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**SDAG
Announcements**

SDAG MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Wednesday, June 18th, 2025

6:00 pm - Social Hour | 7:00 pm - Dinner | 8:00 pm – Program

LOCATION:

[El Adobe de Capistrano](#)

31891 Camino Capistrano
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

SPEAKER:

Dr. Miles Kenney, *PhD, PG*

TOPIC: One Geologist's local and regional kinematic and seismic hazard evaluation of the northwestern Los Angeles Basin with emphasis of the Cheviot Hills and Western Hollywood Basin

DINNER: Mexican Buffet (includes vegetarian options)

COST: Member \$55.00 | Non-Member \$65.00 | Student \$25.00

RESERVATIONS:

Make & Pay your reservation online through the SDAG website, before **6PM WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11th**

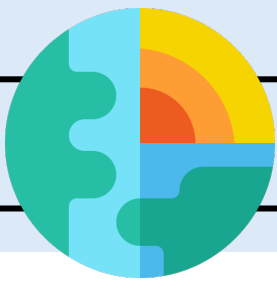


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*Please note, all meeting reservations require online pre-payment due to venue costs, venue contracts, and loss of money due to no shows.
Refunds cannot be processed after the registration deadline.*



Meet Our | Speaker & Topic



Dr. Miles Kenney PhD, PG

Dr. Kenney has over 30 years professional experience in the Geologic and Geotechnical industry with an emphasis on evaluating aeolian (dune) systems, seismic hazards, fault activity and structure, Geomorphology, kinematics, structural geology, stratigraphy and enough knowledge about soil development to get into trouble. He was also a college lecturer years at many colleges in southern California. Dr. Kenney has shown the ability within complex geologic areas to provide reasonable hypothesis and geologic solutions using geologic fundamentals. He is currently working as an independent contracting geologist via Kenney GeoScience.

One Geologist's local and regional kinematic and seismic hazard evaluation of the northwestern Los Angeles Basin with emphasis of the Cheviot Hills and Western Hollywood Basin

Conclusions will be presented for a local to regional seismic hazard evaluation for the Beverly Hills Unified School District (BHUSD) conducted by the author from 2011 to 2016. This study was primarily motivated for health and safety concerns due to the antiquity of many of the existing structures at various campuses in addition to METRO deciding to divert a proposed subway tunnel from Santa Monica BLVD to Constellation BLVD. The diversion placed the top of the proposed tunnel ~50-feet beneath Beverly Hills High School. BHUSD had valid concerns about a potential sinkhole during construction and future campus developments, some of which proposed to extend underground due to limited campus aerial extent.

Another seismic hazard arose for BHUSD from geologic-fault studies associated with the proposed METRO subway and their well-known retained paleoseismologist consultants. These studies proposed a previously unrecognized north-south trending fault zone associated with north-south trending geomorphic Cheviot Hills Lineament. They mapped the proposed Cheviot Hills fault zone through the entirety of the Beverly Hills High School campus. However, published geologic map and local stratigraphic and structural studies conducted by oil

companies had long mapped the east-west trending Santa Monica fault zone in the vicinity of the northern portion of Beverly Hills High School. Thus, at the time of this study, there were two "published" orthogonal fault zones potentially intersecting in the Beverly Hills High School campus! An important regulatory aspect of evaluating seismic hazards at the time was that the California Geological Survey was actively working on creating AP-Zone fault hazard maps for the Santa Monica and Hollywood fault zones during the time. Thus, METRO geotechnical studies, the Kenney GeoScience study, and many fault investigations for many properties in the BHUSD vicinity occurred without the aid of regulatory fault hazard maps.

The Kenney GeoScience study involved evaluating local data to better understand the local stratigraphy and structure in the vicinity of BHUSD, and regional data across the entire northwestern Los Angeles basin that included offshore and onshore geologic publications. My presentation will provide a summary of findings that occur within the Beverly Hills High School campus, in the vicinity of the campus including the Cheviot Hills and western Hollywood basin, and more regionally focused on the east-west trending Santa Monica to Hollywood fault zones.

