



# SAN FRANCISCO SECTION NEWSLETTER



## Meeting Details:

- **Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>**
  - Spenger's, Berkeley
  - 6:00pm – Cocktail Hour
  - 7:00pm – Dinner
  - 8:00pm – Speaker
  - \$35 members \$10 students\*
- \* Fees adjusted for this meeting only.

**Reservations Due By NOON, FRIDAY, November 3<sup>rd</sup>!**

## SECTION OFFICERS - 2006-2007

### Chair

Bill Godwin  
William Lettis & Associates  
415-721-1320  
chair@aegsf.org

### Vice-Chair

Janine Weber  
Engeo  
vice-chair@aegsf.org

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Your name here!  
secretary@aegsf.org

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### Membership Chair

Corinne Stewart  
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membership\_chair@aegsf.org

### Short Course Chair

Ernest Solomon  
650-948-3528  
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### Field Trip Chair

Phil Johnson  
Cotton, Shires & Associates  
408-354-5542  
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### CCGO Liaison

Seena Hoose  
ccgo@aegsf.org

## NOVEMBER 2006 PROGRAM

**Joint AEG/ASCE Meeting - THURSDAY - November 9, 2006 - Spenger's Fresh Fish Grotto - 6 pm**

### Engineering Geology and Preliminary Design of the Proposed 4<sup>th</sup> Bore of the Caldecott Tunnel

**Todd Crampton, C.E.G., Senior Geologist, Geomatrix Consultants**

**Mike McRae, P.E., Principal Engineer, Jacobs Associates**

The recently completed geologic and geotechnical investigations of the proposed 4th bore of the Caldecott Tunnel were closely coordinated with geologists and engineers of the Tunnel Design Team (TDT). Characterization of the geology and geotechnical ground conditions along the alignment also required close interaction between TDT geologists and engineers to ensure potential geologic/geotechnical hazards were identified and addressed during preliminary design of the new tunnel. The geology along the proposed alignment of the 4th bore is complex and includes variably fractured and locally crushed bedrock, variably oriented bedding, irregular and highly contorted bedding, intra-formational and inter-formational fault zones, diabase and probable sandstone dikes and sills, pockets of "trapped" or confined groundwater, and locally bituminous conditions. Evaluation of the complex geologic structure and geomechanical properties along the alignment by the TDT results in four ground classes, or support categories, which form the basis of the preliminary tunnel excavation and initial support design schemes.

### Speaker Biographies:

Todd Crampton, Senior Geologist with Geomatrix Consultants, is the Lead Engineering Geologist on the Tunnel Design Team of the Caldecott Improvement Project. He received his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Earth Science from U.C. Santa Cruz in 1992 and 1994, respectively.

Mike McRae, Principal Engineer with Jacobs Associates, is the Discipline Manager and Lead Engineer of the Tunnel Design Team of the Caldecott Improvement Project. He received his Bachelor of Science, Master of Engineering, and Doctor of Engineering degrees, from U.C. Berkeley in 1981, 1983, and 1994, respectively.

## IN THIS ISSUE...

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- [September Meeting Notes](#)
- [Member Updates and Other News](#)
- [Employment Opportunities](#)

## Committee Chairs

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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](http://www.aegsf.org).

### Submittals:

Deadline is the 20th of each month for the following issue. Contact Janine Weber by email ([secretary@aegsf.org](mailto:secretary@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 ([secretary@aegsf.org](mailto: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 \$110/year
1/4 page:	\$30 / month
1/2 page:	\$60 / month
full page:	\$120/month

## CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Hello All:

My name is William Godwin, your chair for the next two years. I'm looking forward to the opportunity to work with all of you to re-invigorate the AEG tradition of supporting professional growth and promoting awareness of the engineering geologic profession. I hope to continue scheduling the most interesting and enlightening speakers, and start back up field trips and short-courses of particular interest to the engineering geologic community.

