

AEG OREGON NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2025

VOLUME 14, NUMBER 3



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

November Meeting

Testing Methods for Project Success
and Client Savings

[RSVP here.](#)

Meet the Presenter

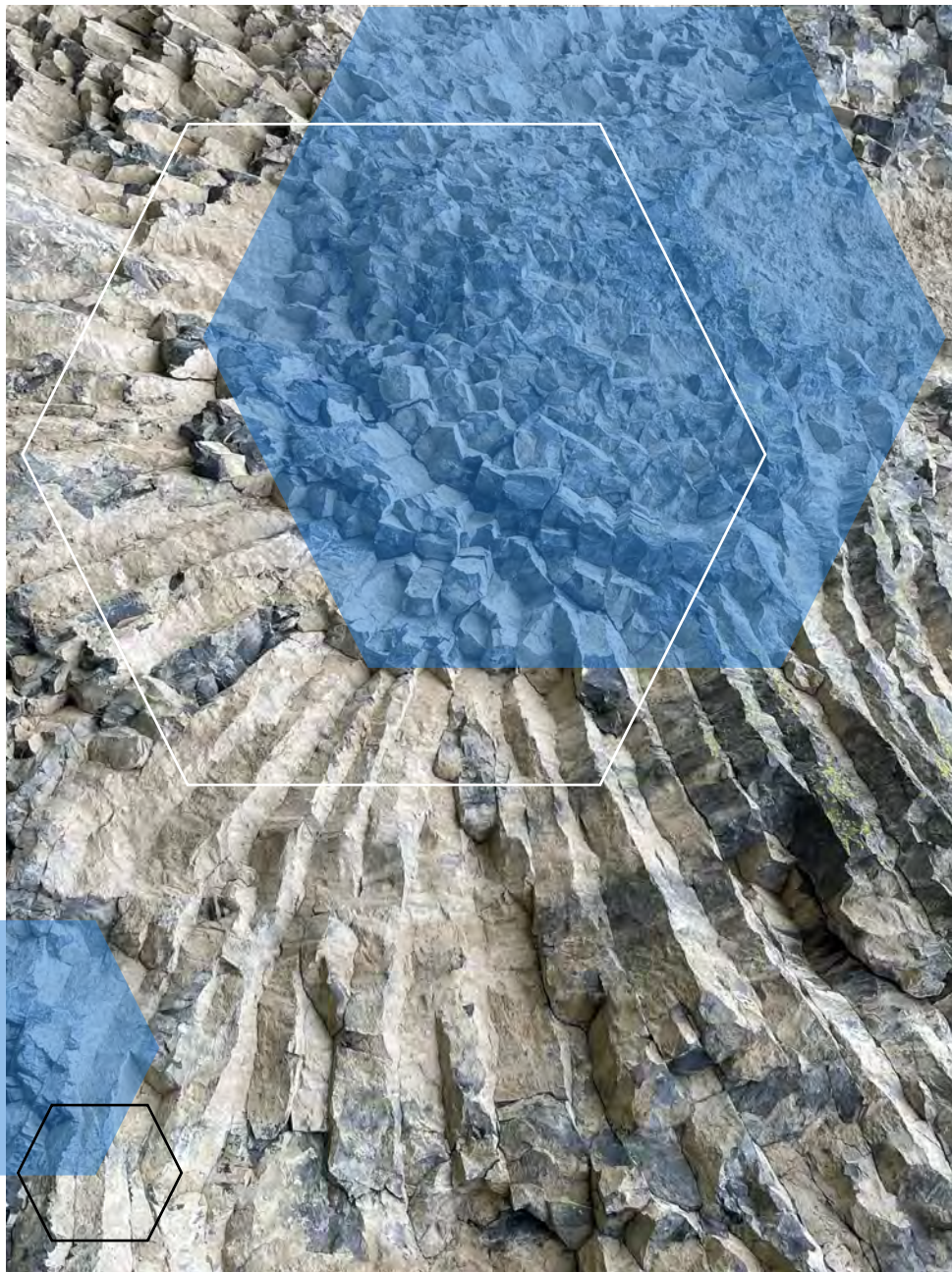
PLI Systems

Letter from the Chair

Giving Thanks.

