

# ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SECTION

"Serving Professionals in Engineering, Environmental and Ground-Water Geology Since 1957"

October 1994

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## NO MEETING THIS MONTH!

Next Month's Speakers:

**Thomas W. Dibblee, Jr. & Helmut E. Ehrenspeck**

*will speak on*

**The Geology of the Santa Monica Mountains**

see next month's newsletter for details

This Newsletter is provided as part of your membership in the Association of Engineering Geologists. If you are not a member of AEG and would like to subscribe to this newsletter, send check or money order in the amount of \$35.00 (\$15.00 for full-time students), made out to "AEF Southern California Section", to the newsletter editor (see address on back page).

**Deadline for submittal to the November newsletter: October 24**

## CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

by Robert A. Larson

About 100 people attended our joint meeting with the South Coast Geological Society last month to hear Dr. John Shaw discuss blind thrust faults in the L.A. Basin. It was a great talk with good illustrations. Dr. Shaw demonstrated the type of data used and how it is interpreted to determine where the ramps to the blind thrusts are. He also had a computer graphics show to demonstrate the principles involved, but alas Murphy struck and the interface with the T.V. did not work well. The graphics program is available through AAPG.

There will be no October section meeting due to the Annual Meeting in Williamsburg, Virginia. Your Vice-Chairman and I will be attending the annual board meeting and representing the Section. We hope to continue having the Vice-Chair attend these meetings, which is not required, in order for that person to be more familiar with the proceedings and what to expect the following year. Many sections have their chairman serve for two years, which means that they are up to speed for their second board meeting. Next year's annual meeting is in Sacramento and the Sacramento Section is looking for volunteers. If you would like to help, please call James Parsons at (916) 424-4950.

According to an article in last month's ASCE CIVIL ENGINEERING magazine geotechnical engineers may adopt a new identity, that of geoengineers. They are getting closer to taking your business away folks. Wake up. Is the public going to know the difference between a geoscientist and a geoengineer. Can't they both do the same work?

I have written the County of Orange recommending the appointment of Larry R. Cann and Richard E. Lownes as our Section representatives on the Orange County Technical Advisory Board. They have both been on the board for several years and the appointment is for a three year term. We hope that the Board of Supervisors will confirm these appointments.

On the legislative front, SB 2530 dealing with water wells is reprinted later in this newsletter. We will let you know if the governor signs the bill or vetoes it. A copy of a bill for a proposed environmental certification program at the federal level is also included for your review. At the state level, the Board of Registration for Geologists hopes to have Cite and Fine enforcement capability in about a month. We'll keep you posted.

Our Section needs volunteers. The two major vacancies are the Field Trip and Short Course Committees. These two committees generate publications which we can sell. The sale of publications adds significantly to our bank account and allows us, as a Section, to offer more activities and fund our involvement with appropriate organizations. We just received another royalty check for the sale of Engineering Geology Practice in Southern California. Our section has lead the way with generating publications, but we need new ones. Please volunteer and support your section.

With great sadness I must report the loss one of our own. Marty Stout passed away on Friday, September 23. We will miss him. Please see the announcement in another section of this newsletter. ϕ

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## FROM THE EDITOR

Martin Stout joined the Department of Geological Sciences at California State University, Los Angeles in 1960 after receiving a Ph.D. from the University of Washington. Martin accomplished many things during his tenure at CSULA, including serving as department chair, co-founding the engineering geology program, and working in the consulting engineering geology field. Martin's style of teaching required his students to integrate the "big picture" with seemingly minor, easily overlooked, features in order to solve geologic problems. He taught his students to never be satisfied with the simple, straightforward, routine answers to questions until all possibilities were exhausted. In 1990, Martin retired as Professor Emeritus and continued to teach, lead seminars, and conferences, attend professional meetings, and field trips until only about a month ago. His dedication to geology and to his students was an inspiration

to all who knew him. This dedication seemed to permeate all aspects of his life; whether it was his work, his garden, or the cabin in Big Bear; and seems, to me, to be accurately and eloquently represented in a poem by George Bernard Shaw reprinted on the following page. Martin will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

At the June meeting of AEG, which was dedicated to Martin, several of his students spoke of what influence Martin had on their lives. Chris Sexton, who aided Martin by instructing the Aerial Photo Interpretation class when Martin was unable to, has kindly rewritten the text of his presentation made that night for publication here. The text follows on the next page. ϕ

Some time ago (June to be exact) the Association of Engineering Geologists hosted a tribute dinner to Dr. Martin Stout. Many who had been students or associates of Martin's were invited to say a few words about what they had learned from Martin and how they had applied it to some working situation. The very thought of speaking in front of a group had me absolutely petrified. I quickly realized that the only hope I had of avoiding stumbling over my tongue was to write down what I wanted to say almost word for word. When Martin passed away, a similar invitation came from the newsletter. I was surprised to find that I still had a copy of what I had said at the dinner. As I read these words in light of Martin's passing, I'm not sure what to add. I believe they still provide a good summary of what Martin meant to me, so I sent them along pretty much just as they were with a few minor changes.

