

ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS

Southern California Section

*"Serving Professionals in Engineering, Environmental,
and Groundwater Geology Since 1957"*

NEWSLETTER - November 2004

Officers

Chair- Matthew Hawley, mhawley@lqcgeo.com, (805) 579-3434
 Vice Chair- Charles Nestle, cnestle@ladpw.org, (626) 458-4923
 Treasurer- Brian Villalobos, bvillalobos@petra-inc.com, (714) 549-8921
 Secretary- Rosalind Munro, rmunro@lqcgeo.com, (949) 650-1018

Meeting Date: **Tuesday, November 16, 2004**
Location: **Steven's Steak House, 5332 Stevens Place, Commerce, CA**
Time: **Social Hour: 6:00 PM; Dinner: 7:00 PM; Presentations: 7:45 PM**
Reservations: **Call (949) 253-5924 ext. 564, or email Brian Villalobos, by Noon, Monday, November 15**
Cost: **\$25 per person with reservations, \$30 at the door; \$12 for students with valid student ID.**
Presenter: **Roy J. Shlemon**
Topic: **The 32nd International Geological Congress, August 2004, Florence, Italy: Geology, Renaissance Culture and Much Fun**

Abstract:

This past August, more than 9,000 geologists descended upon Florence, Italy to participate in the 32nd International Geological Congress. The resulting international babble of languages, combined with the essentially unintelligible cacophony of touters, tourists and thieves, made this particular Congress a cultural – though expensive – delight.

The Congress saw literally thousands of papers and posters presented in 15 or more concurrent sessions over the 10-day period. The official language was English, much to the dismay of the French (c'est la vie)! Thankfully, most Asian-language speakers supplemented their oral presentations with Power Point slides (no traditional Kodak slide projectors allowed).

In contrast, the English of many Scandinavians was far more grammatically correct than that of the Americans, particularly in use of the subjunctive.

Pre-and post-Congress field trips emanated to all of Europe and to North Africa. A few participants, in their dotage, preferred urban hotels and hearty Italian cuisine; and so, being one of them, I went off to look at "urban hazards" between Firenze, Roma and Napoli. So now on to reconstruction of medieval fortresses, to differential settlement and a 2,000-year history of floods along the Tiber, to the potential geologically imminent demise of Naples, and to the 79 AD burial of Herculaneum and Pompeii. Avanti!

Biographical Information:

Roy received the Ph.D. degree from the University of California at Berkeley in 1967. From 1965 to 1973, he held teaching and research positions at the University of California at Davis and the Louisiana State University at Baton Rouge. In 1973, he started his consulting practice in southern California focusing on applications of Quaternary geology, geomorphology and soil stratigraphy to engineering practice. This work has taken him to all parts of the world. Typical projects range from gold and platinum exploration (dredging and hydraulic mining) in Latin America to siting nuclear power plants, large dams and waste repositories in South America, the Middle East and throughout the United States.

Most emphasis has been on paleoseismic investigations, particularly to assess fault activity, age, recurrence and slip rates. Roy continues to teach, part-time, at various American universities, holding Adjunct and Consultant Professorships. He is a Registered Geologist in the State of California, and an active member of 20 national and international geologic and environmental societies. He also serves as a Trustee for several scientific Foundations including the Geological Society of America and the Association of Engineering Geologists. Roy is the author or co-author of more than 300 professional publications and technical reports.

Chair Column (by Matthew Hawley)

Section officers held their first Officer's Meeting in the lounge of Steven's Steakhouse an hour prior to our set monthly section meeting. Agenda items included a review of the Board of Director's (BOD) meeting held in Dearborn Michigan and attended by Chair **Matt Hawley**, and our section goals as basically outlined in last month's column.

ALERT!!! The agenda item in Dearborn that resulted in the greatest interest is the changing of the organization's name from AEG to AEEG (**The Association of Engineering and Environmental Geology**). The initiation of this change began, as I heard, years and years ago when it was observed that membership remained constant (stagnant, static, flat) year after year. According to Arthurian Legend - the Geotechnical Version - a similar name change was proposed years ago, but was voted down by the BOD for reasons not clear to me as of this writing. I can envision though that it had plenty to do with our overwhelming stubbornness and fear of iconoclastic geologists. No more!! The previous iconoclasts and mules are now revolutionaries, and with their overwhelming numbers and voice are professing that absolute changes like this must occur for our organization to grow and become more of a voice within governmental frameworks.

