



SAN FRANCISCO SECTION NEWSLETTER



Meeting Details:

- Tuesday, Oct. 13th, 2009
- Sinbad's, San Francisco
- 6 p.m.- Cocktail Hour
- 7 p.m.- Dinner
- 8 p.m.- Speaker
- \$40 members, \$45 non-member, \$15 student

RESERVATIONS DUE BY NOON, Oct. 9th!!

SECTION OFFICERS - 2009-2010

Chair

Bill Godwin
William Lettis & Associates
415-295-8003
chair@aegsf.org

Vice-Chair

Position open
Please contact Bill Godwin at chair@aegsf.org if you are interested in volunteering.

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treasurer@aegsf.org

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Jared Pratt
RGH Consultants, Inc.
(707)544-1072
secretary@aegsf.org

Committee Chairs

Membership Chair

Corinne Stewart
Pacific Geotechnical
membership_chair@aegsf.org

Short Course Chair

George Ford
AIS Construction
415-310-6872
shortcourse_chair@aegsf.org

Field Trip Chair

Phil Johnson
Cotton, Shires & Associates
408-354-5542
fieldtrip_chair@aegsf.org

CCGO Liaison

Position open
Please contact Bill Godwin at chair@aegsf.org if you are interested in volunteering.

SEPTEMBER 2009 - NO SF SECTION MEETING

AEG 52ND ANNUAL MEETING, LAKE TAHOE, SEPTEMBER 21-25

◆ Symposia

1. **Geologic Considerations for Dams-** Brian Greene and Douglas Boyer
2. **New Uses of Geomorphology in Engineering Geology-** Keith Kelson
3. **Long Run-Out Landslides and Rock Avalanches-** Mike Hart and Phil Shaller
4. **Groundwater Resources in California, Quality and Supply-** John Woodling
5. **Digital and Electronic Technology in Engineering Geology-** Bill Haneberg
6. **Environmental/Engineering Geology in Mining Practice-** Steve Testa
7. **Earthquake Hazard of the Sierra Nevada Range-** Craig dePolo, Thomas L. Sawyer and William Bryant

Don't miss out!! Registration information on page 4.

This month's newsletter was compiled by Marina Mascorro (Newsletter Editor) and Sachiko Tanikawa (Section Treasurer). If you would like to pitch in by volunteering as newsletter editor, or even 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!

IN THIS ISSUE...

- [Letter from the Chair](#)
- [AEG August field trip notes](#)
- [AEG announcements, field trips and other news](#)
- [Employment opportunities](#)
- [Upcoming short courses and conferences](#)

Committee Chairs

Legislative Chair

Julian C. Isham

legislative_chair@aegsf.org

Publications Chair

Jim Newman

publications_chair@aegsf.org

Awards Chair

Position open

Please contact Bill Godwin at

chair@aegsf.org if you are interested in volunteering.

Past Chair

Patrick Drumm

Earth Focus Geological Services

510-794-7495

past_chair@aegsf.org

Student Liaison

Gus Raggambi

rqmbig@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor

Marina Mascorro

Cotton, Shires & Associates

mmascorro@cottonshires.com

Webmaster

Craig Reid

Upp Geotechnology

webmaster@aegsf.org

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 Marina Mascorro by email (mmascorro@cottonshires.com) for submittal. All submittals are subject to editing for space considerations. Employment notices are free if brief.

Address changes:

Please submit to Section

Secretary, Jared Pratt at

secretary@aegsf.org

Advertisements:

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

Use these low rates to expand your market:

business card: \$45 / quarter
\$110/year

1/4 page: \$120 / quarter

1/2 page: \$240 / quarter

full page: \$480/quarter

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CHAIRS MESSAGE

Greetings.

I hope your summer has been enjoyable and relaxing, and not too hot (that is what is so great about the Bay Area).

As I am sure many of you are aware, the Board of Geologists and Geophysicists (BGG) has been abolished and folded into the Board of Professional Engineers and Licensed Surveyors (BPELS). In my opinion this is a blow to our profession and is a political folly. The move was made as part of a cost cutting move, however it is very odd in that the BGG, a small, fully-functional and self-funded board was selected. In addition, the State of California has more geologic and seismic hazards and a greater population at risk from these hazards than any other state in the union. Without a Board of Registration to enforce the quality of geoscience professional practicing in the state, the Public interest is jeopardized, and it sends an inconsistent message to other states considering registration.