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We had been asked to recount examples of how we had taken concepts and ideas that we've learned from Martin Stout and applied them to solve some geologic problem. As I gave this some thought, it occurred to me that although Marty taught me many things, there was something fundamental in his approach to teaching that ran through them all. This was Marty's insistence that in addition to learning information, we also learned to reason. The following paragraphs relate how I came to appreciate Martin's teaching and how his unique approach to education has come to be integrated into virtually everything I do.

After the first meeting of Martin's engineering geology class, I knew that it would be pretty different from any other class I'd had. Things didn't seem to be run on quite the same rails I was used to, and I have to admit that at the time I didn't like it much.

*This* is the true joy in life, the being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one; the being a force of nature instead of a feverish, selfish little clod of ailments and grievances complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy.

I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community and as long as I live it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can.

I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work the more I live. I rejoice in life for its own sake. Life is no "brief candle" to me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for the moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations.

*George Bernard Shaw  
from Man and Superman,  
Dedicatory letter*

Throughout most of my student career, studying for an exam meant all-night memorization or working and reworking problems until I could do them in my sleep. Test taking primarily consisted of recognizing the pattern of a particular problem and then regurgitating the information necessary to solve it. This typical approach to education and testing is successful in that it forces familiarity with the required information, but, in my view, is slightly flawed in that as long as the students memorization is adequate and his choice of method appropriate, he can be pretty confident in getting the "right" answer. There typically is not a lot of judgement involved. In real life, and perhaps more so than in many other professions, geologists are faced with two or more solutions that are supported by the available data. Serious judgement is required regarding the quality of the data and the strength with which it supports the various possible solutions. Classic approaches to teaching rarely require judgement of this sort. This lack of a need for judgement makes school a comparatively comfortable place to be.

When I studied for my first test in Marty's class, I used the same tried and true approach I'd always used. I made flash-cards and drew strat columns of all the formations we had discussed and I knew them all cold. By this time in the course I had developed a bit of a chip on my shoulder and I went into the midterm with the attitude that I was gonna show this guy... Then we were given a test that asked us to describe engineering geology concerns related to the construction of a thin-arch dam, a tunnel and landfill. We'd not discussed any of these things...I barely knew what a thin-arch dam was!! Half of the exam was to be done at home. For this part, Marty handed us a blank topo map and asked us to identify rock-types, geologic structure, landslides, faults, and geologic

contacts based purely on the topography, and then to plan an engineering geology investigation of the property. I thought to myself "Who is this guy kidding?". I resigned myself to probably failing the exam and from that point figured I'd just do the best I could and the hell with it.

When I handed in that exam, Marty asked "you're continuing education aren't you?" I replied that after an exam like that one, I rather doubted it. I went home thinking to myself "Who is this guy?".

When we got our tests back, and Marty explained why he expected the answers he did, I realized that he expected us to use "memorized" information and combine it with careful observation and reasoning. Martin taught an organized system of thought that allowed reasonable geologic deductions from limited data.

Marty tended to throw out all the rules of engagement when it came to teaching and exams. He would provide the concepts and the basic information, but the original thought and deduction was up to you. He always was careful to leave room for original thought; willing to listen to dissenting views supported by reasoned arguments. Just as in our professional lives, Marty taught that in many instances, there was no single, black and white, "right" answer, only a best answer given the data at hand. In our work, the data is not always perfect and not always complete. We constantly are presented with unique problems that require deductive analysis and interpretation. At times, it becomes necessary to finish a job with somewhat less information than we would really like. In this respect, Marty's approach to teaching provided an insight to professional life rarely available in the academic environment. Working thro-

ugh Marty's homework, field problems and exams helped students to build confidence in their ability to reason through geologic problems and an appreciation of the absolute necessity for careful study of every bit of information available.

