

WISCONSIN AIPG SECTION NEWSLETTER

Spring 2016



Wisconsin

President's Message

Summer fast approaches and we'd like to get our new 2016 WI AIPG Section Officers elected. Jayne, Paula, Andrew, Thomas and myself have agreed to run for another year's service. Steve and Dale will be leaving us as officers, but staying in touch with advice and support! **Darrell Reed** from SEH Inc – Chippewa Falls, WI has agreed to run for Vice President and **Trevor Nobile** from DNR has agree to run for Secretary. Look for your voting ballot in your email box in the near future!

We'd love to have other WI AIPG CPGs run for an office position, now or in the future. Just send any of your current board members an email letting us know you interest.

Your Wisconsin Section board meets by conference call the last Monday of every month, between 12:30pm to 1pm. Call notes are posted on our website: <http://aipgwisconsin.org/>

Currently we are working on supporting the Rock River Alliance's Testing the Waters sampling events this month of May and planning a GoFundMe on-line fundraiser for student scholarships this summer. In addition, we are working with UW-Eau Claire's Geology Department to see if they'd like to start a Student Chapter later this year. Please read about these efforts below. We appreciate your continued monetary support and look forward to working with you in the future on geology projects that are of interest to you!

2015 Wisconsin Section Officers

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Screening Board Chairman

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Far from Boring Close to Home

By Paula Leier-Engelhardt, P.G., C.P.G.

After 32 years of marriage to a geologist and unwittingly becoming the best sample Sherpa ever, my husband knows there is no hope in dissuading me from any geology-related project I cook up (ask him about the rock for the chimney incident). So, when I announced that, as a long term goal I was going to collect a rock from each Wisconsin county (there are 72, in case you were wondering), he put his head in his hands and said, “When do you want to start?”

What neither of us counted on was finding hidden treasures throughout the state that the average Wisconsinite doesn't realize exist. So, allow me to introduce you to some of the places we have discovered, and some of the people we have met along the way.

Shawano and Marathon Counties – You'd think it would be easier to find a batholith

Tony, a friend from our time when my husband, Steve, was in the Navy, was visiting us over a long July 4th weekend. As we enjoyed our Saturday morning coffee, the conversation turned to what we might do that day. Various ideas were bandied about, until I piped up with, “Let's go find the Wolf River Batholith”.

Now, to Tony's credit, he's been dragged along on more than one geologic expedition. I think he tolerates it because: A) he is such a good friend; B) he and Steve get to stand back, laugh, and make disparaging remarks; and C) he never ceases to be amazed at the geologic lectures that can be produced at a drop of a rock hammer. Anyway, the next thing you know we have piled into the pickup, Steve driving, me navigating/riding shotgun, and Tony in the back seat of the crew cab providing witty commentary.

When you think of the Wolf River igneous complex, you think of the area around Wausau,

Wisconsin. There you will find a geological cornucopia, from the effects of glaciation on the landscape, to the rocks of the early Proterozoic Penokean Mountains intruded by the assemblages making up the Wolf River complex, including the 1.7-billion-year-old Wausau Red Granite, the State Rock. There are quarries, state parks, and county parks; there are weird and interesting rocks like syenites and anorthosites; there are pegmatites with unique mineral assemblages; and many of these things are easily accessible in road cuts. And would we be going there? Heck no, anybody can do that!

For although the Wolf River batholith covers a significant portion of nine counties, once you get away from Wausau it can be wicked hard to find an outcrop of it in eastern Marathon County and western Shawano County. Yes, thanks to the glaciers, there are chunks and boulders and cobbles of granitic rock littering the surface everywhere as you drive through those areas, but we. . . well OK, I – was on the hunt for the subtler, more obscure outcrops.



