



SAN FRANCISCO SECTION NEWSLETTER



Meeting Details:

- **Tuesday, April 8th**
- Spenger's, Berkeley
- 6:00pm – Cocktail Hour
- 7:00pm – Dinner
- 8:00pm – Speaker
- \$30 members, \$15 students who call Dr. Williams, 408-924-5050.

Reservations Due By NOON, FRIDAY, APRIL 4TH!

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APRIL 2003 PROGRAM

Drew Kennedy, Gilpin Geosciences, San Rafael

EVIDENCE OF LATE PLEISTOCENE TO LATE HOLOCENE ACTIVITY ON THE SERRA FAULT, NORTHERN SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA, CALIFORNIA

The Serra fault is the northernmost fault in the Foothills thrust system, a zone of northwest-striking, southwest-dipping thrust faults adjacent to and northeast of the Peninsula segment of the San Andreas fault (SAF). The Serra fault lies approximately 1.5 to 3 km northeast of the SAF and extends for over 20 km from Hillsborough to near Daly City. New mapping of uplifted stratigraphic units exposed in the sea cliffs at Fort Funston in southwestern San Francisco provides evidence for late Pleistocene to late Holocene fold growth above a blind northwestern extension of the thrust fault. Bedding dips measured in the Merced Formation on the sea cliffs define a northeast-vergent monoclinical fold, which I interpret to be a fault-propagation fold forming above the Serra fault. An originally westward-graded, inset Holocene alluvial channel on the fold forelimb is now tilted east, demonstrating that folding above the Serra fault has continued into the Holocene, and that the fault can be considered active. Geometric relationships between the closely aligned SAF and the southwest-dipping Serra fault suggest that the Serra fault may intersect the SAF at a shallow non-seismogenic depth. Even if the Serra fault moves only aseismically during large magnitude SAF earthquakes, the Serra fault still poses a seismic hazard in the form of ground rupture where the fault reaches the surface. Any planned occupied structures, especially critical facilities (i.e. schools and hospitals), should be sited to avoid the Serra fault.

Speaker's Biography

Drew received a Bachelor's in Earth Sciences from UC Santa Cruz in 1990. He has worked as a staff geologist for Geo/Resource Consultants and Harlan Tait Associates, and as a project geologist for Gilpin Geosciences. Drew recently completed his Master's in Applied Geosciences at San Francisco State University, where he received a Distinguished Achievement award for his academic performance and thesis research on the Serra fault. Drew is currently a senior geologist with Gilpin Geosciences and is the AEG San Francisco Section Field Trip Chair.

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- *Chair's Message*
- *April Section Meeting Details*
- *March Meeting Notes*
- *Announcements, Member Updates, and Other News*
- *Field Trip and Short Course Announcements*
- *Employment Notices*

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The AEG San Francisco Section Newsletter is a monthly publication of the San Francisco Section of the AEG.

For more information, visit www.aegsf.org.

Submittals:
Deadline is the 20th of each month for the following issue. Contact Maile Smith by email (newsletter_editor@aegsf.org) for submittal. All submittals are subject to editing for space considerations. Employment notices are free if brief.

Address changes:
Please submit to Section Secretary, Lisa Gentry (secretary@aegsf.org).

Advertisements:
The newsletter's circulation is about 360 within northern California.

Use these low rates to expand your market:
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CHAIR'S MESSAGE

We had a really great Student Night last month. All three presentations were informative and well presented. This month we have a recent student (and our own Field Trip Chair), Drew Kennedy, speaking at the Section meeting. I encourage everyone to try to attend the meeting.

I will be attending the Association mid-year board meeting during the first weekend of May. The meeting will be two and a half days long instead of the usual one and half days. The first day will be devoted to developing new vision, mission, and values statements for the organization. If anyone has any questions or concerns about the Association that I should bring up at the meeting, please contact me by the end of April.

The Section is currently short a couple of potential meeting locations. Mariner's Point Grill in Foster City has closed its restaurant facility. About two years ago, Happy Valley Seafood in San Francisco (where we held several Chinese banquets) has apparently closed. If anyone has any ideas for replacement venues, or new restaurants that might better fit our needs, please let one of the Section officers know so we can look in to it.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the next Section meeting.

Corinne
Chair, AEG San Francisco Section

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Contact Corinne Stewart at chair@aegsf.org for more information on sponsorship.

