

SAN DIEGO ASSOCIATION OF GEOLOGISTS



[Click here
to join our
Facebook!](#)

[Visit our
Website!](#)



2026 OFFICERS

President

[Mike Palmer](#)

Vice President

[Jasmine Peach](#)

Secretary

[Luke Johnson](#)

Treasurer

[Sofia Tovar](#)

Web Master

[Carolyn Glockoff](#)

[CARO-LION](#)

[ENTERPRISE](#)

SDAG MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Wednesday, August 19th, 2026

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

LOCATION:

Marina Village - Dockside Room

1936 Quivira Way

San Diego, CA 92109

SPEAKER:

Dr. Monte Marshall, Ph.D., SDSU Professor Retired

*“SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF EUROPEAN PLATE TECTONIC
HISTORY—WITH A FOCUS ON ITALY.”*

DINNER: BBQ Chicken, Baron of Beef, Vegetarian Lasagna

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

RESERVATIONS:

Make & Pay your reservation online through the SDAG website,
before **6PM Tuesday, August 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.

SDAG

Announcements



[Click Here!
For Directions](#)



[Click Here!
For Reservations](#)



Meet Our | Speaker & Topic



I'm a native San Diegan and was born in Mercy Hospital. After high school, I attended Villanova University, in the suburbs of Philadelphia, where I majored in philosophy and minored in astronomy. Upon returning to San Diego, I enrolled at San Diego State as an astronomy major, but was lured into geology by a charismatic geology professor, the friendly students, and drinking beer around a campfire in the desert! I received my second bachelor's degree in geology and geophysics in 1966. I went to Stanford for my PhD in geology and geophysics. My thesis was measuring the magnetic properties of dredged seafloor basalt. My research showed that their magnetization is 10 times that of terrestrial basalt and that they are the main source of the linear oceanic magnetic anomalies that oceanographers were using to prove the new theory of plate tectonics.

After graduating in 1971, I continued my paleomagnetic research at the USGS in Menlo Park. But, I really wanted to teach and, after taking a much needed break of biking around Western Europe for six, adventure-filled months, I joined the SDSU geology department in 1975. My main courses were geophysics, structural geology, petroleum geology, and paleomagnetism and plate tectonics. Along with my students, we conducted paleomagnetic studies in southern California and gravity studies of the faults in metropolitan San Diego. I had three sabbatical years—doing research and teaching at universities in France, Russia, and the Czech Republic. I retired in 2005. My love of geology and teaching has continued by giving geology talks, teaching new docents and hiking guides at our Natural History Museum, and writing articles for SDAG's field trip guidebooks.

Dr. Monte Marshall, Ph.D. SDSU

ABSTRACT:

"SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF EUROPEAN PLATE TECTONIC HISTORY—WITH A FOCUS ON ITALY."

This talk will begin by exploring the main orogenies that assembled the western Europe continent. Having just returned from a month in Italy, I will focus on the Italian peninsula—its rocks and volcanoes, and role in producing the Alpine mountains. Like other continents, western Europe is an assemblage of island arcs and continental fragments that have accreted over the last three billion years. The Baltic Shield, or the countries from Norway to northwestern Russia, is made of Proterozoic to Archean crust. Most of the rest of western Europe was assembled in the Paleozoic Caledonian and Hercynian orogenies. The plate tectonic history of southern Europe, especially that of Italy, is complicated and involves collisions with Africa, or parts of Africa, after it separated from the Americas in the break-up of Pangea at 200 Ma. The collision of northern Italy with southern Europe caused the beautiful Alpine mountain chain. At 6 Ma Africa closed the gap between Spain and Morocco, completely closing off the Mediterranean. In the following millennia the Mediterranean dried up, depositing hundreds of feet of salts. At 5.3 Ma, the Strait of Gibraltar was breached—causing the highest and most voluminous waterfall that we know of!

