

ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS

Southern California Section

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NEWSLETTER - AUGUST 2000



Monthly Dinner Meeting

Date: Tuesday, August 8, 2000
Location: Stevens Steak House, 5332 Stevens Place, Commerce, CA
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, August 4, 2000
Cost: \$25.00 per person with advance reservations, \$30.00 at the door, and \$12.00 for students w/ valid i.d. "No-shows" will be billed \$10.00.

Speaker: JOHN S.FERGUSON, JR., ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Subject: THE ELUSIVE SEARCH FOR GOOD QUARRY STONE

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There is a problem sometimes in Southern California, due to the large number of faults and associated fracturing, trying to find large enough to build and repair coastal structures, such as Morro Bay Breakwater and Pier 400, both of which used stone exceeding 25 metric tons in weight. Mr. Ferguson will speak about two different projects that the Los Angeles District built, the San Pedro Breakwater, completed in 1912 and the Morro Bay Breakwaters, completed in the 1940's, and one project, Pier 400 in Los Angeles Harbor built jointly by the Corps and the Port of Los Angeles. He will discuss the criteria used by the Corps in Los Angeles to determine if stone from a particular quarry is suitable and discuss the various tests required.

John Ferguson, Jr. an Engineering Geologist with the Los Angeles District of the Corp of Engineers has been employed by the District since 1958. He specializes in evaluation of quarry stone for coastal projects from the Mexican Border to Atascadero Beach (north of Morro Bay), including the harbors of San Diego, Los Angeles, Long Beach, Dana Point and Santa Barbara. He is concerned with interpreting geology to design and construction engineers in the construction, maintenance and repair of breakwaters, jetties, groins, and new dredging projects particularly where bedrock has been or will be encountered. He graduated from the University of Redlands with a degree in geology and has been a member of AEG, joining as an associate member in 1960 and a full member in 1964.

CHAIR'S COLUMN

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the new section officers for 2000-2001. Dave Seymour is our new Chairman after serving two years as Vice Chair of the section. Lorraine Muto is our new Vice Chair in charge of arranging our monthly speaker, she has served as section treasurer for the last year. Tania Gonzalez will be our secretary responsible for updating the mailing list, and Jake Holt (former winner of the Martin L. Stout Scholarship) will be our treasurer for the upcoming year. In addition, we have a new editor for the section newsletter. Desiree Dier (last years winner of the Martin L. Stout Scholarship) has volunteered to put together our newsletter and her goal is to have the newsletter available by email to those who want it.

I am very happy with the selection of the section officers, I know they will bring enthusiasm and energy to the section. Please feel free to contact any officer if you have ideas for improving our section, I am sure they will be pleased to hear from you.

This month marks my last as section chair. I have enjoyed the opportunity to work with so many interesting people and I greatly appreciate the efforts of all who volunteered their time and experience to helping me. I hope you will show the same level of support to the new officers that I have been shown. I will be introducing the new officers at our August dinner meeting and I encourage you all to attend and meet your new leadership.

September 19-26 is the 43rd AEG Annual Meeting to be held in San Jose. The early registration deadline is August 20, 2000 so you still have time to save on your fees. Your Program with Abstracts should have arrived by now, if you have not received it, please call headquarters at 979-845-0142. The meeting registration form is located in the centerfold of the Program.

Again, thank-you for making the last two years as Section Chairman challenging, interesting and fun.

Wendy Schell.

NEWS FROM THE AEG· GRA 2000 TEAM

By Robert E. Tepel

What's happening as we move closer to AEG•GRA 2000? Things are in a state of flux, as they say. The multi-author book-signing event may evolve into a series of signing opportunities throughout the meeting, rather than be an Icebreaker event.

