



ARIZONA SECTION AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS Newsletter – October 2026

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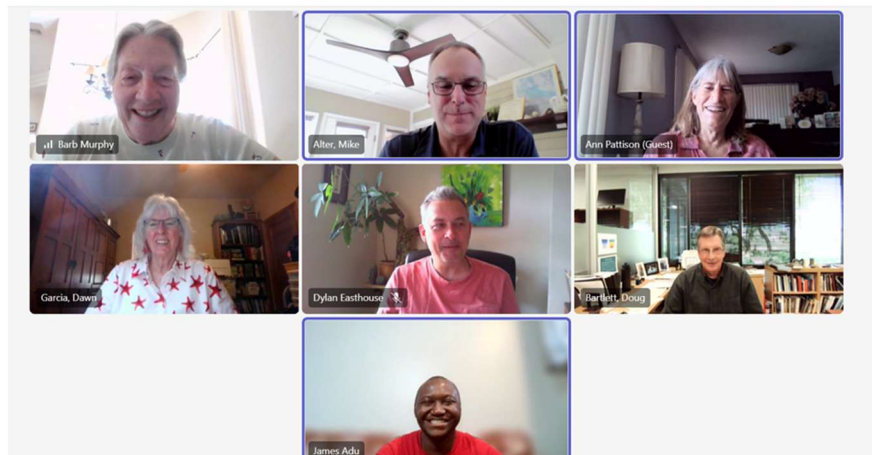
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Message from the Arizona Section Executive Board



Hello AIPG members,

This newsletter is an update of the Arizona Section of the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG). The AZ Section Executive Board has been working on plans for this year and early next year. Many members of the AZ Section and its Executive Board have been active in various geologic endeavors throughout the year.

The 63rd AIPG Annual Meeting, was held in Duluth, Minnesota. As part of the annual meetings, the National Executive Committee conducts AIPG business, and all members are welcome and encouraged to attend and participate. Members are encouraged to discuss topics of interest and concerns, and may request that certain items be addressed by the Executive Committee and included as new business in the agenda. The Arizona Section was well represented by members of its 2026 Executive Board. Ann Pattison (AZ Section President), Mike Alter (AZ Section President-Elect), Barbara Murphy (AZ Section Secretary), Doug Bartlett (CPG Section Screening Committee; Phoenix Area Advisor), and Dawn Garcia (Tucson Area Advisor) represented the AZ Section at various business meetings and social functions. More details about the annual meeting are in this newsletter.

This newsletter also includes information about the upcoming weekend field trip scheduled for October 24-25, 2026 at the Tonto Natural Bridge State Park and Surrounding Area. This is a joint field trip for the AZ Section of AIPG and the Arizona Geological Society (AGS). Peter Dohms (AIPG CPG and retired consulting geologist who lives in Payson), will lead the field trip on Saturday. Stephen J. Reynolds (ASU School of Earth and Space Exploration, Presidents Professor Emeritus), Julia K. Johnson (ASU School of Earth and Space Exploration, Teaching Professor Emeritus), and Chad Kwiatkowski (Research Geologist, Arizona Geological Survey and AGS Member) will lead the field trip on Sunday. Details are in this newsletter and on the AGS website.

We hope you will attend the field trip, and/or future functions. We are planning on a meeting in conjunction with the Tucson Gem & Mineral Show on Saturday, February 13, 2027 at the Arizona Geological Survey office, as we used to have several years ago (new AZGS location). Be sure to check your email. More details later.

And, this is also a reminder to notify AIPG Headquarters of email or other contact changes for the AIPG Directory records.

Please contact any of us if you have comments, ideas, suggestions, and maybe are interested in getting more involved. We look forward to hearing from you.

