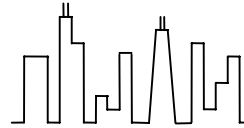


CHICAGO SECTION NEWSLETTER

September 2003



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

MEETING: Tuesday, October 28, 2003

Topic: “Case Study for a Underground Potash Mine at Suria, Spain”

Guest Speaker: Bill Huber, Consultant – Weir International,

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 Roasted Chicken, Stuffed Cabbage and Fried Fish, side items will be... Dumplings, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut, cabbage, vegetable, coffee/tea and desert. 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:

As with many professional organizations, SME is losing members. Some loss is due to an aging membership others related to economic considerations. There may still be other reasons or issues. Some are from the ranks of our own Chicago Section. We had 14 individuals who did not renew their 2003 Society Membership. Many more have did not pay Section dues last year. I hope this doesn’t develop into a long-term trend! Generally, our Section attendance has been good. Our first meeting this year was a little shy of the typical attendance of last year, but it was a glorious Autumn day, and that lure combined with the outlook for ever-diminishing daylight hours had set it’s hook. I know a few in our Section may be considering dropping out of SME National entirely. I hope you reconsider the benefits SME provides. We don’t want to loose you. It not only would be your loss, but a loss to each of us. To the rest of you, thanks for your support. I look forward to seeing each of you at our next meeting. I really appreciate the time we spend together. Thanks. -Gordie



From the Program Chairman

This Meeting: A Case Study for an Underground Potash Mine at Suria, Spain

In 2001 Weir International Mining Consultants was commissioned by Iberpotash, SA to conduct an operations assesment and geologic survey of three underground potash mines. The three mines were located at Suria, approximately 90 kilometers northwest of Barcelona, Spain. The presentation will focus on the complex geology of the potash deposit, the mine plans developed and the operating procedures recommended. The culture of the mine managers and workers will also be discussed. In addition, photographs of the unique architecture of Barcelona are included.

The Speaker

Bill Huber is a Vice President with Weir International Mining Consultants with over 30 years of operations and engineering experience in the coal and industrial minerals industries. In addition to performing operations and safety assessments, Mr. Huber instructs Supervisory Training Seminars for the National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association and writes a monthly article, Maintenance Forum, for Rock Products magazine

Last Meeting

Harry Kokal of Ispat Inland Steel gave us a excellent presentation titled **Kazakstan – Mines, Places and People**. Kokal is presently Consultant—Raw Materials for the Direct Reduced Iron (DRI) Group, Process Research Division, Ispat Inland, Inc., which is located at the Ispat Inland Research Laboratories at East Chicago, IN.

Mr. Kokal started with an overview of the LNM Group, the world's second largest iron and steel company, which owns Ispat Inland Steel and Ispat Karmet in central Kazakhstan. He gave us a visual tour of several of these operations, along with the cities and the country where they are located. Currently three iron ore mines are operated; Lisakovsky, Kentobe, and Atasu. Each is different, and each has its own unique problems. These ores and their concentrates along with several others are

used in the sinter plant and blast furnaces of Ispat Karmet. These mines and mills were purchased by the LNM Group after the breakup of the former Soviet Union.

One unique feature of the Kazakhstan operations came along with the purchase of the iron operations. Certain pieces of the local infrastructure were owned by the mines, similar to the old company towns in the US. LNM Group has tried to divest themselves of some of the company housing and sports facilities, but still own trolley lines, water treatment systems and other municipal services. They are even operating a regional power plant at the request of the local government when management and money stopped coming from Moscow.

One item noted by Kokal was that the population of the country has declined by 20-25% since the breakup of the USSR. The people leaving are generally ethnic Germans and Russians who moved to the region since 1940 and are returning to their native country.

