



Atlanta Geological Society Newsletter

**Next meeting of the Atlanta Geological Society is
February 24, 2009
Fernbank Museum of Natural History (Clifton Road)
Social begins at 6:30 pm – Meeting begins at 7:00 pm**

President's Perspective...

February 2009

The turn-out for January's presentation on *Sustainability at Georgia Tech* was very good. Our thanks to Marcia Kinstler for detailing environmental stewardship at the university and for a lively post-presentation discussion. I'd also like to thank Josh Jenkins for coordinating what I understand was a very interesting AGS field trip to Washington County on February 7th, as well as Wm. Hovey Smith for leading the trip. We all appreciate an interesting, well-prepared field trip, especially if it's on a beautiful day, so please forward any suggested topics for future trips to Josh.

Now that the pleasantries are over, I'd like to make the following challenge to all AGS Members that work with geologists and/or with people interested in geology. This assignment can be completed as early as our next meeting on February 24th, but it must certainly be completed by the June Social. The challenge is very simple; so simple in fact that I decided to give it a simple little name. It's called *Bring Your Co-worker to an AGS Meeting*. Where is this coming from? Good question; I'll tell you. I continue to be amazed that only one person from a firm employing multiple geologists will attend our monthly meetings. Don't get me wrong; I really appreciate all of you who show up every month. Some of you attend because of the caliber of our presentations, or because of the camaraderie, or for networking purposes, or for all of the above. But what I see is that your co-workers are missing out. So please, tell them about your Society. Have them check out our new webpage. Invite them to car-pool with you to a meeting and introduce them to the Officers, Committee Chairs, and Members. I think they'll be pleasantly surprised and will join us. As you know, where else can you get all of the perks

of a dynamic geological society for only \$25 a year? Come on: Take the challenge. Again, thanks to Josh Jenkins for this month's field trip, and to the Officers and other Committee Chairs that keep our Society going. I trust that we'll have an even better turn-out at the February 24th meeting.

Nils Thompson
AGS President
www.atlantageologicalsociety.org

The February Meeting

Join us Tuesday, February 24, 2008 at the Fernbank Museum of Natural History, 760 Clifton Road NE, Atlanta GA

The pre meeting social starts at 6:30 pm and the meeting will start at 7 p.m. The evening's program will be provided by Dave Jenkins of the EPA. Dave and his wife Sarah completed a pre-Olympics trip to China. They visited the Great Wall and Beijing, of course but also were in the area of the recent large earthquake a day or so before it happened. They journeyed to 15,000 foot mountains and cruised through the famous Chinese karst formations in the southwest of the country. Dave is renowned for his photography and his slide shows. I hope you will all come out for a great show.

Editor

February's Speaker is David Jenkins

David N. Jenkins has nearly 40 years of experience in geology, water resources and environmental issues related to contaminated water. He been a Hydrogeologist with the Technical Services Section, USEPA Region 4, Atlanta, Georgia for 11 years where he reviews site characterization reports for input to risk assessments, advises Project Managers regarding clean-up measures, sampling plans, data management and interpretation, consultant relationships, etc. He received a Bachelors Degree in Geology from Southern Illinois University and did graduate study at the University of New Mexico in Geology and Environmental Resource Planning.

He has worked in Africa, South America and most of the United States on projects related to contaminated water resources, industrial and municipal water supplies, and mining. He has traveled to 6 of the 7 continents, enjoys scuba diving, scotch whiskey, and plays acoustic guitar with persistence but no particular talent.

February's Sponsor is Atlas Geo-Sampling Company

Atlas Geo-Sampling Company (Atlas) is a full service Direct Push Technology (DPT) provider that maintains a fleet of "State of the Art" equipment.

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This is the season for national speakers to make a tour of the country. The announcement below informs you about the Society of Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration meeting in March. The AGS will have a joint meeting in April with AEG and AIPG for the AEG's distinguished lecturer Dr. Edmund Medley. On April 2, the Clemson Hydrogeology Symposium will present 2009 Henry Darcy Distinguished Lecturer, [Dr. Peter Cook](#) from Australia. The title of his talk is "Environmental Tracers in Modern Hydrogeology: Reducing Uncertainty in Ground Water Flow Estimation".

Society of Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration Meeting Notice

A meeting of SME Georgia Section will be held on March 19, 2009 in the University Banquet Room (Presidential Dining Room) at Georgia College & State University in Milledgeville, Georgia.