So in the course of the ten years I've known Marty I think I've got a pretty good answer to my question "Who is this guy?". He is an incredibly unique and effective professor, and a good friend. One who is always there to offer encouragement, support or criticism; always at the right time and always in the right measure. He taught a lot of us geology, and some of us he taught a lot more. He is always teaching. He teaches us right now by virtue of his energy and enthusiasm despite his failing health. Some day we all have to stand in the shoes he wears today. I know that when my time comes, I'll make a better job of it for having had such a teacher. Martin, you were always an inspiration; know that my life has been made far better for having known you. Thanks again for all your time and all your effort.

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In closing, I'd just like to comment on how much I'll miss Martin Stout. He once told me he would be back to haunt me. I can only hope I'll be so lucky. He is frequently in my thoughts, and always in my heart. He lives on in all of us he helped teach to swing a rock pick. Martin, your spirit is always welcome at my house. I hope you'll be good enough to stop by; I'm not forgetting I owe you a crate of oranges.

*Christopher J. Sexton*

# MARTIN L. STOUT MEMORIAL SERVICE

After a long and valiant struggle against cancer, Martin passed away, at home, on Friday morning, September 23, 1994.

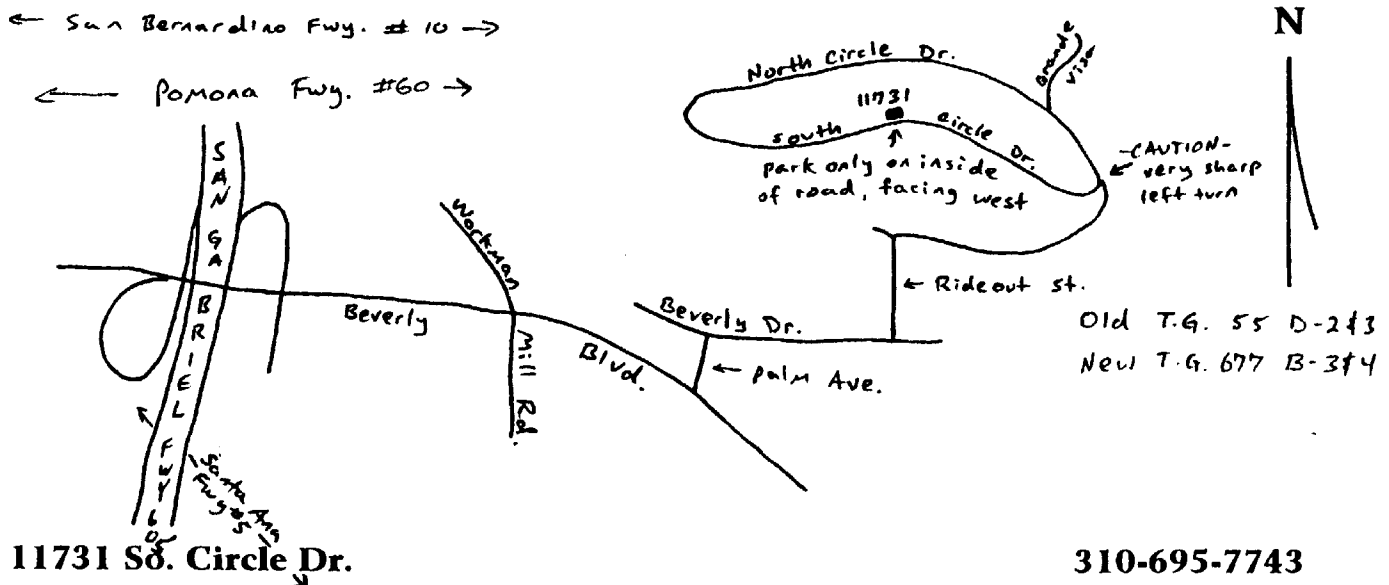
At Martin's request, the service will be held in the yard that he had spent some of his happiest hours of late, developing and nurturing. Come join us on Saturday, October 8, 1994, from 2:00 to 5:00 pm to the strains of the Dixieland Band, the HYPERION OUTFALL SERENADERS.

