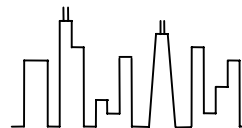


CHICAGO SECTION NEWSLETTER

September 2002 – Website Edition



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

MEETING: Tuesday, October 1, 2002

Topic: “Laws and Sausages, or MSHA Rulemaking on Diesel Particulate Matter”

Guest Speaker: John Head, Principal Mining Engineer,
Harding ESE, Oak Brook, IL

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: Soup, cream sausage, chicken, boiled beef with dill gravy, dumplings, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut, cabbage, vegetable of the day, coffee, and homemade desert selection.

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

From the Chairman: I want to be the first to welcome all of you back for another season of Chicago SME meetings. I know that there have been big changes for many of you. A few of you have lost jobs, changed jobs, or are looking to change. We will be seeing several new faces at our meetings (with new elbows to rub). Our meeting restaurant for last year the Weinkeller “bellied-up,” presumably a few moments before our joint SME/AEG meeting. The Executive Committee arrived an hour early for our usual meeting, only to find the restaurant dark, a “No Trespassing” sign on the front door, and the parking lot full of precisely lined-up new BMW’s. This prompted us to go running for another place, which we fortunately found. Many thanks to the Golden Duck restaurant in Downers Grove, who accommodated us exceptionally well on very short notice. As you see, we will be starting out with them this year. Things have been relatively quiet for the Section this summer. But, we did help sponsor another great Science Teachers Workshop, which Anne will tell us about. I have been a little slow getting the ball rolling this year due to my own transition, but there has been a lot of activity behind the scenes by the Executive Committee to provide you with a great docket of speakers. We will be starting out with one of our own, John Head, who has dazzled us in the past. Later in the year we will be having a Henry Krumb Lecturer from SME National, William “Bill” Langer of the USGS, who many of you may recognize from his mining-related geologic articles in *Aggregates Manager*. I had been griping to National SME about their lack of support to the aggregates industry ... so they may have listened and appointed Mr. Langer to do some of the legwork. To keep up with all the exciting SME and member news, be sure to visit our web site at www.chicagosme.org ... and be sure to come to our meetings. I look forward to seeing you there. Thanks.

Gordie

From the Program Chairman

This Meeting

"To retain respect for sausages and laws, one must not watch them in the making." These wise words are attributed to Otto von Bismarck (1815-1898), the first chancellor of the modern German state.

John will discuss the complex, sometimes humorous, always so very earnest, process of MSHA rulemaking. He will do this by expanding on the diesel particulate matter (DPM) rule that started life in the mid-1980's and is still not finalized almost 20 years later. The process has gone through several policy shifts, from the anti-mining company stance of one MSHA Assistant Secretary to the industry-conciliatory nature of another, from a pro-labor administration to a pro-business one. All the while with heartfelt concern for the health of the miner from all sides...

There will also be a brief outline of the steps that underground mining operators must take to be in compliance, not only with regulations already in effect, but the nebulous non-regulations that are waiting in the wings. The recent settlement of a legal challenge to the now 18 month-old regulation has left some things up in the air. . .

The Speaker

H. John Head has been involved in the DPM rulemaking process since its inception. He has directly represented the mining industry in the process for the last five years - both as an expert in the rulemaking and the settlement negotiations and as a consultant mining engineer in helping mines get a handle on their DPM issues. John has spoken to our Section several times in then recent past, and is widely known as a mining engineer and wit.

Last Meeting

Our last meeting in May almost didn't happen. As Gordie mentioned in his piece, the ExCom showed up in the Weinkeller parking lot an hour early to find a dark, closed restaurant with a "No Trespassing" sign on the door. The Golden Duck came to our rescue, and we had a very successful Joint Meeting with the North Central Section of AEG. **Frank Kendorski** from **Agapito Associates, Inc.**, in Lombard gave a well-received talk on

"Carbon Monoxide Subsurface Migrations and Poisonings from Blasting" which certainly opened the eyes of many attendees on this little-known deadly hazard. Over 40m persons were in attendance from three states.

