



HUDSON-MOHAWK PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION

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

Kathy Sanford, Editor
Vol. 8 No.3
November 2001

HMPGA MOVES TO THE HOLIDAY INN TURF

November 14, 2001: NYS Museum's Richard Nyahay to Speak

Black Gold in the Empire State

One of New York's best-kept secrets is that it produces both oil and natural gas. The history of natural gas production can be traced back to 1821 and oil production to 1865. In 1882, New York led the nation in oil production, producing 6.4 million barrels of oil. New York no longer dominates oil or natural gas production, now producing only two percent of its total consumption. Recently heightened interest in natural gas exploration has been squarely focused in central New York.

The latest "boom" cycle has excited many explorationists to look deeper into New York, primarily to the Trenton and Black River formations, for natural gas. New York has gone through a few "boom and bust" cycles. These cycles, a brief history of the industry, and the technology to extract and explore for these resources as it has developed through time will be discussed.

About the Speaker

Rich Nyahay has been the oil and gas collection manager at the New York State Museum since 1988. After graduating from SUNY Plattsburgh in 1982, job opportunities were few. Rich volunteered at the Museum for Bill Kelly, who eventually hired him for two grant projects. After about a year layoff from the ending of the second grant, Rich was again encouraged by Bill Kelly to take a technician position at the Museum. Upon arrival, the oil and gas collection became Rich's major responsibility. Digitizing the oil and gas collection is an ongoing objective, continuing the work of Kathy Beinkafner. Rich also worked on the Geological Highway Map, Educational Leaflet 28, and assisting both Bob Fakundiny and Phil Whitney with their fieldwork in the Adirondacks. He now looks forward to working with Taury Smith on the sequence stratigraphy and reservoir characterization of New York's producing formations.

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.

Hydrogeologic, Inc.

MARCOR Remediation, Inc.

SJB Services, Inc.

Spectra Environmental Group, Inc.

URS Corporation

About Our Meetings

Where: Holiday Inn Turf
205 Wolf Road, Colonie

When: Second Wednesday of every month
except June, July and 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
dtriani@alphageoscience.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

Here we are in November-- the trees have changed colors, the smell of late fall and the feel of cooler weather are in the air. I don't recall ever having such a great a fall for field work. I hope many of you were able to spend the month of October outside.

The attack of September 11, 2001 continues to demonstrate its wide-reaching effects. The downturn in the economy has caused many struggling businesses to close their doors. Two months ago I was pleased to announce a new venue; well, I get to do that again today. Unfortunately, HMPGA lost our new meeting place as the Cranberry Bog succumbed to mounting economic pressures. I was pleased to see how well and how quickly the board acted last month in finding suitable accommodations to hold our October meeting. Thanks to this quick action (and a sign at the Bog), the meeting went on as usual and was very well attended.

So... it's like *deja vu* all over again. I am pleased to announce that, thanks to Vice President Laurie Scheuing and Secretary Eriko Fujita, we have procured the Holiday Inn Turf as our surrogate home for the rest of the 2001-2002 year. Based on comments received following our October meeting, I think the accommodations will be more than suitable. In addition, most of our speakers also have been selected. So please stay tuned for a wide variety of interesting topics.

Personally, I am very much looking forward to our speaker for this month, Mr. Rich Nyahay. He will present "*Black Gold in the Empire State*," a look at the oil and gas boom and bust cycles in New York State from the early

1820's to present. Let's see if he has any thoughts about New York's role in the country's move away from its dependence on foreign oil.

Earth Science Week was extremely busy for our Outreach Committee members. Several members put up rock and mineral displays in local libraries, gave talks and made themselves available to answer questions by students from schools all over the Capital District. Earth Science Week posters (800) that were supplied by the American Geological Institute were given away by HMPGA to local Middle School, High School and Junior College earth science teachers and students. Other members worked with the Boy Scouts working on their Geology activity badge.

HMPGA is beginning to receive inquiries from students interested in membership and members interested in sponsoring students. The outreach committee will begin looking at how we can make this happen.

Please look out for more information regarding our Holiday Party. As the plans stand now, we will have our party at the Big House Restaurant on Wolf Road. Final plans and costs will in the next newsletter. In closing, during these trying times and the start of the holiday season, let us all keep in mind the current events but enjoy the peace and love that is close to us.

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
Hydrogeologic, Inc.	Michael D. Jackson	(518) 782-3435
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

Now You Don't Really Want This To Be Your Last Newsletter, Do You?

