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ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS**
Southern California Section

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NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2000

Monthly Dinner Meeting

Date: Tuesday, April 11, 2000
Location: Luminaria's Restaurant, 3500 Ramona Boulevard, City of Monrovia at the intersection of the 710 and 10 freeways. (call the restaurant at 323-268-4177 for further directions.)
Time: 5:30 p.m. - Social Hour; 7:00 p.m. - Dinner and Presentation
Reservations: Call (949) 253-5924, ext. 564 by 5:00 p.m., Friday, April 7, 2000
Cost: \$25.00 per person with advance reservations, \$30.00 at the door, and \$15.00 for students w/ valid i.d. "No-shows" will be billed \$10.00.

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Speaker: Christopher Hitchcock, Senior Project Geologist with William Lettis & Associates, Inc.,

Subject: MAPPING LIQUEFACTION HAZARDS: INTEGRATION OF SURFICIAL MAPPING AND ENGINEERING GEOLOGY TECHNIQUES

William Lettis & Associates, Inc., and the California Department of Conservation, Division of Mines and Geology, operating under separate program contracts, conducted cooperative studies to evaluate and delineate seismically-induced liquefaction hazards in Simi and San Fernando Valleys, California. These studies incorporate collaborative Quaternary geologic mapping with independent analysis of compiled geotechnical boring data to delineate liquefaction-related hazards. Geotechnical and environmental boring logs provided engineering and lithologic properties for alluvial deposits. Maps of surficial Quaternary deposits and construction of geologic cross sections enabled extrapolation of boring lithologic and soils test data into same or similar geologic units, thus providing a means to map liquefaction susceptibility over large areas. Geologic units mapped on the basis of depositional environment and relative age are particularly useful for estimating sorting, bedding, grain-size characteristics, and degree of compaction of sediments in areas that lack subsurface data.

Christopher Hitchcock, Senior Project Geologist with William Lettis & Associates, Inc., in Walnut Creek, California, is a Certified Engineering Geologist experienced in the application of geologic, geomorphic, and hydrologic techniques to seismic hazard and engineering geology investigations.

CHAIR'S COLUMN

By the time of our next meeting, the Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee (JLSRC) will have met and the future of the Board of Registration for Geology and Geophysics will be determined. Buzz Spellman will be attending the meeting on behalf of the Southern California Section and will provide a summary at our next meeting. Keep an eye open in our next newsletter for more on the proceedings of the JLSRC meeting.

Due to a last minute cancellation by our scheduled speaker for our April meetings, it has become necessary to postpone the planned meeting on Monday April 10th in San Diego. This meeting was to have been hosted by the "soon-to-be" San Diego State University Student Chapter of AEG. We are in the process of rescheduling this meeting and will keep you informed of the new date.

Many thanks to our Vice Chairman, Dave Seymour, for his stellar efforts at scheduling such a topical and interesting speaker for our Tuesday, April 11th meeting on such short notice. Any member who has suggestions for future speakers or topics they would like to see at our meetings are encouraged to contact Dave at dcsnce@aol.com.

Next month's meeting will return to Steven's Steak House and our scheduled speaker is President of AEG, Art Stukey from Chicago. Unfortunately I will be overseas at this time and will be unable to attend. However I encourage all members to make an appearance and find out firsthand where AEG is heading in the future.

Nominations are still being accepted for AEG Awards. Annual and periodical awards presented to members of the Association include the Student Professional Paper Award, the AEG Publication Award (won by Dick Proctor in 1998) and the Douglas R. Piteau Outstanding Young Member Award (Kerry Cato, 1994). Please take a moment to think about AEG colleagues you would like to see honored and make a nomination. I can be contacted at schellbw@aol.com for more information.

The weekend prior to our April meeting I will be in Nashville for the AEG Board of Directors meeting. Issues on the agenda include discussion of the 2000-2001 Budget, bylaw revisions to streamline AEG operations, and discussion on whether an increase in dues will be necessary for 2001. I will provide a summary of the outcome of the meeting in the next newsletter.

Lastly, the deadline for submitting abstracts for the 2000 AEG Annual meeting in San Jose is fast approaching. I encourage everyone to consider projects you have worked on, technologies you have applied, mistakes you have learned from as fodder for an abstract for this meeting.