Treasurer's Report – Dylan Easthouse

AIPG AZ Section Treasurer's Report
Bank Account Totals as of September 25, 2026

Checking: \$15,993.97
Savings: \$13,494.04
Total: \$29,488.01

Call for Nominations for AIPG Arizona Section Executive Board

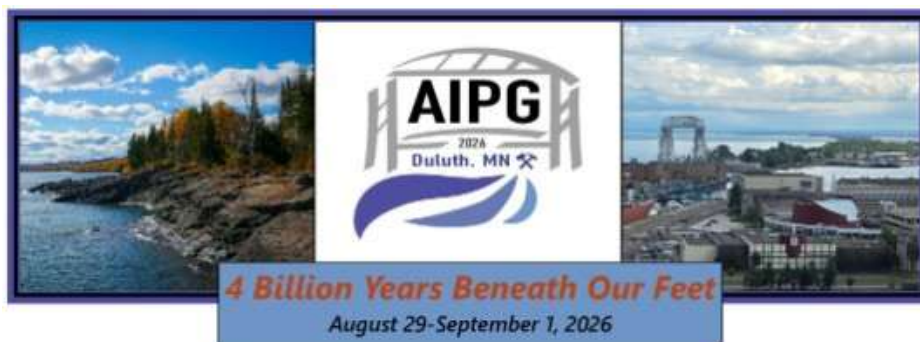
We are making plans for the AIPG Arizona Section for meetings and field trips in 2027 and beyond. We are looking forward to an active 2027 but we need your assistance. You can help the Section by becoming involved in activities such as being an AZ Section officer, by volunteering to serve on a committee, organizing or leading a field trip, and by attending our meetings and field trips. This is a great opportunity to become involved in the geology community. Our activities are often with other professional geology organizations.

Please consider having your name on the ballot for a 2027 Arizona Section officer position. We are now accepting nominations for new officer candidates for President-Elect, Treasurer, and Secretary (newsletter and e-mail communications). You may nominate an AIPG Arizona Section CPG Member for the position of President-Elect or a CPG or Professional Member for the positions of Secretary or Treasurer. And, if you qualify, you may self-nominate. Please seriously consider this much-needed participation in 2027. Mike Alter, CPG will be President of the Arizona Section. Ann Pattison, CPG will serve as Past-President of the AZ Section.

Please contact any of the current board if you have questions. The list of Section members is available on the AIPG national web site. The election to be held at end of November.

Submit nominations by Friday, November 6, 2026 by email (azmurphyb76@outlook.com) to Barbara Murphy, Secretary, AIPG AZ Section. Be sure to include contact information (phone, email) for the nominee.

2026 AIPG National Annual Meeting



Each year, AIPG holds an Annual National Meeting. This yearly meeting is held in different locations around the country, and is typically hosted by the local AIPG section within whose jurisdiction the meeting is held in the fall. This year's meeting, the 63rd AIPG Annual Meeting, was held in Duluth, Minnesota. As part of the annual meetings, the National Executive Committee conducts AIPG business, and all members are welcome and encouraged to attend and participate. Members have the opportunity to discuss topics of interest and concerns, and may request that certain items be addressed by the Executive Committee and included as new business in the agenda. Recent technological improvements have made it possible for the business meetings to be held as hybrid events so that those who are unable to attend in person may attend virtually.



The Arizona Section was well represented by James Adu, Mike Alter, Stacy Alter, Doug Bartlett, Lori Bartlett, Dawn Garcia, Barb Murphy, Ann Pattison, Pam Wilkinson, and Will Wilkinson. Mike Alter currently serves on the AIPG 2026 National Advisory Board. James Adu was recently elected as AIPG National Treasurer for 2027-2028. The AZ Section of AIPG has long had an active presence in the AIPG National Executive and Advisory Boards, and in various committees.



The annual meeting also included technical sessions, a full-day student and Early Career Professional workshops, a GeoTrivia night, and field trips. A silent auction to benefit the Foundation of the AIPG was held at the Welcome Reception. One evening was the Awards Banquet where AIPG members and AIPG headquarters staff were recognized and honored.

Doug Bartlett was the recipient of the prestigious Martin Van Couvering Memorial Service to the Institute Award. This award recognizes exceptional leadership, service, and dedication to the Institute and the geoscience profession. Congratulations to Doug for a well-deserved award.



Dawn Garcia and Doug Bartlett were also recognized for their service on the Conference Organizing Committee. Mike Alter received a recognition for his service as Representative on the AIPG National Advisory Board. It was another successful annual meeting and nice to see old friends, make new connections, see spectacular geology, and catch up.



