

# SAN DIEGO ASSOCIATION OF GEOLOGISTS

<http://www.sandiegogeologists.org/>

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## SDAG MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

**Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**Where:** Marina Village  
Catalina Room  
1936 Quivira Way  
San Diego, CA 92109

**When:** 6:00 pm - Social Hour  
7:00 pm - Dinner  
8:00 pm - Program

**Dinner:** All American Buffet

**Cost:** Member \$60; Non-Member \$70; Student \$30

**Reservations:** Make & Pay your reservation [online](#) through the SDAG website, **before NOON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8TH.** *(Please note, all meeting reservations require online pre-payment due to venue costs, venue contracts, and loss of money due to no shows)*

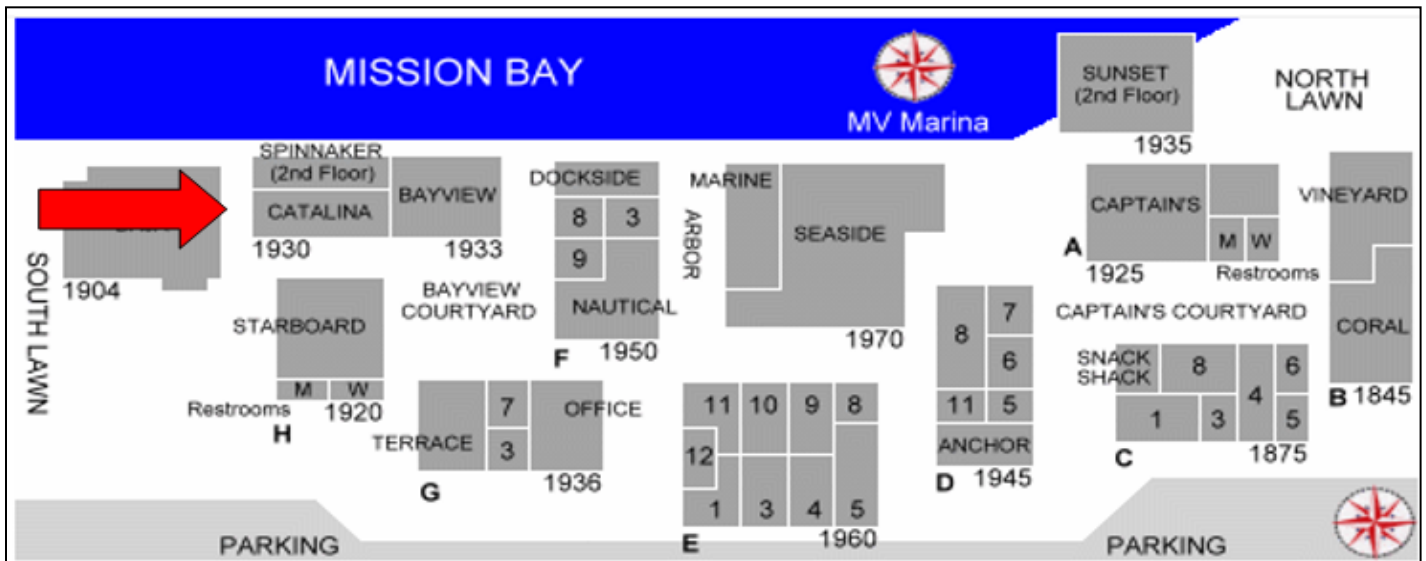
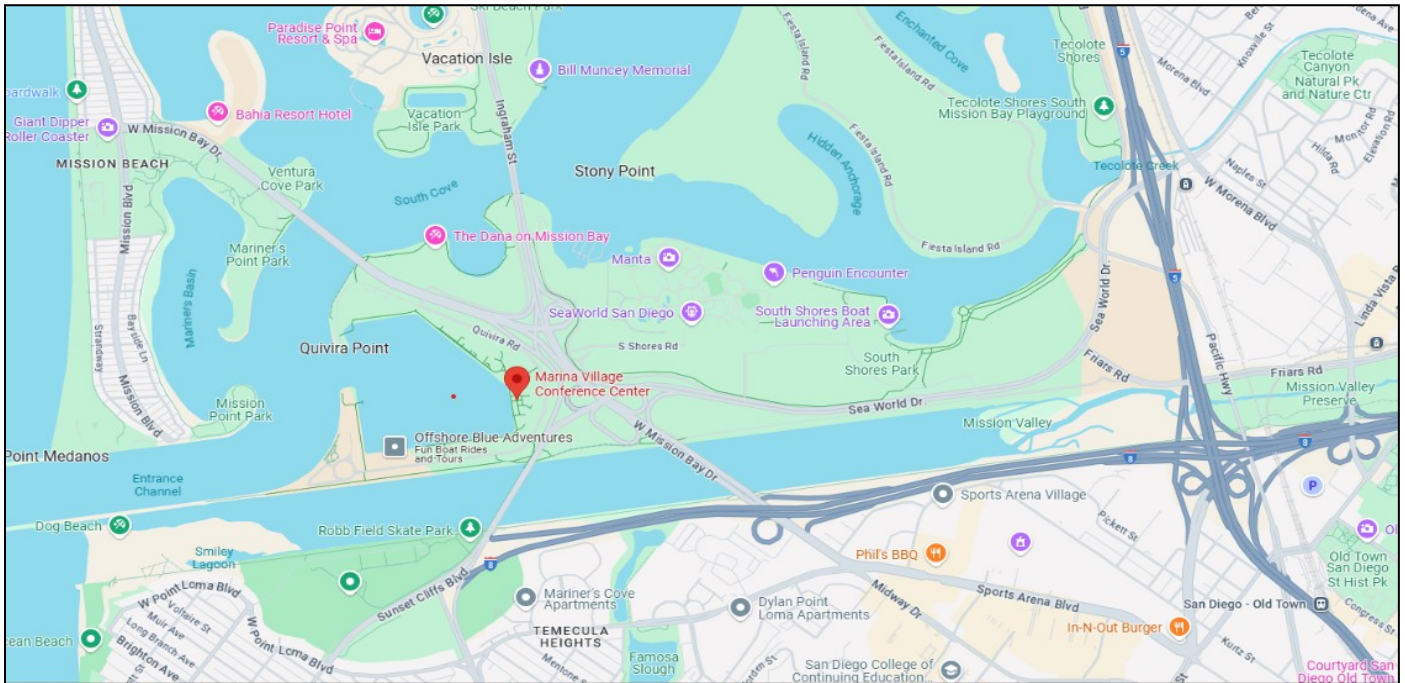
**Speaker:** Scott Rugg, RG CEG  
Principal Engineering Geologist, Kleinfelder

