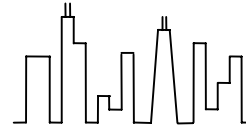


CHICAGO SECTION NEWSLETTER

March 2004



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

MEETING: Tuesday, March 23, 2004

Topic: "SME Member Survey 2002 – The Results & How It Is Being Used"

Guest Speaker: John Wiebmer, SME Board of Directors for the Mining & Exploration Division

Time: 5:30 PM Social Hour
6:30 PM Dinner
7:30 PM Speaker

Place: Golden Duck Restaurant & Bar Bohemian-American Home Cooking
500 Ogden Avenue, Downers Grove, IL. Telephone 630-968-8887

Directions:

From I-294: Exit at I-88 Westbound, Pay 40 cent Toll, Exit at Route 83 South, Route 83 South to Ogden Avenue, Ogden Avenue West to Just Past Fairview Avenue on Right (North Side)

From I-290 Westbound: Exit at Route 83 South, Route 83 South to Ogden Avenue, Ogden Avenue West Just Past Fairview Avenue on Right (North Side)

From I-88 Eastbound: Exit at Highland Avenue, Left to Southbound on Highland Avenue to Ogden Avenue, Left to East on Ogden Avenue, East to Restaurant on Left (North Side) Just Past Dunkin Donuts

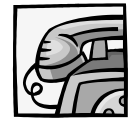
From I-355: Exit to I-88 Eastbound, Exit at Highland Avenue, Left to Southbound on Highland Avenue to Ogden Avenue, Left to East on Ogden Avenue, East Restaurant on Left (North Side) Just Past Dunkin Donuts



Menu: Entrees will be; Smoked Butt, Creamed Sausage & Chicken. Side items will be; Dumplings, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut, cabbage, vegetable, coffee/tea and dessert. Service will be family style.



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



Call: Sarah Schlichholz of Continental Placer, Inc. at 630-469-6340x109 or E-mail at sschlic@continentalplacer.com anytime up to morning of meeting.

From the Chairman:

It's been a busy winter for most of us, as usual. Lot's of things to get ready for the spring and summer seasons. Things are looking up for most of the aggregate businesses this year, which is good news. As our economy plods forward, let's keep in mind that the State can ignore highway infrastructure forever! On another note, I hope some of you were able to make it to the SME National meeting last month. I'm sure it was a good experience for those who went. I'd like to thank **John Head** for officially representing the Chicago Section. I didn't make it, but I have to say I enjoyed being able to take a short breath from the monthly section meeting schedule. For those who made our last section meeting in January, we had an enjoyable time hearing from SME's Henry Krumb lecturer, Susan Courter. We found out that PR can actually be a money-making enterprise, to the benefit of both the producer and the local community chest. As some of you may have noticed, **Mike Dunn** and I sent out a feeler to test the interest in an underground tour of the Conco-Western underground facility in North Aurora in late February or March. The response was so overwhelming that we had to back off the idea for a while to work out the logistics. We are hoping to come up with a solution by this summer. I will keep you informed. None-the-less, I'm looking forward to seeing you at our next meeting on the 23rd. Once again we will have an SME National representative, so let's show our support by showing up. See you there.



-gordie

From the Program Chairman

At This Meeting: SME Member Survey 2002 - The Results and How It Is Being Used

The Society of Mining Engineers has noted with increasing concern the slow drop in membership in the society for a number of years. Some was due to the contraction in the industry in the U.S., but of greater concern was the number of members still active in the industry who did not renew their memberships, or engineers new to the industry that did not join.

In 2002 the SME conducted an extensive member survey in an attempt to determine why active engineers were dropping their membership, or not joining the Society, and how the SME could better serve the current members and attract new members. The results of this survey are being used by the SME to develop and implement new products and programs to serve the membership.

This talk will outline the survey results, the changes that resulted from it and how they are being brought about. He will also discuss the current SME membership status and will be open for feedback and questions.

The Speaker

John Wiebmer is Marketing Division Manager for Caterpillar Inc. at Global Mining at Peoria, Illinois. He is a mining grad from University of Alaska and spent the first three years of his career as Technical Editor of Mining Engineering Magazine. He then moved to CAT and has been with them for 23 years. His group is responsible for the marketing of Caterpillar products to the surface mining industry worldwide.

As an active member of the SME, he is one of the six Directors of the SME from the Mining & Exploration Division.

