

The Official

OREGON SECTION AEG NEWSLETTER

<http://www.aegoregon.org>

March Meeting Details

Tuesday March 20th

Location: Old Market Pub

6959 SW Multnomah

Portland, OR

6:00 pm Social

7:00 pm Dinner

7:30 pm Presentation

Dinner: Pizza & Salad

\$20 Dinner (\$5 Students)

Reservations:

mwegner@cornforthconsultants.com
with "AEG Reservation" in
the subject line or 971-222-
2047 by 4pm Thur. March 15

There is a \$2 surcharge for
those who do not reserve by
the deadline.

Upcoming Meetings:

Apr 17th Jennifer Bauer
May 15th Student Poster Night



A Volcano Behaving Badly in Northern Patagonia, Chile-Documenting the Consequent Rapid Burial of a Downstream Town in May, 2008

Guest Speaker: Tom Pierson, Research Hydrologist, U.S. Geological Survey Cascades Volcano Observatory, Vancouver, WA

The week-long explosive phase of the 1 - 8 May, 2008 eruption of Chaitén volcano in southern Chile (42.8° S 72.7° W) blanketed large areas of steep forested terrain in a sector NE to SE of the vent with a sequence of tephra layers composed predominantly of fine to coarse, pumiceous ash. Total tephra accumulation in the upper Río Chaitén basin (~35 km² of the 77 km² watershed) ranged to at



least 75 cm. In addition, a lithic pyroclastic flow deposit, emplaced between 7 - 12 May, filled several kilometers of the steeply confined upper Río Chaitén valley with up to at least 6 m of loose lithic sand and gravel. By 15 May lower reach of the river had aggraded 7 m and the evacuated town of Chaitén, located 10 km downstream of the volcano near the river's mouth, had been buried in up to 2 m of mostly well-bedded sand and silt. This was accomplished surprisingly rapidly—within 48 hours of the onset of post-eruption rainfall. Rapid downstream sedimentation during and following explosive eruptions typically is dominated in early stages by discrete, short-duration lahars that commonly have debris-flow concentrations, and it was originally assumed that such lahars were responsible for the damage to the town. The actual sedimentation response in the Río Chaitén was more complicated.

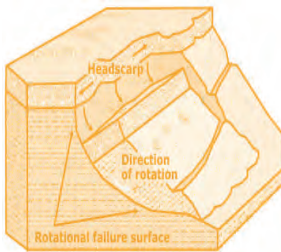


Bio: Dr. Tom Pierson

Tom completed his graduate studies in 1977 with a Ph.D. in geology from the University of Washington and carried out post-doctoral research in New Zealand. He has been a research scientist with the U.S. Geological Survey, Cascades Volcano Observatory in Vancouver, Washington since 1981, with four of those years as Associate Scientist in Charge. He is also Adjunct Professor at Portland State University and a Licensed Geologist in the State of Washington.

His research focuses on volcano hazards involving the mobilization and rapid movement of rock debris and water down the flanks of volcanoes—lahars, debris avalanches, and floods. Research

projects and disaster responses have taken him to restless volcanoes in the Cascades, Alaska, Japan, the Philippines, New Zealand, Ecuador, Colombia, Mexico, and Chile. He is especially interested in the relation between the characteristics of volcanic deposits and processes that emplace them.



Message from the Chair

I'd like to thank Bill Burns for an excellent presentation on the landslide program at DOGAMI along with Rowland French of Zonge International for hosting beverages at the February meeting.

At the end of the February meeting, I inquired about continuing education as a requirement to maintain licensure in Oregon. I understand that this could be a touchy subject with some, but feel the need to initiate dialogue on the matter to develop a suitable consensus among the Section membership. In general, continuing education is intended to encourage professionals to expand their knowledge base and stay current on recent developments. As continuing education is a requirement of most other licensed professionals, I think the practice of geology in Oregon could benefit through the adoption of similar criteria. I welcome objective commentary regarding this topic; feel free to contact me at kevin@geoconnw.com.

Information regarding the Oregon Section Student Award to attend the 2012 Annual Meeting is now posted on our web page (www.aegoregon.org). I encourage all interested students to look at this information and contact any Board member with questions. At this stage, it is important to note that abstracts to present at the 2012 Annual Meeting should be submitted to the Technical Committee quickly, as the review and approval process commonly take several months and applications (with approved abstract) for this award are due no later than June 22, 2012.

I look forward to seeing you at the March meeting.

Sincerely,

Kevin Schleh, R.G., C.E.G.
AEG Oregon Section Chair



*"Keen observation is at
least as necessary as
penetrating analysis"*

Karl Terzaghi



Portland State Student Chapter Update

In February, over twenty students from PSU's Geology Department had the opportunity to visit Major Drilling's site in Sherwood. Terry Jacques and his drilling crew graciously demonstrated three different rigs – the Auger/Mud Rotary, RotoSonic, and Direct Push (Geoprobe). Many students expressed how excellent of an opportunity it was to step outside of the classroom and textbook diagrams to experience the drilling in action! Terry and his crew expertly fielded all sorts of questions, ranging from bentonite use to water well screens. The PSU AEG Student Chapter sincerely appreciated the site visit and is grateful to have such supportive professionals from the Oregon AEG Section.

At the beginning of March we held our annual Career Night. Chapter Chair Kevin Schleh with Geocon, Serin Bussell with DOGAMI and Beth Copeland with AMEC served as our panel of professionals. It was an excellent opportunity for students to hear about a wide variety of experiences within the field. Kevin, Serin and Beth were full of great tips and encouragement, and answered our questions with candor and a good sense of humor. Thanks again to all of you!

