



**ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL &
ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS**
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SECTION, SAN DIEGO CHAPTER
"Serving Professionals in Engineering, Environmental and
Ground-Water Geology"

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER, AUGUST 2007 NEWSLETTER

AUGUST MEETING NOTICE: TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2007. Social Period starts at 5:30 PM, discussion at 6:00 pm. The meeting will be in the Ninyo & Moore Conference Room, 5710 Ruffin Road, San Diego, CA. Please contact Lesley Barnes at Tetra Tech (lesley.barnes@ttemi.com) to RSVP. Dinner is buffet-style. Cost is \$20.

SPEAKER: The San Diego Chapter is pleased to have Michael W. Hart to perform magic tricks and jump through a hogshead of real fire. Mike is a Certified Engineering Geologist in California and has practiced in the San Diego area for approximately 30 years. Mike is a graduate of San Diego State University (M.S., 1972). In 1975 Mike joined Geocon, Inc. as Vice President and Principal Engineering Geologist. Since leaving Geocon 1992 he has been an independent engineering geologic consultant. Mike is past chairman of the AEG Landslide Committee and is past Chair of the Engineering Geology Division of the Geological Society of America. His interest in landslides began during undergraduate studies at SDSU and led to graduate work on landslides in Eocene rocks of the San Diego area. Mike has authored several papers on landslides in the San Diego and Riverside areas and is presenting the following topic:

**STRUCTURAL AND GEOMORPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF LANDSLIDES AT
COYOTE MOUNTAIN, ANZA-BORREGO DESERT STATE PARK, CALIFORNIA**

Coyote Mountain is an eight mile (13km) long elongate fault block made up of granitic and metamorphic rocks in northeastern San Diego County, California. A series of landslides, most with distinct morphology and failure mechanisms, occurs in tonalite and gneiss making up the steep southwest side of the mountain. The southernmost Peg Leg Smith Landslide Complex is composed of several translational slides and a unique landslide remnant some characteristics of a rapid rock avalanche. Two distinct landslide types underlie the central portion of the mountain slopes near Coyote Peak. The first is an approximately one mile (1.6km) wide erosional remnant of a translational slide, and the second is a two-mile (3.2km) wide area undergoing rock creep (sackung) in highly fractured tonalite. The Alcoholic Pass Slide Complex located at the northern end of the mountain block occurred in coarse-grained biotite tonalite. This slide complex consists of two juxtaposed landslides that failed at a nearly right angle to each other. The base of the northernmost landslide is not exposed and the failure mechanism is assumed to be block sliding along well-developed fracture systems. The base of the southwesterly trending landslide is exposed in only one locality. Here, the rupture zone is composed of coarse, matrix-rich breccia and mud slurry-like material. The southern flank of the slide grades into the sackung zone of Coyote Ridge and it is concluded it represents a rare example of the final evolutionary step of sackung phenomena



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OCTOBER MEETING: Coastal bluff stability is re-examined.

PRESIDENTS COMMENTS: Again, as we initially indicated, the SD Chapter of the AEG was created to bring topical subjects that affect our profession in the San Diego area to the membership. We wish to provide the geotechnical/environmental consultants with a spokesperson/ombudsman/lobby that would represent the professionals when dealing with governmental agencies and the insurance industry. We will continue to work in this direction as we feel that the geotechnical industry is often ignored during policy decision making.

As professionals, most of us have other demands upon our lives and generally have a full plate, especially if involved in numerous other organizations (not to mention the stuff that goes on between 7:00 am and 5:00 pm). After discussing the difficulty in identifying and securing topical speakers in the areas that really affect our business, we are continuing to evolve our approach to providing a useful forum. The Chapter will continue hold and host meetings at least quarterly, however, we will seek to provide joint industry meetings, such as this months meeting with the San Diego Association of Geologists and planned joint meetings with the ASCE Geotechnical group this fall and at a future date with the Inland Empire Chapter of the AEG. The goal will be to improve and facilitate communication between the groups regarding common issues.

As always, please contact Lee Vanderhurst, Jim Schneider or myself (steve.bradley@ttemi.com) if you have some ideas on what you would like to hear about on any issues that you feel that we should be aware of as a group.

Lastly, many of you work with geologists who have not made the leap to AEG membership, as such; they are missing out on all the good and worthy stuff below:

Networking

- Explore numerous opportunities for career enhancement through contacts at technical meetings and in continuing education programs.
- Attend the Annual Meeting to meet and network with contacts throughout the U.S., Canada, and a variety of other countries.
- Attend local Section/Chapter meetings and field trips to get involved in YOUR region.
- AEG members have fun socializing at the various meetings they attend.

