

THE ALABAMA GEOLOGIST

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Thanks...

The Board wishes to thank Mark Tanner, Bob Carr and Mary Windom for their distinguished years of service to the Professional Licensing Board for Geologists. Mark served for 5 years and served as the Chairman of the Board for 4 of those

years. During his term he served as the geotechnical and/or environmental engineering firm representative. Bob also served for 5 years and served as Vice-Chairman at the end of his term. Bob served in the independent geological consultant position. Both Mark and

Bob represented their positions in a highly professional manner and offered strong leadership to the Board.

Mary Windom served as our Board attorney for 5 years. Mary recently was elected to the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals. Mary provided years of legal advice which helped shape important Board decisions. The Board greatly appreciates Mary's assistance and wishes her well in her new endeavor.



Alabama Hosts ASBOG Annual Meeting

The State of Alabama is honored to host the 2009 Annual ASBOG (National Association of State Boards of Geology) Meeting in Birmingham, Alabama. ASBOG is an organization comprised of Geology Licensing Boards that come together for two main purposes. The first and most important purpose is the examinations developed, maintained and administered by ASBOG. There are two examinations, the Fundamentals of Geology and the Practice of Geology. The second is for Boards to come together to discuss topics that pertain to the regulation of geologists and also licensing issues that effect

geologists across the nation. Two days of the conference are devoted to the Council of Examiners. These meetings are comprised of geologists and psychometricians reviewing questions from examinations that have been administered as well as the development of new questions for future examinations. The Annual Meeting is the last meeting that is conducted and it is comprised of delegates from member states as well as the Executive Committee. The meeting is for issues that are related to member boards, examinations, and other programs that ASBOG considers important and beneficial to all member Boards. The meeting

will be held at The Tutwiler Hotel Hampton Inn and Suite beginning November 2 – 7, 2009. The Alabama Board is hosting a field trip for the meeting on Sunday, November 8, 2009. I encourage anyone that is interested in this organization to contact me regarding the meeting information. The General Session on Saturday is open for you to observe the process. Feel free to contact the Board office should you want additional information. Thank you and we look forward to our first ASGOG Annual meeting being held in Alabama!

Board no longer ‘preapproves’ continuing education activities

By David T. King, Jr.

Even though the Board reviewed announcements in the past about continuing education (CE) activities and even though mention of such reviews still persists in some Board documents, the ABLPG recently officially adopted a policy of not ‘preapproving’ CE opportunities. The Board thinks that the required geologic nature of any legitimate CE activity is adequately described in its CE Guidelines. Individuals and entities who inquire about these matters generally do so without reading our CE Guidelines, which are freely available on-line. The Board does not mind answering questions about the Guidelines, but we ask that you carefully read them first. In addition, the Board does not

assign CE hours to CE activities that are being planned or are about to commence.

When an LPG (licensed professional geologist) renews his or her license through the ABLPG, that LPG must submit a written record of CE activities for the biennium. These are reviewed first by the Board staff and perhaps again later – in the instance of an audit – by one or more Board members. In a renewal audit (of randomly selected renewing LPGs), the renewing LPG must present additional, detailed proof of the nature of the CE activity and his or her time spent doing the activity. In some instances during an audit, certain CE hours claimed by the LPG may be disallowed.

Disallowing certain CE hours is not related to the LPG failing to seek or not being given ‘preapproval,’ but usually pertains to a violation of the Guidelines (especially the geologic nature requirement) and/or inadequate proof. To guard against having critical CE hours disallowed, the Board highly recommends that LPGs engage in more CE activities during each biennium period than is absolutely required. Further, LPGs should keep a timely record and documentation of the nature of the CE activity and the hours spent doing the activity. Remember, the burden of proof of CE hours claimed lies with the renewing LPG.

Congratulations To Those That Passed The ASBOG Exam

FUNDAMENTALS OF GEOLOGY

Jeremy R. Bailey
Jeremiah C. Hilliard
Mac McKinney
Matthew E. Moore
William Trey Noland
Lori K. Norton
David Pominski
Kendall A. Rich
Samuel A. Smith

Kenneth M. Smith, II
Kimberly D. Stanfield
Andrew L. Thompson

PRACTICE OF GEOLOGY

William Trey Noland
Lori K. Norton
David Pominski
Kenneth M. Smith, II
Andrew L. Thompson

Have You Moved or Has Your Emailed Changed Recently?