Next month's newsletter (with the Holiday Party details!) will only be sent to those who have renewed their memberships. Please check your label on the back of this newsletter - if it doesn't say "01-02" then please renew ASAP! Use the membership form that is in this newsletter and posted on our website at <http://members.aol.com/hmpga>.

Joseph Spollen
Mary Millus
Mary Roden-Tice
Patrick Rabideau

If your name is listed above, then a recent e-mail message from HMPGA was undeliverable to the address we have on file. Please send your correct current e-mail address to Laurie Scheuing at lescheuing@aol.com so that we can be in touch in cyberspace!

***Newsletter Editor Needed to
Start September, 2002***

***Contact Any Officer or Board
Member if Interested***

by Eriko Fujita

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at approximately 4:10 pm by President George Pafumi. Officers and Board of Directors present were George Pafumi, Laurie Scheuing, Eriko Fujita, Bill Kelly, Mark Davin, Mike Palleschi, Don Cadwell, Curt Cappellano, Steve Crook, and Kathy Sanford. Also present were Bill Dickerson and Gerry Friedman.

Correspondence: George Pafumi reported that the invoice for HMPGA's insurance policy arrived in the mail. The Board approved payment of the invoice.

Treasurer's Report: Laurie Scheuing reported that the current balance was \$3,433.59.

Ads and Corporate Memberships: Steve Crook and George Pafumi reported that a list of the past advertisers and corporate membership holders was needed. They will prepare this list and make contact with the appropriate persons about renewals.

Geology Licensure: Bill Kelly reported that the licensure bill would not likely be passed this term. The geology intern issue needs to be resolved.

Newsletter: Curt Cappellano will review the membership renewals and contact those people that indicated an interest in assisting with the newsletter. Kathy reported that CNYAPG distributes its own newsletter on a quarterly basis. CNYAPG news is also in a monthly newsletter that is combined with other Syracuse-based organizations. Kathy suggested the same procedure for HMPGA if a new editor is not found. Steve Crook will attempt to find out if there is a similar local monthly publication.

Next Meeting: **11/14/01, 4:00 pm**
 Holiday Inn Turf

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

N From the Secretary's Notepad

Digital Oil & Gas Well Data Now Available from the NYS Museum

The New York State Museum has made its collection of oil and gas well data available in electronic format for the nominal fees listed below. Proceeds go toward building an online database, digitizing logs, updating files, creating a virtual core library and developing a public seismic library.

Scanned Logs (.tif images)

1-50 logs	\$5 per log
50-100 logs	\$4 per log
100-500 logs	\$3 per log
500-1000 logs	\$2 per log
>1000 logs	\$1.50 per log

All logs from wells that go to Trenton or deeper	\$750
Whole State (22,000 logs)	\$10,000
Digitized and Paper Logs (available in 2002)	

Paper on File (including completion reports, plugging reports, etc.; .pdf format)

1-50 wells	\$2 per well
50-100 wells	\$1.50 per well
>100 wells	\$1.00 per well
Paper on file for all wells to Trenton or deeper	\$500
Whole State (available in 2002)	\$5000

Other Services

Formation Tops File (over 68,000 presently)	\$100
Quarterly New Log Release Service	\$1000/yr
All newly released logs and completion/plugging reports sent automatically to subscriber four times a year.	

All images will be burned onto CDs and mailed to the customer in a timely manner. Tailored searches are available (for example, all of the wells in ___ County that penetrate the _____ Formation with gamma ray logs...)

Contact Information:

Brad Seymour
New York State Museum
Room 3140 CEC
Albany, NY 12230
Phone: 518-402-5344
Fax: 518-474-2033
Email: welldata@mail.nysed.gov

*Next newsletter deadline:
November 23, 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.*

To advertise in this newsletter, contact
Steve Crook (518-827-7797).

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.

Geologists Unexpectedly Find 100 Glaciers in Colorado

By JOSEPH B. VERRENGIA
The Associated Press

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK, Colo. (Oct. 4) - Geologists exploring the rugged Continental Divide say they discovered more than 100 additional glaciers here in a single summer, a surprising find since glaciers around the world are shrinking in warmer temperatures. The results dramatically change the map of one of the nation's oldest and best-known national parks, along with the knowledge of weather and water cycles at high elevations.

