



# SAN DIEGO ASSOCIATION OF GEOLOGISTS

## 1997 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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## MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

**Wednesday May 21, 1997**

**Place:** Best Western [Pea Soup] Anderson's  
850 Palomar Airport Rd., Calrsbad, CA  
800 - 266 - 7880

**Time:** 6:00 - Social Hour  
7:00 - Dinner  
8:00 - Program

**Directions:** [NE corner of I-5 / Palomar Airport Rd]. From I-5, Exit/East on Palomar Airport Rd.

**Dinner:** Breast of Chicken Served With a Champagne Cream Sauce, Tossed Green Salad or Fresh Vegetables, Baked Potato or Rice, Rolls and Butter, Chef's Surprise Dessert, Coffee, Tea, and Water.

**Cost:** \$20.00 per person [please make checks payable to SDAG]

**Reservation Required by** 5:00 p.m. Tuesday May 20, via phone to Lowell Lindsay [258-4911, or 258-4905 x103]. Include Name, Number in party, and Affiliation. Please call to cancel if necessary.

**Speaker:** Dr. Roy J. Shlemon.

Dr. Shlemon is a member of the San Diego Association of Geologists and several other national and international geological organizations. He received the Ph.D. degree from University of California at Berkeley, and formerly was on the faculty of the University of California at Baton Rouge. For the past 25 years, Dr. Shlemon has been consulting in the fields of Quaternary geology, geomorphology and soil stratigraphy. His work is world-wide, and ranges from mining to siting of nuclear power plants and other large engineered structures. Dr. Shlemon just returned from a lecture trip to Barcelona, Spain; in July he will be a featured speaker at the South Africa Section of the Association of Engineering Geologists.

**Title:** The Geologist: Discovery of Ancient Civilizations, Colombia, South America.

**Abstract:** Over a 50 years ago, placer mining geologists in northern Colombia observed an intricate pattern of 2-3 km long "ridges" within and adjacent to meandering river channels in the tropical rainforest. These features were similar to extensive tailing fields laid down by bucket-line gold dredges, assumed to be during the early part of this century. However, in the 1960's, Professor James J. Parsons, a geographer at the University of California at Berkeley, based on aerial photograph interpretation, identified these features to be a segment of the thousands of hectares of "ridged fields" in Colombia and Ecuador. The ridges (camellones) ultimately proved to be earthworks constructed by a pre-Colombia civilization(s). Radiocarbon (MRT) dates from inter-mound buried organic horizons indicate that ridged fields were abandoned prior to about 4000 years ago. But who were the ancient constructors of the ridged fields? When were the ridges and mounds built? What was the purpose of the construction: for agriculture; for religious purposes? What social structure enabled this hydraulic civilization to carry out such massive earth-moving? And what caused the demise of the civilization? Equally enigmatic is the total extent of the fields, for it is likely that additional thousands of fields are no longer visible, now covered by an increasing thickness of sediment stemming from modern deforestation, agriculture and mining.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**POSITION WANTED:** If you know anyone who can use a geologist with several years of experience in geological field techniques, proposal / report writing, research, and education, please contact Tissa Munasinghe at (619) 695 - 0729.

**POSITIONS OFFERED:** Robert Prater Associates is actively seeking experienced soil technicians. Call 453-5605.

**TENTATIVE PROGRAMS:** Unless otherwise announced, Meeting / programs are every third Wednesday of the of the month.

June 18	Natural Oil Seeps in California -- Steve Mulqueen
July 16	Well Design -- Mike Palmer
August 20	Paleo-liquefaction -- Gerry Kuhn
September 21	Annual Picnic - Mission Bay
October 15	Colorado River Geology -- Sue Tanges
October 17-19	Annual Field Trip [Santa Cruz Island]
November 19	Annual Poster Session - Spaghetti Factory
December 17	Pale Update - Natural History Museum -- Tom Demere

**CORPORATE SPONSORS:** Sincere thanks to these 1997 Corporate Sponsors who make educational assistance to new generation of geologists possible .  
Larry Cann; Joe Coronas; Perry and Nona Crampton; Bill Elliot; Jean Ferguson; F&C Drilling; Geocon Inc.; Dr. Blayne Hartman, TEG; Barbara Johnston; H.L. Strickler; Hargis + Associates Inc.; Dr. Anne Sturz; Phil Rosenberg, Tetra Tech EMI; David and Jan Steller; Southland Geotechnical Consultants; Carole Ziegler; Zeiser Kling Consultants.

