

## ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS

*"Serving Professionals in Engineering, Environmental, and Ground-Water Geology"*

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# THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN SECTION NEWSLETTER

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[www.aegrms.org](http://www.aegrms.org)

### MEETING DATE

**THURSDAY  
FEBRUARY 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006**

### TIME

5:45 p.m. Social Hour  
6:30 p.m. Dinner  
7:30 p.m. Presentation

### LOCATION

**Berthoud Hall, Colorado  
School of Mines  
1516 Illinois St.  
Golden, CO 80401  
See map below**

### COST

\$20 Members  
\$22 Non-members  
**Students, Free first time,  
then \$10**

### RESERVATIONS

c/o AEG Reservation Line  
(303) 264-1030  
[meetings@aegrms.org](mailto:meetings@aegrms.org)  
**BY NOON, TUESDAY  
FEBRUARY 7<sup>TH</sup>**

**Student Night will be in March this year, on  
Thursday the 16<sup>th</sup>!**  
(See below for more information)

### **How Transportation Agencies use Geophysics – A Nation-Wide Perspective**

Phil Sirles  
Zonge Geosciences, Inc., Lakewood, CO

The National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP), in conjunction with the Transportation Research Board (TRB), sponsored a *Synthesis of Highway Practice* entitled “Use of Geophysics for Transportation Projects”. Results obtained from a comprehensive electronic survey sent to municipal, state and Federal transportation agencies in the U.S. and Canada will be presented. The survey had a 90% response rate, with 50 State, 8 Canadian Provincial and 3 U.S. Federal transportation agencies completing the survey. The synthesis identifies what geophysics is being used, how it is being used, why it is being used, and by whom. The synthesis also defines transportation agency trends for contracting geophysics, conducting investigations with in-house capabilities, and most importantly – the approach taken toward budgeting geophysical programs within these agencies.

Additionally, a few examples of a new method to process and present seismic refraction data in 2D and 3D formats will be shown. The approach incorporates traditional tomography but implements numerical modeling procedures to produce superior models to visualize subsurface soils and rock properties.

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## Words From the Chair

Had things gone differently, rather than sitting here writing this, I would have been on my way to Rapid City along with Tim and Ed. Instead, I feel miserable: fever, cough, and aches. Yep, Mr. Flu caught up with me.

We had a very good meeting in January. This meeting coincided with the Executive Council meeting. Darrel Schmitz gave a thorough provoking, personal perspective on the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

I note that there is a common thread between the two items in that they represent two of AEG's three values:

"AEG's values are based on the belief that its members have a responsibility to assume stewardship over their fields of expertise. In support of serving an international network of environmental and engineering geologists devoted to excellence, AEG values:

1. Upholding sound principles of scientific inquiry with respect to the study and evaluation of geologic processes, their impact on humans, and the human impact on Earth
2. Encouraging and facilitating ongoing education and training as well as supporting members in their dedication to their work
3. Building public appreciation for how environmental and engineering geology contribute to public safety and the protection of property"

By meeting with the students we are fostering the professional growth of young members as they embark on their new careers. We also fulfill a need by helping the public and regulators recognize and understand the role that we play in their everyday lives.

As I move forward personally and professionally, I am shocked and amazed at how many professional peers I meet who do not participate in professional society activities. Now, I'm talking about more than just being a member. I'm talking about actively participating, going to meetings, serving on a committee, and so on. When asked, I often receive a response along the lines of "There would be no benefit to me for participating." and "I won't generate any new business by doing so."

So there we have it. We see a clear responsibility to serve the profession and to serve the public as spelled out in our values statements. And I think that AEG in general and RMS specifically, are doing a very good job in fulfilling these values. But it also seems to me that there are a large number of people who are not getting our message and that is our own peers. Prove me wrong by bringing your office mates to our next meeting.

## **NEW! RSVP For Meetings on the Web**

There is a new and *easy* way to RSVP for the monthly meetings. Just go to [www.aegrms.org](http://www.aegrms.org) and click on "RSVP by clicking here". A short form opens up; fill it out and hit submit. Hopefully some of you will try it and we'll see how it works.