Next Meeting

We have lined up most meetings for the Season. Tentatively schedule are **Mike Dunn** of **Conco-Western Stone** for October 22 on their advances in underground stone mining, **Satya Harpalani** of **SIU** on November 26 on new development in coal mining downstate, for January 26 it's Henry Krumb Lecturer from SME National **William "Bill" Langer** of the **USGS** on aggregates, for February 25 **Kelvin Wu** of **MSHA Tech Support** on the Quecreek Mine Flood and Rescue, **Farouk Oksuz** of **Black & Veatch** on March 25 on the grouting and sealing of the MWRDGC McCook Reservoir, **John Weibmar** of **Caterpillar** on new technologies in mobile equipment on April 22, and no program yet for May 27. Please note that dates often change due to last-minute changes in speaker's schedules.

Raj Rajaram

GEM News

Our 2003 Workshop for teachers in cooperation with IAAP is July 21-23, 2003, at Rockford's Clock Tower. This year's workshop was a great success. Workshop was held Aug. 12-14 at Pere Marquette State Park. Thirty teachers from around the state learned more about Rocks, Minerals, and Mining in Today's Society through lectures, interactive labs, and a field trip. You know you're in the Grafton area when you see the Piasa Bird. **Joanne Kluessendorf** and **Don Mikulic** explain the geology of the Grafton area. **Raimonde Drilling** sent a rig so the teachers could see how cores are drilled. The group explores the stockpiles at **Casper Stolle Quarry** for samples. The group got an excellent view of the quarry face at Casper Stolle Quarry.

Linda Hiltabrand

We received the following letter from an attendee at this summer's highly successful workshop:

September 1, 2002

I want to take this time to express my deep gratitude for sponsoring me for the Rocks,

Minerals, and Mining in Today's Society conference sponsored by the Illinois Association of Aggregate Producers. I cannot even begin to tell you how much the conference exceeded my expectations. It was truly and outstanding workshop, and I would highly recommend it to other colleagues. The workshop not only gave ideas and hands-on experiments that could be implemented in the classroom, but went above and beyond to give geological information both historical and current. It was run with professionalism and I felt honored (and spoiled) at the generosity of all of you. From the accommodations, to the meals, to the conference itself, all was done with excellence.

Thank you again for your generosity in allowing me to attend such a wonderful conference. I have had two students already jot me notes telling me how excited they are that we will be studying rocks and minerals (and it's only the first week of school!). This conference is definitely making the public more aware of just how important the aggregate industry is to our every day lives.

Joan Okamoto

Christian Heritage Academy
Northfield, IL

Anne Leslie

Send Us Your E-mail Addresses

We are trying to get away from paper mailings, please send your e-mail address to frankatagapito@aol.com to get the electronic newsletter.

Patricia Jemilo Will Be Missed

Patricia Jemilo passed away April 23 of this year. She was the Administrative Assistant for the Engineering Department at **Vulcan** for 10 years, where she was mother hen to a group of mostly male engineers (she was well suited to the task, which was not an easy one). She supported the SME Chapter by diligently reminding everyone of upcoming meetings.

Kurt Leighner

WGWA Field Trip to Mine

The Wisconsin Groundwater Association (WGWA) is holding a field trip on Friday and Saturday September. 27 and 28, 2002 to the proposed Crandon Mine in Northern Wisconsin (on Friday) and a tour of the Caledonia mine in

Northern Michigan on Saturday. The field trip cost is \$110 per adult and \$75 per child. There is space available and a limited number of rooms set aside (until this Saturday, September 14) at the Holiday Acres Resort in Rhinelander (1-800-261-1500) for \$80.10. Contact **Boyd Possin** @ 920-606-0323 or at wgwanotes@wgwa.org for more information.

