



HUDSON-MOHAWK PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION

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<http://members.aol.com/hmpga>

Kathy Sanford, Editor
Vol. 8 No. 1
September 2001

HMPGA Moves to the Cranberry Bog, Will Meet on the Second Wednesday of Each Month

September 12, 2001 - Museum Geologist Taury Smith to Kick Off the New Season: Sea-Level Change Through Time

There has been a lot of speculation recently about sea-level rise related to global warming. One undisputed fact is that if all of the ice in the world melted, sea level would rise about 85 meters. Data will be presented which shows that there has been a significant increase in the rate of sea-level rise over the last 60 years. The various causes for sea-level change over the short term and the probability of catastrophic sea-level change over the next few centuries will be discussed.

An important frame of reference when looking at modern sea-level change is to look at the history of sea-level change through time. Obviously, relative sea-level was much higher during parts of the Paleozoic when New York and most of North America were under water for extended periods of time. There is also evidence for higher frequency sea-level changes recorded in sedimentary rocks. The causes, durations and effects on stratigraphy of these various orders of sea-level change will be discussed.

About the Speaker

Taury Smith grew up in Philadelphia and didn't even know what geology was until he was 29 years old. After working for nine years as a carpenter and then a general contractor, Taury decided to go back to school and enrolled at Temple University. One month into his first geology class, he knew he had found what he wanted to study and he never looked back. He went on to get his Ph.D. at Virginia Tech with Fred Read in carbonate sedimentology and stratigraphy, after which he worked for two years for Chevron in New Orleans. He then decided to return to academia and took a position as a research scientist at the University of Miami, where he worked on carbonate reservoir characterization and sequence stratigraphy. He is now the New York State oil and gas geologist and a Paleozoic stratigrapher at the New York State Museum.

HMPGA Corporate Members

(See page 2 for contact names and phone numbers)

Adirondack Environmental Services, Inc.
Aquifer Drilling & Testing, Inc.
Earth Tech, Inc.
ERM Northeast
GeoTrans, Inc.
MARCOR Remediation, Inc.
SJB Services, Inc.
Spectra Environmental Group, Inc.
URS Corporation

About Our Meetings

Where: Cranberry Bog Restaurant
56 Wolf Road, Colonie

When: Second Wednesday of every month
except June - August.

Board of Directors Meeting	4:00 pm
Social Hour	5:00 pm
Dinner	6:00 pm
Program	7:00 pm

Dinner: \$10.00/person for student members
\$20.00/person for members
\$22.00/person for nonmembers

Vegetarian meal options are available with prior request.
***Individuals will be responsible for the cost of dinner unless
cancellation notice is received 24 hours prior to the meeting.***

Reservations: Call or e-mail Diane Trianni at (518) 783-1805
or alphageo@aol.com by the previous Friday.
Please register even if you are planning on
attending only the talk.

**For HMPGA membership information,
please contact Curt Cappellano at
(518) 266-0310.**

N From the President's Desktop

by George Pafumi

I would like to welcome everyone back and invite you all to our first meeting of the 2001-2002 year, at our new venue, The Cranberry Bog. Our meetings will have an all new day, all new atmosphere, and an all new menu. Our first meeting will begin the eighth year for HMPGA. We have come a long way and we have a great year planned. Our first speaker will be Dr. Taury Smith of the New York State Geological Survey. He will speak on sea level changes through time.

I would like to thank Dr. William Kelly (past president) for all he has done for HMPGA including his eloquent writings and thoughtful speeches. In addition, he has devoted many tireless hours in our pursuit for professional licensure. As part of our Summer Social event, held in Schuylerville, New York, he presented a very informative talk on Stark's Knob-- its geological importance and its role in American history. A special thanks to Laurie Scheuing for setting up and conducting that very enjoyable event. I would like to thank all of our existing and past Board members for their time and dedication to HMPGA. Unfortunately, this will be Kathy Sanford's last year as editor. She has done an exceptional job! And I know I speak for us all when I thank her for her efforts.