AEG Oregon Bulletin

Local industry goings-on.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

NOVEMBER 17, 2025

PLI Systems
*Testing Methods for Project Success and
Client Savings*

DECEMBER 16, 2025

Darren Beckstrand, *TBD*

JANUARY 20, 2026

ASCE/AEG Joint Meeting
Polychrome Bridge Launch

FEBRUARY 17, 2026

Special Event!

MARCH 17, 2026

TBD

APRIL 21, 2026

TBD

MAY 19, 2026

Student Night

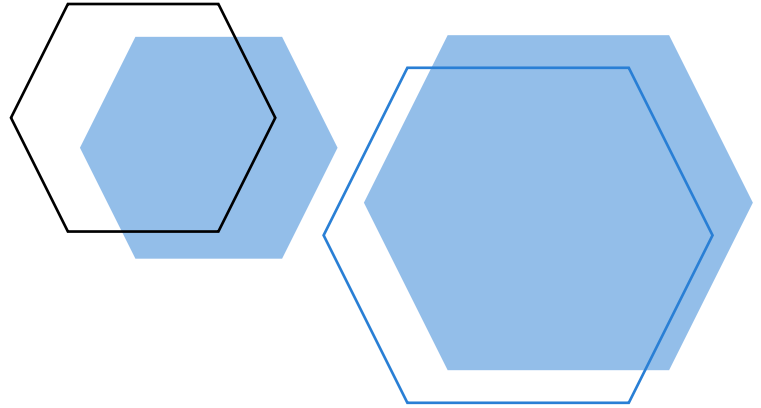


NOVEMBER MEETING

TESTING METHODS FOR PROJECT SUCCESS AND CLIENT SAVINGS

In construction and geotechnical projects, informed decision-making begins with understanding subsurface conditions. In our presentation, “Testing Methods for Project Success and Client Savings,” Manuel and Jorge Castaneda focus on how innovative testing approaches can eliminate costly uncertainties before construction begins. By implementing specialized field testing such as permeation grouting evaluations, infiltration testing, and material behavior assessments, our team collects data that drive safer, more efficient designs.

We will discuss several real-world examples where early testing helped optimize construction plans, reduce unexpected change orders, and



achieve long-term cost savings. The presentation will also highlight the culture, equipment, and testing techniques PLI Systems uses to gather reliable field data, expand our technical knowledge base, and deliver measurable value to clients. Investing in testing upfront pays off through fewer unknowns, improved project predictability, and sustainable, data-driven solutions.

MEETING DETAILS

Date:

Monday, November 17, 2025

Agenda:

5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., Social

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., Dinner

7:00 p.m., Presentation

Location:

Old Market Pub

6959 SW Multnomah Boulevard

RSVP:

Ticket prices vary. Use cash or check to pay at the door. If you want to pay with card, [RSVP here](#).





