MONTHLY DINNER MEETING

Date: Tuesday, April 8, 2003
Location: Steven’s Steak House, 5332 Stevens Place, Commerce, CA
Time: 5:30 p.m., Social Hour; 7:00 p.m., Dinner; 8:00 p.m., Presentation
Reservations: Call (949) 253-5924 ext. 564, or email Brian Villalobos, by 12:00 p.m., Friday, April 4, 2003
Cost: $25 per person with reservations, $30 at the door.

SPEAKERS: Allen M. Yourman, Jr. and Christopher M. Diaz

TITLE: Pier T and Pier 400 Container Terminal Buildings Ground Improvement

ABSTRACT: This presentation focuses on ground improvement to mitigate the liquefaction hazard for 30 structures at the two largest container terminals in San Pedro Bay. At each project site, stone column and deep dynamic compaction ground improvement, along with piles were successfully used to mitigate the liquefaction hazard. A brief history is provided regarding recent regulatory requirements for liquefaction mitigation for buildings. Definitions and discussions of stone column and deep dynamic compaction techniques are provided. Advantages and disadvantages of these and other ground improvement techniques are addressed. A comparison of costs and schedules between ground improvement and driven piles are presented. Post-improvement data based on CPT soundings and SPT borings are interpreted.

BIOS: Mr. Allen Yourman, P.E., G.E., project manager for the Pier T project, will be one of the presenters. Mr. Yourman has a BS and MS in Civil Engineering from UCLA. Mr. Yourman has 25 years of geotechnical engineering experience in Southern California. He has designed, permitted and constructed projects using a wide variety of ground improvement techniques including stone columns, vibro concrete columns, vibro compaction, jet grouting, compaction grouting, deep soil mixing, and deep dynamic compaction.

Mr. Diaz, P.E. will also be one of the presenters and was the geotechnical project manager for the Pier 400 project (cont.)
Mr. Diaz received his BS and ME in Civil Engineering from Texas A & M. Mr. Diaz has 9 years of geotechnical experience in Southern California and over 20 years experience in the Civil/Construction industries. Similar to Mr. Yourman, he has designed, permitted, and/or constructed projects using a wide variety of ground improvement techniques including stone columns, vibro concrete columns, jet grouting, compaction grouting, deep soil mixing, and deep dynamic compaction.

CHAIR’S COLUMN

By Tania Gonzalez

Our March meeting was a joint meeting with the Geotechnical Group of the Los Angeles Chapter of ASCE. Dr. Jeff Keaton gave a very high-tech presentation on modeling of the anticipated ground motion for the Hoover Dam bypass bridge that is expected to be completed in 2007. The computer graphics showing how the bridge would move if subjected to the modeled earthquake were truly impressive.

This month, our speakers, Allan Yourman and Chris Diaz of Diaz Yourman & Associates, will discuss the liquefaction improvements that they have completed for the Pier 400 in San Pedro. This classical geotechnical presentation should be of interest to engineering geologists and geotechnical engineers alike, so bring along the engineers in your office. Besides, with gas prices the way they are these days, it pays to carpool to these events.

In May, Dr. Chester (Skip) Watts will be presenting several rockslide case histories to illustrate misconceptions regarding mass-wasting that can lead to expensive or tragic results. Dr. Watts is the 2003 Richard H. Jahns Distinguished Lecturer, named jointly by AEG and the Engineering Geology Division of the GSA. The topic is “Rock Slides in Yosemite National Park.” Our May meeting is also a fund-raising event to benefit the California Council for Geological Organizations. This group of dedicated individuals work very hard to bring geological issues to the attention of lawmakers in both Washington and Sacramento, lobbying to protect the interests of the geological community in building codes and other legislation that affect the health and welfare of the public. You can obtain more information about the CCGO and the May meeting from their web site www.ccgo.org Please note that this meeting will be held on Monday, May 12th, rather than our usual Tuesday meeting.

2003 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

You probably received your 2003 dues statement from AEG National by now. If you have not received it, or are unsure about your membership status, please contact AEG Headquarters aegweb.org, or Tania Gonzalez. We are currently looking for a new Membership Chair. Please contact Tania Gonzalez you wish to volunteer.

YEAR 2002-3 CONTRIBUTORS

Earth Consultants International
Robertson Geotechnical, Inc.
Contributions from corporations and individual members for 2003 will be 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, Tania Gonzalez.

As mentioned in the last two months newsletter, The Board for Geologists & Geophysicists (BGG) has issued a request for Comments for a proposed regulation change that would redefine "professional geologic work". Based upon a "show of hands" at the last section meeting, it appeared that BGG had not sent this request out to any of the registered attendees and we have asked BGG why this happened. Our section legislative committee has received very few comments from our members thus far. We are still evaluating the reasons, and need for, BGG's proposal to redefine the practice of geology. We hope to have more information on this later this month. We encourage all of you to visit the following links:

Request for Comments:
http://www.dca.ca.gov/geology/hot_topics/topics/comments3003.pdf
Current Geologist and Geophysicist Act with Rules and regulations:
http://www.dca.ca.gov/geology/about/act.pdf

On another issue, it is our understanding that BGG may desire to change the experience requirements for licensure. This is apparently being treated as a separate issue. We will keep you apprised as we find out more about this.

A Day in the Filed with Tom Dibblee

The Dibblee Foundation is leading a field trip to the Glendora/Baldy Village area, set for May 24, 2003. The Dibblee Geological Foundation and the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History invite you to participate in A Day In The Field with living-legend Tom Dibblee, along with Cal Poly Professor Jon Nourse, Northridge Professor Peter Weigand, and Dibblee Map Editor John Minch. Tom and John's San Gabriel map collection will be available and will be featured. Fee: $150 (includes coffee and doughnuts, BBQ lunch catered by Halliburton, ski lift, and guidebook plus map). Registration deadline is May 10, 2003. For information, e-mail John Powell at dibbleemap@adelphia.net, call (805) 987-5846, write to PO Box 2309, Camarillo, CA 93011, or visit dibblee.geol.ucsb.edu.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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Maximum Density
Sand Equivalent
Specific Gravity (soil and rock),
Swell or collapse (remolded air-dry, HUD)

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