

On the Rocks



A Newsletter of the Michigan Basin Geological Society

2003-2004 Number 3

www.mbgs.org

October 2003

EVENTS

October 1-3, 2003: Midwest Ground Water Conference. To be held at the Fetzer Center at Western Michigan University. Additional details available at: <http://www.wmich.edu/geology/mwqwc.html>.

October 4-9, 2003: AIPG 40th Annual Meeting in Glenwood Springs, Colorado.

October 6, 2003: Well Log Interpretation and Reservoir Characterization of Carbonate Reservoirs in the Appalachian Basin workshop in conjunction with the Ohio Oil and Gas Association Meeting Easton Hilton in Columbus, Ohio.

October 8, 2003: MBGS Mentor's Meeting - Dr. Robb Gillespie of Western Michigan University will be giving a The title of Robb's talk is: "Spindletop - The World Changed Forever"

October 12-18, 2003: Earth Science Week- For information, see www.earthsciweek.org.

Oct. 23, 2003: PTTC Trenton/Black River Core Workshop at the Holiday Inn, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

April 18-21, 2004: AAPG Annual Meeting, Dallas, Texas; Abstracts due September 11, 2003. Submit the abstract online at www.aapg.org/meetings/dallas04.

May 2004: Conference/Field Excursion Gaylord, Michigan. For more information see the MBGS website at: www.mbgs.org.

November 5-7, 2003: Ontario Petroleum Institute 42nd Annual Conference & Trade Show - London Hilton Hotel, Ontario, Canada

MBGS Meeting

October 8, 2003

Location: Mountain Jacks
5800 W. Saginaw Highway, Lansing, Michigan

Schedule: 4:30-5:30 PM Executive Committee Meeting
5:30-6:15 PM Cash Bar
6:15-7:15 PM Dinner
Presentation after Dinner

Cost \$25.00/member \$10.00 Student (includes dinner)

Topic: “Spindletop - The World Changed Forever”

by
Dr. Robb Gillespie of Western Michigan University

MBGS Dinner Meeting Reservation

Name _____ (Please circle Yes if a Mentor) Yes

Number attending _____ Society _____

Enclosed Registration Fee _____

Please make your check out to the MBGS by October 6, 2003 and send to:

Ms. Pat Poli
Energy Operations Division
6545 Mercantile Way
Lansing, MI 48909
Phone: 517-241-6141, Fax 517-241-6071, E-Mail : pmpoli@michigan.gov

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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

Price Includes 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
c/o Dept. of Geological Sciences
206 Natural Sciences Building
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan 48824-1115

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.

Spindletop – The World Changed Forever

**Dr. Robb Gillespie
Department of Geosciences
Western Michigan University**

President William McKinley was assassinated in 1901. Theodore Roosevelt succeeded him setting the United States on the path to becoming a global super-power. This rise was fueled by the country's industrial power, which entered a new phase on January 10, 1901, when the Spindletop well "blew out" in Texas. Internationally, Spindletop provided Roosevelt with his "big stick," while domestically, it triggered a shift of money and power away from the north to new ventures in Texas. The Spindletop well, by itself, increased total world oil production more than 20 percent and increased United States production by nearly 50 percent. After five more wells were drilled, the Spindletop Field could produce more oil in one day than the rest of the fields in the entire world.

Spindletop was a petroleum engineering break-through. It proved the worth of the new rotary drilling rig and established many standard drilling practices still in use. Even much of today's common oil field jargon was coined at Spindletop. Geologically, Spindletop was the first oil field discovered on a salt dome structure. This gave credence to ideas about hydrocarbon accumulations, and basic concepts concerning hydrocarbon seals were first envisioned with the success of this well.

Giant oil companies (i.e. – Gulf and Texaco) got their start at Spindletop. Fledgling Texas oil companies (i.e. – Magnolia) blossomed and northern oil companies (i.e. – Ohio-based Sun) grew dramatically in size. They became Standard Oil's first serious domestic competition. Oil was now plentiful and cheap. Spindletop confirmed that a mass automobile market could be supported. This in turn soon revolutionized America's cities and transformed the agrarian society of the 1800s into the industrialized, urbanized society of the 1900s. The world changed forever.

