



SAN FRANCISCO SECTION NEWSLETTER



Meeting Details:

- **Thursday, May 13th**
- Old Spaghetti Factory, Oakland
- 6:00pm – Cocktail Hour
- 7:00pm – Dinner
- 8:00pm – Speaker
- \$30 pre-registered, \$35 walk-ins, \$15 students

Reservations Due By NOON, MONDAY MAY 10th!

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MAY 2004 PROGRAM

Dr. Tanya Atwater, UC Santa Barbara

PLATE TECTONICS OF WESTERN NORTH AMERICA

Dr. Tanya Atwater will illustrate in vivid images and computer animations, the tectonic development of western North America. Come and learn the tectonic origins of our favorite landscapes. See the San Andreas fault unfold before your eyes!

Speaker Biography

Dr. Tanya Atwater is a professor at UCSB. She was educated at MIT, UC Berkeley and Scripps Institute of Oceanography, earning her PhD in 1972. She was a professor at the MIT before joining the UCSB faculty. Atwater's research in tectonics has taken her to the bottoms of the oceans and to mountains on many continents. She is especially well known for her works on the plate tectonic history of western North America and the San Andreas fault system. At UCSB Atwater teaches geology and tectonics at all levels. She is also deeply involved in public education, working with the media, museums, and teachers to bring Earth information to all. Atwater serves on numerous national and international committees and panels. She is a fellow of various professional societies, a co-winner of the A.A.A.S. Newcomb Cleveland Prize, a winner of the NSF Director's Award for Distinguished Teaching Scholars in 2002. She was elected to the prestigious National Academy of Sciences in 1997.

MAY SECTION MEETING DETAILS

The May Section Meeting will be held at the Old Spaghetti Factory at 62 Jack London Square in Oakland, California (phone: 510-893-0222). For a map, visit their website at www.osf.com/locations/california.html.

Parking

Parking is available on the street, or in the lot adjacent to the restaurant. If you park in the lot, the restaurant validates *part* of the parking fee.

Directions

From 80 East (Bay Bridge) or 880 South – From 80 East, merge onto 880 South, take the Broadway exit, turn right onto 5th Street (base of offramp) and stay in the right lane, turn right at Broadway, and left at Embarcadero. The restaurant will be approximately a block ahead on your right.

From 880 North (driving towards Sacramento) – Take the Oak Street / Lakeside Drive exit, turn left onto Oak Street, and then turn right onto Embarcadero. The restaurant will be approximately 4 blocks ahead on your left.

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

IN THIS ISSUE...

- **Chair's Message**
- **Member Updates and Other News**
- **Short Course and Field Trip 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, Janine Weber Band (secretary@aegsf.org).

Advertisements:

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

Use these low rates to expand your market:

business card: \$15 / month
1/4 page: \$30 / month
1/2 page: \$60 / month

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

It's time for the mid-year Board of Directors meeting already! I will be attending the meeting in Salt Lake City on May 1st and 2nd. There has been a lot of work happening since the BOD meeting last September in Vail; the Missions, Visions, and Values committees and the Strategic Planning Committee have been hard at work. I am looking forward to a productive and educational meeting. As always, I am excited to learn what the other Sections have been up to.

The highly anticipated range front thrust faults field trip at the end of March was an incredible success. We still have some guidebooks to sell and we can have more published. A PDF version of the guide book will (at some time in the near future) be available for free downloading, but I'm sure many of you would prefer purchasing a complete guidebook to the hassle of downloading, printing, and assembling (the file will be VERY large!).

This month, we are having our official 2nd annual joint AEG-SF/CCGO meeting and CCGO fundraiser at the Spaghetti Factory in Oakland. Please note that the meeting is on a **Thursday**, not our usual Tuesday. Please try to attend this meeting; Tanya Atwater will be speaking to us about the tectonic origin of the western United States. Also, it is a perfect opportunity to get updated on what CCGO is doing.