All past Presidents of AEG who attended the Dearborn meeting voted unanimously for this name change, even providing a proposal to change our organization's emblem – will the arrowhead ever be the same? The BOD was presented with this proposal and asked to inform our Sections and glean opinion. The BOD is scheduled to vote on this item at our up-coming mid-year Board meeting in March. Names and e-addresses of your officers are provided in this newsletter. Please provide your opinion such that I can make an informed decision that best benefits our Section and our organization.

Other agenda items at Dearborn included:

- Our current and future financial status, which is in the black, should remain that way if we all pay our membership dues in a timely fashion and give, give, give.
- Our organization will be audited on a yearly basis hereafter to help ensure fiscal responsibilities.
- A Governance Committee (GC) was established to oversee the BOD, Executive Officers and eventually individual Sections to help ensure duties are performed in accordance with

bylaws and proper ethical behavior. The GC will also help to ensure that up-coming BOD members have the tools they need to lead their sections and understand their role at Board meetings. The intent is for future GC to be composed of ex-BOD officers.

- Our local section generously forwarded stewardship of the Stout Scholarship to National. This fund, which includes a bank role approaching \$20K, will be offered to students nationwide instead of just to our local area. This is due to the apparent lack of interest by local programs to become involved and the extended efforts for maintaining the fund by local volunteers.
- Many other items were also reviewed, discussed, voted and implemented or tabled. Their impact appeared generally minimal yet forward and visionary, and largely impacted the organization and not our local section.

Other

At Dearborn, it was suggested that all of our published items be located and/or directed through AEG headquarters in Colorado because the tax issues involved were taxing to National. To maintain control and for ease of our section, I voted to keep our published items close at hand, readily available to our members. Our section, though, will need to provide quarterly financial statements instead of just the year-end statement. Section Treasurer **Brian Villalobos** indicated "no problem". Thanks Brian.

In Dearborn it was pushed upon me to extend my reign as Chair from one to two years. The general argument is that it takes that long to "get up to speed" and understand the workings of the BOD. In believing that future Section Chairs are brighter than a dim bulb, your section officers are not in agreement with this opinion/conclusion. Eight years as a Section Officer (i.e. Secretary to Chair) was considered unreasonable and a hardship. To make ready future Directors, we propose to have the Vice Chair attend the mid-year meeting to "get up to speed". This will resolve our local issues and should address National's concerns.

Expect to see a yearly schedule of our monthly forums posted on our website <http://aegsc.org> no later than the end of January 2005. Vice Chair **Charles Nestle** is proving to be an excellent source and advocate for recruiting speakers. Thanks Charles.

Section Secretary **Roz Munro** is responsible for review of the content of our Newsletter and oversight of **Jon Relyea** as well as our web page, both the Splash Page in National and our local pages. If there is something you wish to have posted, please contact either Roz or myself. Also, please see our local web page for a posting of the California Performance Review letter prepared by the three California sections of AEG. At our September meeting Mr. Sweeney (Executive Director, Board of Registration for Geologists and Geophysicists) gave a summary of the CPR process and the proposed merger of the Geology boards. Dr. Parrish (Executive Officer, State Mining and Geology Board) discussed the merger and why he favors it.

I'm still hoping to put something of a field trip together for next year, and also a short course or seminar. Please stay active with **YOUR** organization, and **pay your dues**.

Due to the up-coming Holiday Season, we will not meet in December. So attend this month, listen to **Dr. Shlemon's** excursion in Italy and discussion of the status of the Engineering Geology Foundation, and then rejoin us again in January 2005. Please support the Engineering Geology Foundation by **bringing your checkbook** to the November meeting.

