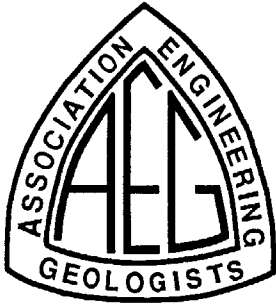


# Association of Engineering Geologists

Southern California Section

## NEWSLETTER - July 1989



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### Dinner Meeting *Tuesday July 11th*

- The Quiet Cannon Restaurant  
901 North Via San Clemente  
Montebello
- Cost - \$20.00
- For reservations call by July 7th  
Jerry Treiman  
(213) 620-3560 (CDMG LA Office)

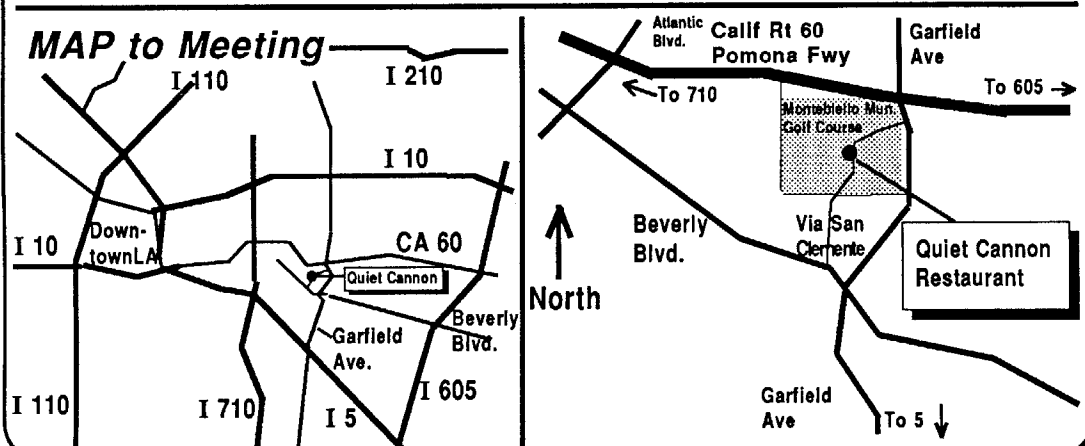
### Make reservations by Noon on the Friday before the Meeting

- 5:30 Social Hour
- 6:45 Dinner
- 7:30 Announcements
- 8:00 Program
- 9:00 Section Affairs

### Program

TOPIC **Geopolitical History of Pulga and Potrero Canyons**

SPEAKER **John Byer**, Principal Engineering Geologist  
Kovacs-Byer & Associates  
Studio City, CA



# Program

## Topic & Speaker

### Geopolitical History of Pulga and Potrero Cyns.

John Byer

As the title implies, Mr. Byer will address both the complex geologic conditions and the political problems associated with development of these canyons. The Potrero Canyon Park project has been under construction since July, 1988. Political decisions have affected the technical solutions provided for installation of the subdrain and storm drain systems in the canyon bottom. Construction of these drains at the toes of several large landslides has proven problematic.

Kovacs-Byer and Associates has been exploring the geology in nearby Pulga Canyon since November, 1988. Neighbors, bitterly opposed to development of the canyon, have used the political process to influence how exploration is performed. Exploration has, however, slowly proceeded, and John Byer will present preliminary findings regarding the canyon's geology.

John Byer is the principal engineering geologist for Kovacs-Byer and Associates. Mr. Byer holds a B.A. in Geology from UCSB (1966) and an M.S. in Engineering Geology from USC (1969). Mr Byer has been working in the Santa Monica Mountains since 1966.

THIS MONTH

July 1989



Kelly E. Rowe  
Hydrogeologist

At the meeting this month there will be nominations for AEG Southern California Section Officers for next year. Those interested in being nominated either contact Eldon Gath - Secretary (714)598-2856 or have someone at the meeting nominate you.

Last month Dr. Thomas H. Heaton, with the USGS Cal Tech Field Office explained **Earthquake Rupture Processes**. Part of his talk dealt with the rate increase of earthquake sequences with Richter magnitudes greater than 2.3 in the Southern California area. For example, from 1975 to 1986 this rate remained constant at 19 sequences per year, while from 1986 to present this rate remained constant at 33 sequences per year. He also noted that within the last six months there has been an increase in this rate. There is therefore no prediction on when we will be able to predict when earthquakes will occur.

