Ohio Section
American Institute of Professional Geologists

Chartered 1965 March 2026 Newsletter

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AIPG Ohio Section Spring Meeting

Reanimating Ohio's Ancient Sea Monsters: Hydromechanics of Orthocone Cephalopods

Presenter: **Dr. David J. Peterman, Assistant Professor, Department of Geology and Environmental Earth Science, Miami University**

Date: Thursday, April 9, 2026

Location: Wright State University
3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy.
Student Union, Endeavour Room (Room 156)
Dayton, OH 45435

Schedule: Social hour begins at 5:00 pm followed by Dinner at 6:00 pm and Presentation at 7:00 pm

Event Registration Payment: https://aipg-ohio.org/meetinginfo.php
See Page 9 for event details

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Message from the President

Mike Friedhoff, CPG - 11093

As President of the American Institute of Professional Geologists Ohio Section, I'm pleased to share an exciting lineup of events for the coming months—each offering valuable opportunities for professional growth, collaboration, and community impact within our field.

We begin the season on April 9, 2026, with our Spring Meeting hosted at Wright State University. This gathering will feature Dr. David Peterman, a proud alumnus of Wright State University who now serves on the faculty at Miami University. His insights on his talk "Reanimating Ohio's Ancient Sea Monsters: Hydromechanics of Orthocone Cephalopods" promise to be both technically enriching and personally inspiring. I encourage you to see Dr. Peterman's impressive fossil recontructions using 3D modeling and 3D printing skills he uses for science outreach and teaching.

Later in May, we look forward to one of our most anticipated annual traditions—the 8th Charity Golf Scramble on May 29, 2026, at Chapel Hill Golf Course. This event, held in Mount Vernon, provides a unique opportunity to connect with colleagues in a relaxed setting while supporting our student scholarship program. The continued success of this event reflects the generosity and camaraderie that define our membership.

From August 29 through September 1, 2026, we will come together for the AIPG 2026 National Conference in Duluth, Minnesota. This flagship event brings together geologists from across the country to exchange knowledge, explore emerging challenges, and strengthen the professional bonds that support our discipline. Duluth's rich geologic setting provides an ideal backdrop for meaningful discussion and field-based learning.

These events highlight not only the technical excellence within AIPG but also the strong sense of community that drives our organization forward. I encourage each of you to participate where you can, engage with your peers, and continue contributing to the advancement of the geosciences.

I look forward to seeing many of you in the months ahead.

Sincerely,

Mike Friedhoff, CPG-11093
2026 AIPG Ohio Section President

AIPG Ohio Section 2026 Schedule

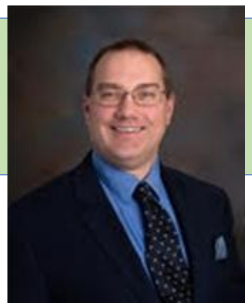
March 31, 2026	AIPG Lunch & Earn – The Many Roles of a Mine Geologist
April 9, 2026	AIPG Ohio Section Spring Meeting – Wright State University
April 14, 2026	AIPG Free Webinar – Geologic Networking Online Event
May 29, 2026	Ohio Section 8th Annual Charity Golf Scramble
June 16, 2026	AIPG Michigan Section 15th Environmental Risk Management Workshop
June 16, 2026	AIPG Texas Groundwater Conference
July 14, 2026	AIPG New Mexico Groundwater Conference
August 29, 2026	AIPG National Conference – Duluth, Minnesota
August 31, 2026	AIPG Awards Banquet
November 9-19, 2026	AIPG Morocco Field Trip

We are hoping to announce other events. Please check out our website frequently: aipg-ohio.org

Last Tuesday of every month – AIPG Lunch and Earn @ 1:00 PM Eastern aipg.org/events/ for more details

Third Tuesday of every month at 12:00 PM (Central Time) the Texas Section hosts a webinar for 1 PDH credit.

Have an event you want to add, please send submittals to the editor at pchasco@nrmsolution.com or pdchasco@gmail.com.



Letter From the Editor

Paul Chasco, CPG - 12024

I hope everyone is enjoying our second newsletter of 2026. I know it's only been a month and a half since our first newsletter. There is a bit of a gap until the third newsletter comes out in September and our website will provide ongoing information on the Ohio Section activities that are coming up in the meantime such as informal field trips and hikes.