Cheers – Matthew Hawley

Special Update from the American Geological Institute (AGI)

In a Nutshell: The way science is disseminated appears to be about to change dramatically, possibly altering fundamentally the way scientific results are vetted and distributed. Both Congress and the Administration are advancing the idea that any U.S. citizen should have free and open access to research funded with tax dollars. Each is proposing, legislating or advocating that the National Institutes of Health lead the way into this uncharted territory by requiring that all final manuscripts produced with NIH dollars be submitted to a government-run online information storehouse that will be freely accessible to the public six months after initial publication. Though specific right now to NIH-related activities, the results may well represent models by which all federally-funded research may need to adhere in the future, largely at the discretion of the funding agencies, and not necessarily with the power of Law."

"In recent years a movement toward "open access" to scholarly publications has been building momentum fueled by the high costs of scholarly journals, budget cuts and the technological advances that make information distribution incredibly efficient. Open access means anyone can access literature that is digital, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions."

"Scientists have an opportunity to weigh in with their Congressman, Senator and the NIH prior to the November 16th deadline and let them know how these changes would affect their research, their department, their professional society and the journal to which they most often submit papers."

"There are a lot of questions yet to be answered in the wake of NIH's announcement. With the open access model in place, most publishers believe that journals would be forced to recover the cost of publication by levying author fees. This is known as the author-pays model and some publishers doubt this is an effective or efficient way to recover costs; others predict outright failure and bankruptcy for many not-for-profit journal publishers."

These excerpts taken from: **AGI GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS PROGRAM SPECIAL UPDATE: 10-26-04**
prepared by Emily Lehr Wallace, AGI Government Affairs Program

More information about public access to federally funded scientific research is available at
http://www.agiweb.org/gap/legis108/public_access.html.

American Geological Institute Government Affairs Program
4220 King Street, Alexandria VA 22302-1502
(703) 379-2480 ext. 212 (703) 379-7563 fax
govt@agiweb.org <http://www.agiweb.org>

Scholarship Information

Applications for the 2005 undergraduate and graduate Norman R. Tilford Field Studies Scholarships are now available on the AEG web site at www.aegweb.org (follow the AEG Foundation link to Tilford Fund information).

Field study and interpretation of the resultant data is a cornerstone of our profession, and Past-President Norman R. Tilford was an impassioned teacher of field geology. The Norman R. Tilford Field Studies Scholarships are student awards granted by the AEG and the AEG Foundation (AEGF) in support of graduate and undergraduate field studies. Tilford Scholarship awards are made to qualified student members of the AEG based upon demonstrated scholarship, ability, participation, and potential for contributions to the profession. Students who are not currently AEG members who are interested in the scholarship, may submit membership applications with the Scholarship Application form. Membership applications can be found on the AEG web site at www.aegweb.org.

THE APPLICATION DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 1, 2005 (applications must be RECEIVED by this date to be considered). See the AEG web site for more information regarding applying for the scholarship, or contributing to the Tilford Scholarship Fund.

If you have questions, please contact Deb Green, Chairman of the Norman R. Tilford Scholarship Committee, at (505) 867-0670 or tilgreen@aol.com.

Please distribute this message to your students, sons, daughters, and friends who are enrolled in geology programs, who could benefit from this scholarship.

David W. Bieber, President
Association of Engineering Geologists

CPR Review Letter**Association of Engineering Geologists****Sacramento Section****San Francisco Section****Southern California Section**

Serving Professionals in Engineering Geology, Environmental Geology and Hydrogeology

Chairs**Sacramento:** Bruce Hilton – bhilton@kleinfelder.com
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(408) 778-2818**Southern California:** Tania Gonzalez – tgonzalez@earthconsultants.com
(714) 412-2654

September 15, 2004

To: **Mr. Billy C. Hamilton and Mr. Chon Gutierrez, Co-Executive Directors**
California Performance Review Committee
1102 Q Street, 6th Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: **Comments on the Draft CPR RES 08 from the Association of Engineering Geologists (AEG)**

Founded in California in 1957, the Association of Engineering Geologists (AEG) is a national organization of professionals that represents geologists and geophysicists working in the environmental, engineering geology, and hydrogeology fields. Within California, there are three sections: Sacramento, San Francisco, and Southern California. Officers from these sections have reviewed the draft California Performance Review (CPR) report, dated August 3, 2004, to address possible implications of the proposal on our profession. This process included polling our members to assure that this letter reflects the majority's opinion. Our review focused specifically on Resolution 08 which recommends combining the existing Board of Geologists and Geophysicists (BGG) with the State Mining and Geology Board (SMGB), and Chapter 8 which recommends placing the SMGB and the BGG within a new Department of Natural Resources, Division of Land Management. We are aware that the draft CPR document is, at this point, only conceptual and that further changes may be proposed.