APRIL SECTION MEETING DETAILS

The April Section Meeting will be held at Spenger's Fresh Fish Grotto at 1919 Fourth Street in Berkeley, California (phone: 510-845-7771). The meeting will take place in the Pacific Room, which is accessed through a separate entrance to the left of the main entrance to the restaurant.

Directions

From 80 West (driving towards the Bay Bridge) - Take the University Avenue exit at the Berkeley Marina. Turn right at University, driving east. Turn left at 6th Street. Turn left at Hearst (1 block). Turn left at 4th Street.

From 80 East (driving towards Sacramento) - Take the University Avenue exit. Follow the signs for Frontage Road (stay to the right). Turn right at Hearst. Turn right at 4th Street.

Reservations must be faxed to Chris Hundemer by noon on Friday April 4th.

See the back cover of the newsletter for the RSVP form.

NO SHOWS AND LATE CANCELLATIONS WILL BE CHARGED

MARCH MEETING NOTES

Last month we heard from our student speakers: Brian Collins of UC Berkeley, Amy Padovani of Stanford and Robert Urban of San Jose State. It was a good turnout at Sinbad's in San Francisco, with about 35 members attending. We want to thank the student presenters for giving us very informative and very interesting talks.

Brain spoke to us about his research on the falling and sliding coastal bluffs in Pacifica and Half Moon Bay, concentrating mostly on Pacifica. There is a long history of failure due to earthquake and storm events in both of these areas. He considered site-specific mechanics leading to failure. He's building 3D models of the bluff faces using a 3D laser scanning technology with a 25mm resolution over 350m distance, and wants to establish a baseline method usable in GIS.

Amy, who also works for the USGS, spoke to us about her research on using GIS as an earthquake engineering tool. She used a CPT rig to study the soil types and resistance values. She measured depths to Holocene material and water table to find the saturated Holocene thickness, and determined the Liquefaction Potential Index (LPI) for the upper 20m of sediment (LPI value >5 is the cut-off for liquefaction manifestation). Her study area runs from Berkeley to San Leandro, in which she measured shear wave velocity for fill, Holocene, Pleistocene and bedrock materials.

Robert spoke to us about his research on the debris flow origin of the Mission Diamicton in the Santa Barbara area downslope of Rattlesnake Canyon. Diamicton are sediments with a mobile nature, like boulders 3m to 7m in diameter and massive inverse grading. He considered catastrophic debris flow situations. He calculated 10.3 million cubic meters have been exhumed due to past debris flows. He also correlated a velocity wave layer with faulting in the area. He's interested in determining the hazards of slope failure and landslide dams. Massive debris flows failed creating the Skolfield landslide dam and in the past have also spilled onto the Santa Barbara plain (where over 350 homes are now built). He's also trying to use charcoal layers for carbon dating the landslides.

Lisa Gentry
Secretary, AEG San Francisco Section

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the AEG San Francisco Section!***

Applied Geomechanics – Santa Cruz

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UPDATED GEOLOGIC MAPS

California Seismic Hazards Mapping Program

Many Seismic Hazard Zone (SHZ) maps have been updated over the last year and several are preliminary. To view maps or to download maps and data, visit <http://gmw.consrv.ca.gov/shmp/index.htm>.

Santa Clara County's Geologic Hazard Zones (which include Landslide and Liquefaction Hazard Zones) are revised to include State Geologist updates of California's SHZ maps. Updates of the Santa Teresa Hills and Morgan Hill Quadrangles are expected in mid-2003. To learn more about this program, visit http://www.sccplanning.org/planning/content/MapsGis/MapsGis_Geologic_Hazards.jsp, or contact James Baker at 408-299-5774 or jim.baker@pln.co.scl.ca.us.

ENGINEERING GEOLOGY FOUNDATION

The Engineering Geology Foundation is a federally tax-exempt, non-profit, public-benefit corporation incorporated in the State of California in September 1992 by three past presidents of the AEG, which served as founding sponsor of the Foundation. The Foundation is dedicated to advancing research, education, public awareness and technology transfer in the field of Engineering Geology and related fields of Environmental Geology, and Hydrogeology through publications, speakers, programs, research grants, scholarships, and maintenance of archival data. The programs of the Foundation are supported by private and corporate donations and by bequests.

Contributions can be sent to:
Engineering Geology Foundation
c/o Association of Engineering Geologists
720 S. Colorado Blvd, Ste 960-S
Denver, Co 80246

MEMBER UPDATES AND OTHER NEWS

J.C. Isham named to SMGB

Julian C. Isham was recently appointed by the Governor to the State Mining and Geology Board.