Photo credit - Tigerton Dells | by Waterfalling in Wisconsin

Shawano County lulled us into a false sense of compliancy with a beautiful, clean road cut of quartz monzonite shot full of pegmatitic veins. A short drive down the road found us at the Tigerton Dells. That hot and sticky July day, lounging on a shady outcrop and dipping our feet in the cool Embarrass River, we engaged in the Wisconsin

equivalent of “. . . sittin’ on the dock of the bay, watchin’ the tide roll away. . .”

Marathon County was not as kind. If you look at the east half of the Bedrock Geology Map of Marathon County, and review Information Circular No. 45 from the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey, you will find the map and figures lightly sprinkled with x’s or dots representing ‘isolated outcrops’.

A better symbol description would be ‘Try here, sucker’. I am in awe of the geologists who mapped that part of the county, because they must have spent entire field seasons crawling on their hands and knees searching for outcrop.

I directed Steve toward what I thought looked like our best bet.

Me: “It’s $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile down this road.”

Steve: “In half a mile the pavement ends. That means it’s private property.”

Me: “It’s just a quarter mile in, and we’ll be out quick.”

Tony: “Now we’re having fun.”

Steve: “The trail forks – which way?”

Me: “Um, try right.”

Steve: “That’s an odd-looking crop. What is that?”

Tony: “Anybody else hear banjos playing?”

Me: “Turn around, let’s take the other fork.”

Which we do. We take the fork to the left and Steve drives on the trail to where I am pretty sure an outcrop is located, in a damp, wooded, brushy area, and he stops. Not because we are by the location, but because a pickup has followed us in. It is the property owner, and he is has gotten out of his truck and is walking toward my side of our pickup.

Steve: “You are handling this.”

Me: “I’m on it.”

Tony: “Now we’re really going to have fun.”

I roll my window down to present to the property owner my best impression of a cute, dumb, blonde. (By the way, I am blonde, but I must confess cute is harder to pull off when you are north of 50.) Breathlessly, I declare, “Hiiii! I’m a geologist and I’m doing a project in Marathon County, and I am collecting rock samples all over the county, and you have a very important outcrop of the rock I am looking for. It is right over there, and I’d really, reeeaally, appreciate it if I could take a look and maybe collect a sample.”

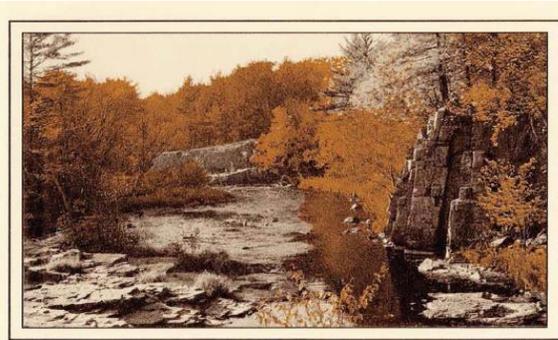


Photo Credit – Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey

Tony is kicking the back of my seat in a most annoying manner, plus he is making odd snorking sounds. Steve is staring straight ahead. The property owner takes in the scene before him, looks at me for a long moment and finally says, “You want some rocks? Have at it, girl.”

I thank him profusely and roll the window up. Tony has stopped kicking the seat, as he is now laying on the floor so no one can see or hear him laughing and gasping. Steve finally turns to me and says, “Aren’t you even a little ashamed of yourself?” To which I reply, “Nope, not one bit. Now let’s go, we’re wasting time.”

Continue this adventure yourself by reading the WGNHS Circular No. 45 at:

http://repository.stategeothermaldata.org/metadata/record/98ddf901b9782a25982e01af3b138081/file/ic45_mr_bg_rept.pdf

**Wisconsin AIPG Supports:
Testing the Waters: Real Time Sampling!**

“Testing the Waters” is an eleven-day educational adventure from May 15 to May 25, 2016 on the Rock River in Wisconsin.

WI AIPG is providing them lodging and breakfast on May 17th, an honor guard of WI AIPG Student Chapter paddlers on May 22nd, monetary support and river geology educational resources for their students!