We have been rotating our meeting locations (San Francisco, Berkeley, Oakland, and San Jose) over the last several years to maximize opportunities for attendance. I would like to reevaluate this approach as well as include more groundwater and environmental topics, and reassess the content and frequency of our newsletter.

Speaking of meetings, for those members that attend the meetings on a regular basis, we thank you! For those members that haven't been to a meeting in a while, give AEG another try. For those members that have recently hired new staff, introduce them at the next meeting. And remember that an AEG meeting can be the ideal place to find your next job or your next employee.

I am very appreciative of the section officers for volunteering their time and energy to support AEG. Janine Weber of Engeo is the new Vice-Chair, in addition to being the Secretary (we are desperately looking for a new secretary). Sachiko Tanikawa of Exponent will continue as the Treasurer and leadership role. Marina Mascorro of Upp Geotechnology has agreed to take on the Newsletter.

A special thanks to all of the committee chairs listed below: Keil Albert (Awards), Julian Isham (Legislation) Phil Johnson (Field Trips), Jim Newman (Publications), Seena Hoose (CCGO rep), Gus Raggambi (Student Liaison) Craig Reid (Webmaster), Ernest Solomon (Short Course), JimSpringer/Corrine Stewart (Membership). Let me also give a special thanks to Pat Drumm, outgoing chair, for the commitment over the last two years to the section.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting, field trip or short course.

Bill

Chair, AEG San Francisco Section

This month's newsletter was compiled by Marina Mascorro (Section Newsletter Editor), Janine Weber (Section Vice-Chair and Secretary) and Sachiko Tanikawa (Section Treasurer). If you would like to pitch in by volunteering as a newsletter assistant, please let us know. Hopefully, we can keep these newsletters alive – member participation will be a key for this section's success. Thanks!

AEG San Francisco Section

**November AEG/ASCE Joint Meeting Details – Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**Note: Meeting is on THURSDAY, not our usual 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month!**

**Restaurant:**

Spenger's Fresh Fish Grotto,  
1919 Fourth Street, Berkeley  
(Phone 510.845.7771 for directions only—not a reservation line)

**Date and Time:**

Thursday, November 9, 2006  
6:00 pm—Social Hour and Sign-in  
7:00 pm—Dinner (Chicken, Fish or Vegetarian)  
8:00 pm—Presentation

**Driving Directions:** From the northbound 80 Freeway, exit at University Avenue. Continue north on the off-ramp and turn right (east) onto Hearst Avenue. Cross the railroad tracks and turn right (south) onto Fourth Street. Spenger's is on the east side of Fourth Street.

**Parking:** You may park in the lot in front of the restaurant (sometimes it's free).

**Cost:** \$35 AEG members and non-members, \$10 Students (reflects current ASCE prices)

**Meal Choice:** Chicken, salmon or vegetarian

**Reservations will be taken by ASCE:**

E-mail your **name**, **phone number**, and **meal choice** to [admin@asce-sf.org](mailto:admin@asce-sf.org) (or you can call 415-546-6546) by **12 PM, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3**

(1) Name (2) Phone number/e-mail (3) Meal Choice (chicken, salmon or vegetarian)

Please make reservations by noon FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3; availability cannot be guaranteed after Friday.

\*\*Walk-ins are not guaranteed!\*\*

***No-shows and late cancellations will be charged.***

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**GET INVOLVED**

Please encourage your colleagues, staff, or students to attend our monthly meetings. We also have an opening for Section Secretary. If you are interested in recommending someone as a candidate for the Secretary position, please contact Bill Godwin at [chair@aegsf.org](mailto:chair@aegsf.org).

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**SPONSORSHIP**

Sponsor a Section Meeting or become a Section Corporate Sponsor! Donate to the Section and receive free advertisement each month, recognition at Section Meetings, and more! Contact Bill Godwin at [chair@aegsf.org](mailto:chair@aegsf.org) for more information on sponsorship.