Geochemical analysis of strata in the Italian mountains that contained the K-T boundary led to the discovery that the extinction of the dinosaurs was caused by a meteorite impact. It was in these mountains, near Florence, that Nicolas Steno worked out the three fundamental principles of stratigraphy. Far to the south, Italy's famous volcanoes of Vesuvius and Etna are being fed by magma generated by the subduction of the deep floor of the Mediterranean. Located in the suburbs of Naples, Vesuvius is still quite active and is ranked as the world's most dangerous volcano.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello SDAG Members,

As we move into the heart of summer, I continue to be encouraged by the strong participation and enthusiasm of our members. Our July meeting was exceptionally well attended and served as another reminder of the value of collaboration and lifelong learning within the geologic community. A special thank you to Rick Halsey for his fascinating presentation, For the Love of Rocks, Deep Time, and the Pursuit of Knowledge. Rick explored how geology underpins our understanding of Earth's history and the evolution of life, while sharing engaging and creative ways to inspire a greater appreciation for the remarkable stories hidden beneath our feet. If you were unable to attend, I encourage you to visit the SDAG website and watch the presentation under "Recordings of Past Meetings." As always, my sincere thanks go to our officers, board members, and Carolyn for the countless hours they dedicate behind the scenes to make these meetings and programs possible.

Looking ahead, our next meeting will be held on August 19. We are excited to welcome Dr. Monte Marshall (Professor Emeritus, San Diego State University) as our featured speaker. Monte will share highlights from his recent travels through Italy, along with fascinating insights into the region's plate tectonics and geologic history. His abstract is included in this newsletter, and I encourage everyone to attend what promises to be another engaging and informative presentation.

Our August meeting will once again be held at Marina Village in the Dockside Room (please note the room location). I look forward to enjoying another evening of great food, stimulating conversation, and the opportunity to reconnect with fellow members. Please remember to register and pay in advance through PayPal using a credit card, debit card, or bank account. Reservations must be received no later than August 11, as this is a firm deadline required by the venue. We are also eagerly anticipating our September Field Trip, led by our own Jasmine Peach. Scheduled for September 25–27, the trip will be based out of Diaz Lake Campground near the spectacular Alabama Hills. SDAG field trips remain one of the most rewarding benefits of membership, combining outstanding geology with professional networking, education, and the opportunity to explore some of California's most remarkable landscapes. From everything I have seen, Jasmine has assembled an outstanding program. Additional details are included in this newsletter, and if you are interested in contributing, please contact Jasmine directly.

One of the most meaningful investments SDAG makes is supporting the next generation of geoscientists. As mentioned last month, Shannon O'Dunn has once again demonstrated her commitment to our profession by renewing her sponsorship with a generous \$4,000 donation dedicated to the 2026 Student Scholarship Awards. Her continued generosity will help us provide scholarships and educational opportunities for students pursuing careers in the geosciences.

As discussed during our April meeting, we have also launched a dedicated Scholarships page on the SDAG website. Students are encouraged to visit the page to learn more about upcoming scholarship opportunities as we begin the application process this September. For members who wish to give back to the profession, supporting the scholarship program is one of the most meaningful ways to invest in the future of geology and help develop tomorrow's geoscience leaders.

Thank you for your continued support of SDAG and for helping make our organization such a vibrant and welcoming professional community. I look forward to seeing many of you at our August meeting and throughout the remainder of the year as we continue to promote geology, education, and professional collaboration throughout the San Diego region.

Wishing you and your families a safe, relaxing, and enjoyable remainder of the summer!

Mike Palmer, 2026 SDAG President



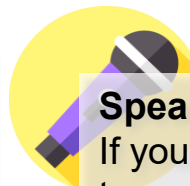
2026 Upcoming Meetings

DATE	SPEAKERS & TOPICS
August 19 th	Monte Marshall, SDSU retired: "Some Highlights of European Plate Tectonic History, With a Focus on Italy."
September	No Meeting: Annual Field Trip September 25-27th
October 21 st	Wes Danskin, USGS retired speaking on "Geology and Water Resources of the San Diego – Tijuana Area"
November 18 th	Dave Bloom, "Geology of Morocco"
December 16 th	Annual Holiday Meeting at San Diego History Museum with Tom Demere as Speaker
January 2027	Pat Abbot: "Geologic Control of Human History in Central Texas: Cretaceous limestone, Miocene faulting, groundwater flow, and human land use"
February 2027	Speaker and Talk TBA

