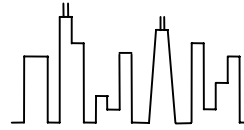


# CHICAGO SECTION NEWSLETTER

## February 2005



Newsletter of the Chicago Section of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration, Inc. - Founded Spring 1987 - [www.chicagosme.org](http://www.chicagosme.org)

## MEETING: Tuesday, February 22, 2005

**Topic:** "Practical Blasting: State-of-the Art in Drilling and Blasting"  
**Guest Speaker:** Jason Ryan, Austin Powder

**Time:** 5:15 PM Social Hour  
6:00 PM Dinner *Please - We need advance reservations! See below.*

**Place:** Ramada Inn at Burr Ridge, IL 300 South Frontage Road,  
Burr Ridge, IL. 630-325-2900

**Directions:** *From I-55:* Exit # 276A - County Line Road South, go to the first traffic light  
Turn Right, then the road turns an immediate right; follow the road  
around until you are parallel to the freeway, past the Extended Stay America.  
The Ramada will be another 150 yards ahead on the left.  
*From I-294:* Exit on I-55 Westbound. County Line Road will be the next exit  
*From I-88 & I-355:* Exit to I-355 southbound, go to end of freeway at I-55  
Head east toward Chicago: County Line Road is just east of Kingery  
Highway (IL # 83)

**Menu:** Service will be restaurant style, with your choice of two entrées:  
**Half Chicken**, herb seasoned and slowly roasted; or  
**Crab Stuffed Shrimp**, jumbo prawns stuffed with our homemade crab dressing  
with side of hollandaise

Dinner will include an appetizer, salad, vegetable, potato or rice and dessert.  
A vegetarian plate is available on request.

**Cost:** \$25 for dinner/meeting for Members, \$30 for Non-Members. Science teachers or professors  
are considered guests of the Section and will get dinner free. Student's dinners are only \$5.

If you are coming RSVP; **PLEASE**. Call or e-mail either

Gordie Stevens of Patrick Engineering at 630-795-7429 [gstevens@patrickengineering.com](mailto:gstevens@patrickengineering.com)

Rick Ackermann of Patrick Engineering at 630-795-7246 [rackermann@patrickengineering.com](mailto:rackermann@patrickengineering.com)

*And give us your dinner selection (see above) we can do some late reservations, but...*

### From the Chairman:

Shortly after our forthcoming meeting and before we meet again, several nationally-oriented professional meetings of significance are scheduled. Our SME Annual Meeting will be held in Salt Lake City, the National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (NSSGA) Annual Meeting, and the Con/Agg Expo will be held in Las Vegas. I encourage each of you to consider attending one or all of these meetings if able. They offer excellent opportunities to become more informed and better acquainted with our industry and those who move it forward. **H. John Head**, our Section Vice-Chair, will be officially representing us at SME in Salt Lake. John also is one of the Heartland Region Membership Committee representatives. Never-the-less, if you cannot attend any of these, you still have our local Section meetings, which provide many of the same opportunities, albeit on a smaller but no less important scale. I know our next couple of Section meetings may be the last chance for some of you for a while, as the new construction and processing season ratchets up. So let's mobilize early. I look forward to seeing you soon and "happy travels" for those who can attend the national meetings.



Gordie

## From the Program Chairman

### At This Meeting:

#### "PRACTICAL BLASTING State-of-the-Art in Drilling and Blasting"

"State-of-the-art" blasting techniques may perhaps be divided into two important genres: controversial & practical. Controversial methods are often difficult to clearly explain as to why & when they will work as desired.

This presentation aims to address the practical side of state-of-the-art blasting, inasmuch as the methods discussed appear to have easily described, common sense explanations as to their successes. Specifically, the convergence of four important developments in drilling technology, blasting products and mathematical modeling will be discussed.

### The Speaker

Jason Ryan attained his Bachelor of Engineering degree at Laurentian University in Sudbury, Ontario, Canada in 1995. He subsequently joined the Corporate Technical Service Group of Austin Powder Company in McArthur, Ohio, USA as a specialist in field instrumentation.

In 1997, Jason accepted the position of Product Manager for Non-electric Detonators. In 2000, he was promoted to Manager of Electronic Technology Development with responsibility for development projects in blast modeling software and electronic detonators.