## THE SCHEDULE

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| • 2:00 to 3:00 | ◆ good food, good music and mingling!   |
| • 3:00 to 4:00 | ◆ a short video on Martin's life<br>◆ reflections from those who wish to speak<br>◆ special songs<br>◆ poetry<br>◆ putting some of his ashes to rest. |
| • 4:00         | ◆ good music and mingling.  |

## MAP TO STOUT RESIDENCE

(If traffic becomes a problem there will be a shuttle at the bottom of the hill or directions on where to park)



At Martin's request, please, in lieu of flowers send donations to either:

- The Martin L. Stout Scholarship % Chr. Robert Stull  
Department of Geological Sciences  
California State University, Los Angeles  
Los Angeles, CA 90032

or

- The Martin L. Stout/SCS AEG Scholarship % Chr. Robert A. Larson  
Association of Engineering Geologists  
6416 Woodley Avenue, Apt. 5  
Van Nuys, CA 91406



## POLITICAL SCENE

The format for the addresses of California and Federal politicians listed in the last newsletter was that used by the Daily News. The 1994 Roster of California's Governor & Administration Constitutional Officers, Congress Members, State Senate & Assembly Members (published by *California Green Book* P.O. Box 1772, Sacramento, CA 95812) cites three address formats for State Legislators as shown below, (*note: the building prefix from the list in last month's newsletter is actually a room number*).

Hence:

Senator Phil Wyman  
State Capitol  
Room 4062  
Sacramento, CA 95814

and

Senator Phil Wyman  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

and

The Honorable Phil Wyman  
California State Senate  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

are equally correct.

Additionally, the correct zip code is 95814, NOT 96814 as I errantly cited in 80% of the list. ϕ

Please add to the Senate Roster the following:

### Rob Hurtt, R-32nd District

State Capitol  
Rm. 2054  
Sacramento, CA 96814  
(916) 445-5831 ϕ

*Editor's note: the following text of Assembly Bill 2530 and all other legal documents reprinted in this column are provided for information purposes only. These documents have been re-keyed and, thus, errors may exist in the text as reproduced here. For a copy of the complete legal text as produced by the authors listed please contact your Representative.*

Introduced by Assembly Members Sher, Bornstein, and Rainey (Coauthor: Senator Kopp), January 18, 1994; latest Amendment in Senate August 18, 1994.

An act to amend sections 13751 and 13752 of, and to repeal Section 13750 of, the Water Code, relating to wells.

### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2530, as amended, Sher. Water Wells  
Under existing law, any person who intends to perform specified work on a water well, cathodic protection well, or monitoring well is required to file a notice of intent with the Department of Water Resources, as prescribed, and any person who performs the specified work is required to file a report of completion of the well with the department, as prescribed, within 30 days after the well's construction or alteration has been completed. Existing law limits access to reports of completion to governmental agencies, for use in making studies, and to persons who obtain written authorization from the owner of the well.

This bill would repeal the requirement to file a notice of intent. The bill would extend to 90 days the period allowed to file a report of completion, would require that a copy of the log of any geophysical testing done in the well be included in the report of completion, and, except as specified, would expand access to reports of completion by additionally granting access to reports on wells located in urbanized areas, including wells owned by public agencies, to geologist, geophysicists, and civil engineers registered in the state, for use in making studies, and would define "urbanized areas" for those purposes. The bill would allow public agencies to publish selected portions of report of completion, as prescribed.

Vote: majority. Appropriations: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section 13750 of the Water Code is repealed.

SEC. 2 Section 13751 of the Water Code is amended to read:

13751. (a) Every person who digs, bores, or drills a water well, cathodic protection well, or a monitoring well, or abandons or destroys a well, or who deepens or re-perforates a well, shall file with the department a report of completion of the well within 90 days after its construction or alteration has been completed.

(b) The report shall be made on forms furnished by the department and shall include the information required by the department, including but not limited to, all of the following:

- (1) A description of the well site sufficiently exact to permit location and identification of the well.
- (2) A detailed log of the well.
- (3) A description of type of construction.
- (4) The details of perforation.
- (5) The methods used for sealing off surface or contaminated waters.
- (6) Methods for preventing contaminated waters of one aquifer to mix with another aquifer.
- (7) A copy of the log of any geophysical testing done in the well.
- (8) The signature of the well driller.

SEC. 3 - Section 13752 of the Water Code is amended to read:

13752. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), reports made pursuant to Section 13751 shall not be made available for inspection by the public but shall be made available to public agencies for use in making studies. A public agency may publish in a study selected portions a report made available to it pursuant to this section if the public agency determines that the information in those selected portions is germane to the evaluation by the study of water resources, water quality, geologic hazards, or seismic hazards. Any report shall be made available to any person who obtains a written authorization from the owner of the well.

(b) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (3), reports made pursuant to Section 13751 regarding wells located in urbanized areas, including wells owned by public agencies, shall be made available to geologists, geophysicists, and civil engineers registered in

this state for use in making studies.