Dr. Robb Gillespie

Dr. Gillespie joined ARCO Oil and Gas Company upon completing his Ph.D. studies in geology in 1980, and was associated with ARCO until 1992. His job assignments included Gulf of Mexico Onshore and Offshore Exploration/Development, "Lower 48" Geotechnical Services, Geological Research, and a wide range of International Oil and Gas Company Basin Analyses. He developed an interest in the history of the petroleum industry when given the assignment to prepare an introductory speech for ARCO's incoming geologists and geophysicists class of 1983.

Dr. Gillespie established his own geological consulting business in 1993, and at the same time, was co-founder of a small Texas-based oil company – Tres Rios Resources, Inc. His consulting practice has covered various projects from oil and gold prospects in South America, to consulting for the U.S. Justice Department in a case involving a 1.5 billion dollar lawsuit brought against the United States Government by 10 major oil companies. Tres Rios Resources continues to be active in Texas. Currently, the company's Lionheart Project is examining prospective oil and gas leases in the East Texas Basin.

He was also employed by COHO Resources, Inc. redeveloping old "depleted" oil fields in Mississippi. His geological work on the Brookhaven field resulted in daily production being more than tripled, reaching nearly 1,200 barrels-of-oil-per-day with the opening of two new oil pools.

Dr. Gillespie has been part of the adjunct faculty of Richland College, and Collin County Community College in Dallas, Texas. He is currently a faculty member of the Department of Geosciences at Western Michigan University. Additionally, he serves as Assistant Director of the Michigan Basin Core Research Laboratory located on the Western Michigan University campus.

Ontario's Subsurface Well Data

Ontario's Subsurface Well Data is now available from the Oil, Gas & Salt Resources Library.

The data sets include geological formation tops, logging records, and oil/gas/water intervals. Due to demand, all of the subsurface data is available with the corresponding Verified/Unverified Data qualifiers attached.

Samples of the data sets are posted at: <http://www.ogsrlibrary.com/subsurface.htm>. The data is also available for use in the Library for a nominal fee.

The data also includes Petroleum GIS software developed by MNR to productively work with the data. The software extends the power of ESRI's Arcview 3.2 and allows users to query specific geological formation tops, find existing wells by permit number, find wells that penetrated certain geological formation, toggle projections between Geographic Coordinate System and Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) NAD83, measure and coordinate desired points on the map and info tools to display geology, oil, gas, water and logging information tables.

The subsurface data is available for the following pricing:
\$2,500 for Individual Members of the Library
\$3,500 for Corporate Members
\$5,000 for Non-Member

This pricing includes two years of free annual updates. Updates over and above an annual update would be priced at \$250 per update. Data can be purchased on a county by county basis, based on the following:
\$0.25 per record for Individual Members;

Annual Mentors Meeting

The October MBGS meeting will mark the fifth annual Mentors Meeting. This special meeting was inaugurated as a means of acknowledging the contributions made to the Society and the profession of geology by our senior members. These members have served as role models for us all, and continue to act as leaders in our profession. Active members age 65 or older are invited to join us for dinner and the following presentation at no cost. Reservations in advance will be necessary so that we can have an accurate head count prior to the meeting. We look forward to seeing you there.

\$0.35 per record for Corporate Members; and \$0.50 per record for Non-Members, subject to a \$125 minimum charge. Updates to county data would be \$125 per update, and the buyer can only update files they have already been purchased. Files not purchased by county or as a whole, can be purchased by a special search fee of \$0.50 per file plus the \$50 per hour digital research rate, subject to a minimum \$125 charge.

All fees go to the Oil, Gas & Salt Resources Library to help offset the upkeep of the data and the development of further digital data products.

