

AEG OREGON NEWSLETTER

JULY 2025

VOLUME 13, NUMBER 1



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Letter from the Chair

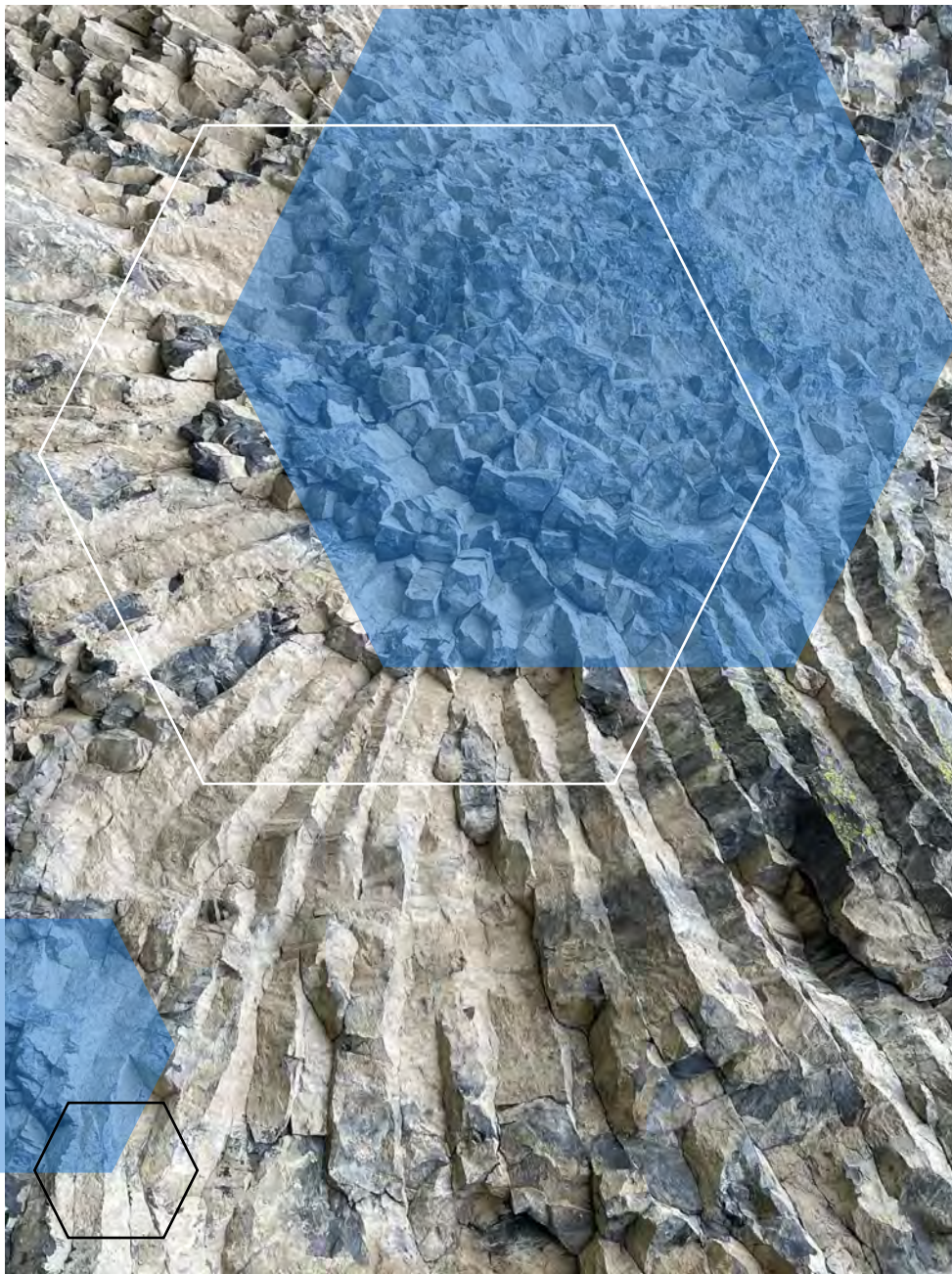
Farewell and thank you.

Ballot for Election of Officers

Leadership for 2025–2026.

