

## ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS

#### Southern California Section

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### NEWSLETTER - JUNE 2002

MONTHLY DINNER MEETING

Date: Tuesday, June 11, 2002

Location: Stevens Steakhouse, 5332 Stevens Place, Commerce, CA

Thomas Guide p. 675 G-3, (213) 732-9856

Time: 5:30 p.m. - Social Hour; 7:00 p.m. - Dinner; - 8:00 p.m.

**Presentation** 

Reservations: Call (949) 253-5924 ext. 564 by 5:00 p.m., Friday,

June 7, 2002

Cost: \$25 per person with advanced reservations, \$30 at

the door, and \$10.00 for students w/ valid I.D., "No-

shows" will be billed \$10.00

PAST CHAIRMAN AND OLD TIMERS NIGHT

SPEAKER: Joshua Feffer

TITLE: History of Construction of the Pacific Coast Highway in

Malibu

**ABSTRACT:** Few people who are familiar with Malibu today would recognize the Pacific Coast Highway in the early 1900's. It consisted of a dirt road at the edge of the ocean that was barely wide enough at most places for a horse and wagon; numerous areas were only passable at low tide. Space for the present day four to six lane highway was created primarily by large amounts of cutting into the slope of the Santa Monica Mountains. Natural drainage courses have been modified through the construction of bridges and culverts.

**BIO:** Joshua Feffer is a practicing engineering geologist in the Los Angeles office of Exponent Failure Analysis Associates. Prior to joining Exponent, Mr. Feffer was senior geologist at Lockwood-Singh & Associates. He is a local product who obtained a B.S. in Geology from California State University, Northridge in 1992, and an M.S. from the University of Southern California in Sedimentology. His Master thesis focused on sand grain movement within Santa Monica Bay.

Mr. Feffer will present case studies describing how the construction of Pacific Coast Highway was a contributing factor in the flooding of homes near Pena and Piedra Gorda Canyons in Malibu in 1995. Historical ground photos and aerial photographs from both private and public collections, as well as excerpts from the original plans, reports and drawings for the construction of the highway will be shown.

#### **OFFICERS**

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Jkofoed@pacbell.n
et

#### **CHAIR'S COLUMN**

#### **By David Seymour**

Our May speaker, **Jeff Keaton** provided us with a glimpse of the many technologic advances available to engineering geologists. Survival in this brave new world requires a PDA with GPS connections and GIS capabilities. Like all new worlds, it comes with its own acronyms. Thanks again to Jeff for a great talk.

#### Past Chairmen & "Old Timers" Night

I'm excited about this month's meeting and I hope that many "Old Timers" and "New Comers" can make it to reminisce and soak in a little of our section's history. After all, AEG started right here in California and many of AEG's founding fathers are from our section. This is a great opportunity to chat and rub elbows with some of AEG's most respected members.

#### **Section History & Past Chairmen**

I'm still looking for information regarding our section history, in particular all of our past chairs. If you haven't responded to my prior pleas, please contact me via email <a href="mailto:seymourgeo@hotmail.com">seymourgeo@hotmail.com</a> or voicemail (714) 549-8921.

#### **Raffle Items**

Our monthly raffles continue to be a great success. Our raffle provides a great opportunity for our younger members to build their professional libraries with oftentimes classic and out of print publications. Don't forget to buy your tickets at the next meeting, and please don't hesitate to contribute raffle items as well.

#### **Legislative News**

Thanks to **Joe Cota**, our Legislative Chair, for providing us with an update in last month's newsletter. Joe along with **Buzz Spellman** and **Hugh Robertson** are still busy keeping tabs on Sacramento. We'll keep you posted.

#### **Electronic Newsletter and Website**

There is **still** a large percentage of members that are receiving the paper version of the newsletter. In order to set up and maintain a website, etc., we **MUST** reduce mailing costs. For those that receive the paper version, we encourage you to contact Jeff Kofoed to request the electronic version of the newsletter. The e-issue is in Adobe Acrobat Reader, identical to the paper version, printer friendly, with software free at <a href="https://www.adobe.com">www.adobe.com</a>.

Last but not least, I attended the AEG Mid-Year Board Meeting in April. Details regarding the meeting are summarized in a separate article. I hope to see you at the next meeting.

#### **David Seymour**

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

Our apologies to those of you that ordered publications over the last several months and had to wait too long for delivery. Hopefully, things will now run a little smoother. Our thanks to **Dawn James**, our past Publications Manager, for volunteering the last couple of years. Dawn went back to school and is doing her fieldwork in New Zealand. Publications Manager or New Zealand – hmm that's a tough choice. Our thanks to **Brian Villalobos**, our new Publications Manager, for taking over the position. A special thanks as well to **Jeff Kofoed** for helping out in a pinch and filling some outstanding orders.

