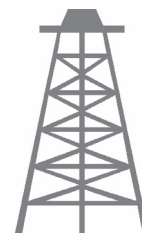




Pacific Petroleum Geology



NEWSLETTER

Pacific Section • American Association of Petroleum Geologists

March & April 2011

Pacific Section AAPG & Western Region SPE Joint Meeting
May 6-14, Anchorage, Alaska



Arctic to the Cordillera:
Unlocking the Potential

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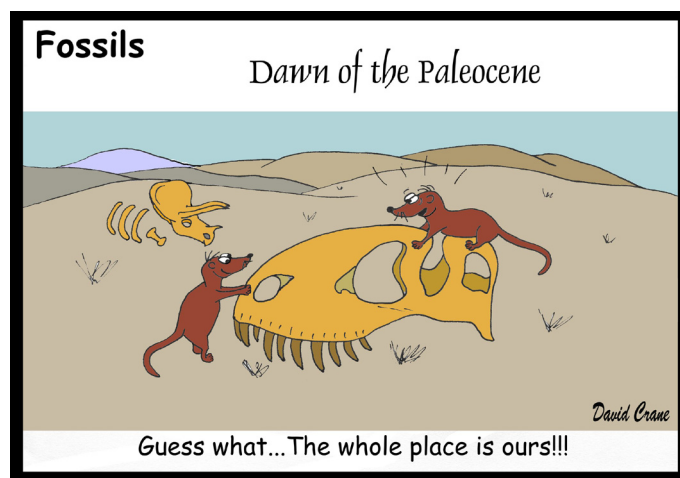
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STAFF

Web Master	Bob Countryman 661.589.8580 webmaster@psaapg.org
Membership Chair	Emily Loera 661.859.9713 membership@psaapg.org
Publications Chair	Larry Knauer 661.392.2471 publications@psaapg.org LarryKnauer@chevron.com
Advisory Council Representative 2009-2012	Kurt Neher 661.412.5203 kurt_neher@oxy.com

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Cover photo: View of Barry Arm of Harriman fjord (Prince William Sound), an easy day trip from Anchorage via tour boat out of Whittier. Glaciers (left to right) Cascade, Barry and Coxe.
Courtesy Peter Johnson and AGS.



Hello, everyone. It is convention time, and we will be holding our 2011 West Coast gathering in Anchorage, May 8th through 11th!

I want to invite you all to join the Pacific Section AAPG, SEPM, Pacific Coast Section SEG, and the Western Region SPE. David Hite and his team from the Alaska Geological Society have worked tirelessly to provide a cross-discipline offering, with a wide variety of technical presentations, poster sessions, short courses, and field trips.

The theme of the conference is **“Arctic to the Cordillera: Unlocking the Potential”**. There is still a significant amount of work to be done and potential to be realized, despite the massive amount of previous work done to characterize the region. Sandy Phillips and Steve Wright have compiled fourteen oral and five poster sessions to peak and keep your interest.

There are sessions on Geology and Hydrocarbon Potential of the North Slope, Offshore Beaufort and Chukchi Seas, Geology and Tectonics of North Alaska, and Petroleum Systems in Alaska and the Western Cordillera. There are also sessions related to oil field production and modeling, including the application of geophysical and seismic data.