In 2004, Jason transferred to the Chicagoland area to assume the role of Sales Representative for Illinois

### The Last Meeting

Our January speakers were Chris Nelson, VP, and Allan Martin, Electrical Engineer, of Rohr Corporation talked on dredge automation. Rohr manufactures floating clamshell and bucket ladder dredge systems at their facilities in Cincinnati, Ohio. The speakers are involved in the design, construction and startup of these systems. They also do site training for the operators.

They discussed various types of dredges and how they are set up for different

situations. New instrumentation and PLC-control technology is enabling these dredges to go deeper and with higher productivity. Besides lowering operating costs and increasing the mineable reserves these changes have improved productivity and safety at many locations where dredges have been automated. One location they highlighted was **Vulcan Materials'** large automated clamshell dredge in California.

*By the Editor*

### Upcoming Speakers for Spring:

Our Treasurer, John Magyar spent the better part of last year assisting in the startup of Placer Dome's Tourquoise Ridge gold mine near Winnemucca, Nevada. This is a high grade underground mine with ground he describes in some areas as being more like fault gouge than rock. He will share with us some of the problems and the successes of an underground mine startup.

If you would like to present a talk or have a subject matter that you are interested in hearing presented at a meeting, please give **Frank Kendorski**, of Agapito Associates who is our Program Chair. He can be reached at:

e-mail: [frank@agapito.com](mailto:frank@agapito.com)  
phone: 630-792-1520

## UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

*For your schedules*

### Illinois Association of Aggregate Producers

## ANNUAL

### Springfield, IL

### Cost is \$125 + hotel

For information call  
the association at  
**217-241-1639** or go to the web  
site and e-mail the IAAP

The format and time schedule will  
be similar to last year's meeting.

Web Site:

<http://www.iaap-aggregates.org/default.asp>

## 2005 SME Annual Meeting & Exhibit

**February 28 - March 2  
Salt Lake City, Utah**

**Trade Show  
Technical Sessions  
Short Courses  
Field Trips**

**Early bird registration by January 28<sup>th</sup>  
saves \$75 over the full \$495 registration  
for all sessions & exhibits**

**SME Talks From the Chicago Section:**  
**John Head of  
Continental Placer on  
"The Future of Aggregates"**  
on the growing trend toward underground  
stone mines and when to head down

**Online information & registration at:**  
[http://www.smenet.org/meetings/  
AnnualMeeting2005/](http://www.smenet.org/meetings/AnnualMeeting2005/)

**Otherwise call 800-915- 0618 for  
more information**

**CONEXPO-CON/AGG 2005**  
**March 15-19, 2005**  
**Las Vegas, USA**

CONEXPO-CON/AGG 2005 will  
be the world's largest international  
gathering place in 2005 for the  
construction and construction  
materials industries, showcasing the  
latest equipment, services and  
technologies.

Co-located with

**IFPE 2005**  
**International Exposition for Power  
Transmission  
AND  
NSSGA Annual Convention**  
(See below)

Check out the information at  
<http://www.conexpoconagg.com/>

**Registration cost for the exhibits is \$40  
cost of technical sessions is \$75 each**

**NSSGA  
ANNUAL  
CONVENTION  
March 15-18  
Las Vegas**

**Same Dates as  
CONEXPO – CON /AGG**

**NSSGA registration includes  
CONEXPO – CON /AGG  
Registration**

*NSSGA Talks From the  
Chicago Section:  
John Head of  
Continental Placer on  
"A Review of Diesel Particulate  
Regulations and the Impact on the  
Mining Industry"*

<http://www.nssga.org>

**If your company is a member of NSSGA,  
the annual meeting plus the  
CONEXPO – CON/AGG fee is \$455.  
If your company is not an NSSGA  
member, the fee is \$600 for both.**

## TRAINING COURSES

### Supervisor Training Programs

**for Quarry Managers, Foremen  
and Operations Personnel who  
manage people**

Weir International Mining Consultants has worked with the National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association (NSSGA) since 2000 to develop and serve as instructors for two supervisory training programs. The Basic Supervisory Training Program's features topics relating to safety, process control and communications with a target audience that includes newly appointed supervisors, as well as supervisors with 5 to 10 years of experience. The Advanced Supervisory Training Program provides an in depth look at the process control and communications topics presented in the Basic Program and was developed for

supervisors with at least 5 years of experience.