Directions: The Presidential Dining Room is on the upper floor of the Maxwell Student Union located at corner of N. Clarke Street. and W. Hancock Street. The entrance is on the Hancock St. side of the building.

From Atlanta Take 1-20 East to Exit 114 (Madison). Turn right onto Highway 441 South. Follow Highway 441 South to Milledgeville (about 45 miles). Entering Milledgeville, continue straight so that you follow the business section of Hwy. 441 to Montgomery Street. Turn left. Drive one block and turn right onto Clark Street. Continue to the 1st stop light which is Hancock Street. The Maxwell Student Union is on the left. See <http://www.gcsu.edu/about/campusmap/> for a GC&SU campus map.

Meeting Agenda

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Cocktails – <i>Sponsored by Golder Associates Inc.</i>
7:00 PM - 7:30 PM	Dinner Served - Georgia Pecan Crusted Chicken, Fresh House Salad with Choice of Dressing, California Style Vegetables, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Peach Cobbler, Fresh Baked Rolls, Iced Tea, Iced Water, and Coffee.
7:30 PM. – 8:00 PM	Business Meeting – Treasurer's Report, GEM Committee Report
8:00 PM – 8:50 PM	An Inconvenient Reality by L. Alan Weakly, SME Henry Krumb Lecture Series

Abstract: Global warming is a political reality in the United States today. The actual impact of the continued use of fossil fuels is not known and is open to debate. However, the growing concern over the use of these fuels is problematic. There are clean technologies available to us today that would permit America to meet its future energy demand and not contribute to global warming. The inconvenient reality is that we cannot totally replace fossil fuels with energy conservation and the use of wind, solar, bio, nuclear, and hydroelectric energy. Further, Americans do not appear ready to pay the extra cost or set aside the land required to develop new clean energy that does not contribute to global warming. This paper identifies the projected energy demand for America, and a realistic solution which allows us to continue to utilize fossil fuels, as well as alternative energy to meet this projected demand.

AGS Members...The Professional Registration Committee Needs YOU...

If you are an AGS member and would like to contribute to the Professional Registration Committee by leading a lecture on one of the subjects listed below, then please contact me either by e-mail or at the monthly AGS meetings. The lecture should be for one hour followed by a Q&A session. We need different speakers for each workshop. Your volunteering to teach on one of these subjects is essential to the success of the Professional Registration Committee – we need more widespread participation by the AGS membership. Speakers can be compensated for expenses and will receive certificates to acknowledge their participation.

The following content domains are covered in the Georgia Professional Geologist exams:

- | | |
|---|---|
| A. General Geology | B. Mineralogy, Petrology, & Petrography |
| C. Sedimentology, Stratigraphy, & Paleontology | D. Economic Geology & Energy Resources |
| E. Structure, Tectonics, & Seismology | F. Hydrology & Environmental Geochemistry |
| G. Engineering Geology | |
| H. Quaternary Geology, Geomorphology, & Surficial Processes | |

We do not "teach the test" our aim is to review fundamental concepts of the earth sciences and acquaint candidates with industry specific information not easily obtainable from the literature. Please inform anyone who might be interested in becoming a professional geologist of our workshop. Please consider joining us even if you are not a P.G. candidate. The workshops are interesting and informative.

Ken Simonton, P.G., Chair
Professional Registration Committee

www.atlantageologicalsociety.org

The 17th Annual David S. Snipes/Clemson Hydrogeology Symposium

Presentations: April 2, 2009 (a Thursday)

The Clemson Hydrogeology Symposium is an on-going effort to engage and educate the hydrogeological community at large whether from industry or academia. Our primary focus is on geologic and hydrologic issues in the southeast US but it is not restricted to any geographic extent. Our long term goal has been to offer an opportunity for industry related projects to intermingle with academic research to bridge the gap that has traditionally separated these two endeavors.

This year's keynote speaker is the 2009 Henry Darcy Distinguished Lecturer, [Dr. Peter Cook](#) from Australia. The title of his talk is "Environmental Tracers in Modern Hydrogeology: Reducing Uncertainty in Ground Water Flow Estimation".

