

On the Rocks



A Newsletter of the Michigan Basin Geological Society

2006-2007 Number 7

www.mbgs.org

March 2007

EVENTS

March 14, 2007: MBGS meeting **Dr. Taggart** will discuss the K-T Boundary with the meeting to be held at MSU in the Natural Science Building. Light refreshments at 6:30 in Room 207 with the talk will follow at 7:00 in Room 128. See map and info on parking below.

March 22, 2007: PTTC Meeting in Mt. Pleasant, 'Focus on Hydrothermal Dolomite'. Contact Kathy Wright at (269) 387-5486 or Linda Harrison at (269) 387-8633 for more information. To register by e-mail, contact linda.harrison@wmich.edu.

April 9, 2007: SPE Meeting, **Mark A. Proett** of Halliburton Energy Services will discuss 'Formation Testing in the Dynamic Drilling Environment'

April 11, 2007: MBGS Meeting will be held at the **Core Lab Facility** at Western Michigan University, further details in the next newsletter.

May 5, 2007: The **Detroit Salt Mine trip is FULL** with a waiting list.

Tentative upcoming field trip:

Baraboo – with Robb Gillespie, Possibly 3rd weekend in Sept. 2007, Friday – Sunday

Scholarship Time Again

The Michigan Basin Geological Society will award one or more scholarships of up to \$500 to deserving student(s) majoring in the Geological Sciences. The scholarship will be awarded in May of 2007. Candidates should use a **modified** AAPG "Grants in Aid" form to submit their application. Preference will be given for student research in the Michigan Basin. If you have any questions or need application forms please **call or e-mail Thomas Godbold at 517-241-1545 or godboldt@michigan.gov**

2006-2007 MBGS Officers

The Executive Committee meeting minutes are available on our website at www.mbgs.org

PRESIDENT: ROBERT REYNOLDS,
Reynolds Geological, LLC
509 Hall Blvd. Mason, MI 48854
517-676-9936, fax 517-676-8169,
reynoldsgeo@voyager.net

VICE PRESIDENT: MARK NIDA
LEG, Public Service Commission
PO Box 30221, Lansing MI 48909
517-241-6136, fax 517-241-6121,
mcnida@michigan.gov

SECRETARY: KEN PETRIE
Aurora Energy
1951 Penobscot Drive
Okemos, MI 48864
517-347-3043 kmpetrie@yahoo.com

TREASURER & PUBLICATIONS:
TOM HOANE FMFM, DNR
P.O. Box 30452, Lansing, MI 48909-7952
Bus 517-241-3769, fax 517-373-2443
hoanet@michigan.gov

BUSINESS MANAGER:
TOM GODBOLD, OGS, DEQ
P.O. Box 30256, Lansing, MI 48909-7756
Ph: 517-241-1545, Fax 517-241-1595
godboldt@michigan.gov

PAST-PRESIDENT: DR. ROBB GILLESPIE
WMU Geology Department
1123 Rood Hall, WMU, Kalamazoo, MI 49008
269-378-5354, fax 269-387-5513
robb.gillespie@wmich.edu

CO-FIELDTRIP DIRECTORS:
MARK WOLLENSAK, CPG
Hamp, Mathews & Assoc, Inc.
15266 Ann Drive, Bath, MI 48808
Ph: 517-641-7333 Fax 517-641-7337
Cell 517-719-8321 wollensak@voyager.net

and

LEONARD ESPINOSA, FMFM, DNR
PO Box 30452, Lansing, MI 48909-7952
Ph: 517-335-3248, Fax 517-373-2443
espinosl@michigan.gov

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:
TOM WELLMAN, FMFM, DNR
PO Box 30452, Lansing, MI 48909-7952
Ph: 517-373-7666, Fax 517-373-2443
welldant@michigan.gov

ELECTRONIC PUBLICATIONS:
MARK WOLLENSAK

AAPG DELEGATES:
DR. AUREAL CROSS, MSU,
Dept. of Geol Sciences, 206 Natural Sciences Bldg,
East Michigan State University:
Lansing, MI 48824-1115, 517-335-4630/4639,
cross1@pilot.msu.edu

and

Dr. WILLIAM HARRISON,
Western Michigan University
616-387-8691 william.harrison_iii@wmich.edu

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, \$15

Historical CD #3: Six out-of-print publications from 1948, 1952, 1990 - 1995, Northern Devonian and UP Fieldtrips in MI, 2001, \$15

