

KARST AND CAVES OF SCHOHARIE COUNTY, NEW YORK Field Trip

Presented by Arthur N. Palmer, SUNY at Oneonta

April 24, 2004

We will visit New York's most extensive region of karst and caves including Howe Caverns. Howe Caverns is located in the heart of this region, where Schoharie Creek and its tributaries have deeply entrenched the Devonian limestone. We will visit several springs, sinkholes, sinking streams, and caves to obtain perspective on the development of karst groundwater drainage and its relation to stratigraphy, geologic structure, and Pleistocene glaciation.

Problems to be discussed include:

- What is the origin of karst?
- Is it possible to predict the patterns of subsurface flow in a karst region?
- What are the problems of obtaining an adequate water supply in karst?
- How has Pleistocene glaciation affected the karst geomorphology and hydrology?
- What can the karst tell us about glacial history?
- How long does it take to form a cave and surface karst features?
- What determines the morphology of caves?

Presenting April's program is Doctor Arthur Palmer. Arthur Palmer is director of the Water Resources program at SUNY Oneonta and teaches hydrology, geochemistry, and geophysics. He has been involved in karst studies for several decades and is the author of several books on the subject.

Meeting logistics: The field trip will take place on Saturday, April 24, 2004 in lieu of the regular Thursday meeting. Please bring your own lunch. Beverages and dessert will be provided. We will meet at the O'Brien & Gere Parking Lot, behind the building, at 8:00 am and return at approximately 6:00 pm. Participants can either travel by van (we will have three 12 person vans available) or drive their own cars (meet at Howe Caverns at 10 am).

Wear clothing appropriate for geologic field activity and for weather conditions. Field boots are appropriate. Otherwise no special equipment is needed. There will be a total of about 2 miles of walking, all on easy trails. Cameras are welcome, both aboveground and underground (a flash is needed in the caves). Rock hammers are not appropriate at most sites.

The cost of the field trip with van transport is

- \$30 for members, student members, non-members and children 16 years and older,
- \$25 for children 12 to 15 years
- \$22 for children 5 to 11 years

The cost of the field trip without van transport is:

- \$15 members, student members, non-members and children 16 years and older,
- \$10 for children 12 to 15 years
- \$7 for children 5 to 11 years

Both costs include admittance to Howe Caverns. Please RSVP by Monday, April 19, 2004 to Bonnie at Parratt-Wolff via e-mail at bolney@pwinc.com or 437-1429.

DIRECTIONS: O'Brien & Gere 5000 Brittonfield Parkway. From Syracuse take I-690 East to I-481 North. Exit 7 (Route 298 and Collamer Road) and turn right at the end of the ramp. Take your first left onto Brittonfield Parkway. O'Brien & Gere is the third building on the left. From the north take I-481 South to Exit 7 (Route 298 and Collamer Road) and turn right at the end of the ramp. Take your first left onto Brittonfield Parkway. O'Brien & Gere is the third building on the left.

Directions to Howe Caverns can be found at www.howecaverns.com.

Calendar

April 19, 2004	HMPGA One-Day Workshop, Holiday Inn-Turf, Wolff Rd., Albany, N.Y. Jim Butler, Ph.D., P.G. (Kansas Geological Survey). "Advances in Hydraulic Testing for Improved Site Characterization: New Concepts, Field Methods, and Data Analysis Techniques". More detailed information (Date, cost, instructor abstract, Continuing Education Unit (CEU) information, short course outline and schedule, registration form, directions, etc.) is provided in the following web link: http://www.hmpga.org/Course.htm
April 24, 2004	Annual CNYAPG Field Trip to Howes Caverns, presentation "Karst and Caves of Schoharie County, New York" by Dr. Arthur N. Palmer, SUNY at Oneonta (see further details above).
May 2004	CNYAPG Monthly Dinner Meeting, Syracuse, N.Y. Bill Kappel (USGS). "The hydrogeology and brines associated with Onondaga Valley and Onondaga Lake" (further details will follow).

Our President's Voice –

Last night we and members of the Central New York Society of Land Surveyors enjoyed a presentation given by Dr. David Miller of SUNY at Cortland, my alma mater. This talk combined three of my loves: history (Lewis & Clark's Corps of Discovery); geology (use of GIS and land surface structures to retrace their trail); and boating (kayaking on the Missouri). I for one would like to thank Dr. Miller for giving us this preview of his findings, and I look forward to reading his book once published!

Again, I urge you to invite your colleagues to attend our programs, and also to donate your time to benefit our association. As you can tell from the above, we are presenting very diverse and informative programs that should interest the membership. Within the next month, I will be finalizing the slate of nominees for two CNYAPG director positions and all officer positions, and would appreciate any suggestions from our members. Again, a diverse and involved membership is essential to the continued health and vigor of the CNYAPG, please get involved! I can be reached at dwl@bbl-inc.com.

David Lay

Membership news – For those of you, who have not yet renewed your membership, please do so now! To renew your membership or become a new member,

simply complete the membership form which is available on our website at www.cnyapg.org! Membership is only \$25 per year and all money received is used for these newsletters and our monthly meetings.

HMPGA Workshop – April 19, 2004:

On Monday, April 19, 2004, HMPGA is hosting a one day workshop is entitled: "Advances in Hydraulic Testing for Improved Site Characterization: New Concepts, Field Methods, and Data Analysis Techniques" at the Holiday Inn - Turf, located on Wolf Road in Albany, N.Y. The main instructor and course designer is Jim Butler, Ph.D., P.G., from the Kansas Geological Survey a nationally recognized teacher with superb material. Jim is essentially changing how the industry conducts hydraulic testing, specifically slug and pumping tests, for application to hydrogeologic site characterization. Dr. Butler's applied work differs from other researchers because he accounts for the test design as well as field methods and updating data analysis methods.

More detailed information (Date, cost, instructor abstract, Continuing Education Unit (CEU) information, short course outline and schedule, registration form, directions, etc.) is provided in the following web link: <http://www.hmpga.org/Course.htm>.

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