

## The Erie Canal: Engineering and History

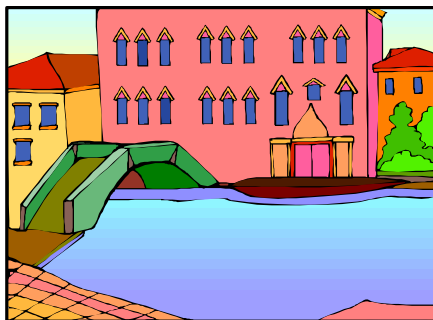
Samuel P. Clemence, Ph.D.

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Professor Clemence, Syracuse University Meredith Professor for Teaching Excellence will present a multimedia lecture. The fascinating details concerning the engineering and history of the Erie Canal will be presented. The early history of the Erie Canal is one of the all-time great stories of a “disruptive technology,” complete with lessons relevant to today’s revolutions in electronics, communications and biotechnologies.

AS AN ENGINEERING ASSIGNMENT AT THE TIME, IT WAS THE EQUIVALENT OF PUTTING A PERSON ON THE MOON IN THE 1960S. WHEN IT WAS FIRST PROPOSED IN 1808, THE IDEA OF BUILDING A CANAL OF THIS SIZE BY HAND WAS SIMPLY OUTLANDISH. HOWEVER, DEWITT CLINTON WAS UNFAZED. HE BECAME GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK IN 1917 AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE ERIE CANAL, AKA CLINTON'S DITCH, COMMENCED THE SAME YEAR.

After it opened in 1825, the impact of the Canal was extraordinary, with cities along the route experiencing enormous increases in their populations. In Syracuse, the population increased more than 12-fold in 30 years from 1,814 to 22,277.

Please join us on **Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> (election night)**

Onondaga Community College, Gordon Student Center  
Faculty Staff Dining Room

**Dinner at 6:30**, talk to immediately follow dinner

Cost is \$15.00 for CNYAPG members / \$18.00 for non-members

*Reservations with your dinner choice must be e-mailed by **MONDAY, OCTOBER 30th** to Sarah McCulloch at [sarah@geologic.net](mailto:sarah@geologic.net). Dinner choices are Prime Rib or Pesto Lasagna.*

### CNYAPG NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

VITA DEMARCHI  
SARAH MCCULLOCH

### Directions to OCC

#### **From Route 81 Northbound:**

Take the Nedrow Exit - #16, turn left at the bottom of the exit following Route 11/Salina Street south.  
Turn left onto Route 173/Seneca Turnpike. The OCC campus will be on your right.

#### **From Route 81 Southbound:**

Take the Brighton Exit - #17, proceed one block west to Salina Street – turn left onto Salina Street. Go south on Salina Street to Route 173/Seneca Turnpike. Turn right onto Route 173/Seneca Turnpike. The OCC campus will be on your right.

Park in the **NE4 parking lot** (northeast quadrant of the campus). The **Gordon Student Center** is located southwest of parking lot NE4. Detailed maps are on the OCC web page: [www.sunyocc.edu/campmap/](http://www.sunyocc.edu/campmap/)

## OUR PRESIDENT'S VOICE

By  
Sarah McCulloch



Dear Members,

The field excursion to the Jamesville Quarry was fun and well attended – *thanks again to Meg Harris for organizing and leading this trip!*

Even though we have not had an evening dinner meeting yet this season, the Board of Directors (BOD) has had two meetings. At the September BOD meeting, a motion to make a \$2,000.00 donation to the New York State Council of Professional Geologists (NYSCPG) was made and unanimously passed. The money is used by the NYSCPG to pay a lobbyist and attorney fees in connection with the legislative effort currently underway to get state licensure for geologists. Copies of the licensure bill can be viewed on the NYSCPG web page at: [www.nyscpg.org](http://www.nyscpg.org). The CNYAPG is now a Platinum Corporate Sponsor of the NYSCPG along with the Buffalo Association of Professional Geologists (BAPG).