Then Editor

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

8th Annual Safety Seminar for Underground Stone Mines to be held at Dec 9-10 at Louisville, Kentucky

Seminar Includes:

- Early bird Noise and Dust workshop on Dec 9th
- Ventilation/Health and Safety workshops on Dec 10th

Web site: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/mining/events.html>

Contact: via email
Lou Prosser at lfp2@cdc.gov or
Donna Opfer at dbo0@cdc.gov

From the IAAP - Two Operator's Seminars

ENVIRONMENTAL SEMINAR
November 3, 2003

And

**PRODUCTION SEMINAR II:
CRUSHING SYSTEMS**
November 12, 2003

Both seminars will be held at the Springfield Crowne Plaza Hotel, with

special rate room available for the night before the seminar. Call the hotel at 217-529-7777 for room reservations.

Registration limited to the first 100 applicants and the Production seminar is almost full. Fee is \$100/person for each seminar. For information and registration call:

Illinois Association of Aggregate Producers

1115 South 2nd Street
Springfield, IL 62704

Phone: (217)241-1639

Fax: (217)241-1641

E-mail: iaap@hansoninfosys.com

2004 SME Annual Meeting & Exhibit

February 23-25, 2004
Denver, Colorado

Exhibit information is now available on line, with attendee information available after October 31, 2003

For Online Information go to:

<http://www.smenet.org/meetings/AnnualMeeting2004/index.cfm>

GEM News



2003 TEACHERS WORKSHOP A SUCCESS

The Illinois Association of Aggregate Producers PIE Committee finished another successful teachers' workshop July 21-23 at the Clock Tower Inn at Rockford. As always, THANKS for SME's support.

Twenty-seven teachers participated. We've become familiar with the toothpaste, cookie mining, cupcake drilling, birdseed mining, and metamorphic sandwich activities; but to our audience it was all new. The comments were all very positive with most saying they will recommend a colleague attend next time.

The field trip visited two of Rockford Sand & Gravel's operations: North Shores gravel pit and Nimtzy Quarry. The group was able to have their lunch at the

reclaimed Cherry Valley Aggregates site now known as Bauman Park. They seemed to be most impressed with that. I admit a fondness for it myself since I did get to see the project start to finish!

New this year was a presentation on blasting by Willard Pierce of IDNR/Office of Mines & Minerals. Two people said it was their favorite part of the workshop.

One of the unique things we can do in Rockford is visit the Burpee Museum. They have a new section on economic geology that has videos and displays about our construction aggregate. The group also liked the coal swamp, dinosaur, and mammoth exhibits.

The committee is feeling very positive and looking forward to being in Rend Lake next year. This is a different venue for us so we'll have to make some new plans. Sponsor a teacher and/or join us!

*Linda M. Hiltabrand
IDNR-Office of Mines & Minerals
424 W. Main, Suite 3
Ottawa, IL 61350*

AGAIN - ROCK SAMPLES WANTED

The Gem committee is hunting for rock samples of approximately 1 inch in size in quantities of 35 samples or more for rock kits which will be given to teachers at the Illinois Association of Aggregate Producers teacher workshop next fall. Contact Anne Leslie of Ramonde Drilling at 773-889-1412 or email at rdcdrill@rdc-drill.com if you can help out.

RECENT QUARRY DAYS

The operators of these open houses are commended for their public outreach and efforts to educate our fellow citizens about the mining industry.

The editor

Dwyer Quarry – Helm Group on 9/27

The Helm Group (Conmat, Inc.) hosted their second annual Quarry Day on Sept. 27 at the Dwyer Quarry near Freeport. Proceeds from the event were donated to the local domestic violence shelter.

Children had the opportunity to lift, dump and scrape sand while seated in real construction equipment. In addition,

children were able to make concrete, build brick walls, climb a 26 ft. rock, examine spectacular fossils and more!

The Helm Group recently received an honorable mention from the National Association of State Land Reclamationists for their community outreach efforts.

Federal Quarry – Materials Service 9/13

This quarry day is free to all who come, including the food and freebies. Parking is at a nearby manufacturer's lot, and school buses run a shuttle to the pit overlook and the Federal yard where the equipment and activities were set up.