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 2027 Meetings

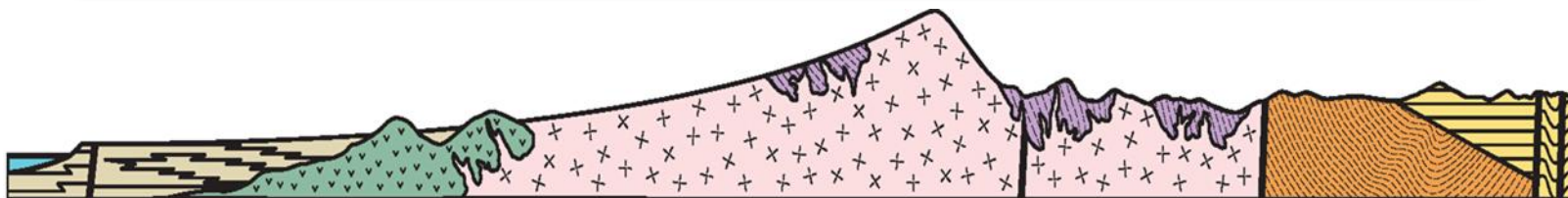
If you or someone you know would like
to speak at an upcoming meeting
contact one of our officers!

SDAG JOBS BOARD

Please visit the SDAG jobs board to see open opportunities and potential candidates.
Please reach out to the SDAG secretary with new opportunities to be added.

See newly listed opportunities from GSI, and Southwestern College.

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



SAN DIEGO ASSOCIATION OF GEOLOGISTS

Get Ready to **GEAR** **UP**

2026 SDAG FIELD TRIP

Southern Owens Valley: Faults, Fortunes, & Forgotten Shores
September 25–27, 2026

Join us for the 2026 SDAG Field Trip

**“Southern Owens Valley: Faults, Fortunes, and Forgotten Shores,”
from September 25 through 27, 2026.**

This three-day trip will explore the geology and history of Southern Owens Valley, the Inyo Mountains, Cerro Gordo, and Owens Lake. The trip will be led by **Dr. Rafael Almeida of San Diego State University.**

GEOLOGIC TOPICS

- Lone Pine Fault scarp and the 1872 Owens Valley earthquake
- Structural geologic transect along Cerro Gordo Road
- Geology and mining history of the Cerro Gordo Mine
- Owens Lake hydrogeology and environmental geology

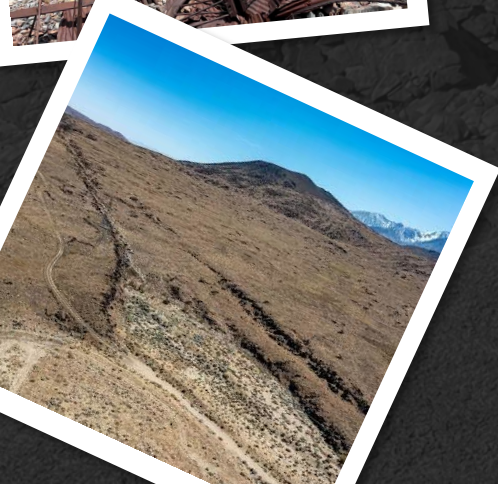
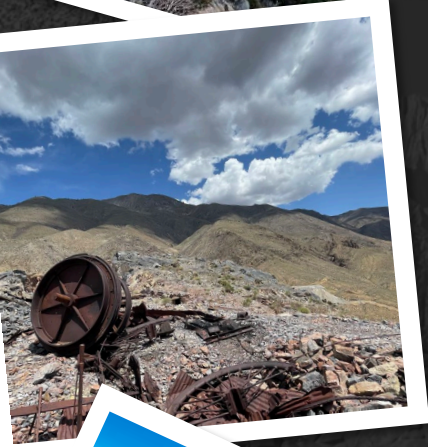
LODGING AND MEALS

Group camping is planned at Diaz Lake Campground near Lone Pine, CA. The group site accommodates tents, vehicle camping, and dry RV camping without hookups. Vault toilets and potable water are available. Optional Thursday night camping is available. Registration includes Friday dinner, all meals on Saturday, Sunday breakfast and lunch, snacks, beverages, field materials, commemorative souvenirs, and admission to Cerro Gordo. Participants are responsible for transportation and their own camping equipment. High-clearance vehicles are recommended.

REGISTRATION

Registration is limited to the first **50 paid participants and must be completed by September 4, 2026.**

Fees are \$250 for SDAG members, \$275 for non-members, and \$125 for students with identification. A completed registration form and signed liability waiver are required for each participant.