Also check out the new calendar. It's a great way to keep all upcoming events, meetings, and dates organized.

Thanks Jill!

## **Student Night 2006**

Student Night will be **March 16, 2006**. The **abstract deadline is February 20, 2006**. As in years past there will be awards for presenters. We use the same format at the Annual Meeting, total time of 20 minutes (15 for talking with a few for questions). In years past we have limited the number of speakers to 4, if we get more than 4 abstracts, the students not speaking will be invited to create posters. We ask for help from the professors to encourage students to submit abstracts.

Please continue to check the website ([www.aegrms.org](http://www.aegrms.org)) for any further information. The sponsor form is also on the website. We always need more sponsors, so show your support for the students!

## **AEG Ski Day at Copper Mountain**

When: **Friday, Feb. 3, 2006**

We'll meet at 8:30 AM at the northeastern (T-Rex) parking lot at the I-70 and Morrison Rd. Park-n-Ride, and carpool to Copper Mountain.

RSVP at <http://aegweb.org> so we'll know to look for you on Friday morning! Hope to see a great turnout. It's been a wonderful snow season in the mountains!



**Soil Nailing Specialty Seminar**  
**Embassy Suites Hotel**  
**Denver, CO ~ February 17, 2006**  
**\*View Details at [WWW.DFI.ORG](http://WWW.DFI.ORG) \***

The DFI Tiebacks & Soil Nailing Committee is presenting this one-day event following the success of last year's inaugural seminar on the subject of soil nails. The program will present issues regarding the design, construction, and quality control concerns associated with soil nail earth retention structures. The program includes the following presentations which will be moderated by Thomas J. Tuozzolo P.E. of Moretrench American Corporation and Howard Perko PhD P.E. of CTL|Thompson Inc.:

### **Application of Limit Equilibrium Procedures for Soil Nail Design**

*Dr. Stephen G. Wright P.E., University of Texas*

### **Excavation Support for Urban Redevelopment: 428 Westlake Project**

*Richard D. Luark, P.E., L.E.G. Golder Associates Inc.*

### **Thoughts on Design**

*Thomas D. Richards, Jr., P.E., Nicholson Construction Company*

### **A Permanent Soil Nail Wall at University of Colorado, Colorado Springs**

*John Hart, Coggins & Sons, Inc.*

### **Soil Nail Wall in Colorado Springs, CO**

*Robert W. Thompson, P.E., CTL|Thompson, Inc.*

### **Bellevue Technology Tower: Permanent Top-Down Soil Nail Design and Construction**

*Thomas Armour, P.E., DBM Contractors, Inc.*

### **Soil Nail Walls at the Entrance to Aspen, CO**

*Don Berger, P.E., The Yenter Company*

### **Soil Nail & MSE Wall Stabilization of the Elbow Fill Slide, Snake River Canyon, Wyoming**

*John Wolosick P.E., Hayward Baker Inc.*

#### Sponsor:

Deep Foundations Institute  
326 Lafayette Avenue; Hawthorne, NJ 07506  
Tel: (973) 423-4030 Fax: (973) 423-4031  
Web: [www.dfi.org](http://www.dfi.org)

#### Venue & Accommodations:

Embassy Suites Hotel Denver Downtown  
1881 Curtis Street, Denver, CO 80202  
Tel: (303) 297-8888 Toll Free: (800) 733-3366  
Special DFI rate of \$149.00, *subject to cut-off date of January 26, 2006 and availability.*

**DFI & AEG-RMS Member Registration Fee: \$250.00**

Non-member Registration Fee: \$295.00

Government Employee Registration Fee: \$175.00

Student Registration Fee: \$50.00

*(Students must provide copy of ID card)*

Exhibitor Registration Fee: \$550.00

*(Table top displays only)*

*(Includes one attendee registration and 6'x2' table)*

Registration Fees Include: Seminar session, breaks, lunch, reception, handout binder and registration materials.