AT THE OCTOBER BOD MEETING, A MOTION TO INCREASE THE CNYAPG MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FEE WAS MADE AND PASSED. THE NEW FEE IS \$25.00 PER YEAR AND WILL BE EFFECTIVE WITH THE RENEWAL APPLICATIONS TO BE SENT OUT IN DECEMBER 2000. IN ADDITION, THE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FEE OF \$10.00 HAS BEEN ELIMINATED. THE STUDENT MEMBERSHIP FEE OF \$10.00 PER YEAR WAS NOT INCREASED.

Finally, the CNYAPG is hosting a very special **fundraising party** for the NYSCPG on Thursday evening, November 16<sup>th</sup> at the Hotel Syracuse Radisson Plaza in downtown Syracuse. The festivities will begin at 5:30 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres will be served (you won't go away hungry!), drinks will be available at a cash bar, drawings for door prizes will be held and raffle tickets will be sold for a 14' Perception Carolina one-person touring kayak at \$5.00 each. The winning ticket for the kayak will be drawn on December 12<sup>th</sup> at the joint meeting with the engineers at the Carousel Sky Deck. If you can't make the fundraising party and you want to buy some kayak raffle tickets, or if you have any questions, please call me (607-836-4400) or Vita DeMarchi (315-475-9204).

We have had lots of new faces at the two field excursions this fall, including many pint sized geologists. Hopefully we will see many old and new faces at the upcoming November 7<sup>th</sup> and November 16<sup>th</sup> evening functions.

Regards,

Sarah McCulloch

# Calendar

October 24-26, 2000 (Tues – Thurs)	2000 Annual Industry Environmental Conference; Sheraton Saratoga Springs, sponsored by: The Business Council of NYS, Inc. Call 1-800-358-1202.
November 4 (Saturday)	Dinner to honor Professor Gerald Friedman for his lifetime achievements. Troy Country Club. For information, contact William Kelly at 518-474-7559 or <a href="mailto:wkelly@mail.nysed.gov">wkelly@mail.nysed.gov</a>
November 7, 2000 (Tuesday)	7:00 p.m. (election day) – The Erie Canal: Engineering & History, Onondaga Community College, Gordon Student Center, Dinner at 6:30 p.m., talk to follow.
November 16 2000 (Thursday)	CNYAPG-Sponsored Fundraiser for NYSCPG. Hotel Syracuse Radisson Plaza, Empire Room, Hors D'Oeuvres, Music, & Several Evening Raffles. Party starts at 5:30 p.m. Purchase tickets for the December 12th raffle of a Perception Carolina Touring Kayak. Watch for further details or contact either Vita DeMarchi or Sarah McCulloch.
December 12, 2000 (Tuesday)	Joint meeting with the Engineers at the Carousel Sky Deck. Fundraiser raffle drawing for the Perception Carolina Touring Kayak. Details to come.
January 11, 2001 (Thursday)	“Detection of Hydraulically Conductive Fractures When There is No Outcrop”, Dr. John Fountain, SUNY Buffalo (dinner and talk).
May 2000	Short Course: Subsurface Fate and Remediation of MTBE and Ethanol.
<b>Non-CNYAPG Events:</b>	
March 26 – 28, 2001	“Fractured Rock 2001”, Toronto, Canada. Further Info: <a href="mailto:martinalli@saic.com">martinalli@saic.com</a>

# CNYAPG Board of Directors

## **PRESIDENT**

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## CNYAPG MISSION STATEMENT

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Visit the CNYAPG Web Site for Updates  
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## Looking Beneath the Surface – Hudson River Submerged Aquatic Vegetation

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Susan Hoskins, Extension Associate at the Cornell Institute for Resource Information Systems will discuss subtidal plant communities in the Hudson River. These plant communities are an abundant and diverse ecological resource. They act as nurseries for fish, habitat for waterfowl and effect chemical, physical and biological characteristics of the river. For all their importance, little was known about the location, extent, and spatial distribution of submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) until 1995. Using aerial photographs, 125 miles of the river, from the Federal Dam at Troy, New York to Yonkers has been mapped for SAV.

**Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Social - 6:00 pm**

**Dinner - 6:30 p.m. followed by presentation**

**COST IS \$10.00 for members and \$12.00 for non-members**

**Please make your reservations by Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>**  
**E-mail to Sarah McCulloch - [sarah@geologic.net](mailto:sarah@geologic.net) or call 607-836-4400**

### DIRECTIONS:

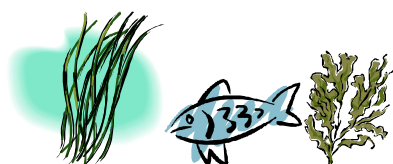
This meeting will be held at the offices of O'Brien and Gere Engineers.

Take 481 north (accessible from Rt. 690 or the NYS Thruway)

Exit at Rt. 298 (Collamer Road).

Turn right at the bottom of the exit, heading west on Rt. 298, Collamer Road.

Turn left at Brittonfield Parkway, OBG is the 3<sup>rd</sup> building on your left – enter in the front door of the building. Park in the visitors area located to the left (north) of the building entrance.



### CNYAPG CONTRIBUTORS

VITA DEMARCHI  
SARAH MCCULLOCH

## OUR PRESIDENT'S VOICE

By  
**Sarah McCulloch**

### Membership Campaign and Contest

**New Members - we want**



All new members will be able to attend their first dinner meeting free of charge.

Existing members – we need your help!!!

The existing member who recruits the most new members between now and April 30<sup>th</sup> will receive free admission to our May 3<sup>rd</sup> MTBE workshop.

Membership applications can be obtained off of the web page ([www.dreamscape.com/cnyapg](http://www.dreamscape.com/cnyapg)). Have the new member write your name as a referral on the application form.

Any questions, call a Board member.  
THANKS

### Happy New Year!

The January newsletter was not mailed out due to illness among our two volunteers dedicated to this task. As a reminder, the details for each monthly meeting are always posted on the CNYAPG web page: [www.dreamscape.com/cnyapg](http://www.dreamscape.com/cnyapg).

If you missed the holiday meeting, then you missed Spence Thew's excellent presentation on the Iditarod. What an adventure Spence had mushing through the wild Alaskan terrain.

THE WINNING TICKET FOR THE KAYAK WAS DRAWN AT THE HOLIDAY MEETING AS WELL, SEE VITA'S ARTICLE. THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO PURCHASED A TICKET AND SPONSORED THE PARTY!

Dr. John Fountain's talk in January detailed his research in finding high intensity fracture zones using shallow soil gas analysis. The reference for his most recent work is: Fountain and Jacobi, 2000, Detection of Buried Faults and Fractures Using Soil Gas Analysis. Environmental and Engineering Geoscience V.6, no. 3, pp. 201-208.

The CNYAPG's annual technical workshop has been scheduled, so mark your calendars now. The workshop's topic is MTBE – fate, transport, and remediation will be held on Thursday, May 3, 2001. Additional details will be published in the next newsletter.

We hope to distribute an updated membership directory in May. This means that we need all of the renewal forms mailed in promptly. On a related matter, we are holding a membership campaign with a special prize for the person who recruits the most members by April 30, 2001 (see article in this newsletter).

Hope to see many of you on February 8<sup>th</sup>,

Sarah McCulloch

# Calendar

February 8, 2001 (Thursday)	CNAPG Dinner Meeting with Susan Hoskins, Cornell. Looking beneath the Surface – Hudson River Submerged Aquatic Vegetation.
March 15, 2001 (Thursday)	CNYAPG Dinner Meeting with Dr. Steven Effler, Upstate Freshwater Institute. Update on Onondaga Lake.
March 19-20, 2001 (Monday & Tuesday)	Groundwater Industry Legislative Conference Washington, DC <a href="http://www.ngwa.org/education">www.ngwa.org/education</a> or call 800-551-7379
March 26 – 28, 2001 (Mon, Tues, Wed)	“Fractured Rock 2001”, Toronto, Canada. Further Info: <a href="mailto:martinali@saic.com">martinali@saic.com</a>
April 12, 2001 (Thursday)	CNYAPG Dinner Meeting with Dr. Joel Thompson, Eckerd College. The Geomicrobiology of Fayetteville Green Lake: Origin of Annual Whiting Events and Microbial Bioherms.
May 3, 2001 (Thursday)	CNYAPG MTBE Workshop John Wilson (EPA), Frank Peduto (NYSDEC), Susan Powers (Clarkson University), plus more.
May 2001	Short Course: Subsurface Fate and Remediation of MTBE and Ethanol
June 4-5, 2001 (Monday & Tuesday)	NGWA National Focus Conference MTBE in Groundwater Baltimore Marriott Inner Harbor <a href="http://www.ngwa.org/education">www.ngwa.org/education</a> or call 800-551-7379

