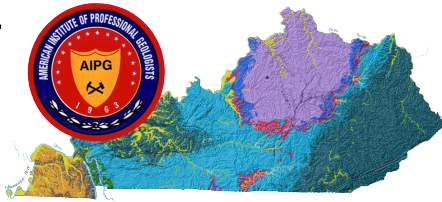


# American Institute of Professional Geologists KENTUCKY SECTION Newsletter

## 2015 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**President:** Donnie Lumm  
**President-elect:** Daniel Phelps  
**Vice President:** Faith Fiene  
**Secretary:** Tim Crumbie  
**Treasurer:** Jim DeCinque  
**Editor:** Richard Smath  
**Past President:** Bill Brab



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**KY-AIPG REVIEW 2014 - 2015**

June 30, 2015

Greetings AIPG Members and Friends,

My name is Donnie Lumm, and I am honored to be the Kentucky Section–AIPG president for 2015. As we are now halfway through the year, I wanted to comment on the various activities of KY-AIPG thus far, and to provide some information on plans for the remainder of the year.

First, all readers should be aware of and access the outstanding KY-AIPG website (<http://ky.aipg.org/>) that is managed by Editor Richard Smath for up-to-date information on KY-AIPG meetings, events, and short courses. The site is frequently updated and has postings on past Executive Committee meeting minutes (recorded by Secretary Tim Crumbie), short course programs with abstracts, and various other electronic links. Executive Committee meetings are open business meetings generally held once per month on Saturday mornings at the conference room (102) of the Mining and Mineral Resources Building located on the University of Kentucky campus. The meetings are always open to all AIPG members and interested guests, and are listed on the top scroll line on the home page of the KY-AIPG website. Issues or opinions relative to the profession or occupation of geology are welcome to be introduced or addressed by AIPG members and guests.

**KY-AIPG SUMMER 2015**

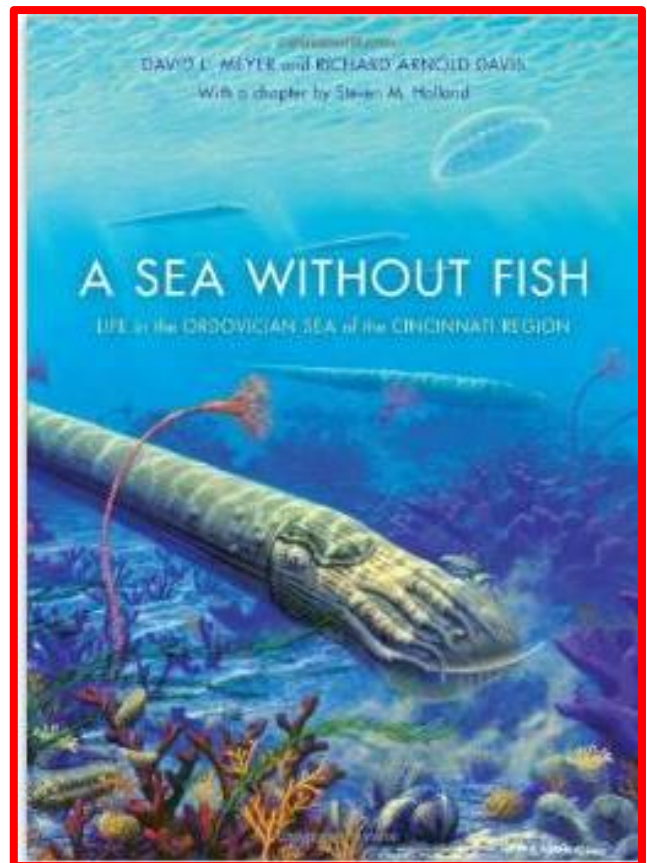
## REVIEW AND SKILLS FOR PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGIST EXAMS

On January 31, KY-AIPG hosted a professional geologist exam preparation (ASBOG refresher) course on the fundamentals of geology. This course was taught by Dr. William (Drew) Andrews of the Kentucky Geological Survey (KGS), who has taught this course at least once per year to KY-AIPG for the past several years. The Geologist Registration Act, passed for the commonwealth in 2005, is the primary impetus for testing and attaining a “Geologist in Training” designation or professional registration. All State employees who are classified as geologists must be registered by 2017. Fourteen persons, mostly undergraduate and graduate students, attended January’s session. All attendees were awarded 8 hours of professional development credits. Feedback from attendees indicates that this course has been beneficial in their subsequent exam preparation and achieving positive results on their exams. KY-AIPG plans to host another ASBOG refresher course in early September, but the course date has not been finalized. If you are interested in taking the exam preparation course in the future, check the KY-AIPG website at <http://ky.aipg.org/> (see “Upcoming Meetings and Events” link) during August for course scheduling and registration information.