AIPG Arizona Section – A Summary from September 2026 Members List

The Arizona Section (as of September 23, 2026) has 145 members. There are 96 Certified Professional Geologists (CPGs). The lowest CPG member number is that of an AZ Section member who was awarded CPG in 1973; AIPG which was established in 1963. The most recent CPGs were awarded in September 2026. There are 25 Professional Members, 16 Student Members (1 at Northern Arizona University, 1 at Arizona State University, 7 at University of Arizona, 7 at other colleges out of state), 7 Early Career Professionals, and 1 Associate Member.

The fields of practice range widely with main focuses on environmental, mining, water resources, geochemistry, geophysics, and geotechnical engineering work. Our members serve in federal, state, and local agencies, for federal and state geological surveys, work in consulting with small to large companies or independently, work for mining companies, water providers, as mineralogists/gemologists, and in academia. So, we have a lot of members with amazing experiences to share.

Arizona Section Members in the News

Doug Bartlett was honored with the prestigious Martin Van Couvering Memorial Service to the Institute Award at the 2026 AIPG Annual Meeting in Duluth, Minnesota. This award recognizes exceptional leadership, service, and dedication to the Institute and the geoscience profession. Doug has served as Arizona Section President and in other roles for many years. Currently he is head of the Section Screening Committee for the review of CPG applications in Arizona. At the national AIPG level, Doug has served as Treasurer and as President. Doug Bartlett is principal hydrogeologist and co-founder of Clear Creek Associates, a subsidiary of Geo-Logic Associates. He has more than 45 years of experience as a geologist and hydrogeologist with diverse experience in groundwater computer modeling, hydrogeologic investigations, and mining-related hydrogeologic services.

At the Geological Society of America (GSA) meeting in Denver, CO in October 2026, **Doug Bartlett** will be recognized as President of the American Geosciences Institute (AGI) starting in 2027. This is a three-year commitment and Doug has been participating in the management of this important organization for several years. Doug was Treasurer in 2025 and President-Elect in 2026. AGI, a federation of scientific and professional associations representing over a quarter-million geoscientists, is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to serving the geoscience community. The American Geosciences Institute (AGI) was founded in 1948, under a directive of the National Academy of Sciences, as a network of associations representing geoscientists with a diverse array of skills and knowledge of our planet. The Institute provides information services to geoscientists, serves as a voice of shared interests in our profession, plays a major role in strengthening geoscience education, and strives to increase public awareness of the vital role the geosciences play in society's prosperity, use of resources, resilience to natural hazards, and the health of the planet. AGI is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to serving the geoscience community and addressing the needs of society. AGI headquarters are in Alexandria, Virginia.

Dawn Garcia is serving a three-year term as AGI's Member-at-Large. Dawn Garcia, is a hydrogeologist and a licensed professional geologist with over 35 years of experience in environmental permitting and compliance, mine life cycle planning, and hydrologic projects. She served as 2023 President of AIPG and has held numerous positions with the Arizona Section and AIPG National. She has been a member of the AIPG for over 30 years and received the Martin Van Couvering Memorial Award for distinguished service to the profession of geology. Dawn is a Senior Associate with Stantec in Tucson, Arizona. She has worked in characterization, remediation, and reclamation projects at sites ranging from mineral development to operations to closure. She has strong experience in high-level reviews, due diligence, and preparation of documents associated with investor disclosure. She has visited hundreds of mineral development projects and mining operations. Dawn Garcia has served as the Geologist Member of the Arizona Board of Technical

Registration by appointment of the Governor. Dawn represented AIPG at the Discoveries Conference in Hermosillo, Sonora, in August 2026, where AIPG had a booth. She gave a talk at the conference about how Mexican geologists can obtain professional certification through AIPG, and there was strong interest in AIPG shown by geologists attending the conference.

