



# ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS

Southern California Section

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

## NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2002

### MONTHLY DINNER MEETING

**Date:** Tuesday, April 9, 2002  
**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, April 5, 2002  
**Cost:** \$30.00 per person with advanced reservations, \$35.00 at the door, and \$10.00 for students w/ valid I.D., "No-shows" will be billed \$10.00

### FUNDRAISING DINNER FOR THE CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF GEOSCIENCE ORGANIZATIONS

**SPEAKER:** Dr. Bob Watters  
**TITLE:** Realism in volcano hazard zonation: Does geo-engineering help provide more accurate assessment

**ABSTRACT:** Significant rock strength reductions, as a result of weathering processes, often result in slope instability. The strength reduction caused by hydrothermal alteration is not well documented or understood. Economic geologists have long recognized the relationship between alteration and mineralization, but only recently has this relationship been correlated with rock strength and applied to surface and underground mining or construction excavations. Extrapolating the concepts of engineering slope design to the volcano environment shows potential for improving assessments of the hazard of sector collapse and subsequent catastrophic rock avalanche or lahar.

**BIO:** Dr. Bob Watters obtained his Ph.D. in Engineering Geology from Imperial College. He is a Professionally Registered Engineer in both geological and civil engineering and was the AEG-GSA Richard H. Jahns Distinguished Lecturer for 2000-2001.

#### OFFICERS

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Steven's Steak House, 5332 Stevens Place, City of Commerce, T.G. 675 G-3, (213) 723-9856

CHAIR'S COLUMN**By David Seymour**

Our March 2002 joint meeting with the ASCE Geotechnical Group was great, with a little more than 70 attendees. Thanks again to **Rossanna D'Antonio, ASCE Treasurer**, for inviting **Ed Harp** as the guest speaker. Ed gave a great presentation on earthquake-induced landslides generated during the 2001 El Salvador earthquakes.

Our April 2002 meeting is a fundraising event for the California Council of Geoscience Organizations.

**Past Chairmen & "Old Timers" Night**

I've received several enthusiastic responses over the last few weeks from many of the past chairman. For those who haven't responded, please let me know what year you held office either via e-mail [seymourgeo@hotmail.com](mailto:seymourgeo@hotmail.com) or voicemail (714) 549-8921.

**Raffle Items**

Our February raffle was a huge success thanks to the generous contributions of **Larry Cann, Paul Davis, and Buzz Spellman**. This raffle provides a great opportunity for our younger members to build their professional libraries with oftentimes classic and out of print publications. Don't forget to buy your tickets at the next meeting, and please don't hesitate to contribute raffle items as well.

**Legislative News**

**Joe Cota**, our Legislative Chair, along with **Hugh Robertson** and **Buzz Spellman** have been busy reviewing several bills recently identified by our lobbyist, Judy Wolen. An update on legislative affairs will be provided in upcoming newsletters, as much of the evaluation is still in progress.

**Electronic Newsletter and Website**

In order to set up and maintain a website, etc., we **MUST** reduce mailing costs. Last month those of you who have been receiving the paper newsletter, and have provided email addresses to National received both versions. This month, these members will only receive the electronic version (with the exception of the few who requested to remain with the paper version). For those that only received the paper version, we encourage you to contact Jeff Kofoed to request the electronic version of the newsletter. The e-issue is in Adobe Acrobat Reader, identical to the paper version, printer friendly, with software free at [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com) Every bit helps!

**2007 Annual Meeting**

Many thanks to **Jeff Keaton** who has volunteered to co-chair the 2007 Annual Meeting. Jeff got me so excited about it, I agreed to co-chair as well. If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Jeff or I.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

If you are unsure about your membership status, please contact AEG Headquarters [aegweb.org](http://aegweb.org), **Jeff Kofoed**, Secretary, or me. We are currently looking for a new Membership Chair. Please contact **David Seymour** if you wish to volunteer.

YEAR 2002 CONTRIBUTORS NEEDED

Contributions from corporations and individual members for 2002 are greatly appreciated. Contributors will be listed in our newsletter throughout the year and can post their logo or business card in the newsletter if so desired. Please mail contributions made out to **AEG** to our section chair, David Seymour, 26276 Buscador, Mission Viejo, CA 92962.

