



**ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL & ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS
Southern California Section**

"Connecting Professionals, Practice, and the Public."

NEWSLETTER – April 2009

*****NEW Officers!*****

Chair - Peter Thams, thams.peter@gmail.com, 805-493-0663
 Vice Chair – Dave Perry, dlperry@mactec.com, 323-889-5326
 Treasurer - Jon Relyea, jon@radiusmaps.net, 800-554-3205
 Secretary – Gregory Sena, gsema@dpw.lacounty.gov, 626-458-4923

Visit the Southern California Section Website: www.aegsc.org

Newsletter Editor – Steve Varnell, svarnell@fugro.com, 805-650-7000

Meeting Date: *Tuesday, April 14th*****

*****Location:** **Victorio’s Ristorante:** 10901 Victory Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91606

Time: 6:00 p.m.-Social Hour; 7:00 p.m.-Dinner; 7:45 p.m.-Presentation

Cost: \$30 per person with reservations, \$35 without reservations, \$15 with a valid Student ID.

Reservations: Please e-mail Jon Relyea at jon@radiusmaps.net or call 800-554-3205

Speaker: **George Dunfield, PG, California Board for Geologists and Geophysicists**

Topic: **PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS: FUNCTIONAL APPLICATION OF THE SHARED RESPONSIBILITY PRINCIPLE FOR UTILIZING PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS**

Abstract:

The Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists (AEG) is devoted to developing professional responsibility on the part of environmental and engineering geologists and seeks to maintain high professional standards and enhance awareness of the responsibility of these professionals to the public in general. The Board for Geologists and Geophysicists (BGG) is mandated by law to protect the public from both unlicensed and substandard practice of geology and geophysics in their various environmental, engineering and groundwater branches. Public-private partnerships better serve the public interest than old-style bureaucratic, top-down, command-and-control approaches. California's unique interface of geology and the public interest – its health, safety, infrastructure, economic well-being – is well-served by a vigorous AEG and mission-driven BGG. Recent revisions to the professions Code of Professional Standards (Title 16, Div. 29 section 3065) provide an opportunity for AEG to now apply the principle of shared responsibility in promoting, maintaining and enforcing higher professional standards of practice in California.

Speaker:

DUNFIELD, George C., California Board for Geologists and Geophysicists, 1625 North Market Boulevard, N-324, Sacramento, CA 95833 Geology@dca.ca.gov

George Dunfield (PG) began working for the Board on May 7, 2001. He has worked for the State Water Resources Control Board, NASA/Ames Research Center (as a NRC scientific research Co-operator and Project Manager) and before this, for various geotechnical, geologic, and environmental engineering firms in the western United States.

Amongst the various projects completed as geologic NRC scientific research Co-operator at NASA/Ames, Mr. Dunfield lead field deployments to the Haughton impact crater site on Devon Island in the Canadian High Arctic while working on the Haughton-Mars project in 1998 and 1999. The results of these assessments have been used by NASA to evaluate proposed future Mars mission landing sites.

Closer to home, he has been principal-in-charge, geologist in responsible charge of work or participating geologist on hundreds of geologic, environmental, and geotechnical projects, reports and evaluations and has extensive dispute resolution experience.

Chair Column

Peter Thams

Hello again Southern California Section. It's hard to believe the first quarter of 2009 is already behind us. It was a busy three months with some interesting issues. Our March meeting at Steven's Steakhouse was joint meeting with ASCE and was well attended by both AEG and ASCE members. Our speaker was Ed Medley, this year's Jahns Distinguished Lecturer, who traveled from the Bay Area to address the group. Dr. Medley's lecture "*The Comforts of Ignorance and the Benefits of Arrogance – Lessons of the Failure Kind for the Geopractitioner*", was entertaining and a good reminder not to assume too much about either site conditions or your own abilities. Thanks to Dr. Medley and all who attended.

To follow up on the Joint Task Force on Areas of Practice (JTFAP) document, which has been the topic of many animated discussions and email exchanges since being released for comment in late February, the original deadline of March 22nd for submittal of comments has been extended to June 15th. The extension was granted to coincide with the comment period established by the Geo-Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), whose membership was not originally solicited for comment. Strong opposition to the document has been expressed by many members of the Southern California Section, and by the geologic licensing Boards of the States of Washington, Oregon, and California. The major concern of most of those in opposition, including the boards of licensure, is that such a document will act as an “underground regulation” and/or restrict the practice of geologists. It will be interesting to see how the document is received by the membership of ASCE. Discussion of this topic will continue for a while and it will be an agenda item at the mid-year Board of Directors (BOD) meeting in Seattle this month. I will be attending the BOD meeting and participating in these discussions. Although it won’t happen at this meeting, I may, at some point, be asked to vote on adopting a final version of the document and I want to know what you think. If there are upsides to adopting this document I’d like to hear them.

