



**April 8th
Meeting:**

**Onondaga Lake
- Perspectives
and Positions**
with
Mr. Tim Mulvey
and
Dr. John Ferrante

We will convene early on Thursday, April 8, at 5:00 PM, at the Marriott Hotel at Carrier Circle in East Syracuse, NY. Dr. Ferrante begins his presentation at 5:30 PM; dinner is at 6:25; and Mr. Mulvey speaks at 7:30. It will be a another full evening's program that you won't want to miss! We look forward to seeing you then!

For a full overview of our April program, see Page 2.

1999 - 2000 CNYAPG ELECTION BALLOT

It's that time of year we all eagerly await: CNYAPG Elections for Officers and Directors! No blaring TV ads, billboard campaigns, handshaking and baby-kissing; just one simple ballot to fill out and return with your selections among those who have volunteered to take on the jobs that need to be done. Thank you to all of those who are willing to serve the organization! Officers and Directors are elected from among the membership of the Association by proxy (i.e., this ballot), and all qualified members in good standing are eligible to vote. Please circle the candidate's name or write in an unnamed candidate to indicate your vote. The results of this proxy will be presented at our May 1999 meeting.

The Immediate Past President will be Vita DeMarchi, and Gerry Gould steps down as Secretary but has offered to continue his tremendous effort in maintaining our Web page. Thanks Gerry! We also welcome two new nominees for Director, Nan Nelson and Stuart Holtzclaw. Please note that if you are a member, you are encouraged to run for office in CNYAPG's yearly elections. Also, Vita DeMarchi and Georgia Popoff will continue to produce the newsletter throughout the upcoming season.

1999 - 2000 BOARD OF DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

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Send To: CNYAPG, P.O. Box 567, Dewitt, NY 13214 by April 16, 1999, or bring them to the April meeting on April 8th.



Central New York Association of Professional Geologists
presents
Onondaga Lake Update - Perspectives and Positions
Featuring Mr. Timothy Mulvey of the Onondaga Lake Clean-Up Corp. and
Dr. John Ferrante with the Atlantic States Legal Foundation

Thursday Evening, April 8, 1999 at the Marriott at Carrier Circle, East Syracuse, New York

The Agenda starts early:

- Private Cash Bar open between 5:00 and 7:00 p.m.
- **Dr. John Ferrante** will present between 5:30 and 6:15 p.m.
- **Dinner** will be served starting at 6:25 p.m.
- The featured speaker of the evening, **Mr. Timothy Mulvey**, will begin his presentation at 7:30 p.m.
- The evening will conclude with questions and discussion with our guest speakers.

Dr. John Ferrante is involved in evaluating Onondaga Lake Superfund programs as a part of USEPA Technical Assistance Grant administered by the Atlantic States Legal Foundation. His primary role is to interpret the multitude of ongoing activities and support the dissemination of information to surrounding communities. The Onondaga Lake Superfund program is complex because it is managed under a cooperative agreement between the USEPA and New York State and administered by the NYSDEC. This results in an intertwining of federal and state requirements and implementation steps at eight subsites under separate Consent Orders and schedules, leading to a difficult decision-making process. This program is technically complex and very confusing for many residents. Adding to the confusion is the fact that Onondaga County is under a separate 15-year, \$380 million consent Judgment to reduce nutrient and bacteria loading to the Lake. Little public involvement is evident because of the inherent complexity and multiplicity of actions and, since some of the activities in the Lake are restricted, risks to human health are relatively low, resulting in general apathy as it relates to Lake restoration. Dr. Ferrante will give a concise update on these issues and answer questions you may have about the progress and potential for our Lake.

Dr. Ferrante received his Doctorate at the University of New Hampshire in 1974, specializing in Systems Ecology. His background shows a wide range of experience from Chief Scientist on oceanographic research in the mid-Atlantic Ocean, steam assessments in the Southwest desert, to coral reef impact assessments in Hawaii. He also has extensive experience in environmental management systems, regulatory compliance, and management of radiological waste. Born and raised in Solvay, New York, Dr. Ferrante has worked throughout most of the United States and in Europe; he has returned to Central New York to work on the remediation of Onondaga Lake.

