



American Institute of Professional Geologists Kentucky Section Newsletter

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A Message from the President: Tim Crumbie

For those of you who were able to attend, you already know that our annual spring meeting/banquet was a success. To the best of my recollection, this was the first time since I've been active with AIPG that we actually generated income during this event. I give much of the credit for the financial success of the meeting to Gil Cumbee for soliciting sponsors for the event. It really made a difference in the outcome.

Steve Greb, Drew Andrews, and Richard Smath put together an impressive field trip at The Breaks Interstate Park. The trip emphasized the structural geology and geomorphology of the area. I have always had an interest in geomorphology, but sometimes, as a result of practicing geology in a particular field, I tend to neglect the "bigger picture." Our field trip reminded me how important it is to understand geologic processes on a regional scale, not just local. Becoming familiar with both localized and regional features allows us to evaluate how they interact to form what we see today, and predict what we'll see tomorrow. We were able to examine various roadcuts and outcrops to get an idea of the sedimentology of the area, and through stops at several of the scenic overlooks we were able to observe the regional structure. It made for a very interesting outing, and I encourage more of you to attend in the future.

As customary, later in the evening, we held our awards banquet. Mr. Joe Norris, President of the Virginias Section of AIPG, and Todd Church, also a member of the Virginias Section and an Advisory Board Representative on the National Executive Committee, shared a few words about the viability of the CPG certification. Later in the evening we presented awards to the following people: Tom Spalding received the award for the Geologist of the Year for his role as chairman for the AIPG annual meeting, Donnie Lumm received the Past President Award, William Gilliam of Morehead State University and Kristen Enzweiler of Northern Kentucky University were the Student Award recipients, and Dr. James F. Howard was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award.

As part of his acceptance speech, Dr. Howard expounded on comments that he had heard earlier in the evening, including those made by me. Dr. Howard offered suggestions as to how AIPG can increase public exposure and gain recognition through familiarity. Various forms of communication are available to us through the media, including the Internet. Television, radio, and newspapers are methods of mass communication that we can use to increase public awareness, and provide mechanisms through which AIPG can promote itself. As the public becomes more familiar with our organization, our chances of being recognized as a legitimate entity (and resource) should increase dramatically. It could also do wonders for our membership. Dr. Howard's poignant presentation made me wonder why we haven't utilized more of these tools in the past. As Dr. Howard continued to elucidate his thoughts on public awareness, I remembered searching through the Professional Organizations heading in the Business Monday section of the Herald-Leader, trying to find AIPG meeting dates and times. If I had done it, how many others had tried? Since the meeting, we have already taken a few steps

toward capitalizing on these resources, and plan to take more in the near future.

This outing was an eye-opener for me; and I expect that it will be for others too. I would like to personally thank all those who made this trip a positive and learning experience, both in the field and at the banquet.

2006 Spring Field Trip and Awards Banquet

Geology and Geomorphology of the Breaks Interstate Park Area

Geologists and guests from the Kentucky and Virginias Sections of AIPG gathered at The Breaks Interstate Park at Breaks, Va. on Friday, May 19. That evening it rained, but by the next morning it had stopped. The weather report for Saturday, May 20, was for cloudy skies in the morning with gradual clearing. The rains did stop the fog from totally obscuring the view of The Towers from the window of the restaurant of the lodge.



The Towers, as seen from the park lodge balcony, is a cliff-lined island in a broad meander of the Russell Fork River.



Some of the group at The Towers Overlook.

The field trip started after breakfast, and the first stop was The Towers Overlook. Here the field trip leaders, Steve Greb and Drew Andrews, went over the itinerary of the trip. Since the afternoon was going to be clear, it was decided that we would view the roadcuts first and after lunch visit the park's overlooks. We also introduced ourselves and then proceeded to the roadcuts along Va. 609.



First roadcut stop: getting the geological lowdown.

The roadcuts along Va. 609 were in the Betsie Shale. This marine prodelta with an upward-coarsening sequence has preserved tidally influenced rhythmic bedding. Continuing progradation of the delta led to large paleoslumps.

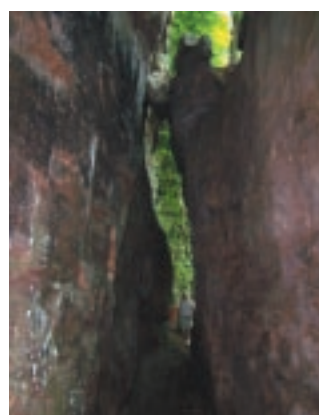


Large paleoslumps in the Betsie Shale.



Coal measure.