AEG Oregon Bulletin

Local industry goings-on.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

AUGUST 21, 2025

August Social, 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Lucky Labrador Brew Pub

SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

TBD

OCTOBER 21, 2025

TBD

NOVEMBER 18, 2025

TBD

DECEMBER 16, 2025

TBD

JANUARY 20, 2026

ASCE/AEG Joint Meeting

FEBRUARY 17, 2026

TBD

MARCH 17, 2026

TBD

APRIL 21, 2026

TBD

MAY 19, 2026

Student Night



LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

FAREWELL FROM THE CHAIR

Greetings, AEG Oregon!

Welcome to the final newsletter of the 2024–2025 period and the final message from me, as chair. It is time to move into the penumbra, which is the past-chair position. It has been a pleasure sharing with you the news, changes, and progress of the chapter this year. It is time for transition and change, elements of which are in this newsletter.

I am grateful to my fellow board members and officers for their work and support to keep this chapter moving forward, with a special thanks to Ryan Cole for his tenure. You keep the information flowing, you run the background processes that keep the cogs turning, including organizing our monthly meetings and the joint AEG/ASCE meeting, you keep the connection between the section and National AEG active.

Despite it being the middle of summer, we are busy. Elections are coming up; read on for details. We have connected with so many people, some of whom have stepped up to fill roles on the board . . . thank you! We are preparing to restart the field trip program (details are on the way).

The national AEG annual meeting is being held in Chicago in September. Please note that registration prices increase on August 1. Here is the [link](#) to register.

We are set for our summer social. See you at the Lucky Labrador on SE Hawthorne Boulevard on August 21, 2025, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. We look forward to seeing everyone soon to catch up on summer goings-on and enjoy pizza and beverages.

Here's to a great year!

Nikos Tzetos

AEG Oregon Chapter Chair...for a bit more

BALLOT FOR ELECTION OF OFFICERS, 2025–2026

CHAIR



☐ NICHOLAS FARNY

Nicholas Farny, LEG, LG is an engineering geologist with over 13 years of experience in the fields of engineering geology and geotechnical engineering. He is currently employed as an Engineering Geologist with Western Federal Lands Highway Division out of Vancouver, Washington. Prior to that, he was employed in the private sector in the Front Range of Colorado. He holds both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Geology from Purdue University, and it was in college that he started attending AEG meetings in Indianapolis and Chicago. In his spare time, he enjoys fishkeeping, weightlifting, punk and heavy metal music, karaoke, and cooking for his wife, Amy.

☐ WRITE-IN CANDIDATE: _____

CHAIR ELECT



☐ JUSTIN MCCARLEY

Justin McCarley, C.E.G., is a geologist with over seven years of experience in engineering geology in the Pacific Northwest. He is currently employed as an engineering geologist at Cornforth Consultants in Portland, Oregon. Prior to that, he worked for DOGAMI, helping to use LiDAR to identify landslides in the Oregon Coast Range. He also holds an FAA remote pilot license. Justin holds a Masters degree in Geology from Portland State University. He is looking forward to continuing his involvement in AEG.

☐ WRITE-IN CANDIDATE: _____

TREASURER



☐ CATHLEEN MCMAHON, Ph.D.

Cathleen was the AEG Oregon chapter secretary for 2024–2025. As a board member, she has been working on reviving the AEG chapter field trips.

As a continuing board member, she hopes to oversee the development of a consistent field trip schedule, allowing members to get a fresh look at a variety of local geological engineering projects. She also has a goal to increase awareness of AEG lectures and the AEG student night to more schools and professionals in the area, potentially allowing for increased future professional chapter enrollment. As AEG treasurer for 2025–2026, she will strive to keep detailed financials and increase community sponsorship for the organization.

Cathleen has been working at GRI since 2021, where she is the lab manager. She is responsible for running the lab, including scheduling, training, and testing of geological materials. She is also involved in conducting specialized geotechnical analysis, including triaxial and cyclic shear testing. She graduated with a B.S. in Geology from the University of Minnesota and completed M.S. and Ph.D. degrees at the University of Notre Dame, specializing in petrology and geochemical analysis. In her free time, she likes to run marathons, knit, and travel to fun places that usually involve being outside.