## Conferences and Symposium, Call for Abstracts on the Website

Information, dates, and website links for the following conferences/symposiums can be found on our website at [www.aegrms.org](http://www.aegrms.org). Also look to the calendar of events on the website for an organized listing and dates of the many upcoming events.

- **First North American Landslide Conference**
- **40<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium on Engineering Geology & Geotechnical Engineering**
- **57<sup>th</sup> Highway Geology Symposium Breckenridge, CO**
- ***GEO-volution: The Evolution of Colorado's Geological and Geotechnical Engineering Practice***

## Apply Now for Scholarship Support to Attend 100th Anniversary Earthquake Conference

Join experts from around the world in educational programs on seismic hazard risk reduction.

SAN FRANCISCO – As many as 30 scholarships will be awarded to land use planners, social service providers, emergency managers, risk managers, business resumption specialists, building and public works officials, and those in related occupations to assist attendance for the 100th Anniversary Earthquake Conference Commemorating the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake.

Established by the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI) in an agreement with the Public Entity Risk Institute (PERI), the scholarships offer each recipient \$1,000 in direct financial assistance which can be applied to any conference cost, including travel, lodging, and registration fee. Recipients within the Bay Area,

who do not require air transportation, will receive awards of \$600.

The conference will be held at the Moscone Convention Center in San Francisco, California, April 18 – 21, 2006. The conference includes EERI's 8th National Conference on Earthquake Engineering, the 100th Annual Meeting of the Seismological Society of America, and the '06 Disaster Resistant California Conference of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services. It will provide an invaluable educational experience in all facets of earthquake risk reduction, from the latest thinking by the nation's leading scientists and engineers to current programs and policies in emergency management. The conference offers a unique opportunity for participants to compare experience and knowledge with attendees from cities throughout the U.S. and numerous other countries.

The four-day conference will include multidisciplinary plenary sessions at the beginning of each day, where leading earthquake professionals will talk about a centennial perspective on the 1906 earthquake, lessons from recent major earthquakes, a scenario of a modern-day repeat of the 1906 earthquake and visions for the next century of earthquake risk reduction.

There will be more than 100 technical sessions covering issues critical to earth scientists, building owners, planners, building officials, emergency responders, earthquake engineers, policy makers, and disaster mitigation professionals. Additionally, there will be 35 tutorials for professionals in related fields, including teachers and members of the business community; 25 field trips that bring home the realities and science of earthquakes; the semi-annual General Assembly of the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG); social events in historic San Francisco venues; scores of exhibits and displays; and hundreds of poster presentations.

To be eligible for a scholarship, applicants should have key responsibility within their organization or agency for an area of risk or emergency management, loss reduction planning, hazards insurance, business resumption planning, social services, municipal development, land use

planning, or building code enforcement. Applicants should come from municipal jurisdictions or non-profit institutions or organizations where they have responsibility for one or more of the above areas.

Interested applicants must complete the PERI Scholarship application on the 100th Anniversary Conference website ([www.1906eqconf.org](http://www.1906eqconf.org)). Completed applications must be received by mail at EERI, 499 14th Street, Suite 320, Oakland, CA 94612 or by fax at: 510 451 5411 no later than Wednesday, March 1, 2006. EERI will announce the awards by March 17, 2006.

The 100th Anniversary Earthquake Conference is hosted jointly by the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute, Disaster Relief Resistant California (California's Office of Emergency Services) and the Seismological Society of America.

## **2006 Roy J. Shlemon Specialty Conference**

The 2006 Roy J. Shlemon Specialty Conference is being held May 3-5, 2006 in Durango, Colorado at the Historic Strater Hotel.

The conference subject is "Mass Wasting in Disturbed Watersheds" chaired by Bill Haneberg, Sue Cannon, Paul Santi, and Jeff Coe.

To receive more information and to register for the conference, go to the web site: [ww.haneberg.com/watersheds](http://ww.haneberg.com/watersheds) or go to AEG's web site ([aegweb.org](http://aegweb.org)) and click on the Mass Wasting logo.

