Ohio Section
American Institute of Professional Geologists

Chartered 1965 February 2026 Newsletter

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AIPG Ohio Section Fall Meeting

Revisiting the Ordovician/Silurian Boundary in eastern North America

Presenter: Mr. Christopher Waid, Ohio Geological Survey

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026

Location: The Boat House at Confluence Park
679 W. Spring Street
Columbus, OH 43215

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 we move into the heart of winter, I'm excited to share details about an upcoming event that promises to be both engaging and informative for our members. The Ohio Section of the American Institute of Professional Geologists will host its 2026 Winter Meeting and Dinner Presentation on February 26, 2026, at the Boathouse at Confluence Park in Columbus, Ohio. This annual gathering is always a highlight for our Section, offering an excellent opportunity to connect with colleagues and stay current on geologic research relevant to our region.

We are pleased to welcome Christopher Waid, geologist in the Energy Resources Group at the Ohio Geological Survey, as our featured speaker. Chris will present on "Revisiting the Ordovician/Silurian Boundary in Eastern North America," a topic that has important implications for our understanding of regional stratigraphy and geologic history. We look forward to an insightful presentation and lively discussion.

In addition to planning our winter meeting, the Executive Committee is also looking ahead to future Ohio Section field trips. We would love to hear your ideas—whether it's classic Ohio geology, behind-the-scenes industry or agency visits, or new sites you're eager to explore. Please share your suggestions with the Section leadership. Your input helps us create meaningful, relevant experiences for our members. Feel free to email ideas to me at m.friedhoff@gmail.com.

I hope to see many of you on February 26, and I encourage you to stay engaged with the Ohio Section as we continue to learn, network, and explore Ohio's geology together.

Sincerely,

Mike Friedhoff, CPG-11093
2026 AIPG Ohio Section President

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AIPG Ohio Section 2026 Schedule

February 17, 2026	California Water Well Workshop
February 17, 2026	California Groundwater Conference
February 24, 2026	Lunch and Earn – Michigan's Copper Country
February 26, 2026	AIPG Ohio Section Winter Meeting
March 17, 2026	2026 Northwest Groundwater Conference
April 9, 2026	AIPG Ohio Section Spring Meeting (tentative date)
May 29, 2026	Tentative date for 8th Annual Charity Golf Scramble
June 16, 2026	AIPG Michigan Section 15th Environmental Risk Management Workshop
August 29, 2026	AIPG Annual Conference – Duluth, Minnesota

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

Welcome to 2026 AIPG Ohio Section Members and students. I wanted to take a moment and wish everyone a great upcoming year and let you know some of the things we have planned for you this year.

This is our first newsletter for the year. We have three more planned for March, September, and November. I am looking for content and I want to encourage you to send me geology related photos, news items, stories, or articles. Our Photo submission guidelines are on page 11 and our article submission guidelines are on page 13.

Our first meeting is scheduled at the Boathouse at Confluence Park on February 26, 2026. The meeting abstract and speaker's biography are on Page 9. Our other meetings are tentative scheduled for April, September, and November. I would encourage everyone to try to attend at least one of our meetings. This is a good way to connect with fellow members and meet some of our student members. We are working on making PDHs available for attendance.

We are looking to have some informal fieldtrips and hikes this year. Please visit the AIPG Ohio Section website to keep a lookout for those. Last year we were able to tour the Cincinnati Museum Center's paleontology collection. Several members and students were in attendance to see this amazing collection.

Our 8th annual Charity Golf Scramble is tentatively scheduled for May 29th at Chapel Hill Golf Course in Mt. Vernon, Ohio this year. Please keep an eye on the website and the newsletter for additional information. This year we will have room for 60 participants. Ohio Section's President Elect and Awards Chair Robert Andrews (CPG-11975) is continuing to provide his excellent leadership and experience for this event. I would like to thank Robert for his continued leadership that he provides to the Golf Scramble.

From August 29 through September 1, 2026, the AIPG National Annual Conference will be held in Duluth, Minnesota. For those of you who have not been to Duluth, it is a beautiful city located on the western tip of Lake Superior. There are several geologic points of interest in the area. One of the must-see locations is Jay Cooke State Park. For those who wish to make a longer trip, there are black sand beaches and several state parks including Gooseberry Falls, Split Rock Lighthouse, and Tettegouche located about an hour and a half northeast of Duluth along Lake Superior. If you are a mineral hunter, thompsonite can be found near the Minnesota-Canada border and amethyst can be found in Pearl, Ontario, northeast of Thunder Bay. Please enjoy some pictures I took in the area in 2024 on pages 11 and 12.

Sincerely,

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

Ohio Section 2025 Fall Meeting Recap

Feature Presentation: New Mapping in Western Licking County, Ohio

Presented By: Mr. Andy Nash, Ohio Geological Survey

By Lauren Decker, ECP-1127

The American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG) Ohio Section held its 2025 annual meeting at the Horace R. Collins Laboratory in Delaware, Ohio on Thursday, November 20, 2025. AIPG members were welcomed by a lively social hour and tour of the facility, followed by dinner and the feature presentation.