Publications

- Environmental and Engineering Geoscience journal published quarterly
- AEG News magazine published 4 times per year
- Directory of the Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists
- AEG Annual Program with Abstracts
- Special Publications on technical topics

Career Resources

- More than 24 Sections and Chapters throughout the United States and internationally, with local meetings that offer



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opportunities to learn and network in a casual atmosphere that is also professional.

- Participating on committees, either locally or on the Association level, provides or enhances business skills associated with project management, delegation, marketing, and strategic planning.
- On-line job listings help in finding new career opportunities.

Professional Development

- AEG sponsors workshops and short courses for which official Continuing Education Units are offered.
- AEG encourages its members to participate in activities of mutual interest with other organizations.
- AEG provides educational and networking opportunities for members through regular Section and Chapter meetings and field trips. Short courses, field trips, and technical sessions provide opportunities for AEG members to enhance their professional practice.

Discounts and Cost Savings

- AEG members enjoy a 20 percent discount on all special publications, registration fees at meetings, short courses, and field trips.
- Reduced rates at Avis and Hertz car rental.
- Access to a variety of health, dental and disability insurance programs through GeoCare Benefits

Please pass this around the office – we'll be glad to provide membership applications

NEWSLETTER AND DUES: The monthly newsletter will continue to provide the membership a medium for communication. Also, please make sure you have paid your dues and have updated your contact information with Becky Roland the AEG office. It would also help if you let Lee Vanderhurst know of any changes. lvanderhurst@geotechnicsinc.com

NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE FIELD:

The Association of Engineering Geologists 50th Annual Meeting will be held September 24-29th at the Sheraton Universal hotel in LA. Over 300 talks will be presented. Several field trips throughout Southern California will be held before and after the meeting. Go to www.aegweb.org and click on the "50" logo at the bottom of the home page.

Sarah Gray, SDAG's Vice President reminds us: "Thomas and I just wanted to give you all a 'heads up' to let you know about our 2007 SDAG Field Trip to the beautiful Guadalupe Valley in Baja California this October 13th and 14th. This year we'll explore environmental issues, hydrology, geology, and culture/history in N.W. Baja. We'll travel on an air conditioned chartered bus down the coastal highway from San Diego to Ensenada, camp in a Kumeyaay village, and return via the Tecate highway through the Guadalupe Valley wine country!"

Along the way we'll tour the research institute, CICESE (Centro de Investigacion Cientifica y de Educacion Superior de Ensenada), go wine tasting, experience Kumeyaay culture, and hike to some hot springs!

Contact SDAG for a sign-up sheet!



AEG MISSION STATEMENT:

The following is copied from the AEG Quarterly newsletter – Just another friendly reminder as to why we have joined:

AEG's Mission

The Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists (AEG) contributes to its members' professional success and the public welfare by providing leadership, advocacy, and applied research in environmental and engineering geology.

AEG's Values

AEG's values are based on the belief that its members have a responsibility to assume stewardship over their fields of expertise. In support of serving an international network of environmental and engineering geologists devoted to excellence, AEG values:

- Upholding sound principles of scientific inquiry with respect to the study and evaluation of geologic processes, their impact on humans, and the human impact on Earth
 - Encouraging and facilitating ongoing education and training as well as supporting members in their dedication to their work
 - Building public appreciation for how environmental and engineering geology contribute to public safety and the protection of property
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AEG's Vision

AEG is the acknowledged international leader in environmental and engineering geology, and is greatly respected for its stewardship of the profession.

AEG offers information on environmental and engineering geology useful to practitioners, scientists, students, and the public. Other geoscience organizations recognize the value of using and sharing AEG's outstanding resources.

AEG leads the profession in its advocacy for:

- Legislation
- Professional Licensure
- Regulation
- Codes and Standards

as each affects the practice of applied geosciences.

AEG's administration assures representation for all its members. Its outstanding staff assists members with a wide range of services that enable them to be more effective in their professional lives. Staff regularly reviews and modifies these services to adapt to the membership's changing needs.



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AEG's membership continually grows. Members and students are attracted by the educational and networking opportunities, and the quality services provided.

AEG AND USEFUL LOCAL LINKS

- Southern California Section AEG: <http://www.aegsc.org/>
- National AEG: <http://www.aegweb.org/>
- San Diego Association of Geologists <http://www.sandiegogeologists.org>
- American Society of Civil Engineers, San Diego Geotechnical Group http://www.asce-sd.org/groups_geotech.asp
- San Diego State University, Geology Department <http://www.geology.sdsu.edu>

EMPLOYMENT

As a service to our members, AEG San Diego welcomes job postings - either for open positions or jobs wanted. Please contact Lee Vanderhurst (lvanderhurst@geotechnicsinc.com) for information on advertising in this newsletter. The cost for an ad is \$25 per month.

Chapter Contact Information

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