We are into the background work that makes the meeting go: contract negotiations for ground transportation (estimated at \$15k – 20k), developing the printing contract for the 120-page field trip guidebook (\$4.5k or so), dealing with the hotel's catering department for food and beverage services, and negotiating for audio-visual services. Now, there's an expensive item. Current plans are to have each of the five presentation rooms equipped with one overhead projector, two 35mm slide projectors, two screens, and one LCD projector. In addition, of course, the speaker prep room will have a 35mm slide box, and a sample LCD set-up for electronics practice. A major part of your meeting registration fee is dedicated to supporting the A-V demands of the meeting.

With nearly 250 authors, you can imagine the variety of author demands for presentation capabilities. Technical Sessions Chair Dennis Maslonkowski and Symposium Chair Chuck Snell are developing speaker guidelines that will help speakers work with the A-V vendor's equipment. Seamlessly, we hope, but with back-up recommendations so the audience does not have to endure delays while systems that are supposed to be perfectly coordinated prove that they are perfectly recalcitrant.

One easy decision: we can buy laser pointers cheaper than we can rent them.

AEG and GRA members have received the 132-page Program and Abstracts book in a mid-July delivery two months before the meeting and five weeks before the early registration discount expires. We aimed for the "sweet spot" on your calendar – enough time before the deadlines to let you plan your meeting activities, and close enough to the deadlines to keep the registration form at the top of your "to do" list. This on-time delivery of the Program and Abstracts book is the result of a tremendous effort by the AEG•GRA 2000 Committee, AEG Meetings Director Julie Keaton, CMP, and the AEG headquarters staff. Thanks to all of them for a big job well done.

Remember our discount plan. Double your discounts by registering as an AEG or GRA member by August 21. You will receive both the early registration discount and the member discount. You can print an AEG membership application form, print the meeting registration form, and reserve a hotel room at the AEG web site, www.aegweb.org. GRA membership application forms are available on-line at www.grac.org. The hotel room block is limited, so make your hotel reservations early to take advantage of the special block rate. (We are researching overflow hotels in case the room block at the DoubleTree fills, but if you want to be where the action is, the convention hotel is the place).

WORK PLACEMENTS WANTED.

Two enthusiastic and motivated New Zealand engineering geology students (both 23yrs), seek work placements in U.S.A. within engineering geology company or similar organization.

Maximum period 18 months from May 1, 2001.

Contact: Wayne Gunn (BSc, MSc)
e-mail: waynejg@xtra.co.nz

Debbie Head (BSc, DipAppSc)
e-mail: debgeonz@yahoo.co.nz

A MESSAGE FROM BETSY MATTHIESON OF CCGO

The Technical Affairs Committee of the California State Board of Registration for Geologists and Geophysicists is adding members and needs a larger supply of candidates to choose from. In hopes of being able to maintain a diversity in gender, location, and professional interest, the committee is seeking resumes from women, geophysicists, mining/oil geologists, and environmental geologists, preferably from those living north of Los Angeles. Interested people should send their resumes and a short letter of interest to the BRGG (geology@dca.ca.gov) immediately.

This message is being distributed by the California Council of Geoscience Organizations at the request of a member of the BRGG TAC, Betsy Mathieson, President, CCGO (<http://www.ccco.org>)

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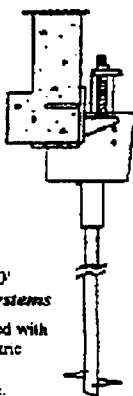
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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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C.H.J. Incorporated, a geotechnical leader in the Inland Empire, is seeking an entry-level geologist to work under the supervision of an RG/CEG. Duties may include field exploration, compaction testing, in-grading observation, and geologic hazards evaluation. Bachelor's degree in geology is required. Reply by FAX to (909) 824-7209.

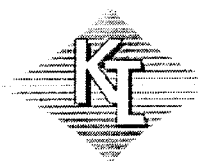
GEOLOGIST

Ninyo & Moore's Geotechnical Div. Seeks Project Geologists (min. 5 years exp.) RG/CEG preferred. Please send resume to: Ninyo & Moore, 9272 Jeronimo Rd., Ste. 123A, Irvine, CA 92618 EOE

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Southern California Section



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