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Southern California Section
"Serving Professionals in Engineering, Environmental,
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NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2002

MONTHLY DINNER MEETING

Date: Tuesday, September 10, 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., Friday, September 6, 2002
Cost: \$30.00 per person with advanced reservations, \$35.00 at the door, and \$10.00 for students w/ valid I.D., "No-shows" will be billed \$10.00

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Jeff Kofoed
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KALEIDOSCOPE OF SPEAKERS AND RAFFLE NIGHT

SPEAKERS: Hugh Robertson, David Seymour, Buzz Spellman and Mike Hart
TITLES: "Some Simple Tips to Stay Out of Trouble in Malibu" - Robertson
"Lessons Learned in the Norco Dairyland" - Seymour
"How 3 Degree Bedding in La Habra Can Ruin Your Day" - Spellman
"When is a Stream Terrace a Landslide, and How Not to Determine the Difference" – Mike Hart

THEME: If I Could Do It Over Again

ABSTRACT: Our Kaleidoscope of Speakers night is reminiscent of past meetings where two or more speakers would present an ongoing or past project. In this modern version, we added a theme – "If I Could Do It Over Again". Each speaker will present a project where things didn't go exactly as planned and the lessons that they learned as a result. Come, sit back, relax and learn from a few of your colleagues and "go to school" on their mistakes.

RAFFLE – NEW ITEMS NEEDED – Please bring in publications or any geologically worthy item. Proceeds help support our section.

CHAIR’S COLUMN

By David Seymour

Our August 2002 joint meeting with the ASCE Orange County Branch was great, with a little more than 70 attendees. Thanks again to **Eldon Gath**, the guest speaker. Eldon gave an insightful presentation on the Quaternary evolution of Laguna Beach and the San Joaquin Hills. Eldon had to water it down a little for the engineers, but it still turned out great.

I’m looking forward to our Kaleidoscope of Speakers meeting. It reminds me of some of the first meetings that I attended in the 1980’s. I hope that you’ll find it interesting too and stop by for some insights and a few laughs.

Included in this month’s newsletter is our 2002/2003 ballot. Please take the time to vote if you haven’t done so already. With your vote comes the end of my tenure as Chair. I enjoyed being your Chair and facing the many challenges that confronted me over the last two years. From legislative issues, the reorganization of AEG National, and personal tragedies I learned a great deal about professional organizations, personal relationships, and what really matters. I certainly could have done more for our section, but in the long run I’m glad that at the very least I kept our section going. I consider myself fortunate to work in a profession that I enjoy, demands my interest and stirs my curiosity. As such, I’m thankful that I had the opportunity to give something back to the profession that provides my livelihood. I hope that many of you feel the same and take the opportunity to give something back as well.

My thanks to all the past and present officers and other volunteers that have supported me, and our section over the last two years. I couldn’t have done it without you.

I hope to see you at the next meeting!

Legislative News

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

There are over 120 people in the section that are still receiving the paper copy of the newsletter. 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, **Jeff Kofoed**, Secretary, or me. We are currently looking for a new Membership Chair. Please contact **David Seymour** if you wish to volunteer.

YEAR 2002 CONTRIBUTORS

Our special thanks to:

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

YEAR 2002 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, David Seymour, 26276 Buscador, Mission Viejo, CA 92962.

YEAR 2002 MEETING SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Location</u>
May	Jeff Keaton	Steven’s Steakhouse
June (Past Chairmen Night)	Josh Feffer	Steven’s Steakhouse
July	NO MEETING	
August	Eldon Gath	Dave & Buster’s
Sept.	Various	Steven’s Steakhouse
October	TBA	TBA
November (Joint w/ IGS)	TBA	TBA
December	NO MEETING	

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AEG NEWS

Board Meeting

Memorandum from Hugh Robertson, July 12, 2002 Board of Registration for Geologists and Geophysicists Meeting:

The Board is concerned with the budget. The Board has spent less money than has been budgeted and this reserve is carried forward to future years to continue the Board operation. The Board is doing everything they can to save money which unfortunately results in a decrease in services such as the limited number of exam dates and public meetings only in the Sacramento area. The Board is abolishing staff positions to save money. The fees can be set by the Board only up to the maximum allowable under law. Registration fees are now at the maximum allowed by law. Legislation is needed to increase the ceiling for fees. The Board hopes to be introducing some legislation to increase the maximum amount allowable to allow the Board more flexibility in raising fees as necessary. However, the number is expected to be greater than the amount of fee increase that they desire now.

