



**ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL & ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS**  
**Southern California Section**  
*"Connecting Professionals, Practice, and the Public."*

***NEWSLETTER – January 2009***

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- Meeting Date:** **\*\*\*Thursday, January 15th\*\*\***
- Location:** **Victorio's Ristorante: 10901 Victory Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91606**
- Time:** 6:00 p.m.-Social Hour; 7:00 p.m.-Dinner; 7:45 p.m.-Presentation
- Cost:** \$30 per person with reservations, \$35 without reservations, \$15 with a valid Student ID.
- Reservations:** Please e-mail Jon Relyea at [jon@radiusmaps.net](mailto:jon@radiusmaps.net) or call 800-554-3205
- Speaker:** **George Dunfield, California Board for Geologists and Geophysicists**
- Topic:** **PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS: FUNCTIONAL APPLICATION OF THE SHARED RESPONSIBILITY PRINCIPLE FOR UTILIZING PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS**

**Abstract:**

Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists (AEG) is devoted to developing professional responsibility on the part of environmental and engineering geologists and seeks to maintain high professional standards and enhance awareness of the responsibility of these professionals to the public in general. The Board for Geologists and Geophysicists (BGG) is mandated by law to protect the public from both unlicensed and substandard practice of geology and geophysics in their various environmental, engineering and groundwater branches. Public-private partnerships better serve the public interest than old-style bureaucratic, top-down, command-and-control approaches. California's unique interface of geology and the public interest – its health, safety, infrastructure, economic well-being – is well-served by a vigorous AEG and mission-driven BGG. Recent revisions to the professions Code of Professional Standards (Title 16, Div. 29 section 3065) provide an opportunity for AEG to now apply the principle of shared responsibility in promoting, maintaining and enforcing higher professional standards of practice in California.

**Speaker Information:**

DUNFIELD, George C., California Board for Geologists and Geophysicists, 1625 North Market Boulevard, N-324, Sacramento, CA 95833 [Geology@dca.ca.gov](mailto:Geology@dca.ca.gov)

George Dunfield (PG) began working for the Board on May 7, 2001. He has worked for the State Water Resources Control Board, NASA/Ames Research Center (as a NRC scientific research Co-operator and Project Manager) and before this, for various geotechnical, geologic, and environmental engineering firms in the western United States.

Amongst the various projects completed as geologic NRC scientific research Co-operator at NASA/Ames, Mr. Dunfield lead field deployments to the Haughton impact crater site on Devon Island in the Canadian High Arctic while working on the Haughton-Mars project in 1998 and 1999. The results of these assessments have been used by NASA to evaluate proposed future Mars mission landing sites.

Closer to home, he has been principal-in-charge, geologist in responsible charge of work or participating geologist on hundreds of geologic, environmental, and geotechnical projects, reports and evaluations and has extensive dispute resolution experience.

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| <b>BGG Meeting Announcement</b> |
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Charles Nestle

**BGG Meeting November 20, 2008 – Los Angeles**

The Board for Geologists and Geophysicists (BGG) participated in the Department of Consumer Affairs “Professionals Achieving Consumer Trust Summit” held November 17-21, 2008 in Los Angeles, California. The BGG maintained a consumer information and resource booth during the conference. The November 20, 2008 Board meeting made part of the summit was lead by BGG President Blake (PG), Vice President Ashby (PG, CEG) and Members Yu, Black (PGp) and Husar.

Two representatives from the State Office of Examination Resources (OER) discussed the OER’s function and how they can assist the BGG with their examination processes. The OER provides exams validated by psychometricians to be fair and legally defensible. Business and Professions Code 139 requires the OER to compile and report on methods used to comply with their mandate. This includes developing occupational analyses, exam development plans, and scoring exams (they do not administer them, however). Much of this is moot, however, since the BGG uses a national exam, the ASBOG, as their exam for licensure as a PG. The OER’s services could be used for the California Supplementary Exam, should the BGG choose to contract for this service.

The BGG recruits Subject Matter Experts (SME) for various OER exam workshops. Some workshops go through the test item bank and classify each item into a category within the Occupational Analysis; pass point workshops determine the score at which an examinee passes (and may recommend revisions to or elimination of some questions). Statistical analyses are performed on pass rates of each item based on the number of hits on each possible answer (a through d or e, for example). This assists the OER in determining if a test question is performing adequately, or should be re-written, or dropped from the question bank. The BGG is always looking for licensees to volunteer to serve as SME’s, so contact the Board if you’d like to volunteer.

Agenda item 2 was an action item to rescind the moratorium on accepting applications for licensure under Business and Professions Code §7847. This is the section under which out of state licensees were granted California licensure “without written examination” but had recently been revised to eliminate that language. Since that revision all applicants for licensure in California must take the California Supplemental Examination. The moratorium was established to allow time for discussion and amendment of code language. Since that has been completed the moratorium was no longer necessary. Board President Ashby moved to rescind the moratorium and Board Vice-President Black seconded.