Mr. Timothy Mulvey cites that a 1993 poll of Onondaga County residents revealed that, while most know that the lake is polluted (90%+), less than half of the community can name one source or type of pollution affecting the Lake. Onondaga Lake has been polluted for so long that most of the community has effectively given up any hope of restoring it for recreational and commercial use. Key to changing that perception, is fostering a better understanding of what the Lake's problems truly are. The size/location of the City of Syracuse, and surrounding suburban areas, has put a great deal of stress on the Lake. Industrial waste disposal into the Lake for almost a hundred years contributed to its severely degraded state, compounded by a series of historical and community failures concerning sewage treatment and disposal. Since the end of World War II, the Syracuse community has struggled unsuccessfully to adopt an environmentally responsible and financially sensible sewage treatment program. As a result, the continuing controversy over the METRO sewage treatment plant, its location, and size of its discharge, has effectively crippled lake restoration efforts. Dealing with METRO has become the center, and crux, of any resolution of Onondaga Lake's pollution problems.

The scientist and lay citizen need to understand that not all "pollution" is the same. Industrial contamination and sewage treatment must be dealt with as separate/distinct problems. The public's role and responsibility in sewage collection and treatment is directed through our elected officials. An understanding of the nature/characteristics of sewage waste, effect on Onondaga Lake and environment, and alternatives for METRO are key to the ultimate success of any Onondaga Lake restoration effort.

Tim Mulvey is a lifelong resident of the Syracuse area. He is a graduate of North Syracuse High School, SUNY College at Potsdam and Syracuse University College of Law. Mr. Mulvey was an Associate Attorney at Grass, Balanoff & Whitelaw in Syracuse until 1990. Since 1990, he has been actively involved in all aspects of the "Onondaga Lake Cleanup." After also serving as a special assistant to U.S. Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Mr. Mulvey was appointed Executive Director of the Onondaga Lake Management Conference in 1990. At the same time, he formed the Onondaga Lake Cleanup Corp. (OLCC), a not-for-profit organization dedicated to administering programs and projects for the restoration and rehabilitation of Onondaga Lake. Over the last nine years, the OLCC has handled government contracts in excess of \$6 million, to address a range of problems associated with Onondaga Lake, from the Tully Valley mudboils, to the Allied wastebeds, to oxygen resources in the lake and Seneca River, and restoration of aquatic habitat in and around the lake.

Make your reservations early! Call Buck Gabriel at (315) 437-6100, extension 2656, prior to Monday, April 5th to guarantee that you've got a place for this very significant evening! The cost for this program and dinner is \$22 and the student discount (with valid ID) is \$18. If you're coming from out of town and need directions, call the Marriott at (315) 432-0200. For further information or if you have questions, call Vita DeMarchi at (315) 475-9204.

CNYAPG CALENDAR

Monday-Wednesday, March 22-24, 1999

Northeastern Section GSA Meeting, in Providence, Rhode Island. Contact O. Don Hermes, Department of Geology, University of Rhode Island; (410) 847-2192; e-mail: dhermes@uriacc.uri.edu. Call by February 12th for the pre-registration fee.

Tuesday, March 23, 1999

New York State Wetland Forum, Inc., 1999 Meeting; "Balancing Wetland Interests - Science, Policy, & Economics". In addition to a host of speakers discussing hydric soils, economic development, and regulatory information, this meeting includes exhibitors, poster sessions, and three local field trips. Kevin Bernstein, February's CNYAPG dinner speaker will talk about Recent Wetland Cases. The Hotel at Exit 37, 411 Electronics Parkway, Liverpool NY. For more info: (518) 783-1322.

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Niagara Frontier Section of AWMA Annual Seminar, "Taking Care of Business: Environmental Success Stories," at the Holiday Inn on Grand Island. Call Jacquelyn Zajac at (716) 741-2049 for info.