NSSGA offers the programs several times during the year in various parts of the country. These courses are taught by Chicago section members **Hershiel Hayden** and **Bill Huber** of **Weir International Mining Consultants**.

**Basic Program will be offered in the Chicago area in November 2005.** The Advanced Supervisory Training Program is scheduled from May 2 through May 4, 2005 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Interested persons can get additional information from the NSSGA web site, [www.nssga.org](http://www.nssga.org) (look on the right side, scrolling down under Environment, then Training is the easiest way to find it), otherwise call Steve Lenker of the NSSGA at 703-525-8788

*Submitted by Bill Huber*

## 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Fundamentals of Grouting Course

Colorado School of Mines  
Golden, CO  
May 2-6, 2005

Contact: **Dr. Scott Kieffer**

[http://www.mines.edu/academic/mining/faculty/Kieffer/Skieffer\\_Homepage.htm](http://www.mines.edu/academic/mining/faculty/Kieffer/Skieffer_Homepage.htm)

## *From The PIE & GEM Committees*

*The Mansion Rocks  
Celebrate the Geologically  
Related History of the Hegeler  
Carus Mansion*

**Rocks & Minerals for Today's  
Society**

Noon-4 PM  
Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup> 2005.  
1307 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
LaSalle, IL

**Sponsored by the Illinois Aggregate  
Producers Association**

**IDNR's rolling Rock Box will be there!**

Admission is \$8. For more information call 815-224-6543 or go on line at:  
[www.hegelercarus.org](http://www.hegelercarus.org)

*Submitted by Linda Hiltabrand of the DNR*

## PaleoFest 2005

**February 19-20  
at the  
Burpee Natural  
History Museum**



Rockford, IL

**Paleo Talks:** for kids 10+  
**Family Workshops:** for families  
**Adult Studio:** for ages 16+

See the new (and new to science) Nanotyrannus in reconstruction process  
Fee: \$7 member, \$9 non-member  
For information call 815-965-3433  
[http://www.burpee.org/pf05\\_schedule.htm](http://www.burpee.org/pf05_schedule.htm)

*Submitted by Linda Hiltabrand of the DNR*

## MEMBER NEWS

### *Meyer Material Gets Permits for Greenfield Site*

**Gordie Stevens** and a multidisciplinary team at **Patrick Engineering, Inc.** successfully assisted **Meyer Material Company** through the process of Annexation and rezoning a 791-acre Greenfield parcel near Harvard, Illinois, for a sand and gravel pit (Yard 56). The process nearly culminates several years of direct efforts. They include: geologic, groundwater, noise, wetland and stream studies and mine design and reclamation plans. The crown jewel will be issuance of the mining permit, which is in process. As planned, the mine will eventually include the diversion of nearly 1-mile of stream into the developing 407-acre lake. Current expectation is that the digging will be done wet. Patrick is currently designing the rail spur and loading facility, and entrance/roadway improvements.

*Submitted by Gordie Stevens*

### *Raj Rajaram Joins Burns & McDonnell*

Long time, Chicago SME-Section member Raj Rajaram has joined Burns & McDonnell within the last month as a senior geotechnical engineer in the Environmental Practice area. Burns & McDonnell is a large engineering firm involved in design-build for coal-fired power plants, potable- and waste-water treatment plants, infrastructure and environmental remediation.

Raj noted that "The wonderful part of this job is that I am working with a lot of young geologists and engineers, and guiding work on several remediation projects around Chicago." He added that for him the best part is the commute, which is less than 10 minutes.

Raj can be reached via phone at (630) 990-0302 X541 and e-mail at:  
[vrajaram@burnsmcd.com](mailto:vrajaram@burnsmcd.com)

### **Patrick Looks at Quarry Blasting near 350KV power lines**

Continued expansion of Columbia Quarry Company's pit, southeast of St Louis, is causing the relocation of a 350KV power line to a route passing over the quarry. This will necessitate production blasting directly under the high voltage lines. **Patrick Engineering** was hired to design the transmission line and towers, and to evaluate the quarry's blasting practices.