CALIFORNIA GEOLOGY MAGAZINE

The CDMG has recently discontinued the bimonthly magazine California Geology, a casualty of the State budget wrangling. Please visit this site and lodge your responses to their online survey:

[http://www.consrv.ca.gov/dmg/pubs/cg/surv\\_intro.htm](http://www.consrv.ca.gov/dmg/pubs/cg/surv_intro.htm)

YEAR 2002 MEETING SCHEDULE

<b>Date</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Location</b>
April (Joint w/ CCGO)	Bob Watters	Steven's Steakhouse
May	Jeff Keaton	Steven's Steakhouse
June (Past Chairmen Night)	Josh Feffer	Steven's Steakhouse
July	NO MEETING	
August	NO MEETING	
Sept.	TBA	TBA
October	TBA	TBA
November (Joint w/ IGS)	TBA	TBA
December	NO MEETING	

AEG SOCIAL SECTION COMMITTEE  
CHAIRS

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EDUCATION - Ali Tabidian (818) 677-2536  
 EDITOR – Jeff Kofoed ([jkofoed@pacbell.net](mailto:jkofoed@pacbell.net))

FIELDTRIP AND MEMBERSHIP  
CHAIRS NEEDED!

We are still looking to fill both chair positions. If you would like to volunteer, or have any fieldtrip ideas, please contact David Seymour.

ADVERTISING IN THE NEWSLETTER

Contact your section Chairman.

**AEG NEWS**

**Groundwater Resources Association of California  
 In Cooperation with the Association of Engineering Geologists  
 Present:**

Statistics for Groundwater Investigations:  
 Touring Data in One to Three Dimensions

The Groundwater Resources Association of California will conduct a one-day seminar on *Statistics for Groundwater Investigations* May 7, 2002 (Tuesday) in Walnut Creek, CA and on May 9, 2002 (Thursday) in Newport Beach, CA. Dennis Helsel, Ph.D., Geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey, will be the seminar leader. Dr. Helsel received his Ph.D. in Environmental Science and Engineering from Virginia Tech and is co-author of the textbook, *Statistical Methods in Water Resources* (1992). He has designed and taught training courses on environmental statistics since 1986.

Tips for touring environmental data are remarkably similar whether traveling in one dimension (describing data), two dimensions (plots and regression models), or cruising along 3-D surfaces like kriging. Some roads are smooth, others bumpy. This one-day guided tour stops at some of the best-loved locations, as well as important out of the way spots, to understand the landscape of interpreting environmental data.

**Data Touring Topics:**

- *Know your passengers:* data characteristics, including mass versus frequency
- *Know your vehicle:* hypothesis tests, plots, regression models, and surfaces
- *Lurking assumptions:* dealing with outliers and skewed distributions
- *Decision points:* dealing with values below detection limits
- *Tools to get you to your destination:* principles applicable in 1 and 3-dimensions, including kriging

More details registration information, costs, and hotel locations are located on GRA's web site at [www.grac.org](http://www.grac.org). Sign up on the web site to receive more details as they become available. A complete course outline will be provided in the near future.

## ICBO

The International (Building) Code Council has published CCGO's proposed code change along with numerous other proposed changes. Our proposal will be heard Wednesday, April 10, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, near the end of the Structural hearings. Please remember that this change is only one small step toward beefing up the minimal grading appendix of the International Building Code (which replaces the Uniform Building Code). We hope to submit at least one change each year and to participate in the annual hearings as a means of retaining our hard-won influence in the code development community, as well as bird-dogging other organizations that submit their own proposed changes, some of which typically undermine our own efforts and jeopardize public safety.

The link below includes more proposed changes to the Structural code, General code (both Structural and General often have items dealing with excavations, seismicity, and other pertinent issues), and other changes, as well additional information on the April hearings (click on "ICC Home" at the bottom).

[www.intlcode.org/codes/2002cycle/2002proposals.html](http://www.intlcode.org/codes/2002cycle/2002proposals.html)

Betsy Mathieson, Chair, CCGO Code Development Committee email: [emathieson@exponent.com](mailto:emathieson@exponent.com)

## AEG NATIONAL: NEWS

### **Ideas Sought for Symposium on the Future of Engineering Geology at AEG-AIPG 2002, Reno, Nevada.**

We will have a special symposium at the Reno meeting, titled "Visioning the Future of Engineering Geology: Sustainability and Stewardship." Why this symposium? Yogi Berra said it best: **BE VERY CAREFUL –IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU ARE GOING...YOU MIGHT NOT GET THERE.**

This symposium will explore ways to add value to engineering geology practice in the years to come, and develop strategies to overcome conditions that threaten the viability of the profession.

Engineering Geology has been evolving for well over a century. Where is Engineering Geology headed in the 21<sup>st</sup> century – or even the next twenty years? Where *should* it be going? What can be done – and by whom or by what organizations – to help Engineering Geology fulfill its potential as the prime geologic specialty that directly impacts human health and safety, and supplies solutions to geologically-based engineering, environmental, and public safety problems?

