



PGI Featured Board Member - February 2017



David W. Busch - LPG #1951

Dave is Director of Oil Operations at Citizens Energy Group and is responsible oil and gas operations and development efforts. Previous positions include Director of Gas Supply, Director of Underground Storage, Manager of Underground Storage Fields and Underground Storage Geologist. Prior to joining Citizens Gas in 1981, Dave served for five years as an Engineering Technician and Manager at ATEC Associates in Indianapolis, IN and Denver, CO. Dave is happily married to his girlfriend of 37 years, Patty, and has one son, Daniel.

Dave is currently a member of the Ball State University School of Geology Alumni Board, Society of Petroleum Engineers (past Chair-Midwest Gas Storage Section), American Association of Petroleum Geologists (PGI State Delegate), Professional Geologists of Indiana, Indiana Oil & Gas Association (former Board Member) and American Gas Association, Underground Storage Committee (past Chair).

Question & Answer for Dave

Q: *How long have you been on the Board and what position do you currently hold, if any?*

A: **I am new to the Board and was recently appointed to serve as PGI Delegate to AAPG**

Q: *Where are you from and what is your educational and professional background?*

A: **I was born in Indianapolis and grew up on the northwest side. I attended Ball State University, graduating in 1977. The bulk of my professional career has been spent managing natural gas storage and oil production operations. Through those experiences, I have developed a deep appreciation in the role geologists play in providing dependable sources of energy fuels for consumers and industry.**

Q: *What inspired you to become a Geologist?*

A: **I spent much of my youth camping, hiking and exploring across the country. I was always enamored by the natural world and became an avid rock collector at an early age. Inspiration for geology as a career came through an earth science course at Ball State. I originally was on track to become a history teacher, but changed direction once I was “reintroduced” to geology, and its wonders.**

Q: *What are some of your hobbies or how do you spend your free time?*

A: **I spend a lot of time on the water. Kayaking, canoeing and golfing are favorite hobbies. I have paddled sections of many rivers across the country, including the Colorado, Green, Pecos, Ocoee, Hiwassee, Deschutes, Rio Grande and the mighty White! Additionally, my wife and I have a horse farm in Bloomington that fills in my spare time.**

Q: *Why are you passionate about PGI what do you see as PGI’s main role(s)?*

A: **I am passionate about science education and promoting geology as a career field. I see PGI’s role as a unifier of our diverse geologic specialties into one organization, representing geologists with “one voice” to the legislature, to our peer groups and to the public.**

Q: *What do you hope to see in the future for PGI?*

A: **I would like to expand high school and college students exposure to geology, through site visits and field trips; hopefully providing inspiration to future generations of geologists. I see PGI taking an active role in facilitating and shaping legislation to serve the best interest of our profession and our communities.**

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