

Latest newsletter

NYSCPG



NYSCPG Newsletter

2018 Edition

Volume 1

<https://nyscpg.wildapricot.org>

Legislative Update

As we approach the end of the corporate grand-parenting provision on March 1, 2018, there are approximately 840 geologists currently licensed in New York State. The Office of the Professions and members of the State Board for Engineering, Land Surveying & Geology have been working diligently since the end of the grandfathering period to process the applications received. One question that continues to arise from geologists around the state is “how long does the application review process take?” Stated another way, why does person B get their license before person A if they submitted their application after person A. The simplest response is that everyone’s case, just like their path to obtain licensure, is different. Each review may take a differing path depending on how much experience you submit, how clearly you document your experience practicing geology, and whether your application requires an education review. If you wish to check on the progress of your application review, you can email the office at geology@nysed.gov.

All corporations desiring to provide geological services in New York must have licensed PG's and have received their Certificate of Authority (C of A) prior to the enforcement date of March 1, 2018, for persons and companies. Members of the NYSCPG Legislative Committee attended a meeting with NYSED representatives to discuss this upcoming deadline and that only a limited number of companies have successfully completed the requirements to obtain a C of A to practice geology. It was NYSCPG's position that we should legislate an extension to the corporate grandfathering period to an agreed upon date to allow SED time to process submitted applications. The Department did not recommend or support the legislative approach because it allows anyone to continue to practice the profession and undermines the intent of the license. SED proposed to issue a determination that will state that the Office of the Professions will not prosecute anyone practicing geology who is in the process of obtaining their C of A to practice geology. The Department will post this determination to their website as soon as it is prepared.

NYSCPG inquired about the length of time that companies are reporting it is taking to obtain their C of A. NYSED representatives said that they have asked the Professional Corporations

Unit to expedite applications submitted by companies in the field of geology. Make sure that you prominently include geology in the subject in any correspondence to expedite the review of your documents. If you have submitted your documents and wish to check on the progress, you can email the P.C. Unit at opcorp@nysed.gov.

Remember to review the acceptable corporate structures for practicing professional services in New York State. There are multiple options for your company to choose from and each structure has specific requirements; therefore, the Council highly recommends that you consult legal and/or tax professionals for specific advice to evaluate your individual practice or your company's options. Information regarding the different corporate structures can be found at <http://www.op.nysed.gov/corp/>. If you have not submitted your initial information for your C of A, you can find some tips to avoid delays at <http://www.op.nysed.gov/corp/pcorptips.html>.

NYSCPG has received questions from several universities around the state regarding the process to become a licensure qualified program. Registration as a licensure qualifying program means students will be eligible to sit for ASBOG FG within 20 credits of graduation. Approved schools will submit Form 20F, Certificate of Completion of Geologic Program, in lieu of individual Form 2s for each student. This will make the application process for individual students simpler. Academic programs that are deemed licensure-qualifying will be listed on the NYSED webpage and easily accessed by potential students. Information regarding the qualification program can be found at <http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/geo/geoforms.htm#NYSGeoEdu> and any questions can be sent to opprogs@nysed.gov.

Now that the grandfathering period is ended, all future applicants will be required to take and pass the ASBOG exam for geological licensure. The test is offered in NYS twice a year on the third Friday of March and the first Friday of October. To sit for the exam, you will first need to apply for licensure, be approved as qualified, and then submit the application to the test vendor. The State Education Department has advised to file your initial application paperwork approximately six months prior to the test date. This may be shortened over time, but this provides you an estimated time frame to prepare your paperwork. Additional information regarding the ASBOG test and fees can be found in the advisory section at <http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/geo/>.

I continue to share this important reminder: geologists need to be cognizant when licensed in other states not to refer to themselves a Professional Geologist in NY until they obtain their NYS license. Now that licensing is effective in NY, it is illegal to represent oneself as a PG in this state without the proper credentials. If your business card lists you as a PG, you must be licensed in the jurisdiction of the address of your business. If you currently are licensed in another state, you can refer to yourself as a PG only if you display the qualifying state, e.g. PG (any state).

