

Serving Professionals in Engineering, Environmental,
and Ground Water Geology

OREGON SECTION

NEWSLETTER

The Official Newsletter of the Oregon Section Association of Engineering Geologists

Apr. 1999

VOLUME 99, NUMBER 04

APRIL MEETING:

Speaker: ***David Rankin***
Managing Director
Golder Associates "Portland office"

Title: ***"Forensic evaluation of the Sunset Tunnel"***

Date: **Thursday, April 15, 1999**

Times: 6:00 PM Social hour
7:00 PM Dinner
8:00 PM Talk

Where: ***The Old Spaghetti Factory***
715 SW Bancroft
Portland, OR 97201

Located in the Johns Landing area along the Willamette River. On the east side of I-5 access off of Macadam north bound south of Ross Island Bridge meeting room is in the large banquet room on the ground floor behind the lobby.

Cost: **\$10**

Meal: Spaghetti with half meat sauce and half mizithra cheese, salad, bread, nonalcoholic beverage and spumoni ice cream.

Reservation: Call Murbach Geotech., (503) 538-8352. by noon Tuesday, ***A reservation made is a reservation paid.*** Please call to cancel if you cannot attend. Thank You!

Background on speaker:

David Rankin is the Managing Director of the Portland office of Golder Associates - an employee-owned, engineering & scientific consulting firm with over 1,700 professionals worldwide. Mr. Rankin has managed geotechnical and environmental projects in Portland over the last 20 years, was a Principal with a small firm in Portland, and in 1997 started Golder's Portland office.

Golder was asked by the Director of Oregon DOT's Geo-Hydro Section, Mike Long, to conduct a forensic evaluation of the Sunset Tunnel (Highway 26) east portal collapse.

Mr. Rankin briefly will comment on the condition of the soil/bedrock and timber sets that led to failure as well as Oregon DOT's policies and procedures regarding tunnel inspection. Questions during his presentation are encouraged.

Message from the Chair:

Last month we had a very interesting talk by Yumei "Mei Mei" Wang on the earthquake loss estimates for Oregon. We all got some insight into the potential losses. It was nice to have the local section hear this talk. Thanks again Mei Mei.

This month we will meet at the Old Spaghetti Factory again. This will be the next to the last meeting and I wish to say thanks for all the great talks in this year. As the chair of the section I have really appreciated the quality of the talks and the resulting turnout and value to the section. This has been a very fun and educational year. This month's talk will be very interesting and I hope you will be there.

Charlie Hammond and I will leave Friday April 16th. for Mississippi and the Mid-year Board of Directors meeting. There are a couple of items on the agenda. First the issues Eldon Gath raised at the annual meeting in October concerning the size of the BOD and possible restructuring. I got a call from Susan Steele-Weir to respond to Eldon's proposal and have written her back based on the input I got early this year from you "the Oregon Section members." Basically I repeated what everyone said that this seemed to be too radical a change in the AEG Board structure and solutions to the problems noted could be found more within the framework of the existing structure. Perhaps you don't remember the discussions, they date back to before the 1998 annual AEG meeting in Seattle and then were carried on at the beginning of this year. The proposal was to change the representation of AEG to a structure of "affiliated sections" and "House of Delegates" that would elect a smaller Board of Directors that would serve longer and streamline (make more efficient) the process of Bylaw change and other BOD problem solving. I related the problems Eldon mentioned and the basic proposed structure and took input from various members. I would be glad to discuss this further at the next meeting or individually with any of you. The basic Idea seems fairly simple to me now. I am certain that it is in Oregon Section AEG's best interest not to change the existing structure. I also believe it is in the best interest of the profession of engineering geology not to change the existing structure.

The Bylaws are proposed to be amended to eliminate the process of dismissing a member. This appears to be a concept that was needed in years past since there was no registration for engineering geologist as a means to deal with ethics and other technical deficiencies in the profession. Charlie and I are reading and thinking about the deletion of these Bylaws so we can take part in the BOD discussion and vote for or against the changes. I will discuss this with you at the next meeting.

I received a call from the Structural Engineers Board stating that they had "rejected" the proposal of Dr. Spigolon (Coos Bay, Geotechnical Engineer) to make changes to the Appendix Chapter 33 of the Building Code. This is the deleting of engineering geology that would make engineering geology reports optional and at the discretion of the soils engineer. AEG and the Board of Geologic Examiners as well as ASCE geotechnical section all officially disapproved of the changes. The proposal is now "dead and gone."

Next month will be the Kelso landslide talk at the St. John's Pub (McMenamins) don't miss it! It should be great. Ken Buss from GeoEngineers will come down from Seattle to give the presentation. The St. John's Pub is at 8203 N. Ivanhoe (N. Ivanhoe and N. Richmond) just north of the St. John's Bridge. See you there next month.