CCGO Updates

The California Council of Geoscience Organizations (CCGO) e-mails monthly progress reports to CCGO members on record, as well as others who want to stay informed of their activities. The latest report is posted at www.ccco.org. Please contact Executive Director Jane Gill (JaneHGill@aol.com) to be added to the mailing list.

OTHER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

AEG Annual Meeting

The 2003 Annual AEG meeting will be held September 16-19 in Vail, Colorado. Abstract submittals are due May 1, 2003. Please visit www.aegweb.org for more details.

April GRA Meeting on Perchlorate in Drinking Water

The San Francisco Bay Branch of the Groundwater Resources Association will host a south bay meeting on Wednesday, April 16, 2003. There will be two presentations on Perchlorate Contamination of Public Drinking Water Aquifers.

RSVP required by 4:00 PM on April 14, 2003. Visit www.grac.org/reservation to register. Dinner costs are \$30 for members, \$35 for non-members, and \$10 for students. Please contact Mark Wheeler at 408-287-9934 or mark@crawfordconsulting.com with questions.

CCGO Annual Meeting and Fundraiser

The 2003 CCGO Annual Meeting and Fundraiser is scheduled for Monday, May 12 (hosted by AEG SoCal) and Tuesday, May 13 (hosted by AEG SF Section). The Northern California meeting will be held at the Old Spaghetti Factory, Jack London Square, Oakland. The featured speaker will be Dr. Chester F. "Skip" Watts, the 2003 AEG-GSA Richard H. Jahns Distinguished Lecturer; Congressional Science Fellow; University Distinguished Professor, Radford University; and Director of Institute for Engineering Geosciences. The topic will be "Rockslides in Yosemite National Park". For details, please contact Betsy Mathieson (emathieson@exponent.com).

Thank You!

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SHORT COURSES

David Ruiz of Pacific Aerial Survey has offered to teach a short session on using aerial photographs. The course would likely be held at Pacific Aerial Survey's office in Oakland in the early summer, and be limited to approximately 20 participants. If interested, please contact Ernest Solomon, Short Course Chair, at shortcourse_chair@aegsf.org.

Model Calibration and Predictive Uncertainty Analysis using PEST

This workshop, sponsored by the Groundwater Resources Association of California and co-sponsored by Watermark Numerical Computing, SSP&A, and ESI, is scheduled for April 29 through May 1, 2003 in San Francisco, California. The principal instructor will be Dr. John Doherty, author of PEST. For more information, or to register for the PEST course, please visit <http://www.grac.org/pest.html>.

This short course will focus upon the use of PEST, the most advanced available technology for groundwater water and surface water model calibration, and uncertainty analysis. Using PEST you can apply state-of-the-art calibration and predictive uncertainty analysis methods in your every day modeling applications, allowing you to model the movement of water and contaminants in more powerful ways than ever before. PEST has been freeware since February 2001, and is available for download together with all it's accompanying utility software, from <http://www.sspa.com/PEST>.

Contingent upon the level of interest from the modeling community, an additional fourth day of PEST may be added, devoted to detailed discussion and demonstration of the use of PEST in the participants models - this will be at a minimal additional cost.

One-Day Seminar: Identifying and Managing Uncertainty in Groundwater and Surface Water Models

A one-day seminar titled "Identifying and Managing Uncertainty in Groundwater and Surface Water Models", on Monday, April 28, 2003, will be held in Sacramento, California. This seminar will be geared towards anyone who makes decisions using, or based upon, models - including managers, legislators, non-modelers, and modelers who are unfamiliar with uncertainty analysis and the role of uncertainty in models. For more details, please email pest@sspa.com.

Artificial Recharge In California - Technical And Policy Challenges

GRA announces a joint workshop with the U.S. Geological Survey and California Department of Water Resources, in cooperation with the International Association of Hydrogeologists on April 30 and May 1, 2003, in San Jose, California. A field trip (details below) is also planned for May 2, 2003.

This workshop will provide presentations on the status of artificial recharge in California, including the intricacies and challenges faced to implement and manage artificial recharge projects, case histories, and the political and policy issues.

The following specific workshop topics are planned:

- Overview of current and planned artificial recharge in California
- Hydrologic challenges
- Water quality challenges
- Microbial challenges
- Policy challenges

Updated information on the workshop and field trip will be available at GRA's web site at <http://www.grac.org/artificialrecharge.html>.

