Association of Engineering Geologists

Southern California Section

NEWSLETTER - May 1990

Dinner Meeting Tuesday May 8th

- The Ar tel Plaza Hotel Restaurant
  7277 Valjean Avenue
  Van Nuys
- Cost - $20.00 (Full-Time Students - Free)
- For reservations call by May 4th!!!
  Marlon (818) 889-0844 (Grover Hollingsworth & Assoc.)
  (Leave Your Name & Number of People In Your Party)

Make reservations by Noon on the Friday before the Meeting

- 5:30 Social Hour
- 6:45 Dinner
- 7:30 Announcements
- 8:00 Program

Program Topic

Some Lessons to be Learned from
Failures of Earth Dams - With an
Emphasis on the 1976 Teton Dam Failure

SPEAKER Leonard M. Krazynski - Civil/Geotechnical
Engineer, Leonard M. Krazynski & Assoc. Houston, Texas &
Corporate Consultant for Leighton and Associates, Inc.,
Irvine, California

2550 Beverly Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90057
Program

Topic & Speaker

Some Lessons to be Learned from Failures of Earth Dams - With an Emphasis on the 1976 Teton Dam Failure

Leonard M. Krazyński

The Teton Dam failure in southern Idaho resulted in the deaths of 14 people on June 5, 1976. An earthfill, clay-core dam constructed by the Bureau of Reclamation, Teton Dam was 305 feet high to the crest, spanning 2,000 feet across the Teton River. The dam failed catastrophically during the initial filling when the water level reached 3.3 feet below the spillway.

Teton Dam was constructed as specified and failed a the result of inadequate protection of the impervious core material from internal erosion. The most probable physical mode of failure was cracking of the core that allowed the initiation of erosion; however, the erosion could have been initiated by piping at the contact of the core and the rock surface.

A 30 minute video tape of the actual failure will be shown following the meeting.

Leonard M. Krazyński is a registered civil engineer with over 40 years of experience in geotechnical engineering projects in the United States and abroad. He received his B.S. in civil engineering at U.C. Berkeley and M.S. in civil engineering at Washington State U. 

ATTENTION... for the May meeting!!!

Because AEG has no track record or standing agreements with the Airtel Plaza Hotel, they have strict rules on reservations and pre-payment for our May dinner meeting. The hotel requires a check on the Friday before our Tuesday meeting as full payment for all expected attendees. This means the Section will automatically have paid for, and lost money on, anyone who reserves but does not attend or otherwise arrange delivery of a check for $20. At the same time, the hotel is limited in its ability to accommodate extra people who show up without prior arrangements. Absolutely no reservations for the May 8 meeting will be accepted after 12:00 noon on Friday May 4!!!

This month Mr. Leonard M. Krazyński, geotechnical engineer, will discuss failures of earth dams. Mr. Krazyński has extensive experience in California and Texas. According to his resume, he has a strong interest in expansive soils.

Last month Dr. Robert Schuster, Research geologist/civil engineer with the USGS, spoke about landslide dams throughout the world. He and a colleague have studied landslide dams for a number of years and have reached some interesting conclusions. They plan to soon publish the results of their studies. Some of their conclusions are that landslide dams are formed, by order of frequency, by slumps & slides, avalanches, flows and undifferentiated types. Frequent causes of landslide dams are due to rain and snowmelt. Earthquakes produce the biggest landslide dams. Stabilizing landslide dams or repair of damage to facilities such as roads, train tracks and housing caused by associated landslide movement may be very expensive.