In the meantime, the CA Board for Geologists and Geophysicists' Professional Affairs Advisory Committee met recently to discuss options. Key is to try to get better representation and voice on BPELS. The three CA Sections of AEG will lobby BPELS to increase the number of staff, have geologist positions added to the board, and to have the name changed to include geologists (such as Pennsylvania's Board of Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists).

The Annual Meeting is coming to Lake Tahoe in late September with an outstanding program (technical and field). I encourage all of you to attend, and participate in discussions of registration and other topics important to the practice of engineering and environmental geology.

Cheers

Bill Godwin

Section Chair

UPCOMING TALKS-

- **September- No SF Section meeting, Annual AEG Meeting in Lake Tahoe**
- **October- (CCGO Fundraiser) Peter Ward, USGS emeritus, Effects of Volcanism and Sulfur Dioxide on Global Warming**

Participation in a professional organization is a valuable and rewarding activity. Being an active member helps you to develop contacts and friendships with people who have the same passion for geology as you do. Coming to meetings and receiving the publications gives you access to new developments in the industry. Please encourage all the geologists you know and work with to join AEG and participate. For more information on joining the AEG, please visit the AEG national headquarters' website at <http://www.aegweb.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageID=3327>

If you or one of your colleagues are interested in volunteering as an officer or one of the committee chairs for the San Francisco Section, please contact our Chair, Bill Godwin, at chair@aegsf.org. Thank you!

FUN WITH GEOSCIENCE TRIVIA

(from GSA Connection, answers on page 4)

1. What is another more common name for "wiggle stick"?
2. What name is given to the instrument used to measure the depth of water?
3. What is the earth science educational game based on geocaching that can take you, following your GPS, to geologically exciting sites across the planet?



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fax : 530.655.0018
cell : 510.205.4562

P.O. Box 5335
Berkeley CA 94705-0335
gborchardt@usa.net

www.soiltectonics.com

Certified Professional Soil Scientist No. 24836

MEMBER UPDATES AND OTHER NEWS

BOARD FOR GEOLOGISTS AND GEOPHYSICISTS

For those who are trying to stay abreast of the latest actions regarding the elimination of the BGG, here are a couple of informative links to visit:

http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/09-10/bill/asm/ab_0001-0050/abx4_20_bill_20090728_chaptered.pdf

You will be taken directly to AB 20 4X. The section regarding the BRGG and the Board of Engineers and Land Surveyors can be found on page 19, SEC.40.

Do you blog? If not, you might want to start. The following is a link to a forum discussing possible actions regarding AB 20 4X:

<http://californiapg.ning.com/>

PUBLICATIONS

Section Newsletter is published every 3rd month. If you are interested in contributing to the monthly newsletter, you may do so by forwarding information in electronic format (.pdf, .jpg, .tif, .doc, .xls) to your newsletter chair, Marina Mascorro (mmascorro@cottonshires.com).

AEG NEWS is published six times a year, with the regular four issues of the NEWS, #1-4, published March, June, September and December, respectively. The Annual Report and Directory issue is published in January. The Annual Meeting Program and Abstracts issue is published in July. Subscriptions for Association members, which includes all six issues of the AEG NEWS, are included in annual membership dues. Nonmember annual subscription is \$40.00, and includes only the four regular issues (#1-4) of the NEWS. Back issues of the AEG NEWS are \$10 each. Please contact our Publications Chair, Jim Newman at JNEWMAN@co.napa.ca.us

Contributions to the AEG News can include articles, advertisements or news of the home front. For submittals for the National AEG News, please forward

any contributions to Bill Godwin, Section chair at godwin@lettis.com

CCGO ANNOUNCEMENTS

The California Council of Geoscience Organizations (CCGO) held its 10th annual Sacramento Drive-In on May 28, 2009. CCGO represents dozens of geology societies with thousands of members as well as numerous business members. The delegation included Jim Jacobs, President of CCGO, Rhea Graham, a former Director of the U.S. Bureau of Mines, Stephen Baker of Groundwater Watch and a consultant, Jim Arnold, an environmental attorney and representative of CORE Foundation and Ross Jacobs, a student. The delegation had a day in Sacramento packed with meetings.

