



Space Shuttle Columbia and Hurricanes Katrina/Rita Federal Responses

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Thursday, April 17, 2008

On February 1, 2003, the Space Shuttle Columbia broke apart as it re-entered the Earth's atmosphere. Debris was scattered along a 10 mile by 240 mile corridor in East Texas and Western Louisiana, an area larger than the State of West Virginia. President Bush, through FEMA, designated USEPA lead agency for the collection, removal, and data management of potentially hazardous shuttle materials. The Federal response to this incident was at the time considered to be the largest deployment of civilian government agencies in U.S. history. In late summer 2005 Hurricanes Katrina and Rita battered shoreline areas of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, flooding 80 percent of the City of New Orleans, and causing an estimated \$200 billion-plus in damages. This "Incident of National Significance" became the first implementation of the newly created Federal National Response Plan, and the USEPA responded through Emergency Support Function (ESF) 10 – Oil and Hazardous Materials. The Federal response to the two hurricanes exceeded the size of the Columbia Shuttle response. This presentation discusses the role of USEPA in these responses, and relates personal experiences of the presenter.

Don Bussey graduated high school in Clinton, New York (1975) then served four years in the USAF (1976-80). He completed undergraduate studies at Utica College and Syracuse University (BA Geology 1983), then completed two years of post-graduate study in geology also at Syracuse University (1984-85). He was employed in central New York from 1985-91 by OBG, and 1993-96 by Op-Tech and BBL. From 1991-93 and 1996-2002 he was employed as a contractor to the USEPA Environmental Response Team (ERT) on the Response, Engineering, and Analytical Contract (REAC) working for Roy F. Weston, Inc. and Lockheed Martin. Since 2003 he has been with USEPA/ERT as an Environmental Scientist supporting the USEPA Remedial and Removal programs in all ten USEPA regions. Don's areas of specialization include bedrock hydrogeologic site assessments, borehole geophysics, subsurface oil spill response, and oil well abandonment. He also has participated in the Columbia Recovery and the Hurricane Katrina national responses.

FUTURE SPEAKERS:

- May 15, 2008 - TBD

MEETING LOGISTICS:

The meeting will take place on **Thursday, April 17, 2008** at the Glen Loch Restaurant in Jamesville. Directions are below.

CNYAPG

A social hour will start at 5:30 pm and will be followed by a dinner starting at 6:30 p.m. The presentation by Mr. Bussey will begin at about 7:30 p.m.

The cost of the dinner/meeting is:

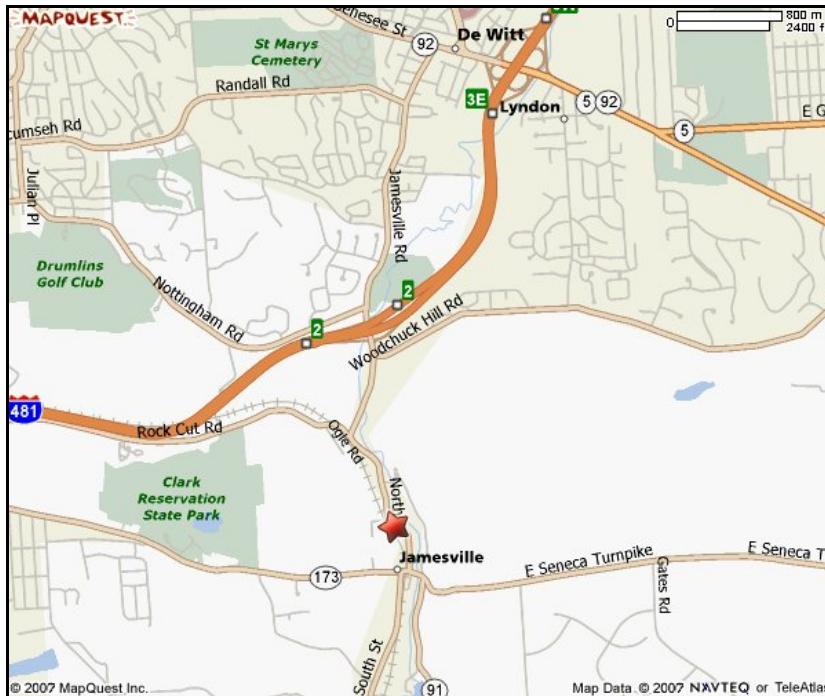
- Members – Dinner & Meeting - \$25
- Members – Meeting only - \$5

- Nonmembers – Dinner & Meeting \$30
- Nonmembers – Meeting only \$10

- Students – Dinner & Meeting \$15 (CNYAPG pays \$10 per student for dinner)
- Students – Meeting only \$5

- CNYAPG will sponsor first 4 students for Dinner & Meeting

Please RSVP by Thursday, April 17th at Noon to Annette at Parratt-Wolff, info@pwinc.com or (315) 437-1429.



Directions to the Glen Loch Restaurant – www.glenloch.net

4626 North Street, Jamesville, NY 13078. 315-469-6969

Take Route 481 to Exit 2 in Jamesville. Go South on Jamesville Road (up the hill) until you come to a three way intersection. Bear left onto North Street. Continue down this road, and you will see the Glen Loch on your left.