

# CHICAGO SECTION NEWSLETTER

## September 2007



Newsletter of the Chicago Section of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration, Inc. - Founded Spring 1987 - www.chicagosme.org

## MEETING: Thursday, October 4, 2007

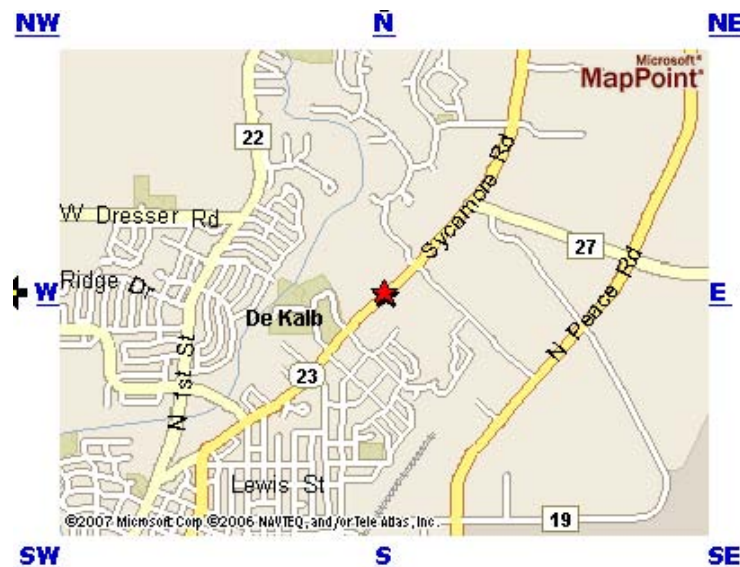
**Topic:** Elmer Larson, LLC Quarry Operations, Sycamore, Illinois

**Guest Speaker:** Dan Larson, Elmer Larson LLC, Sycamore, Illinois

**Time:** 11:00 AM Social Hour  
11:30 AM Luncheon and Program

**Meeting Location: Kishwaukee Country Club**  
1901 Sycamore Road, De Kalb, Illinois

**Directions:** I-88 to Peace Road. exit, De Kalb; turn north on Peace Road and follow it past IL-19 to Greenwood Acres Dr; turn left on Greenwood Acres Dr to Sycamore Road (IL-23); turn left on Sycamore Road and follow for about ¼ mile; Kishwaukee Country Club is on the right.



**Menu:** Soup: Cream of Spinach with goat cheese;

Entrées: Choice of Grilled Salmon Salad, Grilled Ribeye Steak, or Grilled Chicken Breast

Served with rolls and butter, a fresh fruit cup and choice of coffee, tea, iced tea or soft drink. A vegetarian plate is available on request.

**Cost:** \$32 for luncheon/meeting/tour for Members, \$35 for Non-Members  
Science teachers or professors are considered guests of the Section and will get dinner free.  
Students' dinners are \$5.

If you plan to attend, **RSVP; PLEASE** before Monday, October 1, 2007 with choice of entrée. Call or email Agapito Associates, Inc. at either 630-792-1520 (office), 630-240-8730 (Frank's cell) or frank@agapito.com.

## ***From the Program Chairman Next Meeting:***

### **Elmer Larson, LLC Quarry Operations, Sycamore, Illinois**

**Speaker: Dan Larson, Sales  
Manager, Quarry Division,  
Elmer Larson, LLC,  
Sycamore, Illinois**

Luncheon will be served at the Kishwaukee Country Club after which Dan Larson will present an overview of



operations at the quarry. Of particular note is the fact that the base of the Scales Formation consists of interbedded limestones and shales that are salable as aggregate. After the presentation, a bus will take participants to the quarry for a tour and will return to the country club by 3:00 PM.

Note: This meeting is being held during the week and in the daytime so that participants can see the quarry and its equipment in operation.

## **The Last Meeting:**

On Tuesday, March 20, 2007, the Chicago Section heard **Mitch Schefcik** of **Optira Inc.**, Omaha, Nebraska present a program entitled *3-D Images for Mining Applications - Think "Holodeck."* Mr. Sheftik explained how recent advances in laser scanning and in post processing of the resulting data enables precise 3-D images to be generated in minutes, not hours.

These images can be of stockpiles for inventory control, underground mine openings to clarify clearance issues, and "as-builts" of plants and surface facilities for design of modifications. They can also be used as the foundations for sophisticated data management systems to track assets - hard (tangible assets) or soft (human

capital). Additional uses include hands-on safety management procedures: "What valve do I need to turn off to isolate this line? And where is it?"

He demonstrated how a large building was scanned in a matter of hours and how the data were translated into detailed structural drawings of the facility that included all structural members, door and window details and even utility and HVAC system piping details.

The presentation clearly showed that the technology is almost at the level where scanned images are almost indistinguishable from movie footage - hence the reference to the Star Trek "Holodeck".