Last Meeting

Susan Courter, of Courter Resources, Oshkosh, Wisconsin gave a presentation titled "Stone Soup – The Story of Success in the Community". The presentation focused on the effect that Quarry Quest,

which is sponsored by Michaels Materials of Neenah, Wisconsin, has had on the public perception of mining in the local area, and went on to look at the effect that perception has had on the company permitting efforts, complaints and the bottom line. Ms. Courter pointed out that in just four years, Quarry Quest has attracted nearly 70,000 people, raised over \$295,000 for charity, and measurably improved attitudes surrounding the local mining industry. It has also gotten a number of other local businesses and individuals involved on a volunteer basis, and provided an educational Saturday for thousands of local kids and adults. The primary beneficiary of the funds raised has been the local school system, with other charities benefiting as well. The effort has also raised the moral of company employees, which now wear the company logo around town with pride.

The number of complaints about the operation from the local community has also declined dramatically since the event started. This has made permitting easier for the company. Courter noted that Michaels has recently permitted an expansion, while another company was denied a permit to open a nearby operation.

The event does not take a lot of company financial support as a budget item, but does take a lot of "off-the job" effort by company volunteers and strong support management for meetings, arrangements, etc. The payback is in the productivity that comes with improved morale, easier permitting from the improved public perception and the improved positive visibility of the company in the community.

By Rick Ackermann

OUR NEXT MEETING:

Our next SME section meeting (April 27) will feature **Frank Reed**, of **Vulcan Materials**. Frank has recently moved into the area will share some of his experiences as a miner in the deep metal mines of the northwestern US. Many of us don't know the real meaning of "rockburst" until you've been buried in one up to your neck... anyway we will leave the stories to Frank. We hope to see you there.

Gordie

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Illinois Association of Aggregate Producers Annual Convention

May 13th, 2004
Springfield, Illinois

Information concerning the annual meeting is now available and has been sent out to the associate members. If you have not received information concerning the conference, give the IAAP a call or fax at:

Phone: (217) 241-1639

Fax: (217)241-1641

For e-mail information contact the Association at: iaap@hansoninfosys.com

Information on this show is not up on the IAAP website yet. The web site is: <http://www.iaap-aggregates.org>

For your schedules

MINExpo 2004 **The Equipment Show** **National Mining Association** **September 27-30, 2004** **Convention Center** **Las Vegas, NV**

This show, which takes over the Las Vegas convention center, is one of the largest mining equipment shows in the world, and only occurs every fourth year. The last show in 2000 had over 35,000 in attendance from all over the globe, with hundreds of exhibitors. There are also technical sessions and short courses in conjunction with the show. Show fee is only \$175.

Check out the sessions, seminars and exhibitors on the web at:

<http://www.minexpo.com>

SME Supports Chicagoland Engineers Week With \$300 Gift

The Chicago SME has been a long-time supporter of the Chicagoland Engineers Week. This year your local section gave \$300 to support the cost the various programs. The SME is one of many engineering societies sponsoring the Chicagoland Engineers Week and our section Chair, **Gordie Stevens**, sits as one of the Washington Award Commissioners. This organization arranges talks by engineers of various disciplines at local schools, science and engineering competitions, and awards to various outstanding local students

This year's Chicagoland Engineers Week program took place February 21-27th 2004. Engineers Week is a program to stimulate junior and senior high students to consider careers in engineering, especially through hands-on school projects, and highlight the contributions of engineers to the well being of society, especially in Chicagoland. The SME contribution helps support such educational programs as *Math Counts*, *Future City Competition*, *Bridge Design Competition* and *JETS TEAM Competition*. Engineer volunteers are always needed to help judge and organize these programs.

This week was anchored by the Chicagoland Engineering Awards Benefit banquet held on Friday evening, February 27th. Forty-five of the top achievers from local junior and senior high schools got the opportunity to attend the banquet. There they got a chance to meet a former astronaut and the commander of the Army Corp of Engineers. They also got the chance to rub elbows with engineers from a number of technical professions from throughout the Chicago area. Many of the students who participate in an Engineers Week activity will go on to a career in engineering, and those who don't will have caught a glimpse of the important work that engineers do and the career heights they can achieve.

See the related article on the Washington Awards Ceremony - the Editor

No More Paper – More on the Electronic Newsletter:

This is the second month that we tried sending out electronic links to the newsletter to those of you who have e-mail addresses. Paper copies can be sent out to those who request it and have paid the local section dues.