This symposium provides an opportunity for individuals who believe in the value of engineering geology, and the professional organizations that are responsible for its future, to develop a shared and coordinated strategy to keep engineering geology alive and growing, and to keep engineering geologists engaged in using their special expertise to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

Topics under development are:

- Site characterization as the *raison d'être* for engineering geology
- The role of statutory licensure in the practice and future of engineering geology, and the role of engineering geology in the future of statutory licensure
- Sunrise to sunset: antidotes for poison pills
- The semi-independent licensure board: a solution to financial and legislative headaches?
- The role and feasibility of academic department program accreditation in engineering geology
- Engineering geology in building and grading codes, regulations, laws, and practice guidelines

- The evolution and future of the ASBOG geology licensure examination and state engineering geology certification examinations
- Engineering geology professional associations: are their missions incomplete and their visions clouded?
- Closing workshop: creating the future of engineering geology

As the convener of this symposium, I would like input from geologists who care about our profession and its future. Send me your ideas. What is important to you? What blunders have been made (or blinders worn) in guiding the profession in the past? What are the risks for the future? How do you feel about the topics selected thus far? Any suggestions for speakers and more topics? Thanks!

Robert E. Tepel  
767 Lemonwood Ct.  
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voice 408-997-3437, facsimile 408-997-6932  
[bobtepel@pacbell.net](mailto:bobtepel@pacbell.net)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**LEIGHTON & ASSOCIATES**

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 Fax 949-250-1769  
[resume@gtginc.com](mailto:resume@gtginc.com) [www.leightongeo.com](http://www.leightongeo.com)  
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TerraPacific Consultants, Inc. is a San Diego based geotechnical consulting firm specializing in soil and foundation engineering throughout the southwest. We are seeking a motivated geotechnical engineer who is interested in finding solutions to challenging engineering problems. Position responsibilities include project management, collecting field data, analysis, report writing and client communication. Qualified candidates must have a P.E., minimum of 5 years experience and good communication skills. At least two years experience in geotechnical forensic investigations is preferred. A G.E. is a plus. The right qualified, independent and hard-working individual will be offered an excellent salary, profit sharing and benefit package commensurate with their experience. Please submit a resume and cover letter to: TerraPacific Consultants, Inc., 12245 World Trade Drive, Suite G, San Diego, CA 92128; or by fax to 858-521-1199; or by e-mail to [jimg@terrapac.net](mailto:jimg@terrapac.net).



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Email: [info@lgcgeo.com](mailto:info@lgcgeo.com)

**US LABORATORIES, INC.**

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E-mail: [mobrien@uslaboratories.com](mailto:mobrien@uslaboratories.com)

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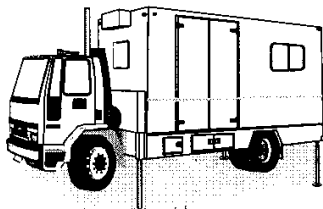
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TITLE / DESCRIPTION	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
Baldwin, J.E. and Sitar, N., 1991, <b><u>Loma Prieta Earthquake: engineering geologic perspectives</u></b> , AEG Special Publication No. 1, 170p	\$10.00		
Bishop, K, and Tandy, 1995, <b><u>Ground Failure during the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

**DELIVERY CHARGES ARE \$3.50 FOR THE FIRST BOOK,  
\$1.00 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL BOOK**

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**COURSE SCHEDULE/LOCATION**

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**  
 Monday - May 6, 2002 - Geotechnical  
 Tuesday - May 7, 2002 - Environmental  
**8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** (Registration begins at 8:00)  
**HYATT REGENCY - Long Beach**  
 200 South Pine Avenue  
 Long Beach, CA 90802  
 (562) 491-1234

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND**

The courses are intended for Geotechnical Engineers and Engineering Geologists working with foundation design, liquefaction, and geotechnical site investigation and Geologists, Engineers, and Environmental Professionals working with environmental site assessment and remedial design. These short courses represent 8 hours of Professional Development Hours (PDH's) per day. A certificate will be issued upon completion.

**PURPOSE**

Site characterization is the basic first step for any geotechnical or geo-environmental study. This short course will provide engineers and geologists with the knowledge and background to plan and supervise site investigation and to interpret CPT and SPT data. Emphasis will be given to recent advances and regulatory requirements in the area of liquefaction potential determination and remedial design considerations.

