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SDAG Announcements

SDAG MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Wednesday, March 18th, 2026

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

LOCATION:

Phils BBQ Event Center

3740 Sports Arena Blvd., Suite 10

San Diego, CA 92110

*Event room is located in the same shopping center as the Phil's BBQ restaurant.

SPEAKER:

Josh Goodwin, PG, CEG

TOPIC:

“Understanding Geology Licensure in California: PG, CEG, CHG, and PGp; How to apply, serve as a reference, and avoid common violations.”

DINNER: BBQ Broham Sandwich, El Toro Sandwich, or BBQ Garden Veggie Burger

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

RESERVATIONS:

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

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.



[Click Here! For Directions](#)



[Click Here! For Reservations](#)



Meet Our | Speaker & Topic



Josh Goodwin, PG, CEG, is the Senior Registrar for Geology and Geophysics at the California Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists (BPELSG or the Board). His 25 years of experience includes working as a consultant practicing environmental and engineering geology, working for the Division of Mine Reclamation evaluating slope stability and water quality, and working as a Senior Engineering Geologist for the California Geological Survey, overseeing mapping projects for construction aggregate, critical minerals, naturally occurring asbestos, and geological sources of radon.

JOSH GOODWIN, PG, CEG

ABSTRACT:

“Understanding geology licensure in California: PG, CEG, CHg, and PGp: How to apply, serve as a reference, and avoid common violations.”

This presentation will provide valuable information for geologists seeking licensure and will assist current licensees acting as references for applicants.

The talk will cover various topics including, what “responsible charge” means for geologists, common violations of the Business and Professions Code, and give an overview of the online application and renewal process through the BPELSG Connect system.

We will discuss California’s requirements for the Professional Geologist (PG) license and Geologist in Training (GIT) certificate, including a summary of education requirements and properly documenting qualifying work experience.

We will also review the requirements for the engineering geology (CEG) and hydrogeology (CHg) certifications, and the Professional Geophysicist (PGp) license. Finally, bring any burning questions you may have regarding licensing authority and the Board’s view on all topics related to the practice.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Howdy SDAG Members

We are off to a great start to 2026. We just had our February event; it was well attended and thanks to UCSD we had a dozen students. It was so great seeing them interact with our members. Norrie Robbins, formerly with SDSU, gave a fantastic presentation on her studies in Santorini. It was such fun to hear how she was able to get local students collect data for her project and the involvement of her family on this research/planning. Thanks again to Norrie for her effort and time! Kudos go out to John Teasley to record the presentation so if you missed the talk, you could look up the video on our website. And of course, thanks to the other officers for all their hard work.

It is also time to renew your SDAG membership. Annual membership is super critical of the organization, in that it helps in part to subsidize our students attending our events at a discounted price. Also, if you have not already, please consider becoming a sponsor—sponsorship includes your annual membership and provides critical support for our programs and funds our scholarships. Sponsorship levels start at \$100 and that gives you annual membership and recognition on the website and newsletter. It is not too late to sign up to be a member or be a sponsor.

Also, a big shout out to Monte Murbach and Dr. Ann Bykerk-Kauffman for conducting a One Stop Wonder on January 31st. They presented the research her students have done at Canyon sin Nombre in this area including the adjacent Coyote Mountains and will be going over the draft geologic map. The event was well attended and sparked some interesting conversation.

The Greater San Diego Science fair is looking for judges for the upcoming event on March 18th. It is a great way to give back to the community for the next generation of scientists. I urge you to sign up to be a judge!

Coming up on March 18th, Josh Goodwin, Senior Register with the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists will be giving us a presentation at Phils BBQ at the Sports Arena titled: “Understanding geology licensure in California: How to apply, serve as a reference and avoid common violations”. His abstract is provided in the Newsletter. This is an opportunity to better understand licensure in California.

I look forward to seeing you at the March 18th meeting—be sure to mark your calendar and register in advance via PayPal.

Any questions about SDAG please feel free to reach out to me at mike@sandiegogeologicalsociety.org.