After we viewed some more roadcuts with coal sequences, we drove back to the lodge for lunch. As was predicted, the sun broke through the clouds, and the afternoon part of the field trip was spectacular. We drove up to the State Line Overlook to begin a hike through the wooded ridgeline that descended down and around the cliffs. The cliffs were Bee Rock Sandstone that had outstanding preservation of braided, fluvial depositional environments.



Wildflowers.

Various stops on the trail circling the Bee Rock Sandstone.



Panorama from the State Line Overlook.

The trail around the Bee Rock Sandstone cliffs exited out onto the State Line Overlook. From here one can stand on the Virginia side and look into Kentucky. The white dashed line to the southwest on the picture is the inferred trace of the Pine Mountain Thrust Fault. From here we proceeded out of the park and looked at some thick, silty gray shale exposures with carbonate concretions. Our final stop was the Russell Fork River where the Bee Rock Sandstone is exposed in the lower part of the Breaks Gorge.



Group cooling their feet in the Russell Fork River.

That evening we had our banquet and annual awards ceremony at the park lodge. Tim Crumbie, president, Kentucky Section AIPG, opened with a speech on how the organization should be an advocate on concerns to the geological profession and how we might bring our profession more into the forefront. Tim also acknowledged our various guests and invited Todd Church and Joe Norris of the Virginias Section to make presentations. The rest of the evening followed with awards for Outstanding Students, Geologist of the Year, past-president recognition, and the Lifetime Achievement Award.



Tim Crumbie presenting William Gilliam the Outstanding Student Award along with a check.



Tim Crumbie presenting Tom Spalding the Geologist of the Year Award.

Start thinking of nominations for awards for 2007. You can follow the instructions from the KY-AIPG Website to submit them this year.

Tax deductible contributions to the student award fund are always welcome.

The Kentucky and Virginia Sections would like to thank the following companies and corporations for their financial support: Speedway SuperAmerica LLC, Spade Corporation, Republic Services Inc.'s Kentucky Landfill Division, Regenesi Bioremediation Products, and The Allen Company.



Tim Crumbie presenting Donnie Lumm, past-president, a plaque for his outstanding service during 2005.



Donnie Lumm presenting the Lifetime Achievement Award to Dr. James Howard.

Calendar of Upcoming Geological Events

July 17–19

KY GIS Conference
Fort Mitchell, Ky.

More information: www.ky.gov/agencies/finance/depts/ogis/conference2006/conference2006.htm

August 2–3:

6th Annual Technical Forum: Geohazards in Transportation in the Appalachian Region

Hyatt Regency, Lexington, Ky.

Appalachian Transportation Institute and University of Kentucky, Kentucky Geological Survey

Sponsored by Nick J. Rahall II

Appalachian Transportation Institute

Marshall University

Center for Environmental, Geotechnical, and Applied Sciences

More information: www.mimingusa.com/calendar/calendar2006.asp

Also posted on the "News and Announcements" section: www.uky.edu/KGS; click on "KGS co-hosts Appalachian Geohazards in Transportation Conference August 2–3."

August 8–9

Introductory ArcGIS class for applications in ArcMap, ArcToolbox, and ArcCatalog

University of Kentucky, William T. Young Library, Room B108A

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

\$120, check only, payable to the Kentucky Geological Survey

More information: contact Matt Crawford, 859.257.5500 ext140

September 25–28:

23rd International Pittsburgh Coal Conference

University of Pittsburgh

School of Engineering

David L. Lawrence Convention Center

Pittsburgh, Pa.

More information: www.engr.pitt.edu/pcc/2006%Conference.htm

October 5–7:

Kentucky Society of Professional Geologists Fall Field Trip

Owensboro-Henderson area Quaternary deposits

Henderson Ramada Inn

(October 5, Kentucky Geological Survey–Henderson Office 270.827.3414

pre-conference Soil Description Workshop by USDA personnel)

October 8–14

Earth Science Week

More information: www.earthsciweek.org

October 22–25:

Geological Society of America Annual Meeting and Exposition

Philadelphia, Pa.

More information: www.geosociety.org

**Mark your calendar for next year's Eastern Section AAPG Meeting
September 15–19, 2007
Lexington Center, next to the Hyatt Hotel
Lexington, Ky.
More information: karl.nrcce.wvu.edu/esaapg**

Interested in serving on the Board of Registration for Professional Geologists? Every year someone's term expires and we need to submit three names for consideration. Positions run for four years and the board meets every other month and occasionally monthly, sometimes during a weekday. You can find out more on the Kentucky Board of Registration Web page: www.finance.ky.gov/ourcabinet/caboff/OAS/op/progeo/

Submit your interest to Richard Smath at rsmath@uky.edu