Our third annual AEG-SF Giant's game social will be Saturday, May 29th. We will have a tailgate party in the parking lot from 4:30 to 6:30 PM and the game starts at 7:00 PM. There will be fireworks after the game. We have about 10 tickets still available. More details are provided later in the newsletter.

The Section is still in need of a power point projector and a small PA system. Would anyone like to donate either of these items? Donations to AEG are tax-deductible.

Finally, we have had great response to advertising the Engineering Geology Practice in Northern California volume with other Sections. If you wish to purchase one of these volumes, it's probably a good idea to make your purchase soon – we are down to the final third of our inventory! We will be offering a special May meeting price of \$80 (regular price \$95). You must purchase the volume at the meeting in order to purchase the volume at the special price.

Thank you all for your continued interest in AEG,

Corinne

Chair, AEG San Francisco Section

SPONSORSHIP

Sponsor a Section Meeting or become a Section Corporate Sponsor! Show support for an individual presentation or a specific meeting, or donate to the Section and receive free advertisement each month, recognition at Section Meetings, and more!

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

**Thank You to the Corporate Sponsors of
the AEG San Francisco Section!**

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APRIL MEETING NOTES

The April meeting talk was titled "Fault Rupture Hazard Evaluation, California Memorial Stadium (Berkeley)". It was delivered by the team of Donald Wells of Geomatrix, and David Doolan, a post doc at UC Berkeley.

The talk began with Wells laying out the background for the study. As most everyone knows, the UC Berkeley football stadium sits astride the northern end of a creeping trace of the Hayward Fault. In preparation for retrofitting offices, and doing facility and seismic upgrades at the stadium, UC Berkeley asked Geomatrix for a study of the stadium. Major cracks, shears and offsets have accumulated over the years since the stadium was built in 1923 – but the deformation was not readily attributable to any one type of ground movement. The objective of the work was to locate active traces of the Hayward Fault and analyze the deformation in the building in relation to the expected ground movement.

The area of the stadium is replete with classic geomorphic features related to long-term fault offset: offset streams at Claremont, Strawberry Creeks (1,100 ft), offset landslides, and beheaded streams. An abundance of evidence of active creep can also be seen in the subtly bent curbs and sidewalks north and south of the stadium. Two underground culverts that carry Strawberry Creek underneath the stadium were explored by Pat Williams (in previous investigations) who documented broken and offset walls in the culvert in locations that line up with projects of two different active traces. While many of the features are not definitive creep effects, and can be explained by other means such as tree roots, differential settlement, etc., the sheer volume and consistency of the features seem to add up to evidence for two traces, called the East and West traces. The Eastern trace not as well defined as the Western.

After enduring big hassles with UCB folks to get permission to trench, two trenches were finally dug. Unfortunately, no clear fault evidence was found because the trenches only encountered old overlapping landslide deposits, and no bedrock. The odd part about this is that there are no corresponding old landslide scarps on the hills above the trenches.

Dave Doolan presented his results of his analysis of the deformation within the stadium itself. Just like in the surroundings, deformation features had several alternate

possible origins. (1) Thermal/shrinkage fracturing, (2) Settlement fracturing, (3) Shear fracturing induced by creep motion, or (4) Construction fractures. Doolan showed how the deformation and relative offset of the columns that support the cantilevered portion of the stadium look like left-lateral deformation if looked at one feature at a time. However, if taken as a whole, the deformation fits with an interpretation of right lateral offset beneath a stiff suspended slab of stadium. When the fractures are mapped on the outside of stadium, you see an "A" shape developing right in the area where the fault trace is projected. Many of the fractures have been patched and re-patched over time, that the real extent of fracturing may not be readily noticeable. Deformation appears distributed in 1-inch segments, but over numerous fractures. When individual offsets are tallied, a total of 2 ft +/- (4 mm/yr creep) feet of movement has occurred over the life of the building. The report to the University included recommendations to plan for a M6.8 to 7.1 earthquake on the creeping trace, with a total of 6 to 7 feet of displacement across a probably broad zone.