Don't forget the October 13th CCGO/AEG fundraiser featuring USGS emeritus scientist, Peter Ward.

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 [mmascorro@cottonshires.com].

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phone: 707-443-5054
phone: 800-515-5054
fax: 707-443-0553

OTHER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

2009 AEG ANNUAL MEETING

An Epoch Event

South Lake Tahoe, California
Harrah's Hotel & Casino
September 21 -26, 2009
To register, visit

<https://www.aegweb.org/i4a/ams/publicLogin.cfm>

For hotel information (special rates at Harrah's for conference!) visit:

http://aegweb.org/files/public/2009_Annual_Meeting_Hotel_Description.pdf

2009 GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA ANNUAL MEETING

From Volcanoes to Vineyards: Living With Dynamic Landscapes

October 18-21, Oregon Convention Center, Portland, Oregon

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/2009/>

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.

ANSWERS TO GEOSCIENCE TRIVIA

1. Divining rod
2. Bathometer
3. Earthcaching

AEG San Francisco Section Thanks our Academic Sponsor!

San Jose State University

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SHORT COURSES

Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists (AEG), San Joaquin Valley Chapter and Groundwater Resources Association of California (GRA), San Joaquin Valley Branch present Groundwater Withdrawal-Induced Land Subsidence in the San Joaquin Valley: A 2009 Perspective

Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, Fresno, California, 8:00 a.m- 6:00 p.m. Register for this event by visiting:

<http://www.grac.org/subsidiencereg>

Early Registration, on or before September 15, 2009:
Individual- \$120
Corporate Group (3 or more)- \$100 per person
Student- \$60

Late Registration, after September 15, 2009:
Individual- \$150
Corporate Group (3 or more)- \$120 per person
Student- \$75

20% Discount for Municipal, State, and Federal Government Employees

Radisson Hotel & Conference Center, 2233 Ventura Street, Fresno, California 93721, US
Reservations: 1-800-395-7046 Use code "AEGGRA".
Discounted room rates available for November 3- 4.
www.radisson.com/fresnoc

Opportunities are available to sponsor breakfast, lunch, breaks, and evening hors d'oeuvres. For more information, please contact Lynne Baumgras (lynne.baumgras@amec.com), (559)892-2918, or Richard Fink (rfink@kleinfelder.com) at (559)577-1451

*For Short Course information and submittals, please contact:
George Ford, AIS Construction
Short Course Chair, AEG San Francisco Section*

FIELD TRIPS:

AUGUST 2009 FIELD TRIP: GEOLOGY ALONG THE RODGERS CREEK AND TOLAY FAULTS: LATE CENOZOIC STRATIGRAPHY AND TECTONICS, FRANCISCAN MELANGE AND HIGH-GRADE METAMORPHISM AND QUATERNARY LANDSLIDE COMPLEXES



Fieldtrip attendees pose at Stop 2 next to an outcrop of Skaggs Springs Schist at Fedrick Ranch in the southern Sonoma Mountains.

On Saturday August 15th an overbooked group of attendees were treated to an informative and exciting field trip along the western side of Sonoma Mountain in Sonoma County. Leaders Pete Holland of Vector Engineering, Ron Rubin of AMEC Geomatrix, Dr. John Wakabayashi of CSU Fresno, and James Allen of CSU East Bay presented new research and discussions about North Bay stratigraphy, structure, long-term San Andreas fault slip history, Franciscan Complex mélange origins, landslides, seismic hazards, engineering geology and other topics. Thanks to the diligent outreach of trip organizer James Allen and SF Section Secretary Jared Pratt, field stops included rare opportunities to visit private properties which yield new interpretations on issues critical to engineering geology and our understanding of the tectonic history of the Coast Ranges, as well as process-oriented topics researched worldwide. The stops generated spirited discussions between and amongst the leaders and attendees who represented a broad cross-section of the geologic community which included: engineering geologic consultants; environmental consultants; independent consultants; students; academia; retirees; and local, state, and federal agencies. Following the trip, a number of the attendees continued the networking and discussions at a local microbrewery.