Thank you for your continued support. If you have questions or do not understand a provision you can contact me at jnadeau@alphageoscience.com or submit a question and we will reply or research the question if necessary. As always, you can contact NYSED directly at geology@nysed.gov with any questions or concerns.



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Meet the President

Cheryl Neary

Cheryl grew up wanting to be a “Jacques Cousteau”. She loved watching his show and reading his books about the marine environment. She imagined herself on a research vessel studying marine geology. So it was the lure of the ocean which inspired her to study geology.

Cheryl received a B.S. in Geology from SUNY – Oneonta, and an MBA from Adelphi University. Cheryl started working in the field of geology in the late 1990s, after both of her daughters were in school full time.

Cheryl is a PG licensed in New York. Cheryl has been working in the field for nearly twenty one years; basically in groundwater remediations. Cheryl is active with the Long Island Association of Professional Geologists (LIAPG) since their inception in 2002. Cheryl has been involved with the Council since Mark Williams brought her on-board in 2007.

Presently Cheryl is employed with Island Pump and Tank Corp., managing the Compliance Division.

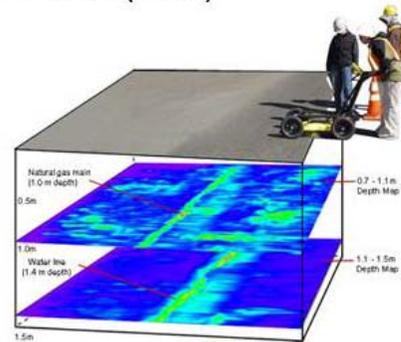
Cheryl is active with her local, regional and national rock and gem clubs, holding various Board positions over the years. Cheryl currently is a partner in Southern Gems, Minerals and Fossils located in Hickory, NC – a mineral dealer.



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Save the Date! **Wednesday, May 16, 2018**



***“1 ESSENTIAL DAY:
Regulatory Updates and
Investigative Technologies”***



Presented by
the New York State Council of Professional Geologists
and the Hudson-Mohawk Professional Geologists Association

Evening Guest Speaker: Bill Ottaway, PE

NYSDEC, Bureau of Technical Support – Chief Training and Technical Support Section
Emerging Contaminants and Technologies

PBS and CBS Updates: Russ Brauksieck, PE

NYSDEC, Bureau of Technical Support - Chief Facility Compliance Section
Complying with EPA and NYS Petroleum and Chemical Bulk Storage Programs

Solid Waste Revisions to NYS Part 360: Mark Millspaugh, P.E.

Implications for Urban Fill, Construction & Demolition Debris, BUDs, and Site Assessments

Technology Sessions

*Membrane Interface and Hydraulic Profiling Tools, Mobile Field Labs,
Sampling and Analyses for Emerging Contaminants and Parts Per Trillion*

The Century House

997 New Loudon Road (Route 9)
Latham, New York

12:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Technical Sessions, Exhibits,
Networking, and Buffet Dinner

- Focused on practicing professionals and regulators
- Afternoon-into-evening exhibits and seminar-format presentations
- Demonstrations by drillers and environmental laboratories
- Featured speakers include NYSDEC Senior Technical Managers
- Your questions answered for regulatory and technical guidance
- Network with industry contractors, partners, and other professionals

More Information to Follow with Session Times

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Present

**“1 ESSENTIAL DAY:
Regulatory Updates & Investigative Technologies”**

Wednesday, May 16, 2018, Latham, NY

-----**Sponsorship Registration**-----
Due by Friday, March 30, 2018

Contact Cheryl at cheryl@islandpumpandtank.com, Telephone 631-462-2226
or Jean at jpatota@alphageoscience.com, Telephone 518-348-6995

1 ESSENTIAL DAY: Wednesday, May 16, 2018
The Century House, Route 9, Latham, NY

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Meet the Vice President

Gene Florentino

Gene Florentino earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Geology from SUNY Oneonta in 1983, and a Master of Science degree in Geology from the University of Akron in 1985, specializing in Carbonate Sedimentary Petrology. Upon graduation, Mr. Florentino headed to Houston to pursue a career in the oil field. He functioned as a mudlogger in the backwoods of Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas until the bottom fell out of the industry in 1986, when he trekked back to NY and began his career as an environmental consultant with Ecology and Environment, Inc. at their corporate headquarters in Buffalo, NY. Over 31 years later, Gene is a Principal Geologist at E & E, a PG in NY and PA, and specializes in environmental investigations and offshore pipeline permitting and construction. Gene is an active member of BAPG since the late 80's and one of the numerous past presidents, and a member of NYSCPG since inception in 1995. He has been on the NYSCPG Board since 2003, and is currently the Vice President.



