

Professional Geologists

KENTUCKY SECTION

Newsletter



<http://ky.aipg.org>

2019 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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President-Elect: Edward Lo

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Greetings AIPG Members and Friends,

My name is Donnie Lumm, and I have served as Kentucky-Section-AIPG President for 2019. As 2019 has ended, I wanted to highlight some news and accomplishments of the Section in this Newsletter.

The Executive Committee hosted nine (9) open meetings in 2019, and the number of meetings is typical of years past. Most meetings were held on Saturday mornings at the Mines & Mineral Resources Building of the University of Kentucky campus, but we did meet at a local restaurant on one occasion. The general purpose of the meetings is to discuss and plan the logistics for various Outreach events and Section business. I want to emphasize that all meetings are open to the public and all active CPG's, Members, Young Professionals, Student Associates, and Associates. If you are unable to attend a

meeting and have some comment or question you would like to address, you may contact either the acting president or secretary with your issue, and it will be addressed.

The most recent head count indicates there are 43 CPG's, 21 Members, 5 Young Professionals, 61 Student Associates, and 2 Associates, totaling 132 AIPG registrants of various status who reside in Kentucky. During the 2010's, the number of CPG's has declined somewhat due to attrition and retirement, whereas the number of Members has remained steady. However, the total number of registrants has slightly increased due to the annual applications of Student Associates enrolled as geology majors at Kentucky universities. Since 2015, KY-AIPG has initiated new Chapter student organizations at UK., ECU, WKU, NKU, and Murray State Univ. Student membership is free to currently enrolled undergraduates and graduate students in geology.

The future of the Kentucky Section AIPG depends upon the recruitment of Student Associates and their subsequent conversion to Young Professionals after they graduate from college. The Section offered a Review and Skills Workshop for the Fundamentals of Geology exam on January 26, 2019 aimed for current or recent graduate students for obtaining their Geologist-in-Training (GIT) accreditation to the Kentucky Board of Registration of Professional Geologists. This exam preparatory course has been offered by AIPG for about 5 years and has been very successful. A recent development is that the course will be periodically offered and taught by knowledgeable staff members of the Kentucky Geological Survey. KY-AIPG is in turn planning to offer and conduct a low-cost resume writing workshop aimed for Students in Spring 2020. KY-AIPG believes these types of courses are very useful and not routinely offered by many of the academic based geological societies and organizations.

The Section made an onsite visit to each campus of all Student Chapters during calendar year 2019, and more than one visit was accomplished at some colleges. Either an informative career "pep talk" or technical presentation was made by an Executive Committee member, and there was the direct recruitment of Student Associates by distribution and collection of application forms.

The Section hosted the annual Darwin Lecture on February 21, 2019 which was delivered by Dr. Steven Wallace, Director and Curator of the Gray (Tennessee) Fossil Site, a Pliocene age sinkhole containing various vertebrate fossil amphibians, reptiles, and mammals that succumbed in a pond environment. Dr. Wallace gave a very informative and enjoyable presentation on the University of Kentucky campus to approximately 100 persons, many of whom were interested non-geologists.

Dr. Frank Etensohn, C.P.G., Professor of Geological Science at the University of Kentucky, personally led a Modern Carbonate depositional environments field course to San Salvador Island, Bahamas, on March 9-16, 2019. The “Bahamas Trip” was attended by nine students and or professionals, as well as a couple of their spouses and children. Dr. Etensohn has led this popular Spring Break course for various geology undergraduate students at Kentucky universities since about 1985 while serving as a professor at U.K., and he has run a special trip for KY-AIPG every other calendar year since 2011. Dr. Etensohn plans to teach the same course again in March 2021.

On June 9, 2019 the Section hosted the Annual Awards Banquet at Natural Bridge State Park, Slade, KY. The Section presented \$500 scholarships to Alex Cline (Murray State University), Thomas Meyer (Northern Kentucky University), and Bailee Morrison (University of Kentucky). Mr. James DeCinque (Vulcan Materials Company, Lexington, KY) was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award for his career work in the crushed stone industry in the Southeastern U.S. and his prior years of service as an officer (Treasurer) of KY-AIPG.

The Section hosted a Clastics and Coal core logging workshop on September 20, 2019 at the Earth Analysis and Resource Laboratory (formerly the Well Samples and Core Library) of the Kentucky Geological Survey. The course was organized and taught by Donnie Lumm, John Popp, and Frank Etensohn. The aim of the course was to provide a low cost and comprehensive overview to describe (log) core samples of clastic rock types and coal bearing units associated with coal and unconventional resources including tar sands and “tight sands.” A similar workshop format on logging carbonates (limestone and dolostone) was organized by KY-AIPG and led by Dr. Frank Etensohn in September 2018. The Kentucky Geological Survey graciously provided the core samples and logistic support for these events. The carbonates core logging workshop was attended by approximately 90 persons and the clastics workshop was attended by 40 persons. KY-AIPG anticipates that the instruction manual for the clastics course, which was issued at the event, can be edited and posted on the KY-AIPG website in the future. The manual for the carbonates workshop is posted on the KY-AIPG website.

KY-AIPG plans to offer similar outreach events in 2020. Mr. Edward Lo, Doctoral Candidate at the University of Kentucky, will be taking over as Section President in 2020. We intend to use Skype and other mobile media to reach more members. We will also transition to the use of *PayPal* for registration and payment for most workshops. It is the hope and purpose of the Executive Committee that you find membership in AIPG useful, whether as a student or professional. Please consider attending a scheduled Executive Committee Meeting or outreach event in the future.