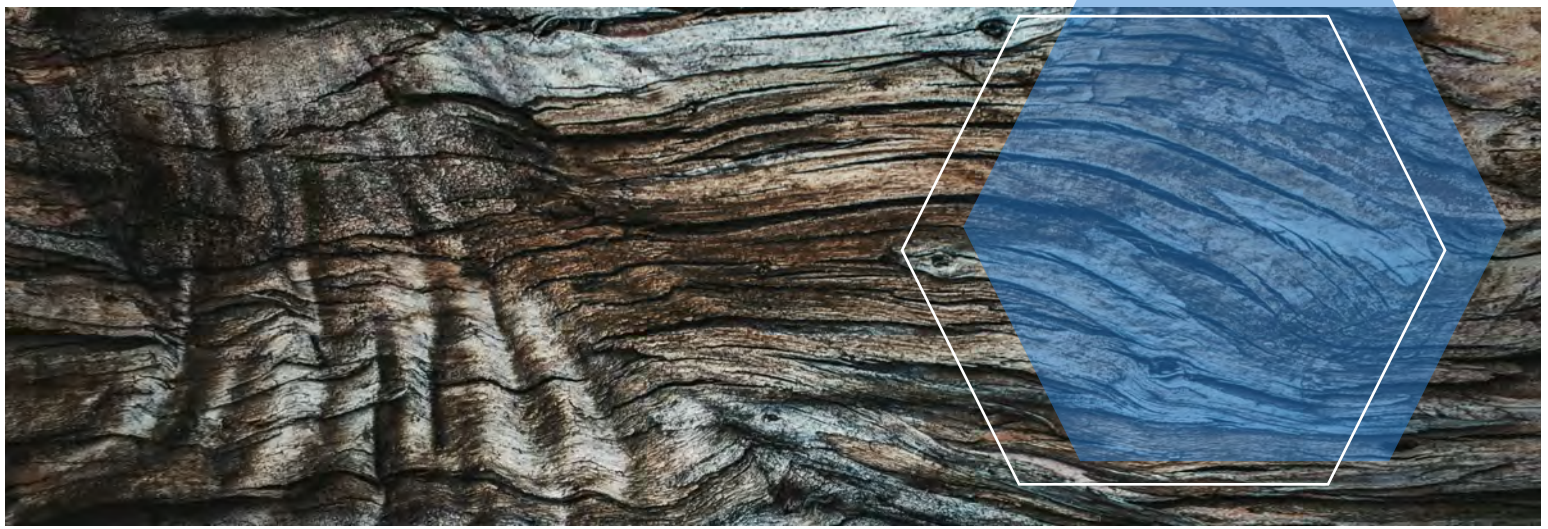
MEET THE PRESENTER

PLI SYSTEMS

Manuel and Jorge Castaneda are presenting as representatives of PLI Systems. PLI Systems specializes in innovative solutions for stabilizing foundations and improving soils, landslides, and hillsides. The company is known for assembling unique equipment and expertise from around the world, working closely with leading geologists and geotechnical and structural engineers on challenging projects both locally and across the five states in which they are licensed.

PLI Systems provides design-build services for residential, commercial, industrial, and government clients. The team's deep experience and proactive approach allow them to tackle the toughest terrain and deliver custom solutions backed by thousands of satisfied customers, making "the impossible" possible and setting new standards for quality and safety in the industry.





LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

GIVING THANKS

AEG Oregon,

If you couldn't tell from my last chair message, October is my favorite month of the year. So when November rolls around, I always feel a bit down. No more Halloween decorations, no horror movies, even the colorful fall leaves start to drop away.

However, Thanksgiving is always something to be excited about. It's a time to gather with family and express gratitude for what is good in our lives. Or if you are into Black Friday sales, then I suppose Thanksgiving is a time to recreate medieval battlefields in the aisles of Best Buy.

I know I have a lot to be thankful for. Times are difficult, tensions are high, but I still see so much good in the world. I am very thankful to be out here in the Northwest, practicing geology and being able to interact with this amazing community.

Coming up on November 17, 2025, Manuel and Jorge Castaneda of PLI Systems will be presenting on how they are using various subsurface testing methods to reduce uncertainty during construction. In our field, where managing risk and uncertainty is paramount, this is a very timely and pertinent subject. I hope to see you all there.

Nicholas Farny, LEG, LG

AEG Oregon Chapter Chair





AEC



Services Summary

- Sonic & Direct Push Drilling
 - Incl. limited access and angle!
- Well Install/Development/Decom
- Multi-Point Injection Trailer
- Treatment System Install + O&M
- General & HazMat Excavation
- Tank & Fuel System Decom/Install
- And More!



About AEC


- Proud SDVOSB
- Locations in Kelso (HQ), Tacoma, Portland
- All Operations staff w/ HAZWOPER
- Doing business for 25 years!