AEG and its California members applaud the efforts of the current administration to streamline the structure of our State government. Based on our review, we must oppose the proposal in its current form due to lack of clarity with regards to the specific structure and process that would be implemented. We have worked for decades to develop and support a Board that is directly responsible for public health, safety and welfare by requiring strict adherence to professional standards and ethics in the practices of geology and geophysics. In its current form, the proposal does not provide any assurance that

these and other essential responsibilities would remain the charter of the merged Boards. Similarly, the current proposal provides no assurance that some of the Board members would have experience in geology or geophysics, as currently required.

We are also concerned about possible changes to the licensing regulations. We assume that these would remain unaffected, but this is not clearly stated in the proposal. This information is critical for our review, as it specifies experience requirements and examination procedures for geologists and geophysicists, disciplinary actions for malpractice, and other important details and measures regulating our professions. These items are now successfully handled by the existing BGG.

Although there may be merit to a carefully considered restructuring plan, the current proposal is vague. Therefore, the California sections of AEG cannot support the CPR proposal without further consideration of the critical issues mentioned above. We respectfully offer the services of our members to assist in developing the details of this proposal and any related resolutions or regulatory framework affected by it. We sincerely appreciate your consideration of our input to the CPR process.

Respectfully submitted,

On behalf of the California Sections of the Association of Engineering Geologists



Tania Gonzalez,
Southern California Section Chair



Bruce Hilton,
Sacramento Section Chair



Corinne Stewart,
San Francisco Section Chair

San Diego County Science Olympiad

The Patrick Henry High School science department is planning to participate in the San Diego County Science Olympiad on February 5, 2005. This event will be held at Rancho Bernardo High School. We are looking for 4-6 community members who can spend a little time coaching the science olympiad student teams in specific project areas. Some of the projects will include identifying and selecting fossils, remote sensing, fermi questions, and practical science (PC Technology, data gathering, etc.). Hours would be kept to a minimum for the community volunteers. It would be a fun event for all involved.

If you are interested, please contact Yvonne Walden, Employer Outreach Specialist, Patrick Henry High School, 619-286-7700 x2216 - ywalden@mail.sandi.net.

Any help you can provide would be greatly appreciated!

Section Business Donation

- **Platinum** - \$500
- **Gold** - \$250
- **Silver** - \$125

Company receives a line in the section newsletter giving their name or their company name under the appropriate metallic heading.

National Business Donation

- **Platinum** - \$1,000
- **Gold** - \$500
- **Silver** - \$250

Company name, address and contact information are presented in AEG News and section receives 10% of donation. A national donation does not yield a line in our local section newsletter.

Newsletter Advertising

	<u>Month</u>	<u>Year</u>
▪ Business Card	\$10	\$100
▪ 1/4 Page	\$20	\$200
▪ 1/2 Page	\$35	\$350
▪ Full Page	\$50	\$500

* The deadline for submitting an advertisement for next month's newsletter is Friday, November 26.

NOTE: There will not be a section meeting in December but there will be a newsletter posted and sent out.

YEAR 2004-2005 CONTRIBUTORS NEEDED

Contributions from corporations and individual Members for the remainder of this year and the year Upcoming will be 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, Matt Hawley.

2005 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

For those of you who have not yet renewed, are unsure about your membership status, or did not receive your membership dues statement, please contact AEG Headquarters at www.aegweb.org, or Matt Hawley.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

(11-04)



BLACK & VEATCH

Black & Veatch, a world-leading engineering, environmental and construction firm, has the following immediate openings in our Irvine, CA office:

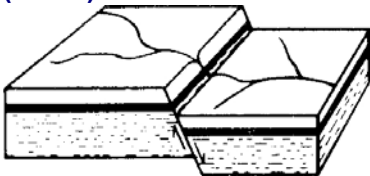
Environmental Geologist. Successful candidate will participate in broad range of environmental and hazardous waste studies. Requires degree in Geology, preferably from a University in the western USA, a sound understanding of sedimentary and groundwater geology, zero (0) to 3 years environmental experience, and superior communication skills. Must be physically capable of performing hazardous waste fieldwork. Typical duties include field observation, sample collection and description, supervision of drilling crews, data analysis and report preparation. Overtime and travel for field assignments required.