## DARWIN LECTURE SERIES

On February 11, KY-AIPG hosted and organized, as part of the annual Darwin Lecture Series, a presentation by Dr. David L. Meyer (professor emeritus, University of Cincinnati), who delivered an intriguing lecture on his book (co-authored with Richard A. Davis, 2009), "A Sea Without Fish: Life in the Ordovician Sea of the Cincinnati Region." The free lecture was held at Memorial Hall on the University of Kentucky campus and was open to the public. Approximately 100 persons, including many college students, attended. KY-AIPG acknowledges the financial donations and co-sponsorships of this year's Darwin Lecture by the Kentucky Academy of Science, Kentucky Paleontological Society, Morehead State University Department of Earth and Space Sciences, and University of Kentucky Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences. For 2016, KY-AIPG President-Elect Dan Phelps, who also serves as the president of the Kentucky Paleontological Society, is actively searching for another guest speaker to continue this outstanding series. A selection of the guest speaker and scheduling should be completed and announced in November.



## FIELD-BASED SHORT COURSE

A field-based short course entitled “Modern Carbonate Analogs for the Geologic Record” at San Salvador Island, Bahamas, was organized and led by Dr. Frank Etensohn (professor, University of Kentucky, and KY-AIPG member) from March 14–21. This field course was attended by 10 professionals and 12 students; three spouses and three children also attended. Lodging, meals, and logistics for attendees were coordinated and contracted through the Gerace Research Centre, a former naval base operated by the U.S. Navy. This popular course was offered in 2012 and may be offered again in 2016, pending a favorable pre-registration census. The course presents key analogues for the Ordovician bedrock present in much of Kentucky and adjacent states. Having taken this field course myself as a graduate student in 1987, I strongly recommend it to those who do field work in central Kentucky or conduct investigations involving limestone bedrock.



**Field transportation.**



**Rainbow over Holocene eolian sand dunes.**



**Plenty of snorkeling opportunities.**



**Lionfish.**



**Snorkeling around patch reef.**

## INVOLVEMENT IN A SCIENCE FAIR

On March 28, KY-AIPG Vice President Faith Fiene volunteered as a science judge at the annual Kentucky Science and Engineering Fair for high school and middle school students held at Eastern Kentucky University. Faith has volunteered at this event for many years, and KY-AIPG provides an award of \$50 and an introductory geology book to those winners selected by Faith who have an outstanding geology-themed model or poster presentation.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE AND FIELD TRIP

On April 17, KY-AIPG hosted a professional development conference entitled “Unconventional Hydrocarbon (Gas-Shale) Exploration and Production in Kentucky” at the Kentucky Geological Survey Well Sample and Core Library. Seven guest speakers delivered technical presentations variously concerned with the future of natural gas, oil and gas permit regulations, core sample analysis of black shale units, geosteering, the Rogersville Shale, and the New Albany Shale. The program with abstracts for this short course can be accessed on the KY-AIPG website (see “Articles, Presentations, and Short Courses” link). Twelve professionals and six students attended the conference, and attendees were awarded 6 professional development hours.

On April 18, as “part B” of the same conference, KY-AIPG hosted a field trip entitled the “Silurian, Devonian, and Mississippian Hydrocarbon-Rich Horizons in Northeastern Kentucky: Perspectives in the Field.” The field trip was led by Dr. Frank Ettensohn (UK) and Charlie Mason (AIPG member) of Morehead State University. The guidebook for this field trip is posted on the KY-AIPG website (see “Guidebooks” link). Eight professionals and three students attended the field trip, and attendees were awarded 8 professional development hours.



**Classroom presentations.**



**Hands-on core presentation.**



**Examination in the field.**

## SOCIAL NETWORKING (“MEET AND GREET”)

On April 30, KY-AIPG held one of its Executive Committee meetings at Sarah’s BBQ in Lexington, and afterwards, there was a social networking (“meet and greet”) event for geology students from the University of Kentucky, Morehead State, and Northern Kentucky University. Approximately 20 students attended the event, and each was given a 50 percent discount on the BBQ buffet, which was paid for by KY-AIPG. The Section intends to organize and host more of these socials in the future.