Come to our monthly meeting at Victorio’s on Tuesday, April 14th and join in. Our speaker will be George Dunfield of the Board for Geologist and Geophysicists, who authored a letter to AEG citing similarities of the JTFAP document to a document put forth in California in the 1990’s, that was rescinded following a determination by the Office of Administrative Law that the document acted as an “underground regulation”.

Public Service Announcement

Charles Nestle

ZIP-A-DIPs Are Still Available!

How many of you have given up trying to find replacement for your faded and warped Zip-A-Dips? Zip-A-Dips are available from Don and Jeannine Lamar, who have lived in retirement in Reno for the past six years. Jeannine said that they don't plan on having any more made when they exhaust the present supply of Zip-A-Dips. She said, "It sure is nice to know that some geologists are still using ZADs."

Order your Zip-A-Dip by phone: (775) 322-5344. The price for 1 is \$4.00, or order 2-10 for \$3.50 ea., 11-49 for 3.00 ea., and 50+ for \$2.50 ea.

Chapter Meetings

Inland Empire:

For the latest information and updates, please visit <http://www.aegsc.org/chapters/inlandempire/>

Central Coast:

For the latest information and updates, please visit <http://www.aegsc.org/chapters/centralcoast/>

San Diego:

For the latest information and updates, please visit <http://www.aegsc.org/chapters/extremesocal/>

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.

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* The deadline for submitting an advertisement for next month's newsletter is Thursday, April 30th.

YEAR 2009 CONTRIBUTORS NEEDED

Contributions from corporations and individual members 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 treasurer, Jon Relyea.

2009 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

For those of you who have not yet renewed (**the deadline was November 1**), are unsure about your membership status, or did not receive your membership dues statement, please contact AEG Headquarters at www.aegweb.org. You can renew your membership online. Please update your membership if you wish to continue to receive future issues of the newsletter.

*****NOTICE: Proposed New AEG Publication*****

**WHO'S WHO in SO CALIFORNIA ENGINEERING GEOLOGY
The Evolution of Engineering Geology in Southern California**

Have you ever wondered "Whatever happened to___?" or "I've heard of ___, who is he?"

The undersigned have decided to try to prepare an internet publication with the above title, which will include biographies of engineering geologists in southern California. We would like you to share your biography (autobiography) with other EGs. If you have worked on an interesting project, others would like to know about it.

If we limit each autobiography to 3 pages of text, plus photos, this publication would be more than 1,000 pages long. Therefore, we plan to utilize a proposed new AEG Foundation internet website, where there is no limit to total pages, and we can use color photos. Also, this new website will be available for no-charge access, worldwide, thus spreading the word on the history and evolution of engineering geology, and southern California's immense contribution.

We suggest (not require) three criteria for inclusion: 1. That you are a CA licensed CEG; 2. That you are now or once were a member of AEG; 3. That you have enough years of professional experience to relate one or more significant projects you have worked on. We believe there are more than 250 such EGs in southern California. This will be an evolving internet site where new autobiographies can be added.

We will also include Memorial biographies of past notable geologists in southern California. So far, we have identified 30, including John Buwalda, Ian Campbell, Tom Dibblee, Rollin Eckis, Perry Ehlig, Richard Jahns, John Mann, F.L. Ransome, Charles Richter, Dottie & Marty Stout, Gene Waggoner. Biographies of 14 of these notable geologists were published for the recent AEG Annual Meeting, in "History of the Association's First 50 Years," available from AEG HQ, contact Julie Keaton or Becky Roland.

Here is a CHECKLIST FOR YOUR AUTOBIOGRAPHY:

Complete NAME, address, phone, email; BIRTH DATE and place; UNIVERSITY(s) attended, major(s), degree(s), year(s); MILITARY service; FIRMS/AGENCIES you worked for; up to 3 significant PROJECTS you worked on; possibly relate a serious or humorous INCIDENT; a MENTOR you may wish to acknowledge; professional SOCIETIES, HONORS, AWARDS; HOBBIES; up to 5 PUBLICATIONS; PHOTOS of yourself and of projects (scanned images preferred).

So, if you wish to be included in this new internet publication, prepare your autobiography and email it with photos to: allen@hatheway.net and in the Subject box, type: So. Cal. Geologist. Or mail it to Allen Hatheway, 10256 Stoltz Dr., Rolla, MO 65401. Please, no more than 3 pages of text, single-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 pt.

Please pass this notice on to those you may know who no longer get this Newsletter.

In the spirit of camaraderie, we thank you,

Richard Proctor
Allen Hatheway
David Rogers
Larry Cann
Bob Lynn

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES & ADVERTISING

If you would like to post an ad in the newsletter, please contact Steve Varnell at svarnell@fugro.com. Advertisement rates are shown in the box below.

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<u>SoCal website posting only</u>		
\$20/month		

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