



PA Section Newsletter

American Institute of
Professional
Geologists

7/1/2017

2017 Volume 1

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*“That’s the thing about rocks--they don’t break easily. When I held them,
I wanted to be like them--strong and steady, weathered but not broken.”*
— Ellen Dreyer, *The Glow Stone*

President’s Message

With key issues and concerns related to geological hazards, water resources, shale gas and other energy-related resources, the need for geologists is and should be growing. Regulatory and technical knowledge is also becoming more and more important. That is why you need an organization like AIPG to protect and support your profession. AIPG with an active and dynamic set of leaders will do its best to represent all members. This year, in April, we had the first conference/event in a long time. The Spring Conference was well attended and presented an update on emerging contaminants. This the first of many events that we have planned to support our members by keeping them aware of new trends and supporting awareness of new developments. The meeting was planned and coordinated with the Harrisburg Area Geological Society, affording us all the opportunity to meet new people.

The conference was kicked off by the Director of the Pennsylvania Geological Survey on Thursday, April 20, 2017, and followed by additional speakers on Friday, April 21, 2017. Favorable feedback was provided by attendees, including requests for more seminars/meetings. Additional activities anticipated for this year will include meetings in the Pittsburgh and Philadelphia areas. Also, our geology club, which we sponsor at Temple University, has been very active with great support from the faculty.

We hope you will be active in our Section and help plan additional events in your local area. The Section has motivated and enthusiastic leaders to make our AIPG Section one of the best Sections in the Nation.

President Dennis Pennington

Upcoming Events



- **Quarterly Executive Committee meeting.** August 9, 7 PM to 9 PM.
- **Fall 2017 Field Trip is being planned,** Wissahickon Park, Philadelphia. The park is an excellent geologic resource within the boundaries of Philadelphia.
- **AIPG National Conference.** Memphis Tennessee – “Music City Rocks.” September 23-26, 2017.



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SPRING CONFERENCE 2017

Emerging Contaminants

The PA Section held their Spring Conference on April 20 and 21, starting with a well-received keynote address from Dr. Gale Blackmer, Pennsylvania State Geologist.

The conference provided attendees with up to date information on Emerging Contaminants (ECs). Experts from Pennsylvania were called upon to provide technical and regulatory updates and included:

Jonathan Spergel and Michael Meloy
Attorneys from Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox, LLP
Adam Hackenberg of Langan Associates
David Blye of Environmental Standards, Inc.
G. Patrick Bowling of PADEP
and
Amy Williams of PADEP

Topics ranged from analytical chemistry to environmental chemistry of ECs, regulatory status and developing regulations, source water protection, and field sampling and data evaluation.

The speakers were hailed by attendees as being knowledgeable of their topic and very helpful.



Gale Blackmer Gives Keynote
Thursday Evening April 20.

Conference Survey

Quotes

“Excellent Information”

“Organized and very
Informative”

“Attorneys were
Excellent” (*Go Figure-
editor’s note*)





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Meet the Pennsylvania Section Board Members

Dennis Pennington, President

Dennis Pennington has been active at the National level for many years, serving as National President in 2000. He has been active in the establishment of student chapters and is the sponsor/advisor to our student chapter at Temple University, Philadelphia. Dennis has more than 44 years of experience, graduating with a M.S. in geochemistry and a B.A. in geology. He has worked on large-scale federal (USEPA, DOD, and DOE multi-task program contracts) and state projects throughout the United States. Dennis has published more than 27 professional papers. He has technical specialties in hydrogeology, carbonate problems, and groundwater geochemistry, as well as groundwater and soil remediation. Dennis has been involved in the Pennsylvania Section in the past, serving on executive committees and holding various offices including president.

Mike Edelman, Vice President

Employer: TRC Environmental, Inc.

Years of Experience: 30+

Professional Focus: Hydrogeology, Environmental Remediation

Experience Summary: Started career as a staff scientist working on various Superfund remediation sites, performed aquifer testing for water supply wells and for environmental remediation projects, and worked as a consultant to USEPA during early development of the Underground Injection Control Program. Currently, is a Project Director with TRC working on complex remediation projects and regulatory site closures.