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**COURSE CONTENT**

May 6th	May 7th
<b>Geotechnical Site Investigation</b> CPT Data Interpretation Design Liquefaction Equipment Testing Procedures Case Studies Field Demonstrations	<b>Environmental Site Investigation</b> CPT Data Interpretation Use of CPT Data in Remediation Field Screening Tools Sampling Tools Small Diameter Well Installations Injection of Compounds Case Studies Field Demonstrations
WORKED EXAMPLES AND CASE HISTORIES WILL BE GIVEN TO ILLUSTRATE THE CONCEPTS. A COMPREHENSIVE SET OF NOTES WILL BE PROVIDED TO ASSIST WITH THE COURSE MATERIAL.	

**COURSE INSTRUCTORS**

**Peter Robertson, Ph.D.**, Peter Robertson, Ph.D., Professor of Geotechnical Engineering, University of Alberta – Dr. Robertson has more than 25 years of professional experience in geotechnical engineering for both private industry and academia. Dr. Robertson, in association with Dr Campenella, developed the widely used Robertson-Campenella Soil Behavior Classification Chart. His recent research has focused on the use of CPT in liquefaction investigation

**David Woeller P.E.**, President, Cone Tec, Inc. – Mr. Woeller is a geotechnical engineer with more than 25 years of professional experience in geotechnical site investigation and foundation design. He has specialized in the development of CPT techniques including the seismic cone, resistivity cone and SPT energy calibration systems for use in foundation design and liquefaction investigations.

**Tim Boyd**, General Manager, Pitcher Drilling, Inc. - Mr. Boyd is a geotechnical engineer with more than 10 years of professional experience in environmental and geotechnical site investigation. Mr. Boyd has focused on the use of CPT for environmental site investigation and remedial design.

**\* For additional course details and locations visit our web site at [www.greggdrilling.com/seminars](http://www.greggdrilling.com/seminars)**

**SHORT COURSE REGISTRATION FORM**

Payment must be received by April 26, 2002 to qualify for early registration fee.  
 Please indicate which seminar you plan to attend:

- Monday - May 6, 2002 \$135.00 early registration - \$200.00 late registration
- Tuesday - May 7, 2002 \$135.00 early registration - \$200.00 late registration
- Both days - May 6 & 7, 2002 \$185.00 early registration - \$300.00 late registration

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 ATTN: Kim Love      Web Site: [www.greggdrilling.com](http://www.greggdrilling.com)

Registration fee includes seminar, reference materials, continental breakfast, lunch, and break refreshments. Class size is limited; early registration is advised. On-site registration will be on a space available basis.

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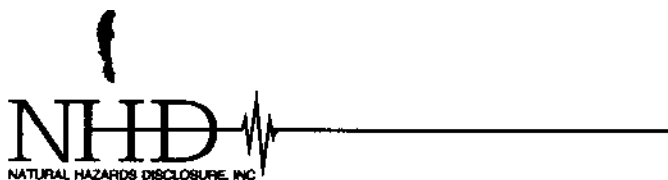
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**Site Assessment Report - Meets Year 2000 ASTM Standards**

Our report identifies agency-listed hazardous waste / contaminated sites, solid waste landfills, hazardous waste transfer stations, spills, underground storage tanks and leaking underground fuel tanks in proximity to the subject site. The databases used were obtained from selected government agencies in charge of collecting and keeping such records in accordance with ASTM E-1527-00 (Standard Government Records Inquiry for Commercial Real Estate Transactions).

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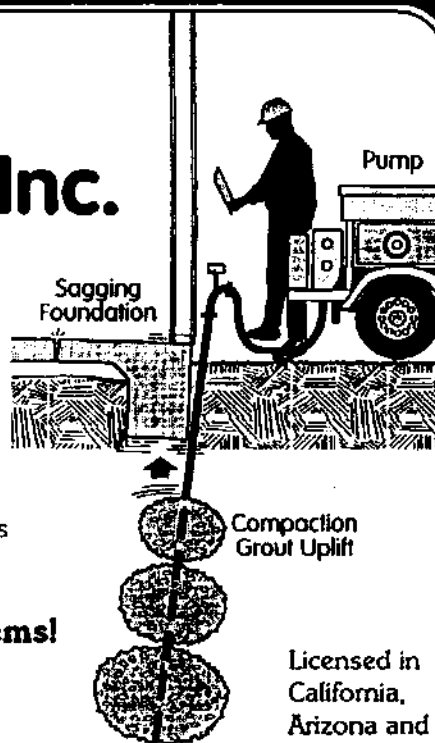
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