Rajaram Joins Black & Veatch, Attends Workshop, Receives Award

Raj Rajaram joined **Black & Veatch (B&V)** in June 2002 as a Project Manager. He is involved in tunneling and grouting projects with the Corps of Engineers, and is developing the remediation market for B&V Chicago. New address is 101 North Wacker Drive, Suite 1100, Chicago, IL 60606, 312-346-3775, Fax 312-346-4781, E-Mail rajaramv@bv.com. He participated as a national expert on Hazardous Waste Containment at a Containment Workshop in Baltimore in July 2002. The Containment Workshop, sponsored by the U.S.EPA, U.S. Department of Energy, and DuPont, will be publishing a book on the State of the Art of Waste Containment in 2003, and Raj will be authoring a chapter in that book. Raj will be receiving an International Award of Merit from IIT Chicago on October 5, 2002. This is in recognition of his efforts to establish Distance Learning Program for IIT's Stuart Business School in Delhi, India, in the area of Environmental Management.

Stevens Now at Patrick Engineering in Lisle

Gordon Stevens has recently joined **Patrick Engineering, Inc.**, as Senior Project Manager. His new telephone number is 630-795-7429, Fax 630-434-8400, E-mail gstevens@patrickengineering.com, Address: 4970 Varsity Drive, Lisle, IL 60531-4101.

Leighner Sets-Up Own Shop

Longtime SME member **Kurt Leighner** is proud to announce that he has started his own consulting firm, **Mineral And Land Development, Inc.** Kurt is serving the mining industry based on his more than 30 years of technical, operations, and management experience in exploration, market analysis/strategic planning, and mine planning, permitting, and

development for both surface and underground mining. His background ranges from base metal sulfide mining to industrial minerals and construction aggregates. He has been around so long that he actually remembers how sublevel open stoping works. Kurt can be reached at 630-527-0742 or leighnerk@yahoo.com. Prior to starting his own business, Kurt had served as Vulcan's Midwest Division Director of Engineering for the past 11 years.

He says that he most of all enjoys having more time now to play with his two grandsons, Jakob age 2½, and Nathaniel age 3½. Kurt tells us that watching his two grandsons play together is worth more laughs than a Three Stooges movie.

Weir International Mining Consultants New Offices

Weir International Mining Consultants will move on October 1, 2002, to Executive Towers West I, 1431 Opus Place, Suite 210, Downers Grove, IL, 60515, Telephone 630-968-5400, fax 630-968-5401, web site www.weirimc.com. Long-time SME Section Member **Joe Dixon** will have a dramatically shorter commute.

Linda Hiltabrand: A Do-Gooder Extraordinaire

Linda Hiltabrand of **ILDNR** spent part of her summer supervising a major house fix-up for an 80-something year old widow in her village. She organized citizen volunteers and professional craftsmen alike to jack floors, replace steps, and do many other needed repairs. The photo shows Linda "cutting the ribbon" after the work was completed with the grateful homeowner in attendance.

Best Internet Joke This Summer

IF AIRLINES SOLD PAINT

(Author: Alan H. Hess)

Customer: Hi. How much is your paint?

Clerk: Well, sir, that all depends on quite a lot of things.

Customer: Can you give me a guess? Is there an average price?

Clerk: Our lowest price is \$12 a gallon, and we have 60 different prices up to \$200 a gallon.

Customer: What's the difference in the paint?

Clerk: Oh, there isn't any difference; it's all the same paint.

Customer: Well, then I'd like some of that \$12 paint.

Clerk: When do you intend to use the paint?

Customer: I want to paint tomorrow. It's my day off.

Clerk: Sir, the paint for tomorrow is the \$200 paint.

Customer: When would I have to paint to get the \$12 paint?

Clerk: You would have to start very late at night in about 3 weeks. But you will have to agree to start painting before Friday of that week and continue painting until at least Sunday.

Customer: You've got to be *&%^#@* kidding!

Clerk: I'll check and see if we have any paint available.

Customer: You have shelves FULL of paint! I can see it!

Clerk: But it doesn't mean that we have paint available. We sell only a certain number of gallons on any given weekend. Oh, and by the way, the price per gallon just went to \$16. We don't have any more \$12 paint.