Janine Weber Band
Secretary, AEG San Francisco Section

MEMBER UPDATES AND OTHER NEWS

AEG San Francisco Spring Social Event: San Francisco Giant's Baseball and Tailgate Party

Come and join AEG San Francisco Section for a tailgate party and then watch the San Francisco Giants play the Colorado Rockies! AEG will provide barbecues and drinks for the party (BYOB); bring your own meat to barbecue (and something to share if you like!). The seats are located behind home plate and will offer great views of Oakland, the Bay, and the game! There will be fireworks after the game. This is the third year for this AEG-SF event and the past two years have been lots of fun. You are encouraged to bring non-geologists (family, kids, friends)!

Date: Saturday, May 29, 2004
Tailgate time: 4:30 to 6:30 PM
Game time: 7:00 PM

Ticket quantities are limited, so purchase early! Ticket price is \$27 per ticket. To purchase tickets, mail a check, payable to AEG-SF, to Corinne Stewart - AEG, c/o Pacific Geotechnical Engineering, 16055-D Caputo Drive, Morgan Hill, CA 95037.

If you have any questions, please contact Corinne: chair@aegsf.org or 408-778-2818.

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE GAME!

Please pay you 2004 dues!

The following AEG San Francisco Section members have not yet renewed their membership for this year. We don't want to lose anyone! Please, if you know someone on this list (or you are on this list), encourage him/her to renew his or her membership. Membership can be renewed online at AEGweb.org. Please e-mail

Becky Roland at broland@aegweb.org if you need assistance.

Sally McCraven, Jeff Richmond, Lawrence Pavlak, Eric Eddlemon, Robert Russell, Joel Greger, David Rogers, Robert Nelson, Linda Spencer, James Sickles, Sadek Derrega, Thomas Kolbe, Hesham Alalusi, Dale Dell'Osso, James Faris, Mark Caruso, Michael Malone, Thomas Lee, Jason Patton, Jason Woodward, Peter Yen, Stephen Johnson, James Babcock, Eric Garcia, Chanie Abuye, Mikko Valkonen, Gary Kupp, Clifton Davenport, Dawn McGuire, Graham Irvine, Jason Patton, Gus Raggambi, Anthony Choi, Bijan Khazai, Bill Henry, Isabell Lamb, Susannah Belding

Web-Based Masters of Engineering Degree

University of Missouri-Rolla (UMR) is offering a web-based Masters of Engineering degree in Geotechnics. Classes begin in August 2004.

The upward mobility of professionals in the geotechnical field requires advanced degrees, but not all are willing or able to take an extended leave of absence to attend a university. Web-based education will allow students to continue their work, while taking virtual classes at their convenience. This Masters of Engineering degree will apply to professionals in government, consulting, mining, oil, and educators, from both the USA and foreign countries.

UMR is one of the top geotechnology schools in the country. Geotechnical Engineering is one of the Missions of UMR, and has been recognized by receiving Mission Enhancement Funding from the State of Missouri for this purpose. UMR now has a unique opportunity to pioneer a web-based Masters of Engineering degree in Geotechnics.

For more information please visit <http://www.umn.edu/~gtech> or email gtech@umn.edu or telephone 573-341-6714.

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Wanted: Projector and Wireless Microphone

AEG-SF is in considerable need of a projector and a wireless microphone. If you or anyone you know might want to donate some equipment that is obsolete to them but still useful for AEG, please contact Corinne Stewart at chair@aegsf.org.

Note: *Equipment donated to AEG-SF is tax-deductible!*

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Fun with Geoscience Trivia

(from GSA Connection)

1. What term is given to crystals that have grown in two or more different lattice orientations?
2. What term is used to describe the volcanoclastic material that has a size range of 4mm-3.2cm?
3. What is the term used for a small enclosed depression in a karst area?

Answers on Page 7.