Remembering Carole Ziegler

Memories and experiences from the SDAG membership



A Celebration of Life for Carole will be held at

the Thursday Club

1224 Santa Barbara St
San Diego, CA 92107

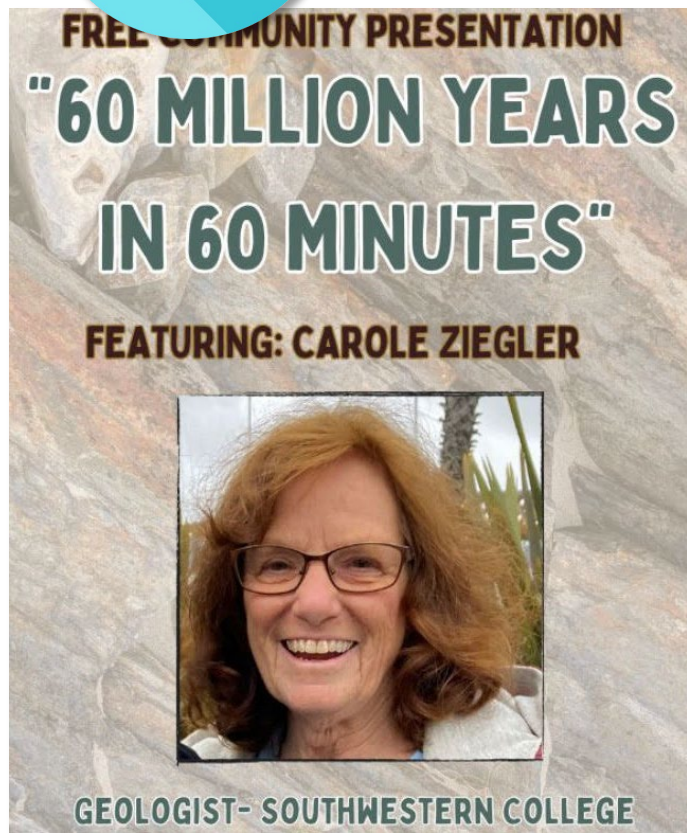
at 5:30pm on Thursday, June 12, 2025

Please dress casual in bright colors if you plan to attend.

Link to Obituary [\[HERE\]](#)

Carole was my first geology professor at Southwestern Community College, and from professor to long time friend she was so impactful not only to me but to many others. Carole organized the SWC Earth Science Club to inspire students to not just learn geology but also enjoy it! She introduced many of us to the beauty of the Anza Borrego desert and Peninsular ranges through camping, hiking and education. Carole had a beautiful spirit and will be greatly missed.

-Xiomara Rosenblatt, 2025 SDAG Treasurer



I was shocked and saddened at the news of Carole's passing. She was such a delightful and cheerful person, always enthusiastic about her love for geology and teaching. I have attached a few photos of her when we had a joint field trip with her and my SWC students in spring of 2012. These are from our campsite at Salton Sea. It was a blast!

Carole was instrumental in helping me get a geology teaching gig at SWC, and was immeasurably helpful in helping me through my early teaching efforts. I am very grateful for her help.

My condolences to her family. All of us in the San Diego geology community will miss her.

-Bryan Miller-Hicks

Remembering Carole Ziegler

Memories and experiences from the SDAG membership



Get your kicks!

Trails Across the Mojave

David M. Miller & Stephen M. Rowland, editors



2024 Desert Symposium Field Guide and Proceedings
April 2024

An excerpt written by Carole L. Ziegler from
the 2024 Desert Symposium Field Guide and
Proceedings

April 2024

“Get Your Kicks! Trails Across the Mojave”

Link to edition [\[HERE\]](#)

She will be greatly missed..
-Miles Kenney, PhD, PG

Trail angels, geology, helicopters, plants, animals, and water? Hiking the Pacific Crest Trail through the Mojave

by Carole L. Ziegler

The Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) is 2,650 miles long, running from the Mexican border near Campo, California to Manning Park, British Columbia. Though it eventually reaches a height of 13,153 feet at Forrester Pass in the Sierra, one of the biggest challenges is the scarcity of water in southern California and particularly through the Mojave Desert. At about PCT Trail Mile 518, one reaches Hwy 138 and a bizarre compound known as Hikertown. This is the beginning of the trek across the Mojave Desert, notable for its Joshua trees. For many miles, one travels along the Los Angeles and California aqueducts, and then the trail heads north paralleling Hwy 14 to the east. Though the designated California Desert Conservation Area continues further north, it is considered that the PCT leaves the Mojave portion of the desert at Hwy 178 at a place called Walkers Pass. One can often leave the trail to get food and water, or trail angels will leave water caches along the way, but there are portions that either require at least 3 days of backpacking carrying up to 3 gallons of water (which means one is carrying 25 pounds without considering food, clothing, and other required items) or finding a trail angel who is willing to carry some of that weight. Trail angels are special people that are not necessarily hiking the trail but are willing to provide support which may include hiking portions of the trail with you and giving you a place to get cleaned up and get some sleep. Some will even do your laundry and cook meals for you. Though one worries about encountering a bear, rattlesnake, or mountain lion, it turns out that plants such as poodle-dog bush and poison oak are more problematic. Unexpected things can happen, and one might find themselves getting a ride out by helicopter or finding out that someone that you are hiking with is not a good match, which can lead to some unusual events. Even with the challenges, it is still an amazing adventure with magnificent scenery, fields of wildflowers, peaceful mornings, meeting people from around the world, and discovering places that one would not have ever visited if it weren't for the trail.

