



**Association of Engineering Geologists
Kansas City/Omaha Section
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NEWS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

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We are nearing the end of both the AEG and KC/Omaha Section year. The new year for the AEG begins with the inauguration of officers at the Annual Meeting and the KC/O Section's year begins with the September section meeting. This year, our section new year is also marked by the inauguration of officers for the 2005-2007 term.

THANKS!!

The KC/O Section began a period of rejuvenation with the September 2003 section meeting. The past nearly two years have been a time of strong activity for the Section. A lot of people are responsible for our success. The "gang of old guys" (**John Caoile** Ecology and Environment), **Syed Hasan** (UMKC), **Dick Moberly** (URS retired), **David Stous** (Burns & McDonnell), **John Szturo** (HNTB), and **Joe Topi** (Corps of Engineers)) recognized that the Section was too valuable an asset to lose, developed a plan to move us forward, and pulled together a slate of officer candidates. We all owe these folks a debt of gratitude. In addition, they served as advisors to the Section officers for the first several months of the 2003-2005 term.

John Caoile, our immediate Past-Chairman, served as Chairman for four years. During most of that time, he was the only section officer. He attended most if not all of the AEG Board meetings during that time, including the mid-year meetings. If it wasn't for John's diligent presence at the board meetings, I suspect the KC/O Section would have been declared officially inactive. I heard some very good comments about John and his representation of the Section at the first Board meeting that I attended as Section Chairman. Thanks, John.

The "gang of old guys" nominated and you elected an excellent group of officers for the 2003-2005 term (**Andrea Prince** (URS), Vice-Chair; **Jeff Binder** (Aquaterra), Treasurer; and **Allison Knowles** (AΩ Geotech), Secretary). They have done a great job. Others who contributed greatly to the success of the Section are **Julie WestHoff** (Prairie Environmental), Website Editor; **Syed Hasan**, AEG News Editor; and **Bruce Wilkinson** (Haley & Aldrich), Program Chairman. Julie also stepped into the Secretary position when Allison resigned to meet pressing family obligations. All of the current officers have agreed to be candidates for the next higher office for the 2005-2007 term.

I would like to personally thank all of the members of the KC/O Section for giving me the opportunity to serve as your chairman for the past two years. It has been a distinct honor.

ANNUAL SECTION REPORT

A copy of the KC/Omaha Section Annual Report that was filed with the AEG is attached for your information. We were pleased that the Section was able to singly and jointly sponsor so many professional activities during the year. These activities offered opportunities for professional growth and more than enough PDH credits to maintain professional registration. The student paper competition and the new scholarships at UMKC were also significant accomplishments.

ELECTION

You should receive the ballot for the election of the 2005-2007 Section officers within the next week. As has been the case in past elections, there is only one candidate shown for each office. In the early years of the Section, we offered two candidates. However, because of the difficulty finding two qualified candidates for each office, the Section went to only one candidate per office plus space for write in candidates. Please return the ballots as soon as possible but before August 29, 2005.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

The September KC/O Section meeting promises to be special. It marks the close of the terms for the 2003-2005 officers and the inauguration of the 2005-2007 officers.

We have tried to balance conventional engineering geology presentations with environmental/hydrogeology presentations. However, we had a disproportionate number of engineering geology presentations offered and presented over the last several months. In September, we will step back into the environmental/hydrogeology arena.

In 1994, the National Research Council released the milestone report titled "Alternatives for Ground Water Cleanup". This is the report that discussed the high cost and ineffectiveness of groundwater remediation especially pump and treat; the hydrogeological, geochemical, and institutional reasons for the problems; and recommendations for addressing the problem. The report was released at the time that Superfund was up for reauthorization and was one of the major reasons that the Superfund was not reauthorized. For the September meeting, a 1½ to 2 hour panel discussion is planned to address some of the major conclusions and recommendations of the report and how far we have progressed in meeting the challenges of groundwater remediation. The five member panel will be made up of senior geologists and engineers from the EPA, industry, consulting firms, and the Corps of Engineers. You, the audience, will be encouraged to ask questions of the panel and to actively participate in the program.

This special meeting is tentatively scheduled for the week of September 12. It will be held in a restaurant and will include a social hour to allow for networking and catching up

with colleagues. Please plan to attend and we encourage you to invite interested colleagues. Spouses are always welcome. You should receive an announcement within the next two weeks.

AEG ANNUAL MEETING

The 48th Annual Meeting of the Association of Engineering Geologists will be held September 19 through 24 in Las Vegas, Nevada. The fact that the meeting is to be held in Las Vegas assures that it will be well attended and exciting. I understand that a large number of papers were submitted and the committee has maximized the number of sessions to accommodate as many good papers as possible. **Jamie Martens** (URS) and **Dawit Teclehaimanot** (UMKC graduate student) will present papers. This promises to be a wonderful meeting. If you are not a member of AEG or if you didn't receive your meeting program and abstracts, detailed information and registration instructions are available on the AEG website at www.aegweb.org. The annual meeting is always a great place to re-energize yourself professionally.

NEW MISSOURI SOLID WASTE RULES

Bill Duley, Deputy Director of the Missouri DNR's Geological Survey and Resources Assessment Division, invited the Section to participate in the development of a new solid waste rule. **Jeff Binder** (Aquaterra) is the Kansas City/Omaha Section's representative on the Stakeholders Group for developing the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' new rules with respect to geologic and hydrologic siting criteria for solid waste disposal areas. **Paul Hilpman** (UMKC Professor Emeritus and KC/O member) is a representative of academia with the same group. The group's first meeting was held on July 14.