Contact

Connor Smith | Business Development
connors@aecllc.net | 509.881.7575





**PACIFIC
GEOPHYSICS**
Advanced Geophysics

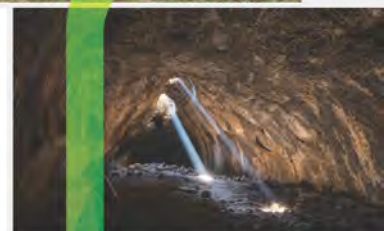
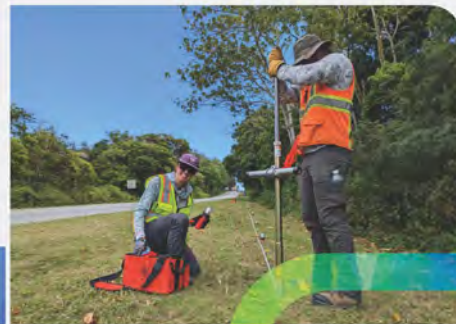
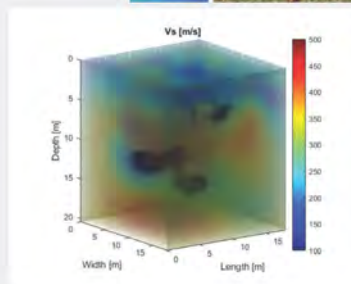
GEOPHYSICAL SURVEYING
for environmental
and geotechnical
applications

503.501.7846
nikos@pacificgeophysics.com
www.pacificgeophysics.com



Leading with Science® to improve people's lives

The Tetra Tech Geophysics/Geohazards group specializes in high-resolution subsurface characterization of voids, faults, and other geohazards. Our expertise in 3D seismic and gravity imaging supports projects in geotechnical and civil engineering, remediation design, and critical infrastructure design and rehabilitation.



Source: Coupling of SPT and 3D full waveform inversion for deep site characterization

900 SW 5th Avenue, Suite 1600, Portland, OR 97204

Lizzy.Clyne@tetrattech.com |



**NO TERRAIN TOO TOUGH
PLI Delivers Where Others Can't!**



**Steep Terrain
Limited Access
Over Water Drilling
Fully Electric Drilling
Crane and Rappelling Drilling**

Call: (503) 649-8111

Rock Supremacy



Slope Stabilization

We are a one-stop-shop for your next retaining wall project from a basic cantilevered concrete, battered micropile foundation or a heavy duty anchored soldier pile wall.



Rockfall Mitigation

We are highly skilled in stabilizing rock slopes using pinned Tocco® systems, cable/ring netting, and double twist wire mesh. We also perform rock scaling, rock bolting/doweling and many other rockfall mitigation measures.



Drilling

We have extensive experience in drilling multiple variations of rock bolts/rock dowels, cable anchors, micropiles, rock sockets, tie-backs or horizontal drains in all types of subsurface environments.



Tunnel Rehabilitation

We specialize in rehabilitating or providing new tunnel construction with steel set erection, road heading, tunnel notching, liner removal, and applying shotcrete.



Shotcrete

We use a proprietary formula to effectively seal canals, soil nail walls or rock/soil surfaces. Our mix design is extremely durable and can be colored to match existing native landscapes. We also perform sculpting & staining services.



Landslide Remediation

We have years of experience solving landslide problems with a wide range of solutions to reach the perfect solution.



541.383.ROCK (7625) | Info@RockSupremacy.com | RockSupremacy.com

85147 N Hwy 97, Bend, OR 97701



Environmental/Geotechnical/Clean Water Drilling

- Air Knife Vacuum Truck
- Cable Tool
- Direct Push
- Dual Rotary
- HSA, Mud Rotary and Core
- Limited Access
- Self-contained Decontamination System
- Sonic

High Resolution Site Characterization (HRSC)

utilizes MIP and OIP direct imaging tools to vertically log in-situ conditions that include volatile petroleum hydrocarbon and solvent contamination, permeability, electrical conductivity, and delineation of non-aqueous phase liquid (NAPL) hydrocarbon fuels and oils.