Oral and poster presentations will take place at the Madren Center here on the University campus. The presentations will cover a diverse assortment of topics including characterization, monitoring, remediation and many others at various scales (lab to watershed). We encourage everybody to [submit an abstract](#) and give a presentation of their work. For the first time this year we are actively encouraging participants to propose theme sessions, solicit abstracts and moderate their session. [Click here](#) for more info. (Ed note – it may be to lat – please check with the school)

The Symposium on April 2nd is approved for up to eight continuing education (CEC) hours for SC Professional Geologists and the [field trip](#) is approved for an additional eight CECs. The field trips planned for April are full but if you indicate interest there is the possibility of the same field trip being run in May

<http://www.ces.clemson.edu/hydro/symposium/index.html>

AGS PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGIST WORKSHOP FEBRUARY 2009

The Atlanta Geological Society will have a two-hour Professional Geologist Candidate workshop Saturday, February 28th. Dr. Jim Kennedy, P.G. will have a presentation covering groundwater hydrology and engineering geology. This class covers a good deal of the fundamentals exam and a major portion of the practical exam.

Dr. Kennedy is the State Geologist of Georgia and holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in physics and geophysical sciences from Georgia Institute of Technology and a Ph.D. in geology from Texas A&M University where he did research on reclaimed lignite mines. He is a registered professional geologist in Georgia and a member of the Georgia State Board of Registration for Professional Geologists. His areas of expertise are groundwater hydrology and engineering geology. As State Geologist Dr. Kennedy has worked on the Coastal Sound Science Initiative to manage salt-water intrusion into the Upper Floridan aquifer, permitting of coastal groundwater supply wells, and the State Water Plan. He also has provided expert testimony at the Office of State Administrative Hearings in support of landfill, quarry, and water withdrawal permits issued by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division. Prior to joining the EPD Dr. Kennedy worked as a consultant and conducted engineering geology, groundwater supply, and environmental remediation projects in various areas of the United States and Europe.

The class will be held in the Human Development Classroom in the annex of the Fernbank Science Center from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. The Fernbank Science Center is located at 156 Heaton Park Drive, Decatur, Ga., and is approximately 1-mile north of the Fernbank Museum. The Center does not open until 10:00, just knock on the front door anytime after 9:00 am and you will be let in. For more information on this venue, go to <http://fsc.fernbank.edu>.

The class is open to everyone and two Professional Development Hours are available for attendees. If you are not an AGS member, please consider joining.

Ken Simonton, P.G.
AGS Career Development Committee
www.atlantageologicalsociety.org

Fernbank Museum of Natural History

Upcoming Public Programs and Events

(All programs require reservations, including free programs)

Fernbank Museum of Natural History

767 Clifton Rd, NE Atlanta, GA (404) 929-6400
For tickets and details on exhibits, films, and events,
please visit our website at
www.fernbankmuseum.org

On Exhibit:

- New Permanent Exhibit: *Conveyed in Clay: Stories from St Catherine's Island*
- New Permanent Gallery: *Curators Corner: Highlights from the Permanent Collection*
- NEW February 14: *Dinosaurs: Ancient Fossils, New Discoveries and new IMAX movie - Dinosaurs Alive*

Upcoming Public Programs:

- **March 21** - Archeology Open House
- **March 15** - Make and Take Workshop for Rain Barrels

Now Showing in IMAX: (Check our website for special screenings)

- **The Greatest Places** through March 30, 2009
- **Dinosaurs Alive** through August 16, 2009
- **Journey of Man, Cirque de Soleil** through February 28, 2009
- **Martinis and IMAX:** Friday evenings, 5:30 p.m. – 10 p.m. M&I returned on Friday, January 4, 2009. And again on Jan 23, Feb 13

From 'The Map That Changed the World' by Simon Winchester (pub. 2001):

"A common bane of most geologists' otherwise pleasant existence is the person who, all too commonly, offers up a beach stone with the request that he or she *please identify it*. It is all but impossible to hazard a reasonable guess at what a smooth, well-weathered, and near-spherical piece of rock might be. If it is freshly broken, and the new-fractured edge inspected with magnifying glass and tested with acid, a tentative ID might be made. Grinding out a thin section of the rock and using a microscope with a polarizing filter to view its minerals would make its naming even simpler and more certain. But most people on beaches do not want their finds to be broken in half or sliced to a tenth of a millimeter: Better, then, that such gatherers take their trophies home unidentified, to remain - like most rocks and the processes that made them - something of an enigma."

Martinis & IMAX® is presented at the Fernbank Museum of Natural History every Friday evening, January through November; from 5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Enjoy no cover charge when you visit us between 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. This event includes a wine bar, where featured wines can be purchased by the glass and by the bottle. Dinner is also served in the Dining Room, where smaller parties can order chef-prepared dishes-from gourmet pizzas to prime entrées-and dine together in a more intimate and sophisticated setting. Desserts and coffee are available as well.