## ANNUAL AWARDS PRESENTATION

On May 15, KY-AIPG held its annual awards presentation during the lunch intermission of the KGS annual meeting at the KGS Well Sample and Core Library. Two student scholarships of \$500 each were awarded to Matthew Boudreaux (Morehead State) and J.P. Sparr (University of Kentucky). The Geologist of the Year Award and plaque were presented to Paul Howell, and the Lifetime Achievement Award and plaque were presented to Faith Fiene. Also, Richard Smath, longtime KY-AIPG editor, was awarded the Presidential Certificate of Merit and plaque. Bill Brab was presented with his Past-President Award (2014) and plaque.



## FINANCIAL REPORT

The Kentucky Section remains strong financially. Treasurer Jim DeCinque reports that the Section has \$39,978.65 in available funds as of May 31, 2015. The Executive Committee makes an effort to manage and use the Section funds wisely, and it is keenly aware of the expenditures and external income provided in the monthly treasurer's reports. A detailed summary and review of the Section's annual income and expenses from 2000–2012 was prepared by former Treasurer Gil Cumbee and presented at the Executive Committee meeting of February 28. The tabulated results indicate that although the Section has made a financial profit in only five out of the last 13 years, the average annual deficit for these eight years has been \$1,405, whereas the average profit for the five years has been a more favorable \$6,392. All of the events for 2015, except for the Darwin Lecture (which was free to attendees), have made a modest profit. I must emphasize that the Section, which is required to list its income and expenses each April through National AIPG, is technically *not* a nonprofit agency, and hence not subject to certain tax credits, but rather regarded as a sort of private enterprise. In any case, the Kentucky Section and all other AIPG sections are required to operate and sustain their activities as a successful, profitable enterprise. Therefore, the future livelihood of the Section depends upon the fiscal management and offering of sustainable events and short courses. Moreover, the registration costs of KY-AIPG short courses are gauged to meet or equal the costs of the facility, food, and incidental expenses. The overall aim is to target a reasonable and affordable cost to AIPG members and guests who cannot attend costly "high dollar" technical meetings and fees charged by other societies. Furthermore, KY-AIPG is very fortunate to have the longstanding access to and use of KGS facilities at very little or no cost. This has enabled the Section to keep operating and conference costs to a minimum.

## UPCOMING PLANS

KY-AIPG plans to host another professional development conference on shallow subsurface geophysics and exploration techniques in early October. This one-day course will be taught by Dr. Tom Brackman of Northern Kentucky University, and possibly one or two other speakers, and given at the KGS Well Sample and Core Library. Field demonstrations will be given. As of this writing, the course date and registration cost has not been established. Information on this short course will be posted on the KY-AIPG website by mid-August.

Since January, Past-President Bill Brab has been communicating and coordinating with faculty members at the University of Kentucky, Northern Kentucky University, Morehead State University, and Western Kentucky University to establish a student chapter of AIPG at these schools. This outreach effort requires campus visits and meetings with potential faculty sponsors and students, and the filing of various documents with National AIPG for each university. Bill has done a great job and it is likely that the necessary requirements will be fulfilled for at least one or two of these universities in the near future.

Other outreach efforts by the Executive Committee in 2015 are numerous, and their details require too much print for this newsletter. Geology lectures to elementary and high school students, letters to county government officials explaining the virtues of hiring professional geologists, and other volunteer efforts have been conducted. An effort will be made to schedule and have a KY-AIPG business meeting in the eastern or western part of the state in either October or November. I realize that it is difficult and time consuming for members beyond central Kentucky to consider a trip to Lexington to attend a Saturday morning business meeting on their day off from work.

For the remainder of the year, the principal effort will be to conduct outreach meetings and recruiting of geology students at the above named universities. The immediate future of KY-AIPG lies in recruiting and retaining students after they graduate from college. The next five to 10 years will be critical, as many of the “core members” who have ably served on the Executive Committee or attended meetings for 10 or 20 years or more will be retiring. A few members, including me, have served or filled three or more different officer positions within the past 10 years. Unfortunately, the “recycling” of the current slate of officers cannot continue indefinitely. New or potential members must be encouraged to join AIPG and, if interested, participate in meetings and volunteer for leadership positions. Please share the merits of AIPG and professional registration with a junior associate or workmate. Refer them to the KY-AIPG or national AIPG website to find out about the purpose and scope of AIPG.

This concludes a long but noteworthy newsletter. In closing, KY-AIPG is currently very active and in good financial condition. However, the Section needs help from members like you and your referral of potential or new members. You may send me an email at [dlumm@engrservices.com](mailto:dlumm@engrservices.com) if you have any questions or comments.