Cheers! Wendy Schell

INSIDE THE ANNUAL MEETING – 4 A Guide to AEG 2000

By Robert Tepel, General Chair 2000

First, The News

It's official. The Association of Engineering Geologists and the Groundwater Resources Association of California have agreed to make AEG 2000 a Joint Annual Meeting. Both AEG and GRA will contribute talent, resources, and effort. The leaders of both organizations recognize that by working together the members of each association will have more to choose from at a joint annual meeting. In today's highly competitive business climate, geologists must be able to bring broad knowledge to bear on their work. The expanded program of AEG•GRA 2000 will provide great opportunities to learn new skills and increase your knowledge base.

AEG•GRA 2000 – an Abundance of Symposia

A symposium enhances the quality of your meeting experience by bringing together papers that are focused on a particular, timely, topic. Our goal is to present fresh and up-to-date viewpoints from a variety of authors, many of whom are invited speakers. If you practice in the area of expertise covered by a symposium, you will benefit from the extra effort we put into organizing the papers as a consistent body of work covering a subject in breadth and depth. If you are *not* practicing in a field covered by a symposium, come on in! A new career opportunity might be waiting inside. In addition to technical topics, we have symposia that address the vital areas of business practice, professional licensure, and ethics. Here is a preliminary list of symposia (see the Annual Meeting issue of the AEG NEWS for final topics and schedules).

- Practical Experience with Complex Geological Materials
- Forensic Practice of Engineering Geology
- Forensic Practice in Environmental Geochemistry (GRA-sponsored Symposium)
- Naturally Occurring Asbestos Minerals: Environmental and Project Impacts
- The Role of Engineering Geology in Resource Management and Watershed Restoration
- California's Seismic Hazards Mapping Program: Progress and Future Impacts
- 21st Century Issues in Professional and Business Practice (Joint Symposium with the National Association of State Boards of Geology)
- Advances in Landslide Mitigation Around the World (Special Symposium sponsored by the International Landslide Research Group)
- Cutting-edge Environmental Technologies (GRA-sponsored Symposium)

Sunken Costs and Attrition

Sunken costs are costs a purchaser (such as AEG) is obligated to pay a vendor (such as a bus company or caterer) if we cancel an event and therefore cancel our contract with the vendor. If we cancel the event and the contract after a certain juncture, we forfeit some or all of our deposit money to compensate the vendor for its expenses to date, for its obligations to others made at our behest, and for the risk that it will not be able to fill our slot with replacement business. Sunken costs are a financial risk that must be managed to assure a fiscally healthy Annual Meeting.

What happens if we overestimate attendance at an event but still want to make it happen? In many cases, up to a certain juncture a few days or weeks ahead of the event, we can reduce our guaranteed purchase from the vendor to a revised and better-informed estimate. The mechanism that permits this is the attrition clause in our agreement with the vendor. Typically, a certain level of attendance reduction or attrition (five or ten percent, say) carries no penalty. If we cut our guarantee below that point, unit costs will go up. Total event cost can exceed revenues. Not good. Cancellation is a possibility.

Hotel room-night attrition is by far the biggest operating financial risk faced by an Annual Meeting. Typically, AEG guarantees a certain number and pattern of room-nights over the meeting time frame. This is a very difficult prediction, given the usual five-year lead-time. If we do not meet our room-night guarantee, attrition penalties build on a steeply sliding scale. Depending on specific contract terms, we may have to compensate the hotel for lost room revenue, or even have to pay rent on the function space we occupy. This is a big dollar risk.

Several techniques are used to manage attrition risks:

- Attendees are encouraged to stay at the meeting hotel, to help us meet our room-night guarantees.
- Attendees are asked to tell the hotel they are with AEG when making reservations, so we get credit for their room-nights.
- Early registration discounts are offered in the hope that enough people will sign up early for many events to give us a clear signal of approaching break-even conditions. After early registration closes, ticket sales are tracked closely to give us a picture of event finances over time. An event will be cancelled if the risk of loss is judged too great as its sunken cost deadline approaches. Remember: the sunken cost deadline, and hence the go/no go decision, arrives days to weeks before you do. We can not afford to hold undersubscribed events open for the convenience of late and on-site registrants.
- Multiple-scenario break-even analyses of attendance versus ticket cost are performed to determine optimum ticket prices for events.
- We strive to obtain the most favorable attrition clauses we can in our negotiations with hotels and other vendors.
- We seek event sponsors, as well as advertisers and exhibitors, to produce income that can be used to

subsidize events. This income can be used to keep ticket costs down for events about which attendees are very price-sensitive, notably major F&B (Food and Beverage) events such as the Annual Banquet and the Corporate Luncheon.