Meet the Secretary

MARCIA G. WOLOSZ

Marcia Wolosz became a geology major at Brooklyn College-C.U.N.Y. when she accidentally stumbled into a Geology Club meeting and fell in love with mineral collecting. One bachelors and one masters degree later, she began her journey as a geologist working in government (US Army Corps of Engineers-NYC), the oil patch (Superior Oil Company-Midland, TX), community relations (Plattsburgh Air Force Base), and education (SUNY-Plattsburgh & Clinton Community College). Marcia founded ANORTHO Environmental Consulting Services, LLC, the “Rock Solid” environmental service company in New York State’s northern tier, using it as a platform to delve into asbestos, lead, and mold projects, Phase I and II Environmental Site Assessments, IAQ monitoring and consulting, and training, and yes, geology! Transplanted to the “North Country” in the early 80s, this city gal has found herself at home in the country, enjoying the spectacular beauty (and geology!) of the Adirondacks on foot, in a kayak, on the slopes, or just driving in the car. Marcia has been proud to be the NYSCPG Secretary since 2013.



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Michael Rygel - Past President

Michael grew up in the coalfields of western Pennsylvania where he was impressed by the scale of industry and the extraction of natural resources. That way of life ended with the massive downturn in the American steel industry in the 1980s. With no job in the mines or mills waiting for him, he decided to go to college and earned a B.S. in Geology from the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown in 2000. From there, he moved to Halifax, Nova Scotia and started his Ph.D. research on coal-bearing rocks within what is now the Joggins Fossil Cliffs UNESCO World Heritage Site. After receiving his Ph.D. in 2005, Michael worked as a Post-Doctoral Research Associate at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln working on a project in examining the record of the Late Paleozoic Ice Age in eastern Australia. Michael became a faculty member at SUNY Potsdam in 2006, got tenure and was promoted to Associate Professor in 2012, and became Department Chair in 2014. Michael worked as a consultant for Devon Energy from 2011-2013 and has spent his summers co-teaching Indiana University's Field Geology in the Northern Rocky Mountains (G429) since 2011. Michael's current research interests are looking at the sedimentology and geochemistry of Paleozoic carbonate rocks in Pennsylvania and Montana.



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Robert Maurice Alvey, P.G.

Director

When most people hear that a person is a professional geologist, they don't expect that person to have lived on Long Island for over 60 years. Rob Alvey, a native New Yorker, has always had a deep interest in science, being outside enjoying nature, has an insatiable curiosity and a well-developed and unique sense of humor. Raised on Long Island during the 1950's and '60's, Rob was accepted to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in the fall of 1969 as a chemistry major with plans to transfer, after 2 years, to Florida Atlantic University and become a marine biologist or oceanographer. Instead, he nearly flunked out of RPI at the end of his freshman year after spending too much time playing bridge and poker than studying calculus. His educational future was rescued as a result of the Kent State tragedy which shut down colleges across the country in the Spring of 1970. That incident gave him a chance to continue at RPI, but closed the door at FAU. The following semester, after taking a course in geology with Professor Gerald Friedman, Rob switched his major to geology and subsequently earned both his BS and MS geology degrees at RPI by 1974.

A chance summer job in 1973 as a field geologist in the Smoky Mountains for EBASCO Services gave Rob experience with geotechnical drilling inspection, dam inspection and utility engineering. EBASCO then asked him to travel to Washington State for a dam feasibility field program and hired him permanently once he completed college. The company was, at the time, one of the largest utility design/construction companies in the US and Rob worked primarily in the NYC office, first as a geologist, then a sales engineer, and ultimately as a proposal manager.

