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ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS

Southern California Section

"Serving Professionals in Engineering, Environmental,
and Groundwater Geology Since 1957"

NEWSLETTER - JULY/AUGUST 2001

MONTHLY DINNER MEETING

Date: Tuesday, August 14, 2001
Location: Stevens Steakhouse, 5332 Stevens Place, Commerce, CA
Time: 5:30 p.m. - Social Hour; 7:00 p.m. - Dinner; - 8:00 p.m. Presentation
Reservations: Call (949) 253-5924 ext. 564 by 5:00 p.m., Friday, August 10, 2001
Cost: \$25.00 per person with advanced reservations, \$30.00 at the door, and \$10.00 for students w/ valid I.D., "No-shows" will be billed \$10.00

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TREASURER

Jacob Holt
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SPEAKER: Matthew Hawley

TITLE: Managing with locally highly corrosive soils in southern California

ABSTRACT: In assessing sites for potential geologic and geotechnical issues, soil chemistry and the potential for severe corrosion usually takes a back seat to other more prominent issues such as slope stability, settlement, seismic considerations, etc. Recently, Leighton and Associates, Inc. (Leighton) determined that portions of the Monterey Formation and its' lateral equivalents have pyrite-rich tuffaceous beds that can yield pH values below 2.0 and sulfate content of up to 6%. The concentrations of sulfate and the conversion of sulfate to highly concentrated sulfuric acid could have significant negative impacts to building materials in contact with these soils.

Leighton determined the presence of these soils in two different but laterally equivalent bedrock units: the Monterey Formation and the La Vida Member of the Puente Formation located in southern and northern Orange County, respectively. Matthew Hawley of Leighton and Associates, Inc. will present a short discussion of Leighton's encounter with these soils (deemed PASS, Potential Acid Sulfate Soils) including field identification, laboratory testing, mitigation and handling, potential issues resulting from their occurrence, and dealing with a perturbed but conscientious client.

BIO: Matthew Hawley graduated from California State University, Fullerton in 1994 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Geologic Sciences. Matt was hired as a part-time to full-time student employee of Leighton and Associates, Inc. (Leighton) in 1992 and became a permanent full-time employee shortly after graduating in 1994. Nine years later, Matt finds himself as a senior project geologist and project manager of Leighton and is currently with their Westlake Village office. Matt spent several years in the field working on an array of projects including the Eastern Transportation Corridor and numerous residential developments throughout Orange County. He has managed several projects including the recently constructed 5-million-gallon Zitnik Reservoir located in northern Laguna Beach. Currently, Matt finds himself managing small and large-scale grading projects, assisting staff-level geologists in preparing for field investigations, in-grade observation, mapping procedure and technical report writing; he also provides geotechnical services for the City of Calabasas as a technical reviewer.

CHAIR'S COLUMN

By David Seymour

Our June speaker, **Dr. Jeff Keaton** gave an informative presentation on the development of guidelines for seismic rehabilitation of buildings, based on work that he spearheaded as part of FEMA 273 and 274 from 1989 through 1997. Jeff and his wife, **Julie Keaton**, recently moved back to southern California from Arizona. As many of you know, Julie now organizes the national annual meetings. It's nice to have both of you back in Southern California. Our August speaker, **Matthew Hawley**, is one of our younger members (he's under 40-I think that justifies as young) and will be presenting a topic that many of us have literally been walking over for too many years. His curiosity, which tends to be the hallmark of many good geologists, led him to the findings that he will be presenting. I encourage you to come out and learn something new.

"When you are in politics you are in a wasp's nest with a short shirrtail." – Mark Twain. After months of hard work by our legislative committee and lobbyist, and the Board of Geologists and Geophysicists (BGG), we were all stung hard in July by Cal EPA, who at the last minute, decided to object to the language in our revised act (Senate Bill 136). The result-our revised act was taken out of the bill and will probably not be heard again this year (though there is a slight chance it may be reviewed in August). Why would Cal EPA blindside the BGG at the last minute? It's hard to say at this point, but it appears that they want to give REA's the right to practice geology. We have another uphill battle in front of us, along with BGG, in dealing with this new confrontation. I'd like to thank **Joe Cota**, **Buzz Spellman**, **Hugh Robertson**, and **Robert Larson** for dedicating so much of their time and continued effort in tackling our registration and other legislative issues. As always, we'll keep you posted in the months ahead.