(2) A geologist, geophysicists, or civil engineer who acquires reports pursuant to paragraph (1) shall not make copies of those reports available to other persons or entities.

(3) At any time after the report made pursuant to section 13751 is filed, the person for whom the work was completed may, by certified mail sent to the office in which the report was filed, request that information concerning water resources contained in the report not be made available to geologists, geophysicists, or civil engineers. The request shall be noted on the report and shall be included with any copies of the report provided to other public agencies. The department shall not release information pursuant to paragraph (1) while the person making the request specified in this paragraph retains title to the land on which the work was completed.

(c) For the purposes of this section, "urbanized areas" means areas within the boundaries of Urban Water suppliers subject to the requirements of the Urban Water Management Planning Act (Part 2.6 (commencing with Section 10610) of Division 6) that provide water for more than 5,000 customers or that supply more than 10,000 acre-feet of water annually. "Urbanized area" does not include an area of 10 or more acres within the service boundaries of an urban water supplier that is served water for agricultural purposes only.  $\phi$

#### SUPERFUND REFORM?

The following is a section of the House of Representatives version of the Superfund Reform Act of 1994 (H.R. 3800), adopted by the Committee on Energy and Commerce. Similar language is in H.R. 3572, the Environmental Professionals Training and Certification Act of 1993, which remains in committee.

#### SEC. 612. CERTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) REGULATIONS.-(1) Not later than 2 years after enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall publish guidelines, in accordance with subsection (b), for a model State program for organizations that train and certify individuals to perform Phase I Environmental Site Assessments.

(2) The guidelines published under paragraph (1) may include, but not be limited to, minimum standards relating to-

- (A) formal environmental training;
- (B) continuing environmental education;
- (C) environmental certification and testing procedures;
- (D) revocation and disciplinary procedures;
- (E) establishment of a code of ethics;
- (F) consumer education;
- (G) certificate renewal procedures; and
- (H) annual reporting of program activities.

#### (b) ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION BOARD.

(1) Not later than 60 days after enactment of this ACT, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall establish a certification advisory board to be known as the "Environmental Certification Board" (hereafter in this section referred to as the "Board").

(2) The Board shall consist of a minimum of 6 members, appointed by the Administrator, with a demonstrated knowledge in the environmental field. The board may include representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency, environmental interest organizations, the chemical/manufacturing industry, the environmental consulting service industry, the insurance industry, the banking/investment industry, professional societies, private sector accreditation organizations, State government, and other appropriate representatives with a knowledge in the environmental field.

(3) All members of the Board shall serve on a voluntary basis, except those members from the Environmental Protection Agency.

(4) The Board shall appoint 1 member to serve as Chairman of the Board who shall exercise the executive and administrative functions of the Board.

(5) Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Board shall issue recommendations to the Administrator which shall include, but not be limited to, the minimum standards to be established under subsection (a).

(c) STATE ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS.-(1) After the publication of the guidelines under subsection (a), any State may adopt regulations identical (except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection) to the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator under subsection (a)(1).

(2) Nothing in this section shall be construed to preempt any State from issuing and

enforcing, at any time, additional or more stringent guidelines and regulations regarding the training and certification of Phase I environmental professionals.

(3) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a profession or occupation licensed by a State authority and whose scope of practice, as defined by State law, includes Phase I Environmental Site Assessments to obtain certification as a "certified Phase I Environmental Site Professional" as a condition for performing Phase I Environmental Site Assessments.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit a certified Phase I Environmental Professional to practice within the scope of practice of a licensed professional or occupation, as defined by State law, unless that individual also meets the requirements of the State licensing statute.

(d) DETERMINATION OF COMPLIANCE.-(1) if a State adopts the guidelines issued by the Administrator, any organization that seeks to obtain a determination of compliance with the regulations set forth in subsection (c) may submit to any such State, in which the organization is located, information documenting such compliance.

(2) Such State shall make the determination of such organization's compliance or noncompliance with such regulations.

(3) Upon a determination of compliance under paragraph (2), the State shall issue notice in writing to such organization, indicating that such organization is an "Approved Phase I Environmental Training and Certification Organization" in accordance with this Act. Such approval shall be valid for a term to be set by the State, but no longer than 5 years.

(4) A State may charge a reasonable fee, equal to the cost of determining compliance under paragraph (2), to each organization that applies for such determination. Any such fees shall be listed as part of the regulations promulgated under subsection (c).