Cheers,
Mike Palmer
2026 SDAG President



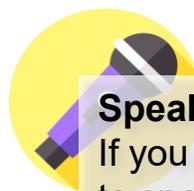
2026 Upcoming Meetings

DATE	SPEAKERS & TOPICS
March 18 th	Josh Goodwin with BPELSG speaking on “Understanding Geology Licensure in California: PG, CEG, CHg, and PGp; How to apply, serve as a reference, and avoid common violations.” Venue: Phils BBQ
April 15 th	Student Research Presentations by Scholarship Recipients Venue: Sunbelt Publishing
May 20 th	Danny Simms, PHD, Controlled Thermal Resources: “X-ray diffraction and seismic reflection data constraints on geothermal mineral brine reservoir modelling, Salton Sea Geothermal Field, Imperial Valley, California.”
June 10 th	Joint meeting with South Coast Geological Society
July 15 th	Rick Halsey of the CA Chaparral Institute: Title TBA
August 19 th	Monte Marshal, SDSU retired: Title TBA
September	No Meeting: Annual Field Trip
October 21 st	Wes Danskin, USGS retired speaking on “Geology and Water Resources of the San Diego – Tijuana Area”
November 18 th	Joint meeting with AEG Inland Empire Section
December 16 th	Annual Holiday Meeting at San Diego History Museum with Tom Demere as Speaker

2026 SDAG MEMBERSHIP

Renew or become a new SDAG Member
2026 Member Dues are Due if you have not already done so.

On-line Payment (\$30 Member; \$10 Student) or Bring FORM to Meeting



Speakers For 2026 Meetings

If you or someone you know would like to speak at an upcoming meeting contact one of our officers!



SAVE THE DATE

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

SAVE THE DATE

SEPTEMBER 25 – 27, 2026

SDAG ANNUAL FIELD TRIP

Exploring Cerro Gordo in the
White Mountains and Owen's valley area

PACIFIC SECTION SEPM FIELD TRIP | 25-26 APRIL 2026

Trip leaders: Pat Abbott with co-leaders Ron Kies & Bill Bartling



Saturday, April 25

Examine all phases of a SUBMARINE FAN in beach cliff exposures of Late Cretaceous (Campanian) strata in La Jolla and Pacific Beach, California. We will "wade through" Cretaceous 1) tidal-channel deposits, 2) see dramatic deepening from 1m to 1km deep water, then take close-up looks at 3) basin plain, 4) outer submarine fan, 5) mid-fan, and 6) inner-fan valley strata.



Sunday, April 26

Walk below 100m high cliffs along Torrey Pines Beach in La Jolla. Examine Eocene lagoonal and tidal-flat deposits that are cut by the north wall of an Eocene SUBMARINE CANYON. Continue walking south and see the lateral coarsening of sediment infill as a prograding alluvial fan delivered ever-coarser sediments into a widening submarine canyon. Added bonus of Paleocene/Eocene Thermal Maximum strata.



GALAPAGOS ISLANDS



APRIL 21 – MAY 3, 2027



Join geologists and nature lovers on a marvelous tour of the Galapagos Islands organized by GeoTours. The focus is on wildlife and geology, with opportunities to hike, swim, and snorkel. Start in the coastal city of Guayaquil on the mainland of Ecuador for 2 nights, followed by 10 nights in the Galapagos with visits to 10 different islands. The group will spend 6 nights in hotels on 3 different islands of the Galapagos, followed by a 5-day/4-night cruise on the Calipso yacht with space for 16 passengers. Registration form is available at www.geotours.us/tour/galapagos2027.

TOUR COST = \$7690 pp in a twin or double room; single rooms/cabins are limited and cost +\$2000. Includes round-trip airfare from Guayaquil to the Galapagos; hotel accommodations in Guayaquil and for 6 nights in the Galapagos; speed boat transport between islands while staying in hotels; 5 day/4 night cruise on the Calipso yacht or equivalent; Galapagos National Park entrance fee; professional naturalist guide in the Galapagos; all breakfasts; all meals and water during the cruise; snorkeling equipment, kayaks, and wet suits during the cruise; tips to guides and crew; and a donation to the San Diego Association of Geologists (SDAG). Tour cost is based on a group of 14-16 people.

NOT INCLUDED = International airfare to Guayaquil, meals not listed above, drinks, shopping, anything not listed above.