Workshop on Seismic Hazard Analysis

The AEG Sacramento Section is sponsoring a workshop on seismic hazard analysis on Thursday, May 15, 2003

from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The workshop will take place at the Pool and Recreation Center at UC Davis. The cost is \$135 for AEG members and \$195 for non-members.

The workshop is Part I of a two-part series on seismic hazard analysis, and will include real-life examples and demonstration of available analytical tools. Representatives from CGS, DSOD, and CalTrans will be on hand to present their requirements for ground motion studies.

Visit www.aegsacto.org for more information or to download a registration form.

Aerial Photography Interpretation Workshop

The Sacramento Chapter of the Groundwater Resources Association of California is offering an Aerial Photography Interpretation Workshop on May 17, 2003 from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Red Lion Hotel in Sacramento, California. The lead instructors will be Dr. Brian Hausback of CSU Sacramento and John Burgess of Cartwright Aerial Survey, Inc. The registration deadline is April 18, 2003, and the cost is \$115 for GRA members, \$140 for non-members, and \$90 for students. Visit www.grac.org/aerial.html for more information.

For Short Course information and submittals, please contact:

Ernie Solomon
Short Course Chair, AEG San Francisco Section

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FIELD TRIPS

Update from Drew Kennedy, Field Trip Chair

Spring marks the start of the 2003 field trip season. I am currently planning a spring field trip to Fort Funston to view the Merced Formation and discuss the regional tectonics associated with the offshore right-step over of the San Andreas fault. Details will be announced in the May newsletter. Upcoming field trips coordinated by others are listed below. For more details regarding the Northern California Geological Society field trips, contact Jean Moran (NCGS field trip coordinator) at jeanm@stetsonengineers.com, or call her at 415-331-6806 (evening).

- Pacheco Pass - April 12, 2003: Gary Ernst, Stanford University, sponsored by Northern California Geological Society, registration deadline is April 7th.

- Diablo Antiform-Diablo Range Intersection - May 10, 2003: Ron Crane, Consultant, sponsored by Northern California Geological Society.
- A Day In The Field With Tom Dibblee - May 24, 2003: Glendora/Baldy Village area, San Gabriel Mountains. The Dibblee Geological Foundation and the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History invite you to participate in A Day In The Field with Tom Dibblee. Field trip leaders will include Jon Nourse and Peter Weigand. Great views and precipitous canyon and waterfall outcrops reveal processes of extension, intrusion, rotation, and displacement associated with subduction magmatism and a later evolving dextral plate boundary. Proceeds from this fund-raiser will be used towards the continued publication of Tom Dibblee's maps. Fee: \$150 (includes transportation, coffee and doughnuts, BBQ lunch catered by Halliburton, ski lift, and guidebook plus map). Registration deadline is May 10, 2003. For more information, visit the Dibblee Geological Foundation website at <http://dibblee.geol.ucsb.edu/>
- Rodgers Creek-Maacama Step-over Area - June 6-8, 2003: Bob McLaughlin, USGS, Dave Wagner, California Geological Survey, and others, sponsored by Northern California Geological Society, 2-day trip overnighing at Cal Academy Pepperwood Ranch west of Franz Valley.
- Clear Lake Volcanic Field - Date TBA: Rolfe Erickson, Sonoma State, sponsored by Northern California Geological Society.
- Northern California Gold Belt, Quincy - Date TBA: Gregg Wilkerson, BLM, sponsored by Northern California Geological Society.
- Devil's Slide/Pebble Beach or Pigeon Point - Summer 2003: Scott Morgan, Morgan & Jody Castle of Earth Mechanics, sponsored by Northern California Geological Society.
- Foothills Fault System and Geology - September 2003: George Wheeldon, sponsored by AEG Sacramento Section, details to follow later this year.
- Point Reyes Area - October 2003: Tom MacKinnon (exact itinerary TBA), sponsored by Northern California Geological Society.

Artificial Recharge In California - Technical And Policy Challenges

The Santa Clara Valley Water District will host a tour of its groundwater recharge facilities on May 2, 2003. The tour will include supplied transportation and lunch, start at the workshop hotel at approximately 8 in the morning and return to the workshop hotel at approximately 3 in the afternoon (details on the workshop provided above).

Concern over significant water level drops and subsidence in Santa Clara Valley in the 1920's led to the formation of the Santa Clara Valley Water Conservation Committee, the first focused-area studies of causes and plans for mitigation, and the subsequent forming of the Santa Clara Valley Water Conservation District. Since the 1930's, Santa Clara Valley has had an artificial

recharge program to assist in restoring water to the underlying aquifers, reduce subsidence and minimize further declines in groundwater elevations. The water district currently operates 18 major recharge systems, which consist of a combination of off-stream and in-stream facilities. The total annual average recharge capacity of these systems is nearly 160,000 acre-feet.

