

ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS

Southern California Section

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NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 1998

November Dinner Meeting

Tuesday November 10 1998

Location: Stevens Steak House, 5332 Stevens Place, City of Commerce, CA

Time: 5:30-Social Hour 7:00-Dinner 7:45-Announcements 8:00-Program

Reservations: Call (949) 253-5924 ext. 564

Cost: \$20.00 per person (students \$10.00 w/ valid i.d.). Please make reservations by Monday September 7, 1998. "No-shows" will be billed.

Speaker: WILLIAM KANE, Ph.D.

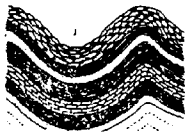
Topic: TIME DOMAIN REFLECTOMETRY (TDR) WITH APPLICATIONS TO REMOTE
LANDSLIDE MONITORING

The remote or hazardous location of many unstable slopes has created a need for monitoring systems which can provide immediate warning in the event of a failure. Advances in telecommunications and electronic instrumentation have made it possible to economically monitor slope movements remotely.

Time domain reflectometry (TDR) is now frequently used as a means of slope monitoring. Sending a voltage pulse down a cable grouted in a borehole to locate deformation in a slope is rapid and economical. Because the signal is digital, the technology lends itself to remote monitoring systems. Besides serving as an excellent stand-alone tool, TDR has been successfully incorporated into installations using several different measuring devices including extensometers, piezometers, and inclinometers. Telemetry can be by cell phone or hard wire phone. Power is usually from rechargeable lead/acid batteries and solar panels.

This presentation reviews a number of case studies in California where automated data acquisition was used. Sites include an unstable slope above a sand pit adjacent to Interstate 15 in Riverside County, California, an instrumented soldier pile wall in Santa Cruz County, California, and large landslides on Highway 1 in Monterey County and Highway 25 in San Benito County.

Dr. William F. Kane received his B.A. (1975) in geology from James Madison University, and his M.S. (1981) and Ph.D. (1985) degrees in civil engineering from Virginia Tech. He is President of KANE GeoTech, Inc., Stockton, California. Dr. Kane has consulted and done research in the areas of rock and soil mechanics, ground subsidence, and slope stability. He has taught civil engineering at the University of the Pacific, Stockton, California; the University of Alabama in Huntsville; and the University of Tennessee, where he founded and served as the first director of their Institute for Geotechnology. In addition, he has worked on geotechnical problems for organizations such as the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans); Illinois Department of Transportation; the State of Tennessee Technology Foundation Superconducting Supercollider Proposal Team; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and the U.S. Bureau of Mines. While working for Caltrans, he helped develop and implement the Caltrans TDR slope monitoring program. He has authored or co-authored approximately 80 technical papers and reports. Dr. Kane is a registered professional engineer in the State of California and a registered professional geologist in the State of Tennessee.



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CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

Last month's AEG National meeting in Seattle was a roaring success. It was good to see a strong turnout of Southern California members among the 480 attendees. The meeting featured many interesting technical sessions and symposia, as well as enjoyable social functions such as the Puget Sound Dinner Cruise and the annual banquet. Next year's meeting will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah and planning is well under way for yet another outstanding meeting. For those of you who have never attended a National Meeting, or haven't been in a while, I would highly recommend making the effort to get to Salt Lake City next fall. The National meetings are an ideal way to catch up on the latest and greatest breakthroughs in our profession and to get to know the people that are running AEG at the national level.

Following the Annual Meeting, the AEG Board of Directors (BOD) meeting was held. The board consists of Chairmen from each of the AEG Sections and the members of the Executive Council (i.e., AEG President, Treasurer, Secretary, Past President and Vice President). The BOD meets twice a year - at the annual meeting and again in Spring. The two main items discussed during the meeting were the relocation of AEG headquarters to Colorado and the possible restructuring of the AEG board. As you may be aware, AEG headquarters was recently moved from Sudbury, Massachusetts to new digs at Texas A&M University. The move to TAMU was intended to streamline AEG's operations and provide closer control of the operations by the Executive Director. Studies undertaken by the Relocation Committee determined that the future permanent home of the AEG headquarters will be Boulder, Colorado. At the present time, the relocation to Boulder is scheduled to occur before August 2000. Once relocated, future Executive Directors will be based out of the Boulder offices, unlike the past, where the Executive Director may have lived in a city hundreds of miles from the day-to-day operations of the organization. The other item that was discussed at the BOD meeting was the possible restructuring of the Board and Executive Council of AEG. The management system of AEG, like most volunteer organizations, has flaws. Each year there is a huge turnover in board members as new Section Chairs are elected and this leads to a very short term memory of the Board and often repetitive discussions or uninformed decision-making on the part of board members. Possible solutions to these and other problems were discussed in workshops, and a committee has been established to explore restructuring options and report to the board at our spring meeting. If you have opinions on any of these items, please feel free to call or e-mail me with your comments. -- Wendy Schell

NEW MEMBER INCENTIVE

Spread the good word! New AEG members will be entitled to free admission to one Section dinner meeting. Please note that proof of application is required and that membership renewals are not eligible for this "free-meal-deal."