Enforcement was discussed. Apparently two citations and fines were issued. Ten cases were closed. Four new cases were added. Three cases were sent on to experts for review and two cases were transferred to different Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Boards. They tend to have more action in ground water complaints basically involving the work of REAs and REA IIs.

The Board discussed general recommendations for the Omnibus Bill to be submitted to the legislature. Some housekeeping items are needed to change the Board's name, change some language about years of education, and payment of fees. The Board would like to clarify language concerning years of experience. The Board is anxious to remove wording that requires 7 years of experience as the politicians tend to see that and read no further. The Board thinks the 5 year experience plus appropriate education was necessary as a minimum.

Agenda Item 15 involved the legislation report by JC Ishum. The board is supporting several Bills. AB269 was signed and apparently made some revisions that required that "the protection of the public is the highest priority" of various Boards, including our Board. SB1011/Sherr is being watched by the Board. Further discussion on this Bill was not held at the request of Ms. Dominquez. SB1958 is apparently dead. An amendment was made to another bill requiring a registered geologist review applications by REA Class II's for school sites. Again, this involved the REA issue which was tabled and minimum discussion was held. SB1963/Polanco was cancelled in committee. SB1240/Figueroa involved the misuse of seals. SB1244 involved the Medical Board and some geologic issues. SB2018 involved the use of money from fines. SB2024/Figueroa was now inactive and SB2025 involved extending the review date for the sunset of our Board to 2006. SB2059/Figueroa involved disclosure of information to licensees to the public. This was cancelled. AB791 involved labeling of bottled water and the need for a geologist.

The concept of the California Specific Exam was discussed. ASBOG states don't want state specific exams. The importance of a state specific exam was discussed. Generally the Board is leaning toward keeping the state specific exam and recognize its importance.

The ASBOG meeting is to be attended by Ms. Dominquez and Dr. Robert Matthews. In addition, Bob Tepel and Dr. John Williams will be going as representatives for the Examination Committee.

Officers of the Board were re-elected. No changes to the Board officers were made.

A new member representing the mining community was placed on the TAC. Tony Sawyer, Hydrogeologist with the County of San Diego is new chairman of the TAC Committee.

The schedule for future meetings was discussed. Right now the Board meets 4 times a year. It was discussed to make an effort to meet in Southern California despite the budget problems. Right now there is a plan to meet in Los Angeles on either December 3 or 5, 2002. The September meeting in Sacramento will be held September 24, 2002. Who will be attending?

New AEG NEWS Managing Editor

My name is Andrea Ptak and I would like to introduce myself as the new Managing Editor and Production Manager for the AEG NEWS. My firm, Communicating Words & Images, was contracted by AEG on July 20, 2002, to produce the next four issues of the NEWS. We encourage members to submit articles and other items of interest.

Submission requirements:

TEXT: I would like your files to come as attachments in Word98 (or earlier), or Text Only. If your piece is short (a few sentences), feel free to embed it in an email.

IMAGES: Ideally, images should be scanned at 300 dpi for optimum reproduction. If you are using a digital camera, use your higher resolution settings. I can convert most file formats using Photoshop, so feel free to send me what you have and I'll see what we can do with it. I will also be happy to take original slides and/or photos and do the scanning here.

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 to that one. The deadline for submissions is November 1.

I look forward to working with all of you, and to producing a first-rate publication for your organization.

Sincerely;

Andrea (Andie) Ptak

Communicating Words & Images

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Southern California Section of AEG
2002/2003 Ballot

Please vote only once and submit your ballot no later than September 10, 2002 (see below for submittal options). Each position is for a one-year term.

Chair

Tania Gonzalez

Write-In Candidate _____

Vice Chair

Matthew Hawley

Write-In Candidate _____

Secretary

Jeff Kofoed

Write-In Candidate _____

Treasurer

Brian Villalobos

Write-In Candidate _____

Please return your ballot by mail (fold this page and return), fax, or e-mail to:

David Seymour
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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		
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		
<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.	\$20.00		
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	\$10.00		
Stout, M.L., ed., 1992, <u>Proceedings of the 35th annual meeting, Association of Engineering Geologists</u> , October 2-9, 1992: 740p.	\$5.00		
Tepel, R, 1995, <u>Professional Licensure for Geologists, an Exploration of Issues</u> , Association of Engineering Geologists Special Publication No. 7, 1995	\$12.00		
Cann, L.R., Cobarrubias, Hollingsworth, B., 1992, <u>Engineering Geology Field Trips Orange County, Santa Monica Mountains, and Malibu</u> : AEG 35 th Annual Meeting, Field Trip Guidebook, October 2-9, 1992	\$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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