If you have moved or your email has changed, please contact Hope Paulene at 334-269-9990 or email Hope at hope@warrenandco.com.

New! Online Computer Renewals

The Board is in the process of developing a new option for the renewal of Professional Geologist licenses. Alabama Interactive is currently providing an online renewal process for a number of Alabama Boards. Currently, the Alabama State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, the Board of Registration

for Architects and the Alabama Board of Nursing, have or will have an online license renewal procedure in the near future. A similar process for our Board, which will be optional, should provide for a streamlined renewal process. Payment of the renewal fees will be one of the features of the new online renewal process.

The Board will work with Alabama

Interactive to provide a time saving and economical new tool for our licensees. Additional information will be provided to the licensees after the development process moves forward. It is anticipated that the online process should be available within the next 12 months.

Continuing Education Opportunities

The ABLPG has begun posting continuing education opportunities to the website. Recent concerns brought to the Board's attention about lack of available seminars, classes, short-courses and fieldtrips has prompted emphasis on providing licensees with information regarding such events.

The Board encourages licensee membership and participation in professional organizations, many of which provide continuing education events. A listing of many of these organizations is included on the Board's website under the sidebar "Societies and CEU Sources". New CEU events that are brought to the

attention of the Board are now being posted to the website regularly, so check for updates to the "Continuing Education Opportunities and Information" section frequently. The web address for ABLPG is www.algeobd.state.al.us

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Bashir Ahmed Memon

Executive Vice President/Senior Hydrogeologist

Education:

Ph.D., 1975, Hydrogeology,

University of London

D.U.C. (Post-graduate Diploma),
1971, Hydrogeology, University
College, London,

M.Sc., 1965, Geology, University
of Sind, Pakistan

B.Sc., 1964, Geology, Mathematics,
University of Sind, Pakistan

Professional Certification:

American Institute of Professional

Geologists Certificate #6606

American Institute of Hydrology
#415

American Society of Civil Engineers
#210611

Association of Ground Water
Scientists and Engineers #225

Alabama #109

Arkansas #222

California #8098

Delaware #499

Florida #PG0000963

Georgia #919

Illinois #196-000425

Indiana #671

Kentucky #86

Mississippi #0042

Missouri #719

New Hampshire #174

North Carolina #484

Pennsylvania #276-G

South Carolina #364

Tennessee #TN0216

Texas #551

Virginia #748

Wyoming #652

Wisconsin #219

Dr. Memon's responsibilities with PELA include hydrogeologic investigations and interpretation as applied to water resources evaluations; determinations of aquifer characteristics, aquifer

analyses and management; and assessment of ground-water quality and potential impacts. In addition, he works with the design and construction of water wells; artificial recharge and dewatering; general hydrogeologic studies; remedial investigation and feasibility studies for hazardous waste disposal sites; hydrogeological study of deep injection well sites; assessment of sanitary landfills; and preparation of technical reports.

Specific assignments have included the evaluation and assessment of Figh Spring, the sole source of water supply to the City of Damascus, Syria, in which the scope of work involved well construction, stress pumping tests and necessary field work to determine the storage characteristics of the aquifer and maximum reliable yield which can be realized by pumping to augment

flow during the low season. Dr. Memon supervises hydrogeologic computer modeling and directed groundwater flow modeling for a large hydrogeologic project in central Florida.

Prior to joining PELA, Dr. Memon was an Associate Professor of Earth Sciences at King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and was an Associate Research Assistant in the Department of Geology at University College, London.

Dr. Memon has performed studies and published numerous publications on modeling of saline-water intrusion into isotropic and non-isotropic aquifers under different sets of conditions and modeling techniques applied to ground-water studies with particular reference to the Viscous-flow model and numerical models.