*By the Editor*

## ***Looking for Speakers for This Year:***

**The Chicago SME is in the process of scheduling speakers for this year.** If you have a subject you are interested in hearing presented, know of someone you would like to have speak to our group, or would like to give a talk yourself, please contact our program chair, **Frank Kendorski** at **630-792-1520** or you can e-mail him at [frank@agapito.com](mailto:frank@agapito.com).

## **MEMBER NEWS ITEMS**

### ***Joe Crawford Joins Agapito Associates, Inc.***

On July 1, 2007, **Joe Crawford** joined **Agapito Associates, Inc's** Chicago Office as an Associate. In this position, Joe will provide consulting services in mine reserve analysis, drilling, hydrogeologic



evaluations, abandoned land rehabilitation and geotechnical instrumentation to local, regional and international mines and quarries, as well as heavy construction projects. Joe has over 25 years of experience in geology and mining throughout North America. He holds a BS in Geology from Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond, Kentucky, and a MS in Geology from Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama. He is a member of the

Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration and the Interstate Group on Abandoned Underground Mines. He brings to AAI extensive experience in geotechnical and geological projects for mining in gypsum, industrial minerals, potash and sulfur.

## ***Gordie Stevens Selected as Krumb Lecturer***

**Gordie Stevens** of **Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc. (CEC)** has been selected as one of the four 2007-2008 Henry Krumb Lecturers by SME National for his talk presented during the Resource Evaluation and Planning Session for the Aggregates and Construction Division at the Denver SME meeting this past February. Gordie's Krumb lecture



topic will be "Resource Development and Planning: A Multidisciplinary Approach". Lectures to the Southern California and Florida Sections have already been scheduled. CEC will be covering Gordie's travel costs as he meets with individual sections this coming season. Way to go, Gordie!

## ***Frank Kendorski Presents Papers at Ground Control Conference***

**Frank Kendorski** of **Agapito Associates, Inc.** presented two well-received papers entitled "Towards an Improved Stone Mine Pillar Design Methodology: Observations from a Mistake" and "Design and Performance of a Longwall Coal Mine Water-Barrier Pillar" (with Mark Bunnell) at the 26th International Conference on Ground Control in Mining held in Morgantown, West Virginia, August 2007.

Also in August, **Frank** was appointed to the Geotechnical Advisory Committee of the **Illinois Mine Subsidence Insurance Fund**, established to advise the insurers on research needs, training, and geotechnical issues in the management of the privately-run fund for homeowners and building owners affected by mining subsidence in Illinois.

## **Doug Hambley Performs Mining Due Diligence in Germany**

**Doug Hambley** of **Agapito Associates, Inc.** visited an underground mine in central Germany in August as part of a due diligence evaluation being performed by a client for a possible purchase.

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS**

*For your schedules:*

### **Northwest Mining Association (NWMA)**

#### **Washington Fly-in**

NWMA is scheduling a fly-in to Washington DC October 1-4. The House Energy & Mineral Resources subcommittee is holding a mining law hearing at 2 pm on Tuesday Oct 2 to focus on royalty and Abandoned Mines Lands (AML). It is expected that HR 2262 (Chairman Rahall's Hardrock Mining and Reclamation Act of 2007) will go to full committee mark-up soon after the Columbus Day holiday (Oct 8).

NWMA has a 10 am meeting with Chairman Rahall on Tuesday, October 2 and commitments from Senator Reid, Senator Salazar, House subcommittee Chairman Jim Costa and Ranking Member Steve Pearce to meet with us. NWMA will advise as soon as dates and times are confirmed and are working to schedule other meetings as well. They will try to schedule the meetings on Tuesday morning, all day Wednesday, and Thursday morning.

Contact Kathy Wilson or Laura Skaer at 509-624-1158 if you will be able to join NWMA on the fly-in. There are rooms available at the Hilton Garden Inn, 815 14<sup>th</sup> St. NW.

(<http://www.hiltongardeninn.com/en/gi/hotels/index.jhtml?ctyhocn=DCACHGI>).

*Submitted by Rick Ackerman*

## **Twelfth Annual NIOSH Safety Seminar for Underground Stone Mines, Executive Inn, Louisville, KY, December 4-5, 2007**

This year's seminar will include an update on DPM issues and information on ventilation technologies. The program will also include discussions on ground control

methodologies and recent studies, and programs related to risk-assessment in underground mining. A seminar registration brochure will be sent out in early October. There is no fee but registration is mandatory in order to attend. For further information, please contact Lou Prosser 412-386-4423 [lprosser@cdc.gov](mailto:lprosser@cdc.gov).