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Steve Fletcher
Executive Director
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519-680-1620
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<http://www.ontpet.com>
<http://www.ogsrlibrary.com>

PTTC Trenton/Black River Core Workshop

It will be at the Holiday Inn, Mt. Pleasant on Oct. 23, 2003 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM in conjunction with the monthly MOGA meeting. Cores from Albion/Scipio and Stony Point fields will be displayed and presentations will be made. For more information contact Dr. William B. Harrison, III at Western Michigan University, Ph. 269-387-8633 or email at: harrison@wmich.edu. Information will also be available on the Michigan PTTC website at: <http://wst023.west.wmich.edu/>

THE ALUMNI/GEOLOGY CLUB DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES FALL SEMESTER, 2003

Sept. 22 Thursday Darcy Lecturer	Dr. Rachele Allen-King SUNY-Buffalo	"Ground and Surface Water Contributions to Chemical Mass Discharge: Considering The Problem at Field and Basin Scales"
Oct. 30 Thursday	Dr. Warren Wood Michigan State University	"Hydrogeology and Solute Chemistry of Coastal Sabkhat (Salt Flats): A New Paradigm"
Nov. 6 Thursday	Dr. Seth Stein Northwestern Univ Evanston, IL	"Seismo-Politics: Reassessing Hazards in The New Madrid Seismic Zone"
Nov. 13 Thursday	Dr. Kevin Mackey Michigan State University	"Seismicity of Eastern Siberia"
Nov. 20 Thursday	Dr. Eric Peterson Illinois State University	"The Transport and Fate of 17 -estradiol in Waters of Karst Aquifers"
Dec. 4 Thursday	Dr. Howard Reeves USGS Lansing, Michigan	"Modeling Surface-Water/Ground-Water Interactions In The St Joseph River Basin, Michigan and Indiana "

Coffee will be served at 3:30 in Room 207 Natural Science Building.
All lectures will be at 4:00 P.M in room 204 Natural Science Building.
Brown-Bag Seminar will be at Noon in room 207 Natural Science Building.
DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
EAST LANSING MI 48824-1115

Call for Nominations for ***Earth Science Teacher of the Year Award***

The American Association of Petroleum Geologists Foundation will award \$5,000 at the April 2004 AAPG Annual Convention in Dallas to an individual teacher for *Excellence in the Teaching of Natural Resources in the Earth Sciences*. The award will include \$2,500 for use under the teacher's supervision for educational purposes and \$2,500 for personal use by the teacher. Also included will be an expense paid trip to the Dallas convention to receive the award. Local and regional selection of candidates will be made by AAPG's affiliated Societies and Sections.

Requirements:

1. Minimum of three years full-time teaching experience at any K-12 level.
2. Teaching at least one unit per year on natural resources. Natural resources are defined as Earth materials used by civilization past and present such as:
 - a. Organic materials such as petroleum, natural gas, coal and oil shale.
 - b. Inorganic substances found in the Earth such as mineral ores, building stone and aggregate.

- c. Energy resources from the Earth such as geothermal energy.
3. Teaching should include the scientific study of these resources, their origin, discovery, extraction and historical and present use. It should also include the preservation of the environment, reclamation and the conservation of resources, and the use of Earth science knowledge in decision making.
4. Entries will include the teacher's philosophy and methods of the teaching of natural resources (both content and pedagogy), a description of the unit and two letters of recommendation - one from a colleague and one from an administrator.
5. Unit will be evaluated on depth and breadth of concepts (resource origin, discovery, processing, usage and reclamation), creativity of presentation and balanced treatment of information regarding societal need and environmental issues. Please include the length of the unit.

**For further information and entry forms contact:
Thomas Godbold, President MBGS at 517-241-1545 or
email at: tomg@MBGS.ORG**

Entries must be postmarked by October 18, 2003.