**Rick Ackermann** of **Patrick** evaluated the quarry's blasting practices in relation to the proposed power line location. A short series of test blasts was digitally recorded to evaluate using stemming plugs and different types of stemming. The use of the camera effectively showed the difference between two stemming practices used within the same shot.

### **From CATERPILLAR Down Under Mining Boom Causing Shortages in Men and Materials**

The mining industry is starting to feel the pinch from the world's growing appetite for commodities. Industry sources say there's a shortage of everything from personnel to building materials, like steel.

The world's third largest supplier of mining equipment, Caterpillar Elphinstone, is a huge consumer of steel at its plant in Burnie, Tasmania. Managing director Andrew Ransley says it just wasn't prepared for the extent of this current mining boom.

Ransley stated "Mining is having an unprecedented boom at the moment, and companies such as ourselves, which supply the industry, are struggling to meet the

demand. Mining has always been cyclical, we've had a trough for the last few years and we have come out of that trough very, very rapidly".

"As we try and ramp up, some of the biggest constraints that we are finding, is finding people, finding steel and finding tyres."

*This is a transcript from the ABC National Rural News that is broadcast daily to all (Australian) states on ABC Regional Radio's Country Hour and in the city on ABC News Radio*

*From Aggregate Research.com, Feb 8, '05*

<http://www.aggregateresearch.com/article.asp?id=5753&s=m>

*Editors Note: Mining is booming world wide, and particularly in Australia at the moment. Check out*

<http://www.infomine.com/careers/positions/> to see where the activity is hot. A recent 6 day period advertised 828 openings in the mining industry worldwide – and 65% were in Australia, including an opening for a quarry manger in Queensland, NSW.

*Caterpillar's Elphinstone is a major supplier of underground mining equipment worldwide, and the brand is becoming common in the US.*

**Note To Managers & Maintenance Planners:** *Word-of-mouth has it that the lead times for replacement of large mining tires are over six months, unless a supplier already has it in stock. If you haven't done it already, might want to check your replacement schedule for the remainder of the year and maybe longer.*

### **New Coal Plants Bury 'Kyoto'**

Now that the Kyoto Treaty has been ratified by much of the world, coal-fired power-plant construction is booming.

By 2012 China, India, and the United States are planning to build nearly 850 new coal-fired plants. They are expected to emit as much as an extra 2.7 billion tons of carbon dioxide. In contrast, Kyoto-signatory countries, by that year, are supposed to have cut their CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by some 0.483 billion tons.

China is the dominant player. The country is on track to add 562 coal-fired plants. That is nearly half the world total of plants

expected to come online in the next eight years. India could add 213 such plants; the US, 72. New coal plants would burn an additional 900 million tons of coal each year. There are uncertainties; if only those plants that now have start dates are built, then the expected emissions from the three nations would total only 1.2 billion tons of CO<sub>2</sub>. However, Chinese and Indian leaders face few political barriers to power-plant construction and big demands for more power. While both have signed the Kyoto Protocol, they are exempt from any of the Kyoto Treaty's constraints on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

With natural gas prices expected to continue rising, 58 other nations have 340 new coal-fired plants in various stages of development. They are expected to go online in a decade or so. Malaysia, Japan, Indonesia, Thailand, and Turkey are all planning significant new coal-fired power additions. Germany also plans to build eight coal plants totaling 6,000 megawatts capacity.

*Summarized from a Christian Science Monitor article by Mark Clayton from 12/23/04*

*In honor of April 15th*

## **A Businessman's Song**

**The Government is my Shepherd, I shall not want  
It causeth me to shut down my business  
It leadeth me beside still industries  
It destroyeth my investments  
It leadeth me in the path of bankruptcy for politics sake  
Yea, though I work in the valley of recession and depression, I will fear no hardship  
For the Government is with me  
With Good Intentions and Promises, they comfort me  
It prepareth a tax table for me to the detriment of free enterprise  
It loadeth my desk with paperwork  
My cash flow drieth up  
Surely red tape and regulations shall follow me all the days of my career  
And I will dwell in the land of the shrinking dollar forever**