Civil / Environmental Engineer. Successful candidate will participate in broad range of environmental and hazardous waste projects. Requires degree in Engineering, 3 to 5 years hazardous waste experience, and superior communication skills. Must be physically capable of performing hazardous waste fieldwork. Typical duties include remedial system design, construction oversight, O&M of remediation systems, field observation, sample collection, supervision of drilling crews, data analysis and report preparation. This is an excellent growth position for a "hands-on" engineer. Overtime and travel for field assignments required, typically one week per month.

Black & Veatch offers a competitive salary, excellent benefits and an opportunity for professional and personal growth. Please mail resume to Mike Ploessel, **Black & Veatch**, 6 Venture, Suite 315, Irvine, CA 92618 or e-mail ploesselmr@bv.com. For additional opportunities, visit us at <http://www.bv.com>

EOE M/F/D/V

(11-04)



GEOLABS-WESTLAKE VILLAGE

Engineering Geology • Foundation & Soils Engineering

a dba of R&R Services Corporation

GEOLABS-WESTLAKE VILLAGE is currently seeking a **Project-Level Engineering Geologist** with experience in coordinating and performing geotechnical investigations with limited supervision. A strong background in hillside grading projects, report preparation and writing is preferred. C.E.G. registration is not required but is preferred. This position will be exposed to a variety of projects in Ventura and northern Los Angeles Counties requiring flexibility with field and office responsibilities. If you are interested in becoming a part of continuing growth at a well-established and evolving firm, please forward your resume and references to: Geolabs-Westlake Village, 31119 Via Colinas, Suite 502, Westlake Village, CA 91362 (805) 495-2197, or fax to (805) 379-2603, or email to mike.phipps@geolabswv.com. All correspondence will be held confidential.

(11-04)



TerraPacific Consultants, Inc. is a San Diego based geotechnical consulting firm working on projects throughout the southwest. We concentrate on new commercial/industrial/custom residential construction and repair construction in addition to forensic engineering. We are seeking motivated engineers and geologists who are interested in finding solutions to challenging engineering problems.

Field work and out of town travel will be required on regular basis throughout California, Nevada, New Mexico, Arizona and Hawaii. All positions demand an organized self-starter with "hands-on" management ability.

We offer the ability to learn and grow your career by working with seasoned professionals. Please visit our web site at www.terrapac.net.

Senior Geotechnical Engineer

Position responsibilities include project management, collecting field data, analysis, report writing and client communication. Oversight of construction inspection will also be required. Qualified candidates must be a licensed G.E., have a minimum of 10 years experience and good communication skills. At least 2 years experience in geotechnical forensic investigations is preferred.

Project Geotechnical Engineer/Geologist

Position responsibilities include project management, collecting field data, analysis, report writing and client communication. Oversight of construction inspection will also be required. Qualified candidates must be a licensed PE (GE is a plus), RG or CEG, have a minimum of 5 years experience and good communication skills. At least 2 years experience in geotechnical forensic investigations is preferred.

Staff Geologist/Engineer

We are looking for an honest, hard working, technically minded graduate to perform subsurface investigations, collect field data, perform geotechnical analysis and write reports. Construction inspections will also be required. Qualified candidates should possess good communication skills. Some experience in geotechnical investigations is preferred but recent graduates will be considered. Field work and out of town travel will be required on regular basis. Position demands a motivated, organized, self-starter with the ability to get things done in a timely manner.

The right qualified, independent and hard-working individual will be offered an excellent salary (commensurate with their experience), profit sharing/401K plan, company sponsored insurance program and bonuses. If you are interested in pursuing quality in your life and your career please submit a resume and cover letter to: TerraPacific Consultants, Inc., 12245 World Trade Drive, Suite G, San Diego, CA 92128; or by fax to 858-521-1199; or by e-mail to jimg@terrapac.net.