- The Annual Meeting has a specific surplus target. Meeting operations are dynamic, and residual unknowns abound no matter how much planning we do. The financial risks are out there, and some of them are always made manifest. The governing principle is that surest way to lose money on an Annual Meeting is to have the financial goal of breaking even.

SHORT COURSE ANNOUNCEMENT

Geotechnical Design Using The CPT And SPT For Liquefaction Analysis

Gregg In Situ, Inc. is pleased to announce that Dr. Peter Robertson will present a one-day short course on the use of CPT and SPT data for geotechnical design, with particular emphasis on recent advances and regulatory requirements in the area of liquefaction potential determination and design considerations. Worked examples and case histories will be given to illustrate the concepts. A comprehensive set of notes will be provided to assist with the course material. Special consideration will be given to the Implementation of DMG Special Publication 117 "Guidelines for Analyzing and Mitigating Liquefaction in California". This short course represents 8 hours of Professional Development Hours (PDH's). A certificate will be issued upon completion.

Course Schedule and Locations:

April 25, 2000
Coronado, California
Loews Coronado Bay Resort

April 26, 2000
Long Beach, California
Renaissance Long Beach Hotel

April 28, 2000
San Francisco, California
Hyatt Regency San Francisco

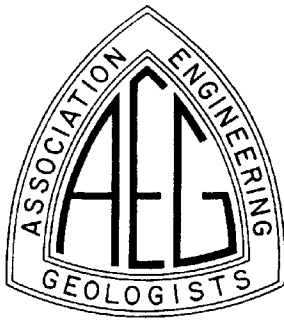
Registration Fee:

\$135 per attendee (if received by April 14, 2000).
Late on-site registration fee is \$200 per attendee.
Registration fee includes seminar reference materials, continental breakfast, lunch, and break refreshments.

Please contact Gregg In Situ, Inc. to register:

KIM LOVE
(562) 427-6899 Phone
(562) 427 3314 Fax
E-mail: klove@greggdrilling.com

Visit their Web Site at <http://www.greggdrilling.com/> and click on "Seminar Schedule" for additional details.



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GROUNDWATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION

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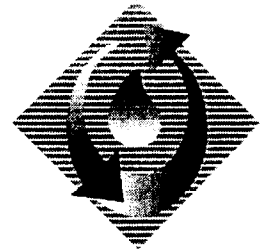
JOINT ANNUAL MEETING

43rd AEG • 9th GRA

San Jose, California -- DoubleTree Hotel

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GROUNDWATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION

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Abstract submittals due May 1, 2000

E-mail preferred: meetings@aeg.tamu.edu
Or submit your abstract on AEG's Web Page:
www.aegweb.org, Annual Meeting
Or mail with disk to:

AEG•GRA•2000 c/o Julie Keaton
130 Yucca Drive
Sedona, AZ 86336-3222
(520) 204-1553
Fax: (520) 204-5597

Technical Program Topics

Case Histories in Engineering Geology
Seismic Hazards
Slope Stability and Landslides
Transportation Engineering Geology
Business Practice & Professional Licensure Issues
Groundwater Investigations
Coastal and River Engineering Geology
Dams and Reservoirs
Environmental Investigation & Clean-up
Lab Testing and Field Investigations
Landfill Technology
Mining and Land Use
Quaternary Geology & Geologic Hazards

(Abstract must not exceed 250 words and must include author's full name, company name, and company address below the title of the paper. We prefer that authors use Microsoft Word. Please include your daytime telephone number. See sample abstract submission form on AEG's Web Page: www.aegweb.org)

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GRA Liaison: David W. Abbott, 510-595-2120, jorysue@msn.com

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or Steve Korbay, 707-571-1883, skorbay@kleinfelder.com

Teachers Workshop: Frank Groffie, 510-636-2123, fgroffie@aol.com

Sponsors: Gretchen Mora, 510-633-5640, aegnews@visto.com

Exhibitors: Julie Keaton, 520-204-1553, meetings@aeg.tamu.edu

AEG JOINT SECTION 3RD ANNUAL RAFT TRIP

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&

GEOLOGY OF THE CARSON RANGE FIELD TRIP

Hosted by the Great Basin Section

**WHO: Sacramento, San Francisco, Great Basin and All other interested
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Field Trip Start Time 9:30 am Sunday**

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Members \$25 Non-members \$30**

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and breakfast & lunch Sun. CHILDREN MUST BE 10 OR OLDER TO RAFT**