George Heise of the Fisheries Engineering Program within the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) discussed their program, which had employed two licensed engineers and two unlicensed engineers. Within the last year they modified their staffing to include four licensed engineers and one licensed geologist. BGG staff have been assisting the DFG with revising their statutes and regulations regarding DFG tasks, and encouraged the addition of PG input into DFG functions. These functions include projects under the Fisheries Restoration Grant Program, many of which have been determined to require geologic input.

Tony Sawyer from the San Diego Department of Environmental Health (DEH) discussed the progress that Department has made over the last eight years in enforcement. In 2000, when Tony was hired to help resolve review issues, the DEH had a single PG on staff. He helped

develop a Site Assessment Manual to outline and document review and enforcement procedures for implementation by the County. There are now five PGs and two CHGs on staff.

### **DTSC Reorganization and Joint DTSC/CSLB/BGG Activities**

Stewart Black (PG), Acting Deputy Director of the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), updated the BGG on DTSC's reorganization of the Brownfields and Environmental Restoration Programs. The purpose of the reorganization is to create a unified cleanup program by integrating the RCRA and CERCLA cleanup programs through combining the geology, toxicology and engineering support programs into one program. This is intended to ensure that professional 'responsible charge' is now fully maintained during the implementation and management of DTSC's programs. The reorganization is also intended to insure that generally accepted geoscience principles guide environmental project decision-making. Mr. Black described DTSC's efforts to evaluate the expertise of its geologic support personnel and how properly-licensed persons were providing input as required by law (Business and Professions Code section 7800 et seq.).

Following the DTSC presentation, BGG staff described the DTSC-lead November 13, 2008 joint DTSC/CSLB/BGG unlicensed practice sweep. DTSC's REA program staff and sworn officers jointly conducted the unlicensed practice sweep with BGG staff in support. The unlicensed sting operation consisted of a target site – provided by the Contractors State Licensing Board (CSLB) – in an industrial area of Glendale, California. One operational day's use of the site was allocated to the DTSC/BGG joint effort. In preparation for the unlicensed practice sweep, the names of approximately 50 unlicensed REAs, whose 'self-identified areas of expertise' presented on DTSC's REA webpage indicated they were offering professional geologic services (e.g., 'soil and/or groundwater investigations') in the Glendale area were identified by DTSC REA program staff and provided to the BGG. Seven REAs were contacted and scheduled meet at the site at one-hour intervals to characterize and possibly propose environmental services to address potential environmental conditions relating to the site. Five of seven REAs responded and a range of proposals, ranging from one legitimate estimate provided by a licensed Professional Geologist, to written professional geologic service proposals provided by unlicensed REAs, were obtained. In addition, BGG staff described the resolution of an unrelated \$750 citation to a licensed Professional Geologist for failing to maintain responsible charge of professional geologic work (for an environmental project workplan) conducted by a subordinate employee.

**Announcement**

Charles Nestle

The 2008 County of Los Angeles Building Code (Title 26) was expected to be available in technical book stores around the end of March. The new code may also be accessed at either of the following links: <http://www.bpcnet.com/codes/lacounty/> or <http://ordlink.com/codes/lacounty/index.htm>. Click on: "Title 26. Building Code."

**Public Service Announcement**

Charles Nestle

**ZIP-A-DIPs Are Still Available!**

How many of you have given up trying to find replacement for your faded and warped Zip-A-Dips? Zip-A-Dips are available from Don and Jeannine Lamar, who have lived in retirement in Reno for the past six years. Jeannine said that they don't plan on having any more made when they exhaust the present supply of Zip-A-Dips. She said, "It sure is nice to know that some geologists are still using ZADs."

Order your Zip-A-Dip by phone: (775) 322-5344. The price for 1 is \$4.00, or order 2-10 for \$3.50 ea., 11-49 for 3.00 ea., and 50+ for \$2.50 ea.

## Chapter Meetings

### **Inland Empire:**

For the latest information and updates, please visit <http://www.aegsc.org/chapters/inlandempire/>

### **Central Coast:**

Monthly meetings will take place on the last Wednesday of every month at Rusty's Pizza in Goleta. Social hour begins at 6 pm, the meeting begins at 7pm.

For the latest information and updates, please visit <http://www.aegsc.org/chapters/centralcoast/>

For more information or to be added to the CA Central Coast Chapter email list, please contact Robert Urban via email at [robert\\_urban@urscorp.com](mailto:robert_urban@urscorp.com).

### **San Diego:**

For the latest information and updates, please visit <http://www.aegsc.org/chapters/extremesocal/>

**National Business Donation**

- Platinum - \$1,000
- Gold - \$500
- Silver - \$250

Company name, address and contact information are presented in AEG News and section receives 10% of donation. A national donation does not yield a line in our local section newsletter.