Holt has 4 office locations Licensed to Drill in 13 States

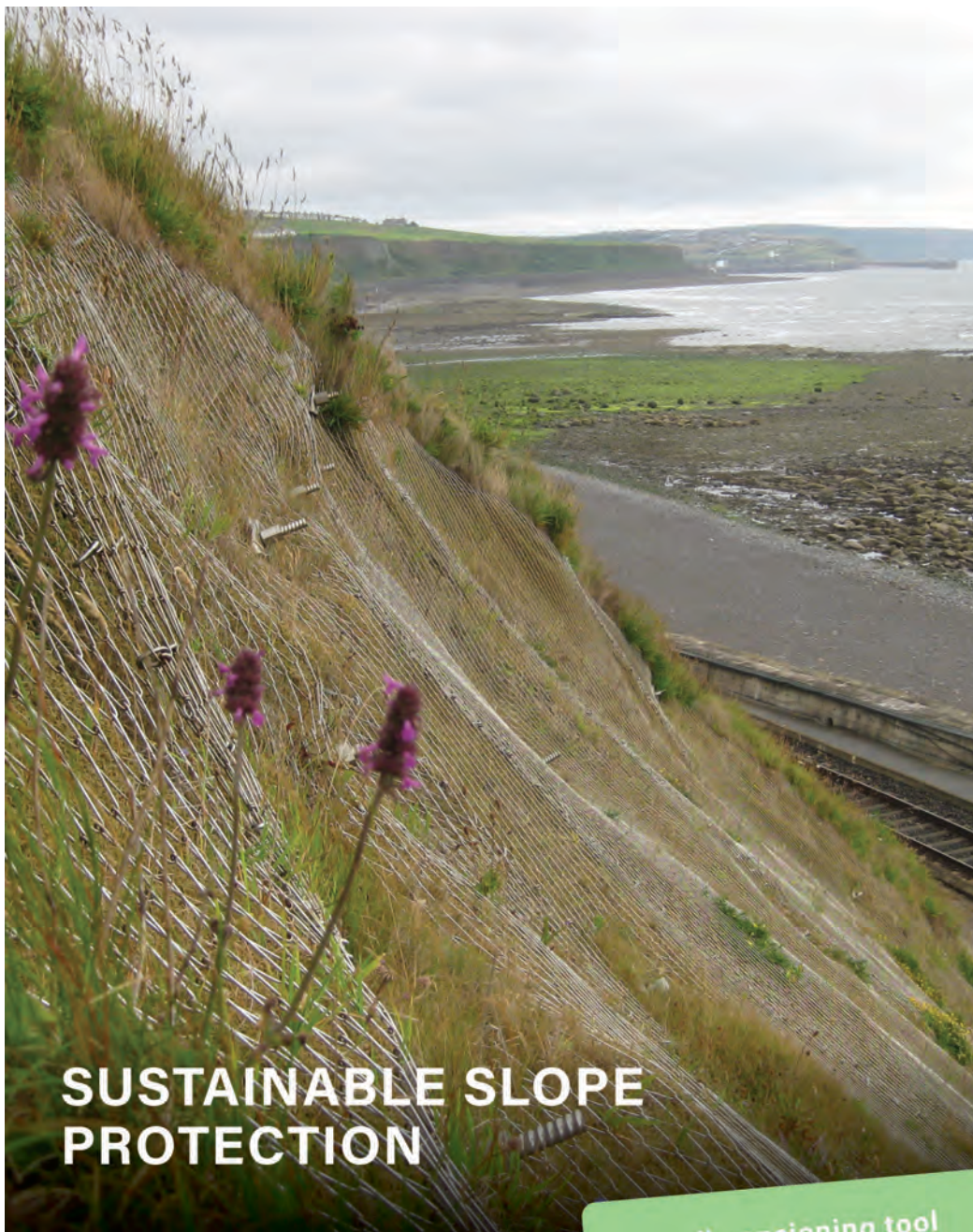
- Edgewood WA
- Vancouver WA
- Everett WA
- Boise ID



Contact Information
253.604.4878
support@holtservicesinc.com

Additional Services Include

- Injection Remediation
- Site Development
- Tank Pulls
- Excavation
- Utility Clearance
- Remediation System Installations
- **AND MORE!**