## **SOIL TECTONICS**

**Glenn Borchardt, Ph.D.**

Principal Soil Scientist

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Certified Professional Soil Scientist No. 24836

### **SEPTEMBER SECTION MEETING NOTES**

#### **September 2006 AEG Meeting Talk:**

Dr. Zia Zafir, CE GE, Kleinfelder, described a recent project involving geotechnical evaluation of the current condition of an old, abandoned tunnel for re-use in the San Francisco Muni system. The old tunnel was originally built in 1914 for the Pan Pacific Exposition to carry visitors from the western parts of the City to the Exposition. The rail line traversed the waterfront, crossing beneath the hill at Fort Mason through a tunnel that was 22 ft high, 16 ft wide and 1500 ft long. After the Exposition, the rail line and tunnel became part of the State Belt Railroad, serving passengers until the early 1970's. The tunnel has been closed off to the public with welded steel panels covering both openings.

The San Francisco Municipal Railway (MUNI) is studying the feasibility of re-opening the rail line and utilizing the tunnel once again. Kleinfelder, Inc. was consulted to provide a preliminary geotechnical investigation and recommendations for rehabbing the tunnel. Zafir showed photos of the site visit to the tunnel: The tunnel is strangely proportioned – very high and narrow. Neither of the portals is up to modern seismic standards, and the tunnel may be lacking an invert slab. The tunnel is lined with unreinforced concrete and cracks were evident in the crown. Water has been weeping from some of the cracks for some time. The west side of the tunnel is in sand, the east side is in rock, with claystone in the middle. With all these troubles, is it worth it to rescue this dismal little tunnel?

As it turns out, things are not as bad as they seemed at first. A careful exploration program utilizing CPTs and borings around the historical structures improved the understanding of the subsurface geology. Four west-dipping units were observed: young dune sand, old dune sand, Franciscan sandstone and Franciscan shale (west to east). Some slope debris was present at the east portal. With the west half of the tunnel in soil (the sand dunes) and the east half in rock, questions were

raised as to how to select the appropriate design spectra and which guideline should be followed (there were several possibilities). The most conservative design criteria were used because of the critical nature of the tunnel structure.

Recommendations for the tunnel rehab include: 1) tie-back anchors for the portal retaining walls because of the weak materials at both ends of the tunnel, 2) new reinforced concrete tunnel lining with cast-in-place concrete or shotcrete with steel reinforcing, 3) new invert slab, and 4) possible widening of tunnel. Projected costs are \$9 to \$12 million. Perhaps that will solve the problem of the dripping water from the community gardens that overlie the tunnel. If you want to see photos of the tunnel, you can find them on the web. Google "Fort Mason Tunnel" to find the website. P.s. This tunnel was shown in the Clint Eastwood movie, "Dirty Harry."

Janine Weber  
Secretary, AEG San Francisco Section

### **MEMBER UPDATES AND OTHER NEWS**

#### **CCGO ANNOUNCEMENTS**

##### **CCGO Legislative Status Report**

The Key Legislative Action as reported by Jane H. Gill-Shaler, Interim CCGO Executive Director is as follows:

- AB 573 the CELSOC sponsored bill supported by some CCGO members passed out of the Senate Judiciary committee and is on the Senate Floor. The earliest it can be heard is August 7th.
- SB 1476 that extends the BPELS to 2012 and the BGG to 2010 will be heard in Assembly Appropriations on August 9th.

Other notes:

- Election day is November 7, 2006. Of the 120 members of the legislature there will be over forty new members elected due to term limits. It is always a challenge to meet and get all of these new members up to speed on issues relevant to our professions.

#### **EXAM REVIEW COURSES**

REG REVIEW and the Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists are pleased to announce the reinstatement of Exam Review Courses for the Certification Exams for Engineering Geology (CEG) and Hydrogeology (CHG). These courses will be held in

Sacramento on November 4, 2006 and Santa Ana on November 5, 2006. The morning class from 8am to noon is devoted to the CEG and the afternoon class from 1pm to 5pm is for the CHG.