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**CENTRAL  
NEW YORK  
ASSOCIATION OF  
PROFESSIONAL  
GEOLOGISTS**

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# CNYAPG

## **RESPONSES TO EARLY STAGES OF REHABILITATION:**

### **ONONDAGA LAKE**

**Steven W. Effler, Ph.D.  
Upstate Freshwater Institute**

Dr. Effler will discuss responses of Onondaga Lake to the early stages of a phased program to rehabilitate the lake for the effects of domestic waste inputs. Dramatic changes in the lake's water quality and biota have been observed in response to the reductions in NH<sub>3</sub> and TP loading. Changes include major decreases in NH<sub>3</sub> concentrations and improved status with respect to ammonia toxicity standards, development of dense populations of zebra mussels, decreases in fall concentrations of NO<sub>2</sub> and improved status with respect to the related toxicity standard, decreases in TP and total dissolved P concentrations and a severe phytoplankton bloom.

**Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Cocktails at 5:30 p.m. in the Regatta Bar  
Dinner at 6:30 p.m., talk to follow  
Cost is \$25.00**

**Wyndham Syracuse (315-432-0200)**

**Reservations are due by Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>**

Call or e-mail Sarah McCulloch (607-836-4400) or [sarah@geologic.net](mailto:sarah@geologic.net)

If reservations are made and not cancelled by 3/12/2001 you will be charged for the dinner because CNYAPG must pay for each reservation made.

**Directions:**

**From 690 take the Thompson Road North exit. Follow Thompson Road north to the Carrier Circle. Take Route 298 East. Go ~1/2 mile to the first light, Wyndham is on the left.**

**From the Thruway take exit 35 (East Syracuse and Route 298). After toll both go around the traffic circle to Route 298 East. Go ~1/2 mile to the first light, Wyndham is on the left.**

## OUR PRESIDENT'S VOICE

By  
**Sarah McCulloch**



Dear Members,

The February meeting was held at the offices of O'Brien & Gere Engineers with an informal dinner and excellent presentation by Susan Hoskins of Cornell University on the Hudson River's submerged aquatic vegetation mapping project.

The March meeting will be held at the Wyndham hotel at the Carrier Circle on Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Steven Effler will present new data on the rehabilitation of Onondaga Lake.

Planning for the CNYAPG MTBE workshop is in the final stages. To date, the following speakers have committed to us: John Wilson, R.S. Kerr Environmental Research Center (US EPA), Susan Powers, Clarkson University, Frank Peduto, NYSDEC and Pat Ellis, Delaware NREC. Mark your calendar now for Thursday, May 3, 2001.

Finally, please send in your membership renewal forms, otherwise you may not be included in the updated membership directory to be published this spring.

Hope to see many of you on Thursday, March 15th,

Sarah E. McCulloch

# Calendar

March 15, 2001	Onondaga Lake Update - Dr. Steven Effler
March 19-20, 2001 (Monday & Tuesday)	Groundwater Industry Legislative Conference Washington, DC <a href="http://www.ngwa.org/education">www.ngwa.org/education</a> or call 800-551-7379
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April 12, 2001 (Thursday)	“The Geomicrobiology of Fayetteville Green Lake: Origin of Annual Whiting Events and Microbial Bioherms.” Joel Thompson, Eckerd College With possible poster by Matthew Kirby, SU PhD student
May 2001	Short Course: Subsurface Fate and Remediation of MTBE and Ethanol
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