

June 15-19, 2014

# Illinois Basin Field Camp



It is often said that the best geologists are the ones who spend time studying geology in the field and the same can be said for earth science teachers. Field Camps are designed to take teachers into the field for 3-5 days at an affordable cost and allowing them to study geology first hand and learn new ways to incorporate field experiences into their classroom. During each field camp, teachers will have opportunities to collect mineral, rock and fossil samples to take back to their classrooms.

Who says there isn't amazing geology to discover in the Midwest? Join The Geological Society of America on this 4-day field camp to discover the hidden geological gems of the Illinois Basin in LaSalle County. This trip will be based from Peru, Illinois which lies on the St. Peter Sandstone 125 feet above the Illinois River.

LaSalle County is possibly the most geologically interesting part of the layered Illinois Basin. Every undergrad geology student in the state visits the outcrops along the LaSalle Anticline. LaSalle County is also now ground zero for the frac sand within the St. Peter Sandstone. Three mines have been producing this sand for 100 years and now two more are opening.

During this field camp you will have the chance to tour the underground Viper Coal Mine and the iconic Silurian reef at the Thornton Quarry. Possible rock, mineral and fossil samples to collect include: frac sand, limestone, shale, coal, pyrite nodules, gypsum, penn fossils, sandstone, dolostone, Silurian fossils and others.

Pre-service teachers welcomed!

## Proposed Itinerary:

**June 15-** Arrive at Quality Inn, Peru, IL by 4 pm. Intro walk to Starved Rock/French Canyon.

**June 16-** Study the Paleozoic to the Pleistocene geology of the Illinois Basin in the field. Many stops at quarries and outcrops will occur on this day.

**June 17-** Visit the LaSalle Anticline, take a canal boat ride and hike to Split Rock, Matthiessen Park and hike to the Vermilion River

**June 18-** Travel to Thornton Quarry for a tour of this Silurian reef. Cherry Mine Cemetery and slag piles

**June 19-** Travel to Williamsville to tour the Viper Coal Mine. Wrap up and dismissal.

*\*We will have several hikes throughout the trip. Some will be short while others will be 3 miles long. Some hikes are strenuous. Hiking poles are advisable if you have knee problems.*

*\*\*Note: itinerary is subject to change*

## Field Camp Cost:

Program fee- \$725

GSA Members & their partners- \$625

*\*\*\*Cost includes lodging, breakfasts, transportation, park fees, and field guides\*\*\**

### **The Fine Print**

A \$100 deposit and the enrollment form are due by January 10, 2014 to hold your space on the trip. Final payments are due no later than March 08, 2014. Cancellations received less than 60 days prior to departure are non-refundable (April 16, 2014).

## **About Your Trip Leaders:**

Joe Jakupcak has taught Geology, Ecology and Computer Science to 7-12th grade students in Illinois for the past 39 years. He brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to GSA's Field Camp Program for K-12 Educators. In addition to participating in numerous geology field camps and being named an Exxon Mobile Outstanding Science Teacher, Joe has led several field experiences for teachers. He also has spent the last 15 years teaching workshops at NSTA, ISTA and other conferences. Joe is a member of the Starved Rock Foundation and is the first Lodge hiking guide to lead a 4.6 mile "hike and a lunch" to help educate the public on the geology, flora, and fauna in the area. GSA is pleased to have Joe lead the Illinois Basin Field Camp this year!



Davida Buehler joined The Geological Society of America (GSA) in 2011 as the Teacher Advocate Program Officer (TAP). She creates materials for teachers to use in their classrooms and provides professional development that blends content, activities and pedagogy. Prior to working for GSA, Davida taught Earth Science at the K-12 level for 8.5 years. Her students came from various backgrounds and this encouraged her to develop lessons that would engage and reach students of all abilities and backgrounds. She holds a B.S. in Education from Kent State University and a M.S. in Geosciences from Mississippi State University.



**GSA Field Camps Presents:**

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June 15-19, 2014

**REGISTRATION:**

Program fee is \$725 per person. The program fee for GSA members and their partners is \$625. Deposit due upon registration is \$100 per person. This deposit is refundable up to April 16, 2014. Full payment of balance will be due March 08, 2014. Cancellation penalty after April 16, 2014 is loss of \$100. A \$100 deposit and the enrollment form are due by January 10, 2014 to hold your space on the trip. Final payments are due no later than March 08, 2014. Cancellations received less than 60 days prior to departure are non-refundable (April 15, 2014). We encourage you to take out travel insurance to cover the cost of the trip should an emergency arise after April 15, 2014. Contact Davida Buehler at [dbuehler@geosociety.org](mailto:dbuehler@geosociety.org) for more information.

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To register, please fill out the following below and mail this form with a deposit check/cc details of \$100 person.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
PREFERRED ROOMMATE \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment**      VISA    MasterCard    AMEX      Check

\_\_\_\_\_ Deposit (\$100)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Full Payment GSA Member (\$625)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Full Payment (\$725)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Balance (        )

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_  
Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
Card Code: \_\_\_\_\_      Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make Check Payable to:** The Geological Society of America

**MAIL TO:**

GSA Sales & Services  
Geological Society of America  
3300 Penrose Place  
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