James Adu, is former Secretary and Past President of the AZ Section and has served on the AIPG National Advisory Board. James was recently elected to serve as AIPG's Treasurer for 2027-2028. James Adu, CPG, RM(SME) recently founded JNA Resource Advisory — a strategic mining executive and professional geologist with over 21 years of global experience spanning precious and base metals exploration, mine operations, resource estimation, and financial modeling across the United States, West Africa, and Alaska. JNA Resource Advisory is a Globe, Arizona-based independent consulting practice offering Qualified Person certifications under NI 43-101, SK-1300, and JORC — the only tri-standard combination that covers Canadian, U.S., and Australian capital markets in a single engagement. James has worked for Capstone Copper, Kinross Gold, Freeport McMoRan, ASARCO, Newmont Corporation, AngloGold Ashanti and Barrick Gold — across Arizona, Alaska, Nevada, Colorado, and West Africa.

Ann Pattison is the current President of the AIPG Arizona Section and Past-President of the Arizona Geological Society (AGS). Ann has maintained near constant activity in professional societies wherever she has lived/worked/studied, and currently regularly attends local monthly SME and AHS dinner meetings, in addition to AGS dinner meetings. She joined AIPG in 1993 and was a past Secretary of the Arizona Section. Ann has worked in the minerals exploration industry since she graduated with a BA in Geology from the University of Arizona and an MS in Geology from University of Texas at El Paso. Ann spent a few years in the employment of various industry giants, but most of her career played out in the contract/consulting arena, a niche she found very rewarding despite its 'feast or famine' existence. She worked in diamonds exploration, coal, and gold, but primarily spent her time in copper exploration.

AIPG Arizona Section Meeting
Saturday, February 13, 2027
Arizona Geological Survey Office, Tucson, AZ

Location: Arizona Geological Survey office, located inside the Arid Lands Studies building, University of Arizona, 1955 E 6th Street, Tucson, AZ (Note: this is a new location)

Time: Door opens at 9 am, meeting starts at 9:30 am

An AIPG Arizona Section meeting will be held in Tucson during the last weekend of the multi-week, internationally-attended gem show. Our section meeting will be Saturday morning, February 13, 2027 at the office of the Arizona Geological Survey, which is now located on the University of Arizona campus. There is parking at the Survey office.

The meeting will include Arizona Section business, an update on AIPG national business and events, an update on the 2027 conference to be held in September 2027 in Salt Lake City, Utah, and a presentation by the Arizona State Geologist, Brian Gootee, on the Survey activities and plans. After the meeting, there will be lunch at a nearby restaurant (by individual pay) and time to network with your colleagues. For those hoping to catch a bit of the gem show, the main public show produced by the Tucson Gem & Mineral Society will be ongoing at the Tucson Convention Center. Closer to the date there will be a follow up email to RSVP for the lunch and with a reminder about the meeting location and parking instructions.





JOINT AZ AIPG-AGS FALL FIELD TRIP October 24-25, 2026



To Payson, AZ, Tonto Natural Bridge State Park, and Surroundings Paleozoic Seaways, Islands, and Stratigraphy along the Mogollon Rim

The Arizona Section of the American Institute Professional Geologists (AIPG) and the Arizona Geological Society (AGS) are offering a joint field trip to be held October 24 – 25, 2026 at the Tonto Natural Bridge State Park and Surrounding Area.

Trip Leaders: Peter Dohms (AIPG CPG and retired consulting geologist who lives in Payson), will lead the field trip on Saturday. Stephen J. Reynolds (ASU School of Earth and Space Exploration, Presidents Professor Emeritus), Julia K. Johnson (ASU School of Earth and Space Exploration, Teaching Professor Emeritus), and Chad Kwiatkowski (Research Geologist, Arizona Geological Survey and AGS Member) will lead the field trip on Sunday.

Arrangements have been made for AIPG AZ Section Members to register through the AGS events link at arizonageologicalsoc.org

The goals of this joint AGS–AIPG field trip are to explore the geology of the central part of the Mogollon Rim and nearby geologic features between Pine and Forest Lakes. The trip will focus on the Proterozoic basement rocks and their influence on the subsequent deposition of Paleozoic units, including onlap of these units onto a persistent, positive feature known as Pine Island. The trip will also examine aspects of the Pennsylvanian and Permian stratigraphy as revealed by a recent major stratigraphic study conducted by two of the field-trip leaders. We will also examine other interesting features, such as the beautiful travertine natural bridge at Tonto Natural Bridge State Park and sinkholes. More details are on AGS web site.