*Author unknown -  
From the editor's files*

## 2003-2004 Chicago Section SME Officers

<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Gordie Stevens</b> Patrick Engineering, Inc. Lisle, IL 630-795-7429 Fax 630-434-8400 gstevens@patrickengineering.com	<b>GEM Coordinator</b>	<b>Anne Leslie</b> Raimonde Drilling, Inc. Chicago, IL 708-583-9290 Fax 708-583-9491 rdcdill@rdc-drill.com
<b>Vice-Chairman</b>	<b>John Head</b> Continental Placer, Inc. Wheaton, IL 630-407-0800 x 103 Fax 630-407-0799 jhead@continentalplacer.com	<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	<b>Rick Ackermann</b> Patrick Engineering, Inc. Lisle, IL 630-795-7246 Fax 630-434-8400 rackermann@patrickengineering.com
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>John Magyar</b> International Mining Services Belvidere, IL 815-547-9211 Fax 815-547-8552 imsjjm@aol.com	<b>Website Coordinator</b>	<b>Sarah Schlichtholz</b> Continental Placer, Inc. Wheaton, IL 630-407-0800x109 Fax 630-407-0799 sschlic@continentalplacer.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Steve Tivy</b> Boncosky Oil, Inc. Elgin, IL 847-741-2577 Fax 847-741-2590 svtivy@comcast.net	<b>Program Chairman</b>	<b>Frank Kendorski</b> Agapito Associates Chicago, IL 630-792-1520 Fax 630-792-1580 frank@agapito.com

***SME Chicago Section Membership Dues Form***

*Note: 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:** \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

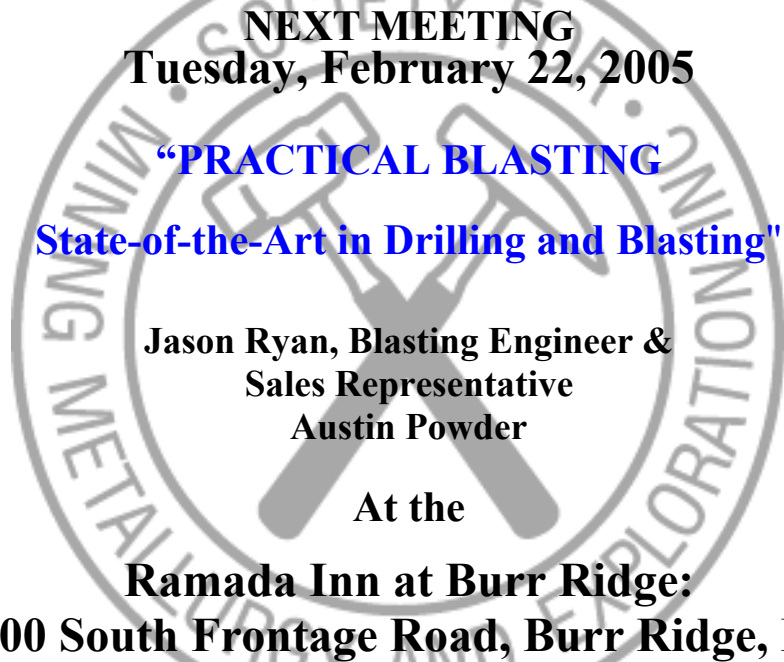
**CITY, STATE, ZIP + 4:** \_\_\_\_\_

**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: Steve Tivy, Treasurer, Chicago Section of SME, Boncosky Oil Inc., 739 North State Street, Elgin, IL 60123



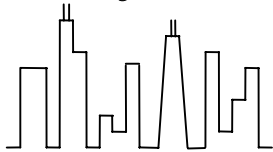
**NEXT MEETING**  
**Tuesday, February 22, 2005**  
**“PRACTICAL BLASTING**  
**State-of-the-Art in Drilling and Blasting”**  
**Jason Ryan, Blasting Engineer &**  
**Sales Representative**  
**Austin Powder**  
**At the**  
**Ramada Inn at Burr Ridge:**  
**300 South Frontage Road, Burr Ridge, IL.**

*THANKS to Patrick Engineering, Inc. for Newsletter Editing, Paper, Copying, Stapling, and Grunt Work*

Rick Ackermann  
Newsletter Editor, Chicago Section SME  
464 Waubensee Circle  
Oswego, IL 60523  
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**NEWSLETTER AND  
MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT ENCLOSED**

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