#### 2007 ANNUAL MEETING

Our 2007 Annual Meeting co-chairs Jeff Keaton and David Seymour, along with Julie Keaton, Annual Meeting Manager, are still reviewing the incoming proposals. We'll keep you posted once a site is selected.

#### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

If you are unsure about your membership status, please contact AEG Headquarters <a href="mailto:aegweb.org">aegweb.org</a>, <a href="mailto:Jeff">Jeff Kofoed</a>, Secretary, or <a href="mailto:David Seymour">David Seymour</a>. We are currently looking for a new Membership Chair. Please contact <a href="mailto:David Seymour">David Seymour</a> if you wish to volunteer.

#### YEAR 2002 CONTRIBUTORS

Our special thanks to:

## Earth Consultants International, Inc. Robertson Geotechnical, Inc.

#### YEAR 2002 CONTRIBUTORS NEEDED

Contributions from corporations and individual members for 2002 are greatly appreciated. Contributors will be listed in our newsletter throughout the year and can post their logo or business card in the newsletter if so desired. Please mail contributions made out to **AEG** to our section chair, David Seymour, 26276 Buscador, Mission Viejo, CA 92962.

#### YEAR 2002 MEETING SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Location</u>
June	Josh Feffer	Steven's
Past Chairmen		Steakhouse
Night		
July	NO MEETING	
August	NO MEETING	
September	TBA	TBA
October	TBA	TBA
November	TBA	TBA
Joint w/IGS		
December	NO MEETING	

## AEG SOCAL SECTION COMMITTEE CHAIRS

#### MEMBERSHIP - OPEN

LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS - Joe Cota (818) 785-2158 (jcota@earthlink.net)
PUBLICATIONS - Brian Villalobos (714) 549-8921 (bvillalobos@petra-inc.om)
FIELD TRIPS - OPEN
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#### ADVERTISING IN THE NEWSLETTER

EDITOR – Jeff Kofoed (<u>jkofoed@pacbell.net</u>)

Contact the section Chairman or Treasurer for rates.

## FIELDTRIP AND MEMBERSHIP CHAIRS NEEDED!

We are still looking to fill both chair positions. If you would like to volunteer, or have any fieldtrip ideas, please contact <u>David Seymour</u>.

#### CALL FOR SHORTCOURSE PROPOSALS

AEG Annual Meeting Vail, Colorado, 2003

Wanted: Instructors to teach one- or two-day short courses at AEG's Annual Meeting in Vail Colorado. Any topic related to engineering geology and related subjects, or topics of interest to the profession, are acceptable. Dates available for short courses are September 15, 16, 20, or 21, 2003.

If you are interested, prepare a short proposal with the course name, instructor(s) name(s), length of course, special requirements, and suggested dollar amount to be charged.

Reply via email by July 8, 2002 to: Dwaine Edington, AEG Vail 2003 Short Course Chairman edingtond@aol.com

Final decisions concerning short courses will be made in August 2002.

#### **AEG NEWS**

#### Mid-Year Board of Directors Meeting Montreal, Canada, April 20 and 21, 2002

By David Seymour

The mid-year meeting was held on April 20 and 21in historical Montreal, Canada, the home of our current AEG President Myles Carter. President Carter was gracious enough to arrange for a magnitude 5 earthquake around 7:00 am on Saturday to wake us up. Like most native Californias, I rode out the wave and went back to sleep for another half hour. The earthquake, however, proved to be a mere foreshock compared to the magnitude of changes that would be approved during the meeting. After several years of planning, the Board approved our move to the greater Denver area. The decision to move was based on information provided by the Relocation, Finance and Management Options Committees in conjunction with the retirement of Chris Mathewson, our current Executive Director. A professional management firm will manage AEG over the next few years, and the search for a new Executive Director will be postponed for a similar length of time. The Management Options Committee recommended the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) to provide management services. NEHA also manages other earth science organizations and is located in the Denver area. The move to Denver will probably take place in the next few months, and hopefully, will be a lot smoother than our last relocation from Sudbury, Mass to College Station. If you have any problems with member services during the transition, please contact me.

In addition to relocating headquarters and changes in management, AEG publications will also go through some major changes. Janet Mathewson, our current Director of Publications is also retiring, which requires a change in how the national publications are reproduced and distributed. A new printer and editorial board will handle Janet's duties during the transition period. Our own **Kerry Kato** is heavily involved with the transition process and will keep us posted on the new and exciting changes.