(5) Any organization that has received notice of a determination of compliance from a State under paragraph (3), may issue a diploma, certification, or other form of degree, to any individual who has completed to its satisfaction such organization's curriculum and training program signifying that the recipient is a "Certified Phase I Environmental Professional" qualified to perform Phase I Environmental Site Assessments.

(6) A State may periodically, or upon expiration of a notification of a determination of compliance under paragraph (3),

review the program, curriculum, facilities, and training methods of any such organization to determine such organizations continued compliance with the regulations promulgated under subsection (c).

(e) DEFINITIONS.-For purposes of this section:

(1) PHASE I ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENT.-The term "Phase I Environmental Site Assessment" means the process by which a person or entity seeks to determine whether a particular parcel of real property is subject to recognized environmental conditions. These conditions indicate the presence or likely presence of a hazardous substance or pollutant or contaminant on a property under conditions that indicate the existence of a release or threatened release at the facility into structures on the property or into the ground, ground water or surface water of the property.

(2) CERTIFIED PHASE I ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONAL.-The term "Certified Phase I Environmental Professional" means any person receiving certification to perform Phase I Environmental Site Assessments from an approved environmental training and certification organization in accordance with this section.

(3) APPROVED PHASE I ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION ORGANIZATION.-The term "Approved Phase I Environmental Training and Certification Organization" means Phase I Environmental Training and Certification Organization whose curriculum, program, facilities, training, and testing methods comply with the regulations adopted by a State under this section. ϕ

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## NEWS

### Announcement of a New Service

TUSTIN, California, September 19, 1994 Instant Environmental Data (IED), a Tustin-based environmental technology leader, announced the introduction of CD-ROM for due diligence use in Phase I Environmental Assessments and Transaction Screens for real estate transactions. AEG member George Brogan is the Director of Environmental Services for IED. The IED FastLook system addresses the need for consulting geologists to conduct their own searches of government databases for California sites, rather than calling an environmental report-

ing service. FastLook reports environmental permits and other reported site conditions, such as violations, for real properties. The databases searched are from Federal and State regulatory agencies.

The IED FastLook program is extremely fast and simple to use. It replaces laborious manual searches of environmental databases, or ordering from reporting services that take days to respond, according to Sue Maurath, Vice President of Marketing for IED.

IED FastLook automatically searches more than 50 environmental site-related databases that are updated quarterly. The databases are from Federal agencies, such as the US Environmental Protection Agency, and from State agencies, including the California EPA. "This compares to reporting services that typically search about a dozen databases," said Maurath. "And we're constantly adding databases. Our next release may have as many as 60 automatically searchable databases."

CD-ROM technology is growing in many professions, including geologic consulting, but before IED FastLook there was no way to search this many environmental databases on a personal computer. "The search is lightning fast," said Maurath. "Just enter the property address, and FastLook automatically completes a search and immediately shows you the FastLook table. The table shows the number of database reports for the property and other sites at 1/4-mile distances from the property, out to one mile in all directions."

Maurath continued, "You will search all databases at the touch of a keyboard, then save the search file to a disk, where you can print out the entire report, or bring it into a word processor for customized formatting. The system has great flexibility. On-line help eases jitters of first-time users." The software that drives the searches is a proprietary search-and-retrieval system licensed from MicroKey, Inc., also in Tustin.

Environmental attorneys have shown keen interest because IED reports the databases exactly as the government agency does, without removing or editing selected data. Reporting services tend to re-key the government data and edit the databases, a process that may change or hide information from those most knowledgeable to interpret the data.

"We have priced our system to be competitive," said Maurath. "In fact, we haven't found any pricing that beats us." IED has inexpensive subscriptions geared for the

small user, with discounts for big users and large companies with many offices.

Instant Environmental Data accepts orders and queries by fax, phone, or mail. A demonstration disk is available upon request. Contact Instant Environmental Data by phone at (714) 731-7901, by fax at (714) 252-8011, by mail at P. O. Box 4161, Tustin, CA 92681, or drop by the office at 18062 Irvine Boulevard, Suite 102, in Tustin. ϕ

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### An Overlooked Key to Success