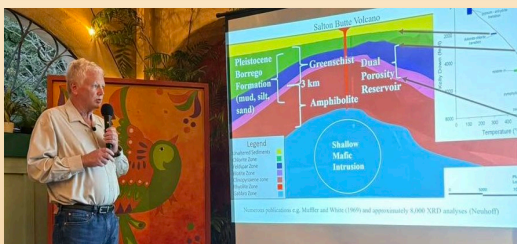
CALL FOR SPEAKERS

For the **2027** SDAG MONTHLY MEETINGS



SAN DIEGO ASSOCIATION OF GEOLOGISTS
- EST. 1971 -

Help us make 2027 another year of engaging, informative, & inspiring geology presentations!



San Diego Association of Geologists (SDAG) is seeking speakers for our monthly meetings throughout **2027**.

Share your knowledge with the Southern California geologic community. We need one speaker for each monthly meeting.

We welcome presentations on engineering geology, environmental geology, hydrogeology, geophysics, mineral resources, geologic hazards, GIS and remote sensing, field studies, academic research, career development, or any geology-related topic.

If you or someone you know would like to present, please contact us.

INTERESTED IN SPEAKING?



Jasmine@SanDiegoGeologicalSociety.org
or contact any SDAG Officer



Learn more at
www.sandiegogeologists.org/



Follow us at
www.facebook.com/sandiegogeologists.org/

Connecting geologist. Advancing our profession. Exploring the Earth.

CALL FOR PAPERS



Now Accepting Contributions to the **2027 Guidebook** **Southern Owens Valley: Faults, Fortunes, and Forgotten Shores**

SDAG invites anyone interested to contribute to the official **2027 Guidebook** covering the geology, mining history, and cultural history of **southern Owens Valley, including the Inyo Mountains, Cerro Gordo Mining District, Lone Pine fault, and Owens Lake area.**

We welcome contributions from all geology-related disciplines, as well as mining and cultural history of the region.

Topics may include:

structural geology, geomorphology, hydrogeology, geochemistry, stratigraphy, basin evolution, environmental geology, and any related subjects or disciplines. **Student contributions are encouraged!**

If you have an idea for a paper, short article, figure, map, photographs, or other contribution, we would love to hear from you as we organize the road log and guidebook.

Contributions to the 2027 Guidebook are due by **January 31, 2027, with publication planned for **mid-2027**.**

Please contact Jasmine Peach for details. [**jasmine@sandiegogeologicalsociety.org**](mailto:jasmine@sandiegogeologicalsociety.org)



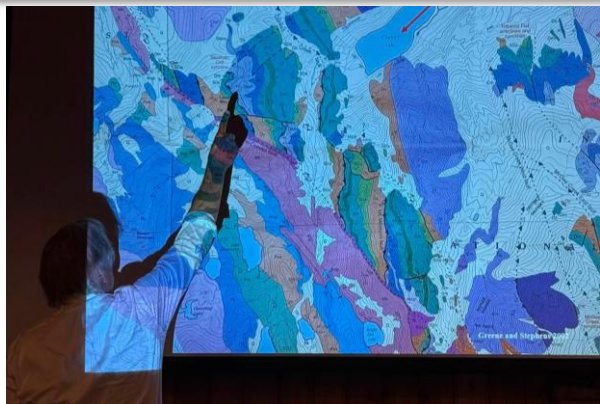
SDAG | July Meeting Recap



Last month, we had the pleasure of welcoming Rick Halsey for our July meeting.

His presentation, *For the Love of Rocks, Deep Time, and the Pursuit of Knowledge*, explored how geology forms the foundation of our understanding of Earth's history and the evolution of life.

Rick shared engaging and creative ways to inspire a deeper appreciation for the stories hidden right beneath our feet. We are very grateful to him for taking the time to speak to the group. It was a great presentation, and we all had a lot of fun looking at the natural world through his perspective!



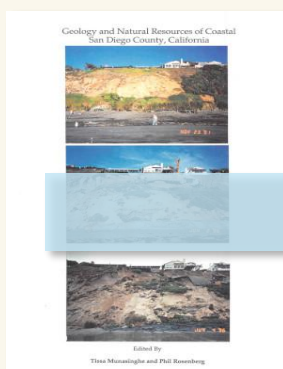


SDAG | Publications

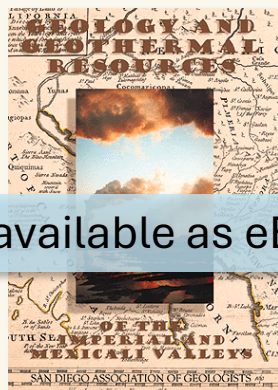
Sunbelt Publications is SDAG's official distributor and sales partner. For purchasing SDAG books distributed by Sunbelt, use discount code SDAG26 for 20% off your order.

