

# AEG St. Louis Chapter Newsletter

## March 2022

*Please forward to others you know who may be interested.*

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Visit [www.aegstl.org](http://www.aegstl.org), our website for the AEG St. Louis Chapter!

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### **Upcoming AEG St. Louis Chapter Meetings, Speakers, and Field Trips**

**Tuesday 3/8:** Join us on Tuesday, March 8, at 5:30 pm for a presentation from Richard Wooten, the 2021-2022 Jahns Distinguished Lecturer. Richard will present to the Chapter on “Going Against the Grain: Linking Brittle Cross-Structures with Landslides, Hydrogeology, and Earthquakes in the North Carolina Blue Ridge and Piedmont.” The meeting will be held at the office of Geotechnology, LLC at 11816 Lackland Road, Suite 150, St. Louis, Missouri 63146. Please RSVP to attend in-person at [www.aegstl.org/monthly-section-meetings/](http://www.aegstl.org/monthly-section-meetings/) by Monday, March 7. Cost for attendance is \$10 for students, retirees, and those between jobs; \$20 for members, and \$25 for non-members. Dinner is included.

This meeting will also have a virtual attendance option which will begin at 6:15 pm. To attend virtually, please register at <https://geotechnology.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUqduuhqDwoH92gRNarIavNyEHUnOf88C6f> by Monday, March 7. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

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### **Missouri Board of Geologist Registration Seeks Officers**

Open slots on the Board are available! The application process goes through the Governor’s office. Applicants will need to visit <https://boards.mo.gov/UserPages/Home.aspx> and then click on Apply. Please send a message to [Geology@pr.mo.gov](mailto:Geology@pr.mo.gov) and indicate that you have applied for a position should you choose to apply.

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### **St. Louis Chapter Seeks Officers**

The current officer terms for the St. Louis Chapter expire in May 2022. We are seeking nominations for the May 2022 to May 2024 term! This opportunity to join our exciting leadership team only comes

around once every two years. Reach out to Jessie Goodwin ([jgoodwin@geotechnology.com](mailto:jgoodwin@geotechnology.com)) to nominate yourself or one of your peers for a position. Elections will be held after the April 2022 meeting.

While any member is welcome to run for any position, we are specifically looking for a secretary to join our leadership team. Primary responsibilities include maintaining the Chapter email list and sending out monthly newsletters. The secretary also contributes to Chapter decisions as a valued member of the leadership team!

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## **AEG Webinars - Careers in Geosciences, Professional Geologist License prep, and More**

AEG is hosting three upcoming webinars that are geared toward students and young professionals. These webinars are free to student members (sign up for student membership [here!](#)). We hope you can join us! You can click on the titles below to register, or go to [www.aegweb.org](http://www.aegweb.org) and navigate to the event via "upcoming events" on the right side.

### Navigating Through School and Internship

April 6, 2pm Eastern / 11am Pacific

Betty Lee of Portland, Oregon plans to share her journey navigating through school and internship using the AEG platform on April 6th, 2022, from 11am-12pm PST. The purpose of her webinar is to share her personal experience and provide insight to others going through similar pathways a guide that may help with their academic/professional career. She will begin her webinar with a brief overview of who she is and her decision to ultimately return to school in order to continue her higher education. Next, she will touch on topics such as how she knew which major to select, the process of transferring to the university from community college, how she landed her internship, how to balance school and internship, and how students can also take this similar path that she hopes will also lead them to success. Lastly, she will end on her next steps and lessons learned.

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## **Fourth Annual Earthquake Summit - March 3, 2022; St. Louis, MO**

This is a regional professional development conference, which previously has been held in the heart of the New Madrid Seismic Zone in southeast Missouri. This conference will be held on Thursday, March 3, 2022, at the St. Louis Science Center. Hundreds of attendees from throughout the region are expected to gather to learn the latest about earthquakes in the Midwest, including the risk, preparedness strategies, and recovery planning. Experts from across the country will lead sessions focused on the latest geological findings, business continuity, insurance challenges, transportation plans, lessons learned from COVID response, building evaluation, communication strategies, and more. Please visit

[https://sema.dps.mo.gov/earthquake\\_preparedness/summit.php](https://sema.dps.mo.gov/earthquake_preparedness/summit.php) for a full agenda and to register for this FREE event.

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## Field Trips

### Dark Skies Observatory

We will try again on Friday evening, March 4, or, if conditions still are not favorable, Saturday evening, March 5. If conditions still do not allow us to visit either of these days, the EMDSO group is very willing to host us on into the future.

All other plans are still in place: **arrive about 6:30 pm**. The observatory is located just west of New Haven, Mo., on the grounds of Cedar Creek Hotel & Event Center. Meals and overnight accommodations are available at Cedar Creek within a range of budgets. Visit [www.cedarcreekcenter.com](http://www.cedarcreekcenter.com) for information on costs and availability. (But remember that our visit will be at the mercy of the cloud cover -- and a final go/no-go decision will not be made until the afternoon when the visit is planned. In that case, we will reschedule for the next date, so make sure your reservation is transferable on short notice.)

