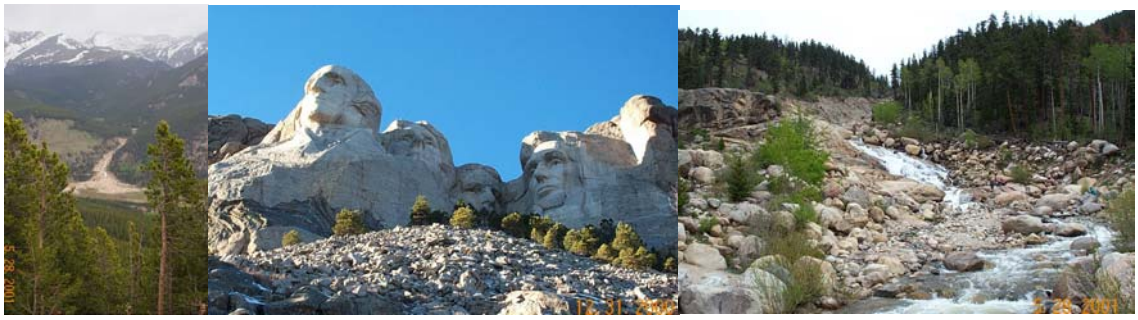

ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS

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

THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN SECTION NEWSLETTER

www.aegrms.org

MEETING DATE

THURSDAY
MAY 9, 2002

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

LOCATION
GEOLOGY MUSEUM
Colorado School of Mines
Golden, CO
See map below

COST
$20 Members
$22 Non-members
Free for Students

RESERVATIONS
c/o AEG Reservation Line
(303) 790-2161 x 243 or
meeting@aegrms.org
BY NOON, FRIDAY
MAY 3rd

Should We Be Concerned About Earthquakes in Colorado?

Vince Matthews, Colorado Geological Survey

In general, Colorado is not considered to be at risk from significant earthquake damage. The state is ranked 30th in the nation in terms of Annualized Earthquake Losses by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and Denver is rated by the USGS National Seismic Hazard maps as having about the same seismic risk as Atlanta, Georgia. However, a growing body of data suggests that Colorado may be at greater risk than previously recognized. Colorado has the second largest heat flow anomaly in the North American continent, fifty-nine peaks over 14,000 feet in elevation, and extensive Neogene deformation indicating an active tectonic province. The catalog of Quaternary faults has steadily increased from none in 1960 to nearly ninety in 1998 with many areas of the state unexamined. The large 1882 earthquake has been definitively located in the northern Front Range. Studies of Quaternary faults in Colorado have resulted in thirteen faults being assigned a "maximum credible earthquake" $>M_w$ 6.25 and as high as M_w 7.5. With Colorado's rapidly growing population (3rd fastest in the nation) significant, additional research needs to be directed toward Colorado's earthquake hazard.

Board of Directors

Chairperson
Tim Petz,
Church & Associates,
Inc., 303.463.9317,
chair@aegrms.org
Chair-elect
Jim Wright,
GEI Consultants, Inc.,
303.662.0100,
chair-elect@aegrms.org
Secretary
Scott Walker,
GEI Consultants, Inc.,
303.662.0100,
secretary@aegrms.org
Treasurer
Matt Bensen,
treasurer@aegrms.org
Membership
Scott Walker,
GEI Consultants, Inc.,
303.662.0100,
membership@aegrms.org
Newsletter
Kristi McQuiddy,
GEI Consultants, Inc.,
303.662.0100,
newsletter@aegrms.org
Website
Ed Friend,
GEI Consultants, Inc.,
303.662.0100,
webmaster@aegrms.org
Past Chair
Peggy Ganse,
Haley & Aldrich,
303.534.5789, ext. 3210,
pastchair@aegrms.org
Student Chair
Jessica Humble
student-chair@aegrms.org

Website
www.aegrms.org

L'AVEZ-VOUS SENTI?

Un tremblement de terre r'eveille des milliers de Quebecois. That was the headline of the morning paper on Saturday morning. Myles Carter, our AEG International President woke the AEG chairs up with a 5.5 earthquake. We were all very impressed. Dishes and door hinges rattled for about 25 seconds. Now that is how to treat the guests at the AEG Mid-Year Board meeting.

Mid Year Board Meeting

The Board of Directors made good progress during this year's mid-year meeting. Chris Mattewson has decided to retire as AEG executive director as of June 30 2002. AEG will be hiring a management company to oversee financial matters for the next year. Along with this, Jan Mattewson will be stepping down, and outsourcing publications. Headquarters will be re-locating to Denver as soon as possible.

Fall 2002 Speakers

Please let Tim Petz or Jim Wright know if you or someone you know would be interested in giving a talk at one of next year's RMS meetings.

Call For Papers!

The deadline for submitting abstracts to be considered for the AEG Annual meeting in Reno, NV is May 1st, 2002. Please submit before this date to be considered. Get online at www.aegweb.org for more info.

Informing Colorado AEG Delegation

AEG and AIPG are involved in getting geologists licensed in Colorado. There will be presentations and a symposium regarding this topic in Reno, NV, during the AEG Annual Meeting. Please attend to help our cause.

Student Scholarship Award - Tilford Award

We are proud to have one of our members from the Colorado School of Mines Student AEG Section be awarded the Tilford Scholarship for the 2002 year. Congratulations Paula Le-Monds! We are proud to have you a part of the Rocky Mountain Section

Vail 2003 Meeting Update

It will be a busy summer planning for the Vail 2003 meeting, if you would like to help contact Mike Hattel (303-665-1400 or mhattel@msn.com).

Case Histories/Articles Wanted

If you have a case history or an article you would like to share with or would be of interest to section members, please send it to Kristi McQuiddy at newsletter@aegrms.org. This will be a new addition to the newsletter this fall. Feel free to send any articles over the summer.

Call For Short Course Proposals AEG Annual Meeting Vail, Colorado, 2003

Wanted: Instructors to teach one or two-day short courses at AEG's Annual Meeting in Vail Colorado. Any topic related to engineering geology and related subjects, or topics of interest to the profession, are acceptable.

Dates available for short courses are September 15, 16, 20, or 21, 2003.

If you are interested, prepare a short proposal with the course name, instructor(s) name(s), length of course, special requirements, and suggested dollar amount to be charged.

Reply via email by July 8, 2002 to:
Dwaine Edington,
AEG Vail 2003 Short Course Chairman
edingtond@aol.com

Final decisions concerning short courses will be made in August 2002.

Symposium at Rocky Mountain GSA Meeting 2002

An engineering geology symposium entitled, "Hillslope and Mountain Slope Hazards in the Rocky Mountains" will be held at the 2002 Rocky Mountain Section meeting of the Geological Society of America on May 7-9, 2002 in Cedar City, Utah. The goal of the symposium is to gather those geologists and engineers in the region who are dealing with all varieties of slope issues to share experiences, research, and solutions. Information on the meeting can be found at http://www.geosociety.org/sectdiv/rockymtn/02rmmtg.htm. Abstracts are currently being accepted for the symposium, so if you are interested in speaking, please contact one of the symposium organizers (Paul Santi, psanti@mines.edu 303 273-3108 or Francis Ashland, fashland.nrugs@state.ut.us 801 537-3380).

Rocky Mountain Section Outreach Program

Attempts are being made to increase member participation in the outlying areas of the section. If you have ideas for an event, contact Ed Friend at webmaster@aegrms.org.

Tunneling Symposium at AEG 2002 Reno

Peggy Ganse will be chairing a half-day symposium on behalf of the AEG Tunneling Committee at the upcoming Annual Meeting in Reno this fall. The symposium content and speakers list is still under development, so any interested parties can contact Peggy pastchair@aegrms.org with input.

Geological Society of America National Meeting 2002

The 2002 GSA meeting will be held here in Denver this October 27-30. The Engineering Geology Division of GSA is beginning to assemble a program. General information on the meeting and the forms for submitting session proposals is available at http://www.geosociety.org. If you have questions for which you cannot find the answer on the web page, please contact Judy Ehlenor

jehlen@tec.army.mil or Bill Haneberg, bill@haneberg.com.

Below is the last deadline:

July 16, 2002 Abstracts due by midnight, Mountain Daylight Time.

Aspiring Employees

Many resumes from students graduating in the very near future have been received. Employers, please contact Tim Petz chair@aegrms.org for information regarding potential employees for summer part-time or full-time work. Students can drop off your information with Tim at the meetings or via e-mail.

Presidents Corner

I have returned from Montreal with more culture under my belt. I can now say nine French words, four of which are names of cafe's and/or bars. Things went well and we all had a grand time. I am sad to say there is only one more talk left. We will be going out with a bang, and presenting Vince Matthews from the CGS. See you there on May 9th, and remember.....VAIL 2003, it is going to be HUGE!

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 Ed Friend webmaster@aegrms.org or Kristi McQuiddy newsletter@aegrms.org.