SUSTAINABLE SLOPE PROTECTION

**Anchored TECCO® System
made of high-tensile steel mesh**

Free dimensioning tool
www.mygeobrugg.com



Your local Geobrugg specialist:
www.geobrugg.com/contacts

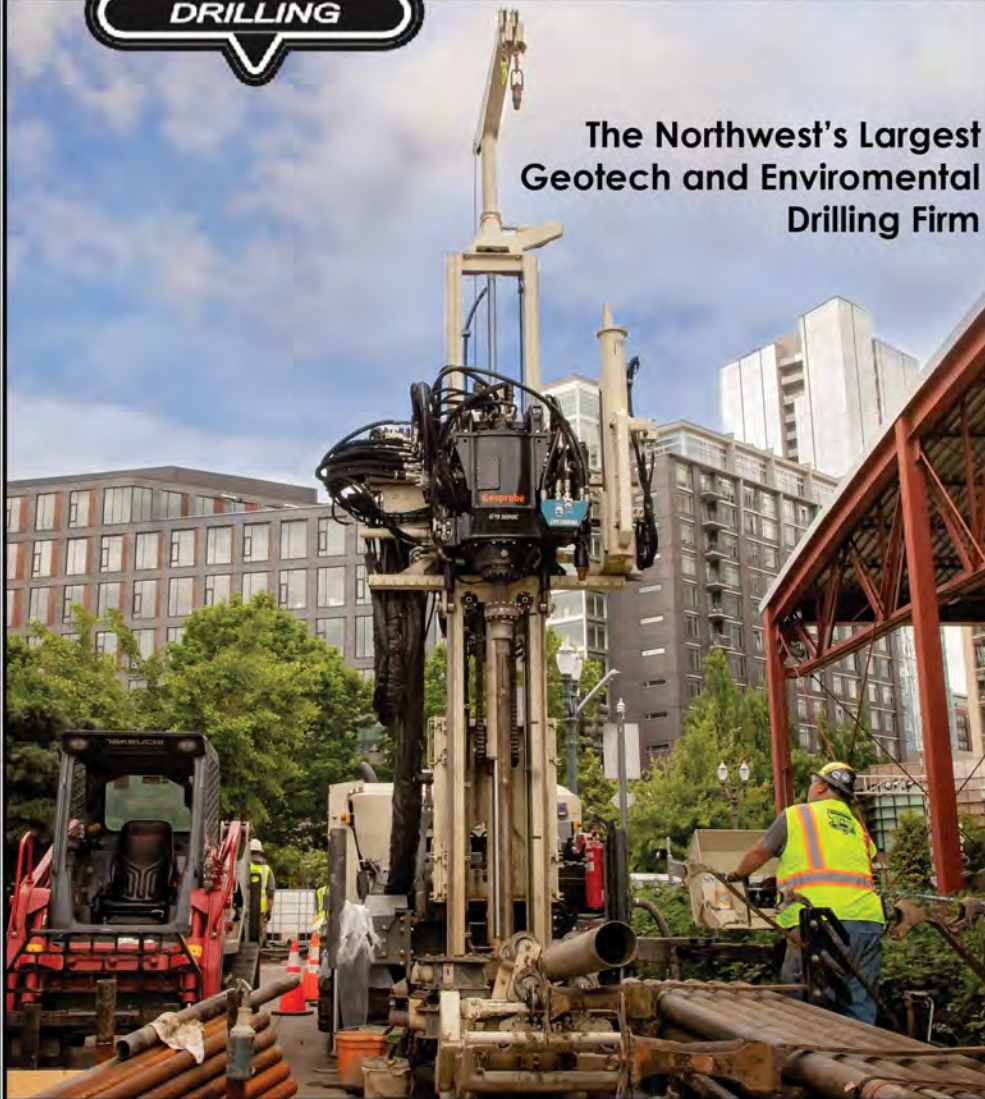
BRUGG
Geobrugg 
Safety is our nature



Call : 503-982-1777

www.westernstatesoil.com

**The Northwest's Largest
Geotech and Enviromental
Drilling Firm**



**The industry's most experienced drillers with over 200 years of
combined drilling experience.**

**Committed To Providing Quality
Geotechnical & Enviromental
Drilling Services to the Pacific Northwest**

DBE Certified in OR/WA



APEX.®

Making a
Sustainable Impact
on Our **Communities**
Now and Into the Future

apexcos.com



AEG OREGON BULLETIN

UPCOMING EVENTS

Keep an eye out for the Gem Faire at a city near you!

- **November 7–9:** Eugene, Oregon
- **November 14–16:** Puyallup, Washington
- **November 21–23:** Hillsboro, Oregon

November 14, 2025: Dr. Anita Grunder presents “Long-Lived Volcanism at Aucanquilcha Volcanic Cluster, Central Andes” at the Geological Society of the Oregon Country Friday Night Lecture, 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m., PSU Cramer Hall, Room 53.

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.