****Field Trip Only participants lunch and beverages provided only**

RESERVATIONS & DEADLINES

**RAFTING FIELD TRIP RESERVATIONS DUE
3/27/2000 WITH \$65 DEPOSIT**

**FIELD TRIP ONLY RESERVATIONS
4/30/2000**

RESERVATIONS OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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PHONE		Attention: Dawn James Ph.: (818) 707-8320 ext. 224 (Inquiries only, orders must be mailed with payment)

TITLE / DESCRIPTION	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
Baldwin, J.E. and Sitar, N., 1991, <u>Loma Prieta Earthquake: engineering geologic perspectives</u> , AEG Special Publication No. 1, 170p	\$10.00		
Bishop, K. and Tandy, 1995, <u>Ground Failure during the January 17, 1994 Northridge earthquake</u> : Association of Engineering Geologists, Southern California Section, Annual Field Trip Guidebook, November 11, 1995, 106p.	\$20.00		
Blake, T.F., 1994, <u>Attenuation of Strong Ground Motion from Earthquakes</u> , Volume II, 2-in 3-ring binder	\$20.00		
Blake, T.F., 1996, Technical Program Coordinator, <u>What's Shaking in Southern California? Seismic hazards analysis- The sequel</u> : Association of Engineering Geologists, Southern California Section, Short Course, January 20, 1996, program notes in 2-in 3-ring binder	\$40.00		
Briggs, R.P. and Parke, C.D., 1990, <u>Guide to Field Trips in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia</u> , AEG 33 rd Annual Meeting, October 1-5	\$15.00		
Blake, T. and Larson, R.A., eds. 1991, <u>Engineering geology along the Simi-Santa Rosa fault system and adjacent areas. Simi Valley to Camarillo, Ventura County, California</u> : AEG, Southern California Section, Annual Field Trip Guidebook, August 24, 1991, v. 1 & 2, 383 p. 4 map sheets	\$25.00		
Bucxley, C.L., and Larson, R.A., eds., 1991, <u>Engineering geology along the Simi-Santa Rosa fault system and adjacent areas. Simi Valley to Camarillo, Ventura County, California</u> : Association of Engineering Geologists, Southern California Section, Annual Field Trip Guidebook, November 3, 1990, 185 p., 2 map sheets	\$15.00		
Byer, J.W., 1975 <u>Sycamore Canyon Fault, Verdugo Fault, York Boulevard Fault, Raymond Fault, Sierra Madre Fault Zone</u>	\$20.00		
Cann, L. and Steiner, eds., 1989, <u>Engineering Geology along Coastal Orange County</u> , annual Field Trip Guidebook, Association of Engineering Geology, Southern California Section	\$15.00		
City of Los Angeles, 1982, <u>Geologic maps of the Santa Monica Mountains, Los Angeles California</u> : compiled by the City of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering, reprinted by the AEG, Southern California Section, 342 p., 333 map sheets, 1"=400'	\$25.00		
<u>Highway and Railroad Slope Maintenance</u> : AEG, 34 th annual meeting, September 29 th - October 4 th , 1991	\$10.00		
Leighton, F.B. <u>Mitigation of geotechnical litigation in California</u> : Munson Book Associates, Huntington Beach, California, 274p.	\$30.00		
Sieh, K.E. and Matti, J.C., 1992, <u>Earthquake geology, San Andreas fault system, Palm Springs to Palmdale</u> : AEG, 35 th Annual Meeting, Field Trip Guidebook, October 3-4, 1992	\$5.00		
Stout, M.L., ed., 1992, <u>Proceedings of the 35th annual meeting, Association of Engineering Geologists, October 2-9, 1992: 740p.</u>	\$5.00		
<u>Perspectives in Paleoseismology</u> , AEG Special Publication No. 6	\$10.00		
<u>Los Angeles Metro Rail System Field Trip Guidebook</u> , Association of Engineering Geologists, 35 th Annual Meeting October 2-9, 1992 Long Beach, California	\$10.00		

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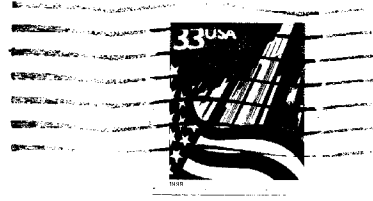
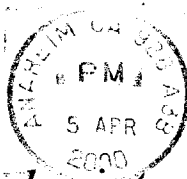
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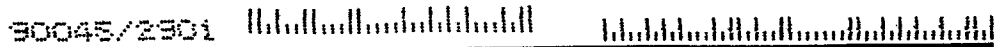


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