A common theme throughout the trip was the great need for better preparation of students for careers in applied geosciences such as engineering geology, as well as academia. This topic is a concern for our engineering community as most geology students go on to careers in consulting of one form or another. Basic instruction in field work, Quaternary geology and landslide mapping, Franciscan Complex concepts, and regional tectonics has taken a back seat in recent decades. Dr. John Wakabayashi, SF Section alum and now multi-disciplinary professor at CSU Fresno, eloquently summarized this discussion on page one of the Field Trip Guidebook. His unique background in research and consulting provides valuable insight into both sides of this critical issue. Appropriately, each field trip stop highlighted fundamental geologic concepts integral to engineering geology and research in the Bay Area and beyond. Thank you to the SF Section and its members for supporting this inspiring opportunity!

- Ron Rubin, Field Trip Co-leader

*For Field Trip information and submittals, please contact:
Phil Johnson (fieldtrip_chair@aegsf.org)
Field Trip Chair, AEG San Francisco Section*

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

SHN Consulting Engineers and Geologists, Inc.

SHN Consulting Engineers & Geologists, Inc. has an immediate need project-level Environmental Geologist in our Willits office. Candidate should demonstrate ability to successfully market technical & professional services, strong written and oral communication, organizational, and leadership abilities and possess a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Geology or related degree. Minimum of five (5) years technical and project management experience preferred. Candidates possessing a California P.G. and/or P.E. are preferred. SHN is an equal opportunity employer. This position is open until filled. For additional information visit our website www.shn-engr.com. Please submit a cover letter and resume to Taylor Marie Baker, Human Resources Manager, at tbaker@shn-engr.com.

Tetra Tech

We are currently seeking mid-level Engineers, Geologists, or Environmental Scientists to support projects such as field data collection/audits, data interpretation, engineering design, report writing, cost estimating, and project performance reporting. Work with multidisciplinary project teams and will be expected to provide project task level oversight and coordination of project activities with team members. Work with senior project managers in planning and executing work and coordinating with project staff. 3 to 6 years experience is required. Experience with execution of projects in the areas of site assessment, brownfields, remediation, civil engineering and related environmental services. Technical expertise in environmental engineering, field data collection, site assessment and groundwater investigations, and regulatory permitting and compliance are desired. Candidates with direct client and regulatory agencies interface are desired. You should have strong experience working with multi-disciplinary teams. Project experience in site assessment, CERCLA, brownfields, remediation, and regulatory compliance and permitting is a plus. BS in engineering, geology, environmental science, or related field is required. Professional registration or advance degrees are a plus.

Submit your resume at www.tetrattech.com/careers, Job ID# EMI-SF-12

Senior Engineering Geologist and Staff Geologist

We are seeking a Senior Level Environmental Technical Professional with a strong background in Civil Engineering, Geology or Hydrogeology regulatory compliance to lead an environmental remediation practice group throughout northern California, specifically the San Francisco Bay Area.

The ideal individual would have at least 10+ years experience in environmental remediation. Managing all aspects of a division from operational and technical to strategy and business development activities. Bachelors Degree in Civil Engineering, Geology or related discipline required, MS desired. Registration as California Professional Engineer or Geologist necessary. Position is based in Walnut Creek, California and offers excellent compensation and benefits.

We are also seeking a Staff / Senior Project Engineer or Geologist to manage environmental remediation project related tasks throughout Northern California, specifically the San Francisco bay area.

The ideal individual would have at least 5+ years experience working on and/or managing projects and/or project related activities for feasibility studies, pilot tests, remedial design / action, O&M, and CERCLA documentation for remediation projects. Requires a bachelor's degree in civil engineering, geology or related discipline. MS desired. Candidates must be actively working towards California professional registration. Position is based in Walnut Creek, California and offers excellent compensation and benefits.

For consideration for either of these positions, please forward resume or contact directly:

Sequence Systems LLC
Attn: Michael DeSafey
2008 Opportunity Drive, Suite #150
Roseville, CA 95678
Phone: 916-782-6900 x202
Fax: 916-782-6307
Email: mdesafey@sequencestaffing.com
www.sequencestaffing.com

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