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NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL OF PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS NEWSLETTER

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NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL OF PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS
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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jeffrey E. Loney, President

I would like to extend my personal thanks to all members and supporters who responded to my recent “calls to action.” Your contacts of state legislators asking them to support our licensure bills have had a significant positive impact. Staffers for Assemblyman Steve Englebright, our chief sponsor in the Assembly, recently told me that his office had been receiving many inquiries about the bill from representatives whose constituents had contacted them. **KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!** We are dealing with politics, and to be successful we’ll need to continue to express our opinions to the legislators.

As discussed in Bill Kelly’s legislative update on page 2, the Senate passed our bill, S02383, on July 2nd. Assembly bill A05262 has gone through the committee process and currently resides in the Rules Committee chaired by Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver. The Assembly bill is ready to be moved out of this committee and on to the floor for a vote. While I am disappointed that I’m not able to tell you that we’ve had passage in both houses, I am pleased that NYSCPG has made significant progress in this legislative session. I believe this progress will be the key to passage of the S02383/A05262 legislation in the near future.

Since 1995, when NYSCPG was organized, we have solicited input on geologist-licensure legislation from the geologist community and from legislators, regulators, other related professions and the public at large. The language of the S02383/A05262 bills reflects the cumulative input from this diverse stakeholder group. The full text of the bills can be viewed at the Assembly web site <http://assembly.state.ny.us/leg/?bn=A05262>. A brief summary of the legislation is presented on the next page.



President's Message, continued

A board of engineering, land surveying, and geology, which will be appointed by the Board of Regents to assist the Department of Education, will oversee the licensed practice of Geology. License application requirements specified in the Senate and Assembly bills are summarized as follows. Applicants must be of good moral character, as determined by the Department of Education, be at least 21 years of age, and have:

- a Bachelor's or higher-level educational degree in Geological Sciences;
- five years of practical experience acceptable to the state oversight board, with one year of credit for an advanced degree in Geology; and
- passed an examination, which we anticipate will be the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) exam.

The legislation will take effect 18 months after being enacted. Applicants who apply within one year of the effective date of the legislation can be licensed without a written examination if they meet the education and experience requirements. The legislation will allow engineers, land surveyors, architects, landscape architects and geologists to enter into a joint enterprise, a partnership, a professional service corporation, or professional service limited-liability partnership.

Recognition by New York State of geologists as professionals is nearing fruition, and the future looks bright for those currently practicing geology in New York. More importantly, licensure will benefit those whom we serve and those who will follow in our footsteps.

We continue to rely on the support of our membership. A membership update from Jerry Bastedo is presented on page 3. If you have questions, comments, or want to discuss how you can get involved in helping NYSCPG move forward, please contact me at 585-321-4232 or send me an E-mail at JEL@HaleyAldrich.com.

Status of the New York Licensure Legislation

William Kelly, Chairman, Legislative Committee

The NYSCPG made significant strides towards passage of the geologists' licensure bill during the second half of this legislative session. The progress and current status of the bill are summarized below.

Discussions were concluded with the Higher Education Committee of the New York State Assembly. Those talks and meetings with the New York State Department of Education produced several changes to the language of the bill and resulted in a new "F" version. The New York State Senate subsequently passed the new version (S02383 – F) on 2 July 2002. NYSCPG benefited greatly from the efforts of Sen. Carl Marcellino and his staff in achieving Senate passage. A heartfelt tip of the hat is due Senator Marcellino.

(Continued on next page)



Legislative Status, continued

The bill was reported out of the Assembly Higher Education and Ways and Means Committees and now rests in the Assembly Rules Committee. The Rules Committee is essentially a holding pen for legislation waiting to be assigned to the active calendar for a floor vote. The Assembly recessed without taking action on a number of bills, ours included, that had been acted on by the Senate. It's not clear if or when the Assembly will return to session to deal with these issues, and Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver has offered no comment on a possible return date.

Recently, NYSCPG's officers and directors have sent a series of E-mail messages asking the membership to urge passage of the licensure bill by making contact with their representatives, the bill's co-sponsors who sit on the Assembly Rules Committee, and Speaker Silver. The response from CPG members has been good. Furthermore, the CPG leadership has been in near-daily contact with one or more of the following: Speaker Silver, our Assembly sponsor (Steve Englebright), his staff, or the CPG lobbyist, Attorney John Privitera. Our lobbyist has presented Speaker Silver with copies of letters of support from CPG members to their Assembly representatives, copies of responses to those letters by the Assemblymen, and copies of all memoranda of support from the organizations that have backed the licensure bill.