The objective of the conference is to bring together practitioners and researchers in order to define the current state of practice and identify unresolved problems with regard to the prediction and mitigation of mass wasting in disturbed watersheds.

Be sure to submit your abstracts to Julie Keaton at [aegjuliek@aol.com](mailto:aegjuliek@aol.com)

To make hotel reservations, call the Strater Hotel at 970-247-4431 and let them know that you are a participant in the "AEG Shlemon Specialty Conference" and receive your group rate.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Bill Haneberg at [bill@haneberg.com](mailto:bill@haneberg.com)

Invited guest speakers include:

1. Tom Koler of the U.S. Forest Service speaking about "Progress in forest engineering geology in the late 20th century and early 21st century -- the integration of engineering geology within ecosystem management of forested lands."
2. Laura Vaugeois of the Washington Department of Natural Resources speaking about "Washington's landslide hazard zonation project: a process for addressing risk to resources."
3. Charlie Luce of the U.S. Forest Service speaking about "Mass wasting following forest fires: processes at multiple scales."
4. Sue Cannon of the U.S. Geological Survey speaking about "Tools for assessing post-wildfire debris flow probabilities and magnitudes."
5. Jon Major of the U.S. Geological Survey speaking about "Mass wasting in volcanically disturbed watersheds: primary events, landscape responses, and geologically-ecological interactions."
6. Bill Laprade of Shannon & Wilson speaking about "Effects of urbanization on mass wasting -- detrimental and beneficial."
7. Bill Haneberg of Haneberg Geoscience speaking about "Landslides, lasers, and logarithms: the role of emerging technologies in watershed-scale slope stability assessment."
8. Rod Silde of Kyoto University (title to be announced)  
Come and join us in Durango and do not miss this exciting conference.

## Revised Engineer's Dinner Announcement

The 2006 Engineer's Week Annual Dinner will be on Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at the Double Tree Hotel, South of I-70 at 32<sup>nd</sup> & Quebec. The reception will begin at 6:00pm and dinner at 6:30.

Please see the flyer at the end of this newsletter for more information.

## Technical Articles Needed for AEG NEWS

We are always on the alert for short technical articles for the AEG NEWS. Length about 850 words on nearly any subject of interest to the AEG members: Landslides, contaminant plumes, groundwater investigations, dams, etc. In fact we need a technical article for the March issue. Photos are welcome as long as they are reproducible at the scale needed. Ask our section members.

Send your submittal to Allen Shaw and to Andi Ptak. Addresses inside the front cover of the NEWS.

## Case Histories/Member Contributions

We are always looking for individuals to provide their knowledge and experience to the AEG-RMS community through case histories and articles of interest. Please contact Kristi Ainslie at [newsletter@aeqrms.org](mailto:newsletter@aeqrms.org) if you have anything you would like to share. We have had good success with this in the past, so keep it going.

## AEG 2006 Annual Meeting

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: AEG-2006 "Northeast Engineering Geology: From Till to Fill" in Boston, Massachusetts; October 30 through November 4 at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel. Special events include: 2 symposia (Big Dig in Boston; and New England State Geologists' Panel -- with the State Geologists from MA, VT,

ME, NH, RI, and CT); 4 field trips (The Concord-Lexington Battle of April 19, 1775: A Clash of Continents and Cultures; Geology of Boston Harbor; Influence of Geology on Engineering Design in Boston; and Engineering Geology of the Combined Sewer Overflow Project, Providence, RI); and a Special Event -- Cape Cod Clambake including a tour of Wood's Hole Oceanographic Institute.