Remembering Carole Ziegler

Memories and experiences from the SDAG membership



Memories about Carole Ziegler by Norrie Robbins

In my memory, I am seeing Carole and me taking Dr. Jerry Carroll's mineralogy course at George Washington University in 1969. I was working at the USGS. I think Carole was getting her geology degree then. I already had my BS already, so I was just taking courses that interested me. Lacking other women in the class, we became microscope friends.



We sealed our friendship after I retired and moved to San Diego in 2001. When I heard she led trips to Anza Borrego with her students, I asked her if she could help me find a field site where I could run an experiment on Mn varnish on desert rocks. A couple of weeks later she cleared her schedule and off we drove in 2002. She identified two perfect locations, one on Montezuma's Grade and the second near Park HQ where Carole had a collecting permit.

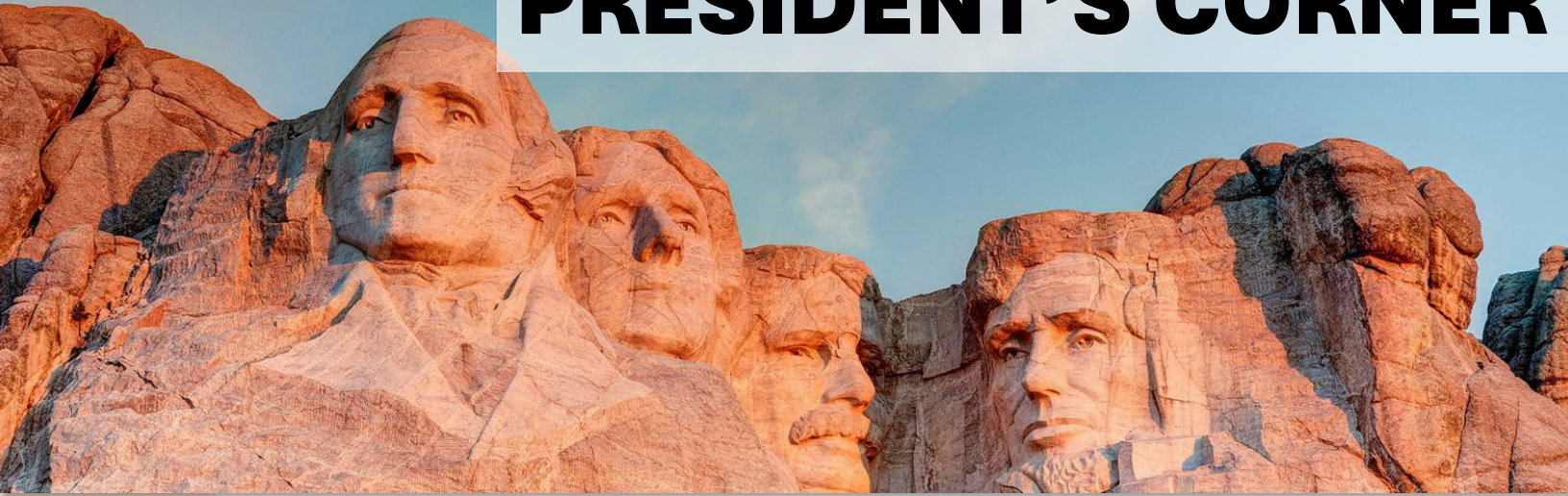
We had a close friend at the USGS office in Reston, VA, Rob Weems. Whenever Rob visited, the three of us would get together. Rob and Carole were matchmaking between his daughter and her son. Nope, that didn't work. But here we are at Rob's daughter's wedding in 2017, along with Rob's wife Sucho. And here we are having lunch at my house in 2018.



In 2024 she drove us to the Desert Symposium in Zzyzx, so we spent the hours and hours together. That's when I finally realized that Carole had perfect memory. Since then, I have made another friend who has that same super autobiographical memory which is called hyperthymesia. Having a lousy memory, I am so jealous. Thus, I became one of those people who encouraged her; rarely do people recall the colors and smells and sounds of some long-ago activity in excruciating detail.