There are many ways to be ready when opportunity knocks. One often-overlooked key to success is a personal data bank you create that quietly accumulates data and sits there until - suddenly - there is a job that must be done using some special technology or equipment. Knowledge is power. If you know about the technology and the capabilities of the equipment and its availability, you are a jump ahead of the competition. Well, OK, maybe you are just the office hero for a day because you solved a small problem and let the team move forward to the next stage. AEG makes it easy for you to be competitive or be the office hero of the day because we give you a simple way to build your own technology/equipment capability database. All it takes is a couple of minutes of your time and a postage stamp. Just pull the reader inquiry card from each issue of the AEG NEWS or Directory and circle the numbers on it that match the advertisements that have any possible interest for you. Fill in your address, put the card in the mail, and we and the advertisers do all the work. Our advertisers really want to hear from you so don't be shy! Remember! You can use the Reader Inquiry Card in the AEG NEWS or the Directory to get specific information from our advertisers, or just to take advantage of the up-to-date information they offer on the latest technology. ϕ

*Submitted by Bob Tepel*

Did you know that AEG members contributed 20% of the questions in the initial item bank for the ASBOG (Association of State Boards of Geology) geologist registration exam, and that AEG is an Affiliate Member of ASBOG and is working to provide consistency and fairness in registration examinations and laws? ϕ



## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

*Employment adds are placed in this newsletter free of charge as a service to our readers. We also accept adds from people looking for work in engineering geology and related fields. Adds run one (1) issue. Contact the editor for further details.*

**Leighton and Associates**, a leading geotechnical and environmental consulting firm, has career opportunities available in southern California:

**PROJECT/SR. PROJECT GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEER**  
(Westlake Village)

MSCE, professional registration (GE preferred), and 5 or more years of diverse experience in major civil, public works, commercial, and residential projects. Duties include field analysis, report/proposal preparation, project management, and client interface. We also require good oral and written communication skills.

**STAFF GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERS** (all offices)

MSCE and an interest in land development, heavy civil environmental, and public works.

**SR. STAFF/PROJ. CHEM. ENGINEER** (Irvine)

BSChE (MS preferred) and 5 or more years in design and installation of remediation systems, P & ID design/analysis, computer modeling for fate and transport analysis, health and environmental risk assessment, and client interface.

**STAFF GEOLOGISTS** (all offices)

BS (MS preferred) and an interest in field investigation, grading, fault and rippability studies, and environmental projects.

**SOIL TECHNICIANS** (San Diego and LA Basin)

One year minimum experience in soils/materials testing, field observation for earthwork, grading, and building construction projects.

We offer career growth potential, plus competitive salary and benefits. For immediate consideration mail or fax your resume to:

**LEIGHTON & ASSOC., INC.**

Attn: H.R.

2121 Alton Parkway, Irvine, CA 92714

Fax# 714-250-1114

Equal Opportunity Employer

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Early field geologists must have given the world a weird impression, because in the early 1800's, independantly, a great Scottish poet and a great English poet each wrote an unflattering poem about field geologists. In *St. Ronan's Well*, an unconvinced Sir Walter Scott saw our field work simply as that of breaking large "stones" into gravel:

"and some rin up hill and down dale, knapping the chucky stanes to pieces wi' hammers, like sa many road-makers run daft. The say 'tis to see how the world was made!"

And William Wordsworth's unflattering description of the geologist who "with pocket-hammer smites the edges of luckless rock or prominent stone", classifying the chip "by some barbarous name, and hurries on", thinking himself "enriched, wealthier, and doubtless wiser than before."

A few decades later, what we geologists did was better understood. Here are the encouraging words of Hugh Miller, a Scottish geologist, who 150 years ago wrote:

"Nature is vast and our knowledge is limited, and no individual, however humble in place or acquirement, need despair of adding to the general fund."

From AEG Bull. v. XXX, No. 3, Sept. 1993  
*Submitted by Richard Proctor*

## MEETINGS, FIELD TRIPS, ETC.

### OCTOBER

- 2-7 **AEG 37th Annual Meeting: *Engineering Geology: Past, Present and Future***, Williamsburg Hilton & Convention Center, Williamsburg, Virginia. Contact: David Sayre, Virginia Geotechnical Services, P.C., 8211 Hermitage Road, Richmond, VA 23228-3031, (804) 266-2199, Fax: (804) 261-5569.
- 12-16 **AIPG Annual Meeting: *Geology Today: Science, Technology, and Regulatory Policy***, Flagstaff, AZ. Contact: Mark A. Shellhorn, % Basin & Range Hydrogeologists, Inc., 5080 N. 40th St., #105, Phoenix, AZ 85018, (602) 840-3333.
- 15-16 **South Coast Geological Society Publication and Field Trip - The Mojave Desert Region, California**. The trip will highlight classic geologic and new geologic sites. The trip meets at the toe of the Black Hawk landslide. Additional stops include the Landers earthquake area, Pisgah Crater, and points in between. For information, call or fax Diane Murbach at (619) 275-1462.
- 24-27 **GSA Annual Meeting: Seattle Washington**. Washington State Convention and Trade Center, Seattle Sheraton Hotel. Contact: GSA Meetings Department at 1-800-472-1988.