INCLUDED ACTIVITIES

- Guayaquil – City tour with guide and transport
- Flight from Guayaquil to Baltra
- Speedboat from Baltra to Isabela Island
- Isabela Island – Sierra Negra hike (2-5 hours)
- Speedboat from Isabela to Santa Cruz Island
- Santa Cruz Island – Tour of the Highlands
- Santa Cruz Island – Darwin Research Center
- Santa Cruz daytrip to Santa Fe or So. Plazas Island
- Speedboat from Santa Cruz to San Cristobal Island
- San Cristobal Island – Beaches and viewpoints
- San Cristobal – Kicker Rock snorkeling (optional)
- San Cristobal day trip to Española Island (optional)
- Board Calipso yacht on San Cristobal Island
- San Cristobal Island – Witch Hill
- Bartolome Island – Pinnacle Rock
- Santiago Island – Puerto Egas
- Fernandina Island – Espinosa Point
- Isabela Island – Tagus Cove & Urbina Bay
- North Seymour Island
- Flight from Baltra to Guayaquil



QUESTIONS?

Matt Ebner (GeoTours): mattebner@geotours.us, 310-686-8171
Diane Murbach: dianemurbach@gmail.com; 619-865-4333



SDAG | February Meeting Recap

Our February meeting featured an out-of-this-world presentation by Dr. Eleanora (Norrie) Robbins on the JIMES Expedition to Santorini, exploring the unique links between ancient iron formations and the potential for terraforming Mars.

We were grateful to have Norrie share her interdisciplinary research and the story of the incredible global collaboration—spanning from local students to NASA microbiologists—that made her study possible. The session offered a valuable chance to look at geological history through a modern lens and enjoy an engaging discussion on the origins of life. Norrie’s expertise was truly appreciated, making for an excellent addition to our meeting schedule!



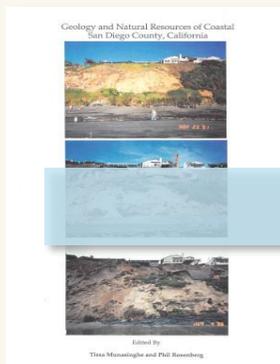


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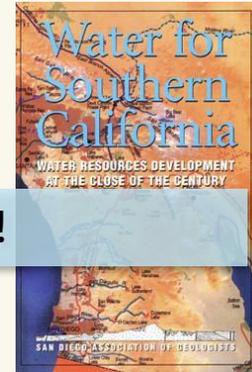
FIELD TRIP GUIDES & RESEARCH REPORTS



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

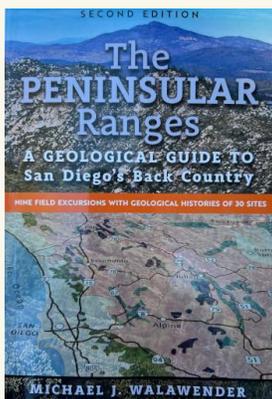


Geology And Geothermal Resources Of The Imperial And Mexicali Valleys (1998)

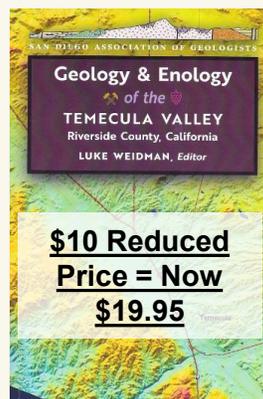


WATER FOR SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA: Water Resources Development (1999)

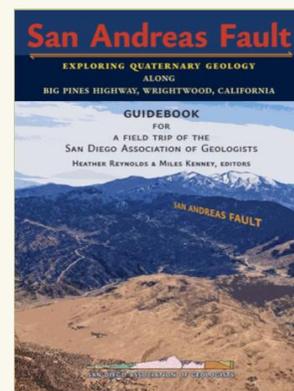
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The Peninsular Ranges: A Geological Guide to San Diego's Back Country 2nd Edition



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



San Andreas Fault: Exploring Quaternary Geology Along the Big Pines Highway, Wrightwood, CA

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](#)

