



# ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS

Southern California Section  
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## *NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2002*

### MONTHLY DINNER MEETING

**Date:** Tuesday, October 8, 2002  
**Location:** Stevens Steakhouse, 5332 Stevens Place, Commerce, CA  
**Time:** 5:30 p.m. - Social Hour; 7:00 p.m. – Dinner; – 8:00 p.m. Presentation  
**Reservations:** Call (949) 253-5924 ext. 564 by 5:00 p.m., Monday, October 7, 2002  
**Cost:** \$25.00 per person with advanced reservations, \$30.00 at the door, and \$10.00 for students w/ valid I.D., "No-shows" will be billed \$10.00

**SPEAKER:** Mark G. Olson

**TITLE:** Recent Examples of Seismic Reflection and Refraction Surveys for Southern California Engineering Geology Projects

**ABSTRACT:** The results of various seismic reflection and refraction surveys will be presented. These case histories will demonstrate the application of seismic methods for subsurface imaging of shallow lithologic contacts and changes in geologic structure associated with faults. Case histories will also be presented to show how seismic velocity profiles were used to investigate bedrock rippability and other geotechnical conditions.

**BIO:** Mr. Olson is a RGp, RG and CHG, and Principal Geophysicist of Advanced Geoscience, Inc., Palos Verdes Estates, CA. Mr. Olson is a consulting geophysicist specializing in subsurface investigations using seismic, ground-penetrating radar, and electrical resistivity techniques.

Since 1997, he has performed geophysical services for local engineering and environmental consulting firms. Prior to starting his own company he was a senior geologist and geophysicist with Dames & Moore in Los Angeles and a former exploration geophysicist with Mobil Oil Corporation.

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CHAIR'S COLUMN

By Tania Gonzalez

Greetings from your new Section Chair! This past September, a new slate of officers for the Section was voted in. Please welcome **Matt Hawley**, who stepped right up to the plate and volunteered for the Vice-Chair position; **Brian Villalobos**, the new Treasurer; and **Jeff Kofoed**, who has agreed to continue his Secretary, /Newsletter Editorship duties. **Joe Cota**, **Buzz Spellman** and **Hugh Robertson** will continue to volunteer on the legislative front – it takes a lot of effort to keep up with the proposed new Assembly or Senate Bills that directly or indirectly would have an impact on how and who can practice geology in California. We will keep you informed of these proposed changes via e-mail as particular issues develop. If you have not given us your e-mail address, please consider doing so. By sending the newsletter via e-mail rather than snail mail, the Section can save a substantial amount of money that is otherwise spent in printing and postage costs.

**Dave Seymour**, our past-Chair, and **Lorraine Muto**, past Vice-Chair, have retired. Please join me in thanking them both for all their years of service and leadership. The time commitment to these positions is substantial, but as Dave tells me, it is intensely gratifying. I do hope that we continue to see you both at meetings. Dave says that he plans to continue giving his time and energy to the association. Thanks Dave!

As the incoming Chair, I represented the Southern California Section of AEG at the Annual Meeting in Reno, where the Board of Directors and Executive Council of AEG met for two days to discuss the past, present and future of the organization. It is official: AEG has moved its offices from Texas A&M University (TAMU) to Denver, Colorado. If you are in the Denver area, stop by and check the new offices at 720 South Colorado Boulevard, Suite 970-South. The day-to-day business of AEG is now being handled by the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA), a firm that provides management, financial, and administrative services for organizations like our own. Starting in July, when AEG signed their contract, NEHA took the bull by the horns and has made an excellent job of transferring, sorting and updating all of the records that came out of Texas. If you have any problems with your membership dues, publications, or directory services, please let me know, as NEHA is committed to taking care of any problem of this type immediately.

NEHA's representatives were present at the Annual Meeting, where they provided support to **Julie Keaton**. Thanks to Julie's wonderful administrative skills, the Annual Meeting was again a success. Approximately 640 people and 39 exhibitors attended the meeting in Reno. There were several symposia, covering issues like

faulting, liquefaction, landslides, gas hazards, monitoring and remediation of solid waste facilities, Site Characterization, the Yucca Mountain project, the practice of Engineering Geology, and Geology as a Profession. All of these symposia were well attended; the challenge was to pick the right talk out of the two or three interesting ones that were being given at the same time! If you have not gone to an Annual Meeting, consider going to next year's meeting, which will be held in Vail, Colorado. The field trips alone are a great experience, but these meetings are also a wonderful opportunity to network and learn more about our profession.

The move to Denver, and transfer of the management services to NEHA were prompted by the need to curb the expenses of the Association. With these changes and other cost-cutting measures, the Executive Council expects to save approximately \$80,000 a year. You can help AEG achieve financial stability by paying your dues early (you should have already received your invoice for the 2003 dues), in addition to making a contribution to the AEG Foundation. AEG Foundation monies are used to support educational projects of the association, such as scholarships, guest lectures and publications. For additional information regarding the state of the AEG, read the President's message in the upcoming (September) issue of AEG NEWS.

If you have any comments or comments regarding the AEG, both at the National or southern California level, please give me a call or drop me an e-mail. As usual, we are always looking for volunteers. For example, it has been several years since the Southern California Section has put together a field trip. I would like to start holding these again on a regular (yearly or every other year, at least). If you have ideas, do give me a call.