One of Dr. Heaton's more insightful parts of his talk was his reference to Cal Tech's reaction to predicting the magnitude of a recent earthquake for the news media. Once an earthquake event occurs, the Cal Tech staff rushes to their own seismographs to make a best guess on the earthquake magnitude. If the earthquake is local it is often difficult to pick a magnitude when the instrument reading is off the scale. This best guess is refined in a few days to determining what the actual magnitude of earthquake is, after evaluating some of the 250 seismographic station records in the Southern California area. For example, the Montebello earthquake, which occurred the day before the June meeting, was initially estimated by Cal Tech to be a magnitude 4.5: however, Dr. Heaton, speculated that the actual magnitude would be a magnitude 4.8.

The talk concluded that earthquake rupture processes are unique to individual faults. Dr. Heaton showed examples of fault plane plots for some of the most recent major earthquakes in Southern California. The fault plane plot of an earthquake event, both in the time and the absolute movement senses, show many irregularities according to the examples Dr. Heaton discussed.

The second meeting for the 1992 Los Angeles AEG Convention will be held on July 20 at the Kovacs-Byer office.

Committee chairpersons will attend to continue to iron-out budget details, organization of committees and to agree to a Los Angeles AEG Convention slogan and logo. If you are interested in helping on the committees over the next two years contact John Byer (818) 980-0825 or one of the section officers to direct you to the right people. In addition, ideas are still being sought for a fabulous slogan and logo for the the 1992 LA Convention. The logo design should be about 3 square inches in size and reflect life in the LA area. They will be used for the Convention and for the flyer to be published this September.

Call for papers and announcement for the 1989 AEG Southern California Section Annual Field Trip. The trip is scheduled for **September 23, 1989**. It will focus on **Engineering Geology Along Coastal Orange County**. If you have a paper you would like to include in the field trip guidebook, please contact Ed Steiner at Leighton & Associates at (714)250-7115.

Call for Papers on Baja California Geology for Volume to be published by Pacific Section SEPM in conjunction with the Fall 1989 Field Trip (Sept. 14-15). If you have some Baja California research results, please consider publishing them in the forthcoming volume on Geologic Research in Baja California. During this early planning stage there is a need to know how many people are interested in participating. Please send the working title of your manuscript to **Dr. Pat Abbott**, Department of Geological Sciences, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA 92182-0337, or call (619)594-5586 for further information. Rough drafts of manuscripts will be needed for review by mid-July. Edited manuscripts will be returned to authors for preparation as camera-ready copy on oversized format sheets in typical Pacific Section SEPM style. It is expected that many manuscripts will be submitted for a noteworthy volume on Baja California geology.

At the April meeting **Dr. Lorne G. Everett of Kaman Tempo** (805)963-6472 in Santa Barbara, spoke about vadose zone monitoring techniques employed at underground storage tank sites and at landfills. He also spoke about recent advancements in this field. **Dr. Everett** recently sent handouts to AEG, which he intended to provide at the April meeting, relating to books he has published in this field and are available through his office.

A few of these books are listed as follows:

- Everett, 1980, *Groundwater Monitoring*. Cost: \$150.00  
Everett, 1984, *Soil Gas Sampling Methods*. Cost: \$20.00  
Everett, et al., 1984, *Vadose Zone Monitoring for Hazardous Waste Sites*. Cost: \$31.50.  
Everett, 1985, *Groundwater Monitoring Handbook for Coal and Oil Shale Development*. Cost: \$66.75.  
They may be ordered and additional information may be obtained through **Kaman Tempo**,  
c/o S. Lyons, P.O. Drawer QQ, Santa Barbara, CA 93102.

**Steven M. Testa** of Engineering Enterprises, Inc. (213)518-4597, brought copies of a book he edited recently to the June AEG meeting. The title of the book is *Environmental Concerns in the Petroleum Industry*. It was the result of the symposium held in May, 1989, bearing the same name, by the Pacific Section of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists. The intent of the papers is to provide an awareness and an introduction to environmental concerns and issues which impact the petroleum industry today. Papers in the book include discussions on 1) the fate and trans-

port of petroleum hydrocarbons in soil and groundwater, 2) soil and groundwater contamination, 3) subsidence as a result of past petroleum-related activities, 4) forensic geochemistry, and 5) handling and disposal of cogeneration wastewater from recovery operations. The future of regulations and environmental protection issues related to oil and gas operations are also discussed.