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.

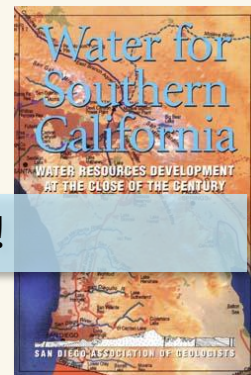
FIELD TRIP GUIDES & RESEARCH REPORTS



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

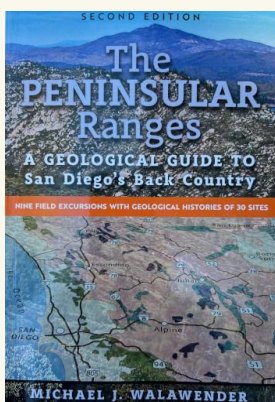


Geology And Geothermal Resources Of The Imperial And Mexicali Valleys (1998)

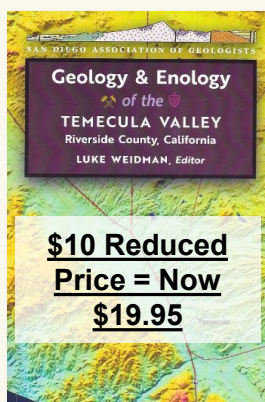


WATER FOR SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA: Water Resources Development (1999)

Now available as eBooks!

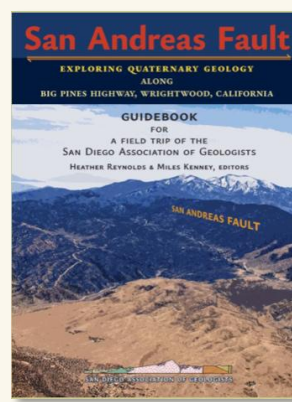


The Peninsular Ranges: A Geological Guide to San Diego's Back Country 2nd Edition



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

\$10 Reduced Price = Now \$19.95



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](#)



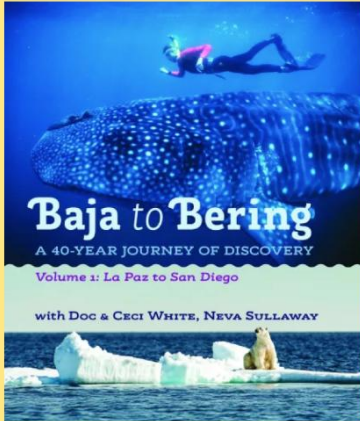
Sunbelt Publications

Natural History & Cultural Heritage of Unique Regions
664 Marsat Ct. Ste A Chula Vista, CA 91911
www.sunbeltpublications.com • 619-258-4911

Sunbelt Recommends...

Use discount code **SDAG26** for 20% off your order at www.sunbeltpublications.com
OR come visit us in person!

New for Nature Lovers:



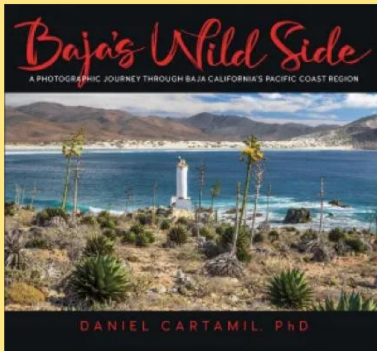
Baja to Bering: A 40-Year Journey of Discovery | Vol. 1: La Paz to San Diego

ISBN: 9781941384763

\$34.95

Baja to Bering Vol 1. is a compilation of four decades at sea, recounting experiences from La Paz, Baja California, to San Diego, California, following Doc and Ceci White's muse—humpback and gray whales. This is not just another whale book; indeed, it is a love letter to the Sea, acknowledging its magnificence, its perilous beauty and all the Sea gives us—oxygen, food, water, medicine, energy, and so much more. In turn, we hope to encourage awareness of the Ocean's mysterious underwater world, much of it still unexplored.