PASSING OF HELMUT EMIL EHRENSPECK

I'm saddened to inform you that Helmut Emil Ehrenspeck died July 1 at the Golden Trout Nature Camp in the Sierra Nevada. He was 58. Helmut passed on in his sleep the day of his arrival at the camp where he was scheduled to lecture on geology. A memorial service led by Eva Ehrenspeck and Gerhard Ehrenspeck, Helmut's sister and brother, was held on Friday July 27, 2001, at Fleischmann Hall at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. As many of you know, Helmut was the driving force behind the publishing of the Dibblee geologic map series. Our thoughts go out to Helmut's family, Tom Dibblee, Jr., and Helmut's close friends and colleagues at the Dibblee Geological Foundation.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

If you are unsure about your membership status, please contact **Wendy Schell**, Membership Chair, **Tania Gonzalez**, Secretary, or **David Seymour**, Section Chair.

E-MAIL OR SNAIL MAIL

We continue to receive requests from members for e-mail versions of the newsletter. You can request the change over at anytime, but please remember this is an either/or option. Please e-mail **David Seymour** at seymourgeo@hotmail.com if you would like to receive the e-mail version only.

WEBSITE

Robert Pierotti has volunteered to be our webmaster. Robert is the webmaster for one of the web sites maintained by the California Department of Water Resources. Funding for the website is now available and construction of the site is underway. Also, check out the SoCal Section splash page at the AEG national site (www.aegweb.org).

YEAR 2001 CONTRIBUTORS TO OUR SECTION

Thanks to:

Larry Cann
William Elliott
Dr. Peter Weigand (CSUN)
GeoSoils Consultants, Inc.
Grover-Hollingsworth & Associates
Petra Geotechnical, Inc.
Stoney-Miller Consultants, Inc.
Zeiser Kling Consultants, Inc.
Additional donations are still needed, so please consider sending in a contribution.

MEETINGS AND FIELDTRIPS

AEG/AIPG Annual Meeting-October 2-5, 2001

Where: St. Louis, MO

Contact: www.aegweb.orgIAEG 9TH Congress-September 16-20, 2002

Where: Durban, South Africa

Contact: <http://stanfield.und.ac.za/Durban2002/>

YEAR 2001 MEETING SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Location</u>
January 9	Dr. Susan Owen	Steven's Steakhouse
February 13	Mike Hart	Steven's Steakhouse
March 13 (Joint w/ ASCE)	Dr. Tom Rockwell	Steven's Steakhouse
April 2 (Joint w/ SCGS)	Dr. Roy Shlemon	El Adobe Restaurant
May 8	Andrea Donnellan-JPL	Steven's Steakhouse
June	Dr. Jeff Keaton	Steven's Steakhouse
July	NO MEETING	
August	Matthew Hawley	Steven's Steakhouse
Sept. 11	Rex Upp-AEG President	Steven's Steakhouse
October	NO MEETING	AEG National Sept. 30 thru Oct. 7
November	Joint meeting with IGS	TBA
December	TBA	

Please contact **Lorraine Muto**, Vice Chair, if you would like to volunteer as a speaker or have a "lead".

AEG SOCIAL SECTION COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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 LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS - Joe Cota (818) 785-2158 (cotageo@thevine.com)
 PUBLICATIONS - Dawn James (818) 707-8320 (djames@leightongeo.com)
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 SHORT COURSES - Kerry Cato (909) 506-9688
 EDUCATION - Ali Tabidian (818) 677-2536
 EDITOR - Desirée Dier (619) 445-5336 (ddier1@home.com)

NEWSLETTER EDITOR NEEDED!

Desirée Dier, our current newsletter editor needs more time to complete her Masters Degree at SDSU. As such, we're in search of a new editor. Desirée is one of the few student volunteers that we've had over the years, and has done a splendid job as our editor. If you are interested in *taking over* our newsletter, please contact Dave Seymour.

FIELDTRIP CHAIR NEEDED!

We are still looking for a fieldtrip chair. If you would like to volunteer, or have any fieldtrip ideas, please contact Dave Seymour.

