

Speaker Bios



Harrisburg Sinkhole Summit 2014

10:00 – 10:45 a.m. - *SINKHOLES 101: The Basics of How They Form*

Mr. William E. Kochanov, Senior Geologist

Mr. Kochanov (pronounced ko-chan'-off) is a state-licensed Senior Geologist with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Topographic and Geologic Survey. Since 1985 he has been mapping and compiling data on sinkholes within the limestone regions of Pennsylvania and providing technical support to state agencies, municipal governments, and the general public with regard to sinkhole remediation. He has also conducted bedrock and resource mapping projects ranging from Pennsylvania's Northern Anthracite Field and Endless Mountains Region to the Chester Valley in the southeastern part of the state. Mr. Kochanov is most noted for authoring the series of county reports specifically designed to characterize sinkholes and karst-related features, their distribution, and their relation to geologic setting in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Richard Lee, PG, RPG, President/Principal Geophysicist

Mr. Lee is the principal geophysicist at Quantum Geophysics, a Division of Gannett Fleming, Inc. He is a professional geologist (Pennsylvania) and a registered geophysicist (California) with over 34 years experience conducting geophysical surveys in support of engineering, environmental, and groundwater investigations. He has worked closely with engineers on a variety of projects, and has carried-out geophysical surveys to evaluate sinkhole activity in areas that include Harrisburg, Palmyra, State College the Lehigh Valley (Allentown, Easton, Bethlehem, and Hellertown, PA), the Great Valley (King of Prussia to Thorndale, PA), Frederick, Maryland, Stephen City, Virginia, and Pinellas, Dade, and Broward counties, Florida. Mr. Lee holds a B.S in geology from Colgate University and a M.S. in geology from the University of Pittsburgh.

10:45 -11:45 a.m. - FEDERAL FUNDING PROGRAMS

Mr. Tom Hughes, Emergency Management Specialist

Mr. Hughes has served as the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO) since March of 2010. As the SHMO, he is the principal staff assistant to the Bureau Director and PEMA Director in hazard mitigation matters. His office is charged in the oversight and execution activities for the 6 open FEMA Hazard Mitigation disasters (DR-1898, 4003, 4025, 4030, 4099, 4149) under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) and 30 FEMA Non-Disaster Hazard Mitigation grants (LPDM, PDM, FMA, RFC and SRL).

His office has oversight on all 67 county FEMA required Hazard Mitigation Plans (HMP), 14 PA State System of Higher Education (SSHE) Disaster Resistant University (DRU) FEMA approved HM plans, and project activities that include but are not limited to home acquisitions/demolitions and home elevations in the floodplain, small structural and flood proofing projects, acquisition of generators and notification and warning system - all from FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance funding streams.

Mr. Hughes is the Co-Chair of the chartered Pennsylvania Silver Jackets Program (Replaced the State Flood Task Force) which involves federal, state, local and professional association stakeholders. The Pennsylvania team was voted the National Team of the year in 2013 by their peers.

1:45 - 2:45 p.m. - LAND USE DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCES

Mr. James Rebmann, PG, Senior Environmental Planner

Mr. Rebmann holds the B.S. and M.S. degrees in physical geography from Eastern Kentucky University. He is currently the Senior Environmental Planner with the Division of Planning for Lexington-Fayette Urban-County Government in Lexington, Kentucky.

Mr. Brian O'Neill, PE, Community Development Director

Mr. O'Neill, P.E., S.E.O. serves at the Director of Community Development and Township Engineer for South Middleton Township in Cumberland County, PA. The Township's public water is supplied by three wells underlain by carbonate bedrock. As part of his duties, he oversees the Township's Wellhead Protection Plan, which includes ordinances regulating land use activities and requiring detailed geotechnical studies in proximity to the wells. Mr. O'Neill is a licensed professional engineer, earning both a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering and a Master's degree in Environmental Engineering from Penn State, as well as a Bachelor's degree in Physics from Gettysburg College.

Mr. Karl Kalbacher, PG, Director of Environment, Economic & Grant Services

Mr. Kalbacher, PG has more than 25 years of technical and management experience in hazardous waste management, investigation and remediation, water resources and hydrogeology for public and private sector clients. Mr. Kalbacher holds a B.S. in Geology from Tulane University and a M.S. in Geology from Stephen F. Austin State University. Mr. Kalbacher has been a Delaware Registered Professional Geologist since 1993, and currently is a part-time Adjunct Professor of Geology and Climate Studies at Cecil College in Maryland.

Mr. Kalbacher is the Director of Environment, Economics & Grant Services at The Ferguson Group (TFG). He leads TFG's environmental regulatory compliance and economic development policy and practice.