Records Update

The Rocky Mountain Section and AEG Headquarters keep separate databases of personal information. Many members have provided updates to the Rocky Mountain Section (particularly e-mail addresses) that have not been incorporated into the records kept by Headquarters. To help ease the upcoming Headquarters move from Texas A&M to Denver, and transition to the new management company, members are encouraged to verify the information on record at Headquarters. This can be done over the internet by visiting the AEG Homepage at www.aegweb.org. To access your records, you will need your membership ID number and password, both of which are on your membership card. If you have any questions, please direct them to Scott Walker, Rocky Mountain Section Secretary secretary@aegrms.org. Please make updates prior to June 1.

The Rocky Mountain Section would like to thank Amber Freeman at Texas A&M for her hard work maintaining the membership database at Headquarters, and for her efforts to ensure that Rocky Mountain Section members receive AEG newsletters and other correspondence without interruption.

CSM Student Fund Raiser Success

The Colorado School of Mines AEG Student Section thanks all of those who submitted bids for the 'Rockware' software. They now have a nice chunk-of-change in the student section bank account after the silent auction for the software. Way to go CSM!

Thank you Rockware for your support!

Section News

1. Jessica Humble is actively seeking speakers for the CSM Student Section. Please contact her at student-chair@aegrms.org if you are interested in sharing your knowledge and experience.

2. Please forward any newsworthy items to Kristi McQuiddy newsletter@aegrms.org by the 20th of the month.

Transportation-Related Geotechnical Issues to be Discussed During October 4, 2002 Conference in Denver

The Geotechnical Group of ASCE is planning a 1-day Conference to be held at the Marriot Hotel Southeast on October 4, 2002 entitled: **"More Than Just Lines on a Map: Geotechnical Engineering in Transportation."** James R. Lambrechts of Haley and Aldrich will give the Keynote Address that summarizes geotechnical innovations developed during Boston's "Big Dig." From there, recent transportation-related geotechnical projects across the U.S. and in Colorado will be discussed. New geotechnical research results will also be presented that advance geotechnical design. The conference will be a single-track, one-day event on Friday. Typically, 150 professionals attend the biennial conference. AEG-RMS, CAGE and the CGS will join the geotechnical group in hosting the conference.

Five special sessions have been convened for the conference:

- Foundation Solutions in Transportation
- Slope Stabilization
- Tunnels
- Colorado Challenges
- Geological/Geotechnical Characterization

Projects discussed will include:

- T-REX
- Telluride Airport
- E-470
- Zion National Park highways
- Wolf Creek Pass
- I-70 Corridor
- DIA
- U.S. 285 Windy Point
- Woodrow Wilson Bridge
- Snowmass Canyon State Highway 82
- State Highway 119, Blackhawk

The following research results will be presented:

- Pile driving in the Denver Formation with correlations to unconfined compressive strength
- Drilled shaft load testing in the Denver Formation
- Drainage of landslides using horizontal wick drains
- Surficial stability of earth slopes
- Influence of rock mass parameters on TBM performance
- Use of project-specific database and GIS
- Resilient modulus from direct measurements
- Driving piles through geogrid
- 2D&3D Crosshole Sonic Logging Tomography (CSLT)
- Geosynthetics to reduce swelling
- Micropiles for excavation support
- Use of handheld computers to facilitate data collection

The conference will include poster sessions and exhibits by companies and organizations. The luncheon presentation will be by Arturo Ressi di Cervia from the Treviicos Corporation who will reflect on our geotechnical industry from a contractor's perspective. Bob Barrett, Dr. Jonathan Wu, and Al Ruckman will give a closing presentation on "Issues of Responsibility" following the technical sessions.

The conference program and registration form may be accessed on our website: http://sections.asce.org/colorado/tec_grps/geotechnical/prelim.html

Last Newsletter of the Season

This is the last meeting on the 2001-2002 RMS calendar, therefore the last newsletter of the spring. It has been a record-breaking year for our section with huge numbers at the meetings, several awards presented to section members, and RMS had 28 new members, more than any other section.

We expect this summer to be busy as well with the relocation of the national office to Denver in the near future and Vail 2003 creeping closer.

This has been our first year editing the newsletter and after a slow start things have smoothed out with great help from Tim Petz and all the other officers. We will be planning more improvements to the newsletter and webpage over the summer. If you have any ideas, comments, or content, let us know (newsletter@aegrms.org or webmaster@aegrms.org).

Meetings will resume this September and we are working on booking some great speakers. Let's make this last meeting of the spring a big finale to the season and start off strong again in the fall.

Until September.

The Editors

Ed Friend
Kristi McQuiddy

GEOLOGY MUSEUM
COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES
1516 Illinois St.
Golden, CO 80401