In 1982, he left EBASCO, joined Site Engineers and traveled to Saudi Arabia as a staff geotechnical engineer for the US Army Corps of Engineers which needed construction inspectors for the multi-billion-dollar construction effort at King Khalid Military City. After that, Rob was assigned to the New York City Transit Authority's expansion of Jamaica Yard in Queens for a long-term soil stabilization project where he also learned much about the environmental permitting process. Subsequent to that, Rob became a hydrogeologist for the Nassau County Department of Public Works Water Supply Unit, then a Principal Geologist with a growing environmental consulting company- Geraghty & Miller. Rob continued his concentration in geology and became licensed as a geologist in several states.

In 1990, Rob joined Brooklyn Union Gas working on manufactured gas site cleanup planning, use of natural gas as a motor vehicle fuel and research and development. The 'NYS Utility Deregulation Act' in 1996 led to the end of Brooklyn Union, and Rob joined EPA in NY in 1997 as a geologist with their Superfund Division. He became co-chair of the EPA Groundwater Forum and has been responsible geologist on over 50 different Superfund Sites in addition to contract manager for specialized consulting services by USGS. In 2010, Rob accepted a detail as Special Assistant to the EPA Regional Administrator, and then became a representative to a task force requested by Senator Chuck Schumer to assist investigations at the Northrop-Grumman/Navy Bethpage facility. During his EPA career, Rob also began teaching Earth Science at Kingsborough Community College and soon after became Adjunct Professor with York (CUNY) College's Department of Earth and Physical Science where he taught through 2017.

Although Rob plans to retire from EPA in 2018, he has already begun a new career as Mark Twain- providing impersonations and original material as the American author and humorist. He has an uncanny physical resemblance to Twain and has already had a number of well-received stage performances under his belt. He'll start this November with a paddle wheel steamboat cruise on the Mississippi.



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Stephen Le Fevre

Director

Stephen Le Fevre is Certified Professional Geologist (CPG), as well as a licensed Professional Geologist in Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Kentucky, and Wyoming. Mr. Le Fevre has over 31 years of experience working on a variety of projects in the Northeast. Mr. Le Fevre has technical expertise in the following areas: USEPA and NYSDEC-funded Brownfield assessment and cleanup projects, hazardous waste investigations, including the performance of remedial investigation/feasibility studies, Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments, groundwater supply development and aquifer analysis, mining permit applications and mined land use plans, environmental compliance audits, and the preparation of Draft Environmental Impact Statements.

Mr. Le Fevre previously served as the President of the Hudson Mohawk Professional Geologist Association (2007-2008), and as Chairperson of the Eastern NY Chapter of the Air & Waste Management Association (2008-2009 and 2014-2016). Mr. Le Fevre is currently employed by Barton & Loguidice (B&L) in their Albany, NY Office as a Senior Managing Hydrogeologist.

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Geology in the News

In Memoriam: Don U. Deere

By **TBM News** on January 29, 2018 - Tunnel Business Magazine

<https://tunnelingonline.com/memoriam-don-u-deere/>

“Rock Quality Designation or RQD was invented by him one evening in a hotel room as a way to demonstrate good rock vs. bad rock to a group of non-technical decision makers that were selecting the location of an underground chamber,” Don W. Deere said. “The GIN grouting method (Grout Intensity Number) was invented in a tavern with his friend and colleague Dr. G Lombardi on the back of a napkin while sipping gin and tonics.”

Watching a Ridge Slide in Slow Motion, a Town Braces for Disaster

By Kirk Johnson, The New York Times, January 21, 2018

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/21/us/washington-rattlesnake-ridge-landslide.html>

How Did This Weird, Super-Salty Pond Form in Antarctica?

By Andrea Thompson, Live Science Contributor | November 22, 2017

<https://www.livescience.com/61003-source-of-super-salty-antarctic-pond.html>



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Statement of Purpose

The NYSCPG strives to strengthen and advance the geologic sciences as a profession, promote the protection of public health and welfare and the environment through the professional practice of geologic sciences, and create high standards of ethical conduct among its members and within the profession of geology, as well as the legal standing of geologists and their ability to practice geology in New York State by promoting the licensing of geologists in New York State through statutory regulation.



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