



POST OFFICE BOX 1636, TALLAHASSEE, FL 32302

THE SOUTHEASTERN GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY FIELD TRIP ANNOUNCEMENT
December 2-3, 2016

CEMEX Center Hill Mine, Center Hill, Florida

530 W King Highway, Center Hill, FL 33514

December 2 - Friday Night Meeting / Dinner

December 3 - Saturday Field Trip at Mine

Please submit registration and payment by Wednesday, November 30. Note that registration may close earlier if the 25 attendee cap/limit is reached. We will accept registration on a first come first serve basis.

The Southeastern Geological Society (SEGS) will be hosting a field trip to examine the geology, mining operations, and fossilization of the Center Hill Mine. We have been gracious to have been given the opportunity to visit the CEMEX Center Hill Mine located in Center Hill, Florida (45 miles West of Orlando) and will be provided a guided tour by mine management. This will be a joint field trip shared with the Tampa Bay Fossil Club, and a good time to meet and interact with their members.

CEMEX is the second largest producer of building materials in the world with about 400 quarries in operation and a net revenue exceeding 15 billion dollars. The Center Hill Mine is a quintessential open pit quarry that generates cement products, aggregates, and crushed limerock that has become an industry standard. Attendees will obtain a first-hand look at quarry operations including a dragline style excavator (see attached photo) used to remove blasted rock fragments, and an informational tour by the Aggregate Area Manager and Resource Geology Manager (Jim Witt and Aleta Mitchell-Tapping, PG, PhD, respectively). Cutbanks / exposed outcrops will reveal the local geology that provide this valuable resource to communities at large. **This will be a great opportunity for fossil hunting.** We should expect to find Eocene Ocala Limestone being mined and may also encounter some chert and silicified limestone. Marine fossils are abundant and include mollusks, echinoids, crabs (to a lesser extent) and large foraminifera. It may also be possible to find marine vertebrates (dugong) and terrestrial vertebrates that are associated with infilled karst features that the mining process exposes. Attached are a few photos of some chert and fossils that came from

adjacent mines. Attendees will be allowed to collect specimens to take home. In usual SEGS fashion, attendees will get to share their finds with the group and barter over lunch.

Safety:

All attendees are required to bring the following safety equipment to the mine: hard hat, sturdy closed-toe footwear (preferably steel-toed boots), high visibility vest, safety glasses, gloves, and long pants and sleeved shirt (no tank tops). In addition, attendees may wish to bring digging tools, rock hammers, and buckets/bags to collect specimens. **The age limit for this trip is 12 years old.** Please review the attached safety guidelines. Site specific safety training will be given by mine personnel the morning of the trip and you will be required to sign a liability waiver for CEMEX. Due to safety protocol, we are limited to total of 25 attendees.

Timeline and Logistics:

Friday December 2 Meeting: We will be meeting at 5:30 PM at the Microtel Inn and Suites at 2612 County Road 48, Bushnell, FL 33513 (352-568-2111). We have a meeting room reserved for our use. Feel free to bring your own refreshments. The meeting will consist of:

1. Discussion of local geology of mine (Tom Scott, Harley Means)
2. Presentation of the Cote Blanche, Southern Louisiana Salt Dome Field Trip (including many pictures) by Clint Noble. One of the most unique and mesmerizing SEGS trips.
3. SEGS Business Meeting: 2016 Close Out and 2017 Outline. We welcome input from all members and encourage sharing your ideas on keeping SEGS strong.

After the meeting, those who are interested can join us across the street at Sonny's Barbeque Restaurant (2684 West County Road 48, Bushnell, FL 33513) for networking and socializing over dinner and drinks. Field guidebooks will be distributed for discussion.

Saturday December 3 Field Trip: At 7:15AM we will meet in the parking lot of the Microtel Inn and Suites (2612 County Road 48, Bushnell, FL). We will gather into vehicles and caravan into the mine, about a 20 minute drive. At the mine, we will go through safety training and sign CEMEX waivers. We will take a tour of the operations of the mine and exposed rock outcrops. Harley Means, Tom Scott, Aleta Mitchell-Tapping, and Jim Witt, our subject matter experts, will lead discussions and answer questions. After the tour, we will be allowed to go fossil/specimen collecting in a designated area of the mine for some time. At about noon, we will break for lunch together as a group. Field drinks and boxed lunches (sandwiches) will be provided by SEGS. This will be a great time to socialize with members and share fossil finds. After lunch the field trip will end.

This trip is available to SEGS members only, current with 2016 dues (\$35.00). Members are allowed to bring a guest. In addition, the Field trip fee is \$35.00, and covers a hardcopy field guide, drinks, and box lunch. Please access www.segs.org and go to the membership tab. Use the PayPal function to pay for SEGS due and the trip (note that the \$35 field trip fee is in addition to

the \$35 annual membership fee). Trip information and related forms are also on the website. The trip is also limited to the number of participants due to mine safety concerns; therefore, **register as soon as possible online, attendees will be allowed on a first come first served basis.** Contact Clint Noble at 904-613-2261 to confirm availability or if you have questions. Your registration is NOT considered complete until payment is received AND all required forms (attached) are submitted via email to Clint Noble (cnoble@gfnet.com) and Andy Lawn (alawn@hsweng.com). Members will be notified when registration is closed (when the 25 attendee cap is reached). A block of rooms has been reserved at the Microtel for SEGS.

We look forward to seeing you on this trip to tie off a very productive year with SEGS on this fourth and final event for 2016. Please contact me via cell phone with any questions or concerns. We are gracious to have the assistance from Aleta Mitchell-Tapping and Jim Witt of CEMEX to make this trip happen. In addition, we are grateful to the Tampa Bay Fossil Club, in particular Fred Hendershot, for their planning help and collaborative efforts on this trip.

Regards,

Clint Noble, P.G.
SEGS Vice President
904-613-2261 (cell)
cnoble@gfnet.com

Attached Forms required for Registration: SEGS Waiver, Registration Form, and Guidelines