### NOVEMBER

- 7 **South Coast Geological Society Monthly Meeting: Doug Morton - SCAMP (*Southern California Aerial Mapping Project*)** Revere House, 901 First Street, Tustin, CA. For reservations call Leighton and Associates at (714) 250-1421.

### DECEMBER

- 5 **South Coast Geological Society Monthly Meeting: Poster Session - Christmas Meeting and Raffle!** Please Call Alan Pace at (714) 458-7414 with your poster session title. Please bring donations to this meeting for the raffle! Revere House, 901 First Street, Tustin, CA. For reservations call Leighton and Associates at (714) 250-1421.

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- Buckley, C. I., and Larson, R. A., eds., 1990, **Geology and engineering geology of the western Soledad Basin, Los Angeles County, California**: Association of Engineering Geologists, Southern California Section, Annual Field Trip Guidebook, November 3, 1990, 185 p., 2 map sheets.
- City of Los Angeles, 1982, **Geologic maps of the Santa Monica Mountains, Los Angeles, California**: compiled by the City of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering, reprinted by the Association of Engineering Geologists, Southern California Section, 342 p., 333 map sheets, 1" = 400'.
- Ehlig, P. L., and Steiner, E. A., eds., 1992a, **Engineering geology field trips: Orange County, Santa Monica Mountains and Malibu**: Association of Engineering Geologists, 35th Annual Meeting, October 2-9, 1992.
- Ehlig, P. L., and Steiner, E. A., eds., 1992b, **Map and cross section of Big Rock Mesa**.
- Leighton, F. B., 1992, **Mitigation of geotechnical litigation in California**: Munson Books, Huntington Beach, 274 p.
- Pipkin, B. W., and Proctor, R. J., eds., 1992, **Engineering geology practice in southern California**: Star Publishing, Belmont, California, 769 p.
- Sieh, K. E., and Matti, J. C., 1992, **Earthquake geology, San Andreas fault system, Palm Springs to Palmdale**, Association of Engineering Geologists, 35th Annual Meeting, Field Trip Guidebook, October 3-4, 1992, ??p.
- Scullin, M. C., 1983, **Excavation grading code administration, instruction, and enforcement**: Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, 405 p.
- Shlemon, R. J., 1993, **Applications of soil stratigraphy to engineering and environmental geology**: Association of Engineering Geologists, Southern California Section, Short Course Notes, June 5, 1993, 323 p.
- Shurman, G. and Slosson, J. E., 1992, **Forensic engineering: Environmental case histories for civil engineers and geologists**: Academic Press, San Diego, California, 296 p.
- Stirbys, A. F., 1992, **Los Angeles Metro Rail system**: Association of Engineering Geologists, Field Trip Guidebook, 35th Annual Meeting, October 2-9, 1992, 175 p., 59 photos (56 B&W, 3 color), 2 map sheets.
- Stout, M. L., 1976, **Geologic guide to the San Bernardino Mountains, southern California**: Association of Engineering Geologists, Southern California Section, Annual Field Trip, May 22, 1976, 115 p.
- Stout, M. L., 1992, ed., **Proceedings of the 35th annual meeting**, Association of Engineering Geologists, October 2-9, 1992: Association of Engineering Geologists, 740 p.

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## GEOQUOTE OF THE MONTH

"The Earth is God's pinball machine, and each quake, tidal wave, flash flood and volcanic eruption is the result of a TILT that occurs when God, cheating, tries to win free games."

Tom Robbins  
Even Cowgirls get the blues

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## WRITE TO THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

If you have a suggestion for "Geoquote of the Month", or if you have any news items, short articles (or long if space is available), commentary, suggestions, gripes, complaints, book reviews, software reviews, or whatever, and you would like to share them with your colleagues via the AEG Southern California Section Newsletter, send it to the Newsletter Editor at the address below, or on the internet at [ctnestle@aol.com](mailto:ctnestle@aol.com). Longer works are preferred on floppy disk, formatted by any DOS or Windows-based word processor (If you have a MAC, please save your work as an ASCII file or in a DOS format that I can retrieve). Diskettes will be

returned if requested. Please include your phone number in case I have a question.




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