As summer approaches, many students are eager to land a summer job or internship. Hiring a student intern is mutually beneficial. We gain much needed experience and you get an employee who is eager to learn. Additionally, students often have part-time availability to assist throughout the year on projects, overflow work, etc. What starts as a summer internship may lead to long-term employment. If we've been working for you, we'll already be familiar with the company's culture and will require less training than a new hire. PSU Geology students want to know what internships are available to them. What skills or experience are you looking for in a summer intern? How can we best contact you to inquire about these opportunities? We want to know how we can help you this summer. Please contact Ellie Brown, PSU Student Chapter President at brown3@pdx.edu if you have a summer internship opportunity available for a geology student.

Message from the Membership Chair

In the President's Message in the recent AEG publication, AEG President, Jennifer Bauer, recently challenged us to help increase the Association's membership by asking colleagues and co-workers to join us at a meeting or check out the increasing member benefits of AEG. Can we make the Oregon Section be the section with the greatest percent membership increase this year? Each of us individually can help us do this together: Ask someone you know who is not yet a member to one of our remaining meetings in the next couple months. Joining is simple, just go to www.aegweb.org/join.

Ruth

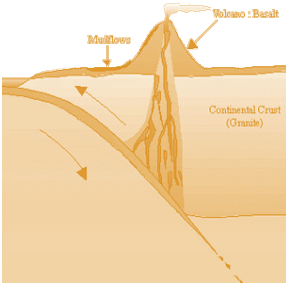
AEG Oregon Section Membership Chair

The Oregon Section Newsletter

OREGON SECTION AEG NEWSLETTER is published monthly from September through May. Subscriptions are for members of AEG affiliated with the Oregon Section or other Sections, and other interested people who have requested and paid a local subscription fee of \$10.00. E-mail subscriptions are free. News items are invited and should be sent to: Scott Braunsten, OR Section AEG Newsletter Editor, PBS Engineering + Environmental, 4412 SW Corbett Avenue, Portland, OR 97239, e-mail: scott.braunsten@pbsenv.com, phone (503) 417-7737. Electronic media is preferred. Deadline for submittal is the 20th of the month. Advertising: business card \$100/yr; ¼ page \$200/yr; ½ page \$350/yr. Please notify Scott if you have a change to your email or mailing address.

The Association of Engineering Geologists (AEG) contributes to its members' professional success and the public welfare by providing leadership, advocacy, and applied research in environmental and engineering geology. AEG's values are based on the belief that its members have a responsibility to assume stewardship over their fields of expertise. AEG is the acknowledged international leader in environmental and engineering geology, and is greatly respected for its stewardship of the profession.





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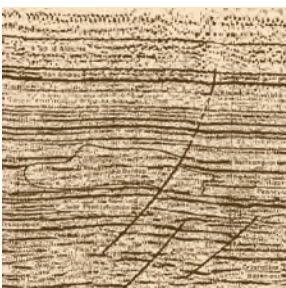


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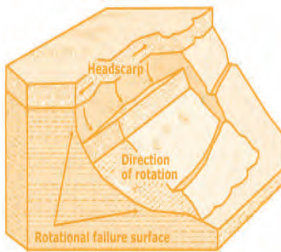
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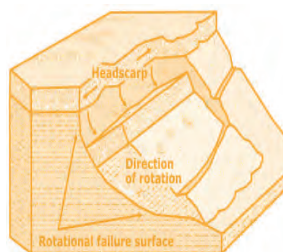
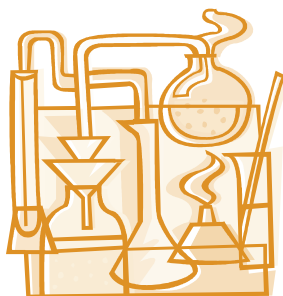
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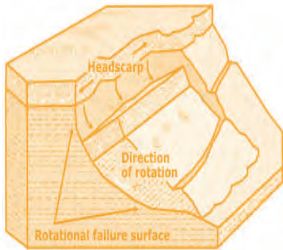
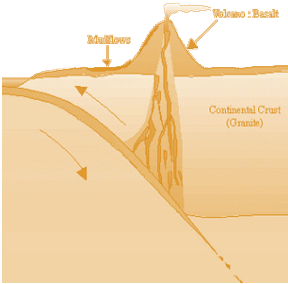
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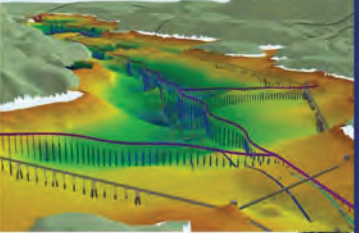
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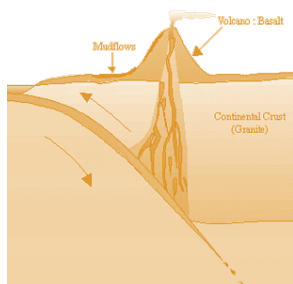
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Please submit photos with captions to the AEG Newsletter

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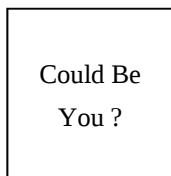
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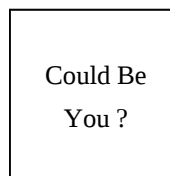
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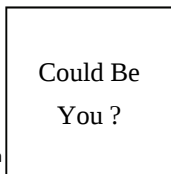
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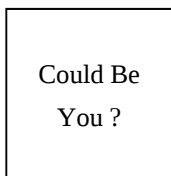
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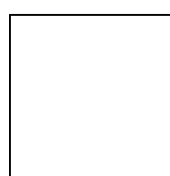
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