I encourage all members of HMPGA to get involved with the Board. Please feel free to discuss your ideas with any of the Board members. We are forming committees now and encourage you to take part in one of our many efforts. If time permits, please submit an article for our newsletter.

Remember Earth Science Week is October 7-13, 2001. Our Outreach Committee will be out and doing various displays in local libraries. As in years past, we have begun the paperwork for an Earth Science Week proclamation from the Governor's office.

To encourage more student participation, the Board has decided to lower the cost of the dinner price to \$10.00 for student members. And, the cost for a student membership is still only \$5.00. In the June 2001 Association of Engineering Geologists' News the current president, Dr. R. Rexford Upp, put forth an idea to the AEG membership that I think would be viable here. In his article he wrote, "*take a kid to dinner.*" Why not? Buy a geology student dinner at one of our meetings and possibly consider sponsoring the same student for a one-year membership. Think about it: for less than the cost of a second dinner you have given a budding geologist an opportunity to advance his or her career. I encourage Professors of Geology to pass along this information to students interested in a career in Geology and to let us know if they have any students to sponsor. This is a way to get them involved and improve our profession. As Dr. Upp put it, "*We will all be winners.*"

This is your association, please encourage participation within the membership, encourage membership within the profession, and encourage education within the science. Hope to see you all on September 12th.

HMPGA President George Pafumi is owner and principal Hydrogeologist of Environmental Maintenance Technology of Schenectady.

HMPGA Corporate Members

	<i>Contact</i>	<i>Phone</i>
Adirondack Environmental Services, Inc.	Steve Valle	(518) 434-4546
Aquifer Drilling & Testing, Inc.	Joe Miranda	(518) 464-2848
Earth Tech, Inc.	Frank Williams	(518) 458-1313
ERM Northeast	Edward Hinchey	(518) 452-4291
GeoTrans, Inc.	John Guswa	(978) 772-7557
MARCOR Remediation, Inc.	Mark D'Angelo	(518) 456-5909
SJB Services, Inc.	Bill Bosworth	(518) 899-7491
Spectra Environmental Group, Inc.	Robert Lafleur	(518) 782-0882
URS Corporation	Scott Sklenar	(518) 688-0015

N From the Secretary's Notepad

by Eriko Fujita

The new officers and directors met informally on August 13. Here's a partial summary of the discussion:

Committee for Spring 2002 Symposium - Laurie Scheuing and Bill Kelly are planning a DNAPL seminar featuring Bernie Kueper of Queens University and Jack Guswa of Geotrans. The date and location have not been confirmed yet, tentatively for second week of May. Mike Palleschi volunteered to help on this committee.

Corporate memberships and ads – previously taken care of by Vance Bryant. Steve Crook volunteered to take over for Vance.

Projector and screen – Will cost \$45 to evaluate the problem with the donated projector. Eriko to check to see if Cranberry Bog can provide us with equipment and at what cost, if any. Sue Friedman may have a screen to donate – will call George. Bill volunteered to bring/borrow equipment to meetings if necessary.

HMPGA Secretary Eriko Fujita is a Project Geologist with URS Corporation.

Education Committee Seeks Helpers for Earth Science Week

Earth Science Week, October 7 - 13, is rapidly approaching! The Education Committee plans library displays, and possibly information tables at area malls (weekends only). Contact Bill Dickerson at 518-862-2168, or widickerson@juno.com, if you're interested in arranging and setting up a display or manning a table.

And Speaking of Earth Science Week . . .

Because of the popularity of our Earth Science Week exhibits – actually “the week” last year went from October, 2000 to February, 2001 – we are hoping to put together two or three permanent traveling exhibits that members can borrow for outreach projects. So we need lots of stuff and we'll take anything from anywhere.

Some categories from our last exhibit were “NY's Neat Minerals,” “Cool Stuff from Other Places,” “We Use Minerals Everyday” and “Rock Art” (a coal turtle and a copper lizard on sandstone). Contact Bill Cooper, Bill Dickerson or Chris Reed.

It's Time to Join or Renew - Why Not Do it NOW???!!

