

# THE ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL & ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS

*Connecting Professionals, Practice and the Public*

SOUTHERN  
CALIFORNIA  
SECTION

## NEWSLETTER – March 2011

SOUTHERN  
CALIFORNIA  
SECTION

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**Greetings, AEG Southern California Section Member! This month, we have a joint meeting with ASCE.**

**Upcoming AEG Meeting Date:**

**\*\*\*Tuesday, March 8, 2011\*\*\***

**Meeting Location:**

Steven's Steakhouse, 5332 Stevens Place, Commerce, CA  
(323) 721-2874

**Meeting Time:**

6pm Social Hour, 7pm Dinner, 7:45pm Presentation

**Cost:**

\$30 per person with reservations, \$35 without reservations,  
\$15 with a valid Student ID.

**\*Reservations:**

Please email Dave Perry at [dlperry@mactec.com](mailto:dlperry@mactec.com) or call  
(323) 889-5326

**Speaker:**

**Bruce Schell, P.G., C.E.G.**

**Topic:**

**SYNTHESIS AND REFLECTIONS ON NEW DATA  
FOR FAULTS IN THE LOS ANGELES AREA**

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## Chair's Column

By Peter Thams

Please join us next week in Commerce where Bruce Schell will present findings of his recent work on faults in the Los Angeles area. This will be a joint meeting with ASCE and a good opportunity to interface with professionals who work in other disciplines. Hope to see you there.

***BPELSG Update:*** As I mentioned in last month's newsletter, the Senate Committee on Business, Professions, and Economic Development will hold a sunset review hearing on BPELSG on March 21. The staff report for the meeting is expected out on March 9 and will be reviewed when it's available. Charles Nestle and I anticipate speaking at the hearing and will likely be joined by others from the northern California sections.

On a related note, attacks on geology boards and licensing in general continue across the country. A recent bill proposing the elimination of geologic licensure in Florida was withdrawn after the author received numerous letters and email against it. A similar bill in Utah proposed eliminating the Utah Geological Survey, but was also withdrawn. In Texas, the governor suspended the geologist board in his proposed budget – sound familiar? Here in California, first-term Assembly Member Shannon Grove of Bakersfield has proposed implementing the Governor's Reorganization Plan 1 (GRP1 – Schwarzenegger) in AB1273, which eliminates both the former BGG and BPELS, now the combined BPELSG, and transfers the responsibility of the board to the Department of Consumer Affairs. This bill is not expected to go far, but it illustrates that the issue is not over and the fight to maintain licensure boards continues. AEG National is becoming increasingly concerned about these threats to licensure and has formed a committee develop an integrated plan to address licensure issues nationwide. I expect this will be topic of significant discussion at the midyear board meeting in Sacramento in April.

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## **DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER MR. BRUCE SCHELL**

Bruce Schell is an independent consulting geologist (PG, CEG) specializing in seismic hazards investigations. He began his independent practice of Schell Geological Consulting in 1988 after about 15 years with the Earth Technology Corp. where he worked primarily on large national and international projects such as the nuclear power plants, nuclear waste repositories, military/defense facilities, offshore oil platforms, dams, pipelines, and ports. Since going independent he has concentrated his efforts in the western U.S, primarily in southern California and the San Francisco Bay area.

Mr. Schell specializes in identification and location of geological faults, evaluating their earthquake potential (frequency, magnitude, recurrence intervals), determining the amount, type, and direction of displacements, and earthquake probabilities. Over the substantial length of his career (~40 years) he has evaluated hundreds of faults and has excavated well over a thousand trenches. These studies typically employ the geological disciplines of aerial photography, geomorphology, soil stratigraphy, seismology, rock mechanics, and geophysics. He has published dozens of scientific papers on his research and project work. Recent papers include "Geologic Structure and Earthquake Hazard of the Palos Verdes Fault" in 2007 Pacific Section SEPM Book 103 and "Holocene faulting in the San Bernardino Valley Area" in 2008 AEG Bulletin.

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## **SYNTHESIS AND REFLECTIONS ON NEW DATA FOR FAULTS IN THE LOS ANGELES AREA**

In this presentation he will discuss important and interesting aspects accumulated from several of his local fault studies over the past few years. The discussion will integrate some recent published information, but he will emphasize important unpublished data of a nature that is of significance and interest to most practicing geologists, and which may alter the way we think about some local faults. He will focus on faults in the Los Angeles region such as the Malibu Coast, Santa Monica, Hollywood, Raymond, Eagle Rock-San Rafael, Alhambra Wash, Sylmar, Inglewood, northern Palos Verdes, Peralta Hills, and El Modeno faults. If time permits he may add the Fontana Seismic Zone. Hopefully, the presentation will evoke a give and take with members of the audience who have also conducted similar investigations and together we will gain some insights that we can use in our future investigations.