As always, a full cash bar is offered in the Great Hall where patrons can enjoy a lively atmosphere and musical performances by some of Atlanta's best jazz artists. Bands perform live from 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. IMAX® film tickets are \$10. For those who wish to enjoy the atmosphere of Martinis & IMAX® without attending a film presentation, there is a \$5 cover charge after 6:30 p.m. The cover charge is waived for members and patrons who purchase an IMAX® ticket. To purchase tickets in advance, call 404.929.6400.

AGS Treasurer Report

DUES ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE TREASURER

Get a Jump on 2009. Since AGS operates on a calendar year, your 2009 dues will be due in January 2009. The AGS Treasurer has started accepting 2009 dues and Carl Froede was the first AGS Member to pay for 2009. So take Carl's lead and pay early. If you cannot attend a meeting then please consider mailing your dues to the AGS Treasurer along with the completed last page of this newsletter. Also, please make sure that we have your most current e-mail address.

Please contact Ken Bechely if you are unsure of your membership status. If you know of a member that no longer is receiving the newsletter notification, have them contact the Treasurer.

Ken Bechely, Treasurer
ken.bechely@aecom.com
Phone (770) 990-1415

All Atlanta Geological Society members are encouraged to attend the March 19, 2009 meeting of the Middle Georgia Subsection of the Society of Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration. The meeting will be at Georgia College and State University in Milledgeville. The speaker is Alan Weakly, this year's SME Henry Krumb lecturer. He will be speaking on climate change, fossil fuels, and alternative energy. Cost for SME members and non-members is \$30, which includes beer, full dinner, guest lecture, and sparkling conversation. Please register as soon as possible by emailing Tom Hilderbrand tom.hilderbrand@thielekaolin.com

About the Speaker: Alan Weakly retired from the mining industry in 1998 with over 33 years working in the civil and mining engineering disciplines. During his career, he achieved success in safety, environmental, project management, and the advancement of mining technology working in the lead mines of Missouri, the development of shale oil in Colorado, and the open pit coal mines of Wyoming. Alan has authored or co-authored and published a total of 36 technical papers advancing the technology of numerous mining disciplines. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri and a degree in Mining Engineering from the University of Missouri in Rolla, Missouri. Alan is the primary inventor and holder of three patents dealing with the control of fugitive and respirable dust at conveyor transfers. The technology is protected by United States, Canadian, and Australian patents. After retiring from the mining industry, Alan served two terms as County Commissioner for Campbell County, Wyoming.

Please see additional details and registration information on Page 3. Editor

AGS Officers

President: Nils Thompson
nils.thompson@lbgatlanta.com
 Phone (678) 594-9893, Ext. 202

Vice-President: Allison Keefer
allison_keefer@dnr.state.ga.us
 Phone (404) 657-8642

Secretary: Jim Kennedy
jim_kennedy@dnr.state.ga.us
 Phone (404) 463-0679

Treasurer: Ken Bechely
ken.bechely@aecom.com
 Phone (770) 990-1415

AGS 2009 Meeting Dates

Listed below are the planned meeting dates for 2009. Please mark your calendar and make plans to attend.

February 24 – Dave Jenkins, Tour of China

March 31 – Dr. Jim Kennedy, Water Issues in Georgia.

April 28 – Special Joint meeting with AEG and AIPG presenting Dr. Edmund Medley, the 2009 Jahns Distinguished speaker presenting the Sea Cliffs Forensic Investigation
<http://www.aegweb.org/files/public/MedleyJahns2009.pdf>

May 26 - Alan Sanders, New Environmental Technologies

June 30 – Annual Social – BBQ and IMAX

AGS Committees

AGS Publications: Allison Keefer
 Phone (404) 657-8642
allison_keefer@dnr.state.ga.us

Career Networking/Advertising: Todd Roach
 Phone (770) 242-9040, Fax (770) 242-8388
tdr@piedmontdrilling.com

Continuing Education: Currently Open

Fernbank Liaison: Chris Bean
 Phone (404) 929-6313
Chris.bean@fernbankmuseum.org
 (after Feb 1 the .edu email will no longer function)
chris.bean@fernbank.edu