The Courses individually are \$245 for AEG members, \$260 for nonmembers. If you take both together the total cost is \$485 for AEG members, \$500 for nonmembers.

Pre-registration deadline for the CEG and CHG courses is October 13, 2006.

REG Review, Inc. has been teaching these courses in California since 1985. In March 2000, we began to direct our teaching towards the ASBOG geology licensing exam and temporarily eliminated the Certification courses. The demand now warrants reinstating them. The courses are taught by Patti Sutch, California RG 3949, CEG1641, and CHG 25, and Lisa Dirth, California RG 3951, CEG 1240, and North Carolina RG by ASBOG exam.

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For specific information and registering for the courses as well as current information on study manuals, flash cards, and courses please visit REG REVIEW, Inc.'s website at <http://regreview.com>. To contact REG REVIEW Inc.: e-mail - [regreview@aol.com](mailto:regreview@aol.com), mailing address - 37 Rosewell Road, Bedford, NH 03110, telephone - East Coast call Lisa Dirth at 603-472-3050, (fax) 603-471-1969. West Coast (evenings) Patti Sutch at 916-456-4870.

**NEWSLETTER ENTRIES**

We welcome your suggestions for content of future newsletters. These include announcements (of a geoscience nature), job postings, legislation or current events (again of a geoscience nature), or an occasional good (but clean) joke or comic. Please send to Marina Mascorro ([marina@uppgeo.com](mailto:marina@uppgeo.com)).

**AEG San Francisco Section Thanks our Academic Sponsor!**

**San Jose State University**

**San Jose, California**

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**FUN WITH GEOSCIENCE TRIVIA**

(from GSA Connection)

1. To what part of the earth does the term edaphic refer?
2. From where exactly have gastroliths come from?
3. What term is given to the mudflow of pyroclastic material down the flank of a volcano?

Answers on Page 7.

**OTHER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**AEG ANNUAL MEETING**

The 49<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of AEG will be held October 30 to November 4<sup>th</sup> in Boston, MA. We realize that is a long way from the Bay Area. Nevertheless several Section members will be attending including your Chair, Bill Godwin, Past Chair, Corrine Stewart, Betsy Mathieson, and other local geologists including Cheryl Hapke and Todd Crampton to name a few. Topics of discussion and other events will be shared at upcoming meetings. In the meantime, enjoy the fact that we don't have the same weather as Beantown.

For more information on the annual meeting, visit [www.aegweb.org](http://www.aegweb.org).

**SPEAKER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

It is almost the time of the year for AEG San Francisco members to cast their ballots for the Speaker of the Year Award. Please remember that attendance at each meeting is not required to vote for your favorite presentation of the past year. I will have the ballots ready soon, and they should be available through the website and at the December meeting. There were some excellent presentations this past year, so please cast your vote for your favorite. And don't forget to join us at the January meeting for our annual awards program prior to the presentation. Thank you.

Keil Albert

Awards Chair, AEG San Francisco Section

## **NORTHERN CALIFORNIA GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

The NCGS typically meets the last Wednesday of each month in Orinda at the Masonic Center, 9 Altarinda Road. There is a social period at 6:30 pm, and at 7:00 pm a talk (no dinner). To reserve, leave your name and phone number at 925-424-3669 or danday94@pacbell.net. Cost is \$5 per regular member; \$1 per student member.

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### **SHORT COURSES**

For Short Course information and submittals, please contact [shortcourse\\_chair@aegsf.org](mailto:shortcourse_chair@aegsf.org).

Ernest Solomon  
Short Course Chair, AEG San Francisco Section

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### **FIELD TRIPS**

#### **PGS Guidebooks**

The Peninsula Geological Society has posted guidebooks from their recent field trips, including Carrizo Plain (2005), Panoche and Tumey Hills (2004), White-Inyo Range (2002), Mount Shasta and the Klamath Mountains (2001), Big Sur (2000), and the Northern Sierra Nevada (1982). The guidebooks can be downloaded from [www.diggles.com/pgs/](http://www.diggles.com/pgs/).