I want to continue to encourage you to send me geology related photos, news items, stories, or articles. Mike Friedhoff (CPG 11093) provided some impressive drone photos of Cincinnati that you can see on Page 10. Our Photo submission guidelines are on page 9 and our article submission guidelines are on page 11.

For those that were unable to attend, our winter meeting was held at the Boathouse in Confluence Park in Columbus. Mike Friedhoff provided a recap of the meeting that you can find on Page 5.

Our next meeting is scheduled at Wright State University on April 9, 2026. The meeting abstract and speaker's biography are on Page 8. Our other meetings are tentatively scheduled for September, and November. I would encourage everyone to introduce yourselves to our student members at Wright State University.

Our 8th Annual Charity Golf Scramble is tentatively scheduled for May 29th at Chapel Hill Golf Course in Mt. Vernon, Ohio this year. Our President-Elect, Robert Andrews (CPG 11975), is taking the lead again. Please see the flyer on Page 7 for more details. There is room for 60 participants.

From August 29 through September 1, 2026, the AIPG National Conference will be held in Duluth, Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Paul Chasco, CPG-12024
2026 AIPG Ohio Section Secretary and Newsletter Editor

Ohio Section 2026 Winter Meeting Recap

Feature Presentation: Revisiting the Ordovician/Silurian Boundary in eastern North America

Presented By: Mr. Christopher Waid, Ohio Geological Survey Energy Resources Group

By Mike Friedhoff, CPG-11093

As President of the American Institute of Professional Geologists Ohio Section, I am pleased to reflect on our recent 2026 Winter Meeting and Dinner Presentation held on February 26, 2026 at The Boat House at Confluence Park in Columbus, OH.

Mr. Waid giving his presentation.

The highlight of the meeting was an outstanding presentation by Christopher Waid of the Ohio Geological Survey, titled “Revisiting the Ordovician / Silurian Boundary in Eastern North America.” Mr. Waid delivered a compelling synthesis of recent research that challenges long-standing interpretations of one of the most significant stratigraphic boundaries in North American geology.

For decades, the Cherokee Unconformity was widely interpreted as marking the boundary between the Ordovician and Silurian systems in eastern North America. This surface was believed to represent a substantial gap in the geologic record—on the order of approximately four million years—effectively removing evidence of the Late Ordovician mass extinction and the subsequent recovery interval from regional stratigraphy.

However, as Mr. Waid highlighted, advances over the past 15 years—particularly the application of stable carbon isotope chemostratigraphy—have significantly refined this interpretation. These methods demonstrate that strata overlying the Cherokee Unconformity are actually Hirnantian in age (latest Ordovician), rather than Silurian. This finding fundamentally shifts the position of the boundary and suggests that the stratigraphic record across this interval is far more complete than previously assumed.

Mr. Friedhoff presenting Mr. Waid with a plaque.

Drawing on a collaborative body of recent work integrating conodont biostratigraphy, macropaleontology, chemostratigraphy, and sequence stratigraphy, Mr. Waid presented several key outcomes:

- A revision of lithostratigraphic nomenclature for the Ordovician–Silurian boundary interval in Ohio and Indiana
- Improved precision in identifying and dating strata immediately above and below the boundary
- A more nuanced understanding of the Cherokee Unconformity and associated Late Ordovician to early Silurian sea-level fluctuations

These findings not only refine regional stratigraphic frameworks but also enhance our broader understanding of paleoenvironmental change during a critical interval in Earth history. Following the presentation, the Ohio Section recognized Mr. Waid for his contributions with a commemorative plaque of Ohio’s state fossil, Isotelus maximus—a fitting symbol of the rich Ordovician heritage that continues to inform modern geologic research.

The Winter Meeting exemplified the strength of our profession—where evolving science, collaboration, and mentorship converge. On behalf of the Ohio Section, I extend our sincere appreciation to Mr. Waid for sharing his expertise and to all members who continue to support and advance the geosciences.

Robert Andrews presenting Ms. Petras with the Award for Outstanding Service to the Institute.

Brigette Petras was recognized for her exceptional contributions to the geoscience profession, earning the prestigious AIPG John Stewart Memorial Early Career Professional National Award. This honor is given for demonstrating an ongoing commitment to the geologic profession and AIPG at the section and/or national level, and in particular, to mentoring and aiding in the advancement of Early Career Professional members in their early careers and within AIPG. Brigette was also presented with The Award for Outstanding Service to the Institute, reflecting her continued commitment to advancing AIPG's mission at the local level. Together, these accolades underscore Brigette's professionalism, enthusiasm, and meaningful impact on both the geologic community and AIPG.