The viewing will begin around 7:00 pm, when the skies are dark enough. The best viewing is in the winter when there is little humidity in the atmosphere. Humidity causes distortion of the view through the telescope.

At that late hour -- and considering many miles of dark, curvy back roads on the way back to civilization - the Steckels will host those who would like to stay overnight, including breakfast the next morning. Our home, which is about 12 miles from the observatory, has one guest suite for a couple or small family. We also have a very large Common Room, with full bath and kitchenette, for those who are willing to bring their own sleeping bag. This Common Room space will accommodate up to about 10 students. If this will work for your group, please let me know as soon as possible. There are many other Bed & Breakfast accommodations in the area also.

I think this visit to the Eastern Missouri Dark Skies Observatory will be a lot of fun. Our EMDSO hosts are really looking forward to our visit, and are very accommodating to our schedule.

I will be in touch mid- to late next week to verify that sky conditions will be favorable and that the weather conditions will be bearable. Please contact me at [psteckel@charter.net](mailto:psteckel@charter.net) if you have questions.

AEG members and their guests -- including well behaved kids -- are welcome. This observatory is outdoors, and social distancing will be practiced as much as possible. Being outdoors, it will be cold -- so dress for the weather.

There are many bed & breakfast accommodations, VRBO rentals, and two motels in Washington, Mo., about 10 miles from the Observatory. Also, Rich and Phyllis Steckel live in Washington and have a guest suite for one couple or small family as well as comfortable, lower-level finished space, with full bath and

kitchenette, for 6-10 well-behaved students who are willing to bring their own sleeping bags. This offer includes a free breakfast the following morning. Contact Phyllis directly for details ([psteckel@charter.net](mailto:psteckel@charter.net) or 636-359-1955).

The Eastern Missouri Dark Skies Observers is a group of serious hobbyists, who enjoy sharing their passion for astronomy with others. If you or anyone you know received a new telescope recently, feel free to bring it; the EMDSO members may be able to help you set it up and learn how to better use it. Our point-of-contact with the EMDSO is Mr. Rick Schwentker, retired physics teacher from Washington High School and UM-Rolla alumni. Rick has even offered to host our AEG group more than one night, if necessary.

**If you are interested in joining the group for this visit to the Eastern Missouri Dark Skies Observatory, please send Phyllis Steckel an email ASAP ([psteckel@charter.net](mailto:psteckel@charter.net)).** She will keep a list of those interested, and, if cloudy skies require a reschedule, she will send a blast email by early afternoon of that day.

Fingers crossed for safe travels and clear skies!

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## **AEG Membership Spotlight**

Please follow the link to the Membership Spotlight page. A lucky person will be spotlighted in the Insider and on AEG social media.

<https://aeg.memberclicks.net/membership-spotlight>

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## **St. Louis Chapter Seeks Monthly Meeting Sponsors**

The St. Louis Chapter is seeking sponsors for our meetings. A monthly meeting sponsorship is \$300. As a monthly meeting sponsor, your company will be featured in the meeting announcement and on our Chapter website, and you will have an opportunity to speak for 3-5 minutes about your company prior to the presentation at our virtual meeting. (Slides may be provided to present during this time.) Please contact the treasurer, Luke Ducey ([lducey@geotechnology.com](mailto:lducey@geotechnology.com)) for more information.

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## **Employment: Job Seekers & Open Positions**

### **EMPLOYERS:**

**The below students are looking for employment!** Click on each name to download the student's resume.

[Ms. Alexandra Hirsch](#) will graduate from St. Louis University in May 2022 with a B.S. in Geology.

[Mr. Kaya Kamou](#) will graduate from Missouri University of Science and Technology in May 2022 with a M.S. in Geology and Geophysics.

[Ms. McKayla Mateer](#) will graduate from Missouri University of Science and Technology in May 2024 with a B.S. in Geological Engineering.

**To all Jobseekers and Employers** – Please contact the newsletter editor, **Ben Luetkemeyer** ([ben.luetkemeyer@terracon.com](mailto:ben.luetkemeyer@terracon.com)), to post your search for an employer or employee, and when you have found a new job or filled an advertised position. This helps us keep our postings accurate and timely.

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**AEG St. Louis Chapter Officers, August 2020 - May 2022**

Jessie Goodwin, Chair ([jgoodwin@geotechnology.com](mailto:jgoodwin@geotechnology.com))

Matt Masterson, Vice Chair ([mmasterson@kaskaskiaeng.com](mailto:mmasterson@kaskaskiaeng.com))

Luke Ducey, Treasurer ([lducey@geotechnology.com](mailto:lducey@geotechnology.com))

Ben Luetkemeyer, Secretary ([ben.luetkemeyer@terracon.com](mailto:ben.luetkemeyer@terracon.com))

Stephanie Kline-Tissi, Past Chair ([klinestephaniej@gmail.com](mailto:klinestephaniej@gmail.com))

Midwest Regional Director: Phyllis Steckel ([psteckel@charter.net](mailto:psteckel@charter.net))