☐ WRITE-IN CANDIDATE: _____

SECRETARY

☐ DARLENE VERDUZCO



Darlene has been involved with AEG since serving as the Outreach Coordinator of the Student Chapter of AEG at Portland State University in 2022. She served in that position for two years before moving on to her current role as Membership Chair of the AEG Oregon Chapter, which she has held for the past two years. In this role, she has worked on understanding the strengths of our chapter and deciphered areas in which growth can occur based on membership feedback. Darlene has worked alongside the board to expand the reach of AEG Student Night as well as work toward reviving the long-dormant AEG field trip (an ongoing effort). Outside of AEG, Darlene works at GRI as a staff geologist, where she works on projects related to geologic hazards and environmental geology. Darlene has experience working with professional societies including serving as the Chair of Eastern Washington University's Student Chapter of the Pacific Northwest Section of Air and Waste Management (PNWIS). She is a Geologist in Training in Oregon and will be eligible to test to become a Registered Geologist in 2026.

If elected as Secretary of the Oregon AEG board, her goals for her five-year tenure include providing networking opportunities outside of monthly meetings, strengthening relationships and engagement with educational institutions offering geologic programs in the area, and continuing to address how the board can better serve its members.

☐ RACHEL SWEETEN



Rachel has been active with Oregon AEG since 2020. She received BS and MS degrees in Geology from Portland State University and is continuing postgraduate studies in the form of a PhD with a focus in igneous petrology and economic geology at Portland State University. She has five years of geologic and geotechnical consulting experience, primarily in the Pacific Northwest. She is currently an engineering geology project manager at Certerra Northwest in Camas, Washington, and has worked there for the past two years.

☐ WRITE-IN CANDIDATE: _____

Submit ballots to nicholas.farny@dot.gov by August 21, 2025.



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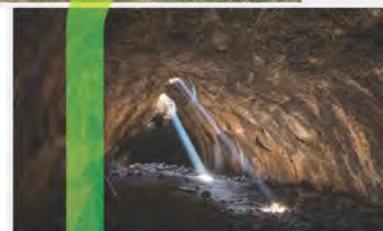
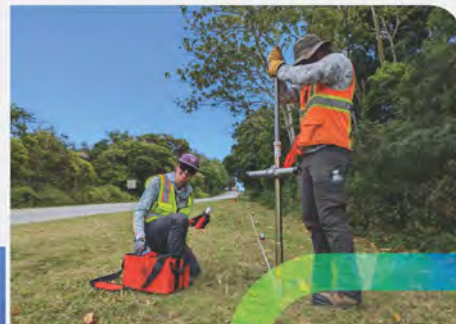
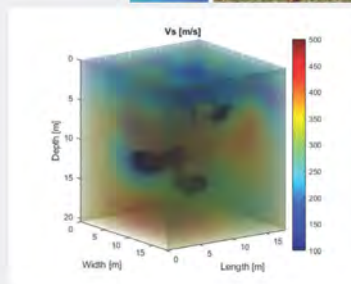
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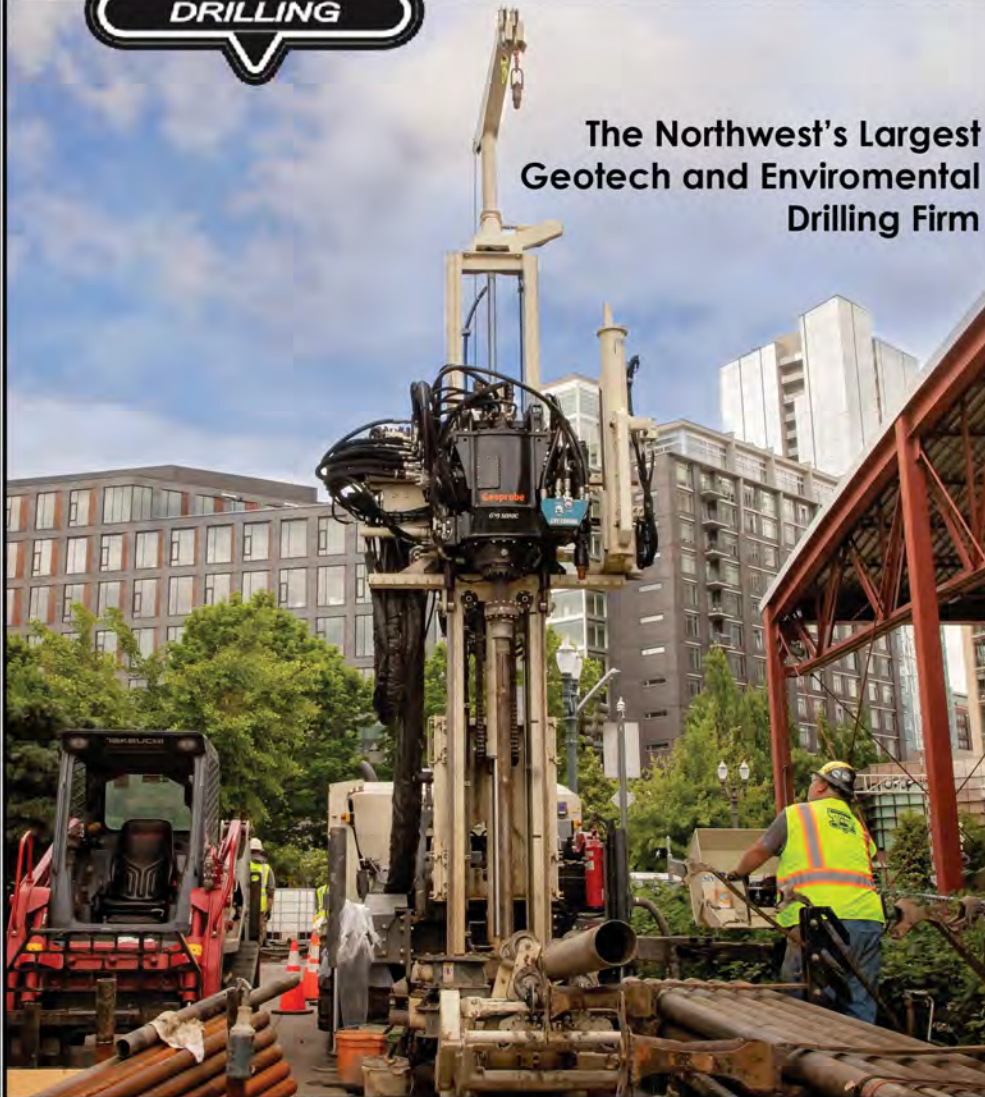
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A graphic of a clipboard with a silver clip at the top, holding a white sheet of paper. The text 'AEG OREGON BULLETIN' is printed in large, bold, black capital letters on the paper.