DIBBLEE MAPS NOW ON CD

The Dibblee Geological Foundation recently produced 100 CDs of 18 of Tom's geological maps. Each CD includes 23 quadrangles from Camarillo to Mt. Wilson. CDs are available prepaid for \$110. Mail requests to:

Dibblee Geological Foundation
 P.O. Box 2309
 Camarillo, CA 93011
 (805) 987-5846

RATES FOR ADVERTISING IN AEG SOCIAL SECTION NEWSLETTER

Corporate and Members:

Preprinted Insert	\$300/yr
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Monthly Ads (Members & Non-Members)

1 pg	\$75/mnth
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SUMMARY OF BGG MEETING-APRIL 20, 2001

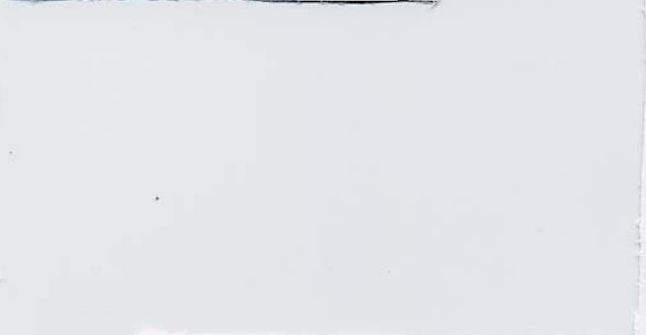
By Buzz Spellman

Quorum consisted of Cummings (Pres.), Hoose, Melikian & Reid; absent Dominguez, Vacant Petrol Geologist & Public member.

Attendees: Mary Lynn Ferriera, BGG Attnys. Don Chang & Gary Duke, Judy Wolen, and Buzz

Spellman, Betsy Mathieson, Ernie Weber (for John Williams), Ted Smith, Julia Turney, J. C. Isham, Richard Bailey.

1. George Dunfield, RG Sacramento, hired as Enforcement Manager replacing Mary Scruggs, CEG.
2. Brian Hirst, RG & RGp, Bakersfield, approved for TAC Geophysical spot.
3. BGG unanimously voted to delete Section 7833(c)-Personal Liability- from the Revised Act as requested by the SC Section in its letter of 3/30/01 to Sen Liz Figueroa's SB136. Hearing on this omnibus bill is 4/30/01.
4. On behalf of SC geologists, I asked if there was a "Conflict of Interest" with J. C. Isham being Chair of BGG Legislative Committee, as well as Chair of San Francisco's AEG Legislative Committee and member of Sacramento's AEG Leg. Comm? Don Chang opined: "No, because he is not a BGG member". AEG pays lobbyist Judy Wolen for legislative services. The Board pays nothing, yet benefits from Isham's interaction with AEG. I ask, is this influence peddling?
5. BGG voted unanimously against Sweeney's recommendation to eliminate the California Specific portion of the Registered Geologist examination. The BGG will revisit this issue in 2 years.
6. The Board's policy on posting closed enforcement cases on their website was challenged



Results: BGG will consider changing their enforcement internet policy at the next BGG meeting July 20, 2001. I asked for a copy of the policy, but none came forth (Seena Hoose said it was about a 2 year old policy).

8. BGG "adopted" regulations prohibiting the use of seals on Natural Hazard Disclosure Statements. There was a "Glitch" in proposed language ie. it said "physical reports" and should have been "geophysical reports" so it goes to a 15 day Notice and is adopted if there is no objection by the public.

9. Buzz brought AB269 (Correa) to the attention of the Board as it was not on their agenda, nor J. C. Isham's. In my opinion, this bill should be OPPOSED. It not only sets up an OVERSIGHT ENFORCEMENT DIVISION, which will be costly to the Boards as they pay for the new division, and, the bill sets up a committee of 3 (1 from Governor's office, 1 from DCA and 1 from the Geology Board) to select the Executive Officer. Thus, the Board loses control of who they feel best suits there needs. The BGG will take it under advisement at their 7/20/01 meeting.

Scuttlebutt: Bob Tepel (CEG) and Donna Thompson (Petro. Geol.) were scheduled for the BGG, but the lack of a quorum at the State Mining & Geology Board was so serious that both were asked by the Governor's Appointment secretary and John Parrish, EO if they would serve on the Mining & Geology Board. The rest is history.

Buzz Spellman

STOUT SCHOLARSHIP

The Southern California Section of the Association of Engineering Geologists is now accepting applications for the **2001 Martin L. Stout Scholarship**. The scholarship is valued at \$500 and is open to all student members of AEG. The deadline for applications is **October 31, 2001**. Application forms may be obtained by sending your name and address to **David Seymour**, Chairman of the Southern California Section of AEG at **26276 Buscador, Mission Viejo, CA 92692**, e-mail address is seymourgeo@hotmail.com.

