



AEG SACRAMENTO SECTION

February Meeting Announcement

DATE: Tuesday, February 24, 2009

LOCATION: Sudwerk Riverside (formerly Cliff House),
9900 Greenback Lane, FOLSOM

RSVP with meal choice by 4:00 Monday, February 23

THE COMFORTS OF IGNORANCE AND THE BENEFITS OF ARROGANCE LESSONS OF THE FAILURE KIND FOR THE GEOPRACTITIONER

Edmund Medley, Ph.D, PE, CEG, F.ASCE

2009 Richard H. Jahns Distinguished Lecturer in Engineering Geology

Ignorance and arrogance are all too common in the design professions. It is comforting to not know what one does not know. And, there are benefits to being arrogant: why waste time on having a colleague check your work if you know what you are doing? Why go through the pain of further education or professional development? Why should engineering geologists talk to geotechnical engineers (and vice versa)? After all: "I know enough geowhatsoever to get by." But ignorance leads to blissful mistakes and arrogance results in occasional spectacular, famous and expensive failures. In this lecture a few lessons are offered, particularly to the engineering geologist/geotechnical engineer/environmental scientist who thinks he/she knows it all.

Edmund Medley Biographical Sketch:

Lacking math and science prerequisites, Dr. Medley began his academic life in 1973 as a "mature student", admitted to the Mining Technology program at the British Columbia Institute of Technology, in Burnaby, British Columbia. Transferred to the University of British Columbia, in Vancouver, British Columbia, he graduated in 1978 with a B. Appl. Science in Geological Engineering (Geotechnical Option), winning the first Aro A. Aho Medal for academic excellence in Geological Engineering. Even more matured, he earned a mid-career M.S. in 1991 and a Ph.D. in 1994, both in Geotechnical Engineering, from the University of California at Berkeley. He was the AEG Marliave Scholar in 1993, awarded for outstanding scholarship in Engineering Geology and Geological Engineering. For his Ph.D. research he pioneered approaches to the engineering and geological characterization of bimrocks (block-in-matrix rocks), complex geological mixtures of rock and soil such as melanges, fault rocks and weathered rocks. Dr. Medley has authored/co-authored about 50 professional contributions, many on bimrocks. Most of his professional and research contributions are available at bimrocks.geoengineer.org and edmedley.com. He has also presented over 150 professional and academic lectures, Short Courses and MCLE Credit courses.

Dr Medley is a Senior Consultant in the Oakland, California office of Geosyntec Consultants. He began his career in the Applied Earth Sciences in 1969, and now has over 30 years of unusually varied international experience in geotechnical and geological engineering consulting, mineral exploration prospecting, failure investigation, litigation testifying and research. He has consulted on major landslides, rockfall hazards, expansive/collapsing soils, tunnel failures, coastal erosion, sinkholes and other ground movements. He is licensed/registered/chartered as an engineer and geologist in the USA, Canada and the United Kingdom.

Affiliated with several international geosciences and engineering organizations. Dr. Medley has been a member of the GSA and AEG for many years. He was the San Francisco AEG Section Membership Committee Chairman between 1991 and 1993 and the San Francisco Section Short Course Chairman between 1995 and 1996. He currently contributes time to several professional committees, Editorial Boards, and as a peer reviewer, to professional journals.

Jahns Distinguished Lecturer Award:

The *Richard H. Jahns Distinguished Lecturer in Engineering Geology* was established in 1988 to commemorate Professor Richard H. Jahns (1915-1983), who had an influential and diverse career in academia, consulting and government. The selection committee for this award is composed of representatives of the Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists (AEG) and the Engineering Geology Division of the Geological Society of America (GSA). The intent of the partially-funded Lectureship is to encourage student and professional awareness of engineering geology through a series of lectures presented across North America during the award year (October 2008 to October 2009).

Meeting Details:

Place: Sudwerk Riverside, Folsom
(formerly Cliff House)

Time: 5:30-6:30 Sign-in & Social Hour
6:30-7:30 Dinner & Announcements
7:30-8:30 Speaker Talk & Slide Show
8:30-8:45 Questions & Answers

On The Menu:

Chicken Saltimbocca

Boneless breast topped with a creamy sauce of mushrooms, prosciutto, sage marsala wine and mozzarella served over mashed potatoes.

Vegetarian Pasta

A medley of fresh roasted vegetables in a tomato cream sauce over penne pasta.

Salmon

Fresh Atlantic Salmon fillet topped with a buerre blanc sauce and served with wild rice pilaf.

Prime Rib

Sudwerk Riverside's award-winning Prime Rib, slow-roasted for 10 hours, with creamed horseradish and mashed potatoes.

Dinner includes a house salad with balsamic vinaigrette, fresh bread and butter, and coffee, tea, or soft drink.

Alcoholic beverages are available to those 21 and over on a cash basis.

Cost: Chicken or Vegetarian Pasta: \$32 (AEG member w/RSVP)

Salmon or Prime Rib: \$37 (AEG member w/RSVP)

Nonmembers and walk-ins add \$3 to costs noted above (meal choices may not be available to walk-ins)

First 5 Students w/RSVP Eat For Free (chicken or vegetarian pasta FREE; Salmon or Prime Rib \$5)

Additional Students w/RSVPs: \$10 for chicken or vegetarian pasta (Salmon or Prime Rib \$15)

RSVPs must be received no later than 4:00 pm Monday February 23.

RSVP to: Lisa Breckenridge, Wallace-Kuhl & Associates

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