At the April meeting Dennis Hannah described the outcome of a recent meeting that took place with the long-range planning committee of AEG. There were many key issues that the committee determined were necessary to focus upon for continued development of the Association. One of the issues related to attracting more hydrogeologists and environmental geologists to the Association. Because of the explosive growth of work in these fields and the Association's delay in meeting the needs of these professionals, considered to be closely aligned to the needs of engineering geologists, no growth of the

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The following are some notes of interest from the January 25, 1990 meeting of the State Board of Registration for Geologists and Geophysicists, held at the Hyatt Hotel in Los Angeles. The Board is considering the adoption of a multiple-choice type of examination for registration of geologists. The current test of multiple-choice, essay questions and problems takes a considerable time to be graded by a limited number of volunteer graders. The board had 1,100 applicants of which 874 candidates took the examinations in 1989. It is possible that the number of applicants for the examinations in the future will increase, thus prolonging the time for completion of grading and limiting the frequency of the exams. The board is apparently divided toward a change in the current program. The board is developing a set of goals and criteria that would be given to a consulting firm which reviews the examination and have the firm make recommendations in its report to the board. This motion passed unanimously.

The board discussed the “Fields of Expertise” list at the January 26th meeting also. There was general agreement that geophysicists were excluded from the comparison of expertise of geologists to expertise of civil engineers. Because there were some additional tasks to be accomplished by the board’s committee the approval of the list was postponed. This topic will be discussed further in a future meeting.

Dr. Martin L Stout will be semi-retiring after 30 years of teaching at California State University, Los Angeles. At the April meeting Dr. Stout said he will continue to teach, about half-time, upper-level and graduate level classes. In honor of the years of teaching and the impact he has had on the teaching profession and on engineering geology, the Department of Geology at California State University, Los Angeles, is holding their Annual Alumni Awards banquet in his honor on June 1st. The department is also establishing a scholarship in his name, the Martin L. Stout Scholarship. If you wish to find out more information concerning this event or to contribute toward the Martin L. Stout Scholarship fund, please contact Dr. Gary Novak, Chairman of the Department of Geology at (213)343-2400.

SDAG annual field trip is the first call for papers. Field trip is scheduled for October 20th and will cover geotechnical issues, e.g., slope stabilization, deep fill monitoring, fill saturation and ground improvement techniques. If you would like to contribute a paper, contact John Hoobs, at Geocon Inc., (619)558-6900.

The Dibblee Geological Foundation has set Saturday, May 5th, as the date for “A Day in the Field with Tom Dibblee in the Santa Monica Mountains”. The foundation is asking for a minimum donation of $35.00 per person, including field trip and BBQ. The left-over proceeds from this event will be used to publish additional geologic maps of the current Dibblee - Santa Monica Mountains series. The previous “Day in the Field with Tom Dibblee” was a great success for all participants. For reservations please contact, by April 20th, John R. Powell (805) 653-5556 or write to John, c/o Staal, Gardner & Dunne, Inc., 121 North Fir St., Suite F, Ventura, CA 93001. Helmut Ehrenspeck (805) 968-0481 is also a contact for this event.
Seminars/Meetings/Field Trips

MAY 1990
5-Saturday* A Day in the Field with Tom Dibble in the Santa Monica Mountains, Malibu State Park, CA. Contact: 310-455-5556.

12-13 *Short Course - Magnetometer Surveying* Sunnyside, CA. EG&G Geometrics. Contact: (408)753-4614.

16-22 *Microbial Processes* San Francisco, CA. Associated with Ground Water Scientists and Engineers (NWPA). Contact: NWPA 614761-771/1. P.O. Box 128093/Dept. #107/ Columbus, Ohio 43218.


JUNE 1990
12-13 *Short Course - Shallow CDP seismic reflection surveying* Sunnyside, CA. EG&G Geometrics. Contact: (408)745-6131.

AUGUST 1990
12-13 *Conserv 90: The National Conference and Exposition on Water Supply Solutions for the 1990s* Phoenix, AZ. Contact: Conserve 90, 6375 Riverside Dr. Dublin, OH 43017 (614)761-1711.

SEPTEMBER 1990
19-22 *Short Course - Shallow CDP seismic reflection surveying* Sunnyside, CA. EG&G Geometrics. Contact: (408)745-6131.