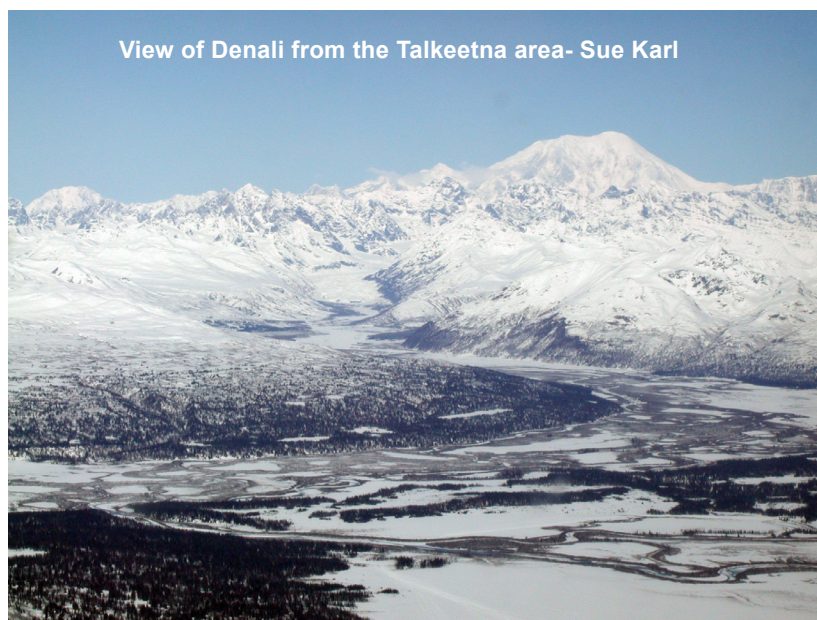
There will be four field trips for those of you who want to actually commune with the rocks.

1. Before the conference, a trip will traverse the Mesozoic accretionary complex and a portion of the 1964 megathrust deformation zone in south-central Alaska.
2. After the conference there are trips to:
 - a. The Cook Inlet to study sedimentology, reservoir quality, and tectonic setting of Late Miocene-Early Pliocene gas-bearing formation.
 - b. South-Central Alaska on a day-long excursion in four-wheel drive vans from Anchorage into the lower Matanuska Valley, exposing participants to bituminous coal fields, the old Evan Jones coal mine, and open strip pits.
 - c. The Tertiary (coal bearing) and Holocene deposits of the Nenana Basin, Alaska, with a traverse up the Susitna River Valley through the central Alaska Range to Tertiary interior basins.

In addition to the technical sessions and field trips, there will be short courses and a core workshop focusing on the reservoir characterization of the North Slope. Planned short courses include a one day short course addressing regional impact on subsidence, deposition, and deformation within the basin.

Come learn about the latest ideas and technologies, meet old friends, and make new ones.
I hope to see you in Anchorage this May!

Cheers,
Cynthia Huggins
President
Pacific Section AAPG



Welcome, in advance, to Alaska, for the PSAAPG annual convention. The president's message is a great summary of the technical program highlights. On the next few pages, Tom Morohan (AGS President) outlines some possible recreational activities to pursue during your stay in Anchorage. For those who are making their first trip to Alaska, it would be a shame to spend the entire trip in a convention center and hotel room, and hopefully Tom's suggestions give you some ideas to supplement your itinerary. I would very much enjoy seeing and sharing your best photos in the newsletter, so send them along (editor@psaapg.org).

The convention publication (http://www.alaskageology.org/documents/11/PSAAPG_Convention_Announcement_Final.pdf) contains the complete technical program, but we have included the schedule of events and field trip descriptions in the newsletter to stimulate interest in those who haven't yet seen the final announcement.

Thank you to the convention committee, volunteers, sponsors, and the city of Anchorage for your hard work and hospitality. Here's looking forward to a great geological gathering.

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From Tom Morahan, AGS President

The Alaska Geological Society (AGS) is the host organization for the 2011 Pacific Section AAPG/Western Region SPE joint conference, "Arctic to the Cordillera: Unlocking the Potential," to be held in Anchorage, Alaska May 6-14. Technical sessions and exhibits run May 9-11 at the Anchorage Sheraton Hotel, and there will be an opening session and ice breaker to kick things off on Sunday, May 8. Our committee here in Alaska has been working hard to put the final touches on the technical program, the social events, and the field trip and short course plans, and we hope that you will join us for what promises to be a great educational and networking opportunity in Alaska. We have recently compiled the entire program for mailing, and it should be available on both the AGS and PSAAPG web sites by the time you read this. Registration is also up and running. There's an excellent introduction in the program from your President, Cynthia Huggins, with acknowledgements for those involved in putting the conference together, so I'll not dwell here on the same subjects. Instead, I'd like to provide a little insight into what you can see and do on your visit to Anchorage.

