



Kentucky Geologists

Volume 13 Issue 2

November 2011

Mission

The mission of the Board of Registration for Professional Geologists is to regulate the public practice of geology in the Commonwealth of Kentucky to protect the citizens of the Commonwealth from negligent, incompetent, or fraudulent practices.

Board

Larry Rhodes, Chairman
Gil Cumbee, Vice chairman
Marsha L. Taylor Meyer
Stephen Wyatt, Public-at-large
James Cobb, State geologist, Ex-officio

Office of Occupations & Professions

Shannon Tivitt, Director
Lucie Duvall, Board Administrator

Office of the Attorney General

Mark Brengelman, Board attorney

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<http://www.bpg.ky.gov/>

As an agency of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Kentucky Board of Registration for Professional Geologists is solely funded by applicants and credential holders and receives no tax dollars.

Board-recommended changes to KRS 322A

The Kentucky Board of Registration for Professional Geologists is recommending that the following four changes be made to the registration law governing professional geologists in Kentucky. The proposed changes have been approved by a vote of the Board to present to the 2012 Kentucky General Assembly for consideration to enact into law:

- Eliminate the exemption for state and local government workers employed as geologists.
Reason: To bring KRS 322A in line with KRS 322 for Engineers and Land Surveyors and to address public safety concerns cited by state-employed geologists.
- Institute a maximum fine of \$1,000.00 for violation of KRS 322A.
Reason: To deter violation of the law. Currently there is no monetary penalty specified in KRS 322A.
- Institute biennial renewal.
Reason: To increase administrative efficiency. Annual renewal fees for geologists will not change from the current \$50.00 per year.
- Amend KRS 322A.020 (1) to read: The fifth member of the Board shall always be the state geologist or his or her designee.
Reason: To ensure operation of the Board under contingencies.

New Kentucky UST regulations

The Kentucky UST Branch announced that new UST regulations have been published on the Kentucky Legislative Research Commission website at <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/kar/TITLE401.HTM> (under Chapter 42). The new regulations came into effect October 6, 2011.

Of special interest: Under 42:316 (Petroleum Storage Tank Environmental Assurance Fund eligibility criteria for contracting companies and partnerships), certified contractors are no longer required. Instead, each company seeking to become an eligible company or partnership must now either have on staff, or contract with, a P.E. or P.G. licensed or registered in Kentucky.

The changes to the regulations are summarized in the newsletter *UST Quarterly* Volume 3 Issue 3. A comprehensive document detailing all changes to the UST regulations is planned for posting on the UST Branch website: <http://waste.ky.gov/ust>.

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Calendar

Board meetings

2011

December 5

2012

February 6

April 2

June 4

August 6

October 1

December 3

*This schedule is tentative.
Please call the Board office to
confirm the date, if you plan to
attend.*

Time

1:30 p.m. (ET)

Location

Office of Occupations &
Professions
911 Leawood Drive
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

2012 Examinations

March 2 and October 5

Application deadlines

January 11 and August 15

ASBOG Annual meeting

Oct. 31 – Nov. 3, 2012
Omaha, NE

Board actions

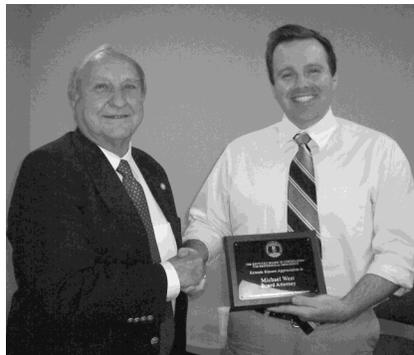
Complaint review report

No new complaints have been adjudicated since those reported in the last issue of the newsletter. One initiating complaint is pending.

Board legal actions

The Board has taken no legal actions since those reported in the last issue of the newsletter. Two investigations are pending.

*Michael West was presented a
plaque by Board Chair Larry*



*Rhodes in recognition for his
service as Board Attorney
2010-2011 .*

Welcome New Registrants!