**Company & Employment Advertising Newsletter (includes SoCal website posting)**

|                 | <u>Month</u> | <u>Year</u> |
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| ▪ Business Card | \$10         | \$100       |
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**SoCal website posting only**

\$20/month

\* The deadline for submitting an advertisement for next month's newsletter is Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

**YEAR 2009 CONTRIBUTORS NEEDED**

Contributions from corporations and individual members 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 treasurer, Peter Thams.

**2009 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

For those of you who have not yet renewed (**the deadline is November 1**), are unsure about your membership status, or did not receive your membership dues statement, please contact AEG Headquarters at [www.aegweb.org](http://www.aegweb.org). You can renew your membership online. Please update your membership if you wish to continue to receive future issues of the newsletter.

**\*\*\*NOTICE: Proposed New AEG Publication\*\*\***

**WHO'S WHO in SO CALIFORNIA ENGINEERING GEOLOGY  
The Evolution of Engineering Geology in Southern California**

Have you ever wondered "Whatever happened to \_\_\_?" or "I've heard of \_\_\_, who is he?"

The undersigned have decided to try to prepare an internet publication with the above title, which will include biographies of engineering geologists in southern California. We would like you to share your biography (autobiography) with other EGs. If you have worked on an interesting project, others would like to know about it.

If we limit each autobiography to 3 pages of text, plus photos, this publication would be more than 1,000 pages long. Therefore, we plan to utilize a proposed new AEG Foundation internet website, where there is no limit to total pages, and we can use color photos. Also, this new website will be available for no-charge access, worldwide, thus spreading the word on the history and evolution of engineering geology, and southern California's immense contribution.

We suggest (not require) three criteria for inclusion: 1. That you are a CA licensed CEG; 2. That you are now or once were a member of AEG; 3. That you have enough years of professional experience to relate one or more significant projects you have worked on. We believe there are more than 250 such EGs in southern California. This will be an evolving internet site where new autobiographies can be added.

We will also include Memorial biographies of past notable geologists in southern California. So far, we have identified 30, including John Buwalda, Ian Campbell, Tom Dibblee, Rollin Eckis, Perry Ehlig, Richard Jahns, John Mann, F.L. Ransome, Charles Richter, Dottie & Marty Stout, Gene Waggoner. Biographies of 14 of these notable geologists were published for the recent AEG Annual Meeting, in "History of the Association's First 50 Years," available from AEG HQ, contact Julie Keaton or Becky Roland.

Here is a CHECKLIST FOR YOUR AUTOBIOGRAPHY:

Complete NAME, address, phone, email; BIRTH DATE and place; UNIVERSITY(s) attended, major(s), degree(s), year(s); MILITARY service; FIRMS/AGENCIES you worked for; up to 3 significant PROJECTS you worked on; possibly relate a serious or humorous INCIDENT; a MENTOR you may wish to acknowledge; professional SOCIETIES, HONORS, AWARDS; HOBBIES; up to 5 PUBLICATIONS; PHOTOS of yourself and of projects (scanned images preferred).

So, if you wish to be included in this new internet publication, prepare your autobiography and email it with photos to: allen@hatheway.net and in the Subject box, type: So. Cal. Geologist. Or mail it to Allen Hatheway, 10256 Stoltz Dr., Rolla, MO 65401. Please, no more than 3 pages of text, single-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 pt.

Please pass this notice on to those you may know who no longer get this Newsletter.

In the spirit of camaraderie, we thank you,

Richard Proctor  
Allen Hatheway  
David Rogers  
Larry Cann  
Bob Lynn



**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES & ADVERTISING**



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### Company Profile

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- ✓ **OAKLAND:** Field Special Inspector, Project Environmental Geologist, Scientist or Engineer, Project Geotechnical Engineer, Senior Environmental Engineer and Senior Geotechnical Engineer.
- ✓ **PHOENIX:** Construction Field & Laboratory Technician, Geotechnical Engineer/Engineering Geologist, Laboratory Manager-Construction Materials Testing Department, Project Engineer/Geologist, Project Environmental Scientist, Project Manager-Construction Materials Testing, Senior Environmental Professionals, Senior Staff Environmental Scientist, and Technical Assistant.
- ✓ **SAN DIEGO:** Asbestos and Lead Environmental Professional, Project Engineer/Geologist, Project Geologist/Environmental Scientist, Senior Geotechnical Engineer, and Staff Engineer.
- ✓ **ALL OFFICES:** Environmental Engineer/Scientist-Air Quality Specialist, Practice Builder for Mining & Petroleum Industry Work



Successful candidates should have a BS or MS degree for staff-level positions and five years or more of experience for project to senior-level positions. The candidates should be detailed oriented and have excellent verbal and written communication skills. Professional Engineer (PE) and/or Professional Geologist (PG) registrations are preferred for project or senior positions.

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