In addition to the food tent (very popular with all who attended) there was a tent with displays of fossils and mineral specimens from the local area, vibration and noise monitoring equipment from Vibra-Tech and drilling equipment from Materials Service.

Materials Service also had some nicely restored antique equipment mixed in with pieces of the current fleet for everyone to examine and photograph.

Materials Service had two areas for kids to dig into – literally. One was the fossil hunt rockpile, where they had put quantities of fossil rich rocks for the kids to search thru and take home. The other was the “gold mine” – a huge sand pile heavily laced with pyrite chunks for the kids to dig up. Both were big hits with the kids, along with the Frisbees they handed out as you were leaving.

Section Officers for 2003-2004

The officers for the 2003-2004 year are:

Gordie Stevens -Chair
John Head -Vice Chair
John Magyar - Secretary
Steve Tivy - Treasurer

Appointees:

Raj Rajaram - Program Chair
Annie Leslie- GEMS Coordinator
Newsletter Editor – Rick Ackermann
Website Coordinator – Sarah Schichtholz

FINAL NOTICE: If You Still Want Paper a Newsletter....

Do you still want a paper Newsletter? The executive committee has decided to start sending an e-mail link to the newsletter to those of us who have e-mail addresses. We are intending to STOP sending paper copies of the newsletter to e-mail addressees with the November issue unless you ask us to continue with the mailed copy. Many SME Sections as well as the local AEG Chapter have abandoned paper newsletters in favor of electronic versions.

Let's hear from you!

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 630-574-4775, rick.ackermann@earthtech.com
Earth Tech inc., 3121 Butterfield Road,
Oak Brook, IL 60523

Black & Veach Wins Army COE Tunnel Contract

Black & Veatch has been selected by the US Army Corps of Engineers to design and provide construction management services for the Cady Marsh Ditch tunnel. This is a 10-foot-diameter lined tunnel, 6400 feet long, in Griffith, Indiana. This tunnel will relieve flooding in Griffith and surrounding communities. Dr. Rajaram is involved with the design of this tunnel. Other tunneling projects being conducted by Dr. Rajaram include a detailed feasibility study for a flood control tunnel in Little Rock, Arkansas, and the wastewater tunnels for the City of Charleston, South Carolina.

New Handbook of Industrial Minerals and Rocks Coming

The 7th edition of Industrial Minerals and Rocks will be published by SME in the next couple of years and writing of the new volume is underway. Harry Kokal will be one author of a chapter on "Metallurgical Fluxes". Anyone wishing to contribute or wanting to be co-author can contact Harry at harold.kokal@ispat.com. In particular,

if anyone has experience with limestone and dolomite or lime and dolomitic-lime for flux in the metallurgical industries, Harry would like to hear from you. Experience with fluxes in the non-ferrous industries would also be welcome.

John Magyar at Turquoise Ridge Startup in Nevada

Chicago Section SME member John Magyar of International Mining Services is on assignment with Placer Dome at their Gatchell Gold Corporation's Turquoise Ridge Mine North of Winnemucca, Nevada. The scope of the project includes underground construction and development, a high head single lift mine dewatering system, materials handling systems and 700 ft of underground ventilation shaft construction. The project duration is six months and is in support of the recommissioning and ramping up of the Turquoise Ridge Mine production in May of 2004. This is a relatively high grade gold mine with almost all of the ore coming from fault gouge. Other interesting minerals include Orpiment and Realgar, which are arsenic sulphides.

The mining method is over hand drift and fill. The top pass and any development in poor ground uses spiling; an unusual method of ground control rarely found in mining today.

Boncosky Oil to Display at MPSA Fleet Night

The Midwest Parts and Service Association, an organization dedicated to fostering communications between end-users and suppliers in the heavy and medium duty trucking business, is hosting a Fleet Night on November 4, 2003. Boncosky Oil will join 30 or more vendors displaying their wares and services to this sector of business in the Metropolitan Chicago Area. Steve Tivy, Boncosky Oil Company's Commercial Representative says "There are plenty of organizations around for technical folks, but Truckers and Fleet Managers aren't always so lucky. MPSA serves a need to get regulatory and product information to an "old-line" industry that is undergoing huge challenges

and change. Boncosky Oil is proud to be a part of this organization".