Professional Geologists

John Richard Bowersox (KY)
Richard Christensen, Jr. (IN)
Cynthia P. Esterle (KY)
Maury Claiborne Newton, III (VA)
Jennifer Pardy (GA)
William D. Pickard (IN)
Ronald W. Spivey (IN)
Sean M. Stoops (OH)
Matthew Teglas (TN)
John Howard Vanderlaan (IN)

Geologists-in-Training

Stephanie Bragg (IN)
Christopher Cahill (OH)
Keith Conn (KY)
Elizabeth Dodson (KY)
Maxwell L. Hammond (KY)
Thomas Nelson (KY)
Kara Brooke Wells (KY)

Fall 2010	Pass	Fail	Total
Fundamentals of geology	7	12	19
Practice of geology	0	2	2



Trends in U.S. geosciences employment and education

At the KGS Annual Seminar in May, Linda Rowan, PhD, of the American Geosciences Institute (AGI) presented findings from the AGI Status of the Geoscience Workforce from 2009 regarding U.S. geoscience employment and education trends.

(Note: AGI is now doing business as American Geosciences Institute, a change from American Geological Institute.)

The Bureau of Labor and Statistics projected a 19% increase in geoscience jobs between 2006 and 2016. Unfortunately, the supply of new geoscience graduates has not increased over the past 10 years, and no increase is anticipated to meet the projected demand. Moreover, the majority of geoscientists in the workforce in 2009 were within 15 years of retirement age, with the number of geoscientists aged 31 to 35 years being approximately half of the number aged 51 to 55. Thus, the supply of new geoscientists is falling short of replacement needs in some employment sectors, e.g., oil and gas companies. Likewise, the number of full professors in academia is expected to decline over the next 10 to 15 years with fewer lower-ranking faculty currently positioned to replace them.

For the complete workforce report and other resources concerning geoscience education and careers, visit the AGI website:

<http://www.agiweb.org/>

Trends in ASBOG examinations

At the KGS Annual Seminar in May, Richard Spruill, PhD, the 2011 President of ASBOG (National Association of State Boards of Geology), presented an overview of the standardized fundamentals and practice examinations, which ASBOG develops provides as its primary service

for determining the qualifications of applicants seeking licensure as professional geologists. Exams are developed from Task Analysis Surveys conducted every five years, which define the practice of geology by identifying the tasks that are performed by practicing geologists. The results of these surveys are used to create test blueprints listing the geologic tasks and the number of questions for each task for both the fundamentals and practice exams (see figures, page 6). The 2010 Task Analysis Survey questionnaire included 43 tasks distributed across eight content domains, along with 13 ethical questions often encountered by geologists. A total of 5,994 questionnaires were mailed to a random sample of geologists in the United States: 3,994 geologists in 30 ASBOG member jurisdictions and 2,000 academicians. A survey of Canadian geoscientists sampled at random was conducted via the Internet from each of the 10 provinces (total = 1,835). In the United States, 2,604 surveys were completed and returned (43% return rate); in Canada 515 were completed and returned (28% return rate). A high degree of consistency in the practice of geology in the United States was seen with the primary area of practice indicated as environmental geology by 39% and hydrogeology by 26%. Among Canadian respondents, the most common (28%) primary area of practice indicated was economic geology and energy resources. The fundamentals exam is structured around academic knowledge and contains about 140 questions with an administration time of four hours. The practice exam concentrates on the practical application of geological principles and contains about 110 questions with an administration time of four hours. Exams are closed book in a 4-option multiple choice format. Subject matter experts convene twice annually at a Council of Examiners workshop to work with psychometricians to re-evaluate exam questions and question statistics and to select and edit exam questions.

Continued on page 6.