Historical CD #4: Six out-of-print publications from 1957, 1958, 1961, 1967, 1968 and 1970, Northern LP and UP Fieldtrips in MI, 2004, \$15

Historical CD #5: Five out-of-print publications from 1971, 1989, 2001, Southern LP, MI and Ohio Fieldtrips and **Oil & Gas Fields Vol. 1 & 2, 1969 & 1992**, 2006, \$50

Special Price - Historical CDs #1, #2, #3, #4, & #5 for \$75

NE Lower Peninsula Geological Field Conference, 2004, T. Black, M. Wollensak, 133 pp., illus., maps. On CD \$10

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 Office of Geological Survey of the DEQ

Price Includes postage, handling and any applicable sales tax. Orders for publications should be prepaid in U.S. Funds and addressed to: MBGS - Publications, P O Box 18074, Lansing MI 48901-8074

MBGS Meeting

Wednesday, March 14, 2007

Location: MSU, Natural Science Building

Refreshments will be provided at **6:30pm** in room **207** Natural Science Building

Dr. Taggart's the talk will follow at **7:00** in room **128**.

No charge for this meeting.

Topic:

"The K/T Boundary Impact: A Heretical Look at Consequences"

by

Dr. Ralph Taggart

Please notify Thomas Godbold by **March 13, 2007**.
to ensure adequate seating.

Thomas Godbold

P.O. Box 30256

Lansing, MI 48909-7756

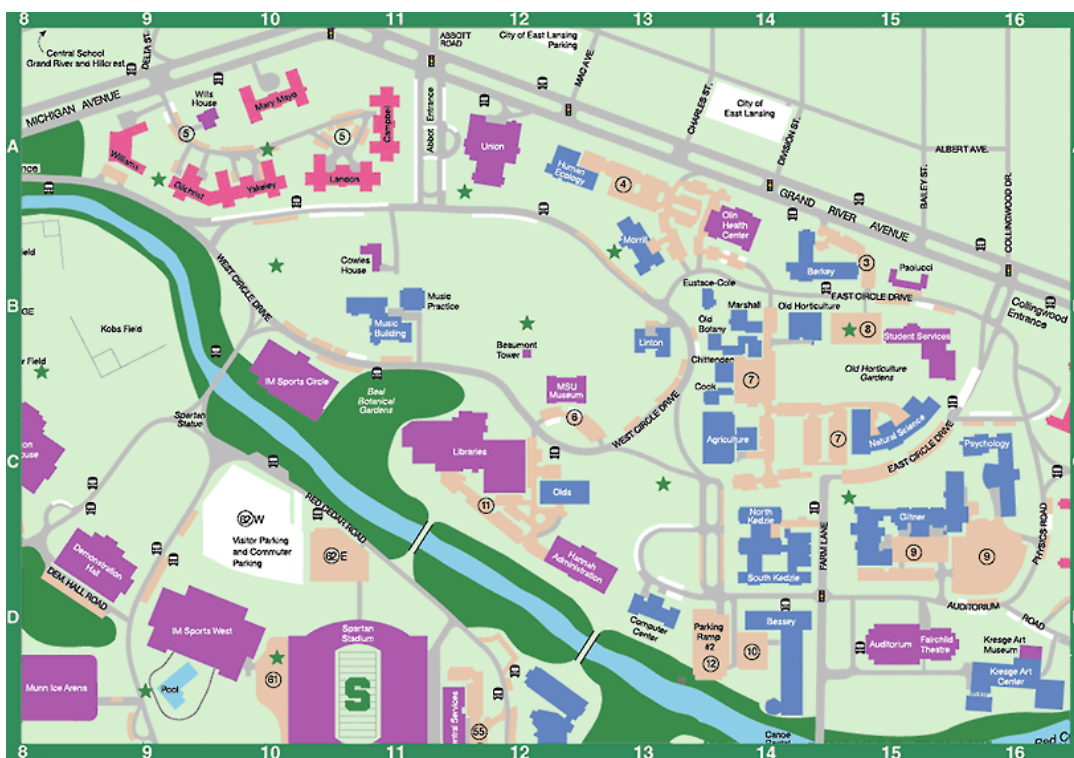
Ph: Bus Ph: 517-241-1545, Fax 517-241-1595

E-mail:godboldt@michigan.gov

Between 5pm & 6pm you can park in Lot 9 behind Giltner Hall and the Psychology Building (former Physics and Astronomy building) for free. Otherwise you can try your luck with the metered slots clustered around the Natural Science Building and the adjacent Student Services Bldg, no charge after 6:00pm.

