Greetings, AEG Southern California Section Member!

Visit the Southern California Section Website: www.aegsc.org

Upcoming AEG Meeting Date: ***Thursday, February 16, 2012***

Meeting Location: Victorio’s Ristorante, 10901 Victory Blvd (about 2 blocks east of Vineland Ave), North Hollywood, CA 91606, (818) 762-9951

Meeting Time: 6pm Social Hour, 7pm Dinner, 8:00pm Presentation

Cost: $30 per person with reservations, $35 without reservations, $15 with a valid Student ID.

*Reservations: Please email Dave Perry at david.perry@amec.com or call (323) 889-5326

Speaker: Fred Burnett, CEG, City of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works

Topic: EPB Tunnel Drive of Avenue 45 and Arroyo Drive Relief Sewer, City of Los Angeles
Chair’s Column

By David Perry

We are off to bit of a sluggish start this year due to some officer vacancies. However, we are attempting to line up speakers in advance for the coming year. This month we have elected new officers for 2012. I would like to thank Peter Thams, our Section Chair during the past three years (and two prior years as Treasurer) for his dedication and leadership he has provided to our section. Shant Minas has been elected Treasurer after serving the past two years as Newsletter Editor. Christy Confar has been editing the Newsletter since November and will continue on this year. Open positions exist for Vice Chair and Secretary. Please contact me if you have interest in serving in one of these positions and we can discuss.

This month we will return to Victorio’s Ristorante in North Hollywood for our first meeting of the year. Next month we will be holding a joint meeting with ASCE Los Angeles Geotechnical Group on March 21st at Stevens Steak House in Commerce. The speaker will be Joe Wartman from the University of Washington. More information on the meeting will be presented in the March Newsletter.

To better accommodate the time spent and distance travelling to meetings, we will continue to look at rotating meeting locations between Commerce, North Hollywood, and the Westlake Village area. If these locations under serve many members or are too distant to attend, please let me know and we may consider additional locations. I look forward to seeing a good turnout next week at Victorio’s.

State Mining and Geology Board: Continued discussion from our December 2011 newsletter. Please see the January 12, 2012 letter from the SMGB to Governor Brown attached at the end of this newsletter describing SMGB’s request to continue to exist.

February Speaker

Fred Burnett is a Geologist for City of LA with over 25 years experience in geotechnical work including the utilization of trenchless technology. He has experience in exploration during design and has written contract documents related to the subsurface conditions. During construction he reviews submittals and assists the contractor in dealing with ground conditions.
**Speaker Abstract**

**EPB Tunnel Drive of Avenue 45 and Arroyo Drive Relief Sewer, City of Los Angeles**

The Avenue 45 and Arroyo Drive Relief Sewer included the construction of approximately 6,400 lineal feet of 115.5-inch diameter tunnel using an Earth Pressure Balance (EPB) Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM). The groundcover over the tunnel ranges from 15 to 55 feet and consists of alluvium that was deposited along the Arroyo Seco, a broad drainage channel which drains from the San Gabriel Mountains, and marine origin bedrock consisting of sandstone, siltstone and claystone. Groundwater over the tunnel ranges from 0 to 40 feet of head. The Geotechnical Baseline Report (GBR) addressed the ground conditions along the project that included size, strength and frequency of boulders within the alluvium. The GBR also addressed characteristics of strengths and compressibility of non-weathered and weathered Puente Formation. This paper details the challenges and conditions found along the alignment during construction and evaluates the parameters presented in the GBR.

**BPELSG Announcements**

Visit [http://www.geology.ca.gov/](http://www.geology.ca.gov/) for news, meeting announcements, notices, and exam information. The following recent notices have been posted:

**ADDED FEBRUARY 3, 2012 - 2012 LAWS NOW AVAILABLE** - The 2012 Geologist and Geophysicist Act, the Professional Engineers Act, the Professional Land Surveyors' Act, and the Regulations Relating to the Practices of Geology and Geophysics and the Practices of Professional Engineering and Land Surveying are now available on the Board's website. Click the following link [http://www.geology.ca.gov/laws/index.shtml](http://www.geology.ca.gov/laws/index.shtml) for the links to the laws.


**ADDED JANUARY 20, 2012 - ONLINE ADDRESS CHANGE SUBMITTAL** - Applicants and licensees may now submit their address change notifications to the Board via our new online system. Click the following link [https://www.dca.ca.gov/webapps/pels/address_change.php](https://www.dca.ca.gov/webapps/pels/address_change.php) for the online submittal form. **NOTE:** It is the responsibility of the applicant or licensee to notify the Board of any change to their address of record within 30 days of the change. The Board is not responsible for the applicant's or licensee's failure to receive official mailings from the Board due to the applicant's or licensee's failure to timely notify the Board of a change of address.
POSTED JANUARY 12, 2012 - California Specific Examination for Professional Geologist will be administered as a computer based test (CBT) beginning March 14, 2012. All candidates will receive a letter from the CBT vendor with instructions on when and how to schedule their examination.


TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS WANTED - Click the link http://www.geology.ca.gov/licensees/tacwanted.shtml for information regarding becoming a Technical Advisory Committee member.

EXPERT CONSULTANTS WANTED - ENFORCEMENT - Click the link http://www.geology.ca.gov/licensees/tewanted.shtml for information regarding becoming an Expert Consultant for the Geologist and Geophysicist Program enforcement unit. Experts are needed to help review enforcement complaint investigations.

EXPERT CONSULTANTS NEEDED TO ASSIST WITH EXAMINATION DEVELOPMENT - The Board is recruiting Professional Geologists, Professional Geophysicists, Certified Engineering Geologists, and Certified Hydrogeologists to assist with the development of licensing examinations. Please click the link http://www.geology.ca.gov/licensees/smeswanted.shtml for additional information. The Board appreciates your interest in the professions and your willingness to assist in the licensure process.

AEG Foundation Student Scholarships

Students, Professionals, Professors! Please spread the word - the AEG Foundation (AEGF) Scholarship Application has been posted on the AEG Foundation website (www.aegfoundation.org). The new application is online-only - no need to send in separate paper applications or transcripts anymore! You can apply for the Beardsley-Kuper, Marliave, Mathewson, Stout, and Tilford Scholarships in one convenient location. Applicants generally need to write an essay, submit transcripts, and request two letters of recommendation. The deadline for all AEGF scholarships is **February 1**! Please contact Serin Duplantis (serin.duplantis@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

2012 Jahn’s Lecturer

Dr. Scott Burns has been named the 2011-2012 Richard H. Jahns Distinguished Lecturer in Engineering Geology. Scott is a Professor of Geology at Portland State University (PSU) where he specializes in environmental and engineering geology, soils, geomorphology, Quaternary
Geology and terroir. He just finished his 21st year of teaching there and his 41st year of teaching at the university level (previous positions in Switzerland, New Zealand, Washington, Colorado and Louisiana).

An author or co-author of two books, over 80 articles, and over 200 published abstracts, Scott has worked on research topics as diverse as landslide, debris flow, radon and earthquake hazard mapping, heavy metals and trace elements in soils, loess stratigraphy, slope stability, Missoula Floods, bio-geomorphology (pocket gophers, tree throw, and ants), alpine soil development, and terroir (relationship of geology, soils, climate and wine).

He was president of AEG (2002-2003) and vice president (North America) for IAEG (2006-2010). He has received the the Public Service Award from GSA in 2011 and the Meritorius Service Award (2006) from the Engineering Geology Division (EGD) of Geological Society of America. He has been the Chair of the Engineering Geology Division and the Treasurer of the Quaternary Geology and Geomorphology Division (for 12 years) of GSA. Scott has been an Associate Dean, chair of departments and president of faculty senates at three different universities, and president of one of the largest and oldest Rotary clubs in the world. Scott has won many awards for outstanding teaching with the most significant being the Faculty Senate Chair Award at Louisiana Tech University in 1987, the Distinguished Faculty Award from the PSU Alumni Association in 2001, and the George Hoffmann Award from PSU in 2007. He actively helps local TV and radio stations and newspapers bring important geological news to the public.

He has B.S. and M.S. degrees from Stanford University, plus a Ph.D. from the University of Colorado. Scott holds registrations in Oregon (RG and CEG) and a license in Washington (LG). Scott also is a consultant and an expert witness for law cases.

The Jahns lectureship, established in 1988, is sponsored by the Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists and the GSA Engineering Geology Division. Its purpose is to provide funding for distinguished engineering geologists to present lectures at colleges and universities in order to increase awareness of students about careers in engineering geology. The
February 2012

lectureship is named in honor of Dr. Richard H. Jahns (1915-1983), an engineering geologist who had a diverse and distinguished career in academia, consulting and government.

The main talk being offered by Dr. Burns is “Urban Landslides – Challenges to Forensic Engineering Geologists.” Other talks can also be arranged: “Cataclysms on the Columbia, the Great Missoula Floods;” “Engineering Geology Challenges on the Cascadia Margin, Pacific Northwest, USA” and “The Mystery of Terroir – the Relationship of Geology, Soils, and Climate to Wine.”

Scott’s lectures in Southern California are currently being arranged and planned for sometime in March 2012. Stay tuned for updates on his lecture schedule!
CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Current career opportunities in California are posted on our section website at http://aegsc.org/jobs/.

Additional career opportunities in California are also posted on AEG’s national website on the Careers page at http://careers.aegweb.org/jobs#/results/filter=%28state_province%3Acalifornia%29&resultsPerPage=100&showMoreOptions=true&selectedTab=bti-facets-discipline&view=single.
Chapter Meetings

Inland Empire:
For the latest information and updates, please visit http://www.aegsc.org/chapters/inlandempire/

Central Coast:
For the latest information and updates, please visit http://www.aegsc.org/chapters/centralcoast/

San Diego:
For the latest information and updates, please visit http://www.aegsc.org/chapters/extremesocal/

National Business Donation
- Platinum - $1,000
- Gold - $500
- Silver - $250

Company name, address and contact information are presented in AEG News and section receives 10% of donation. A national donation does not yield a line in our local section newsletter.

