



Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists
Inland Empire Chapter, **Southern California Section**

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www.aegsc.org/chapters/inlandempire

www.aegsc.org
www.aegweb.org

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Feb 4, 2009

Vol. 7, No. 2

AEG Shlemon Specialty Conference

“Investigation, Risk Analysis, and Mitigation of Surface Faulting”

Thursday and Friday, February 19 & 20, 2009

8:00 am - 5:00 pm, Thursday, February 19, Conference Facility

7:45 am - 5:00 pm Friday, February 20, Conference Facility/Field and return

Palm Desert Graduate Center
University of California, Riverside

(Meeting Cost \$260 Members, \$335 non-Members)
(Details see conference announcement)

Future Meeting Details (see inside)

Next RSVP Due COB 9- Apr-09

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Our Chapter meeting is the AEG 2009 Shlemon Specialty Conference

The conference is organized by the Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists. It includes presentations, panel discussion and a hands-on workshop session regarding the investigation, analysis, and mitigation of surface faults, with a field-trip to fault trenches in the Indio Hills Alquist-Priolo Fault Zone.

Co-Moderators are our very own AEG Southern California Section and Inland Empire Chapter current and former leaders, Dr. Kerry Cato, Cato Geoscience, Inc., and Charles Nestle, Los Angeles County. There are at least 16 speakers. See additional description on page 3 of the *Newsletter*.

For more information and for registration, see the Southern California Section AEG website www.aegsc.org, or the home-page on the National AEG web-site at www.aegweb.org

Program Chairman
Newsletter Editor,
Rick Gundry (see above);

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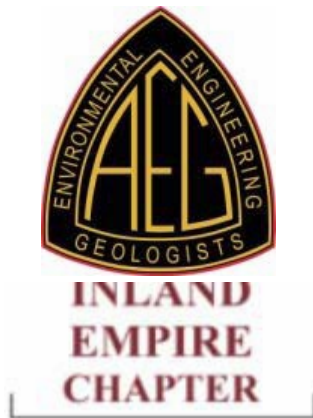
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Past Presidents; Frank Jordan,
2005; Gary Wallace, 2006; Rick
Gundry, 2007, Mike Cook, 2008.

The AEG Inland Empire Chapter
Newsletter a monthly publication
of Inland Empire Chapter of the
Southern California Section,
Association of Environmental
and Engineering Geologists. For
more information visit websites
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Officers, page 2.

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AEG INLAND EMPIRE CHAPTER

Chairman's Message

February 2009

We want to thank the 11 people who attended the Chapter's January Meeting. Dr. John Izbicki, USGS Research Hydrologist, presented an intriguing example of how human-induced groundwater conditions can mobilize naturally occurring elements. The talk generated a lively discussion that ranged from geology, geochemistry, groundwater, on to regulatory concerns. Do NOT miss the next time Dr. Izbicki speaks or you will miss a thought-provoking treat!

Our February Chapter Meeting will be the AEG 2009 Shlemon Specialty Conference, "*Investigation, Risk Analysis, and Mitigation of Surface Faulting*" (note we will not be holding a separate Chapter Meeting in February). It has been 35 years since the State of California adopted the Alquist-Priolo Act. In early 2007, the State Mining and Geology Board (SMGB) established a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to review the performance of the Act and report back to them; this review is still in progress. *This Specialty Conference* is focused on one area of the TAC discussion, the possibility that structures could be built on minor faults displaying minor displacements. Speaker presentations will include: a history of the AP-Act; a synopsis of the TAC review; engineering comments regarding the amount of fault displacement that a structure can be designed to reasonably withstand; the geologic information that must be obtained in a fault trench investigation and the analysis of this data in order to estimate slip parameters (including comments on the limits and usefulness of a probabilistic analysis); what is the appropriate level of peer review for this analysis; and comments on the geologic conditions in the Coachella Valley relating to fault rupture investigations.

This Specialty Conference on surface faulting is an independent, professional conference, separate from the SMGB TAC activities. AEG is providing this forum in order to generate discussion and, ultimately, a more engaged professional group regarding technical and public policy issues. AEG designs Shlemon Specialty conferences to generate discussion, allow ample time for question and answers, and to give the attendees the opportunity to express their ideas. So take advantage of this opportunity, participate and express your ideas. See you at the February 19 & 20th Chapter meeting in Palm Desert,

Dr. Kerry Cato,
Chair AEG Inland Empire Chapter

Attendees at the January Chapter Meeting

We were given an excellent talk in January on the geologic and groundwater conditions, anthropogenic and natural situations groundwater conditions and interactions, with USGS Dr. John Izbicki's of the California Water Science Center.