Message: I am thrilled to be a part of the Pennsylvania Section and welcomed the opportunity to get involved. I think that the Board is enthusiastic about making the PA Section as active as possible, and we have plans for engaging our members in field trips and other social events. We have a great mix of consultants, environmentalists, and public servants on the Board. We also need our members from all of the geologic professions (oil and gas, land development, academia, environmental regulation, public sector professionals) to become engaged with the Section.

Joseph Kraycik, Secretary

Employer: Environmental Standards, Inc.

Years of Experience: 20

Professional Focus: Environmental Assessment and Remediation, Brownfields Redevelopment, and Quality Assurance Oversight

Experience Summary: In his current role as a Consulting Geoscientist, Joe is responsible for the management of environmental site assessments, remediation, Brownfields



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redevelopment projects, and quality assurance oversight. Joe has served in a quality oversight role on various projects, including the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) fly ash recovery project, the Hudson River PCB Dredging project, and the cleanup and transition of the Rocky Mountain Arsenal from a munitions and pesticide manufacturing facility to a National Wildlife Refuge.

Message:

Dennis approached me in Santa Fe during the AIPG annual meeting last September to gauge my interest in participating and helping the Pennsylvania Section become more active and visible. I've been an AIPG member since 2002 and was immediately excited for the opportunity to help the Pennsylvania Section grow. There is a vast amount of geological and environmental knowledge within the membership of our Section, and my desire is to help create more opportunities for these individuals to get together in both formal and informal settings to share their knowledge and experiences, network, and have some fun.

Kevin Kelly, Treasurer

Employer

Langan Engineering

Years of Experience:

14

Professional Focus:

Environmental Investigation and Remedial Action in Pennsylvania

Experience Summary:

Kevin graduated with a B.A. in geology from Colgate University and obtained an M.S. in Applied Geosciences from the University of Pennsylvania. Many of the sites on which Kevin has performed involve complex geologic and hydrogeologic conditions (e.g., fractured rock). Specialties include monitoring well installation, aquifer testing, rock coring, downhole geophysics, stratigraphic correlation, vapor intrusion sampling and mitigation, soil excavations, demolition oversight, and in-situ bioremediation.

Message:

I am looking forward to working with the executive team in the Pennsylvania Section to make the Section the best that it can be.

Cliff Dodge, Screening Chair

Employer:

Pennsylvania Geological Survey

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Years of Experience:

40+

Professional Focus:

Geologic Mapping, Stratigraphy, Sedimentology

Experience Summary:

Began career as a staff hydrologist with the U.S. Geological Survey, principally working in northwestern Pennsylvania on regional groundwater studies. Thereafter, joined the Pennsylvania Geological Survey (Geologic Mapping Division) where I became an expert on the Upper Devonian through Pennsylvanian geology, with particular emphasis on coal. Primarily, I have been involved in numerous exploratory core-drilling, stratigraphic-correlation, and geologic-mapping projects



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in northern and western Pennsylvania to provide impartial scientific information in support of the natural-resource identification, characterization, development, protection, and remediation.

Message:

I have long been impressed by the AIPG as the premier geologic organization dedicated to promoting geology as a profession—by emphasizing competence, integrity, and ethics. Therefore, I was pleased to be accepted into the organization as a CPG in 1999. Similarly, when Dennis asked me last autumn about joining the Board of the AIPG Pennsylvania Section under his leadership, I was glad to assist. The newly reconstituted Board is enthusiastic about the possibilities of engaging and growing the membership through greater activity of the Section. This may include professional development leading to PDHs or CEUs through meetings, workshops, and field trips, but also through less-formal social gatherings. It is all about getting to know one another better by sharing knowledge, experiences, and interests. Pennsylvania is fortunate to have such great diversity of geology and professional geologists. Come join us!

Call for Articles

We want to keep our newsletter interesting and relevant. That is where you, the reader, comes in. Please submit articles that you feel meet the goals of the newsletter. Email your entries to medelman@trcsolutions.com. The next volume of the Section newsletter is scheduled for December 2017, so please submit your article by November 30, 2017. With your submission, please include your name, phone number, and email address, as well as your AIPG number, as applicable.

Call for Editors

We are seeking an editor for future PA Section newsletters. This is an opportunity to demonstrate your creativity and apply your editorial skills to deliver an accomplished product. You will have the writing support of the PA Section Executive Committee, as well as accomplished geologists throughout the Commonwealth. Please reply to Dennis Pennington at pennden15@gmail.com with your name, address, email address, and phone number, along with a brief summary of your editorial skills.