

Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists

The Rocky Mountain Section Newsletter

JANUARY 2008

MEETING DATE

FRIDAY
JANUARY 11TH, 2007

TIME

5:45 p.m. Social Hour
6:30 p.m. Dinner
7:30 p.m. Presentation

LOCATION

AEG Headquarters
3773 Cherry Creek
Drive, N, Suite 575
Denver, CO 80209
See Map Below

COST

\$25 Members
\$27 Non-members
\$10 Retired members
Students, Free first
time, then \$10

RESERVATIONS

Kristi Ainslie
(303) 440-5236
or
meetings@aegrms.org
or
WWW.AEGRMS.ORG

BY NOON,
TUESDAY
JANUARY 8TH

**Attention! The January meeting will be on FRIDAY
January 11, 2007 at the AEG Headquarters**

Highwalls to Highways – Engineering Geology Case Studies of Aggregate Mining and Reclamation

By Dorian E. Kuper, AEG President, Engineering Geologist
Kuper Consulting, Portland, Oregon

Aggregate mining sites are about as popular as landfills and dams – no one wants them and yet society needs them. Rock and sand and gravel aggregates provide the necessary building blocks for our roads, bridges, buildings and homes. Engineering and environmental geology play an important role in evaluating and permitting mining sites, as well as reclaiming the sites into secondary beneficial uses.

The technical evaluation of a mine site involves field and laboratory work as well as quantifying the quality and quantity of the aggregate resource, and analyzing the impacts to the environment such as wetlands, wildlife, surface water and groundwater. The political side is as important as the technical side. Understanding neighbors concerns as they relate to mining – water, noise, dust, truck traffic and how a site will be mined and reclaimed are issues that need to be addressed during the permit process.

This talk will present examples of how an engineering geologist evaluates a future mine site. It will detail the field aspects, the proposed mine plan as well as how a site may be reclaimed with case histories. And it will show how geologists play a critical role in the political aspects of permitting mine sites by working with the decision makers. Advocacy of our profession is a huge goal of AEG and I hope to demonstrate how AEG can further educate and promote our profession with the public by presenting case histories.

Words From the Chair

This month's edition of Words From The Chair sees 2007 drawing to a close and 2008 beginning to take shape. What a ride 2007 has been for the Rocky Mountain Section! We saw a nice jump in the average attendance of the monthly meetings and a change in the Student Night format which helped to bring about our most successful event in recent years. RMS also had the pleasure of hosting two Jahns Distinguished Lecturers during 2007, our very own Jerry Higgins and John Moylan. Wow! Looks like 2008 has some big shoes to fill! We will continue with the poster session format for the 2008 Student Night, scheduled for Friday March 28 (please mark your calendars). That being said, it takes a fair amount of planning to pull this evening off. We have a planning meeting scheduled for Wednesday January 16th to get organized and rolling. The time and location of the meeting are still being finalized. If you are interested in helping out with Student Night please contact me via e-mail (scompton10@comcast.net) and I will get details for the planning meeting sent to you.

December saw another great Family Night! Numbers were a little down, perhaps we will return to Friday night for next year, but the number of future geoscientists in attendance was fantastic! RMS would like to thank Clare Marshall for presenting her very informative talk on how our view of various dinosaur species has evolved over time based upon new discoveries and for sharing the exciting new displays that are planned for Dinosaur Ridge.

Our January speaker is AEG President Dorian Kuper. Dorian is President of Kuper Consulting which focuses on engineering geology, permitting and reclamation planning for aggregate mines. Her talk is titled, "Highwalls to Highways – Engineering Geology Case Studies of Aggregate Mining and Reclamation". Dorian's insights in to dealing with the "NIMBY" element of society should prove useful regardless if you are in the mining industry or designing a new highway. Dorian will also present the section with an overview of current AEG activities and practices.

Happy Holidays and I hope to see you all at the **January 11th** meeting. Please note that this is a **FRIDAY** meeting and will be held at **AEG headquarters** in Cherry Creek. Don't forget to RSVP by Tuesday at noon before the meeting.

Steve Compton, PG

2007-2008 Upcoming Meeting Presentations

Below is the tentative schedule of speakers for the 2007-2008 season. We will be adding presentation titles to future newsletters. As seen we have a few openings. If you are interested in giving a presentation please contact Steve Compton at chair@agrms.org.

- Feb. 7, 2008 - Scott Walker
- Mar 28, 2008 - Student Night
- Apr 10, 2008 - *Open*
- May 8, 2008 - *Open*

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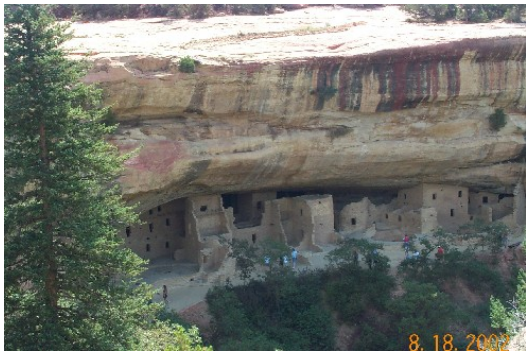
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