Thursday, April 8, 1999

Onondaga Lake Update - Perspectives and Positions. Note: This evening will be hosted at the Marriott at Carrier Circle. Mr. Tim Mulvey with the Onondaga Lake Clean-Up Corp. will discuss the legal, political, and scientific aspects of lake remediation. Dr. John Ferrante, aquatic ecologist with the Atlantic States Legal Foundation, will brief us on the technical issues surrounding lake Superfund sites. The evening's agenda starts early (5:00 p.m.) to allow time for speaker interaction. Join us at the Marriott at Carrier Circle, East Syracuse. First speaker begins at 5:30 p.m. For more info, call Vita DeMarchi at (315) 475-9204. For reservations, call Buck Gabriel by Monday, April 5th, at 437-6100, extension 2656. Cost: \$22; \$18 for students with valid ID.

Thursday & Friday, April 15 & 16, 1999

Unified Watershed Assessment: Where Do We Go From Here? The American Water Resource Association Mid-Atlantic Conference to be held in Matamoras, PA. Unified watershed assessments, restoration priorities, and strategies are cornerstones to the Clean Water Action Plan. Join a multi-disciplinary group to reflect on key questions. For info, contact: Glenn Maurer at (717) 787-2666, or e-mail him at maurer.glenn@a1.dep.state.pa.us.

Thursday-Sunday, April 15-18, 1999

26th Annual Rochester Mineralogical Symposium. contact Dr. Helen H. chamberlain, P.O. Box 85, Manlius, NY 13104-0085.

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

BAPG Monthly Meeting at the Little White House, 5877 Main Street, Williamsville, NY.

HMPGA presents "Environmental Forensics," by Dr. Jun Abrajano of RPI. Call Diane Trianni at (518) 452-0096 for further information.

Thursday, April 29, 1999

ASCE & BAPG will cosponsor a seminar "**RBCA - Now or Never**" at the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science (Bldg. 76) at R.I.T. Registration at 5:45 PM, program from 6:15 - 9:30 PM. Speakers will address Site Characterization/Risk Assessment, Cleanup Requirements, Remediation Monitoring, and Qualification Requirements for RBCA Analysts. Contact Paul Micciche at (716) 381-2210, ext. 715, for further information and see the insert in this newsletter.

Urban Geology Walking Tour with Mr. Bob Preyer of the MOST. Tour downtown Syracuse, reflecting on the geologic origins of local building materials and stone work. The tour will conclude with dinner and end-of-year party at a downtown pub location.

Thursday, May 13, 1999

HMPGA Technical Symposium at Earth Tech, Inc., 12 Metro Park Road, Albany, NY from Noon to 9 PM; includes Student Poster Session at 5:30, social hour from 5 - 6 PM, dinner at 6 PM. See the insert to the newsletter for further details and contact information.

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

* CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS MONTH'S
CNYAPG NEWSLETTER
WERE MADE BY:
Vita DeMarchi Gerry Gould
Georgia Popoff

The Board Members would like to thank all of the corporate and individual supporters of CNYAPG throughout the past year. We would like to encourage you to continue your pledge of support throughout the upcoming year. Contact Steve Crook at (315) 437-1429 or (518) 827-5720 details.

C N Y A P G

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CNYAPG

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The CNYAPG was founded in 1993 to strengthen and advance the geologic sciences as a profession and to provide an open forum for the exchange of ideas; to promote the protection of public welfare through the professional practice of geologic sciences; to inspire and maintain the highest standards of professional conduct, business ethics, and personal honor of the membership; to foster the spirit of scientific research throughout the membership; to publish and otherwise disseminate information related to the geologic sciences and associated technologies; to maintain and encourage intra- and inter-association activities, to enhance the association's programs, and to encourage the affiliation of individual members with other scientific and technical organizations.



Visit our Web site:

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Keep the newsletter input coming. Send ideas, articles of interest, requests, and questions for the newsletter to Vita DeMarchi at vdemarchi@secor.com