



# Arizona Geological Society Newsletter

APRIL 2012

## April 3, 2012 DINNER MEETING STUDENT POSTER SESSIONS

- Where:** Sheraton Tucson Hotel and Suites, 5151 East Grant Road, (at intersection of Grant and Rosemont on the North side of Grant in the Catalina Ballroom (enter at northwest corner of the building and go upstairs)).
- When:** Cash Bar and Poster Presentations at 6 p.m.—Dinner at 7 p.m.—Talks at 8 p.m.
- Cost:** Members \$24, guests \$27, Students free with online reservation (\$10 without).

**RESERVATIONS are REQUIRED:** CALL 520.663.5295 by 5 p.m. by Friday, March 30 or reserve on the AGS website ([www.arizonageologicalsoc.org](http://www.arizonageologicalsoc.org)). Please indicate low-salt, vegetarian, or cobb salad meal preference. Please cancel if you are unable to attend—no shows will be invoiced. Meals for walk-ins may be available (with a \$3 surcharge), but cannot be guaranteed.

### April 3, 2012 Meeting Student Poster Presentations

For the April 3, 2012 meeting, we will be departing from the usual AGS meeting format. Please join us for this exciting evening when we will be hosting students who will present posters regarding their research. Students from University of Arizona, Northern Arizona University, and Arizona State University have been invited to present their work.

During the cocktail hour, you will have an opportunity to peruse the posters and discuss the studies with the student authors. After dinner, each student will give a short presentation regarding his/her research. Cash prizes will be awarded to the first, second and third place presenters.

We hope that this event will become an annual occurrence, as AGS explores new ways to reach out to the student community. It is a terrific way to learn about the latest areas of study and to network with prospective employees!

### **AGS MEETING LOCATION HAS CHANGED!!**

**Please note that AGS has changed the location of our monthly dinner meetings, as our previous venue, the Sheraton Four Points Hotel, is closed for renovations. On April 3, we will meet at the Sheraton Tucson Hotel and Suites, located at 5151 East Grant Road. Please use the entrance on the west side of the building, and go upstairs to the Catalina Ballroom. Elevators are available.**

## Industrial Minerals Field Trips

As one of the co-hosts of the 48th Annual Forum on the Geology of Industrial Minerals, the Arizona Geological Society (Doug Shakel, our VP of Field Trips, in particular) is busy planning pre- and post-meeting field trips. **AGS members are eligible to go on these trips, even if they do not attend the symposium.**

The pre-meeting symposium will depart from Scottsdale at noon on Monday, April 30 and will end the following day. The trip will include visits to the Phoenix Cement plant in Clarkdale and the Drake Cement plant in Drake, and their associated quarries, the Montezuma Well National Monument in the Verde Valley, Sedona, Jerome, and the Lyle clay deposit. Early registration for this trip is \$170, including transportation in a modern air-conditioned motor coach from and to Scottsdale, a night at the historic Jerome Grand hotel, continental breakfast, admission fees, and lunch on the second day. Registration will be \$210 after April 14. Participation is limited to 45 people.



**The Phoenix Cement Plant in Clarkdale, one of the fascinating stops on the Industrial Minerals Forum Field trips.**



**The Jerome Grand Hotel—it is reportedly haunted.**

The one-day post-meeting trip will depart from Scottsdale on May 5. Points of interest include the Imerys Group pearlite deposit near Superior and the National Gypsum mining operation between Winkleman and Mammoth, the Superstition Mountains, the ASARCO Ray Mine, the Inspiration/Miami Mining District, the town of Superior at the base of Apache Leap, and the Resolution Copper deposit. Registration cost for this trip is \$55 and includes transport by modern air-conditioned motor coach, and an informal lunch in the Miami-Globe area.



**Above: the Lyle clay pit.**

**Below: Superstition Mountains.**



You can see a lot more information on these trips on the AGS website ([arizonageologicalsoc.org](http://arizonageologicalsoc.org)). Register online at <http://geologyofindustrialminerals.org/registration/register>

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Welcome New AGS Members!