Abner F. Patton
Patton Geologics, Inc
Tuscaloosa, Alabama

Abner is President of Patton Geologics, Inc, a geologic consulting firm in Tuscaloosa. He is Chairman of the Lower Black

Warrior Clean Water Partnership. Abner has a B.S. in Geology from the University of Alabama. He has also taught classes in the University Of Alabama Honors College. He is a Professional Geologist in numerous states and serves on the Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Geologist.

As part of his experience

Abner has worked on a variety of geologic projects in over 20 states, the Gulf of Mexico, and the Atlantic Ocean. Projects have included water supply studies, bottled water studies, radioactive waste landfill permitting, oil & gas exploration, environmental studies, geotechnical studies, and waste minimization.

Richard A. Esposito
Southern Company
Birmingham, Alabama

Richard is a Principal Level Research Geologist with Southern Company and leads Southern Company's technology development program for geologic carbon sequestration. Richard also serves on many committees and Boards related to technology development and the practice of geology and engineering. Richard has numerous publications to his credit and has lectured internationally on the technical and regulatory issues associated with geologic carbon sequestration. and misguidance.

Richard has a B.S. and M.S. in geology from Auburn University, a M.S. in Environmental Management from Samford University, and is a candidate to graduate with a PhD in Environmental Health Engineering from UAB in 2010.

Prior to Southern Company, Richard worked in the Water Division at the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) as an environmental regulator. Richard is an adjunct instructor teaching environmental geology in the Environmental Management Master's program at Samford University. Richard is a Professional Geologist in numerous states and serves on the Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists.

Congratulations to our newest PGs!

- Tongai R. Mazaiwana—PG #1235
- Samantha C. Budd—PG #1236
- Keith Henn—PG #1237
- Lori K. Norton—PG #1238
- John R. Sewell—PG #1239
- Matthew Moore—PG #1240
- Richard B. Britten—PG #1241
- Michael R. Mason—PG #1242
- Deana Sneyd—PG #1243
- Jeremiah C. Hilliard—PG #1244
- Bernd T. Rindermann—PG #1245
- David C. Beerbower—PG #1246
- Mozella R. Callier—PG #1247

- Glen A. Collier—PG #1248
- Steward A. Dixon—PG #1249
- Maurice A. Gilbert—PG #1250
- Fred McKay—PG #1251
- Robert S. Lee—PG #1252
- John D. Pugh—PG #1253
- Jay N. Santucci—PG #1254
- Kenneth Michael Smith, II—PG #1255
- Andrew L. Thompson—PG #1256
- Robert L. Westly—PG #1257
- Geoffrey Reichold—PG #1258
- Robert Bealkowski—PG #1259
- John M. Bartos—PG #1260



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We're on the web!
www.ALGEOBD.alabama.gov

Electronic Newsletter Coming Soon!

The July 16, 2009 ABLPG Board meeting has resulted in the decision to move from a printed paper version of the Alabama Geologists, the newsletter publication of the ABLPG, to an electronic version. The goal of the Board is to publish the next newsletter in electronic format, making this the final all-paper distribution. The new newsletter will be distributed via email, so please make sure the Board Staff has your current email address.

The change in format will result in considerable cost savings, as well as decrease the preparation time for each newsletter. It is the hope of the Board that the increased efficiency gained by the electronic format will result in more newsletters per year and increased content of each newsletter. Licensees are encouraged

to submit articles for publication to Board members, or directly to Keith Warren.

This decision was not made hastily, but has been discussed at length before this decision was reached. Licensees who have concerns about this change are encouraged to contact any Board member or Staff member. Contact information for all Board members and Board staff is available on the ABLPG website at www.algeobd.alabama.gov.

Modifications to PG Website

The Board is currently evaluating the content of the current website and will be making modifications to the website in the upcoming months to provide a more informative and appealing website for our licensees. If there are any suggestions for the website, please contact Dorothy Malaier or Marsha Andrews. Their contact information is located on the first page of this newsletter.

Also, if you have any photographs of Alabama's geologic resources and would like to donate them for the Board's consideration for use on our website, please submit the pictures to Hope Paulene at hope@warrenandco.com.