Mark your calendar: Upcoming geoscience events

22–24 Jan. 2012. **4th International Professional Geology Conference**. Vancouver, BC.
<http://www.4ipgc.ca/>

Late March 2012. **Kentucky Water Resources Annual Symposium**, Lexington, KY
<http://www.uky.edu/WaterResources/events.html>

22 – 25 April 2012. **AAPG 2012 Annual Convention & Exhibition**, Long Beach, CA.
<http://www.aapg.org/longbeach2012/>

30 April – 3 May, 2012. **International Coal Prep: Annual Coal Processing Exhibition and Conference**, Lexington, KY.
<http://www.coalprepshow.com/CoalPrep2012/Public/enter.aspx>

May 2012. **KGS Annual Seminar**, KGS Well Sample and Core Library, Lexington, KY.
<http://www.uky.edu/KGS/>

19 – 21 June 2012. **Kentucky Oil & Gas Association (KOGA) 76th Annual Meeting**, Lexington, KY. <http://www.kyoilgas.org/pages/posts/kentucky-oil--gas-76th-annual-meeting52.php>

24 – 29 June 2012. **Goldschmidt Conference**. Montreal, ON.
<http://www.vmgoldschmidt.org/2012/index.htm>

31 July – 2 August 2012. **12th Annual Technical Forum: Geohazards Impacting Transportation in the Appalachian Region**, Beckley, WV.
<http://www.marshall.edu/cegas/geohazards/>

15 – 18 October, 2012. **International Pittsburgh Coal Conference**. Pittsburgh, PA.
<http://www.engineering.pitt.edu/pcc/>

2 – 8 June 2012, **11th International & 2nd North American Symposium on Landslides**. Banff, AL.
<http://www.isl-nasl2012.ca/>

22 – 26 September 2012. **41st American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG) Eastern Section Meeting**, Cleveland, OH
<http://www.esaapg2012.org/>

4 – 7 November 2012. **Geological Society of America Annual Meeting & Exposition**. Charlotte, NC.
<http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/2012/>

GIAC Update

The Kentucky Geographic Information Advisory Committee (GIAC) meets quarterly to discuss issues related to GIS and digital geospatial data in the Commonwealth. The GIAC includes representatives from the different cabinets of state government and several professions, including professional geologists. At present, the GIAC has standing committees for Standards, Outreach and Education, and Strategic Planning.

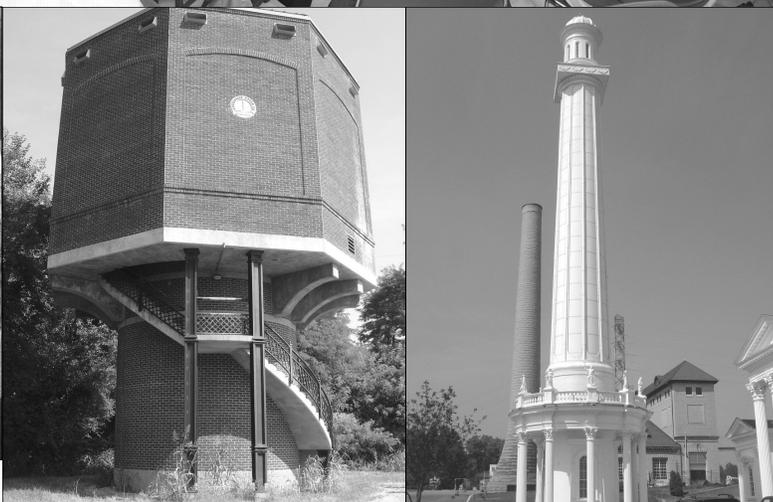
Several key issues are currently being explored and promoted by the GIAC. Most of these relate to the digital base-map data geologists may use in their computer mapping. An effort to collect, manage, and serve statewide LiDAR (light detection and ranging) data is underway. The complete project will take several years, but roughly a quarter of the state has already been flown for high-quality LiDAR data. LiDAR will provide high-resolution topography and can support detailed hydrologic and land-use planning applications. An effort is underway to standardize road centerline and addressing data, improving digital base maps – especially for emergency responders. The GIAC is also recommending that a workgroup examine the possibility of merging detailed county-level land parcel data into a general statewide format.

If you have ideas or comments related to GIS or geospatial issues, please feel free to contact me at wandrews@uky.edu.

*William M. Andrews, Jr., PhD, PG
Head, Geologic Mapping Section, KGS
Geology Board Representative, GIAC*

Pictorial highlights

The Board held a special meeting in association with the Kentucky Geological Survey's Annual Seminar on May 13, 2011. The meeting was conducted as an open forum on the topic of the meaning of the phrase "direct professional knowledge" as it pertains to the practice of geology in Kentucky. Above left to right: Lucie Duvall, Board administrator; Mark Brengelman, Board attorney; Marsha Taylor Meyer; Larry Rhodes (chair); Stephen Wyatt; Jim Cobb; and Gil Cumbee.