Meeting attendees were:

1. Dr. John Izbicki (speaker), USGS, San Diego
2. Dr. Kerry Cato, Cato Geoscience, Inc., Temecula
3. Dr. Tien-Chang Lee, University of California, Riverside
4. Dr. Tom Perina, CH2MHill, Riverside
5. Anna Garcia, Mojave Water District
6. Richard Orr, Leighton Group, Rancho Cucamonga
7. Mark Doerschlag, Consulting Engineering Geologist, Riverside
8. Mark Spykerman, Earth Systems Southwest, Rancho Cucamonga
9. Rick Gundry, Inland Geologic, Inc., Moreno Valley
10. Ernie Roumelis, AKW, Inc., Temecula
11. Mike Cook, Kleinfelder, Redlands

AEG Shlemon Specialty Conference on Surface Faulting

Evaluation, Risk Analysis, & Mitigation of Surface Faulting

Palm Desert, CA, February 19–20, 2009

This symposium and the associated AEG Special Publication will document technical issues that bear on the review of an important law in California—The Alquist-Priolo (AP) Fault Study Act. This law, that regulates development on active surface faults, has been in existence for 35 years and is currently under review by the California State Mining and Geology Board. It is anticipated that the proceedings of this conference will be used by the Californian Mining and Geology Board in their decision whether to make changes in this high profile law governing the practice of geology in the State of California.

The technical program will focus on:

- The history, standard of practice, and trends in future investigations regarding surface faulting,
- The identification and characterization of active (and potentially active) surface faulting and secondary ground displacement,

- The present capabilities of engineering design to accommodate small amounts of fault offset in single-family residential and larger structures, and

- The application of probabilistic assessments of earthquakes on faults to evaluation of the potential for surface fault rupture. This type of professional association activity is crucial to the mission of AEG. This makes AEG pertinent on technical issues involving the practice of geology in California. While this particular issue focuses on California, other western states such as Utah, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington will be monitoring these actions. California fault rupture criteria are commonly referenced on projects in other states and internationally where there are not criteria for active fault definition and mitigation. There are parallels to be drawn regarding other geologic processes such as fault development in areas of subsidence (Louisiana, Texas) and in areas of ground cracks (Arizona, Nevada).

For more information, go to the home page of www.aegweb.org.

March AEG Chapter Meeting and Annual Field Trip

A field trip is planned for March in lieu of an evening meeting. We are still gathering info for a Chapter Field trip, but preliminary agenda for this ½ day trip follows:

[“Hydrogeology of Springs in the Palm Springs Area: Field trip to Indian Canyon and Agua Caliente Springs”](#)

Probable agenda will include:

- Meet at the Agua Caliente Resort in morning and then carpool to Indian Canyon (tribal land).
- Hike up Indian Canyon to review the springs and related geology.
- Return to the Agua Caliente Spring for a brief walk around to see the spring (now currently under the street near the casino) and discuss the theory's on its manifestation, geology, and chemistry.

This is an excellent opportunity to see an area that is normally restricted to public access. The springs and hydrology along the San Jacinto Mountain front are an important key in understanding the local geology. Please let Mark Spykerman know if you will be able to attend as we would like to get a count prior to the event (mspykerman@earthsys.com, (909) 484-5455)

CSU San Bernardino MS option in geology

To all current students who are planning to graduate in June and to all past students who are considering getting a masters degree. A new geology option in the Environmental Sciences MS program has been approved by the campus curriculum committee and should be in place for the Fall quarter 2009.

If there is a reasonable number of students in this option next year we can probably request that a MS in geology be approved as a permanent degree program in addition to the current MS in Environmental Sciences. The current MS in Environmental Science is presently being offered as a 5-year pilot program, last year is next year. The request to make these programs permanent has to be made sometime during the 2009-2010 academic year. The deadline for enrollment for Spring quarter 2009 is January 15, and for Fall 2009 is May 1 2009. You can enter into the current MS in ES and transfer into the geology option in the Fall.

I should like to urge all interested students to apply for this program now so that we have a chance of getting a MS degree in geology approved. Failure to achieve this next year will probably mean that we will have to propose the degree program through the regular channels, not a pilot program, which will take about 5 years to get approved.

- Alan L. Smith, Chair,
Geological Sciences

February Meeting and Details

Shlemon Specialty Conference
see www.aeg.org
or www.aegsc.org

Future AEG Inland Empire Chapter Meetings

MAR Saturday, March 14th, 2009
Annual Chapter Field Trip
___ ___ “Geohydrology of Springs in the Palm Springs area; Field trip to Indian Canyon and Agua Caliente Springs”
Mark Spykerman, Earth Systems Southwest, Rancho Cucamonga/Palm Desert, CA

APR Wednesday April 15, 2009, Cal Poly Pomona
___ ___ **GSA/AEG 2009 Jahns Distinguished Lecturer in Engineering Geology**
Dr. Ed Medley, Geosyntec Consultants, Oakland CA

MAY Wednesday May 20th, 2009
___ ___ “Scour of Rock – Rates and Threshold Conditions”
Dr. Jeffrey R. Keaton, MACTEC, Los Angeles, CA

AEG Coordinated Dr. Medley’s University Talks at local Universities:

Tuesday, April 14, 2009, Riverside, CA
Hewett Club Meeting, 4:00pm University of California, Department of Earth Sciences

Wednesday, April 15, 2009, San Bernardino, CA
Geology Club, 2:30-3:30pm, Geological Sciences Department, California State University, San Bernardino

Thursday, April 16, 2009, Pomona, CA
Geology Club Meeting, 12-Noon - 1:00-pm,
Department of Geological Sciences, Cal Poly Pomona University

SHORT COURSES

FEB February 27, 2009, Huntington Beach
___ ___ “Cone Penetration Testing for Environmental and Geotechnical Professionals
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