The canoe and kayak paddlers will use special equipment to take water quality samples along the Rock River from Mayville to Beloit, stopping at communities along the way to share what they’ve learned and provide a forum for discussions about water quality and practical solutions.

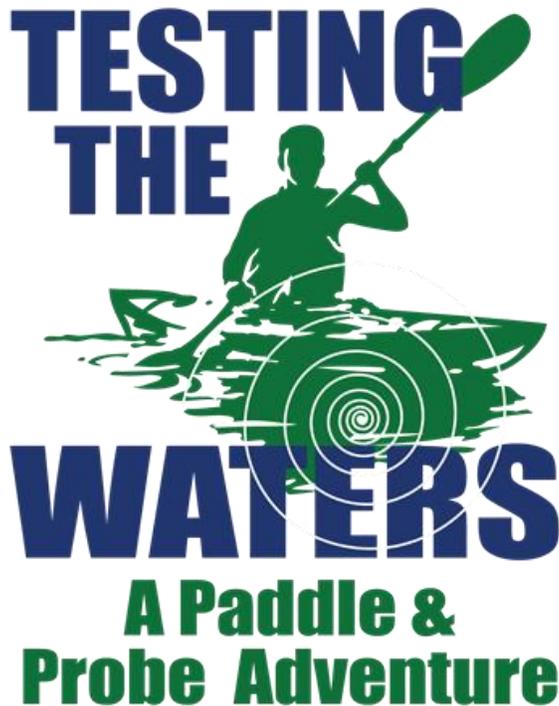


Photo Credit – Rock River Coalition

Rather than conducting tests in one spot, paddlers will install special equipment on their kayaks to measure four parameters, every 10 seconds, all along the river throughout the 11 days of the trip. The information will be instantly uploaded to a mapping server via the paddlers’ cell phones, so anyone with Internet access can see the results at:

<http://testingwaters.org/>

Website visitors will be able to view data and even prepare maps to print or share in presentations or on social media.

The water quality tests will include dissolved oxygen, temperature, conductivity and pH, each an important measure of water quality.

The team will do some traditional sampling as well by collecting water samples for phosphorus analysis at the start and end of each day and at the confluence of every major stream or river entering the Rock River. The paddlers will measure turbidity, or how clear the water is, several times each day.

Together these measurements will give a better picture of the Rock River’s water quality. For more information and to register for paddling along with the team go to:

<http://rockrivertrail.com/testing-the-waters-rock-river-paddle-and-probe-event-to-be-held-may-15-25-2016/>

WI AIPG President Visits UW – Eau Claire

On February 23, 2016, Christine Lilek gave our Section’s “How to Get a Geology Job” presentation to UW – Eau Claire’s Geology Club. In return, the students and Professor Steve Sellwood shared how they share the importance of geosciences in today’s world.

Check out their webpage at:

<http://www.uwec.edu/Geology/opportunities/activities.htm>



UW-Eau Claire geology students Scott and Aleisha help the public learn about geology at Blugold Beginnings STEM Days. Photo Credit – UW Eau Claire Geology Club

Student Scholarship Fund Raising – GoFundMe Best Geology Project Vote

Watch your email boxes for an exciting new way to promote your company and/or organizations innovative geology projects AND support student scholarships at the same time.

Vote for the Best 2015 Wisconsin Geoscience Project

Support Clean Water, Soil & Energy for Wisconsin
By Supporting Wisconsin Geoscientists!



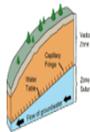
Insert UWW Student Chapter Photo

X number of Geoscience Professionals in Wisconsin work daily on projects that provide clean water, soil, and energy for our State and our Nation!