Dave Michael
Section Chair 1999

Short news items:

New Metro publication now available: "Landslides in the Portland, Oregon Metropolitan area resulting from the storm of February 1996: inventory map, database, and evaluation" by Scott Burns, Bill Burns, David James and Jason Hinkle of PSU.

a) To order the map and the report/database, the cost is \$20 and you can pick it up at the Data Resource Center at Metro, order it over the phone (797-1725), or order it off of the homepage on the internet: www.metro-region.org.

b) The electronic GIS database (very accurate) of all 705 landslides is almost ready. You can order it on CD for \$20 from Metro (797-1742) or can get an FTP file downloaded from the internet by calling Steve Erickson for further details (797-1595).

Update on the Oregon AEG book: Scott just talked with the publisher from Star Publications in Belmont, California, and he has said that our book, **Environmental, Groundwater and Engineering Geology: Applications from Oregon**, has now sold half of the supply. We originally printed 500 and there are still 250 left. You can purchase it for \$79.95 locally at the Nature of Oregon bookstore, 800 NE Oregon Street in Portland or at the Portland State Bookstore on the PSU campus in Portland on 6th Avenue across from the Cheerful Tortoise Pub. If you don't have a copy, you need to purchase one and have it in your library!

Membership Chair: Tim Blackwood is the new Membership chair. Tim works for Geo-Engineers and can be reached at (503) 603-6663 at work.

Pacific Northwest Mining and Metals Conference April 11-13, 1999 in Portland at the Oregon Convention Center (777 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd). AEG will participate in this conference. We will host two sessions in environmental geology and one in aggregate mine reclamation. Our two groups combined with the GSA group of Portland State to put on a fine meeting in the spring two years ago at the same place call Dave Michael 359-7884 or David James 252-3940 if you have interest and or questions.

AEG Homepage: check it out: [http:// www.aegweb.org](http://www.aegweb.org)

Now available at Portland State: Graduate Certificates in Engineering Geology, Environmental Geology, Hydrogeology, and Hydrology. These certificates are between a BS and an MS degree. They take only 18 hours of graduate work in the subject matter and have no thesis with them. Most of the courses are in the evenings. Call Scott Burns for more information: 725-3389.

The Board of Geologist examiners has relocated as of January 4, 1999, the new information is as follows: **707 13th. St. SE, Suite 275 Salem, OR, 97301** Phone **(503) 566-2837**, Fax **(503) 362-6393** Please contact Administrative Assistant to the Board **Susanna R. Knight** for assistance with Board issues.

"AEG CALENDAR"

April 12&13 1999 PNWMMC (AEG co-sponsor) Oregon Convention Center

April 15, 1999: AEG Section Mtg. David Rankin Sunset Tunnel Forensic evaluation

April 28-30, 1999: 34th Engineering Geology and Geotechnical Engineering Symposium, Utah State University, Logan, Utah

May 20, 1999: AEG Section Mtg. Ken Buss PE "Aldercrest - Banyon landslide of Kelso WA"

June 6-9, 1999: Rock Mechanics for Industry Symposium, Vail, Colorado

Sept. 18-19, 1999: Friends of the Pleistocene trip in the Columbia Gorge

Sept. 26 - 29, 1999: AEG National Meeting in Salt Lake City

1999 AEG - OFFICERS

Position	Name	Telephone		
		Daytime	Home	FAX
Chair Newsletter	Dave Michael "	359-7448	357-0238	357-4548
Chair-Elect	Charlie Hammond	452-1100	274-1437	452-1528
Secretary	Diane Murbach	538-8352	538-8352	538-8353
Treasurer	Monte Murbach	538-8352	538-8352	228-7781
Past Chair	Scott Burns	725-3389	692-9618	725-3025
Membership	Tim Blackwood	603-6663	236-7792	620-5940

MEMBERSHIP

For application forms for Membership in the National AEG, call Tim Blackwood the membership chair at (503) 606-6663 (w). He will also have copies at the monthly meetings. Membership is on a calendar year basis. If you are a national member, they will collect our local dues of \$10, which just covers our newsletter costs. If you would like to subscribe to the local newsletter (comes out 9 times a year) without being a national member, fill out the form below and mail to Monte Murbach. Note: the following form is only for people and organizations that wish to subscribe to the Oregon AEG Newsletter without being members of the national AEG.

APPLICATION FOR LOCAL MEMBERSHIP IN OREGON SECTION, AEG:

NAME _____

AFFILIATION: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

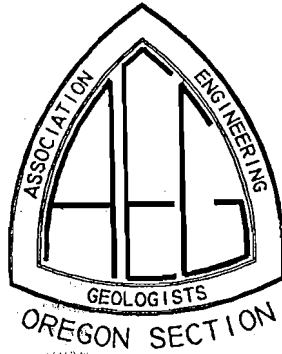
TELEPHONE: _____

Mail form and \$10 to Monte Murbach, David Newton & Associates, 1201 SW 12th. Ave. Suite 400, Portland, OR 97205.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OUR NEXT EXCITING MEETINGS

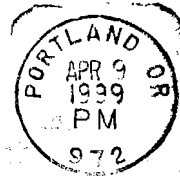
APRIL 15, 1999

AEG



Dear Michael, Editor
Oregon Chapter, AEG
c/o ODF NWOA
801 Gales Creek Rd.

Forest Grove, OR 97116



APR 10 1999



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