Dave Follett (CPG-12034), AIPG Ohio Section President, opened the presentation portion of the meeting with recognition of the 2025 Annual Meeting sponsors, then introduced Mr. Andy Nash of the Ohio Geological Survey (Survey) as the evening's guest speaker. Mr. Nash is a glacial geologist and supervisor of the geologic mapping group at the Survey, a division of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

Horace R. Collins Laboratory.

His research focuses on modern mapping efforts to resolve stratigraphic conflicts in Western Licking County through field observations and laboratory analyses. Mr. Nash's background includes a B.S. in geology from the College of Wooster and a M.Sc. in geology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He joined the Survey in 2016 and began producing surficial "stack" maps as part of an effort to complete statewide coverage of this mapping product. He has authored and co-authored maps depicting Quaternary geology, bedrock topography, groundwater vulnerability, and hydrogeologic settings.

Mr. Nash giving his presentation.

Mr. Nash's presentation titled "New Mapping in Western Licking County, Ohio" discussed the mapping status, characterization from bedrock to surface, review of digital elevation models, and field mapping. The work presented was performed by himself and his mapping group.

There is an ongoing effort toward countywide mapping funded by the U.S. Geological Survey. Mr. Nash's current mapping focus is on Western Licking county which borders glaciated lowlands and unglaciated plat. Future work will focus on mapping Williams county. The mapping efforts will provide baseline data for models.

The presented research began by evaluating existing maps, including publications from the 1960s through 1990s with either a single till unit or dynamic till stratigraphic framework. Digital elevation models were useful in identifying end moraines, Hummocky topography, and bedrock control.

Mr. Nash and his team conducted field mapping of over 160 sites to investigate the difference between till units and to identify the boundaries. This investigation included hand augering and sonic drilling techniques. Outcrops were observed to interpret sequencing and contacts, specifically at Mount Farms. The till samples collected were differentiated by matrix texture, ribbon method, grain size content and pebble counts. The data will help answer the question at the center of Mr. Nash's research: what was happening as ice was moving in the subsurface?

Water well logs were also utilized to differentiate two separate till units and to assist with modeling bedrock topography. Various sources (HVSR points, bedrock elevation contours, etc.) helped to create the bedrock topography model and improve resolution for publication. Drilling activities provided cores and the opportunity to conduct gamma ray logging which were useful in evaluating trends. A 425-foot core sample was displayed in the laboratory to view after the presentation.

Mr. Nash's research findings concluded that two distinct tills were identified and the till attributes could affect engineering and groundwater activities in Licking county.

Dave Follett presenting Mr. Nash with a plaque

AIPG President, Dave Follett, presented Mr. Nash with a plaque as a token of appreciation. Attendees joined in thanking Mr. Nash with applause and appreciation.

President Dave Follett presented Mike Friedhoff with AIPG Ohio Section's the Outstanding Service to the Institute Award. This award was given to Mike to recognize his service on the Ohio Section's Executive Committee, serving as a Member-At-Large leading to his service as President in 2024, and being instrumental in establishing a Miami University AIPG Student Section. Awards Committee Chair Robert Andrews and President Dave Follett presented Colin with AIPG Ohio Section's the Award of Honor, the section's highest honor. This award was given to Colin to recognize his service on the Ohio Section's Executive Committee, which started at a Member-At-Large in 2014 culminating with his service as President in 2018, and his service on AIPG's National Executive Committee as an Advisory Board Representative in 2019 and 2020. For performing his duties to the Ohio Section and the AIPG with honesty, ethics, and integrity this award was presented to Colin. Robert indicated that Colin's receipt of this award was long overdue.

Dave Follett announced the results of the committee elections. In 2026, Mike Friedhoff will serve as President, Dave Follett will serve as Past President, Mr. Robert Andrews will serve as President Elect, Michelle Torries will serve as Treasurer, and Paul Chasco will continue to serve as Secretary. Lauren Decker will continue to serve as a Member-at-Large.

Dave Follett presented closing remarks, alluding to additional planned events for 2026. Please stay tuned to the newsletter and AIPG Ohio Section emails for more information on upcoming events.

Dave Follett presenting Mr. Friedhoff with the Outstanding Service to the Institute Award.

Dave Follett presenting Mr. Flaherty with the Award of Honor

Thank you to all of the members that were able to attend the 2025 Annual Meeting of the AIPG Ohio Section, and to the 20254 Executive Committee for arranging the event. In addition, thank you to all of the sponsors of the annual meeting and dinner presentation: Cindrill, K3 Complete, ERIS - Environmental Risk Information Services, Lightbox EDR, White Oak Environmental & Safety, Terran Corporation, Ohio Soil Recycling, Pace Analytical Services, ALS Environmental, and Buckeye Elm Contracting.

Attendees enjoying their dinner and socializing during the event.

