was received of the October 1987 death of Leonard B. Lipson, CPG 2687 of Houston.

Mrs. George Nicholas notified headquarters that George E. McNicholas, CPG 4074 died in his Chevron office in San Ramon, CA, on December 10, 1987.

We were sorry to learn that Dr. Arthur C. Munyan, Charter Member CPG 117 passed away at Virginia Beach in November of 1987.

We note with sorrow the passing of Charter Member George G. Shearrow, CPG 663 on November 12 from Lou Gehrig's disease. He was a former geologist and manager for Quaker State Oil Corporation.

Word was received that Daniel L. Sullivan, CPG 802, one of our retired members, recently passed away in Hallettsville, Texas.

Headquarters received notice by telephone that Charter Member Charles A. Tucker, CPG 150 died in summer of 1987.

Ralph Oliver Woodward, CPG 4604, a 37 year resident of Texas, died on January 1, 1988. He was an active member of several geological organizations in addition to AIPG.