OCTOBER 1990
1-5 35th Annual Meeting of the Association of Engineering Geologists Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Technical sessions, three short courses, two symposia & several field trips.

1-3 *Principles of Subsurface Contaminant Fate* Long Beach, CA. Associated with Ground Water Scientists and Engineers (NWPA). Contact: NWPA 614761-771/1. P.O. Box 182093/Dept. #107/ Columbus, Ohio 43218.

1-3 *Theory and Practice of Ground Water Monitoring and Sampling* Long Beach, CA. Associated with Ground Water Scientists and Engineers (NWPA). Contact: NWPA 614761-771/1. P.O. Box 182093/Dept. #107/ Columbus, Ohio 43218.

4 *Environmental Site Assessment Course* Long Beach, CA. Associated with Ground Water Scientists and Engineers (NWPA). Contact: NWPA 614761-771/1. P.O. Box 182093/Dept. #107/ Columbus, Ohio 43218.

NOVEMBER 1990

6-8 *Theory and Application of Vadose Zone Monitoring, Sampling, Remediation* Las Vegas, NV. Associated with Ground Water Scientists and Engineers (NWPA). Contact: NWPA 614761-771/1. P.O. Box 182093/Dept. #107/ Columbus, Ohio 43218.

9 *Environmental Site Assessments One-Day Course* Las Vegas, NV. Associated with Ground Water Scientists and Engineers (NWPA). Contact: NWPA 614761-771/1. P.O. Box 182093/Dept. #107/ Columbus, Ohio 43218.

INDEPENDENT INSTRUCTORS FOR GEOLOGISTS AND ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST EXAMS - COURSE LOCATIONS FOR 1990s REG Review, Inc. is starting classes for the upcoming geologist exams in September. They will be held at the following locations over the next few months.

San Diego (SD) Limit 15
Pasadena (LA) Limit 20
Woodward Cliffs Course: Converse Environ. West
1550 Hotel Circle North
3393 East Foothill Blvd.
Costa Mesa (CM) Limit 15
Converse Environ. West
San Diego, CA 92108
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

SERIES I COURSES April June, 1990 SERIES II COURSES July August, 1990
For more information contact: REG REVIEW, Inc. 6535 Oakwood Drive Oakland, CA 94611 (415) 339-3771 Lisa Bird (415) 652-9099 Pati Oszocki

Series I and Series II courses present the same material in two five hour sessions. Courses cover the major topics expected on the California Geology Registration Exam. Major emphasis is given to understanding the principles of structural geology, map interpretation, California geology, geologic hazards, hydrogeology, and engineering geology. Questions and problem solving are an integral part of the course. Class size is limited (from 15 to 20 people depending upon course location) to encourage individual participation and preparation. Provided with the course registration is the 1990 edition of the Study Manual. A Manual will be mailed to all course preregistrants upon receipt of fees.

The 1990 Study Manual is a copyrighted publication that presents technical information important to know for the California Geology Registration (R.G.) and Certified Engineering Geology (C.E.G.) Exams. Technical text, figures, sample problems and answers, and a reading list are highlights of the book. The Study Manual is also offered for separate purchase. The price of $75.00 includes sales tax (where applicable), Priority Mail postage, and handling. Rush order postage is extra. Estimated publication date for the 1990 Study Manual is March 1, 1990.
Positions Available
Advertisements for Student & Part-Time "Positions Available" are Welcome. There is no charge for advertisement.

Career Opportunities For
Hydrogeologists, Geologists, Civil & Environmental Engineers
Openings are available for Hydrogeologists & Geologists (0-4 yrs experience) and for senior level Civil & Environmental Engineers. Openings are available in the City of Industry office and the Newport Beach office. In addition, positions for experienced ground water and soils remediation specialists are available in offices throughout the United States. Salary is negotiable commensurate with experience.