Check for more details in the AGS Newsletter (linked on the AGS website (arizonageologicalsoc.org) and on the AGS website event announcements.

AIPG International Field Trips

2025 Field Trip to Cornwall



AIPG members and guests enjoyed a trip to Cornwall, England coordinated by Down-To-Earth, a small English company that specializes in organizing geology focused tours. The trip was May 8-16, 2025 led by guides Chris Dorman and Colin Schofield. The 27 attendees were impressed by the complex geology, history, culture, and hospitality of the region. The weather was mostly sunny, cool days and just a few brief rain showers. Several Arizona Section members participated and report having a wonderful

tour. More details of the tour were provided in an article in The Professional Geologist magazine, Oct.Nov.Dec 2025 edition.

Photo provided by Dawn Garcia.

2026 Field Trip to Morocco

This year's AIPG International Field Trip is to Morocco, November 9-19, 2026. AIPG has teamed with GeoWorld Travel, a small company based in the UK, to offer an international geology field trip to Morocco in 2026.

2027 Field Trip to Isle of Arran

AIPG has teamed with Down to Earth, a small company based in England, to offer an international geology field trip to the Isle of Arran, March 31- April 7, 2027. Information about this trip and other future international field trips is on the AIPG web site.



AIPG 2027 Annual National Conference September 25-28, 2027

Join your colleagues in Salt Lake City for the **AIPG 2027 National Conference** and experience geology at its most inspiring—where world-class science meets one of the most spectacular natural laboratories on Earth. Utah's geologic story is legendary: from the dramatic Basin and Range extension to the towering Wasatch Front, from ancient Great Salt Lake shorelines to the vivid red rock stratigraphy that records hundreds of millions of years of Earth history. This is a place where every outcrop tells a story, and where geologists can reconnect with the wonder that first drew them to the profession.

The conference will offer an exceptional program of technical sessions designed to sharpen your expertise, expand your perspective, and connect you with leaders across the profession. Whether your focus is hydrogeology, mining, environmental stewardship, or emerging technologies, you'll find high-quality presentations and discussions that are directly relevant to your work. For our student members and early career professionals there will be an additional full-day workshop on transitioning from student to professional, followed by networking with hiring managers and professionals in a broad range of careers in geology. Complementing these sessions are curated field trips that bring Utah's geology to life—offering hands-on opportunities to explore classic formations, modern processes, and real-world challenges in one of North America's most geologically diverse regions.

Come for the science, stay for the experience. The AIPG 2027 Conference in Salt Lake City is more than a meeting—it's a chance to build connections, gain fresh insight, and immerse yourself in geology that is as dynamic as it is beautiful. Don't miss this opportunity to learn, explore, and be inspired alongside fellow geologists from across the country and beyond.



Building the Future of Geology - Support the Foundation of the AIPG

The Foundation of the AIPG supports a variety of programs including student scholarships, student and early career professional workshops, educational programs aimed at practitioners, the public, and policy makers, and some special needs requested by AIPG or other professional organizations. The Foundation is proud to be able to serve AIPG and the geosciences by providing financial support for these programs. Every donation helps the Foundation to contribute toward building the future of geology.

This year the Foundation granted funding to AIPG in support of the undergraduate scholarships awarded by AIPG. Additionally, the Foundation awarded its own William J Siok Graduate Student Scholarship for \$5000.00. Grants were also awarded to AIPG for the 2026 National Conference in Duluth for the Student/ECP Career Workshop, Student Poster Session Prizes, and the Social Media Support from Mine Life Media at the Conference.

If you have any questions or comments about the Foundation, please contact me or any of the other Trustees of the Foundation for additional details and check the AIPG web site for more information about the Foundation. Your continued support is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Michael D. Lawless, CPG, PG
Chairperson, The Foundation of the AIPG
540-557-1319 office phone

The Foundation of the American Institute of Professional Geologists is a 501(c)(3) organization.
Contributions are tax deductible. *EIN 45-2870397*