

Inland Geological Society

July 2008

Newsletter of the Inland Geological Society

Volume 24 No. 7

This Meeting:

Thursday,
July 10th

Time:

Social: 6:00pm
Dinner: 6:30pm
Lecture: 7:00pm

Location:

LSA Associates
1500 Iowa Ave
Suite 200
Riverside, CA
92507

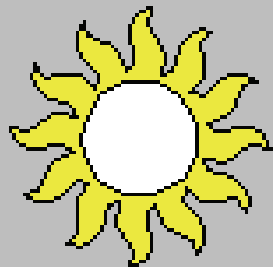
(Map on Pg.4)

Coming to

Dinner?

Please RSVP:

By Monday 7/7
(951) 782-3295
dlass@
waterboards.ca.gov



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July Speaker:

George Copenhaver, Jr. PG, CEG

**Geology of the San Diego & Arizona Eastern Railway,
San Diego & Imperial Counties, California, USA &
Baja California, Mexico**

Abstract

The San Diego and Arizona Eastern Railway is a 100 year old, 139 mile-long alignment that has recently been rehabilitated. Even though financial remuneration at present is modest, the project itself merits serious consideration as segments of the old railway, with a renewed freight business, are being improved. The geology of the reactivated railway represents an excellent cross-section of the southern Peninsular Ranges cordillera and provides numerous challenges with over 20 tunnels and steep serpentine alignments though faulted regions replete with landslides and rockfalls.

Biography:

George Copenhaver, Jr. has had a professional career spanning 37 years with private firms including San Diego Soil & Testing (5 years), Conoco/Phillips (10 years), Private Consulting 10 years) and Geocon, Incorporated (12 years). At Conoco, Mr. Copenhaver discovered a number of uranium deposits in Wyoming, Colorado and Nevada. However, he later shifted his career into consulting work

in both mineral exploration and geotechnical work throughout the western United States as well as Mexico. While at Geocon, Inc. in San Diego, he continued to work in the geotechnical industry where he worked on large on-going projects, primarily subdivisions and commercial developments, including the 12,000-acre Tejon Ranch Centennial Project.

In his spare time, Mr. Copenhaver has donated his time to geologic research on the San Diego and Arizona Railway. Abstracts of his geologic study have been accepted for presentation at both the Geological Society of America and the Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists Annual Meetings in 2007. He has also had the privilege to assist the efforts of the International Border Rail Institute (non-profit) who received a National Medal of Freedom in 2005 for sponsoring the *Tren De Los Tres Reyes* (Train of the Three Kings). The so-called “Christmas Train” has taken trainloads of gifts and food to needy children in Baja California during Mexico’s season of *Epiphany* for over 10 years.

George C. Copenhaver, Jr. PG, CEG
glcopenhaver@cox.net



Middle of the Carrizo Gorge (this segment has 17 tunnels in less than 10 miles)

Tunnel 10, as seen through Tunnel 9. Parsons Engineering employees in late 2003 were examining the tunnels and rail alignment accompanied by Mr. Copenhaver. At this time, Tunnel 8 cleanout and repairs were being completed by Carrizo Gorge Railway, Incorporated and no trains had passed through this segment for over 20 years. The outcrops cut by the tunnels in this view are Triassic-age metasedimentary rocks with a pronounced foliation.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

AEG—Inland Empire Chapter Meeting



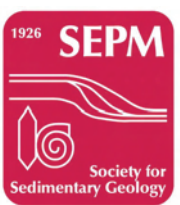
“Attack of the Killer Bacteria—The Fate of Perchlorate at the Stringfellow Superfund Site” - Dr. Galen Kenoger, PG, Kleinfelder West, Inc., the meeting will be in Redlands, **Wed., July 16, 2008**. For more information, please visit

www.aegsc.org/chapters/inlandempire/

AEG—REG Review Course for the ASBOG® Exam and CA Specific Exam

FG and PG exams are coming up in October. Sign up for the review course to get ready! CA specific exam review will be offered the last hour of the course. **Sat., July 26, 2008 (8-5 pm) in San Diego, CA and Sat., July 27, 2008 (8-5 pm) in Santa Ana, CA**. For more information, please visit <http://regreview.com>