First of all, in southern Alaska you can frequently see, feel, and hear geological processes in action. Certainly, if you live on the West Coast, you are no stranger to active tectonic settings. But in the Anchorage area our frequent earthquakes, both from the subduction zone beneath us and from surface faults, our active volcanoes, and our dynamic glaciers provide opportunities for personal experiences like nowhere else. On a clear day, looking out of a west facing office or hotel window in Anchorage (or from a viewpoint, such as the Glen Alps overlook), to the right, a little west of north, you will see Mt. McKinley (or Denali, 20,320 ft.) and Mt. Foraker (17,400 ft.), both about 130 miles from Anchorage. Denali is the highest point in North America, and is a large thrust related structure along the active right-lateral Denali fault system. Looking to the northwest, more in the foreground, you will see Mt. Susitna (Sleeping Lady), along the base of which lies the northeast-southwest trending Castle Mountain fault, also an active, earthquake producing, right-lateral strike-slip fault. Movement associated with the Castle Mountain fault has likely influenced the development of the thrust-fold anticlines of nearby Cook Inlet, which have produced 1.3 billion barrels of oil and over 7 trillion cubic feet of natural gas from Tertiary-aged reservoirs. To the left of Mt. Susitna, almost due west of Anchorage and about 75 miles away, you will see Mt. Spurr, the northernmost of three active volcanoes visible from Anchorage. In the southwest, a little over 100 miles away, Mt. Redoubt is often visible as well, and further to the southwest, about 140 miles away, you might be able to see the top of Mt. Iliamna. The most recent eruption was that of Redoubt in the spring of 2009, and occasionally you can still see a steam plume rising from the newly emplaced lava dome.



J.M. "BUZZ" DELANO, JR.
Consultant

Cell (661) 747-0337
Office (661) 832-5229
Fax (661) 832-5229
Email: BuzzBake@aol.com

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Commercial flights from the Lower 48 typically descend heading northwest across Prince William Sound, down Turnagain Arm just south of Anchorage, and then make a right turn prior to landing in an easterly direction at Ted Stevens International Airport. If your flight makes this typical approach, and if the clouds cooperate, you may see some of the active tidewater glaciers of Prince William Sound. There's a pretty good chance that you will be arriving during daylight hours, since our sunset here will be about 10:20 pm by the time of the convention. The best view is probably on the right side of the plane, to the north, where you might see the Columbia Glacier at the head of Columbia Bay, or one of the many glaciers feeding into Harriman and College Fiords. Tour boats run out of Whittier to Prince William Sound and out of Seward to Kenai Fiords National Park starting in mid-May, so if you are planning to stay around for a few days after the conference, I'd suggest that you try to catch one of the glacier viewing tours. For the more adventuresome there's nothing quite like a camping and sea kayaking trip to Prince William Sound, where you can paddle as close as you dare to actively calving glaciers and listen to the booms of breaking ice echo around the steep fiord walls.

In town, there are a lot of fun ways to spend your time. We have extensive green belt areas with paved paths, so going for a walk or a bike ride is a good and healthy option. There are several places around town to rent bikes, and the Coastal Trail from downtown Anchorage out to Kincaid Park is good for both wildlife encounters and nice views. If you have a little more time, and some transportation, there are several trailheads on the east side of town where you can access half-million acre Chugach State Park, a vast wilderness of U-shaped glacial valleys, glacially carved peaks, lakes, glaciers, and ice fields. The Chugach Range is composed mainly of a Mesozoic age accretionary complex and is uplifted on the east side of Anchorage along the Border Ranges fault, which is not historically active, and we hope that it stays that way!