BE SURE TO VOTE

Remember to vote on Tuesday, November 3rd! Our former Section Chairman and Newsletter Editor, Kelly Rowe, has taken the plunge and is a candidate for Director of the Orange County Water District (OCWD). Kelly's District is No. 7 which covers the Costa Mesa and Newport Beach areas. Kelly is excited about the opportunity to participate in decisions affecting the water supplies and environmental issues that currently confront Orange County. OCWD has a ten-member board that oversees proposed and existing OCWD projects. Kelly's 20+ years of experience in hydrogeology projects in Southern California should be a great benefit to Orange County. Good Luck Kelly!

DECEMBER MEETING INFO

For our last Section meeting of 1998, we have decided to try something a little different. Our December meeting will be held on Tuesday December 8th and will be our first annual "Vendors and Corporate Members Night" where Corporate

AEG members and vendors have been invited to display their products and services. If you know of a vendor that might be interested in participating, please call Wendy Schell at (949) 250-1421 and I will send them the details. In addition, we will be holding a raffle of items donated by members. If you have an item such as a book, rock or mineral specimen, piece of field equipment, etc. that you can donate, please bring it along to the meeting. We're hoping the December meeting will be a good social event and a chance to show our appreciation to the Corporate members of AEG. Please plan on attending and bring a spouse, friend or colleague.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EARTHQUAKE CENTER (SCEC) PAPER

The Southern California Earthquake Center has released a draft paper entitled "Recommended Procedures for Implementation of DMG SP117 Guidelines for Evaluating and Mitigating Seismic Hazards in California - Liquefaction Hazards." This paper has been released to ASCE and AEG for review comments. If you are interested in reviewing this paper, and can have your review comments completed and returned to Section Chair Wendy Schell by November 12th, 1998, please contact her immediately and she will forward a review copy to you.

Member Survey

Please help our Section assess the needs of its members by completing and returning the following survey.

How many AEG Southern California Section meetings do you typically attend each year (check one)?

0 ___ 1-3 ___ 3-5 ___ >5 ___

Why do you attend Section meetings (check all that apply)?

Speakers ___ Socializing ___ Looking for a job ___ Recruiting ___ Other (specify) ___

What city do you travel from to attend meetings (this is probably the same city where you work) ?

What would make you want to attend meetings more often (please specify how these items could be improved)?

Different speakers (how) _____

Different food (what kind) _____

Time of meeting (when) _____

Location of meeting (where) _____

Cost of meeting (how much) _____

What speaker topics interest you?

What short course topics interest you?

Do you have any suggestions for Section field trips?

Do we have your correct mailing address? If not, please fill out the correct address in the space below:

Are you available to help the Section in any of the following (if yes, please provide name, address, phone#):

Be a speaker at the monthly meeting? _____

Organize a field trip? _____

Organize a short course? _____

Legislative issues? _____

Publications? _____

Other? _____

If you haven't received your 1999 AEG dues statement yet, please provide your name and address below so we can update National records.

Additional Comments and Suggestions:

(fold here)

Return Address:

(postage)

Wendy Schell, AEG Chair
c/o Leighton & Associates, Inc.
17781 Cowan, Suite 200
Irvine, CA 92614

(staple here)



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Staff Geologists and Engineers Hetherington Engineering, Inc. is looking for qualified staff geologists or engineers to perform field- and office-oriented responsibilities for geo-technical and environmental projects. A minimum of 2 years combined experience in field and office is required. Please FAX your resume in confidence to Paul Bogseth at (949) 487-9116.

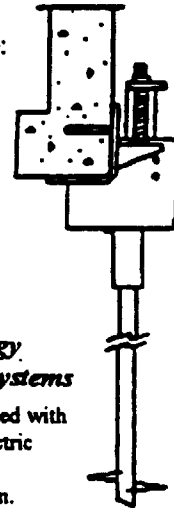
NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

Promote your firm's services and/or products to a select audience of over 450 industry professionals. Ad rates for the 1999 calendar year are as follows: 1/8 page/business card -- \$90.00 per year, 1/4 page -- \$120.00 per year, and 1/2 page -- \$200.00 per year. Please note that Corporate AEG members are entitled to a 50% advertising discount. Contact the Newsletter Editor for additional details.

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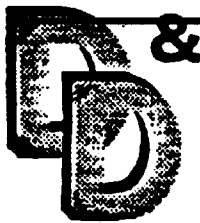
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Southern California Section



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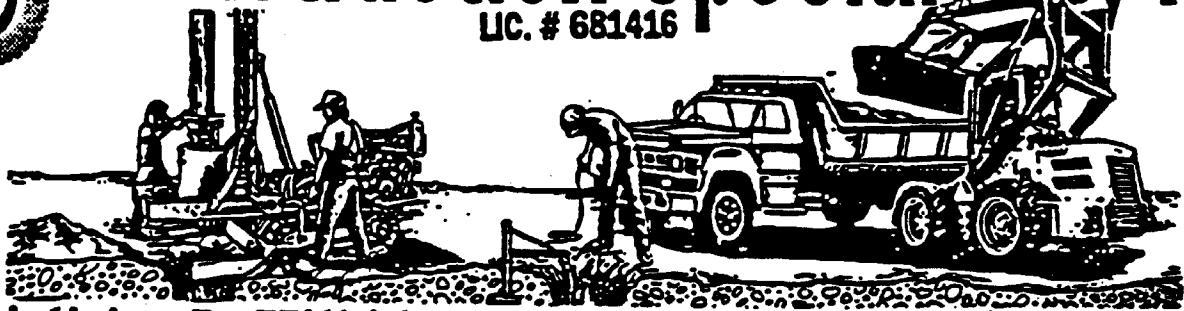


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