Bylaw changes made during the meeting included the elimination of sponsorship requirements for membership and the Associate Member class along with the creation of a New Member status. Existing Associate Members will become Members. Annual dues for New Members will be \$75 for the first three years.

## Ideas Sought for Symposium on the Future of Engineering Geology at AEG-AIPG 2002, Reno, Nevada.

We will have a special symposium at the Reno meeting, titled "Visioning the Future of Engineering Geology: Sustainability and Stewardship." Why this symposium? Yogi Berra said it best: **BE VERY CAREFUL —IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU ARE GOING...YOU MIGHT NOT GET THERE.** 

This symposium will explore ways to add value to engineering geology practice in the years to come, and develop strategies to overcome conditions that threaten the viability of the profession.

Engineering Geology has been evolving for well over a century. Where is Engineering Geology headed in the 21<sup>st</sup> century – or even the next twenty years? Where *should* it be going? What can be done – and by whom or by what organizations – to help Engineering Geology fulfill its potential as the prime geologic specialty that directly impacts human health and safety, and supplies solutions to geologically-based engineering, environmental, and public safety problems?

This symposium provides an opportunity for individuals who believe in the value of engineering geology, and the professional organizations that are responsible for its future, to develop a shared and coordinated strategy to keep engineering geology alive and growing, and to keep engineering geologists engaged in using their special expertise to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

Topics under development are:

- Site characterization as the *raison d'être* for engineering geology
- The role of statutory licensure in the practice and future of engineering geology, and the role of engineering geology in the future of statutory licensure
- Sunrise to sunset: antidotes for poison pills
- The semi-independent licensure board: a solution to financial and legislative headaches?
- The role and feasibility of academic department program accreditation in engineering geology
- Engineering geology in building and grading codes, regulations, laws, and practice guidelines
- The evolution and future of the ASBOG geology licensure examination and state engineering geology certification examinations
- Engineering geology professional associations: are their missions incomplete and their visions clouded?
- Closing workshop: creating the future of engineering geology

As the convener of this symposium, I would like input from geologists who care about our profession and its future. Send me your ideas. What is important to you? How do you feel about the topics selected thus far? Any suggestions for speakers and more topics? Thanks!

Robert E. Tepel, 767 Lemonwood Ct, San Jose CA 95120-2220 voice 408-997-3437, facsimile 408-997-6932 bobtepel@pacbell.net



#### **Project Level Geotechnical Engineer**

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LGC is looking for dynamic individuals to join our team and work on some of Orange County's most interesting and technically challenging projects. If you are an experienced geotechnical professional, or just starting your career, please do not hesitate to contact us. All inquires will be considered in the utmost confidence. We look forward to hearing from you.

#### Douglas E. Moran, Inc

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TITLE / DESCRIPTION	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
Baldwin, J.E. and Sitar, N., 1991, <u>Loma Prieta Earthquake: engineering geologic perspectives</u> , AEG Special Publication No. 1, 170p	\$10.00		
Bishop, K, and Tandy, 1995, <b>Ground Failure during the January 17, 1994 Northridge earthquake:</b> Association of Engineering Geologists, Southern California Section, Annual Field Trip Guidebook, November 11, 1995, 106p.	\$20.00		
Briggs, R.P. and Parke, C.D., 1990, <u>Guide to Field Trips in Pennsylvania</u> , <u>Ohio, and West Virginia</u> , <u>AEG 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting</u> , October 1-5	\$15.00		
Highway and Railroad Slope Maintenance: AEG, 34 <sup>th</sup> annual meeting, September 29 <sup>th</sup> – October 4 <sup>th</sup> , 1991	\$10.00		
Leighton, F.B. <u>Mitigation of geotechnical litigation in California:</u> Munson Book Associates, Huntington Beach, California, 274p.	\$20.00		
Sieh, K.E., and Matti, JC., 1992, <u>Earthquake geology, San Andreas fault system, Palm Springs to</u> <u>Palmdale</u> : AEG, 35 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Field Trip Guidebook, October 3-4, 1992	\$10.00		
Stout, M.L., ed., 1992, <u>Proceedings of the 35<sup>th</sup> annual meeting</u> , <u>Association of Engineering</u> <u>Geologists</u> , October 2-9, 1992: 740p.	\$5.00		
Tepel, R, 1995, <u>Professional Licensure for Geologists, an Exploration of Issues,</u> Association of Engineering Geologists Special Publication No. 7, 1995	\$12.00		
Cann, L.R., Cobarrubias, Hollingsworth, B., 1992, <u>Engineering Geology Field Trips Orange County,</u> <u>Santa Monica Mountains, and Malibu:</u> AEG 35 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Field Trip Guidebook, October 2-9, 1992	\$10.00		
Los Angeles Metro Rail System Field Trip Guidebook, Association of Engineering Geologists, 35 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting October 2-9, 1992 Long Beach, California	\$10.00		