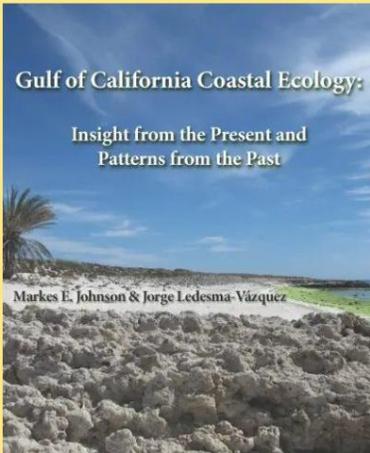


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Gulf of California Coastal Ecology

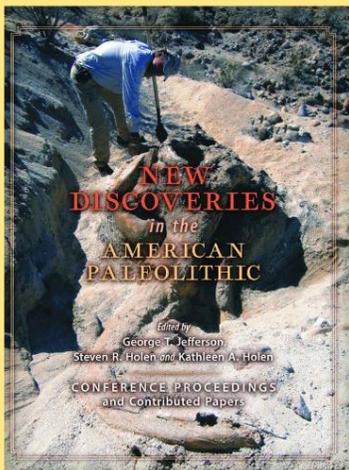
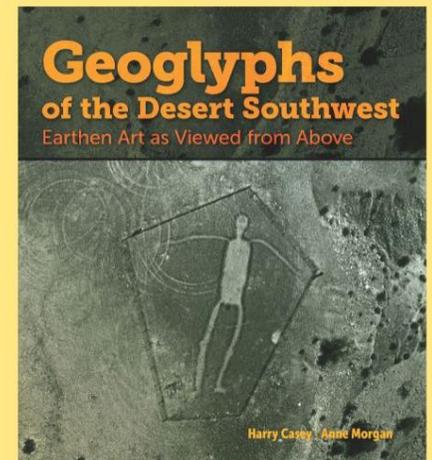
ISBN: 9781941384183
\$19.95

The Sea of Cortés has a rich ecosystem that has survived and thrived for over 12 million years, in some ways shifting dramatically and remaining almost unchanged in others. That extensive natural history is carefully documented and explored by this handbook, making connections and providing a broad but thorough overview of the geography, geology, and ecology of the area. Readers of all knowledge levels will be able to use it as an invaluable resource when exploring the coastline of the Gulf of California.

Geoglyphs of the Desert Southwest

ISBN: 9781941384503
\$19.95

The American southwest has one of the largest concentrations of geoglyphs in the world, outside of the Nazca Lines in Peru. These ancient works of art are often made at such a large scale that they are all but invisible unless viewed from above. In the 1970s, photographer Harry Casey, along with archaeology professor Jay von Werlhof and his students, embarked on a quest to find and record these awe-inspiring sites before human activity could damage them anymore.



New Discoveries in the American Paleolithic

ISBN: 9781941384640
\$29.95

The common assumption is that humans began populating the Americas around 16,000 years ago, but recent discoveries have thrown that number into question. Evidence has surfaced that the true timeline may have been hundreds, or even thousands of years earlier still.

This book is a compilation of papers and proceedings from a conference held in January of 2019 about this exact subject; all together, this book presents compelling evidence that throws into question everything we currently know about the timeline of humanity in the Americas.

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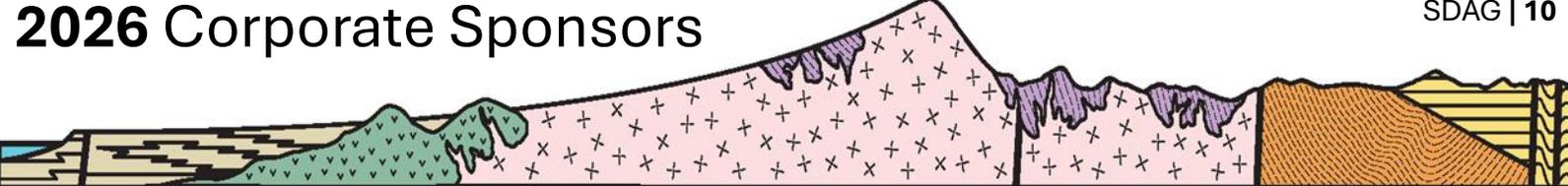
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