**Title:** Factors Effecting the Interpretation of Faulting in Cone Penetrometer Test Sounding Investigations

**Abstract:** Cone Penetrometer Test Soundings (CPTs) are an often-used method to characterize subsurface soil behavior properties mostly in soft material conditions. The method has many geotechnical applications, some of which include liquefaction analysis, mapping of alluvial deposits and fill, evaluation of soil density improvement and determination of seismic S- and P-wave velocities. When a series of CPTs is advanced, the subsurface stratigraphy can be profiled. This was recognized early on and soon CPTs were engaged to identify stratigraphic disruptions indicative of faulting. This method is now widely used in the coastal province of Southern California, mostly in upper Quaternary materials. Oftentimes, only several feet or less of vertical differential across unit horizons or thickness variations in strata are used to identify potential faulting. This means it is imperative that depth recording of CPTs are as

accurate as possible. Several factors can cause errors in depth readings, leading to erroneous interpretations of faulting. These factors will be discussed in this presentation as well as a quality control procedure to track actual depths and thus mitigate errors. In addition, several examples will be presented where inaccurate depth readings resulted in misinterpretation of faulting. Finally, both the advantages and limitations of the CPT method will be discussed.

### Meeting Location Map:



### Directions:

#### From I-5:

1. Exit Sea World Drive. Turn RIGHT if you have exited going south, turn LEFT if you have exited going north.
2. Continue on Sea World Drive for about 2 miles.
3. West Mission Bay Drive will be on your right, just beyond the lanes marked with arrows to Sea World's entrance.
4. Stay in the right-hand lane, continue around loop to right.

5. After loop, merge all the way to the furthest left lane.
6. At signal for Quivira Road, turn left.
7. Go left again immediately (Quivira Way).
8. Continue about a half mile.
9. Destination is large parking lot on the right-hand side, past Seaforth. Catalina Room is near the south end.

**From I-8:**

1. Take 8 West to the “Beaches” exit, past I-5. Exit to West Mission Bay Drive, turn right.
2. After the bridge ends, West Mission Bay Drive continues on about 100 yards UNDER the overpass, stay in right lanes and curve in the loop to the right. Do NOT continue straight on Ingraham.
3. After loop, merge all the way to the furthest left lane. At signal at Quivira Road, turn left.
4. Go left again immediately (Quivira Way).
5. Continue about a half mile, destination is large parking lot on the right-hand side, past Seaforth.

**Speaker: Scott Rugg, RG**



**Bio:** Mr. Rugg has 38 years of experience in the fields of engineering geology and geotechnical engineering, having worked on thousands of sites throughout California and the Southwest. He has focused his vocation on fault and seismic hazard assessment, having worked extensively on all types of projects including high-rise buildings, hospitals, water and wastewater treatment plants, airports, dams, transportation, education facilities, and residential sites. Early in his career he evaluated hundreds of sites damaged during the 1986 Palm Springs, 1987 Whittier Narrows, 1989 Loma Prieta, and 1994 Northridge earthquakes. A sampling of fault hazard projects he has led are the Master-plan Investigation of San Diego International Airport, San Diego, CA, - Mid-Coast Trolley Extension, San Diego, CA, - Airfield Expansion, Naval Weapons Station, China Lake, CA, - Biosolids and Clarifiers Replacement, Orange County Sanitation District, Huntington Beach, CA - Exxon Mobil Carbon Capture Facility, Baytown, TX - Camp Blaz Satellite Facility, US Territory Guam, and the Automated People Mover, Inglewood, CA. He has proficiency in all methods of fault investigation with extensive experience in the use of Cone Penetrometer Test Soundings for fault hazard analysis.