There's a membership application form in this newsletter and on our website (address at the top of each page of this newsletter). You know what to do!

But Before You Do . . .

Make a copy for any local geologist you know who did not receive a newsletter, and enclose his or her application and dues in the same envelope with yours.

Or Better Yet, Save a Stamp . . .

And invite that potential new member to join you at the September 12 meeting, at the Cranberry Bog, where you both can pay your dues for 2001 - 2002!

Update Your Mailing Address

Please be sure to update your mailing address, if necessary, when you complete your membership application to join or renew. DEC folks who moved downtown - don't forget to give us your floor and mail code if you choose to receive the newsletter at work.

Make Sure We Can Find You in Cyberspace

The officers and directors want to start using e-mail to keep the membership up-to-date. Please check your e-mail address in the 2001-2002 directory you received last spring, and if necessary send any corrections to Laurie Scheuing at lescheuing@aol.com.

Newsletter Editor Needed to Start September, 2002

Contact Any Officer or Board Member if Interested

To advertise in this newsletter, contact Steve Crook (518-827-7797) or Vance Bryant (518-782-0882).

Rates (per issue):

Full page	\$100
Half page	50
Quarter page	25
Business card	10

Advance purchase of a full page for one year (10 issues, \$1000) includes one Corporate Membership (value \$100). Purchase of a half page for one year (\$500) offsets half the cost of one Corporate Membership.

New York Geologists' Licensure Bill Makes Progress

by William Kelly

Legislative efforts by geologists in New York to establish a license to practice geology made great strides in the first half of the legislative session. With no opposition to the bill and support from geologists, engineers, land surveyors, and the environmental and business communities statewide and nationally, the bill passed the New York State Senate on June 21, 2001. The bill was forwarded to the Assembly for action.

Despite pressure from NYSCPG's lobbyist, members and legislative sponsors, the bill was not examined by staff of the Assembly Higher Education Committee chairman until three days before the end of the session. At that time, minor changes were requested in the Assembly version of the bill. While not changing the thrust or scope of the bill, these modifications were deemed important by the staff. Given legislative rules and procedures, these changes essentially killed the bill in committee. Time simply ran out.

However, NYSCPG fully expects to resolve these issues with the Assembly staff in the coming weeks. The final bill will be resubmitted to the Senate and Assembly in January 2002 or before. Having achieved agreement with the Assembly Higher Education Committee, passage in that body of the legislature is virtually assured. Senate passage should be readily achieved as the changes forwarded by the Assembly are procedural and do not fundamentally alter the bill from that which the Senate has already passed.

There is, therefore, reason for optimism with regard to final passage of the legislation next year. NYSCPG heartily thanks HMPGA and its members for the strong support extended to CPG during the several years of the legislative effort. Keep the faith.

Diane Says Thanks!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the HMPGA Officers and members for your generous gift. It is always my pleasure to help the kind people of this organization and I look forward to many more years of doing so.

Thanks again,
Diane Trianni.

(Editor's Note: Diane Trianni, at Alpha Geoscience, kindly takes our dinner reservations each month. Last spring, the officers and directors presented her with a gift certificate on behalf of the membership to show our appreciation.)

Get Your New Hampshire Professional Geologist License - Now!

by William Kelly

The "grandfathering" period for professional geologists' licenses in New Hampshire is now open. The Administrative Rules were adopted effective July 1, 2001. Application packets for individuals who requested them were sent out as of July 2, 2001. Applications will now be accepted for **licensure without examination** until June 30, 2002.

Persons interested in a license to practice as a professional geologist in New Hampshire may obtain applications by submitting name and address via email (dlobdell@nhsa.state.nh.us), fax (603-271-6990), phone (603-271-2219) or in person or mail at 57 Regional Drive, Concord, NH 03301. Further, applications may be downloaded on-line from a link on the New Hampshire Professional Geologists' Board web site at www.state.nh.us/jtboard/geo.htm. The statute and administrative rules are also available for viewing at this site.

William Kelly is immediate past-president of HMPGA and a director of NYSCPG.

Program ideas?