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#### The Southern California Earthquake Center (SCEC) Presents a Workshop on:

# Recommended Procedures for Implementation of DMG Special Publication 117: Guidelines for Analyzing and Mitigating Landslide Hazardsin California

Thursday and Friday, June 20-21, 2002

#### Davidson Conference Center, University of Southern California, Los Angeles

**Background:** In August 1998, a group of geotechnical engineers and engineering geologists with academic, practicing, and regulatory backgrounds was assembled to form a committee (chaired by Thomas Blake) to develop specific slope stability analysis implementation procedures to aid local southern California city and county agencies in their compliance with review requirements of the State's Seismic Hazard Mapping Act. The work of that committee resulted in the development of a relatively detailed set of procedures for analyzing and mitigating landslide hazards in California (edited by T. Blake, R. Hollingsworth, and J. Stewart), which was recently published and is available on the Southern California Earthquake Center's (SCEC) web site (http://www.scec.org/resources). Workshop attendees are urged to download a free copy of this document and to read prior to attending, so that they can prepare questions in advance.

**Workshop Details:** This two-day workshop, presented by the members of the committee, is intended to summarize and explain the recommended procedures, and provide time for interaction with the authors. The workshop is intended for both managing and practicing engineers and geologists. Speakers will include T. Blake, R. Hollingsworth, R. Jibson, R. Masuda, D. Pradel, C. Real, N. Sathialingam, and J. Stewart. Participants will receive a notebook containing printed copies of the speakers' presentations and a CD-ROM of the presentations as PowerPoint files. The CD will also include an Excel spreadsheet that can be used to calculate earthquake-induced displacements by a committee-recommended simplified procedure and a Windows computer program developed by R. Jibson (USGS) to perform rigid-block Newmark-type seismically induced displacement integration analyses. Workshop materials also will include worked examples of seismically induced slope deformation calculations.

**Continuing Education units** will be available to attendees through the Association of Engineering Geologists.

**Schedule:** On Thursday, June 20, registration and distribution of materials will begin at 7:30 A.M. The workshop will begin at 8:30 A.M. and conclude at 5:00 P.M. both days. Also on both days, a continental breakfast will be available starting at 7:30 A.M. and lunch will be provided at approximately 12 noon.

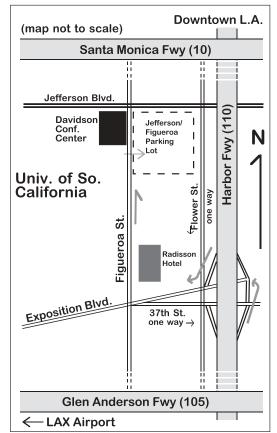
**Location:** The workshop will held at the Davidson Conference Center, 3415 S. Figueroa St., Los Angeles, on the University of Southern California campus.

**Directions:** From the harbor Freeway (110), exit at Exposition Blvd. and head west towards USC. Turn right onto Figueroa Street and proceed north to the Jefferson/Figueroa parking lot on the right, just past the Radisson Hotel. Tell the parking attendant that you are attending a meeting at the Davidson Conference Center (DCC) sponsored by SCEC. DCC is on the west side of Figueroa St. at the intersection with Jefferson Blvd.









**Recommended Hotel:** Radisson Hotel, 3540 S. Figueroa St. (see map) Reserve your room at these rates by *June 4th* by calling 213-748-4141. Request the "SCEC Landslide Workshop" rate: single: \$120 double: \$130

Registration Fee: \$225 due by *June 12th*.

(Includes breakfast, lunch and snacks both days, printed materials, and CD-ROMs)

#### To register, complete this form and fax or mail to:

Southern California Earthquake Center University of Southern California 3651 Trousdale Parkway, Suite 169 Los Angeles, CA 90089-0742

**FAX:** 213-740-0011

**Questions?** 213-740-5843

## SCEC Workshop on Landslide Analysis and Mitigation Procedures June 20-21, 2002 at the Davidson Conference Center, USC

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Southern California Section

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