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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SECTION**

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Ordered By/Shipping Address:

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ADDRESS		C/O Leighton and Assoc., Inc
CITY, STATE, ZIP		31344 Via Colinas, Ste 102
PHONE		Westlake Village, California 91362
		Attention: Dawn James
		Ph.: (818) 707-8320 ext. 224 (Inquiries only, orders must be mailed with payment)

TITLE / DESCRIPTION	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
Baldwin, J.E. and Sitar, N., 1991, Loma Prieta Earthquake: engineering geologic perspectives. AEG Special Publication No. 1, 170p	\$10.00		
Bishop, K, and Tandy, 1995, Ground Failure during the January 17, 1994 Northridge earthquake: Association of Engineering Geologists, Southern California Section, Annual Field Trip Guidebook, November 11, 1995, 106p.	\$20.00		
Shlemon, R.J., 1993, Applications of Soil Stratigraphy to Engineering and Environmental Geology. Short Course Volume I, 3-ring binder	\$20.00		
Briggs, R.P. and Parke, C.D., 1990, Guide to Field Trips in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia. AEG 33 rd Annual Meeting, October 1-5	\$15.00		
Blake, T. and Larson, R.A., eds. 1991, Engineering geology along the Simi-Santa Rosa fault system and adjacent areas. Simi Valley to Camarillo, Ventura County, California: AEG, Southern California Section, Annual Field Trip Guidebook, August 24, 1991, v. 1& 2, 383 p. 4 map sheets	\$25.00		
Buddey, C.L., and Larson, R.A., eds., 1990, Geology and Engineering Geology of the Western Soledad Basin Los Angeles County, California: Association of Engineering Geologists, Southern California Section, Annual Field Trip Guidebook, November 3, 1990, 185 p., 2 map sheets	\$15.00		
Byer, J.W., 1975 Sycamore Canyon Fault. Verdugo Fault. York Boulevard Fault. Raymond Fault. Sierra Madre Fault Zone	\$20.00		
Highway and Railroad Slope Maintenance: AEG, 34 th annual meeting, September 29 th - October 4 th , 1991	\$10.00		
Leighton, F.B. Mitigation of geotechnical litigation in California: Munson Book Associates, Huntington Beach, California, 274p.	\$20.00		
Sieh, K.E., and Matti, J.C., 1992, Earthquake geology, San Andreas fault system, Palm Springs to Palmdale: AEG, 35 th Annual Meeting, Field Trip Guidebook, October 3-4, 1992	\$10.00		
Stout, M.L., ed., 1992, Proceedings of the 35th annual meeting, Association of Engineering Geologists, October 2-9, 1992: 740p.	\$5.00		
Tepel, R, 1995, Professional Licensure for Geologists, an Exploration of Issues, Association of Engineering Geologists Special Publication No. 7, 1995			
Cann, L.R., Cobarrubias, Hollingsworth, B., 1992, Engineering Geology Field Trips Orange County, Santa Monica Mountains, and Malibu: AEG 35 th Annual Meeting, Field Trip Guidebook, October 2-9, 1992	\$10.00		
Los Angeles Metro Rail System Field Trip Guidebook. Association of Engineering Geologists, 35 th Annual Meeting October 2-9, 1992 Long Beach, California	\$10.00		

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1-3 yrs experience. CEG Career Path, field experience & excellent computer skills. Report writing experience & skills. Solid work history. BS, MS (pref'd).

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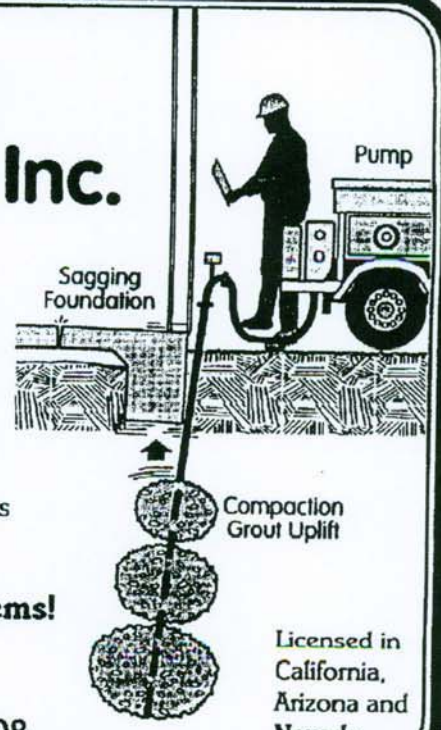
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