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AIPG Ohio Section 8th Annual Charity Golf Scramble

The Ohio Section of the American Institute of Professional Geologists is pleased to announce its eighth annual

18-HOLE GOLF SCRAMBLE

Friday, May 29, 2026

Chapel Hill Golf Course
7516 Johnstown Road, Mt. Vernon, OH
www.chapelhillgolfcourse.com

8:45 am Shotgun Start
2:00 pm Lunch (Burgers and Brats)
catered by Chapel Hill Golf Course
2:30 pm Awards Presentation
Cash Bar

Ohio Section AIPG Members, spouses, friends, family and students, don't miss this fun event! Sign up even if you are not part of a foursome – we will put you on a team. Proceeds will go to support our Ohio-based AIPG Student Chapters!

The event will feature Prizes for
1st, 2nd, and 3rd place, longest drive, and closest to pin.
Don't miss the raffle!

Registration: Opening Soon.
Limited to 60 Players.

Sponsorship Opportunities Available

Look For Details On-line At:
www.aipg-ohio.org/meetinginfo.php

Ohio Section 2026 Spring Meeting

Feature Presentation: Reanimating Ohio's Ancient Sea Monsters: Hydromechanics of Orthocone Cephalopods

Presented By: Dr. David J. Peterman, Assistant Professor, Department of Geology and Environmental Earth Science, Miami University

The Ohio Section of AIPG is pleased to host Dr. David J. Peterman, at the Section's Spring Meeting presentation, which will take place Thursday, April 9, 2026 at the Endeavour Room (Room 156) in the Memorial Union of Wright State University located at 3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy., Dayton, Ohio 45435. Dr. Peterman will be presenting a talk on the hydromechanics of cephalopods. The Gold Sponsors for this meeting are Environmental Remediation Contractors and Eurofins US, the Silver Sponsors are CinDrill, Inc., ERIS – Environmental Risk Information Services, and Ohio Soil Recycling.

The event begins at 5:00 pm with social hour, followed by dinner at 6:00, and the feature presentation at 7:00. The cost is $40 for members and guests or $15 for students. Please preregister and submit payment for the event via the AIPG Ohio Section website https://aipg-ohio.org/meetinginfo.php.

The featured topic will be: Reanimating Ohio's Ancient Sea Monsters: Hydromechanics of Orthocone Cephalopods

presented by Dr. David J. Peterman

SUMMARY

The opportunities presented by swimming have considerably shaped the evolution of life on our planet. All life, extinct and extant, must abide by the same physical laws. Through an understanding of these physical properties, we can place quantitative constraints on the life habits and ecological roles of extinct organisms. Open-source tools and other emerging technologies can help answer broad questions in paleobiology by enabling detailed reconstructions of fossils and the biomechanical properties of their once-living counterparts. This talk will focus on using such an approach (involving computer modeling, robotics, and other tools) to investigate the aquatic biomechanics of a model system spanning ~0.5 billion years – the externally shelled cephalopods (i.e., ammonoids and nautiloids). The evolutionary history of these animals, and their hydromechanical properties, illuminate unique solutions to the obstacles presented by aquatic locomotion, involving buoyancy, stability, maneuverability, control, and locomotive efficiency. These animals experienced strict functional tradeoffs. Consequently, disparate variations on shell shape reflect a broad range of swimming capabilities for animals that once dominated many marine ecosystems around the globe.

Bio:

Bio: David Peterman is an assistant professor of paleontology at Miami University (Oxford, OH). He uses computer modeling, simulations, robotics, and engineering approaches to reconstruct ancient animals and ecosystems. He is particularly interested in the biomechanics of swimming, focusing on a model system spanning over half a billion years - externally shelled cephalopods.

Photograph Submittal Guidelines

The Ohio Section welcomes and encourages members to submit photographs for the newsletter. We are looking for photographs with short captions that you think are interesting or showcase geology and geologists at work. Topics of interest include scenery, geologic disasters, interesting or historical geologic events, interesting work sites, and similar topics. Contributing photographers are requested to abide by the following guidelines to ensure civility and professionalism.

1. Submissions should include your name and membership number.

2. Title of the photograph and year the photograph was taken.

3. A brief description of the photograph.

4. Names of any identifiable persons in the image and permission to publish their photo. No minors please.

5. Please do not submit photographs with confidential or proprietary information.

6. The Ohio Section also welcomes and will consider relevant photographs from non-members, provided contributions abide by the above stated guidelines.