Popular downtown restaurants include Simon and Seafort's, Glacier Brewhouse, and Orso. Be sure to get reservations if you are planning to eat at one of these or any other good quality restaurant downtown. For more casual dining try Humpy's Great Alaskan Alehouse, with their 50+ microbrews on tap, or head to the Midtown area for a pizza and brew at the Moose's Tooth Pub and Pizzeria. The Moose's Tooth is probably the most popular restaurant in town, and the wait for a table can be very long. For an alternative try the Bear Tooth Grill in Spenard, where the same microbrews are served, but in a slightly less crowded restaurant serving good quality American and Mexican food. In the same building is the Bear Tooth Theater, where you can have a meal and a drink while you watch a movie.

If you have time to head out of town, drive the Seward Highway along Turnagain Arm. It is a place of incredible beauty where mountains rise abruptly to 5,000 ft. or more above sea level, and there is a chance of spotting either Dall sheep grazing on the steep mountain slopes, or Beluga whales swimming offshore. Good eating spots along Turnagain Arm include Turnagain House in Indian and Double Musky Inn in Girdwood. Or, take the tram at Alyeska Resort up to Seven Glaciers restaurant for a pricey meal, but with great views. A good hike along the Arm in May is provided by the Bird Ridge trail. It is south facing, so by early May the snow is usually gone from all but the summit -- but it is also a steep climb, rising 3,400 ft. in just 2.5 miles.




Photos:

Previous Page: Summer views of Denali, Tom Morahan

Left- Denali on the right, Foraker on the left, and Mt. Hunter in the middle

Right- Closeup of Denali

This page: Portage Glacier from Portage Pass, Tom Homza



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By the end of April, our concert season in Anchorage has usually wound down, and we are focused more on summer activities and summer visitors. However, this year Blue Man Group will be at the Performing Arts Center downtown May 7-15, so they might also provide an evening option while you are here. Don't wait to get your tickets, though. Four new performances have been added recently because the existing ones were starting to sell out.

Of course, we hope that you will join us on Tuesday, May 10 for dinner and an evening of entertainment at the Alaska Native Heritage Center. And, there are ample field trips and short courses before and after the technical sessions to keep you busy while you are here, plus luncheons during the meeting. I just throw out all of the additional activities as options to enhance your visit, should you have the time. They are based on my own personal experiences and are by no means intended to be a full listing of what to see and do here.

Finally, be sure to check the weather forecast before you travel. In Alaska you should always be prepared for the possibility of chilly, wet conditions. The "normal" high in Anchorage during the convention is 52 deg., and the "normal" low is 36 deg. However, record lows are around 20 deg., and record highs are around 70 deg., so there is a pretty large range of possibilities. May is usually one of our driest months, averaging less than an inch of precipitation, but coastal areas such as Seward and Homer get much more.

If you have questions about your plans or need more information, please feel free to give me a call at 907-230-1672, or send an email to president@alaskageology.org. On behalf of our society, I hope that you enjoy the conference and have a great stay in Alaska!

Tom

Stanford University Geologic Studies of the San Joaquin Basin, 1980-2010

Stephan A. Graham, W.J. and M.L. Crook Professor
School of Earth Sciences, Stanford University, Stanford, California

The dissertations reproduced on this DVD largely predate the digital era, so many have been scanned from original hard copies of variable states of preservation; as a result, the quality varies in this product. The original dissertations are on file and accessible to the public at Branner Earth Sciences Library, School of Earth Sciences, Stanford University. Scans for this DVD derive from two sources. Some were produced as part of a program at Stanford to digitize all older dissertations, with thanks to Julie Sweetkind-Singer, (Acting Head Librarian) and her staff at Branner Library, for facilitating access to previously scanned dissertations. However, the majority of the dissertations in this collection were scanned pro bono by PayZone, Inc. of Bakersfield, thanks to the considerable efforts of Deborah Olson and her colleagues. Larry Knauer, Pacific Section AAPG, encouraged and facilitated production of the DVD. Ultimately, principal credit for this compilation goes to Deborah Olson, who first suggested the idea of this DVD in order to facilitate greater public access to these dissertations, because most were previously unpublished or published in regional publications of limited circulation. This body of research would not have been possible without the support of the San Joaquin Project consortium member companies, which over time included: Amerada-Hess, Amoco, Arco, BP Alaska, Champlin, Chevron, Cities, Conoco, Exxon, Getty, Gulf, Husky, Marathon, Mobil, Natural Gas Corp, Occidental, Phillips, Santa Fe Energy, Shell, Sohio, Superior, Tenneco, Texaco, and Unocal.