CONTACT: (714) 453-0400 Tom Sheahan-Industry
or (714) 674-9444 Jim Norman-Newport Beach
or submit resume to:
Geraghty & Miller, Inc.
Attention: N. Thomas Sheahan
17800 Castleton St. #175
City of Industry, CA 91748

Career Opportunities For
Geologists, Environmental Geologists/ Hydrogeologists
Openings are available for project/senior staff geologists. Requirements include a BS/MS in Geology, RG (CEG highly desirable) and at least 4 years of experience. Responsibilities will include project management, analysis of geologic mapping and exploration and staff supervision.

CONTACT: (714) 250-1423
or submit resume to:
Leighton & Associates
Attention: Vicky Overly
1181 Duryea Avenue
Irvine, CA 92714

Career Opportunity For
Engineering Geologist
Immediate opening is available for an engineering geologist with 2 or more years of experience in field mapping, trench/horing logging, and report writing. B.S. in Geology required. Preferred skills include writing/verbal communication with laypersons, interest in geotechnics, landfills, and groundwater. Salary commensurate with experience.

CONTACT: (714) 888-3433
or send resume to:
Gary S. Rasmussen & Assoc., Inc.
1811 Commercecenter W.
San Bernardino, CA 92408

Career Opportunities For
Geologists, Hydrogeologists
Civil & Environmental Engineers
Openings are available for several positions. Staff Geologist/Engineer: BS/1 year experience in waste management. Project Geologist/Hydrogeologist: BS/3 years experience or MS/2 years experience in waste management. Project Civil/Geotechnical Engineer: BS/3 years experience or MS/2 years experience in waste management. Senior Air Quality Scientist/Engineer: BS/7 years experience or MS/6 years experience as program manager, source testing.

CONTACT: (714) 846-0602
or send resume to:
The MARK Group, Engs.&Geols.,Inc.
Attention: David K. Rodgers, Principal
1241 E. Dyer Road, Suite 130
Santa Ana, CA 92705

Career Opportunity For
Staff Geologist
Immediate openings are available for an Entry Level Staff Geologist to perform field mapping, logging, drafting and assist in exploration. Requirements include a bachelors degree in geology. Projects include residential hillside development in the southern California area and evaluation of distressed homes and instability. Competitive salary and benefits.

CONTACT: (657) 378-0087
or send resume to:
Robertson Geotechnical, Inc.
2500 Townsgate Road, Suite B
Westlake Village, CA 91362
Attn: Hugh S. Robertson

Career Opportunity For
Hydrogeologists, Geologists & Environmental Engineers
Openings are available for entry level through senior level Hydrogeologists, Geologists and Engineers. Environmental experience should include proven field experience in UST programs, site characterization, remedial action plans and/or feasibility studies for soil and groundwater contamination. Requirements are a record of successful project development and management. Excellent verbal and written skills required. Advanced degree preferred. Competitive salary.

Send resume to:
Converse Environmental West
Attention: J.A. Campbell
67 W. Bellevue Dr., Pasadena, CA 91105

Career Opportunity For
Staff Geologists
Openings are available for staff level positions in the engineering geology department of the San Bernardino office. Requirements include a bachelor's degree in Geology, approximately 2 years of experience in engineering geology (understanding of mass grading a plus), and writing and communications skills. Salary is negotiable and commensurate with experience.

CONTACT: (714) 989-0004
or send resume to:
Converse Consultants Inland Empire
Attention: David B. Simon
630 E. Brier Drive, Suite 100
San Bernardino, CA 92408

Career Opportunity For
Geologist/Hydrogeol/E.G.
Opening is available for a project level Geol./Hydrogeol./Eng. Geol. with 3 to 5 years experience to direct field operations for characterization of contaminated sites. Strong candidate will have detailed knowledge of drilling, sampling, and installation of ground-water monitoring wells. Excellent communication skills and be computer literate with writing skills. Salary is negotiable and is commensurate with experience.

CONTACT: (714) 541-9333
or send resume to:
Remedial Action Corp.
505 N. Tuscan Ave., Suite 160
Santa Ana, CA 92705