(11-04)

SENIOR GEOLOGIST WANTED

Hilltop Geotechnical, Incorporated, a geotechnical consulting firm in San Bernardino, CA since 1992. Services include soil investigation, fault investigation, slope stability evaluation, percolation studies and construction inspection. Expanding geotechnical engineering and geology departments with excellent opportunities for growth and responsibility. Offering competitive salary and benefit package. Fax resume: 909-890-9055 or e-mail: hilltopg@hgeotech.com.

Senior Geologist

- BS or MS in Geology
- 6-10 years experience in geotechnical industry
- Familiar with CA geology preferred.
- RG and CEG required.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills

(11-04)



Lawson & Associates
Geotechnical Consulting, Inc.

Lawson & Associates Geotechnical Consulting, Inc.

2045 Royal Avenue, Ste. 125
Simi Valley, CA 93065
Tele: (805) 579-3434 Fax: (805) 579-3435
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1020 Calle Avanzado
San Clemente, CA 92673
Tele: (949) 369-6141 Fax: (949) 369-6142
Email: info@lgcgeo.com

Website: www.lgcgeo.com

LGC is looking for dynamic individuals to join our team and work on some of southern California's most interesting and technically challenging projects. If you are an experienced geotechnical professional, or just starting your career, please do not hesitate to contact us. All inquiries will be considered in the utmost confidence. We look forward to hearing from you.

(11-04)

RGS Engineering Geology
Staff Geologist

RGS Geosciences has an excellent opportunity for highly motivated individual seeking a mid-level engineering geologic position for residential, commercial, and municipal projects. The ideal candidate will be placed on a fast track and exposed to multiple project phases ranging from investigation to remediation, with an overall career path towards project management to meet client needs and complement other staff skills. The desired candidate will have the ability to perform independent hands-on fieldwork, and oversee contractors and other field personnel. The position requires an individual who thrives in a team-oriented environment. Flexibility to work on a multitude of diverse projects, a positive attitude, willingness to learn, and commitment to workplace health and safety are imperative.

Job Description:

- Site investigation, field geologic mapping, coordination and oversight of subsurface exploratory borings and trenches.
- Perform soil/rock sampling and assist in the development of laboratory testing programs
- Complete test trench and boring logs, prepare geologic cross sections, maps, and other illustrations
- Groundwater sampling and analysis
- Assist in engineering evaluations for slope stability, liquefaction analysis, fault and seismic exposure analysis, settlement, foundation design, and other geotechnical factors related to earthwork.
- Preparation of geologic and geotechnical reports relating to development of residential, commercial, and municipal projects.

Experience/Requirements:

- Bachelor's Degree in Geology or related science
- Graduate level education preferred but not required
- 2-4 years experience with field investigations (geologic mapping, exploratory borings/trenches) --- Experience in southern California preferred
- Candidate should be knowledgeable in earthwork and grading operations for hillside and large scale projects.
- Strong technical writing skills and exemplary time management skills
- Experience with engineering analysis and evaluations including slope stability, liquefaction, stereonet projections, foundation design, environmental engineering and earthwork/grading.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Proficient computer skills including word processing and excel. Other geologic software experience, including slope stability, liquefaction, fault/seismic design parameters, seismicity, and autocad preferred.
- OSHA 40-hour HAZWOPER/CPN Nuclear Gage training a plus.
- Valid California drivers' license, current DMV printout, and vehicle for use to travel to various sites.
- Able to lift up to 50 lbs. on a routine basis
- All candidates are required to provide a post-offer/pre-employment drug test and physical

Please respond ASAP if you would like consideration. This is an immediate opening in the Inland Empire region of southern California. For immediate consideration please fax resume and salary history to Rosa Garcia at (909) 945-2407 or mail to RGS Geosciences, 8800 Onyx Avenue, Suite D, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730.

An Affirmative Action Participant EOE

Benefits and salary based on experience

AEG Southern California Section
J. Relyea
18302 Sierra Highway, #102
Santa Clarita, CA 91306