NYSCPG recently received a memorandum of support for the licensure bill from the New York State Public Employees Federation AFL-CIO (PEF). This is the labor union that represents professional and scientific personnel, including geologists, in the New York State workforce. A poll by PEF of its members who are geologists found 93% support for the licensure bill among responders. In addition, because of changes in the bill that resulted from the aforementioned talks, the New York State Association of Consulting Engineers rescinded its memorandum of opposition to the geologists' licensure bill, bringing closure to this group's long standing opposition to the bill.

NYSCPG is continuing the push for passage of our bill in the Assembly during what remains of the current legislative session. As Paul Harvey says: "Stand by for news!"

Membership Update

Jerold C. Bastedo, Vice President and Membership Committee Chairman

The corporate and prospector memberships listed on the next page reflect the memberships received through August 6, 2002. In addition to those listed, there have been 242 individual and 10 student memberships received for 2002. If you have any questions about your membership status or if your address changes, please contact me at 716-627-3481 or JCB02@buffnet.net.

The licensing bill has passed in the NYS Senate for the 2nd consecutive year, and hopefully the Assembly will vote on the bill before the legislative session for 2002 officially ends. Your membership will help provide support for the extensive lobbying and other efforts that are being made to have geologists recognized as licensed professionals in New York State.



Membership Update, continued

This is the closest geologists have ever been to securing licensing in New York, and all geologists need to support this important legislation. Encourage your colleagues, competitors, and all geologists with whom you are in contact to become members of the New York State Council of Professional Geologists. Encourage your company to take out a membership – depending on the membership category, a minimum of 10 and as many as 25 geologists can be included under a corporate membership. A membership application form is enclosed, and new memberships applied for now will be good through 2003.

A final word: your phone call, fax, or letter to your assemblyman and Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver will make a difference. Act today!!

CORPORATE SPONSORS:

Platinum (\$2,000)

AIPG - Northeast Section
Haley & Aldrich of New York

Gold (\$1,000)

Alpha Geoscience
Blasland, Bouck & Lee
ERM Northeast
Hudson-Mohawk Prof. Geologists
Spectra Environmental Group, Inc.

Silver (\$250)

Alpha Environmental Consultants, Inc.
Aquifer Drilling & Testing, Inc.
C.A. Rich Consultants
EA Engineering Science & Technology
GeoLogic NY, Inc.
Geologic Services Corporation
Geomatrix Consultants
Golder Associates - Niagara Falls
Impact Environmental Consulting
Leggette, Brashears & Graham, Inc.
Montgomery Watson Harza
Nothnagle Drilling, Inc.
Roux Associates
SJB Services
URS Corp. - Buffalo
URS Corp. - Clifton Park

INDIVIDUAL PROSPECTOR MEMBERS (\$100):

Jerold Bastedo	Jeff Loney	H. Leonard Rexrode, Jr.
Vance Bryant	Jim McIver	Dorothy Richter
Roy Budnik	Steven Muller	Stephen Rossello
Bill Goodman	Nanette Nelson	David Slaine
Dean Herrick	William S. Neubeck	Russell G. Slayback
Jefferson P. Hoffer	Daniel L. Pardieck	Russell B. Urban-Mead
Bill Kelly	Christopher J. Pepino	Art M. VanTyne
Kyle Kayler	Jeffery Poulsen	

THANKS ALSO TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR RECENT DONATIONS:

David Cook (Clinton, NY), Dennis Graves (Delanson, NY), and John Schafer (Bethpage, NY)



Web Page Update

We've upgraded our web page, and will soon be adding links to the websites of our corporate sponsors (see the next article). The NYSCPG website already has useful links to the websites of other New York geological organizations and agencies, and links to the New York State Senate and Assembly websites from which you can view summaries and the full text of the licensure bills. Finally, as indicated in the next article, we are now offering advertising banner space on the website to our supporters and members.

Check out the new look and features of the website at www.nyscp.org. If you have questions about the website or the new advertising program, please contact NYSCPG's webmaster (through the website) or board member Gene Florentino (contact information is listed on page 1 and on the website).

Place your Company Logo Here !

As you are all well aware, NYSCPG relies on funding from various sources to pay for the lobbying and other activities required to achieve our goal of passage of the licensure bill into law. Many of you are donating tremendous amounts of time for this cause; however, without sufficient funds our efforts will be in vain. Funding comes from individual membership dues, corporate sponsorship, fund-raising activities (dinners and raffles, etc.), and advertising. In an effort to make it more reasonable to advertise and at the same time enhance the incentive to become a corporate sponsor, the board has recently revised its advertising and corporate membership programs as follows:

General Advertising: The cost for a business-card size ad in six consecutive issues of the **newsletter** will be \$150. The cost for a half-page ad in six consecutive issues will be \$300.