2:45 - 3:45 p.m. - INSURANCE PRODUCTS

Dr. Randy Dumm, Associate Director, Center for Insurance, Florida State University

Dr. Dumm is the Hold Professor of Risk Management and Insurance at Florida State University where he teaches in both the undergraduate and graduate risk management and insurance programs. He received his doctorate from The University of Georgia and joined the risk management and insurance faculty at Florida State University in August of 1997. He has been a visiting professor at Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich (Germany), Hannover-Leibnitz University (Germany), Fudan University (Shanghai, China), Krems University of Applied Science (Austria) and he taught at the Vienna University of Business and Economics in 2004 as a Fulbright Scholar.

Dr. Dumm's areas of research interest include catastrophic risk, insurer capital structure, insurer distribution channels, demand for insurance, and insurance product performance. He has published widely across a number of journals including the Journal of Risk and Insurance, Geneva Papers-Risk and Insurance Review, Geneva Papers- Issues and Practice, Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics, Journal of Real Estate Research, Risk Management and Insurance Review, Journal of Insurance Issues, and the Journal of Insurance Regulation.

Dr. Dumm is a member and past Chair of the Florida Commission on Hurricane Loss Projection Methodology and he served on the State of Florida's Task Force on Long-Term Solutions for Florida's Hurricane Insurance Market. He is a past Chair of the Research Academy Board for the National Alliance for Insurance Education and Research and he

currently serves as the Chairman of the Board of Sawgrass Mutual Insurance Company.

Mr. Mark Lersch, Director, Property & Casualty Bureau, Pennsylvania Department of Insurance

Mr. Lersch, a native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania is a graduate of Clarion University of PA. Mr. Lersch served several years as a commissioned officer in the United States Army stationed at Fort Stewart, GA. After a successful military tour of duty, he was hired as an Auto Claims Adjuster with Progressive Insurance. Within four years he moved into management and finished his career as an Auto Claims Branch Manager. He moved on to AIG where he spent five years as a Claims Branch Manager in Greenville, SC.

His most recent industry job, prior to joining the Insurance Department, was an Auto Property Damage Field Manager with Farmers Insurance. Mr. Lersch has over 16 years of industry experience with Insurance Auto Claims, and has been with the Pennsylvania Department of Insurance since October 2011. Mr. Lersch is serving as the director of both the Property & Casualty Bureau and the Administration Bureau.

Mr. James Enders, Vice President, Enders Insurance Associates

When it comes to personal lines, no one does it better than Jim Enders. He's ready for you whether you're moving into your first apartment or building your second house. With over 30 years of experience behind him, Mr. Enders continues to pursue new avenues of expertise. Increased severe weather activity has led him to develop a strong working knowledge of many specialized areas of insurance, including Flood Insurance. For the last year and a half, Mr. Enders has been educating himself and our team on the significant changes to Flood Insurance by way of the Biggert-Waters Act, and has been tapped to share his Flood Insurance knowledge on WITF's SmartTalk, Pennsylvania Association of Flood Plain Managers, the Pennsylvania Bar Association, and more.

Ms. Alexis Fetchko, Associate, Enders Insurance Associates

Ms. Fetchko joined Enders Insurance Associates in 2013. A background in Restoration Services got her started in working with insurance. She started with our Personal Lines unit, where she handled everything from detailed analysis of new clients' needs to walking long-standing clients through difficult claims. A background in Humanities as an undergraduate provides unique perspective for guiding individual clients through complicated personal insurance policies. With this substantial training, Ms. Fetchko is now training with our Commercial Lines Small Business Team to

provide support on issuing new policies and providing customer service. Recognizing the importance of continuing education, she is already in the midst of completing the necessary coursework to obtain the Certified Insurance Service Representative (CISR) designation. The CISR will assist her in providing the absolute best customer service while being continually updated on the changing insurance marketplace. A regular contributor to Our Blog, Ms. Fetchko has also been asked to regularly contribute to Today's the Day Harrisburg. Additionally, Ms. Fetchko was invited to join the YWCA Greater Harrisburg's Junior Board, which provides an avenue to service in support of the YWCA's mission.

3:45 – 4:15 p.m. – CONFERENCE WRAP-UP – “Where Do We Go From Here?”

Ms. Jackie Parker, Executive Director, City of Harrisburg Department of Community and Economic Development

Ms. Parker is the Executive Director of Community and Economic Development for the City of Harrisburg. She possesses extensive public and private sector experience in community and economic development. She was co-creator of the award winning Community Action Team while serving as Deputy Secretary of Community Affairs and Development for Commonwealth of Pennsylvania under Governor Edward G. Rendell. She previously was the elected Mayor of Lebanon, PA, and most recently was the Executive Director of the Chester Economic Development Authority. Ms. Parker has also operated her own community development consulting business, JZ Parker Community Solutions. Ms. Parker is a graduate of St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana.