

On the Rocks



A Newsletter of the Michigan Basin Geological Society

2004-2005 Number 9

www.mbgs.org

May, 2005

EVENTS

May 5-15, 2005: After much anticipation, its here, the MBGS Grand Canyon Field Trip!

May 18, 2005: Our final MBGS meeting of the season will be held at Coyote Creek instead of at Kalamazoo as was tentatively scheduled. Mike Grammer informs us that their offices are in disarray due to ongoing deconstruction to remove a potential asbestos hazard. In keeping with the warmer weather our topic is: **A Virtual Field Trip to the Bahamas - An Introduction to the Value of Modern Analogs to Understanding Ancient Carbonate Systems** by Mike Grammar, Bill Harrison, and Tom Godbold

September 11-14, 2005: The Society for Organic Petrology (TSOP), 22nd Annual Meeting, Louisville, Kentucky. Information: Dr. James Hower, Center for Applied Energy Research, University of Kentucky, 2540 Research Park Drive, Lexington, KY 40511-8410, Phone: (859) 257-0261; Fax (859) 257-0360; E-mail: hower@caer.uky.edu

Abstracts due 4/30/05. Oral and poster sessions September 12-13. Conference themes include **CO₂ sequestration, coal utilization, coal bed methane, coal petrography, organic geochemistry.** Special technical sessions and field trips are planned, for further details go to: <http://igs.indiana.edu/tsop2005>.

TSOP also offers a \$1000 graduate student RESEARCH GRANT, application deadline, May 1, 2005. See www.tsop.org for details.

Organic petrology is the branch of earth sciences that studies the origin, occurrence, structure and geo-history of sedimentary organic matter and coal.

2004-2005 MBGS Officers

The Executive Committee meeting minutes are available on the website.

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University Talks and Seminars Websites

Western Michigan University:
www.wmich.edu/geology/SeminarGeos.html

Michigan State University:
www.glg.msu.edu/news/lectures.html

University of Michigan, Turner Lecture Series:
www.geo.lsa.umich.edu/announce/turner02b.html

Michigan AIPG Section website: www.aipg-mi.org.

MEETING CANCELLATION POLICY

Monthly meetings will be automatically cancelled whenever the National Weather Service issues a "Storm Warning" for the Lansing area. If driving conditions are poor but a "Warning" has not been issued please contact any member of the Executive Committee for the status of the meeting.

MICHIGAN BASIN GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

Historical CD #1: Nine out-of-print publications from 1949 through 1965 and 1998, Devonian to Silurian Rock Fieldtrips to MI, WI, IL and Ontario, 2000, \$15

Historical CD #2: Four out-of-print publications from 1947, 1959, 1983 and 1991, Northern Devonian and UP Fieldtrips in MI, 2001, \$10

Historical CD #3: Six out-of-print publications from 1947, 1959, 1983 and 1991, Northern Devonian and UP Fieldtrips in MI, 2001, \$12

Special Price - Historical CD #1, #2 & #3, \$30

Stratigraphic Lexicon for Michigan, 2001, prepared by MBGS and published by DEQ, 56 pp., chart, \$2.65 picked up or \$4 mailed, Can be ordered from MBGS or Geological Survey Div. of the DEQ

Prices include postage, handling and any applicable sales tax. MBGS Members receive a 10% discount on MBGS publications. Orders for publications should be prepaid in U.S. Funds and addressed to:

MBGS – Publications
PO Box 18074
Lansing MI 48901-8074

MBGS Mug and Jacket Sale

The Michigan Basin Geological Society is offering mugs and jackets with the society logo for sale. The mugs are \$5.00 each. The jackets are \$60.00 each plus postage. Please contact Dan McGuire at: Phone (517) 772-5219, Fax (517) 772-7021, or danmcguire@sensible-net.com. Remember to include the correct size of the jacket and the quantity of each item. Checks should be made out to the MBGS.

MBGS Meeting

May 18, 2005 (**Wednesday**)

Coyote Creek
6951 Lansing Rd, Dimondale, MI.