Field Trips: Josh Jenkins
 Phone (770) 421-3412
jljenkins@mactec.com

Georgia PG Registration: Ken Simonton
 Phone: 404-825-3439
kws876@yahoo.com

Teacher Grants: Bill Waggener
 Phone (404)355-7377
wgwaggenerii@bellsouth.net

Hospitality: Tom Watson
 Phone (678) 358-6943
twatson@mindspring.com

Membership: Ben Bentkowski
 Phone (404) 562-8507
bentkowski.ben@epa.gov

Newsletter Editor & Website Editor:
 Ben Bentkowski
 Phone (404) 562-8507
bentkowski.ben@epa.gov

Web Master: Kathaleen Bentkowski
kathaleen@cnkwebdesign.com
 Chris Bentkowski
design@cnkwebdesign.com

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SPEAKER FOR THE APRIL JOINT MEETING

Edmund Medley, Ph.D, PE, CEG, F.ASCE is the 2009 *Richard H. Jahns Distinguished Lecturer in Engineering Geology*. The selection committee for this award is composed of representatives of the

Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists (AEG) and the Engineering Geology Division of the Geological Society of America (GSA). The intent of the partially-funded Lectureship is to encourage student and professional awareness of engineering geology through a series of lectures presented across North America during the award year. The award was established in 1988 to commemorate Professor Richard H. Jahns (1915-1983), who had an influential and diverse career in academia, consulting and government.

Lacking math and science pre-requisites, Dr. Medley began his academic life in 1973 as a "mature student", admitted to the Mining Technology program at the British Columbia Institute of Technology, in Burnaby, British Columbia. Transferred to the University of British Columbia, in Vancouver, British Columbia, he graduated in 1978 with a B. Appl. Science in Geological Engineering (Geotechnical Option), winning the first Aro A. Aho Medal for academic excellence in Geological Engineering. He earned a mid-career M.S. in 1991 and a Ph.D. in 1994, both in Geotechnical Engineering, from the University of California at Berkeley. He was the AEG Marliave Scholar in 1993, awarded for outstanding scholarship in Engineering Geology and Geological Engineering. For his Ph.D. research he pioneered approaches to the engineering and geological characterization of bimrocks (block-in-matrix rocks), complex geological mixtures of rock and soil such as melanges, fault rocks and weathered rocks. Dr. Medley has authored/co-authored about 50 professional contributions, many on bimrocks. Most of his professional and research contributions are available at <http://bimrocks.geoengineer.org> and www.edmedley.com. He has also presented over 150 professional and academic lectures, Short Courses and MCLE Credit courses.

Dr Medley is a Senior Consultant in the Oakland, California office of Geosyntec Consultants. He began his career in the Applied Earth Sciences in 1969, and now has over 30 years of unusually varied international experience in geotechnical and geological engineering consulting, mineral exploration prospecting, failure investigation, litigation testifying and research. He has consulted on major landslides, rockfall hazards, expansive/collapsing soils, tunnel failures, coastal erosion, sinkholes and other ground movements. He is licensed/registered/chartered as an engineer and geologist in the USA, Canada and the United Kingdom. Affiliated with several international geosciences and engineering organizations. Dr. Medley has been a member of the GSA and AEG for many years. He was the San Francisco AEG Section Membership Committee Chairman between 1991 and 1993 and the San Francisco Section Short Course Chairman between 1995 and 1996. He currently contributes time to several professional committees, Editorial Boards, and as a peer reviewer, to professional journals.

Join the Atlanta Geological Society

Membership Application/Information Update Form

Annual membership dues for the Atlanta Geological Society are \$25 for professional membership, **\$5 for students (new reduced rate)**, and \$100 for corporate sponsorship (which includes up to 4 professional memberships). For further details, contact the AGS Treasurer:

Ken Bechely

Phone: 770-990-1415

Email: ken.bechely@aecom.com

Make checks payable to the "Atlanta Geological Society" and remit with the completed form to:

Atlanta Geological Society

Ken Bechely, Treasurer

1455 Old Alabama Rd., Ste. 170

Roswell, GA 30076

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: (Work) _____ (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

Fax: _____

Email 1: _____

Email 2: _____

Science News Stories

Vast Cache Of Ice-age Fossils Uncovered At La Brea Tar Pits In Los Angeles

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/02/090218090539.htm>

Huge Pressures Melt Diamonds On Planet Neptune

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/02/090218091937.htm>

Sorry it is so short. This is my favorite part and I was short of stories and time. Editor

Ready to Serve the Society?

Remember that although we have officers and various standing committees, it is ultimately the membership that keeps the Atlanta Geological Society active and growing. We have a world of experience within our membership. Please consider volunteering. Your Atlanta Geological Society needs you.