There are no announcements for field trips this month.

For Field Trip information and submittals, please contact [fieldtrip\\_chair@aegsf.org](mailto:fieldtrip_chair@aegsf.org).

Phil Johnson,  
Field Trip Chair, AEG San Francisco Section

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### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

*Please note: AEG provides the following employment notices as a courtesy but does not necessarily endorse these services or companies nor does it take responsibility for actions pursuant to these notices.*

You can also see other employment opportunities on our website at [aegsf.org](http://aegsf.org).

#### **William Lettis & Associates**

A small and dynamic earth science consulting firm has immediate openings for senior engineering geologists and staff geologists. Please visit our website <http://www.lettis.com/> to find out more about who we are and what we do.

#### **SENIOR ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST**

##### **(Multiple Locations)**

Master's or Ph.D. degree in geology or earth sciences required. 8+ years experience in engineering geologic and/or seismic hazard site assessments related to critical facilities and infrastructure. C.E.G. and P.G. license required, or out-of-state equivalent.

#### **STAFF GEOLOGIST**

##### **(Multiple Locations)**

Master's degree in geology or earth science is preferred, Bachelor's degree considered. 0-3+ years work experience performing drilling, sampling, and analysis of test data is preferred.

All interested candidates, please reply by e-mail or fax, include a cover letter, resume and salary requirements. Email to: [HR@lettis.com](mailto:HR@lettis.com) or fax to: 925-256-6076.

#### **SENIOR STAFF LEVEL REMEDIATION ENGINEER**

##### **(Civil / Environmental)**

We are seeking a Civil Engineer to work out of the San Jose California office as a Senior Staff Level Environmental Remediation Engineer (project manager).

4+ years experience in CERCLA and RCRA investigations, remediation, and closures within SF Bay Area. Abilities to perform and manage technical project work, write reports, give presentations, attend regulatory meetings, and supervise technical staff on turnkey environmental projects from (site investigations through site closure).

Requires a BS in Civil, Environmental Engineering or Geology. MS preferred. Registration as a California EIT or PE desired.

For consideration please forward resume or contact directly:

Sequence Systems  
Attn: Michael DeSafey  
2008 Opportunity Drive #150  
Roseville, Ca 95678  
Phone: 916-782-6900 x202  
Fax: 916-782-6307  
Email: [mdesafey@sequencestaffing.com](mailto:mdesafey@sequencestaffing.com)  
[www.sequencestaffing.com](http://www.sequencestaffing.com)

#### **SENIOR PROJECT/PRINCIPAL GEOLOGIST/ENGINEER OPPORTUNITY**

WEISS ASSOCIATES, a premier San Francisco Bay Area environmental, engineering and hydrogeological consulting firm, has an exceptional opportunity for a Senior Project or Principal Geologist or Engineer to oversee and manage an established office of professionals in the southern San Francisco Bay Area. This position manages several large, complex ground water monitoring and remediation projects. In addition, this position has company ownership potential.

Requirements: 8 to 15 years of experience in environmental site cleanup/closure and/or regulatory compliance, including 3 to 5 years of CERCLA/RCRA experience; BS in geology, hydrogeology or engineering and registration as a California PG/CHg or PE; a Master's degree or higher is strongly preferred. 3 to 5

years experience successfully managing projects for large private and/or government clients is required.

To apply, submit resume to [jobs@weiss.com](mailto:jobs@weiss.com), and refer to job SrPr081806MV.

### **EXPERIENCED ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST**

Experienced Engineering Geologist sought - Pacific Geotechnical Engineering's team in Morgan Hill needs a CEG with a range of skills from field work to project management. Our small size allows project managers to stay familiar with field aspects of projects. Strong skills in field work, air photo interpretation, and writing/communication are a must; come tell us your other talents, and business areas you'd like to move into. We focus on geologically challenging sites that require a good understanding of site geology for our geotechnical engineering to be successful. Compensation commensurate with qualifications.