PSU CHAPTER UPDATES

PSU Chapter vice president and Master's student Michelle Carlson presented at the Cascadia Region Earthquake Science Center (CRESCENT)'s annual meeting in Seattle, Washington, on October 28 and 29, 2025. Her presentation was titled, “Assessing Faults on Cascade Volcanoes: A Case Study of the Blue Ridge Fault, Mount Hood, Oregon.”

Chapter member Cameron Stallcup presented his experience with the Juneau Icefield Research Program to the monthly Geological Society of the Oregon Country (GSOC) Geology Hour on October 20, 2025. The presentation was recorded; the recording will be edited and posted to GSOC's YouTube channel.

The PSU Chapter won the 2025 Outstanding Student Chapter award from AEG! Student Chapter President Blue Hansen accepted the award, as pictured below.



TEST DATES

December 10, 2025: 100-day application deadline for the March 20, 2026, ASBOG exams.

CALL FOR CONTENT!

We would love to hear from you! Tell us about your recent projects, career milestones, events, awards, and job postings or submit articles and visual elements. Send newsletter contributions to Sarah Norton at snorton@gri.com.

2025 – 2026 CHAPTER OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS



CHAIR:

Nicholas Farny, FHWA Western
Federal Lands
nicholas.farny@dot.gov



CHAIR-ELECT:

Justin McCarley, Conforth
Consultants
justin.mccarley@ccilt.com



TREASURER:

Cathleen McMahon, GRI
cmcmahon@gri.com



SECRETARY:

Darlene Verduzco, GRI
dverduzco@gri.com



PAST CHAIR:

Nikos Tzetos, Pacific Geophysics
nikos@pacificgeophysics.com



MEMBERSHIP CHAIR:

Rachel Sweeten, Certerra
Northwest
rachels@earth-engineers.com



PROGRAM CHAIR:

Nathan Villeneuve, GRI
nvilleneuve@gri.com



LEGISLATURE CHAIR:

Sebastian Dirringer, Conforth
Consultants
sebastian.dirringer@ccilt.com



FIELD TRIP CHAIR:

Brittini Bishop, PSU
brbishop@pdx.edu



PSU STUDENT CHAPTER PRESIDENT:

Blue Hansen, PSU
bluha@pdx.edu



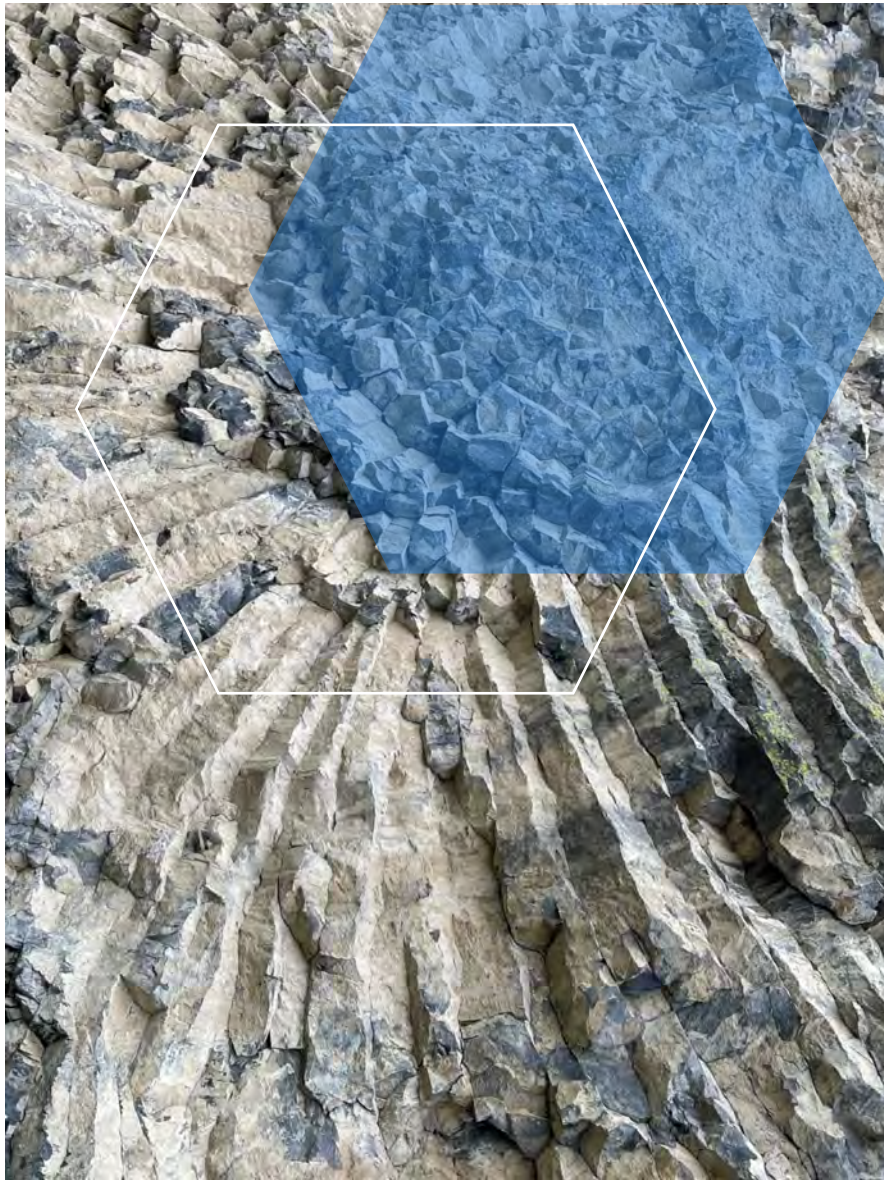
NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Sarah Norton, GRI
snorton@gri.com