Do not forget to check out the AEG web page at <http://www.aegweb.org>. If you use your membership ID and password (on the membership card we each get annually from National), you can access several different member services, including the more recent member directory. In the next month or two, we should also be able to order publications and pay our annual dues online.

### Legislative News

After some research by Woody Higdon and our lobbyist, the tax deductibility of lobby expenses has been determined. If you are lobbying the legislature about a bill that is directly related to the organization's purpose, then the dues are deductible by the members in total. If you are lobbying for something that is not directly related to the organization's purpose either directly to the legislature or through advertising to the community (i.e., lengthen terms of office for representatives) then

you would have to declare to your members what portions of their dues are not tax deductible.

**Joe Cota**, our Legislative Chair, along with **Hugh Robertson** and **Buzz Spellman** have been busy reviewing several bills recently identified by our lobbyist, Judy Wolen. An update on legislative affairs will be provided in upcoming newsletters, as much of the evaluation is still in progress.

**Electronic Newsletter and Website**

We are attempting to reduce the Section's budget for the newsletter (more than half a member's dues paid to the Section go to Kinko's and the Post Office). Please consider receiving the newsletter electronically if you have an email account. Contact Jeff Kofoed.

2003 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

You probably received your 2003 dues statement from AEG National by now. If you have not received it, or are unsure about your membership status, please contact AEG Headquarters [aegweb.org](http://aegweb.org), or Tania Gonzalez. We are currently looking for a new Membership Chair. Please contact Tania Gonzalez you wish to volunteer.

YEAR 2002 CONTRIBUTORS

Our special thanks to:

**Earth Consultants International  
Robertson Geotechnical, Inc.**

YEAR 2002-3 CONTRIBUTORS NEEDED

Contributions from corporations and individual members for 2002 are greatly appreciated. Contributors will be listed in our newsletter throughout the year and can post their logo or business card in the newsletter if so desired. Please mail contributions made out to **AEG** to our section chair, Tania Gonzalez.

YEAR 2002 MEETING SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sept.	Various	Steven's Steakhouse
October	Mark Olsen	Steven's Steakhouse
November (Joint w/ IGS)	TBA	TBA
December	NO MEETING	

ADVERTISING IN THE NEWSLETTER

Business Card	\$10/month	\$100/year
¼ page	\$20/month	\$200/year
½ page	\$35/month	\$350/year
Full page	\$50/month	\$500/year

**AEG NEWS**

**New AEG NEWS Managing Editor**

Andrea Ptak is our new Managing Editor and Production Manager for the AEG NEWS and is encouraging members to submit articles and other items of interest. If you have any questions about text/file submissions, don't hesitate to contact me at the information below. We'll be working to get back on schedule for the December issue, so start thinking ahead. The deadline for submissions is November 1.

Andrea (Andie) Ptak  
 Communicating Words & Images  
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**Ralph Stone & Company, Inc.**

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TITLE / DESCRIPTION	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
Baldwin, J.E. and Sitar, N., 1991, <b><u>Loma Prieta Earthquake: engineering geologic perspectives</u></b> , AEG Special Publication No. 1, 170p	\$10.00		
Bishop, K, and Tandy, 1995, <b><u>Ground Failure during the January 17, 1994 Northridge earthquake</u></b> : Association of Engineering Geologists, Southern California Section, Annual Field Trip Guidebook, November 11, 1995, 106p.	\$20.00		
Briggs, R.P. and Parke, C.D., 1990, <b><u>Guide to Field Trips in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia</u></b> , AEG 33 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting, October 1-5	\$15.00		
<b><u>Highway and Railroad Slope Maintenance</u></b> : AEG, 34 <sup>th</sup> annual meeting, September 29 <sup>th</sup> – October 4 <sup>th</sup> , 1991	\$10.00		
Leighton, F.B. <b><u>Mitigation of geotechnical litigation in California</u></b> : Munson Book Associates, Huntington Beach, California, 274p.	\$20.00		
Sieh, K.E., and Matti, J.C., 1992, <b><u>Earthquake geology, San Andreas fault system, Palm Springs to Palmdale</u></b> : AEG, 35 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Field Trip Guidebook, October 3-4, 1992	\$10.00		
Stout, M.L., ed., 1992, <b><u>Proceedings of the 35<sup>th</sup> annual meeting, Association of Engineering Geologists</u></b> , October 2-9, 1992: 740p.	\$5.00		
Tepel, R, 1995, <b><u>Professional Licensure for Geologists, an Exploration of Issues</u></b> , Association of Engineering Geologists Special Publication No. 7, 1995	\$12.00		
Cann, L.R., Cobarrubias, Hollingsworth, B., 1992, <b><u>Engineering Geology Field Trips Orange County, Santa Monica Mountains, and Malibu</u></b> : AEG 35 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Field Trip Guidebook, October 2-9, 1992	\$10.00		
<b><u>Los Angeles Metro Rail System Field Trip Guidebook</u></b> , Association of Engineering Geologists, 35 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting October 2-9, 1992 Long Beach, California	\$10.00		

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