May is Water Awareness Month in California

Using a shutoff nozzle at home is one way to save water. It's easy and effective, but there are other ways to stretch our water supply, too. Indoor water use accounts for about half of your monthly water bill. Finding ways to use water more wisely in the home can lower water and energy costs.

For more information, you can call the Santa Clara Valley Water District's Water Conservation Hotline at 408-265-2607, ext. 2554 or visit their website at <http://www.valleywater.org/index.htm>. Santa Clara County residents also have the following resources available to them: Water-Wise House Calls, high efficiency toilet rebates up to \$125, water softener rebate program, residential clothes washer rebate program, and free showerheads and aerators.

National River Cleanup Day is May 15th

Creek Connections Action Group will participate in National River Cleanup day by helping to cleanup creeks in Santa Clara county on Saturday, May 15th from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Last year more than 750 volunteers worked at 26 inland stream locations around Santa Clara County and removed nearly 16,000 pounds of trash and debris in just three hours. This year, over 30 sites will be visited by volunteers. Visit CCAG's website at <http://www.cleanacreek.org/nati.htm> for more information on cleanup sites and how to volunteer.

Improved Crop Production And Fewer Greenhouse Gases

Kevin G. Harrison, an assistant professor in Boston College's Geology and Geophysics Department, has published new research on a farming technique that can

both increase crop yields and reduce the release of carbons that develop into greenhouse gases. In the book *Changing Land Use and Terrestrial Carbon Storage*, Harrison and his co-authors, Michelle Segal (BC master's degree in 2003) and Matthew Hoskins (BC bachelor's degree in 2000) of the University of Wyoming, describe the results of a study of various farming techniques and their impact on crop production and the environment.

The researchers studied three different methods of soybean farming: conservation (no-till drilling); conventional tillage, and organic farming. Their findings showed that the conservation method produced the highest crop yield, 15% more than conventional tillage and 110% more than organic farming. It also held the most carbon in the soil--41% more soil carbon than conventional tillage and 48% more than organic. This catching and holding of soil carbon, called sequestration, keeps carbon from being incorporated into carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming.

The research was conducted on a farm in Brighton, Iowa and supported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Boston College.

Harrison's area of study focuses on the effects of fossil fuel combustion, acid rain and deforestation on the buildup of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. At Boston College, he teaches courses on "Biogeochemistry of the Habitable Planet"; "Environmental Geochemistry: Living Dangerously," and "Weather, Climate and the Environment: Global Warming." He earned a bachelor of science degree in chemistry and a bachelor of arts degree in English and American literature at Brown University. He received a master's degree in marine chemistry from the University of California at San Diego's Scripps Institution of Oceanography, and master's and doctoral degrees in geological sciences from Columbia University.

(Source: Boston College)

California Tackles Smog One Mower at a Time

LOS ANGELES – People with smoke-spewing, gas-powered lawn mowers are being encouraged to trade them for deeply discounted electric models as part of the latest effort to trim pollution from Southern California skies.

The regional agency charged with fighting the nation's worst smog has 4,000 new electric mowers it hopes to sell this spring for a quarter of the normal price. People must give up their old mowers to get new ones for \$100.

Eliminating the old gas mowers will cut nearly 20 tons a year of smog-forming emissions in the Los Angeles region, said spokesman Sam Atwood of the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

In a year, a typical gas mower can pollute as much as 43 new cars, according to district officials who have long sought to reduce the number of the machines. Last year,

the agency under a similar program persuaded 3,500 people to swap for the rechargeable electric version.

Vehicles—cars, trucks, ships, planes and trains—are responsible for 75 percent of the air pollution in the region, but district officials believe the swap incentive is one way they can make progress.

"Nowadays, even eliminating one ton of pollution is difficult," Atwood said Wednesday. "All the very large reductions in emissions have been made and it's getting tougher and tougher."