A 2-DVD set containing the information described above may be purchased from the Pacific Section American Association of Petroleum Geologists (PSAAPG) Publications Committee for \$50.00 by contacting (and including a check or credit card information and a shipping address)

PSAAPG Publications
P.O. Box 1072
Bakersfield, CA 93302

or

Larry Knauer (Publications Chair)
larryknauer@chevron.com
661-392-2471

Schedule as of February 15, 2011.

Times and locations are subject to change.

For updates, visit www.psaapg.org, www.spe.org/events/wrm, and <http://www.pttcwestcoast.org/>.

Friday, May 6, 2011

0730 – 2000	AAPG Field Trip No. 1 (Turnagain Arm – Resurrection Bay)
0900 – 1600	AAPG Short Course No. 1 (Core Workshop) – Bayview Core Facility

Saturday, May 7, 2011

0730 – 1900	AAPG Field Trip No. 1 (Turnagain Arm – Resurrection Bay)
0800 – 1700	AAPG Short Course No. 2 (Tectonic Evolution) – Room TBD
0800 – 1700	Committee Meetings – Room 301
0900 – 1700	Exhibit Decorator Move-In
1000 – 1400	Registration Set Up – Hotel Lobby
1500 – 1800	Registration Open – Hotel Lobby

Sunday, May 8, 2011

0700 – 1700	Executive Council/Committee Meetings – Rooms 301 and 305
0800 – 1700	Committee Meetings – Room 301
0800 – 1800	Registration – Hotel Lobby
0800 – 1500	Exhibitor Move-In – Kuskokwim/Yukon/Foyer/Atrium
0900 – 1600	SPE Student Paper Session
1000 – 1700	Speaker/Judges Room – Room 308
1400 – 1700	Spouse Hospitality – Hospitality Suite
1600 – 1800	Opening Session – Howard Rock Ballroom
1600 – 1800	Exhibit Opening – Kuskokwim/Foyer/Atrium
1800 – 2000	Icebreaker in Exhibit Hall – Kuskokwim /Foyer/Atrium
1800 – 2000	SPE Student Poster Session

Monday, May 9, 2011

0700 – 0745	Speakers/Judges Breakfast – The Summit
0700 – 1700	Speaker/Judges Room – Room 308
0700 – 1700	Executive Council/Committee Meetings – Room 301
0730 – 1700	Registration – Hotel Lobby
0730 – 1000	Spouse Hospitality – Hospitality Suite
0800 – 0900	AAPG-House of Delegates Breakfast – The Summit
0800 – 1830	Exhibitors/Posters – Kuskokwim/Yukon/Foyer/Atrium
0800 – 1700	Technical Sessions – Howard Rock A, B, and C; Susitna Room; Rooms 305 and 311
0930 – 1430	Spouse Tour (Alyeska tour)
1130 – 1330	PS-AAPG Convention Luncheon – Howard Rock Ballroom
1500 – 1700	Spouse Hospitality– Hospitality Suite

Tuesday, May 10, 2011

0700 – 0745	Speakers/Judges Breakfast – The Summit
0700 – 1730	Speaker/Judges Room – Room 308
0700 – 1700	Executive Council/Committee Meetings – Room 301
0730 – 1600	Registration – Hotel Lobby
0730 – 1500	Spouse Hospitality – Hospitality Suite
0800 – 1700	Exhibitors/Posters – Kuskokwim/Yukon/Foyer/Atrium
0800 – 1700	Technical Sessions – Howard Rock A, B, and C; Susitna Room; Rooms 305 and 311
0930 – 1430	Spouse Tour (tour of Anchorage)
1130 – 1300	AAPG Division of Public Affairs Luncheon – TBD
1130 – 1330	WR-SPE Convention Luncheon & Awards – Howard Rock Ballroom
1845 – 2200	Tuesday Night Entertainment – Alaska Native Heritage Center