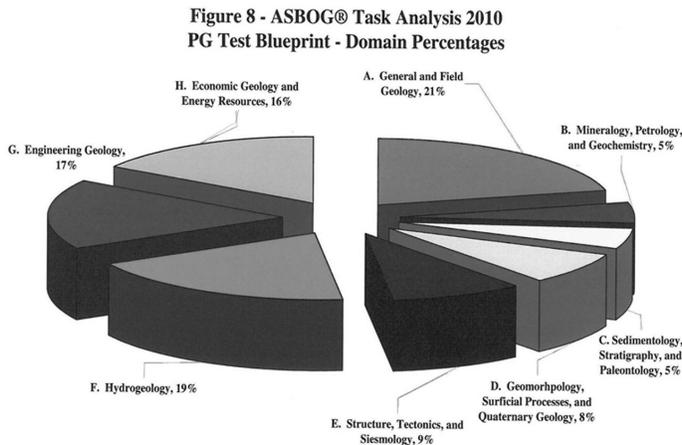
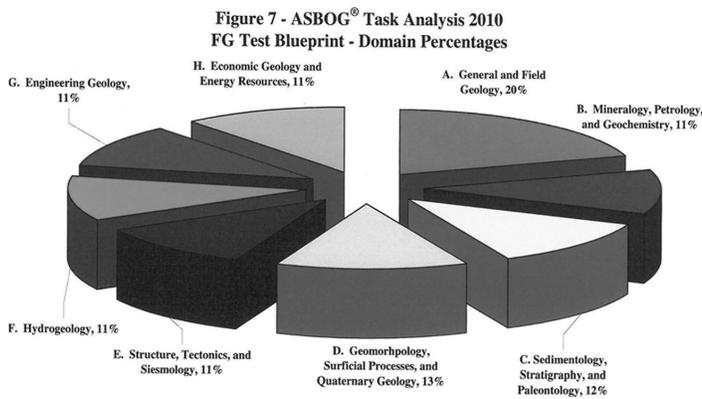
The Board held its August 1, 2011, meeting at the Louisville Water Company's Crescent Hill Water Tower location. Before the meeting Board members received a tour of the Riverbank Filtration (RBF) System and Payne Treatment Plant (Prospect, KY) and the Crescent Hill Pump Station (Louisville, KY). The Board meeting was held in Charlotte Price Gallery, home of the Louisville Visual Art Association. The tour and meeting room were arranged by Board member Marsha Taylor Meyer, PG, who is employed as a geologist by the water company. Above, left to right: Kay Ball, Project Manager, RBF program; Larry Rhodes; Stephen Wyatt; and Gil Cumbee.



Above, left to right: Gil Cumbee; Marsha Taylor Meyer; Stephen Wyatt; Lucie Duvall; Larry Rhodes; and Mark Brengelman.

Continued from page 3.

Left: Figures from the ASBOG 2010 Task Analysis used with permission of the ASBOG Executive Committee.



**Registration renewal –
It's that time again!**

If you did not renew your registration by the September 30th deadline, it is still possible to renew within the 90-day grace period, which ends December 29th, by paying the late renewal fee of \$75. After December 29th, persons who have not renewed will be suspended for failure to renew. Eligibility for reinstatement is discussed in the Kentucky Administrative Regulations <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/kar/201/031/050.htm>

Remember: You can renew your registration on line at <http://www.bpg.ky.gov/> !!

Kentucky Geologists is published semiannually by the Kentucky Board of Registration for Professional Geologists. The publication features topics relevant to the ethical practice of geology in the Commonwealth. Comments or questions related to the newsletter should be directed to Judith Hower, Communications Specialist, Kentucky Geological Survey, 228 Mining & Mineral Resources Building, University of Kentucky, Lexington KY 40506-0107, (859) 277-0777; FAX (859) 257-1147 <judith.hower@uky.edu>



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