This book is available through AAPG Pacific Section, Publications Committee, P.O. Box 631, Ventura, CA 93002 Cost: \$30.25 (includes shipping and handling). Copies of the book may also be purchased at one of the monthly AEG SCS meetings from **Steve Townsend**, AEG Publications Chairperson, for \$20.00.

**Publication announcement: California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) - Solid Waste Assessment Test (SWAT) Program Report to the Legislature 1987-89: Report No. 88-14WQ (191 pp) (Item No. 7540-979-1033-4)** This is the first of three required annual reports which summarize the progress of the SWAT Program (one-time assessment of state water contamination due to landfills) up to September 30, 1988. The report addresses only those sites expected to pose the greatest threat to water quality (Rank 1 sites). Successive ranks will be addressed in future reports.

The reports consists of a brief introductory text and region by region data concerning the landfills within their boundaries. According to the announcement summary, of the total of 150 Rank 1 SWAT reports required by the legislation, 114 were submitted to the regional boards by September 30, 1988. Of these, 39 reports were reviewed and accepted as meeting the requirements of the law. It was determined that only one site is leaking waste at hazardous waste concentrations. Of the 32 landfills at which leakage has been detected, five landfills have caused some degradation or pollution in domestic or municipal supply wells. *(There apparently is a problem associated with getting SWAT reports completed to the satisfaction of the regional boards. ed.)*

This report is available through State Water Resources Control Board, Publications Section, Ordering Department, P.O. Box 1015, North Highlands, CA 95660 Include the report name and Item No. when ordering. Cost: \$8.50 (includes shipping and handling)

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## Seminars/Meetings/Field Trips

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### JULY 1989

- 1-7 Field Trip T105- Geology of San Francisco and vicinity. International Geological Congress (I.G.C.) Program Leader: Clyde Wahrhaftig (USGS) Cost: \$1,100 Start-Stop in San Francisco.  
1-7 Field Trip T111- Petroleum geology and structural transect across western Transverse Ranges and southern Coast Ranges, California. I.G.C. Program Leaders: Thomas Davis (Consultant) and Jay Namson (ARCO) Cost: \$925. Start - Stop in Los Angeles.  
2-7 Field Trip T108- Tectonic evolution of northern California. I.G.C. Program Leaders: M.C.Blake, Jr., and D.S.Harwood (USGS) Cost: \$1,150 Start-Stop in San Francisco.  
3-7 Field Trip T109- Mesozoic and Cenozoic siliceous sediments of California. I.G.C. Program Leader: Joyce R. Blueford and Caroline Isaacs (USGS) Cost: \$700 Starts in San Francisco Stops in Los Angeles.

Continued next page

Continued from page 3

3-7 Field Trip T113- Petroleum potential of the Basin and Range province. I.G.C. Program Leader: Norman H. Foster (Indep. geol) Cost: \$675 Start and Stop in Las Vegas.

5-7 Field Trip T186- Geology of Nevada Test Site and surrounding area. I.G.C. Program Leader: H. Lawrence McKague (LLN Lab), Paul Orkild (USGS) and Vel Clanton (DOE) Cost: \$500 Start and Stop in Las Vegas.

20-24 Field Trip T311- Oil in the California Monterey Formation. I.G.C. Program Leaders: R.J.B. Young and T.C. MacKinnon (Chevron) Cost: \$800 Start and Stop in Los Angeles.

20-26 Field Trip T312- Arc volcanism in the southern Cascade Range I.G.C. Program Leader: L.J. Patrick Muffler (USGS) Cost: \$775 Start and Stop in San Francisco

20-28 Field Trip T313- Quaternary volcanism of Long Valley caldera and Mono-Inyo Craters, eastern California I.G.C. Program Leaders: Roy A. Bailey, C. Dan Miller (USGS) and Kerry Sieh (Cal Tech) Cost: \$650 Start and Stop in Reno.