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The **California Geological Survey** has established a new program and website, the Earthquake Clearing House. From the CGS website, "***The California Earthquake Clearinghouse is a place to coordinate earthquake field investigations and share observations and knowledge among emergency responders and the engineering and scientific communities.***"

AEG members are strongly encouraged to sign up and participate on the various sub-committees. The next meeting will be in April in Southern CA; the details will be announced shortly on the web site. Please see the Earthquake Clearinghouse flyer on the following two pages for an introduction to the new program.

In the meantime, members can contact Anne Rosinski of the CGS' Seismic Hazard Assessment Program for additional information. Anne's contact information is below.

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[Anne.Rosinski@conservation.ca.gov](mailto:Anne.Rosinski@conservation.ca.gov)

<http://www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs>

**Positions Available for Entry Level and Project Level Geologists**

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Attn: Mark Triebold  
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818-898-1595 (office)  
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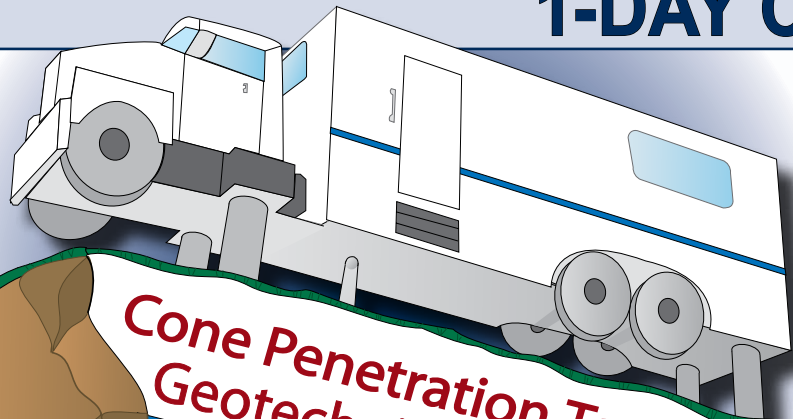
- Bachelor's Degree in Geology or Engineering
- Graduate level education preferred but not required
- 2-5 years experience with Phase I and field investigations (geologic mapping, exploratory borings/trenches) ---Experience in southern California preferred
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## Chapter Meetings

### Inland Empire:

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

### Central Coast:

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

### San Diego:

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

### National Business Donation

- Platinum - \$1,000
- Gold - \$500
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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)

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\$20/month

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AEG offers two ways to increase your company's visibility for under \$100 per year. Each *Annual Report and Directory* and each issue of *Environmental & Engineering Geoscience* includes the Professional Index. Available only to AEG members, this is a great way to promote your company. For \$80 per year, you can be included in both the Directory and Journal.

Many of our members use this index to find colleagues to assist with projects or to recommend their services to others. Don't miss your chance to be included in the *2011 Annual Report and Directory*. Reservations are due by February 2011 to secure your listing.

Pricing is:

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You can order online at

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or call Cathy Wilson at 303-757-2926.

\* The deadline for submitting an advertisement for next month's newsletter is March 28.

### **YEAR 2011 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, Dave Perry.

### **2011 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

For those of you who have not yet renewed **(the deadline was 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.

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES & ADVERTISING**

**The California Geological Survey is hiring engineering geologists.**


CGS needs to recruit and hire new engineering geologists to maintain staffing levels as staff retires or moves on. This may not be the obvious time to look for a job with the state, but CGS gets most of its funding through special funds and contracts, not the general fund. When CGS needs to hire, an announcement is posted on the State Personnel Board's "VPOS" web site ( <http://jobs.spb.ca.gov/wvpos> ). Searching for "Engineering Geologist" there will find the positions that the State is now accepting applications for. Those currently include a position in CGS's Geologic Mapping Program. That position is listed as within the Department of Conservation. See the web page for the full job description and application instructions. Please note that to be hired by the state, a candidate must pass and place in the highest three ranks on a civil service exam. The Engineering Geologist exam, jointly developed by the Department of Conservation and the Department of Water Resources, is an online qualifications appraisal. It is possible to take the exam at the same time you send in an application, but both steps are required. The online application and "supplemental questionnaire" (exam) are at this web page.

<http://jobs.ca.gov/CASPB/sup/BulPreview.asp?R1=095699&R2=00103756&R3=9PB02>

[http://jobs.spb.ca.gov/wvpos/more\\_info.cfm?recno=415797](http://jobs.spb.ca.gov/wvpos/more_info.cfm?recno=415797)

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