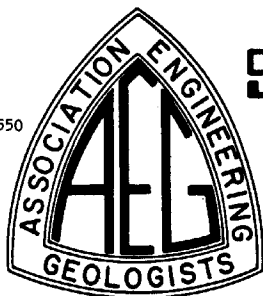


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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SECTION

news letter

2550 BEVERLY BOULEVARD, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90057

FEBRUARY MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, 12 Feb 85

PLACE: Anderson's Split Pea Restaurant
Palomar Airport Road @ I-5
Carlsbad, California
(San Diego Thomas Guide - 19-B-2)
Joint Meeting with San Diego Association of Geologists

COST: \$13.00 - Steak or fish:

RESERVATION: Jeff Holt & Associates
(818) 889-5174
Need reservation by 6 Feb.

TIME: 5:30 Social Hour
6:30 Dinner
7:30 AEG Business
8:00 Speaker
9:00 Section affairs, if scheduled

SPEAKER: Tom Rockwell, Professor of Geology,
San Diego State University

TOPIC: Neotectonics on the Elsinore Fault.

Dr. Rockwell will discuss his ongoing studies of the Elsinore fault zone between Los Angeles and Mexico. In particular he will describe the results of field mapping and observations in trenches that have led to estimates of slip rate, earthquake prediction, magnetostratigraphy, and recurrence interval.

HUGH ROBERTSON announces that beginning February 1, 1985 Kovacs-Byer-Robertson, Inc. will be known as Robertson Geotechnical, Inc. located at 2500 Townsgate Road, Suite E, Westlake Village, CA 91361, Tel. No. (805) 373-0057.

HUGH is on the verge of pleading for a spring field trip chairperson; one who has the moxie and the chutzpa to carry it off. So, lets hear it from the madding crowd, those participants in the pseudo scientific revelry that characterizes such goings on.

DICK LOWNES had a droll story about his eye for anyone interested (or would stand still and buy him a drink).

There has been talk about eliminating the State Board of Registration for geologists and geophysicists for budget reduction purposes. One of the strongly perceived failures of the Board is to prosecute and revoke or suspend licensees. This subject was covered well in a 14 page feature article by Michael T. Hartnez in The California Regulatory Law Reporter, Vol. 4, No. 3 (Summer, 1984).

It appears that people are becoming aware that their dollar spent for engineering geological service does not always bring a satisfactory return and they're mad as hell about it. These people vote and the Governor hears them.

This subject warrants considerable discussion within our profession; and not self-righteous indignation, but rather perspective and sober reasoning about our future. If we fail to bring about beneficial changes (as perceived by others) the legislature will do it for us. Worse, some other group could make rules to guide our profession, or end it.

Would AEG like to sponsor a field trip(s) this spring to the Nevada waste disposal site for University Geological Department? Perhaps a professor or two would take a class on Monday through the standard Nevada test site tour; on Tuesday the geologists at NTS could have presentation and discussion at USDOE offices in Las Vegas.

A minimum guarantee of 20 persons is needed to obtain a field inspection. A bus from Los Angeles would cost about \$1,000. Group rates at a Las Vegas hotel might be as low as \$15/person per night. Perhaps AEG and Cal Rad Forum could split the cost of the bus, leaving food and sleep to the participants.

COUNTY OF ORANGE, CALIFORNIA - ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST:

Reviews grading plans, soils reports and geologic reports and evaluates adequacy to meet grading ordinance requirements and conformity with current geological standards. Occasionally performs geological investigations and prepares reports on geological conditions of sites for public works projects. Requires possession of a valid Certification as an Engineering Geologist issued by the State of California Board of Registration for Geologists.

Salary Range: \$2375 to \$3198 per month

Final Filing Date: February 28, 1985

Contact: County of Orange, Personnel for information
834-3693 or recruitment materials 834-2844.

SENIOR ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST: Excellent opportunity with a growing Southern California geotechnical consulting firm. The minimum requirement for this position is to be a California Certified Engineering Geologist.

A strong background in structure, stratigraphy and geomorphology is essential. An advanced degree, familiarity with southern California geology, and additional expertise in other specialties, particularly groundwater or geophysics, is desirable.

Please send resume' with references, in confidence, to:
Jim Fisher; Irvine Soils Engineering, Inc., 15 Mason, Irvine, CA.,
92714. (714) 951-8686

Los Angeles Times

★ Saturday, December 22, 1984/Part I **3**

Federal Judge Cites Failure to Predict Storm

Weather Service Ruled Liable in Deaths

BOSTON (AP)—A federal judge ruled Friday that the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is liable for the deaths of three fishermen lost at sea when forecasters failed through negligence to predict a storm 150 miles off the Massachusetts coast.

"It's very significant because it's the first case that the United States was held responsible for basically an inaccurate forecast," said Michael Latti, a Boston attorney who represented the fishermen's relatives. "We're delighted."

U.S. District Judge Joseph Tauro said in a 40-page opinion that the federal agency negligently failed for nearly three months to repair a broken weather buoy that could have provided an accurate forecast of the storm that produced 60-foot waves and 100-m.p.h. winds.

Tauro must hold a second trial to

assess damages. He set Jan. 28 for a pretrial conference.

"We're obviously disappointed," said Don Witten, public affairs officer for the National Weather Service in Silver Spring, Md. "I would assume that the agency will appeal, but that's a decision that will ultimately be made by the Department of Justice."

The \$3.2-million lawsuit was filed by relatives of three of four fishermen presumed drowned Nov. 22, 1980, a day after they set out in fair weather from Cape Cod for a week of lobster fishing on the remote Georges Bank.

According to testimony at trial, the fishermen were taken by surprise by the fierce storm.

William Garnos, 30, of Beverly; David Berry, 20, of Marblehead, and Robert Thayer, 22, of Hamilton disappeared when their boat, the Fairwind, overturned and sank.

Another crew member, 34-year-old Ernest Hazard of Peabody, climbed onto a life raft and drifted for 48 hours before he was spotted by a Navy plane and was rescued by the Coast Guard.

Less than two hours after the Fairwind sank, 25-year-old Gary Brown of Plymouth was swept overboard while trying to steer his vessel, the Sea Fever.

Relatives of Berry, Garnos and Brown claimed that the mariners relied on a National Weather Service forecast calling for good weather when they left Hyannis on a 12-hour voyage to the Atlantic fishing grounds.

David Hutchinson, a Justice Department attorney who represented the weather agency, said the National Weather Service provides forecasts as a public service and has no liability if they are wrong.

1985 DUES STATEMENT

Dues for the Southern California Section of the Association of Engineering Geologists are now payable to the Treasurer, JEFF HOLT. Your dues are used to pay for postage, printing of the newsletter, publication of field trip guidebooks, secretarial services, and section activities. The Section dues are \$12.50 per calendar year (\$3.50 for student members). Members who have not paid their dues by April will be dropped from the newsletter mailing list. You must be a member of the Association before you can join the Southern California Section, so be sure to pay your dues there also. Please return this entire form with you check payable to "Southern California Section, Association of Engineering Geologists" directly to the treasurer at the address below. If you have an address change, please notify AEG Headquarters in Short Hills, New Jersey. Thank you for sending your 1985 dues promptly.

NAME _____ Membership status: M, AM, SM, AF

Indicate Preferred Address

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_____ Zip Code _____

Telephone () _____

Please send entire form to: JEFF HOLT
Jeff Holt & Associates
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c/o F. Beach Leighton & Associates
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