The South Coast Air Quality Management District includes Orange County and portions of Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

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Bill Banning Smoking in Autos Carrying Children Passes Assembly Committee

SACRAMENTO – California could be the first state in the country to fine motorists who smoke while driving with young children in the car if a bill passed by an Assembly committee Wednesday becomes law.

The bill, passed by the Assembly Appropriations Committee and now on its way to the full Assembly, would lead to fines up to \$96.

The author, Assemblyman Marco Firebaugh, D-South Gate, and other supporters said the bill would give children "much-needed protections" against health problems caused by breathing tobacco smoke.

"The United States Environmental Protection Agency has declared secondhand smoke as a human carcinogen and has indicated that there is no safe level of such exposure," said Paul Knepprath, a lobbyist for the American Lung Association.

He likened the bill to laws that require young children to ride in special protective seats when in moving vehicles.

The bill would make it an infraction, punishable by a \$25 fine for a first offense, to smoke a cigar, pipe or cigarette in a vehicle in which there was a child who was required to be carried in a protective seat. Subsequent violations could bring the fine up to \$96.

Children who are younger than six or who weigh less than 60 pounds are required to be carried in the protective seats.

The bill initially would have banned smoking in vehicles in which there were persons as old as 18, but it was scaled it back to make it easier for police to determine when a child is young enough to trigger a violation, said Juan Torres, a spokesman for Firebaugh.

"If they're in a child restraint seat or should be, we think that's easier to enforce," he said.

California law already bars smoking in most enclosed workplaces, including bars.

Read the bill, AB2997, at www.assembly.ca.gov

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**AEG San Francisco Section Thanks our
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OTHER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

AEG Annual Meeting

Plan to attend the 2004 AEG Annual Meeting "at the Core of the Shores!" in Dearborn, Michigan, September 25th through October 3rd! For more information on the annual meeting, visit www.aegweb.org.

NCGS Meeting

Wednesday May 26th Jim Ellis of Ellis GeoSpatial will talk about Mapping with Remote Sensing and GIS at 7:00 pm at the Orinda Masonic Center.

SHORT COURSES

Soil Stratigraphy for Trench Logging

The Great Basin Section of AEG is hosting "Soil Stratigraphy for Trench Logging", a continuing education course in cooperation with the Basin and Range Province Seismic Hazards Summit II.

The course will be held May 20-21 at the John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks, Nevada.

For more information, please contact Dave Sullivan at 775-827-6111 or dave@greatbasinaeg.com.

For Short Course information and submittals, please contact:

Ernest Solomon
Short Course Chair, AEG San Francisco Section

FIELD TRIPS

Upcoming NCGS Field Trips

July 10, 2004 – Geology and Groundwater Resources of the Merced Formation in the Westside Basin of the Coastal San Mateo and San Francisco Counties, led by Ed Clifton, Ralph Hunter, and Greg Bartow.

The Merced Formation, in its sea cliff exposures between Lake Merced and Mussel Rock, displays a nearly continuous section of more than 1,700 m of late Pliocene and Pleistocene strata. The section offers a unique opportunity to explore the late Neogene and quaternary history of coastal California in the San Francisco Bay Area. Focus will be on depositional facies that range from shelf depth to eolian dune and their implications relative to sea level history and tectonism in this area over the past 2+ million years.

Discussions will include the applicability of sequence stratigraphic concepts in a rapidly subsiding basin. One stop along the way will be devoted to a discussion of Lake Merced and the Westside Groundwater Basin. Exposure of the Merced Formation differs from year to year. Past trips have encountered a variety of fossil remains, including that of a mammoth or mastodon, fossil foot prints of diverse Pleistocene mammals, sedimentary structures produced by ancient earthquakes, and an ash fall that, today, would devastate the Bay Area. Part of the walk will be along the base of a giant landslide that is activated by contemporary earthquakes and El Niño winters.

E-mail aars@earthlink.net or phone 925-370-0685 with any questions.