## **President's Corner**

**Hello SDAG Members,**

Happy New Year, and I hope each of you had a wonderful holiday season!

I am excited to be your President this year! We already have some great speakers lined up so far, and not to mention we will have our Annual Field Trip (San Andreas Fault in the Wrightwood area) on September 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>, 2025!

We had another memorable Annual SDAG Holiday meeting in December at the San Diego Natural History Museum (The Nat), and what a great turnout we had! Not to mention celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary milestone of The Nat! Thank you, John Teasley, for leading us through 2024 and handing over the reins. Big thank you to Tom Deméré for giving us a behind the scenes tour of the new and very fabulous "Below Grade: Tom Deméré Paleontology Collection"!!

It was a real treat to be able to explore the vast fossil collections storage area and the state-of-the-art processing lab. Talking about the storage area, what about those robust metal storage lockers on sliding tracks! They were pretty impressive...hopefully no one got preserved between them and catalogued into Tom's Collection! 😊

Special shout out to all who contributed to the Walawender Student Scholarship Fund in 2024, thank you! We were able to award three deserving students (Nicholas Oliver, Emily Imperato, and Jordan Jaeger) with scholarships at our Annual SDAG Holiday meeting! Congratulations again, and we look forward to hearing more about their research when they give their talks at our April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting!

Alright folks, it's that time of year again to renew your SDAG membership, if you haven't already. For any prospective or seasoned geologists in the crowd or geology enthusiasts, make those New Year Resolutions a reality and become a member now! You'll be glad you did. 😊

Next up, our speaker this month will be Scott Rugg RG CEG, Principal Engineering Geologist with Kleinfelder, who will give a presentation on "*Factors Effecting the Interpretation of Faulting in Cone Penetrometer Test Sounding Investigations,*" which emphasizes the importance of and how to obtain accurate depth of CPTs for investigating faults.

Thanks, and see you all at the January 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting!! It's less than 2 weeks away!

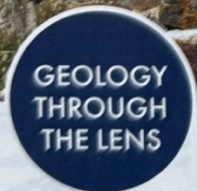
**-Heather Reynolds  
2025 SDAG President**

## UPCOMING 2025 SDAG MEETINGS

February 19, 2025	Karl Mueller on A New Seismotectonic Framework for Active Faults in Metropolitan San Diego
March 19, 2025	Don Barrie on New Zealand Geology
April 16, 2025	Student research presentations by student scholarship recipients
May 21, 2025	TBA
June 18, 2025	SDAG / SCGS Joint Meeting
July 16, 2025	TBA
August 20, 2025	TBA
September 26-28, 2025	SDAG Annual Field Trip, San Andreas Fault in the Wrightwood area, Transverse Ranges (no meeting this month)
October 15, 2025	TBA
November 19, 2025	Joint Meeting with AEG Inland Empire Section
December 17, 2025	Traditional Holiday Celebration at the San Diego Natural History Museum with Tom Deméré

# Member Spotlight

From member Rick Halsey:



## Candy Hornfels

Scattered about like striped chocolates, boulders of Mildred Lake hornfels (Lower Permian) decorate the shore below a massive section of the bluish Mount Baldwin Marble formation (Pennsylvanian to Lower Permian) rising above Lake Mildred in the eastern Sierra Nevada, California.

Richard W. Halsey is the director and founder of the California Chaparral Institute.

Want your photo to be featured in *GSA Today*? Email submissions to [gsatoday@geosociety.org](mailto:gsatoday@geosociety.org).

## 2025 SDAG MEMBERSHIP

Renew or become a new SDAG Member - 2025 Member Dues are Due if you have not already done so.

On-line Payment (\$30 Member; \$10 Student):

<https://www.sandiegoeologists.org/MemberFormPP.html>

Mail in or Bring FORM to Meeting: <https://www.sandiegoeologists.org/MemberForm.pdf>

## 2025 Corporate SDGS Sponsors

Renew or become a new 2025 SDAG Sponsor – Minimum \$100 includes annual Membership.

<https://www.sandiegoeologists.org/SponsorForm.pdf>

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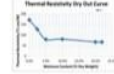
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## [SDAG HAS A FACEBOOK PAGE](#)

Here is a link to the SDAG Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/sandiegogeologists.org>

## *Photos From The Holiday Meeting 2024*