Fleet Night will be held on Nov 4, 2003 at the Ramada Inn, in Burr Ridge. There is no charge for the meeting, but dinner is \$20.00. Reservations are being taken by Fax at (630) 960-3815 or by calling Steve at (847) 878-7730.

SME Executive Director Resigns

Mr. Paul A Scheidig announced his resignation as Executive Director of the SME effective September 30, 2003. The Board of Directors and staff are grateful for Paul's efforts in leading the Society during a difficult period and wish him well in his new pursuits.

Mr. John J. Orologio has been appointed the interim Executive Director of the Society. Mr. Orologio, a long-time employee and director of Finance for SME, retired this past June. A Search Committee will be formed immediately to seek a permanent replacement for Mr. Scheidig.

From the SME website at www.smenet.org

Had Your Computer Stolen Lately? I Did

I had the unfortunate experience of having my car window smashed and my briefcase and computer stolen last month in downtown Chicago. At first, the 911 operator wanted to take the report over the phone, without an officer even showing up! I nixed that, and when they did get there (an hour later) I have nothing but good to say about the officers on the street and the detectives I talked with on the phone. But that is not the reason this article is in the newsletter.

I learned a lot when one of the first questions the detective asked was if I had a tracer program on my machine by a company named AbsoluteSoftware. This detective described the program as "the Lo-Jack of the computer world", and went on to say the Chicago Police recover a number of computers every year which have the program installed. He said the program sends a locator message out when it logs on the internet. If the computer is reported

stolen, Absolute notifies the police of the connection, and they go get a search warrant for that connection location. A recommendation like that from the Chicago cops seemed like a good one to me, so I checked out the program.

The program is called ComputracePlus and may be found via the AbsoluteSoftware website. The maker claims that this program will survive a disk reformat and a disk partition and still do its job. The program costs \$49.95 per year per computer for up to 99 licenses. This product is not sold in computer stores. According to the sales rep I talked to, it is only marketed by AbsoluteSoftware to businesses and government agencies, but they do sell individual licenses. They have some of the successful recovery stories on the web site. Check it out at www.absolute.com

I asked my IT people about it. My company does not subscribe.

The editor

From the ATF – for the Explosives Users ---

Link to web page incorporating changes to published regulations

If you would like the explosives regulations that combine the old orange book (dated year 2000) with the new SEA interim regulations you can print it out by going to the following link:

<http://ecfrback.access.gpo.gov/otcgi/cfr/otfliter.cgi?DB=3&query=27000000555®ion=BIBSRT&action=view&SUBSET=SUBSET&FROM=1&SIZE=10&ITEM=1>

The word from the ATF agent at the ISEE Vendors Night on Oct 16th is that this will be the most up-to-date source of the regulations available, even though he said it is NOT the official source. This link is to the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations from the Government Printing office. Printed copies incorporating the new regulations will not be out until sometime next year.

For other items you can visit the AFT website at www.atf.gov.

2002-2003 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 Earth Tech Inc. Oak Brook, IL 630-574-4775 Fax 630-574-2007 rick.ackermann@earthtech.com
Secretary	John Magyar International Mining Services Belvidere, IL 815-547-9211 Fax 815-547-8552 imsjmm@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.

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 October 28, 2003

“Case Study for a Underground Potash Mine at Suria, Spain”
Bill Huber, Consultant – Weir International Mining
Consultants

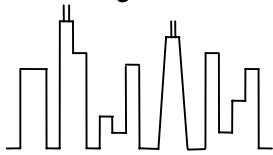
Golden Duck Restaurant & Bar: Bohemian-American Home Cooking
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Editing and Paper by Earth Tech Inc, Copying, Stapling, and Grunt Work Patrick Engineering, Inc. THANKS!

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