AEG OREGON BULLETIN

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jul. 28—International Conference on Geology and Climate Change

Aug. 20—International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering

Aug. 21—AEG Oregon August Social! Come share pizza and have a brew while chatting with other members at the Lucky Labroador Brew Pub.

TEST DATES

Applications for the October Oregon PE exam are due August 1.

STUDENT NIGHT

Student night will be May 21, 2026. This is an opportunity for students to present their projects and mingle with industry professionals. And there are prizes! It's never too early to start thinking about what you might present....

2024 – 2025 CHAPTER OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS



CHAIR:

Nikos Tzetos, Pacific Geophysics
nikos@pacificgeophysics.com



CHAIR-ELECT:

Nicholas Farny, FHWA Western
Federal Lands
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TREASURER:

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PSU STUDENT CHAPTER

PRESIDENT:

Marge Belcastro, PSU
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NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Sarah Norton, GRI
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WEBPAGE EDITOR:

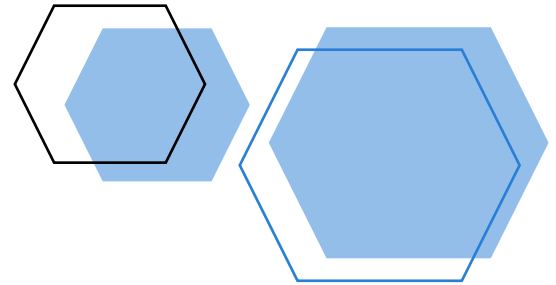
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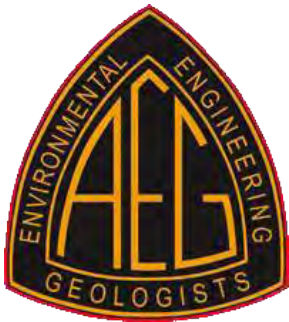


THE OREGON CHAPTER IS ALSO ON THE WEB

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THE AEG OREGON CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

The Association of Engineering Geologists (AEG) contributes to its members' professional success and the public's 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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