

# Association of Environmental & Engineering Geologists



*Serving professionals in Ground-Water, Environmental  
and Engineering Geology*

## **Arizona Section Newsletter** **February 2009**

**February MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND  
ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS - ARIZONA SECTION**

**Dinner Meeting**  
**THURSDAY, February 19, 2009**  
**AT PIZZERIA UNO'S in Tempe**  
690 South Mill Ave, Tempe, AZ

REGISTRATION/HAPPY HOUR AT 6 PM  
MEETING SPONSORSHIP COURTESY OF  
ENVIRODRILL

DINNER STARTS AT 6:30 PM

## **The Automated Train (AT) Project at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport**

Mr. John Niedzielski, PE and  
Ms. Jessica Humble, PE, GIT  
Gannett Fleming, Inc.

MEETING RESERVATIONS  
(Please email Heather Hespeler by February 16, 2009)  
[hespeler@ninyoandmoore.com](mailto:hespeler@ninyoandmoore.com)

Please note Arizona Section meeting prices:  
Members \$20.00, Non-Members \$20.00, Full Time Students \$5.00, State Employees \$10.00

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## ARIZONA SECTION CHAIR CORNER – Ken Fergason

The close of 2008 and beginning of 2009 have been good to the Arizona Section – even though I think everyone is a bit unsettled by the current economic situation. We ended the year with a bang at our first holiday party, which we hope will become an annual event. The family-friendly event was held at the Arizona Natural History Museum in Mesa and much fun was had by all. A big thanks goes out to all who helped out, but especially Heather Hespeler who made it all happen.

Our first meeting in 2009 was our first joint-meeting with the Arizona Society of Mining Engineers (SME). The speaker was Arizona State Mine Inspector, Joe Hart. Attendance was outstanding and the presentation was of interest to all.

Gregg Mitchell (our Student Liaison) is finalizing announcements for our annual Student Night, so expect to hear more about it in the near future. The date is April 2<sup>nd</sup> at the University of Arizona Student Center in Tucson. We are working with the UA's Geodaze event so I have high hopes for an even greater student turn out this year. I urge all the various professional, corporate, and government agencies represented by our members to attend, sponsor, have booth and actively engage our students. Help us make the event a success. More information is available at <http://aegarizona.blogspot.com/2009/02/aegahs-student-night-2009.html>.

At the national level, AEG has a new survey that is active until February 27<sup>th</sup>. Your participation will help AEG become a better organization that better meets your needs. It should only take 5-10 minutes of your time, so please take the time to participate. The survey is can be found at [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=aM2M\\_2fmxD\\_2bCxjiKEm200N\\_2bA\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=aM2M_2fmxD_2bCxjiKEm200N_2bA_3d_3d).

If I were to guess, I'd say that only about 30% of the people who regularly attend our meetings are actually members of AEG. One of the goals of the Arizona Section is to grow our membership and it's clear that we are not communicating the benefits of membership. I strongly encourage you to join if you are not a member – you get the AEG Environmental & Engineering Geology publication, a nice entry on the resume, career building and recruiting support, on-line access to many journals, and numerous other forms of support. Students, involvement and membership in AEG goes a long way towards getting your career going. Details on how to join are found later in this newsletter.

Please don't forget about the AEG Arizona Section Blog (<http://aegarizona.blogspot.com/>). I've cut down on the email announcements that I send out, but they are all posted at the blog – actually, I publish much more than I would send out otherwise. It's a great source of information about Environmental and Engineering Geology and what's going on in and around Arizona. I encourage everyone to check by frequently.

Also, we've been doing great for meeting sponsors, but I've run out. Sponsorship helps to keep our meetings fun with beverages, and our Section alive and well, so please help the Section out and sponsor a meeting or more. Contact me for more information or fill out a sponsorship form and send it in - [http://www.aegweb.org/files/public/AZ\\_SEC\\_Sponsor\\_Form\\_pdf\\_WEBCOPY.pdf](http://www.aegweb.org/files/public/AZ_SEC_Sponsor_Form_pdf_WEBCOPY.pdf).

Cheers,  
Ken Fergason, AZ Section Chair

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## 2009 SECTION MEETINGS

### **Arizona Section Meetings/Field Trips**

Arizona Section meetings will be held at:

[Pizzeria Uno in Tempe](#)

**Cost:** Members \$20.00, Non-Members \$20.00, Full Time Students \$5.00, State Employees \$10.00

The Section's 2008 meeting schedule is as follows (topics/speakers subject to change):

- **February 19**, Gregg Mitchell, HDR – Land Subsidence and Earth Fissuring
- **March 26**, Ed Medley, Geosyntec Consultants – 2009 Jahn's Lecturer
- **April 2**, Student Night – at University of Arizona, Tucson
- **February 19**, Jessica Humble/John Niedzielski, Gannett Fleming – AT Train Presentation
- **May 7**, Keith Dahlen/Wayne Harrison, DMJM Harris – SR 87 Landslide Mitigation
- **Summer (TBA)**, Brian Fisher, City of Surprise – Survey Control in Subsidence Areas
- **Summer (TBA)**, Mike Rucker, AMEC – Subsidence Study
- **Summer (TBA)**, Mark Molinari, URS (Seattle) – AEG President

Meetings, meeting locations, and field trips listed above are subject to change.