The Executive committee will be meeting at a restaurant to be named prior to the meeting.

Contact an officer for the location and time if you would like to attend.



"The K/T Boundary Impact: A Heretical Look at Consequences"

**By: Dr. Ralph Taggart
Michigan State University**

Abstract

Given the virtual certainty that the Earth was struck by an asteroid-sized body approximately 66 million years ago, most paleobiologists are content to assume that the consequences of the impact were sufficient to cause the "K/T Boundary Mass Extinction". Despite the fact that this assertion has acquired the status of entrenched dogma, a careful look at ecological indicators associated with the impact suggest that what actually occurred was far more complex and nuanced than is generally assumed.

Biography

Ralph E. Taggart was born in Charlottesville, Va. in 1941 but spent his formative years growing up in northern New Jersey. He earned a B.A. degree from Rutgers University in 1963, spent a few years working at the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research in Yonkers, NY, and then moved west to Ohio University where he received a BS in 1967. From Ohio, it was north to Michigan State University where he received his PhD in paleobotany and palynology under Aureal T. Cross in 1971. That year he was offered a position in the Plant Biology department at M.S.U. and, in 1986, he was offered a joint appointment in the Department of Geological Sciences and is currently Chair of that department. His research specialty is terrestrial paleoecology, where he integrates paleobotanical and palynological data to reconstruct ancient plant communities and patterns in vegetation dynamics, particularly in response to disturbance.

Dr. Robert E. Mosher Geological Studies CD

The Michigan Basin Geological Society (MBGS) is honored and excited to be allowed to make available four CD-ROM disks of the lifetime of geological research on Silurian Rocks of Dr. Robert E. Mosher. Dr. Mosher worked closely with Dr. John T. Sanford. The disks are organized chronologically and include field work in North America and Europe. Fieldtrip excursions, photos and commentary are all part of this hypertext work.

This work was performed, written, and developed by Robert E. Mosher, PhD of MB Research Associates. The materials are in an HTML format and should be viewed using MS Explorer. The disks are only available as a set, priced at \$35.00.

Autobiography of Dr. Aureal Cross

Dr Harrison forwards the following information about the biography of Dr. Aureal Cross published in the International Journal of Coal Geology. The full 20 page text is available at www.sciencedirect.com

Biography of Aureal T. Cross: World Class Coal Geologist, Palynologist, Paleobotanist and Educator by Tom L. Phillips

Abstract

An Ohioan by birth, June 4, 1916, in Findlay, Hancock County, Aureal T. Cross grew up an lowan on a dairy farm near Waterloo at Castle Hill. He was the second of five children of Congregational Minister Raymond W. and Mrs. Myra Jane Coon Cross. Aureal's grade school education was mostly in a one-room school at Castle Hill, then to East Waterloo, junior high and high school, where music was as important as farm work before and after classes. On a history and music scholarship at Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Aureal was drawn to L. R. Wilson's physical geology course and the summer reconnaissance trips. Graduating from Coe College in 1939 with an honors thesis on pollen analysis, Aureal completed his Masters in 1941 and a PhD thesis in 1943 at the University of Cincinnati with J. H. Hoskins on Pennsylvanian age plants from coal-balls. During 1942–1946 he taught premedical U.S. Navy students at the University of Notre Dame with a 1943–1944 leave as a National Research Council Fellow. Aureal and Christina Aleen Teyssier met during 1943 in Pittsburgh and married in 1945. Aureal replaced K. E. Caster, his paleontology mentor, for three and one half years (1946–1949) in the Geology Department at Cincinnati, and did field mapping for the Ohio Geological Survey during the summers. Cross established (1949–1957) productive graduate training and research programs in the West Virginia University Geology Department and the West Virginia Geologic and Economic Survey where he had dual appointments. His move (1957–1961) to Exploration Geology, at Amoco's Pan American Petroleum Corporation Research Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma, permitted him to develop and supervise a major palynological research group. The return to academia (1961) at Michigan State University in East Lansing resulted in one of the most comprehensive graduate training programs in paleobotany, palynology, biostratigraphy and paleoecology in North America. Although Aureal Cross officially retired in 1986, he has continued research projects, publication of manuscripts, attends professional meetings with Aleen, and has kept in touch with several generations of his students as well as with many colleagues. He has received numerous awards, none more deserved than those recognizing his outstanding contributions as a teacher, coal geologist, and paleobotanist.