**Contact Laurie Scheuing
at 518-373-1200.**

Next newsletter deadline: October 5, 2001

Send WordPerfect documents or e-mail text to
harrier@worldnet.att.net.

*Any content that appears to express an opinion on
behalf of HMPGA will be reviewed by the President
prior to publication.*

Events Calendar

HMPGA

<http://members.aol.com/hmpga>

September 12, 2001

Sea Level Changes Through Time

Dr. Langhorne "Taury" Smith, NYS Museum

October 10, 2001

Geologic Explanations for the Great Biblical Myths

Dr. Don Siegel, Syracuse University

17th Annual NYS Geographic Information Systems Conference

<http://www.esf.edu/outreach/conted/conferences/nysgis2001basics.htm>

October 29 - October 30, 2001

Holiday Inn - Turf, Colonie

"GIS... Not So Scary!"

Contact Horace Shaw at (315) 470-6891.

Buffalo Association of Professional Geologists

<http://www.bapg.org>

Meetings are scheduled for September 17 and October 17, 2001. Topics and locations are to be announced. Contact Carol Yamarino, (716) 684-8060.

Buffalo Geological Society

October 5, 2001

Bethlehem Steel Site: History, Environmental Condition, and Future Use Possibilities

Parkside Lutheran Church, Buffalo

Contact Jon Nickerson, (716) 684-8060.

Central New York Association of Professional Geologists

<http://www.dreamscape.com/cnyapg/>

The CNYAPG conducts regular meetings on the second Thursday of each month from September to May. Fall 2001 topics to be announced.

Northeast Section - American

Institute of Professional Geologists

<http://www.ne-aipg.org/Fall2001.htm>

October 17, 2001 (2:45 - 8:00 pm)

Caumsett State Park: Lloyd Neck, Town of Huntington

Geology of the Beach and Cliffs at Caumsett State Park

Dr. Gilbert N. Hanson, SUNY Stony Brook

Please pre-register as soon as possible since space is limited to only 35 people. Registration form and detailed schedule posted at the web page.

New York State Geological Association: Annual Meeting for 2001

<http://www.ldeo.columbia.edu/~polsen/nysga/nysga.ldeo.html>

October 12 - 14, 2001

Hosted by Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory

The Hudson River: Historical and Environmental Geology

Geological Society of America Annual Meeting and Exposition - 2001

<http://geosociety.org/meetings/2001/index.htm>

November 1 - 10, 2001

Boston, Massachusetts

Pre-meeting field trips	November 1 - 4
Short courses and workshops	November 3 - 4
Presidential address	November 4
Exhibits open	November 4 - 7
Technical program	November 5 - 8
Post-meeting field trips	November 9 - 10

2001 Eastern Section AAPG Meeting

<http://karl.nrcce.wvu.edu/esaapg/ESmeet.html>

September 22 - 25, 2001

Resource Management for the 21st Century

Kalamazoo, Michigan

For registration questions call (616) 387-4174.
For program or events questions call (616) 387-5488.

2001 - 2002 Board of Directors

Officers

George Pafumi, President	(518) 357-0908	gfume@aol.com
Laurie Scheuing, Vice President	(518) 373-1200	lescheuing@aol.com
Thomas Ebert, Treasurer	(518) 457-1038	tebert@gw.dot.state.ny.us
Eriko Fujita, Secretary	(518) 688-0015	eriko_fujita@urscorp.com
Bill Kelly, Past President	(518) 474-7559	wkelly@mail.nysed.gov

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Steve Crook	(518) 827-7797	scrook@pwinc.com
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Mike Palleschi	(518) 783-1805	alphageo@aol.com
Kathy Sanford, Newsletter Editor	(518) 402-8056	harrier@worldnet.att.net

Upcoming Deadlines

September meeting reservations:	9/7/01
October newsletter:	10/5/01

HMPGA
 PO Box 5506
 Albany, NY 12205-0506

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS

***HMPGA Moves to the Cranberry Bog
 Will Meet on the Second Wednesday of Each Month
 Join Us September 12 - Sea-Level Change Through Time***