If you have an e-mail address and still want a paper Newsletter, let either Gordie Stevens, Section Chair, or Rick Ackermann, Newsletter Editor, know and we will continue to send you a paper copy.

Reducing the mailing costs will enable us to put our cash to more effective uses such as teacher scholarships to IAAP summer teacher workshops, other scholarships, engineers week and more and more.

E-mail or write or call:

Gordie Stevens, Chairman at: 630-795-7429, gstevens@patrickengineering.com
Patrick Engineering, 4970 Varsity Dr,
Lisle, IL 60532

OR

Rick Ackermann, Editor at 630-795-7246,
rackermann@patrickengineering.com
Patrick Engineering, 4970 Varsity Dr,
Lisle, IL 60532

Stevens Represents AIME/SME at Washington Award Commission Ceremony

Gordie Stevens, Chicago Section Chair for Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration, Inc. (SME) recently represented the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers (AIME) at the Chicagoland Engineering Awards Benefit banquet held in Chicago on February 27, 2004. The banquet featured the 91st presentation of the Washington Award to Nick Holonyak, PhD, the inventor of the light emitting diode (LED) for his pioneering contributions to the development of power silicon electronics and the invention of the first semi-conducting light-emitting diodes in a visible part of the spectrum. Dr. Holonyak is a professor of electrical and computer engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He received

the National Medal of Science in 1990 and the National Medal of Technology in 2002, (presented by President George W. Bush), and is one of only 13 Americans who have been awarded both medals. In June he was presented the Global Energy Prize from Russia, presented by President Vladimir Putin. Dr. Holonak indicated in his acceptance speech that the LED is poised to revolutionize the lighting industry in the next few years and as the brightest and most energy efficient light source known to man, far exceeding any light source previously developed. The Washington Award is conferred each year upon an Engineer whose professional achievements have preeminently advanced the welfare of humankind. AIME is one of the seven participating Engineering societies that commissions the Washington Award. Gordie has been the AIME Washington Award Commissioner for SME during the past two years.

Submitted by Gordie Stevens

Underground Mine Tour

This January **Gordie Stevens & Mike Dunn** started to plan an underground mine tour of the Conco-Western's underground operation near I-88 and the Fox river. The following was from Gordie on March 1st. They are still working on it.

Due to an overwhelmingly positive response for the proposed Conco Western Mine Tour, we had to put the (tentative) March tour date on hold. We had over 60 expressing interest in the tour. The logistics are currently being worked out for a date during the late spring or early summer. If and when this happens, it will likely include a small fee to help defray the costs to rent a bus large enough to sequence two or three groups down and back. As many of you are aware, there are MSHA requirements for everyone going underground and therefore there has to be enough self-rescuers available, and a diesel-powered bus large enough for at least 20 people at a time...and powerful enough to drive out, etc.

Thanks
Gordie.

MEMBER NEWS

John Magyar (Still) at Tourquise Ridge, Nevada

John is into his 6th month (!) on contract out at this re-start operation for Placer Dome near Winnemucca, Nevada. He has recently been hunting for other mining engineers who might want to work on contract out there. If interested, e-mail him at imsjim@aol.com

Rick Ackermann joins Patrick Engineering

Rick Ackermann has joined Gordie Stevens at Patrick Engineering in their Lisle, IL office. Rick is a mining engineering grad from Colorado Mines who brings in excess of 25 years of mining experience to Patrick's Mining Services Group. He can be reached by phone at 630-795-7246 or via e-mail at rackermann@patrickengineering.com

New E-mail address for Frank Kendorski – and .

Our former newsletter editor, Frank Kendorski of Agapito Associates Inc. has changed is e-mail address. He will be gradually phasing this new e-mail address in:

frankatagapito@sbcglobal.net

Agapito Associates is also hunting to hire some good mining engineers. For more information contact Frank at the numbers below.

Frank Kendorski
Principal & VP
Agapito Associates, Inc.
2 East 22nd Street Suite 307
Lombard IL 60148-6106
Tel 630-792-1520
Fax 630-792-1580
Cell 630-240-8730

Web Site: www.agapito.com

*Submitted by Frank Kendorski
Agapito & Associates Inc.*

Cemex More Popular Than Corona

Date: 03/05/2004

Branding occasionally gets short shrift when people are valuing companies. A brand doesn't show up on a company's asset account, so money spent for branding purposes can seem to be wasteful -- indeed, much of it is. But when a company that provides a nearly un-differentiable product shows up as the No. 1 brand in 2003 for all of Latin America, that shows the power these investments can have.