Carole was a sweet, warm, loving person. She loved her family, she loved her students, and she loved her friends. She laughed at adversity—like getting two flat tires driving on a SDAG field trip in the desert. I'm freaking out and she's laughing because she expected that the problem would be solved. And it was because of the two loving Morgan brothers, George and JR. On an earlier SDAG field trip she had a broken leg. What did Carole do? She put her body on one of those knee scooters and had a great time. Indeed, Carole was a really lucky person—a geologist who died with her field boots on. Miss you, girl.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Hello SDAG Members!

We had an amazing joint meeting with Geo-Institute for our May meeting held at Sufi Mediterranean Cuisine, where we had around 90 people attend! Dr. Sebastian Lobo-Guerrero delivered a phenomenal presentation where he educated us on ways to evaluate and approach slope stability problems. The way he delivered his talk was beyond entertaining and captivating. Also, it was a perfect blend of geology and geotechnical engineering! Thanks to everyone who was able to attend, and special thanks to Kelly Overturf (Geo-Institute Secretary/Treasurer) for being the one who initiated having a joint meeting with Geo-Institute this year! Let's do it again!

As many of you all know, one of our beloved SDAG members, Carole Ziegler, passed away while hiking the Pacific Crest Trail on Saturday, May 10th. She will be deeply missed and we will be including a memorial page for Carole in this year's Annual SDAG Field Trip Guidebook.

Speaking of the Annual SDAG Field Trip, as a reminder the field trip will be held this **September 26th to 28th**, where we will explore the San Andreas Fault near the Wrightwood area! So, mark your calendars! If you're interested in attending or would like more information, keep an eye out for an email from me following this June newsletter that will include additional details and the registration form. These details and registration form will be posted on our website. Please note, the field trip is limited to the first 50 paid attendees and due to having to postpone this field trip from last year because of the Bridge Fire, numerous folks kept their paid spots, so we actually only have 27 spots remaining!

For our June 18th joint meeting with South Coast Geological Society, I am happy to announce we will be returning to El Adobe De Capistrano in San Juan Capistrano! Our speaker will be Dr. Miles Kenney, an independent consulting geologist at Kenney GeoScience, who will give a presentation on the controversial Beverly Hills fault. You're not going to want to miss this presentation! Just a friendly reminder Wednesday June 11th is the last day to sign up!

Thanks, and see you all at the June 18th Meeting!!

-Heather Reynolds
2025 SDAG President



2025 Upcoming Meetings

DATE	SPEAKER & TOPICS
June 18	SDAG/SCGS Joint Meeting: Dr. Miles Kenney on the controversial Beverly Hills fault at El Adobe in San Juan Capistrano
July 16	Rachel Maxwell on a survey of the Mojave-Sonoran Desert Springs and their sources. <i>"Is this spring connected to that Aquifer?"</i> Hosted at the Marina Village – Catalina Room
August 20	Dr. Mario Caputo on "Newly Discovered Tetrapod Bones, Insect Trace Fossils, & Eolian Adhesion Structures- Upper Pennsylvanian Wescogame Formation, Supai Group, Grand Canyon, Arizona
September 26-28	SDAG Annual Field Trip, San Andreas Fault in the Wrightwood area, Transverse Ranges (no meeting this month)
October 15	Todd Wirth on "First report of marine invertebrate megafossils from the Eocene Mount Soledad Fm at Tourmaline Surfing Park"
November 19 SDAG/AEG-IE Joint Meeting	Eldon Gath on "San Joaquin Hills, Santa Ana Mountains, Puente Hills, and the Whittier fault: The final(?) grand theory of Orange County's tectonic geomorphic evolution"
December 17	Traditional Holiday Celebration at the San Diego Natural History Museum with Tom Deméré

STAY TUNED

MORE INFO TO COME IN UPCOMING EMAILS

SDAG Annual Field Trip

San Andreas Fault in the Wrightwood area,
Transverse Ranges

September 26-28, 2025

Link to list of [Previous Field Trips](#)

SDAG | LOCAL SPOTLIGHT

[Read and Watch Original article and video at NBC San Diego \[HERE\]](#)

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

SDSU SCIENTISTS FIND NEW FAULT LINES, UNDERWATER LANDSLIDES, TSUNAMI TRIGGERS

After a 5.2-magnitude earthquake rattled San Diego County, local geology experts say all these factors could threaten San Diego's coasts.

SCIENTISTS FIND NEW FAULT LINES, TSUNAMI TRIGGERS



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4:07 65°

[Check out their most recent cruise and research \[HERE\]!](#)

[Two years before Monday's 5.2-magnitude earthquake](#), San Diego State University scientists started a project that led them more than 90 miles off San Diego's coastline.