EXAMPLE PROJECTS FOR 2015



Example A
Company A
[Link to project](#)



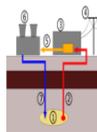
Example B
Company B
[Link to project](#)



Example C
Company C
[Link to project](#)



Example D
Company D
[Link to project](#)



Example E
Company E
[Link to project](#)

Innovative geoscience projects are becoming more common each day and more geoscience professionals are needed in the workplace.

The Wisconsin American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG) would like to acknowledge these successful geoscience projects and support scholarships for our future geoscience professionals by sponsoring a Vote for the Best Wisconsin Geoscience Project fundraiser!

The funds raised will be used for Student Scholarships for our Wisconsin AIPG Student Chapter members. The winning project will be written up in our State and National newsletter & magazine and published in a local newspaper of the winner's choice!

For each \$5 given to this fundraiser, you will receive 1 vote. Increased levels of voting also receive complimentary gifts for you the voter!

You can help choose the winner and earn prizes if you sign up through the GoFundMe webpage in the future.

You will be contacted after you select your level with an official voting ballot. All proceeds go to WI AIPG's Student Chapter Scholarship Fund.

Social media scores will be a large factor in the competition, so your votes will matter!

If you have an innovative geology project that you would like to promote with this fund raising effort, please email the description of your project and contact information to any of the Wisconsin AIPG board members.

Geology Calendar of Events

Geology 2015 Schedule

Neville Public Museum

210 Museum Place, Green Bay, WI 54303-2760

October 9, 2016

Scanning Electron Microscopes (SEMs) as Tools in Geology

Presented by Dr. John Luczaj, UW-Green Bay
The presentation will explore what SEMs are and how they are used to explore the microscopic world of geology. Applications include microfossils, microcrystals, microtextures, and elemental analysis of minerals. Material sizes range from about 1 centimeter down to about 1 micrometer (1% of the width of a human hair). There is an exciting world to explore that simply cannot be seen with the naked eye or even optical microscopy. - See more at:

<http://www.nevillepublicmuseum.org/announcements/geology-club-monthly-meeting-22#sthash.jTCxR4wi.dpuf>

Mining and Industrial Site Life Cycles, From Exploration and Investigation to Innovation and Reclamation

October 4th - 5th, 2016

The Twin Cities Subsection of the Society for Mineral Exploration's Minnesota Section (SME-Twin Cities) is partnering with the American Institute of Professional Geologists Minnesota Section (AIPG MN) for a 1-day conference and an optional 1-day field trip.

The conference will highlight some of the Twin Cities area's most notable industrial and mining sites including the Twin Cities Army Ammunition

Plant (TCAAP) and the UMore Mining Area (UMA) located in UMore Park.

More details to come on the SME Minnesota Section's webpage. Please register on the AIPG Minnesota Section's webpage!

<http://aipgmn.org/meetinginfo.php?id=91&ts=1458231753>

Weis'n'Miners Geology Club

The Weis'n'Miners Geology Club is sponsored by the Weis Museum. The club is for everyone interested in minerals, fossils, lapidary & jewelry-making, geology, archaeology, gems, metaphysics, and mining.

Everyone is welcome--singles, couples, families, young & old--and all levels of knowledge. First organized in 2007, the Weis'n'Miners Club has already become the largest geology club in Wisconsin!

Weis'n'Miners Geology Club meets the last Tuesday of every month, at 6:30 pm
Emeritus Room at UW-Fox Valley
1478 Midway Road, Menasha

Some of their past meetings included presentations on wire-wrapping, mammoths and archaeology, gem faceting, gold, fluorescent minerals, and copper mines of Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

<http://www.uwfox.uwc.edu/wesm/geoclub.html>

NATIONAL AIPG CONFERENCE

September 10 -13, 2016
Santa Fe, New Mexico
Drury Plaza Hotel - 505.424.2175
AIPG Discounted rate - \$139

https://netforum.avectra.com/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=AIPG&WebCode=EventDetail&evt_key=0f9e993c-58c7-4803-86f6-18678dce1e12