Customer: The price went up as we were talking?

Clerk: Yes, sir. We change the prices and rules hundreds of times a day, and since you haven't actually walked out of the store with your paint yet, we just decided to change. I suggest you purchase your paint as soon as possible. How many gallons do you want?

Customer: Well, maybe five gallons. Make that six, so I'll have enough.

Clerk: Oh no, sir, you can't do that. If you buy paint and don't use it, there are penalties and possible confiscation of the paint you already have.

Customer: WHAT?

Clerk: We can sell enough paint to do your kitchen, bathroom, hall and north bedroom, but if you stop painting before you do the bedroom, you will lose your remaining gallons of paint.

Customer: What does it matter whether I use all the paint? I already paid you for it!

Clerk: We make plans based upon the idea that all our paint is used, every drop. If you don't, it causes us all sorts of problems.

Customer: This is crazy!! I suppose something terrible happens if I don't keep painting until after Saturday night!

Clerk: Oh yes! Every gallon you bought automatically becomes the \$200 paint.

Customer: But what are all these, "Paint on sale from \$10 a liter" signs?

Clerk: Well that's for our budget paint. It only comes in half-gallons. One \$5 half-gallon will do half a room. The second half-gallon to complete the room is \$20. None of the cans have labels, some are empty and there are no refunds, even on the empty cans.

Customer: To hell with this! I'll buy what I need somewhere else!

Clerk: I don't think so, sir. You may be able to buy paint for your bathroom and bedrooms, and your kitchen and dining room from someone else, but you won't be able to paint your connecting hall and stairway from anyone but us. And I should point out, sir, that if you paint in only one direction, it will be \$300 a gallon.

Customer: I thought your most expensive paint was \$200!

Clerk: That's if you paint around the room to the point at which you started. A hallway is different.

Customer: And if I buy \$200 paint for the hall, but only paint in one direction, you'll confiscate the remaining paint.

Clerk: No, we'll charge you an extra use fee plus the difference on your next gallon

of paint. But I believe you're getting it now, sir.

Customer: You're insane!

Clerk: Thanks for painting with United, American, Continental, Delta. . . .

Kendorski Completes Two Wrongful Death Litigation Assignments

This summer, **Frank Kendorski of Agapito Associates, Inc.**, completed litigation-assistance expert witness assignments in wrongful death cases. Both were tragic, but avoidable. In one, a carpenter was assigned to building concrete forms for the support towers for a new crushed-stone conveyor facility. He was re-assigned to help a mechanical foreman align and track a new conveyor belt. He was directed to go up the catwalk and cut the ties holding a bundle of grease lines under the take-up pulley. In order to do so, he had to enter under the belt and support his weight against the pulley immediately under the belt. He apparently was not specifically trained in or knowledgeable in "Lock-Out, Tag-Out" procedures for electrically-controlled equipment. The foreman was distracted for a few minutes, looked up the catwalk for the carpenter, did not see him

under the belt in the shadows, thought he had left the area, and directed the engineer in the control room to start the belt. The carpenter was pulled through the belt left-arm and head first, up to his chest, killing him instantly. The lessons were that anyone working on electrically-operated equipment must have his own lock-out, tag-out ability, and to positively ascertain a worker's whereabouts when last seen in a hazardous position, amongst others.

In the second, a driller on a small skid-mounted diamond coring drill rig, was directed to place his rig on a steep hillside with no leveled or cleared drill pad prepared. He objected to the placement, but was told to use timber blocking and chains to level and secure the rig, in the dark. The next morning, as he was bringing a water hose up to the rig, the single chain released without breaking, the drill rig spun around from the release of tension, and rolled over one full turn, and pinned the driller, who was fleeing downhill and had just pushed his helper over the curb, against the concrete jersey curb at the bottom of the slope, crushing his chest. He died a few minutes after being removed from the scene. Lessons learned are to make sure the chains are redundant and secure, and to provide a proper leveled drilling pad.