Contact Peter Anderson or Reid Fisher: (408) 778-2818; [info@pacific-geotechnical.com](mailto:info@pacific-geotechnical.com); 16055-D Caputo Drive, Morgan Hill, CA 95037.

### **SENIOR ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST**

Immediate opening for a Senior level Geologist to join a growing, top-tier geotechnical/geological consulting firm in the San Jose area office. Alternate positions are also open for senior level candidates in several other offices throughout California.

Looking for minimum of 8-10 years of experience (especially with slope stabilization and landslide/earthquake/other seismic investigations). Current CEG license is required. The ability & interest in supervising and mentoring of staff geologists is required. Most of the projects involve geological/geotechnical work for residential, commercial, and other site developments.

Please send resumes and/or inquiries to Jon Chang, Executive Search Consultant, at [jon.chang@nextechps.com](mailto:jon.chang@nextechps.com). \*

### **PROJECT GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERS**

Immediate openings for experienced Project Geotechnical Engineers to join a growing, top-tier geotechnical/geological consulting firm in the following locations: Hollister, San Jose, and Indio. Alternate

positions are also open for senior level candidates in several other offices throughout California.

Looking for minimum of 5-10 years of experience (especially with slope stabilization and landslide/earthquake/other seismic investigations). Current California PE/CE/GE license is required. Most of the projects involve geological/geotechnical work for residential, commercial, and other site developments.

Please send resumes and/or inquiries to Jon Chang, Executive Search Consultant, at [jon.chang@nextechps.com](mailto:jon.chang@nextechps.com). \*

Phone inquiries: 800-850-7020 ext. 218

\*NexTech Professional Services has been hired for this Executive Search assignment by the Senior Management of the client company. All communication and resumes will be treated as highly confidential & privileged. No information will be released to any company, without specific approval from the candidates. There are never any fees charged to candidates.

### **SENIOR GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEER SENIOR GEOLOGIST**

This organization is currently seeking a Senior Geotechnical Engineer/Project Manager as well as a Senior Geologist/Project Manager to join their legacy of success in Southern California. These positions are open due to growth.

- Five-15 years experience in the California sector
- An understanding of structural geology and how it relates to commercial development
- California certification (CEG)
- Four year degree in geology or civil engineering is preferred.

Interested applicants, please submit your resume via email to Betsy Carroll at [betsy@jbnassociates.com](mailto:betsy@jbnassociates.com).

If you would like to list your employment opportunity in this newsletter, please submit a brief description to Marina Mascorro ([marina@upp.com](mailto:marina@upp.com)). For posting on our website, contact Craig Reid ([webmaster@aegsf.org](mailto:webmaster@aegsf.org)).

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### **ANSWERS TO GEOSCIENCE TRIVIA**

1. Soil
2. Stomachs of dinosaurs
3. Lahar

**AEG San Francisco Section – October Newsletter  
Monthly Section Meeting – Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>  
Spenger’s Fresh Fish Grotto and Restaurant– Berkeley**

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

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**RESERVATION FORM**

Joint AEG/ASCE Meeting • Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006 • 6:00 pm • Spenger’s Fresh Fish Grotto, Berkeley

A reservation form will not be necessary for this meeting.

**Reservations will be taken by ASCE**

E-mail your name, phone number, and meal choice to [admin@asce-sf.org](mailto:admin@asce-sf.org) (or you can call 415-546-6546)

**by 12 PM, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3**

(1) Name (2) Phone number/e-mail (3) Meal Choice (chicken, salmon or vegetarian)

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**PERMANENT RESERVATION FORM**

AEG San Francisco Section monthly dinner meetings are typically the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 Sachiko Tanikawa by NOON the Friday before the meeting or I will be charged for the meeting.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ COMPANY \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_ NO. OF PEOPLE \_\_\_\_\_

BILLING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ ENTRÉE(S) \_\_\_\_\_