Backlist Favorites:

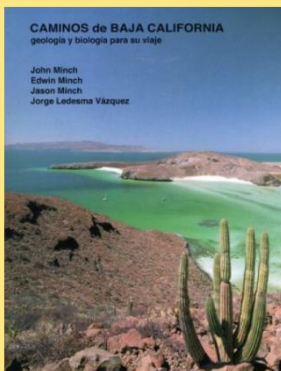


Baja's Wild Side

ISBN: 9781941384329

\$19.95

This book chronicles a fragile paradise of remote landscapes, wildlife, and cultural treasures on the verge of being overtaken by modern civilization. From the high sierra to ancient cave paintings hidden deep in the desert, to the surf-pounded Pacific, readers will discover Baja California's little-known "Wild Side."



Roadside Geology and Biology of Baja California

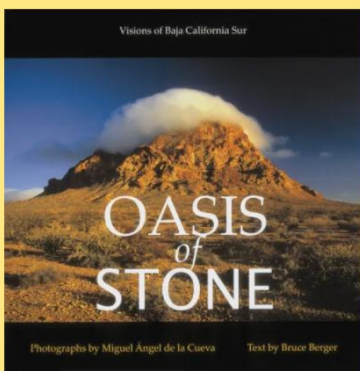
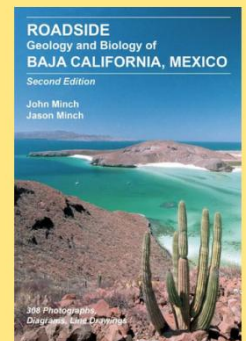
Caminos de Baja California Geología Y Biología

ISBN: 9780999025109 (ENG), 9780963109026 (SP)

\$24.95 (ENG), \$19.95 (SP)

A stunning guide to the biology and geology of the Baja California Peninsula, illustrated with full-color photographs and written to be accessible to the everyday reader.

Una guía espectacular sobre la biología y geología singular de la península de Baja California, ilustrada con fotografías a todo color y escrita para el lector cotidiano.



Oasis of Stone

ISBN: 9780916251765

\$49.95

Gorgeous full-color photography by award-winning photographer Miguel Ángel de la Cueva, and evocative text by Bruce Berger bring the southern half of Baja California to life. Beginning with its unique geology, and moving on to the coastal, desert, and mountain ecosystems of Mexico's little-known peninsula, this lushly decorated coffee-table book highlights the geology that created this "Oasis of Stone" and the flora and fauna that make their homes here.

SAN DIEGO ASSOCIATION OF GEOLOGISTS

DIAMOND SPONSORS \$1000+

Link to our [Sponsors Page](#)



Kuper Consulting LLC
tom@kupercon.com
dorian@kupercon.com



GEOCON

Dr. Pat Abbott
To Promote
Geologic Knowledge

Shannon O'Dunn
2026 Scholarship



CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

Lowell E. Lindsay
& Diana Lindsay



COMPANY

Your Logo Here

**Renew or become a new
SDAG Sponsor**

Minimum \$100 includes annual
Membership: [SPONSOR FORM](#)

Contact one of our officers for details

BECOME AN SDAG MEMBER

Renew or become a new
SDAG Member! If you have
not paid your dues this the
time do so!

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

SAN DIEGO ASSOCIATION OF GEOLOGISTS

RUBY SPONSORS \$500

Joe Coronas

H₂P Mobile
Geochemistry Inc.



EMERALD SPONSORS \$100

Dave Bloom

Larry Cann

Dr. Vic Camp

John Hoobs

Christian Wheeler Engineering

Greg Cranham

Consulting Geologist

Dr. Margaret R. Eggers, CHG

Eggers Environmental, Inc.

Patrick Lehrmann

Advantage Geophysics, Inc.

Eldon Gath

Earth Consultants International

Carolyn Glockhoff

Caro-Lion Enterprises

Stan Helenschmidt

Helenschmidt Geotechnical, Inc.

Ed & Hanna Hernandez

Project X Corrosion Engineering

Mike Palmer

Palmer Hydrogeologic Services

Todd Wirths

Chris Lynch

Jasmine Peach

Christina Tretinjak

Ninyo & Moore

Phil Farquharson

Geology Guy

Jeff Hull

Verdantas

Dr. Monte Marshall

SDSU Prof. of Geology and Geophysics, Emeritus

Monte and Diane Murbach

Murbach Geotech

Tod Clark

Pacific Drilling Co.

Gerald Shiller

Scott Snyder

David and Jan Steller

Dr. Anne Sturz

Sue Tanges

John Teasley

Rob Hawk

Mary Walke

Greg Bartow

Dr. Sarah Gray