WEBPAGE EDITOR:

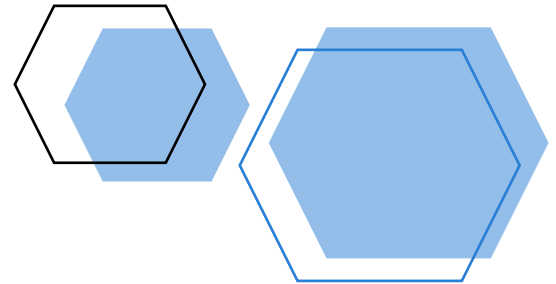
Paige Stuhlmuller
paigestuhlmuller26@gmail.com



THANKS FOR SUPPORTING AEG

A BIG THANKS TO OUR...

Members, Volunteers, Aspect Consulting, Cornforth Consultants, Inc., DOGAMI, Earth Dynamics LLC., Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Geobruigg, GRI, Hi-Tech Rockfall Construction, Holt Services, Inc., NACSE, ODOT, Oregon State University, Pacific Geophysics, PBS Engineering and Environmental, PLI Systems, Portland State University, and Western Oregon University.

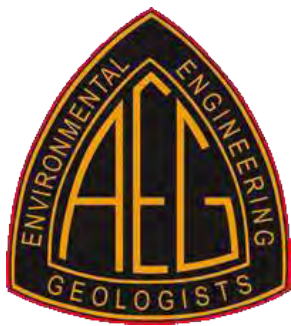


THE OREGON CHAPTER IS ALSO ON THE WEB

<http://www.aegoregon.org>

NATIONAL AEG WEBPAGE

<http://aegweb.org>



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.

The AEG OREGON CHAPTER NEWSLETTER is published monthly from September through May. Subscriptions are for members of AEG affiliated with the Oregon Chapter or other Chapters and other interested people who have requested and paid a local subscription fee of \$10.00. E-mail subscriptions are free. Subscribe to the newsletter by filling out our form [here](#). News items are invited and should be sent to: Sarah Norton, AEG Oregon Newsletter Editor, at snorton@gri.com. Deadline for submittal is the 20th of the month. Advertising: business card size \$100/yr; ¼ page \$200/yr; ½ page \$350/yr; 1 page \$450/yr.

PHOTO CREDITS:

The Eye, Gordon Cliffs. © 2022, Sarah Norton / Grotto Rock Inspection. © 2025, PLI Systems / Cristales cueva de Naica. © 2010, Alexander Van Driessche. Public license. <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0>. Cropped / Painted Hills in Oregon. © 2020, Troy Squillaci / Gray and White Wallpaper. © 2018, Johannes Plenio / White Rectangular Board on Brown Surface. © 2020, Cottonbro Studio