In addition to newsletter advertising, NYSCPG is now offering advertising on our **website**. This is a great way to maximize your advertising dollars through unlimited exposure. The cost for a banner ad on our website is \$200 for one year.

Advertising Perks for Corporate Sponsors: In appreciation for your generous contributions, all Platinum, Gold, and Silver sponsors will be listed on our website with links to your web page (companies will be listed alphabetically in each sponsorship category). All Gold and Platinum sponsors will also receive a free business-card sized ad in each newsletter issued during the sponsorship year.

If you would like to advertise or become a corporate sponsor, or you want to help solicit ads or corporate sponsorships, please contact Marjory Rinaldo-Lee, Rick Watt, Gene Florentino, or any one of the other NYSCPG board members (contact information for board members is listed on page 1 and on our website, www.nyscp.org). Thank you for your continued support!



News from Other Organizations

Earth Science Day 2002

The 5th Annual Western New York Earth Science Day is being held on Saturday, October 19, 2002, from 9 AM to 3 PM at the Penn Dixie Paleontological and Outdoor Education Center in Hamburg. The Hamburg Natural History Society and the Buffalo Association of Professional Geologists are co-sponsoring this popular educational event to educate the public on what geologists do, their importance to society, and varied career opportunities that exist within the earth sciences. If your organization would be interested in participating in this event or you would like additional information, please contact Jerry Bastedo (JCB02@buffnet.net) or Rick Watt (rwatt@ene.com).

Help Wanted

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Non-profit outdoor educational center seeks Executive Director. Candidate should have 5 to 10 years of experience with non-profit organization; management of staff & programs; development of educational programs; fund raising; marketing & promotion; and public outreach. MS degree in natural sciences or equivalent experience preferred. Equal opportunity employer. Send resume to Chair, Search Committee, HNHS, P.O. Box 772, Hamburg, NY 14075. No phone calls please.

CNYAPG Website

The Central New York Association of Professional Geologists (CNYAPG) has a new (since March) website. The website address is: www.cnyapg.org.

Links to the CNYAPG website and the websites of other geological agencies and organizations located in New York can be found on the NYSCPG website www.nyscp.org.

***NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL OF PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS
NEWSLETTER***

Volume 7, No. 3

August 2002



***New York State Council of Professional Geologists
P.O. Box 2281
Albany, New York 12220-0281***

2002 - 2003
NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL OF PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS
Membership Application and Renewal Form

This application is (please check one):

New Renewal

Mr. Mrs. Ms. Dr. (please check one)

Name: _____

PG CPG CHMM PhD PE

Other _____

Company/Affiliation: _____

Membership Class (Annual Contribution)

Student \$10
 Individual \$20
 Individual "Prospector"* \$100
 Corporate** Silver \$250
 Corporate** Gold \$1000
 Corporate** Platinum \$2000
 Additional Donation \$_____

* Prospector Members receive an NYSCPG mug as a gift

** Corporate membership provides for additional member listings as follows:

Silver - 10 listed geologists

Gold - 15 listed geologists

Platinum - 25 listed geologists

Please enclose check made payable to **NYSCPG** and mail to:

Jerold Bastedo
S-5215 Orchard Ave.
Hamburg, NY 14075

Work Address (mailings will be sent to this address unless 'home address' is specified)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone No. _____

Fax No. _____

e-mail _____

Home Address (optional)

check here if you want to receive mailings at home

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone No. _____

Fax No. _____

e-mail _____

Additional Information

Professional Background (please check one): Geologist Other _____

Education:

<u>Education:</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>College / University</u>
BS/BA	_____	_____
MS/MA	_____	_____
PhD	_____	_____
Other _____	_____	_____

Other Memberships:

___ NGWA ___ AIPG ___ BAPG
___ AAPG ___ AGU ___ CNYAPG
___ SEPM ___ AEG ___ HMPGA
___ GSA ___ AIH ___ LI Geologists
___ AWG ___ Other _____

Committees and Working Groups:

Please check the committees that interest you:

___ Membership ___ Communications
___ Legislative Review ___ Fundraising
___ Bylaws ___ Public Education
___ Scholarship
___ Other _____

I am licensed, registered or certified in the following states or organizations:

Do you have any suggestions or comments?

NYSCPG Use Only: Appl. Rec'd. _____ By _____ Approved _____

Paid _____ by cash/check no. _____ Entered _____ Dep. Date _____