If you would like to post an ad in the newsletter, please contact Christy Confar at cconfar@groupdelsol.com. Advertisement rates are shown in the box below.

Company & Employment Advertising
Newsletter (includes website posting)

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<tr>
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AEG SoCal website posting only
$20/month or $200/year
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Web advertising with AEG will allow you to reach thousands of Environmental and Engineering Geologists, and reaching the right audience is essential to the success of your advertising efforts. Targeted web-advertising is a proven and cost-effective way to reach consumers. AEG’s website, with an average of over 3,000 page views per day, ensures that you will not only be reaching your target audience, but reaching them often. We are now offering a variety of advertising options on our new website to fit your budget and needs. Start growing your business today!

Call or email to find out more! 303-757-2926 aeg@aegweb.org
Visit us on the web: www.aegweb.org

### AD DIMENSIONS / FILE SPECIFICATIONS

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(Proportions are fixed; actual size is dependent on monitor resolution)

#### LOGO AD

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*All animated images must be in GIF format only.*
**ORDER FORM**

Company Name
Contact Name
Billing Address

City
State Country Zip/Postal Code
Phone Mobile
Fax Email

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*Animation is not supported for Logo Ads. **Ad will be looped with up to 4 additional ads, each displaying for 5 seconds.

**URL that ad should link to when clicked:**

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Ads begin when payment is received.
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Name on card

Signature

Send this application along with your check made payable to AEG or your credit card authorization to:
Association of Environmental & Engineering Geologists
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□ By signing above, I acknowledge that I have read and agree to the Publisher’s Conditions and Copy Regulations.

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**SEND ALL AD MATERIAL TO:**

Becky Roland, Chief Operating Officer
PO Box 460518 • Denver, CO 80246
phone (303) 757-2926 • fax (303) 757-2969
aeg@aegweb.org
* The deadline for submitting an advertisement for next month’s newsletter is February 29, 2012.

Christy L. Confar, P.G., R.E.A.
Principal Geologist
Del Sol Group
1710 N. Moorpark Road, Suite 226
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
mobile - 805.300.1025
fax – 805.532.2280
ccconfar@groupdelsol.com
January 12, 2012

Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
State Capitol Building
Sacramento CA 95814

Re: State Mining and Geology Board

Dear Governor Brown:

The State Mining and Geology Board (Board) should continue its work for the people of California. We recognize and support your efforts to streamline government and reduce expenditures. The elimination of the SMGB currently under consideration, however, will have the opposite effects. As the current members of this important Board, we urge you to take into account the following factors.

The Board currently implements the Seismic Hazards Mapping Act, Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone Mapping Act, and Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA), and has served a vital role for the past 125 years in setting State policy regarding mineral resource planning, mine reclamation and geologic hazards. It has been the Board that has set the policies and guidelines, and high standards, set forth and implemented by the California Geological Survey in its efforts to protect Californians from such hazards as earthquakes, landslides, debris flows and other natural hazards.

The Board’s role in SMARA implementation is of particular importance. The Board adopts clarifying regulations to streamline the implementation of SMARA Statutes, and serves as an appeals body that provides independent oversight of local lead agency (City and County) and Department of Conservation (DOC) decisions. The Board also serves as the SMARA Lead Agency for three counties, the Bay Conservation and Development Commission, and a dozen cities.

A key function of the Board is to provide the public forum in which issues involving mineral resource planning can be raised and addressed. The shortage of permitted aggregate reserves in California has been a focus of Board discussion. As an example of the Board’s efforts to conserve mineral resources, the SMGB Information Report on idle mines was
prepared and distributed to the legislature and other stakeholders. This report was extensively cited in the successful efforts to pass SB 108 this past legislative session. This bill allows many currently idle mines to remain in the State's inventory of mineral reserves.

The Board is comprised of nine members appointed by the Governor who represent various stakeholder groups and areas of expertise. The Board includes local government officials, expert geologists, environmental professionals, industry representatives and the general public. These members are volunteers who meet once per month and receive an honorarium of $100 for each meeting. The Board operates with a staff of two persons (Executive Officer and Administrative Assistant). It is funded entirely by fees assessed on mining facilities and receives no general fund contribution. The Board actually reduces State costs by resolving many issues in an administrative hearing rather that in court. Although the Board is involved in litigation, this involvement is largely the result of the Board upholding on appeal decisions made by the Director of the Department of Conservation.

In summary, the functions and service provided by the Board cannot be duplicated by the staff of an administrative department. The elimination of the Board would transfer ultimate decision-making from an expert panel to a single individual. The opportunity of the public to be heard and administrative due process for affected entities would be lost. Furthermore, the elimination of the Board would cost money rather than save money.

For the reasons outlined above, we urge you to support the continued existence of the State Mining and Geology Board.

Sincerely,

Erin Garner
Chair

Brian R. Baca
Vice Chair

Charles Wyatt
Member

John Lane
Member

Robert Tepel
Member