That's exactly what happened with Mexican cement giant Cemex (NYSE: CX) -- a Stocks 2003 selection -- which garnered more than twice as many votes as the next Latin American brand, Corona. Can you imagine the average person walking down a sidewalk and saying, "Wow, you can really feel the difference with Cemex concrete?" Not really, but where Cemex has developed its niche is by generating a reputation for reliability and technological superiority in its markets. Construction companies have come to believe in Cemex' reliability, and this carefully groomed reputation has trickled into the public's consciousness.

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END OF AN ERA...

Ingersoll-Rand Agrees to Sell its Drilling Solutions Business to Atlas Copco

HAMILTON, Bermuda--(BUSINESS WIRE)--02/19/2004--Ingersoll-Rand Company Limited (NYSE:IR), a leading diversified industrial firm, today announced that it has agreed to sell its Drilling Solutions business unit to Atlas Copco AB, headquartered in Stockholm, Sweden, for approximately \$225 million. The transaction, which is expected to be completed in the second quarter of 2004, is

subject to government regulatory approvals.

The Drilling Solutions business, which dates to Ingersoll-Rand's origins in 1871, manufactures drilling equipment and accessories for the worldwide construction, mining, quarrying, and water-well drilling industries. It had 2003 revenues of approximately \$300 million and employs approximately 950 people.

The transaction will include production facilities in Garland, Texas; Roanoke, Virginia; Yokohama, Japan; and Xuan Hua, China; and Ingersoll-Rand Equipment Stores in Knoxville and Nashville, Tennessee; and Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania. The transaction does not include Ingersoll-Rand's France-based Montabert business unit, which manufactures hydraulic rock-breaking equipment.

"This divestiture has significant strategic & symbolic importance for our company," said Herbert L. Henkel, chairman, president and chief executive officer. "Strategically, it improves our ability to invest in opportunities that enhance our core product lines, recurring-revenue stream, and geographic reach, particularly in the global growth markets of security and safety, climate control, industrial and energy solutions, compact equipment and road development.

"At the same time, we are clearly transforming our company's historic business profile and creating a new foundation to achieve growth and consistent earnings performance. We continue to benefit from market leading businesses and well-known brands, and we remain committed to developing innovative products and solutions for customers throughout the world.

SOURCE: Ingersoll-Rand Company Limited - 02/19/2004 08:14 EASTERN

Submitted by Frank Kendorski

2003-2004 Chicago Section SME Officers

Chairman	Gordie Stevens Patrick Engineering, Inc. Lisle, IL 630-795-7429 Fax 630-434-8400 gstevens@patrickengineering.com	GEM Coordinator	Anne Leslie Raimonde Drilling, Inc. Chicago, IL 708-583-9290 Fax 708-583-9491 rdcdrill@rdc-drill.com
Vice-Chairman	John Head Mactec Oak Brook, IL 630-571-2162 x 21 Fax 630-571-0439 jhead@mactec.com	Newsletter Editor	Rick Ackermann Patrick Engineering, Inc. Lisle, IL 630-795-7246 Fax 630-434-8400 rackermann@patrickengineering.com
Secretary	John Magyar International Mining Services Belvidere, IL 815-547-9211 Fax 815-547-8552 imsjlm@aol.com	Website Coordinator	Sarah Schlichtholz Continental Placer, Inc. Glen Ellyn, IL 630-469-6340x109 Fax 630-469-6470 sschlic@continentalplacer.com
Treasurer	Steve Tivy Boncosky Oil, Inc. Elgin, IL 847-741-2577 Fax 847-741-2590 svtivy@comcast.net	Program Chairman	Raj Rajaram Black & Veatch Corporation Chicago, IL 312-346-3775 Fax 312-346-4781 rajaramv@bv.com

SME Chicago Section Membership Dues Form

Note: To become a member of SME at the national level, please join at 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, March 23, 2004

“SME Member Survey 2002 – Results & How It Is Being Used”
John Wiebmer, SME Board of Directors for the Mining & Exploration Division

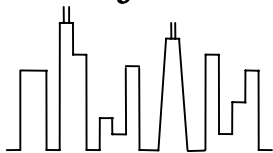
Golden Duck Restaurant & Bar: Bohemian-American Home Cooking
500 Ogden Avenue, Downers Grove, IL.

Editing, Paper, Copying, Stapling, and Grunt Work Patrick Engineering, Inc. THANKS!

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