For more information, contact Dick Sherman (General Chair) at [Dick.Sherman@m-e.aecom.com](mailto:Dick.Sherman@m-e.aecom.com)

## Upcoming 2005-2006 Presentations

**March 16<sup>th</sup>** - Annual Student Night – (Green Center at CSM). *Students send your abstracts by February 20<sup>th</sup>!*

**April 13<sup>th</sup>** - Minal Parekh and Kent Pease of Lyman Henn: *Mitigation of Clear Creek Canyon Rockslide*

**May 11<sup>th</sup>** - Mike West of Michael West & Associates: subject TBD

**TBD** - Jerry Higgins, Jahns Lecture.

## Your Business Card Here

The section is looking for companies or individuals who would like to advertise their products or services in the section newsletter and on the website. This is anything from a business card (\$10/month), quarter page spread (\$20/month), to a half page exposition (\$40/month). If you are interested, contact Kristi Ainslie [newsletter@aeqrms.org](mailto:newsletter@aeqrms.org).

## Parting Words

We will have a "normal" meeting this month, the same second Thursday of February. Don't forget Student Night on March 16<sup>th</sup>. See the wonderful website Jill has set up for all the information and information on all other upcoming attractions!

The Editors

# 2006 Engineers Week Annual Dinner **“Turning Ideas into Reality”**

*Sponsored by Professional Engineers of Colorado and Colorado Engineering Council*

## Program Invitation

**Date:** Friday, February 24, 2006

**Place:** Double Tree Hotel, South of I-70 at 32<sup>nd</sup> & Quebec

**Program:** Lockheed Martin: Space Exploration News, Update Mars Project.

**Speaker:** John Karas, Vice President of Space Exploration, Lockheed Martin

**Time:** Reception: 6:00 pm – Dinner: 6:30 pm

Cost: \$20.00 per person, this includes the ring (meal cost **not** included)

**Note: If you take part in the ceremony, you must arrive by 5:30 to complete paperwork and be fitted for your ring.**

**Cost: \$40.00 per person**

**Corporate Table of 8 = \$320.00** Includes name in program if received by Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>!

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Program Advertising

Size of Program: 5 ½ x 8 ½

Full Page Advertisement: \$125.00

Half Page Advertisement: \$75.00

Business Card Advertisement: \$40.00

[Ad copy due no later than February 10, 2006.](#)

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**Please make reservations for the Engineers Week Dinner for:**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Company:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is our check for \_\_\_\_\_ guests (\$40 per person)

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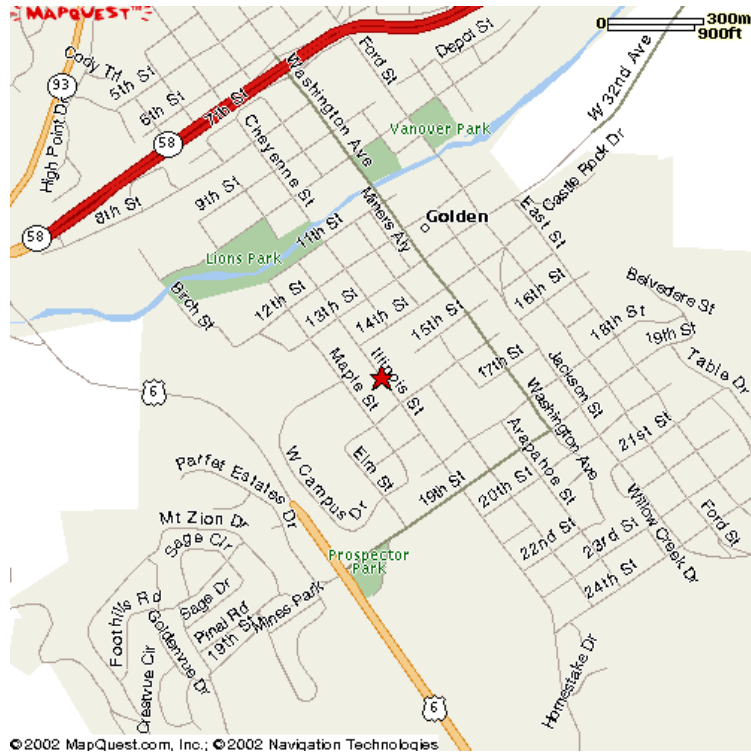
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