### **U of A Chapter Meetings/News**

No news for February 2008, as this Chapter seems to be inactive. If you are interested in reanimating the U of A Student Chapter, please contact Ken Ferguson ([ken.fergason@amec.com](mailto:ken.fergason@amec.com)).

## AEG MEMBERSHIP

If you aren't a member, consider joining. You can obtain an application, or join on-line at [www.aegweb.org](http://www.aegweb.org). If you are a member – are you current? If not, you have several ways to renew. 1) Fill out the paperwork and mail it in, 2) log onto [www.aegweb.org](http://www.aegweb.org) with your ID and password; 3) Calling the National office at (303) 757-2926, or 4) send an email to [aeg@aegweb.org](mailto:aeg@aegweb.org) and we will call you.

## AZ SECTION NEW MEMBERS

### ARIZONA SECTION OFFICERS

Chair

Ken Ferguson  
(480) 940-2320

[ken.fergason@amec.com](mailto:ken.fergason@amec.com)

Treasurer

Ben Ciampa  
602-206-1219

[bciampa@GFNET.com](mailto:bciampa@GFNET.com)

Vice-Chair

Francisco (Pancho) Garza  
602-337-2508

[pancho.garza@dmjmharris.com](mailto:pancho.garza@dmjmharris.com)

Secretary

Heather Hespeler  
602-243-1600

[hhespeler@ninyoandmoore.com](mailto:hhespeler@ninyoandmoore.com)

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Student Liaison  
Greg Mitchell  
(602) 952-5760  
[Gregg.Mitchell@hdrinc.com](mailto:Gregg.Mitchell@hdrinc.com)

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

If you have Announcements that you want to get out to the Section, let us know and we'll publish it here.

- **We Need Sponsors!** Sponsorship makes our meeting great and keeps our section alive and functioning. I've run out, so please consider a sponsorship – more information is available at [http://www.aegweb.org/files/public/AZ\\_SEC\\_Sponsor\\_Form\\_pdf\\_WEBCOPY.pdf](http://www.aegweb.org/files/public/AZ_SEC_Sponsor_Form_pdf_WEBCOPY.pdf).
- AEG/AHS Student Night on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Make it a success – more information is available at <http://aegarizona.blogspot.com/2009/02/aegahs-student-night-2009.html>.
- Help make AEG better by taking a short survey - [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=aM2M\\_2fmxD\\_2bCxjiKEm20ON\\_2bA\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=aM2M_2fmxD_2bCxjiKEm20ON_2bA_3d_3d).
- Visit Geo Slice, the AEG Arizona Section blog – I hope to grow its use as way to distribute information of various forms. <http://aegarizona.blogspot.com/>

## **JOB OPENINGS, JOBS WANTED**

To add a job opening contact Ken Ferguson ([ken.fergason@amec.com](mailto:ken.fergason@amec.com)).

## **MEMBER NEWS**

If you have information that you want to get out to the Section, let us know and we'll publish it here.

## **IDEAS**

If you have ideas for a future meeting, field trips or events, please provide them to one of the Section officers.

## **EMAIL LIST**

If you want to be added to the newsletter email list, or no longer want to be included, please send them to Heather Hespeler at [hhespeler@ninyoandmoore.com](mailto:hhespeler@ninyoandmoore.com) or to Ken Ferguson at [ken.fergason@amec.com](mailto:ken.fergason@amec.com). Any additions or corrections to the email list or to the newsletter contact Heather or Ken as above.

## **MEETING SPONSORS**

We are always looking for sponsors for our monthly dinner meetings and for the Student Section activities. Sponsorship includes one dinner; and you can put up a small display and have a few minutes to talk about your company. More information is found at [http://www.aegweb.org/files/public/AZ\\_SEC\\_Sponsor\\_Form\\_pdf\\_WEBCOPY.pdf](http://www.aegweb.org/files/public/AZ_SEC_Sponsor_Form_pdf_WEBCOPY.pdf).

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To Sponsor an Arizona Section Meeting or the U of A Student Chapter, contact Ken Fergason (480-940-2320).

## **SECTION SPONSORS**

Our Section newsletter sponsors are listed alphabetically on the following pages. The sponsors for this season are a tremendous support and we are grateful for their participation. If you would like to become an Arizona Section sponsor, please contact Ken Fergason ([ken.fergason@amec.com](mailto:ken.fergason@amec.com)).

## **SUBSIDENCE AND EARTH FISSURING SUPPORT**

At the request of our State Geologist, our Section webpage features a section listing consulting firms with experience and expertise in dealing with subsidence and earth fissuring (<http://www.aegweb.org/i4a/pages/Index.cfm?pageID=4261>). If you would like to be added to the list, please contact Ken Fergason ([ken.fergason@amec.com](mailto:ken.fergason@amec.com)). It is referred to quite often by the Arizona Geological Survey.

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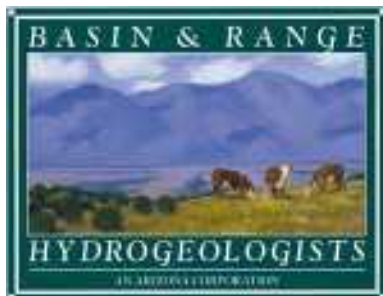
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