**AEG 40TH ANNUAL MEETING; PORTLAND, OREGON** The Oregon Section of Engineering Geologists (AEG) will host the 40th Annual Meeting of the organization September 30 to October 4, 1997, at the Hilton Hotel, Portland, Oregon. AEG invites you to attend this meeting, which has been titled "Converging at Cascadia", and is calling for the final submittal for papers, and poster presentations. The list of suggested topics includes seismic hazards, landslides and slope stability, coastal engineering, environmental investigations, field and laboratory testing, groundwater investigations / modeling, water supply studies, landfill technology, stream restoration, fluvial geomorphology, transportation geology, and general engineering geology topics. Presentations will be limited to 20 minutes each. Abstracts should be no longer than 250 words and must be submitted by May 15 1997. Pre-Registration deadline to attend the meeting is August 30, 1997. For registration packet contact AEG'97 c/o Julie Keatson, 130 Yucca Dr., Sedona, AZ 86336-3222, (520) 204-1553, Fax (520) 204-5597. Send abstracts by mail, or email (preferred) to Julie aegjuliek@aol.com. For more information contact Gary Peterson, Chairman, Annual Meeting, (503) 635-4419, or check out on the WEB page; <http://geoweb.tamu.edu/aeg>.

**DEL MAR FAIR - SDSU GEOLOGY DEPARTMENT BOOTH -** Mike Walawender of SDSU is looking for willing, local geologists to voluntarily "man" the Geology Department booth at the upcoming Del Mar Fair (mid-June to July 6?). If you would like to donate a morning, afternoon, or evening and are willing to answer questions (sometimes geologic) from Fair Visitors, Mike would like to hear from you! You will receive FREE admission to the Fair for your efforts and our THANKS ..... Please call Mike Walawendar NOW (619-594-6543)!!! If you get his voice-mail, please leave your name, phone number and he'll get back with you to schedule a good time for your visit to the FAIR! Thank you.

**1997 FIELD TRIP - SANTA CRUZ ISLAND:** We will leave San Diego by charter bus on Friday night, October 17, 1997, boarding at 11:30 pm. Coat \$165.00 per person. Contact Werner Landry (619) 236-7251, for more information.

**CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF GEOSCIENCE ORGANIZATIONS [CCGO]:** Leaders of over a dozen geologic organizations throughout California have been meeting to discuss the formation of the CCGO. The council intends to be a leader of recognized integrity in advancing programs and legislation that take into consideration California's diverse geologic conditions, advocate knowledgeable use of resources, and to work to reduce the impact of geological hazards. With a goal of achieving of the sound practice of the geologic sciences in the public interest, the Council will go to work to provide balanced information to lawmakers, regulatory agencies and the public regarding the economic, environmental, and human costs associated with geologic matters. For further information, contact: Betsy Mathieson (408) 297-6969, [BMATHIESON@AOL.COM](mailto:BMATHIESON@AOL.COM).

# San Diego Association of Geologists

## 1997 Membership Form

Please print clearly and check your preferred address for the newsletter

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Residential Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Dues:	_____ Student Member	\$5.00
	_____ Regular Member	\$15.00
	_____ Corporate Sponsor	\$100.00

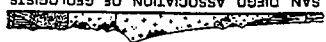
New Member \_\_\_\_\_ Continuing Member \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose a check made payable to SDAG and mail to:

Greg T. Cranham  
Hargis & Associates, Inc.  
2223 Avenida De La Playa #300  
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Membership dues may also be paid at the monthly meetings.

SUSAN E. TANGES  
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