Previously, officials believed the park 60 miles northwest of Denver included 20 permanent ice and snow features, including six named glaciers. The new survey by geologist Jonathan Achuff shows there are as many as 120 features. Most are located in cold, north-facing pockets on the east side of the Divide at elevations above 12,000 feet.

Most of the newly discovered glaciers are covered with rocky debris; continuous freezing and thawing splinters the brittle granite that forms some of the park's majestic peaks. Park officials say comparisons with historical photos suggest that at least some of the glaciers are expanding.

Glaciers are barometers of climate change, and researchers said the survey results here contradict global warming trends.

In Colorado, park officials said subtle climate changes may be helping the formation of glaciers or at least reducing their retreat. "We're not running quite in synch with global warming here," park spokeswoman Judy Visty said.

Perhaps the most significant of the newly discovered glaciers is located beneath a boulder field near the 14,255-foot summit of Long's Peak, one of the West's most popular climbs. The glacier, it turns out, has been skirted by thousands of visitors annually. Previously, some geologists speculated that the boulder field was a "rock glacier" - a catchall term for thick mixtures of debris and ice. But the granite may actually cover up a thick ice slab, insulating it from the sun.

"There could be a large chunk of ice under there, perhaps several hundred feet thick and a mile long," Visty said.

Contributed by Curt Cappellano.

Events Calendar

HMPGA

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

November 14, 2001

Black Gold in the Empire State
Rich Nyahay, NYS Museum

December 12, 2001

Holiday Party
Big House, Wolf Road

January 9, 2002

Geophysical Applications to Environmental Problems
John Luttinger, GeoMatrix

February 13, 2002

History of Hudson River Marshlands
Dorothy Peteet, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory

March 13, 2002

To Be Announced

April 10, 2002

Grand Unifying Theory of Zinc Ore Deposits at Balmat, New York
Bill deLorraine, Zinc Corporation of America

RPI & SUNY-Albany Earth Sciences Joint Colloquia Series

<http://ees2.geo.rpi.edu/colloq.htm>

Rensselaer - October 31, 2001

Molecular Approaches to Studying Microbes Involved in Two Biogeochemical Transformations: PCB Declorination and Anoxygenic Sulfide Oxidation
Donna Bedard, Biology Department, Rensselaer

Albany - November 14, 2001

Methods for Age-Dating Young Groundwater: Applications in Biogeochemical Studies in the Catskill Mountains and the Georgia Piedmont
Douglas Burns, USGS

Rensselaer - November 28, 2001

Rare Earth Element Composition of a "Gem" Quality Zircon from the Mud Tank Carbonatite, Australia
John Hanchar, George Washington University

Rensselaer - December 5, 2001

To Be Announced
Jen Macalady, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Buffalo Association of Professional Geologists

<http://www.bapg.org>

A meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2001. Topic, location and speaker are to be announced. Contact Carol Yamarino, (716) 684-8060.

Central New York Association of Professional Geologists

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

November 8, 2001

4:30 - 5:30 pm	<i>A Practical Guide to the Use of Packers</i> , Parratt-Wolff, Inc.
5:30 - 6:30 pm	Social Hour
6:30 pm	Dinner
7:30 pm	<i>Chemical/Biological Terrorism: Good Science or Science Fiction</i> , C.B. Melton, FMC Corporation

Long Island Geologists

<http://pbisotopes.ess.sunysb.edu/lig>

April 20, 2002

Ninth Conference on Geology of Long Island and Metropolitan New York

Deadline for submission of titles: February 1
Deadline for submission of abstracts: March 1

New York State Geological

Association: Annual Meetings

2002 Glens Falls, NY

2003 Hartwick College and SUNY-Oneonta

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, 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

Northeastern Section - Geological Society of America

<http://www.geosociety.org/sectdiv/northe/02nemtg.htm>

March 25 - 27, 2002

Springfield, Massachusetts

Abstracts deadline	December 18, 2001
Preregistration deadline	February 15, 2002
Cancellation deadline	February 22, 2002

Program Chair Needed

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

2001 - 2002 Board of Directors

Officers

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Kathy Sanford, Newsletter Editor	(518) 402-8056	harrier@worldnet.att.net

Upcoming Deadlines

Nov. meeting reservations:	11/09/01
December newsletter:	11/23/01

HMPGA
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Albany, NY 12205-0506

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS

***HMPGA Moves to the Holiday Inn Turf
November 14: Black Gold in the Empire State***