20-29 Field Trip T308- Geologic evolution of the northern most Coast Ranges and western Klamath Mountains, California. I.G.C. Program Leaders: K.R. Aalto (Humboldt SU) and G.D. Harper (SU of NY-Albany) Cost: \$750 Start and Stop at San Francisco Intern. Airport.

20-29 Field Trip T309- The San Andreas transform belt. I.G.C. Program Leaders: Arthur G. Sylvester and John C. Crowell (UCSB) Cost: \$1,400 Start in Long Beach Stops in San Francisco.

20-29 Field Trip T381- Landslides in central California. I.G.C. Program Leader: William M. Brown (USGS) Cost: \$1350 Start and Stop in San Francisco

7 & 8/11 Prof. Geology Exam Review Course: in Costa Mesa Converse Environmental Consultants offices, REG Review, Inc. Two - Five (5) hour classes & study manual. Cost: \$250 - Preregistration. Study Manual: \$75. CONTACT: (415) 339-3771 or (415) 852-9099

8 & 8/12 Prof. Geology Exam Review Course: in Pasadena - Brown & Caldwell offices, REG Review, Inc. as above

9 & 8/13 Prof. Geology Exam Review Course: in Pasadena - Brown & Caldwell offices, REG Review, Inc. as above

24-26 Advances in Incineration Technology Staff UCLA Extension Dept. Hum. Sciences and Soc. Sci./Div. of Science, Cost: \$450 - CONTACT: C.C. Lee (213)569-7520 for tech. info. (213)825-7093 for regis..

24-28 Introduction to Groundwater Modeling IGWMC Staff International Ground Water Modeling Center Short Course, CONTACT (317)283-9458.

#### AUGUST 1989

21-25 "Stochastic and Geostatistical Analysis for Groundwater Modeling", Dr. Robert Hoeksema (Calvin College), Dr. Leslie Smith (U of British Columbia), and Dr. Aly El-Kadi (IGWMC) International Ground Water Modeling Center Short Course. CONTACT (317)283-9458.

#### SEPTEMBER 1989

28 "Environmental Site Assessments - One-Day Course", at Cathedral Hill Hotel, San Francisco, NWWA Assoc. of GW Scientists and Engineers. P.O. Box 182039/Dept. #017/ Columbus, OH 43218 CONTACT (614)761-1711.

#### OCTOBER 1989

1-6 "AEG 32nd Annual Meeting at Vail Colorado, Marriott's Mark Resort Theme "Engineering Geology of Mountain and Plain" hosted by the AEG Rocky Mountain Section Symposia: "Engineering Geology Problems of Large Landslides" Contact Jerome V. DeGraff, AEG Landslide Committee Chairman (209)487-5640; Short Courses 1) Groundwater Contamination Transport Modeling 2) Landslide Mitigation Techniques; Field Trips 1) Glenwood Canyon Highway Project, 2) Vail Pass Highway Project, 3) a marble quarry in the Vail area, 4) Dillon Dam and other water-supply projects, and 5) a tour of landslides and debris flows in the mountainous terrain surrounding Vail. CONTACT: for Registration (303)744-7105 Ralph G. Mock, Chen-Northern, 96 S. Zuni St., Denver, CO 80223.

14-15 "Geology of Northern Baja California" Fall Field Trip Pacific 4 1/88

Section SEPM. San Diego State University, Pat Abbott, Ph.D. and the geology faculty at the Universidad Autonoma de Baja California (UABC) are organizing visits to prime localities for rocks and structures ranging in age from Ordovician to Holocene. CONTACT: (619)594-5586.

23-27 "Multiphase Organic Transport Modeling with Emphasis on Pollution by Hydrocarbons" Dr. John Parker and Dr. Jagath Kaluarachchi (VA Poly Inst.), Dr. Marian Kembrowski (Shell Development Co.) and Dr. Aly El-Kadi (IGWMC) International Ground Water Modeling Center Short Course. CONTACT (317)283-9458.

Proceedings available from Southern California Earthquake Preparedness Project on: The seismic Risk in the San Diego Region Workshop on the Rose Canyon Fault System - June 29-30, 1989, San Diego.

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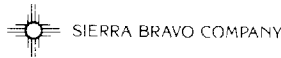
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