Ohio Section 2026 Winter Meeting

Feature Presentation:	Revisiting the Ordovician/Silurian Boundary in eastern North America
Presented By:	Mr. Christopher Waid, Ohio Geological Survey Energy Resources Group

The Ohio Section of AIPG is pleased to host Mr. Christopher Waid, at the Section's Winter Meeting presentation, which will take place Thursday, February 26, 2026 at the Boat House at Confluence Park located at 679 W. Spring Street in Columbus, Ohio. Mr. Waid will be presenting a talk on the Ordovician/Silurian Boundary in eastern North America is sponsored by Ohio Soil Recycling and Eurofins US.

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 $35 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: Revisiting the Ordovician/Silurian Boundary in eastern North America presented by Mr. Christopher Waid

SUMMARY

The position of the Ordovician/Silurian (O/S) boundary in eastern North America was long assumed to coincide with the Cherokee Unconformity, which marks a pronounced lithological change in numerous basins across eastern North America. The unconformity was thought to represent an extensive gap (~4 Myr) in the stratigraphic record, extending from the lower Silurian down through the Upper Ordovician, thereby removing the stratigraphic record of the Late Ordovician Mass Extinction Event and subsequent recovery interval in eastern North America.

However, over the past 15 years, widespread application of stable carbon isotope chemostratigraphy showed that the strata overlying the Cherokee Unconformity are in fact Hirnantian (Upper Ordovician), meaning the Cherokee Unconformity does not mark the O/S boundary, and that the boundary interval may be more stratigraphically complete than previously thought. This talk will focus on recently published results from a collaborative project covering the conodont biostratigraphy (Waid and others, 2026), macropaleontology, chemostratigraphy, and litho/sequence stratigraphy (Farnam and others, 2026) of O/S boundary interval sections in Ohio and Indiana. Combined, the findings of these papers 1) revise the lithostratigraphic nomenclature of O/S boundary interval units in Ohio and Indiana, 2) determine the lithostratigraphic position of the O/S boundary and precisely date the strata above and below the boundary, and 3) improve our understanding of the complex Cherokee Unconformity and interpretations of Late Ordovician through early Silurian sea level fluctuations.

References:

Farnam, C., Brett, C.E., Shoemaker, L.M., Jin, J., Elias, R.J., and Waid, C.B.T. 2026. The Hirnantian–Rhuddanian succession in East Central United States: New implications for latest Ordovician to early Silurian sea level: Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.palaeo.2026.113548.

Waid, C.B.T., Farnam, C.A., Hogancamp, N.J., and Brett, C.E. 2026. Hirnantian (Late Ordovician) through Aeronian (Llandovery, early Silurian) conodonts from the Whippoorwill, Brassfield, and golden

Brassfield formations of the North American Midwest Basins and Arches region, USA: Journal of the Geological Society, https://doi.org/10.1144/jgs2024-290.

Bio:

Christopher Waid has been a geologist in the Energy Resources Group at the Ohio Geological Survey since 2016, where he focuses on surface to subsurface correlation and mapping, conodont biostratigraphy, stable carbon isotope chemostratigraphy, and lithosequence stratigraphy. Chris received his bachelor's degree in geoscience from SUNY Geneseo (2013), his master's degree in geology from the University of Iowa (2016) and is currently a PhD candidate at The Ohio State University. He has authored several field trip guidebooks, Survey publications and maps, and journal articles.

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 Paul Chasco, CPG 12024. Photograph taken on July 24, 2024. View of Duluth Minnesota from the tower in Enger Park. Minnesota Point, a 6-mile-long spit, is visible on the left of the photograph. For those who like lighthouses, five are visible from Minnesota Point, three near downtown Duluth, the ruins of one on the hiking trails past the airport, and one on Wisconsin Point, visible from the end of Minnesota Point.

Photograph submitted by Paul Chasco, CPG 12024. Photograph taken on July 24, 2024. The St. Louis River in Jay Cooke State Park, Carlton, Minnesota. The Thompson formation pictured here, began as mud, silt, and clayey sand deposited approximately 1.9 billion years ago. The sediment was compressed and formed bands of shale and graywackes. During the Penokean Orogeny, 1.85 billion years ago, the shale was metamorphosed into slate and folded. Ripple marks from the original sedimentation are still visible, but don't look for fossils as there are no signs complex life.

Photograph submitted by Paul Chasco, CPG 12024. Photograph taken on July 25, 204. Sea arches along the Lake Superior shoreline in Tettegouche State Park, Silver Bay, Minnesota. Seen here are the rhyolites from the midcontinent rift that occurred approximately 1.1 billion years ago.

Photograph submitted by Paul Chasco, CPG 12024. Photograph taken on July 25, 2024. High falls of the Baptism River in Tettegouche State Park, Silver Bay, Minnesota.

Photograph submitted by Paul Chasco, CPG 12024. Photograph taken on June 25, 2024. Split Rock Lighthouse, Split Rock State Park, Two Harbors, Minnesota. Again, the rhyolites from the midcontinent rift that occurred approximately 1.1 billion years ago are seen here. The cliff is approximately 130 feet tall and extends another 40 to 60 feet below the lake surface.

Photograph submitted by Paul Chasco, CPG 12024. Photograph taken on June 25, 2024. One of five sets of falls at Gooseberry Falls State Park, Two Harbors, Minnesota.

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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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