## **NEWS TO USE**

### **Prairie Materials Prevails Against Kendall County**

As some of you may know, **Prairie Materials** began the initial zoning steps in 2004 to permit a quarry for construction aggregates near Lisbon in Kendall County. After many months of hearings, the County denied the zoning request. As a result, Prairie and the associated landowners took the County to Court. The Court disagreed with the County position and decided in Prairie's favor this past summer. SME Chicago Section members, **Art Pincomb of Associated Geologists**, **Kip Smith of Mactec**, and **Gordie Stevens of Civil & Environmental Consultants (CEC)**, provided expert testimony on behalf of Prairie Material during the court case, which the County did not appeal. Prairie Materials is now proceeding with a modified permit application for the planned facility with the assistance of CEC.

*Submitted by Gordie Stevens*

### **Dry Systems Technologies (DST) Develops Low-Profile, Radio- Controlled Loader**

Dry Systems Technologies (DST) has developed the **ASV RC-30 Rubber Track Radio Remote-Controlled Loader**, which is only 53" tall. It is powered by a Cummins 30HP diesel engine that is fitted



with a DST exhaust treatment system, which captures over 96% of the diesel particulate matter. Other modifications make the loader compliant for MSHA non-

permissible, heavy-duty underground coal usage. Blue Mountain Energy's Deserado Coal Mine in Ranglely CO, which bought the first unit, is very pleased with the loader's performance and has ordered additional attachments, such as a small cement mixer. A brochure describing the unit in more detail is available from Roger Gibbs at [rgibbs@drysystemstech.com](mailto:rgibbs@drysystemstech.com).

*Submitted by Roger Gibbs*

### **FOAMPLUG from Foam Concepts LLC used by Several Mines in Illinois to Improve Blast Results**

Four mines in the Illinois area, three underground and one surface, are using FOAMPLUG from Foam Concepts, LLC for air-decking in their blast rounds. By reducing the charge per hole and plugging the hole collar, the mines are able to reduce overbreak, resulting in better ground conditions, less scaling, and reduced operating costs. To obtain further information, kindly call 800-556-9641 or visit [www.foamconceptsllc.com](http://www.foamconceptsllc.com).

*Submitted by Dennis Dunham*

### **Permitting of Kennecott Eagle Minerals Mine near Marquette, on Again**

The **Michigan Department of Environmental Quality** announced on July 30, 2007 that it has resumed its review of the **Eagle Project Mine** permit application and reinstated its earlier proposed decision to approve a series of permits to the **Kennecott Eagle Minerals Company**. The public will continue to have an opportunity to provide their comments. Public hearings have been scheduled in Marquette at the Don H. Botton University Center on September 10, at the West Branch Community Center in Forsyth Township from September 11-13, as well as at the Lansing Center on September 19. The public comment period will remain open through October 17, and written comments can be sent to DEQ/DNR Kennecott Comments, Office of Geological Survey, P.O. Box 30256, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7756, or by e-mail at

[DEQ-Kennecott-comments@michigan.gov](mailto:DEQ-Kennecott-comments@michigan.gov)

*Extracted from the MDEQ website .and modified by the Editor.*

**2006-2007 Chicago Section SME Officers**

<b>Chairman</b>	<b>H. John Head</b> Continental Placer, Inc. Wheaton, IL 630-407-0800 x 103 Fax 630-407-0799 jhead@continentalplacer.com	<b>Program Chairman</b>	<b>Frank Kendorski</b> Agapito Associates, Inc. Lombard, IL 630-792-1520 Fax 630-792-1580 frankatagapito@sbcglobal.net
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<b>Membership</b>	<b>vacant</b>	<b>GEM Coordinator</b>	<b>Anne Leslie</b> Raimonde Drilling, Inc. Chicago, IL rdcdrill@rdc-drill.com

**SME Chicago Section Membership Dues Form - NOTE: You do not need to be a national member to join the local section. To become a member of SME at the national level, please join at [www.smenet.org](http://www.smenet.org) or get an application from Gordie Stevens.**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**AFFILIATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

**DAYTIME TEL. NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SPONSOR'S NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT** \_\_\_\_\_ **RETIRED** \_\_\_\_\_

Make Check for \$20.00 (\$10.00 for Student or Retired) out to “**Chicago Section – SME**” and mail to: Brad Renwick, Treasurer, Chicago Section of SME, Civil & Environmental Consultants., 3041 Woodcreek Drive. Suite 210, Downers Grove, IL 60515

**NEXT MEETING**  
**Thursday, October 4, 2007, 11:00 AM**

***Topic: Elmer Larson Quarry Operations, Sycamore, IL***

***Guest Speaker:***

**Dan Larson,**  
Elmer Larson, LLC  
15622 Barber Greene Road  
Sycamore, Illinois

**at**  
**Kishwaukee Country Club**

***Located at***  
**1901 Sycamore Road, De Kalb, IL.**

Doug Hambley  
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