OPI 42nd Annual Conference & Trade Show

PRELIMINARY REGISTRATION

Hilton Hotel, 300 King Street, London ON N6B 1S2 • 1-800-210-9336

November 5 - 7, 2003

Name: _____

Title: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Prov/Postal Code: _____

Email: _____

Check here to use existing OPI Membership Directory information.

REGISTRATION FEES:

OPI Members - Pre-registration (received by October 17) \$195 \$ _____

OPI Members - Registration (after October 17) \$225 \$ _____

Non-Member Registration \$250 \$ _____

Guest Program (name for Guest Program badge: _____) \$60 _____

I will attend the Guest Program activities on Thursday

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Thursday: OPI Luncheon # _____ @ \$35 \$ _____

Friday: Luncheon and Guest Speaker # _____ @ \$35 \$ _____

Friday: Murder Mystery Dinner # _____ @ \$60 \$ _____

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS: # _____ @ \$45 \$ _____

Subtotal \$ _____

+ 7% GST (GST Registration #R104001458) \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

All hotel reservations must be made directly with the Hilton Hotel: **1-800-210-9336**

Please mention that the reservation is for the "OPI Conference" to receive the \$115 Cdn rate.

NOTES & CONDITIONS:

1. One Delegate and Guest per Registration Form please.
2. Refund Policy: full refund will be allowed on or before October 24, 2003 only.
3. Student and Retired Member Registration is \$35 + gst per person per day.
4. Non-Member delegates that join OPI during the convention can have their annual membership fees reduced by \$25.
5. All prices are in Canadian dollars. Please use exchange rate of 1 Cdn \$ = 0.75 US \$ for cheques drawn on a US bank.
6. Full Registration includes: Wednesday and Thursday Receptions; unlimited entry to the Trade Show area; and all Technical Programs on Thursday and Friday. Please ensure you wear your name badge at all times.
7. Guest Program Registration includes: Guest Program activities on Thursday; Wednesday and Thursday Receptions; and unlimited entry to the Trade Show area. Limited to guests of registered delegates, and excludes professionals active in the oil & gas industries.

8. Tickets must be purchased in advance for the Luncheons and Murder Mystery Dinner – space is limited.

Payment in Cash, Cheque or VISA only to: Ontario Petroleum Institute Inc.

Suite 104, 555 Southdale Rd. E. London, Ontario, Canada N6E 1A2 • Tel: (519) 680-1620 Fax: (519) 680-1621

CALL FOR PAPERS

**Conference/Excursion Gaylord, Michigan
May, 2004**

SPONSORS

**Michigan Basin Geological Society
American Institute of Professional Geologists
Michigan Association of Environmental Professionals**

TOPICS

Local and Regional Geology
Structure and Tectonics
Environmental Geology and Local Issues
Glacial Geology
Reservoir Geology and Engineering
Local Natural Resources
Stratigraphy, Sedimentology and Paleontology
Surface and Ground Water Resources and Management
Cross-disciplinary areas of Science are encouraged

Professionals and students are invited to submit papers for inclusion into a guidebook and for oral evening presentations or in discussions during the two day field excursion. Topics should be geological or geologically related to the Northeastern Lower Peninsula Michigan.

SESSION DETAILS

Friday evening sessions: Four 25-minute presentations with a 5-minute question and answer following.

Saturday field excursion with visits to points of interest and short presentations.

Saturday evening sessions: Four 25-minute presentations with a 5-minute question and answer following.

Sunday field excursion with visits to points of interest and short presentations.

Abstract Deadline: October 31, 2003

Paper Deadline: March 31, 2004

Submit abstracts to: NE LP 04 Conference, MBGS,
C/o Department of Geological Sciences,
206 Natural Sciences Building, Michigan State University,
East Lansing, Michigan 48824-1115

Or

Send via internet to: mark@mbgs.org

Registration forms for attending the conference/excursion will be posted once final arrangements have been made and all abstracts have been submitted. Members wishing to attend may reserve a space by indicating so in an e-mail addressed to Mark Wollensak sent to mark@mbgs.org