In February, the group took a 12-day research cruise aboard an oceanographic research vessel called the "Sally Ride." Scientists dredged rocks and mapped the seafloor to find new fault lines, underwater landslides and potential tsunami triggers.

"This tsunami could be dangerous for the coastal communities and metropolises like Los Angeles, Tijuana and San Diego," said Dr. Andrea Fabbri, a geophysics expert at SDSU.

He works beside Dr. Jillian Maloney, an earth and environmental sciences associate professor at SDSU.

"Underwater faults are difficult to study," Maloney said. "We're in over 1,000 meters of water, and so we have to use remote sensing sonar and dropping little sediment cores to study those."

She said scientists can't predict when an earthquake will happen, but fault lines can tell them how big it could be and how often it could shake.

"What kind of damage would there be?" she said. "How can fire departments and hospitals be prepared for injuries or fires or impacts to utilities and things like that?"

Monday's earthquake did not cause a tsunami warning or any reported damage or injuries so far, but the goal is to know as much as possible in case the next one does.



SDAG | May Meeting Recap

A GREAT SUCCESS!

The May SDAG and Geo-Institute meeting was a great success! A big thank you to our speaker, Dr. Lobo Guerrero, who delivered an engaging and insightful presentation on landslide stabilization methods.

Geologists love field photos, and Dr. Guerrero didn't disappoint—he shared some fantastic images and stories from his projects and experiences.

We look forward to seeing you at next month's meeting!



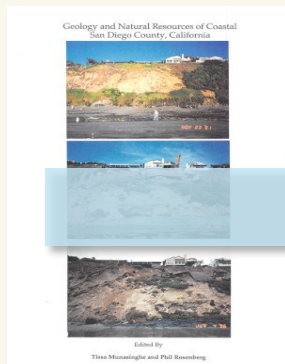


SDAG | Publications

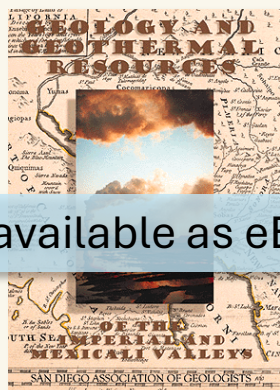
The SDAG publication page includes links to in stock books we sell thru Sunbelt Publications, out of stock books we sell thru Google Play Books, and out of stock books that we provide free as scanned copies to download.

FIELD TRIP GUIDES & RESEARCH REPORTS

Now available as eBooks!



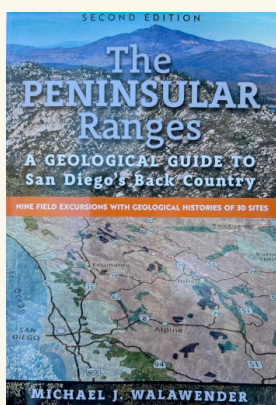
Geology And Natural Resources Of Coastal San Diego County, CA (1996)



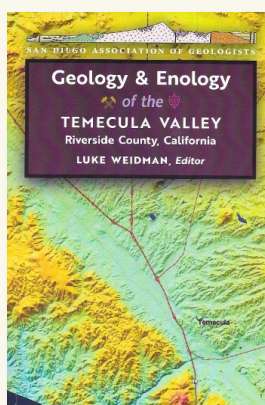
Geology And Geothermal Resources Of The Imperial And Mexicali Valleys (1998)



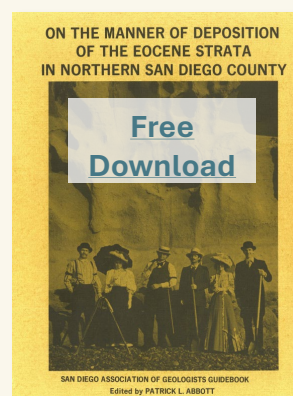
WATER FOR SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA: Water Resources Development (1999)



The Peninsular Ranges: A Geological Guide to San Diego's Back Country 2nd Edition



Geology & Enology of the Temecula Valley Riverside County, California 2nd Edition



On the Manner of Deposition of the Eocene Strata in Northern San Diego

FREE GUIDES AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD

- [1972 Otay Mesa](#)
- [1977 SW San Diego](#)
- [1978 Coronado Islands, BC](#)
- [1979 San Diego Region](#)
- [1987 Julian Gold](#)
- [1981 Geologic Investigations of the San Diego Coastal Plain](#)
- [1982 Geologic Studies in San Diego](#)
- [1985 Eocene in San Diego](#)
- [1989 Fault Features: La Jolla - Ensenada](#)

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