SEPM—Pacific Section Field Trip



In memory of Dr. John Cooper and his scientific contributions to the local area, a one and a half day field trip is planned beginning in Silverado Canyon continuing through to Crystal Cove, **Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 13-14, 2008**. For more information

and to RSVP, contact Wayne Henderson at 714.278.2972 or Whenderson@fullerton.edu

AIPG/AHS/IPGC/AESE Joint Annual Meeting

“Changing waterscapes and water ethics for the 21st century” and “Global Geoscience practice, standards, ethics and accountability”. **Sept. 20—24, 2008** in Flagstaff, AZ. For more information, please visit

www.aipg.org/2008/AIPG-AHS-3IPGC.htm

GRA 17th Annual Conference and Meeting

“Groundwater: Challenges to meeting our future needs” **Sept. 24-26, 2008** in Costa Mesa, CA. For more information, please visit www.grac.org or contact Kathy Snelson at 916.446.3626 or executive_director@grac.org

IGS Meeting Schedule

August 6, 2008 (Wednesday)

Dr. John Nourse, Cal Poly Pomona
Precious and Base Metals Exploration Meets Structural Geology and Tectonics along the Sonora Mineral Belt, Northwestern Mexico

September 4, 2008 (Thursday)

Fred Lange, LSA Associates (tentative)
Desert Depressions, Natural or Man-Made

October 1, 2008 (Wednesday)

Dr. Sally McGill, CSU, San Bernardino
Latest Pleistocene Slip Rate of the San Bernardino Strand of the San Andreas

November 6, 2008 (Thursday)

Dr. David Jessey, Cal Poly Pomona
Basaltic volcanism in the southern/central Owens Valley and its relationship to Neogene tectonics

December 3, 2008 (Wednesday)

Venessa Fava
Paleoecological and paleoenvironmental reconstruction of the Sycamore Canyon member of the mio-pliocene Puente formation, Chino Hills, San Bernardino County, California

January 8, 2009 (Thursday)

TBA

February 4, 2009 (Wednesday)

TBA

IGS is looking for speakers for 2009 meetings!

Thom Deane, Steve Mains, Patrice Copeland and Shelby Harrell have completed the 2008 schedule for speakers! If anyone would like to speak at an IGS meeting or has any suggestions for the 2009 schedule, please contact Thom or Steve.

IGS MEETING LOCATION:

**LSA Associates, Inc.
1500 Iowa Ave, Suite 200
Riverside, CA 92507**



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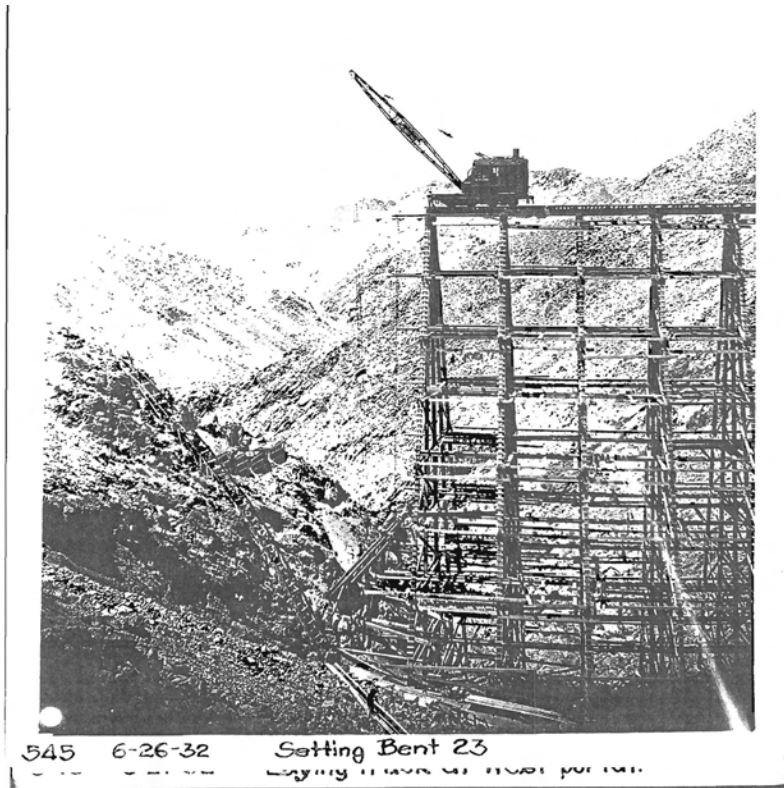
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View northward down Goat Canyon during the construction of the nearly 200 foot high trestle in 1932. This was described as a “temporary” bridge until Tunnel 15 could be repaired (see also photo of severed tunnel and displaced railroad fill).

Inland Geological Society Newsletter

c/o Shelby Harrell
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