- **Carl Bowser, Professor Emeritus, University of Wisconsin, Oro Valley, AZ**
- **Ed Fields, President, Silverfields, Idaho City, ID**
- **Kyle Johnson, Freeport-McMoRan Copper and Gold, Tucson, AZ**
- **Kieran McDonald, Graduate Student, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ**
- **Rebecca Morris, Graduate Student, New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, Socorro, NM**
- **John Sitzer, S&S Surveys, Inc., Tucson, AZ**

### AGS Spring Field Trip: Curis Resources Florence Project

A field trip to the **Curis Resources Florence Project** is planned for **Saturday, April 21**. We will meet our hosts at 8:30 am at the Curis administration building at 1575 W. Hunt Highway in Florence just south of Poston Butte (“F Mountain”). The Curis project is an in-situ leach and recovery copper operation in project permitting phase. ASARCO (Harold Courtright’s team) drilled 3 holes on the edge of the deposit in the early 1960s. Conoco drilled the discovery holes delineating the size of the copper porphyry deposit and worked on developing a potential open-pit sulfide operation from 1969-1977; the groundwater dewatering necessary to do this type of operation was a fatal flaw. The project was idle until Magma Copper took ownership in 1993 and reconsidered the deposit as an in-situ leach opportunity. BHP continued the pre-feasibility studies and conducted a 90-day field test. Curis took ownership in 2009 and is currently completing a feasibility study and updating environmental permits.

During the visit, we’ll be given an overview presentation on the deposit geology, hydrogeology, and project status, visit the discovery outcrop at the base of Poston Butte, examine recent drill core, and see examples of the test wells in the field. A guidebook will be prepared and water, sodas, and snacks will be provided. Trip fee is \$20. Conditions may be warm so bring sunscreen, sun-protective clothing, sturdy closed-toed shoes. Maximum group size is 40. Please contact Cori Hoag, [choag@srk.com](mailto:choag@srk.com) or (520) 400-4135 if you are interested in attending. More details and a registration form will be available on the website soon.

AGS is seeking sponsors for our monthly dinner meetings. Sponsorship helps to offset costs and is a great way to get the word out about your company or organization. Please contact AGS VP of Marketing, Ann Pattison for more information.



**Above:** On behalf of the AGS Membership and the Executive Committee, Kevin Horstman (left) and Cori Hoag (right) presented thank you cards and cash gifts to Sheraton Four Points Plaza Hotel waitstaff Theresa Holland and Jorge Campoy in mid-March. Theresa and Jorge helped our dinner meetings run smoothly for the last 11 years at both the Plaza Hotel and at the former InnSuites Hotel. We'll miss their helpful, cheerful service and wish them the best.



### 48th Annual Forum on the Geology of Industrial Minerals

The Arizona Geological Society will co-host the 48th Annual Forum on the Geology of Industrial Minerals with the Arizona Geological Survey, Arizona Rock Products Association, and the Arizona Mining Association. The event will take place on May 1-5, 2012 in Scottsdale at the Scottsdale Cottonwoods Resort and Suites. The annual forum is generally field-trip oriented, and this year will be no exception.

Full registration for the 3-day conference is \$250. Go to <http://geologyofindustrialminerals.org> for more information and to register online.



**Above: Apache Leap looms over the town of Superior, Arizona. This is just one of the sights that you can see on the post-meeting field trip of the 48th Annual Forum on the Geology of Industrial Minerals. See page 3 of this newsletter for more information.**

#### BHP Billiton Supports AGS Student Members

In order to encourage interaction between students and working professionals, **BHP Billiton** is proud to sponsor student dinners at monthly Arizona Geological Society dinner meetings. **BHP Billiton** is a global mining, oil and gas company headquartered in Melbourne, Australia. The company mines copper, iron, gold, and coal, and has proven oil reserves. It is the world's largest mining company measured by revenue and, as of February 2011, the world's third-largest company measured by market capitalization. In order for students to receive dinner at our monthly meeting compliments of BHP, students must make an *online* dinner reservation.

### 2012 AGS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL FORM

Please mail check with membership form to: Arizona Geological Society, PO Box 40952, Tucson, AZ 85717

Dues (check box)  1 year: \$20;  2 years, \$35;  3 years: \$50;  full-time student (membership is free)

NEW MEMBER or RENEWAL? (circle one)      Date of submittal \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Cellular Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Check this box if you do not have an email address

***All newsletters will be sent by email. If you do not have an email address, we will mail a hard copy to you, but we cannot guarantee timeliness.***

If registered geologist/engineer, indicate registration number and State: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a \_\_\_\_\_ tax-deductible contribution to the J. Harold Courtright Scholarship Fund.