Schedule: 5:30 to 6:15 pm Social Hour

6:15 pm Dinner

Presentation after dinner

Cost \$25.00 / \$15.00 Student (includes dinner)

A Virtual Field Trip to the Bahamas - An Introduction to the Value of Modern
Analogues to Understanding Ancient Carbonate Systems

By

Michael Grammar

William Harrison

Thomas Godbold

MBGS Dinner Meeting Reservation

Name: _____

Number Attending: _____

Fee Enclosed: _____

Will Pay at Door: _____

Please make checks payable to **MBGS** and return to Pat Poli by **May 17, 2005**. Members are welcome to attend the presentation after dinner for no charge. Please contact Pat Poli to ensure adequate seating.

Send reservations to:

Pat Poli

Engineering Section

Engineering and Service Quality Division

6545 Mercantile Way

Lansing, MI 48909

Ph: Bus 517-241-6141, Fax 517-241-6071

E-mail: pmpoli@michigan.gov

ELECTION OF 2005-2006 OFFICERS

This is your opportunity to help provide direction to MBGS during our next season by voting for your candidates of choice. Vice President Robb Gillespie will ascend to 'Grande Fromage.' If you have not already voted by e-ballot, please return your selections to Tom Wellman via the following options: Phone 517-241-1530, Fax 517-241-1596, E-mail wellmant@michigan.gov, or mail to: Tom Wellman, DEQ – Office of Geological Survey, P.O. Box 30256, Lansing, MI 48909-7756. Polls will close at 5:00pm on **May 17, 2005**. Results will be announced at our May 18th meeting.

President Robb Gillespie

Vice President Robert Reynolds

Secretary Ken Petri -or- Dave Baxter

Treasurer Tom Hoane

Business Manager Leonard Espinosa -or- Mark Nida

COMMENT ON MBGS ISSUES

This is also your opportunity to comment on two issues that effect MBGS and its members:

- How can MBGS improve its Speaker Program and Activities to be more relevant to your areas of interest? Like many organizations, while our membership remains solid, participation at monthly meetings has declined over the last couple of years. What would you like to see in the future?
- The second issue concerns registering geologists in Michigan. MBGS has been asked to comment on HB 4440 of 2005, which would establish a registration process for geologists in Michigan. The current text of that bill is available at:
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2005-2006/billintroduced/house/pdf/2005-HIB-4440.pdf>

Please provide your comments on the above items to Tom Wellman; you may use the same contact options as shown above for our election.

NEW MBGS PUBLICATIONS

Northeast Lower Peninsula Geological Field Conference, 2004, CD \$10
Ty Black, Mark Wollensak, 133 pp., illus., maps and presentations.

Historical CD #4: Out-of-print publications, 2004, \$15
1957 – Silurian Rocks of the Northern Peninsula of Michigan
1958 – Cambrian Geology of Parts of Dickinson & Iron Counties, Michigan
1961 – Geologic Features of Parts of Houghton, Keweenaw, Baraga & Ontonagon Co.
1967 – Correlation Problems of the Cambrian & Ordovician Outcrop Areas, N. Peninsula
1968 – The Geology of Manitoulin Island
1970 – Devonian Strata of Alpena & Presque Isle Counties, Michigan

MBGS members receive a 10% discount. Additional publications on page 2.
Contact Tom Hoane, hoanet@michigan.gov or 517-241-3769.

A Virtual Field Trip to the Bahamas - An Introduction to the Value of Modern Analogs to Understanding Ancient Carbonate Systems

ABSTRACT

The Bahamas have served as modern analogs for carbonate deposition for some 50 years. Depositional models for shelf margin reefs, carbonate sand bodies, patch reefs and humid tidal flats were developed in large part by the study of modern environments in the Bahamas. This talk will combine an overview of a shipboard field trip to several stops in this classic locality, with discussion of how understanding modern environments can help us to better understand and predict the subsurface geology in the Michigan Basin. The presentation will include details and discussion on several key depositional environments (Mike Grammer), a discussion of specific analogous formations in the Michigan Basin (Bill Harrison), and a summary of key lessons learned on a recent trip by Tom Godbold. Tentative plans are being made to offer a similar field course for MBGS members in the next 2 years so it is a good time to see if you might be interested in such a trip.

BIOGRAPHIES

Dr. Grammer is an Associate Professor of Carbonate Sedimentology and Stratigraphy at Western Michigan University and has been a co-leader of the AAPG Bahamas seminar for 8 years.

Dr. Harrison is a Professor Emeritus and Director of the Michigan Basin Core Research Laboratory at Western Michigan University.

Tom Godbold is section supervisor of the Geological Services Section of the Office of Geological Survey, DEQ.