Fall 2004 – East San Jose Landslide; Tectonically Driven?, led by Sands Figuers, Norfleet Consultants

Fall 2004 – Devil's Slide, led by Carl Wentworth

For Field Trip information and submittals, please contact:
Drew Kennedy
Field Trip Chair, AEG San Francisco Section

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Project Engineer

Perform technical project work, write reports, give presentations, attend regulatory meetings, and oversee and manage technical projects. Supervise staff on technical work; serve as the primary client contact; review and approve invoices; and conduct technical engineering, regulatory compliance and report writing tasks. Requires, at a minimum, a Bachelor's degree in engineering; registration as a Professional Engineer; current 40-hr and 8-hr SARA/OSHA training; at least 6 years' experience in environmental remediation projects. Additional requirements include strong organizational and data interpretation skills and experience; excellent communication, writing/editing and presentation skills; knowledge of CERCLA and other federal and state environmental regulations. Strong computer and project

management skills also required. Positions open in Emeryville and Mountain View offices.

Staff Geologist

Performs a variety of field and office tasks out of our Emeryville office requiring geologic and environmental skills, including detailed geologic logging of core and soil samples, collection of soil and groundwater samples for chemical analysis, installation of monitor and extraction wells, and well development. Will coordinate and supervise field work. Office duties may include QA/QC of analytical results, preparation of maps, cross sections and hydrographs for conceptual or numerical models, interpretation of data and report writing. Requires BS in Geology/Hydrogeology, 2+ years of experience, current OSHA certificates desirable.

Please send your resume to Human Resources at jobs@weiss.com.

Registered Geologist/Engineer/Hydrogeologist

On July 1, 2004, Santa Clara County Department of Environmental Health will assume the role as lead oversight agency for the Local Oversight Program for leaking underground storage tanks from the Santa Clara Valley Water District. Therefore, they are seeking a Registered Geologist, Professional Engineer, Engineering Geologist or Certified Hydrogeologist.

Request more information by contacting Barbara.Laskin at Barbara.Laskin@deh.co.santa-clara.ca.us.

Senior Staff Geologist, Engineer or Environmental Scientist

Location: Rocklin, California

Assist project managers and senior staff with assessment/monitoring and closure needs, including work plan preparation, compile data and various

regulatory reports, coordinate field work permitting, prepare quarterly groundwater monitoring reports, document investigation/assessment activities, coordinate and conduct subsurface investigations and related soil and groundwater sampling.

Requirements include BS/BA in Geology, Environmental Engineering or Environmental Science required; 2+ years industry experience; valid California drivers' license and vehicle for use to travel to various sites; must be able to speak and write clearly and concisely in the English language; able to lift up to 50 lbs.

Please send cover letter referencing position, salary requirements, and resume via e-mail to hr@cambria-env.com or fax 510.420.3392. Visit www.cambria-env.com for more information.



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AEG San Francisco Section – May Newsletter
2nd Annual Joint AEG SF and CCGO Section Meeting & CCGO Fundraiser – Thursday, May 13th
Old Spaghetti Factory, Oakland

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

RESERVATION FORM

AEG SF Dinner Meeting – May 13, 2004 – 6:00 pm
Old Spaghetti Factory, Oakland

Reservation Deadline: 12:00 PM, MONDAY MAY 10th

Fax Reservation Form to Corinne Stewart, c/o Pacific Geotechnical (408-779-6879)
Do not mail or fax payment – Check or Cash at the door – Make checks payable to AEG SF SECTION

Dinner and Meeting Cost: \$30 – pre-registered \$35 – walk-ins \$15 – students

No shows and late cancellations will be charged!

NAME _____ COMPANY _____

TELEPHONE NO. _____ NO. OF PEOPLE _____

Due to the large crowd that is anticipated, spaghetti with meat sauce will be the only meal choice for this month's Section meeting (vegetarians may have spaghetti with tomato sauce).

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.

NAME _____ COMPANY _____

TELEPHONE NO. _____ NO. OF PEOPLE _____

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SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____ ENTRÉE _____