Contributions to the Ohio Section newsletter do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Ohio Section or the editor. We reserve the right to choose photographs published for space considerations.
Please send submittals to the editor at pchasco@nrmsolution.com or pdchasco@gmail.com.

Photograph submitted by Mike Friedhoff, CPG 11093. Photograph taken on April 18, 2023. View of downtown Cincinnati over the John A. Roebling Suspension Bridge. The image was taken using a DJI drone.

Photograph submitted by Mike Friedhoff, CPG 11093. Photograph taken on April 18, 2023. View of the Ohio River southeast of Cincinnati, Ohio. The image is frame 0m27s of a video taken using a DJI drone.

Photograph submitted by Paul Chasco, CPG 12024. Photograph taken in June 2015. Chimney Rock in Bayard, Nebraska. The Brule Formation (Oligocene siltstone) makes up the rocks in the area. The rock is soft and bears the names of early travelers along the Oregon Trail that carved their names into the rock. Lightning strikes have shortened this natural landmark by approximately 30 feet since the 1800s, including a strike in 1992 that claimed 5 feet.

Photograph submitted by Paul Chasco, CPG 12024. Photograph taken in June 2015. Scotts Bluff Nebraska (town) and the Platte River as seen from Scotts Bluff National Monument. The view is of Saddle Rock, one of the five “rocks” to see at the monument. The exposed rocks of Scotts Bluff are Miocene and consist of the Arikaree Group (Monroe Creek – Harrison Formation and Gering Formation) and the White River Group (Whitney and Orella Formations).

Photograph submitted by Paul Chasco, CPG 12024. Photograph taken in June 2015. Display at Agate Fossil Beds National Monument in Agate, Nebraska. The Agate Fossil Beds have some of the best-preserved Miocene fossils in North America and provide fossils to museum collections worldwide. Pictured here are Moropuses.

Photograph submitted by Paul Chasco, CPG 12024. Photograph taken in June 2015. Jewel Cave National Monument is located in Custer, South Dakota and has over 225 miles of mapped passages. Jewel cave is in the Mississippian Pahasapa Formation (limestone). Jewel Cave is known for the sparkling calcite crystals that are present throughout the cave. The crystals in Jewel Cave formed when the cave was flooded and are no longer growing. The crystals are covered with manganese which will easily stain clothing. To deal with the manganese staining, the visitor center has custom carpeting used to camouflage the footprints of the visitors that completed the tour of the cave.

Letters to the Editor and Editorial Submittal Guidelines

The Ohio Section welcomes and encourages membership discourse via the Section newsletter on relevant geopolitical and geological topics, in accordance with our chartered purpose. Contributing authors are requested to abide by the following guidelines to ensure civility and professionalism.

1. Scientific interpretations should include accurate and effective references.

2. Opinion pieces should be presented with reasoning. Fellow members may choose to comment or challenge a submittal with their own contribution.

Authors must abide by the AIPG Code of Ethics. Any author who violates this code will not be published. Authors must be respectful to fellow members, all political parties, officials and candidates.

3. Letters to the Editor should be under one page in 12 pt. Arial font.

4. Member authors should provide their name and certification number.

5. The Ohio Section also welcomes and will consider relevant articles from non-members, provided contributions abide by the above stated guidelines.

Contributions to the Ohio Section newsletter do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Ohio Section or the editor. We reserve the right to edit for clarity and space considerations.

Please send submittals to the editor at pchasco@nrmsolution.com or pdchasco@gmail.com.

I'm not just looking for letters to the editor, I'm also looking for your articles. As the Ohio Section Newsletter Editor, I am working to engage our members and looking for content that you think our members would enjoy. I cannot do this by myself and I am asking for your submissions. I am looking for student papers, abstracts, ongoing research, technical articles, case studies, guides. and, of course, letters to the Editor. While I am limiting the space for letters to the editor, articles can be longer.

The guidelines are pretty simple (see above). All submissions must be professional and must not violate the AIPG code of ethics. Submissions must not be copy right protected or previously submitted for publication elsewhere. We will not publish articles that are clearly marketing for a product or company.

Articles submitted from January 1 to March 15 will be published in the spring newsletter. Articles submitted from March 16 to July 31 will be published in the Summer newsletter. Articles submitted from August 1 to October 15 will be published in the fall newsletter. Finally, articles submitted on or after October 16 will be published in the winter newsletter. I look forward to reading and publishing your articles.

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