Updated information on the workshop and field trip will be available at GRA's web site at <http://www.grac.org/artificialrecharge.html>.

Friends of the Pleistocene

The FOP (Pacific Cell) holds annual field trips (usually three days in the fall) that focus on neotectonics, paleoseismology, geomorphology, and other aspects of Quaternary geology. To make sure you're informed of future trips, sign up for the FOP Pacific Cell email list by following the instructions on the FOP Pacific Cell web site (<http://pacific.pleistocene.org/>), or emailing John Wakabayashi at wako@tdl.com. To see annotated photos from the 2001 field trip, visit John's web site at: <http://www.tdl.com/~wako/geopics.html>.

For Field Trip information and submittals, please contact:

Drew Kennedy
Field Trip Chair, AEG San Francisco Section

ENGINEERING GEOLOGY PRACTICE IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

As we head into 2003 and continue to look for relevant reference materials for our engineering geologic investigations consider utilizing the papers contained in the joint AEG/CGS publication *Engineering Geology Practice in Northern California*. As an AEG member you can save 10% off the price (\$85.50 instead of \$95.00) and save an additional \$6.50 in shipping. Please contact me at publications_chair@aegsf.org if you would like me to send you a copy, or come to the next meeting and take home one (or more) at the discount price. We also have several copies of the 2002 AEG short course "Tunnels Through Fault Rocks and Tectonic Melanges" field trip and lecture notes.

To order "Engineering Geology Practice in Northern California", contact Publications Chair Bill Godwin at publications_chair@aegsf.org.



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HABITAT HYDROLOGIST / HYDROGEOLOGIST


Directs feasibility and conceptual design studies for wetland and channel restoration and enhancement programs throughout California. Measures and models flows, nutrients, and solutes entering seasonal wetlands, including seeps or swales. Under direction of a senior hydrogeologist, formulates and conducts ground water assessments. Depending upon interest and background, may also contribute to non-point source water quality control efforts, water-rights investigations, or erosion control programs. Other desirable skills include GIS, geochemistry (modeling and sampling), and ground water exploration or well design. Strong capabilities in

standard hydro(geo)logic codes and databases required, as this position emphasizes modeling and presentation of data on GIS and CADD platforms.

Both positions require an affinity for complex, multidisciplinary efforts and are intended for individuals who have been practicing for 4 to 10 years. More senior individuals are encouraged to apply, as the positions can be modified to meet individual backgrounds and interests. Either position may be suitable for an individual with a strong (graduate-level) background in geomorphology and is "burning" to return to restoration geomorphology after developing their consulting skills in other branches of engineering geology. Compensation commensurate with experience, accomplishments, and responsibilities. Full benefits package.

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fate and transport/risk assessment skills; excellent leadership and personal communication skills; and excellent software computer skills (modeling, database, and Microsoft Office).

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Maile Smith
c/o Weiss Associates
350 East Middlefield Road
Mountain View, California 94043

**AEG San Francisco Section – April Newsletter
Monthly Section Meeting – April 8th
Spenger’s Fresh Fish Grotto, Berkeley**

CHECK OUT THE AEG SF SECTION WEBSITE AT WWW.AEGSF.ORG!

RESERVATION FORM

AEG Dinner Meeting – April 8, 2003 – 6pm
Spenger’s Fresh Fish Grotto, Berkeley, California

Reservation Deadline: 12:00 PM, FRIDAY, APRIL 4th

Fax Reservation Form to Chris Hundemer, c/o Upp Geotechnology (408-866-9436)
Do not mail or fax payment – Check or Cash at the door – Make checks payable to AEG SF SECTION

Dinner and Meeting Cost: \$30 – members or spouses \$15 – student members \$32 – others

No shows and late cancellations will be charged

NAME _____ COMPANY _____

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PLEASE CHOOSE AN ENTRÉE: Chicken Fish Vegetarian

PERMANENT RESERVATION FORM

AEG San Francisco Section monthly dinner meetings are typically the 2nd Tuesday of each month.
I will attend and make payment for each meeting. If I am unable to attend, I agree to fax or mail a cancellation notice to
Chris Hundemer (fax: 408-866-9436) by NOON the Friday before the meeting or I will be charged for the meeting.

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