Wednesday, May 11, 2011

0700 – 0745	Speakers/Judges Breakfast – The Summit
0700 – 1730	Speaker/Judges Room – Room 308
0700 – 1700	Executive Council/Committee Meetings – Room 301
0730 – 1200	Registration – Hotel Lobby
0730 – 1400	Spouse Hospitality – Hospitality Suite
0800 – 1400	Exhibitors/Posters – Kuskokwim/Yukon/Foyer/Atrium
0800 – 1700	Technical Sessions – Howard Rock A, B, and C; Susitna Room; Rooms 305 and 311
1300 – 1800	AAPG Field Trip No. 2 (Tertiary & Holocene Deposits, Nenana Basin)
1400 – 1600	Exhibitor/Decorator Tear Down – Kuskokwim/Yukon/Foyer/Atrium
1700 – 1800	PS AAPG Executive Committee Meeting – Hospitality Suite

Thursday, May 12, 2011

0800 – 1700	AAPG Short Course No. 3 (Managing Your Business) – Room TBD
0800 – 1200	SPE Short Course No. 1 (Multiphase Metering) – Room TBD
0800 – 1700	SPE Short Courses No. 3 and 4 (Thermal Recovery; Drilling & Completions for the PE Exam) – Rooms TBD
0800 – 1800	AAPG Field Trip No. 2 (Tertiary & Holocene Deposits, Nenana Basin)
0800 – 1700	AAPG Field Trip No. 3 (Wishbone Hill)
0830 – 2000	AAPG Field Trip No. 4 (Upper Cook Inlet)
1300 – 1700	SPE Short Course No. 2 (Introduction to Well Logging) – Room TBD

Friday, May 13, 2011

0800 – 1800	AAPG Field Trip No. 4 (Upper Cook Inlet)
0800 – 2000	AAPG Field Trip No. 2 (Tertiary & Holocene Deposits, Nenana Basin)
0800 – 1200	SPE Short Course No. 5 (Downhole Water Control) – Room TBD
0800 – 1700	SPE Short Course No. 7 (Prod. & Res. Engineering for the PE Exam) – Room TBD
1300 – 1700	SPE Short Course No. 6 (OCS Regulatory Review) – Room TBD

Saturday, May 14, 2011

0800 – 1800	AAPG Field Trip No. 4 (Upper Cook Inlet)
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Field Trip 1

Title: Turnagain Arm-Resurrection Bay Field Trip

Dates: May 6-7, 2011 (Depart Sheraton Hotel 7:30 AM Friday, May 6. Return to Sheraton Hotel 7:00 PM Saturday, May 7)

Field Trip Leaders: Susan Karl (USGS) and Rod Combellick (Alaska DGGs)
For more information contact Susan Karl at skarl@usgs.gov.

Cost: USD \$551 double occupancy, \$591 single occupancy - includes transportation and admissions, 1 dinner, 1 breakfast, 2 box lunches, and snacks.

Minimum Number of Participants: 25
Maximum Number of Participants: 35

Requirements: Calf-high rubber boots will be needed for approaching some exposures on this trip. We will hope for sunny weather but good rain-wind gear and cool-weather clothing are also advised.

Description: This 2-day field trip will traverse the Mesozoic accretionary complex and a portion of the 1964 megathrust deformation zone in South Central Alaska. Day 1 will be a transect across the accretionary complex as it is exposed along Turnagain Arm. We will also observe the consequences of Paleocene to Eocene spreading ridge subduction and late Holocene Pacific plate subduction as manifested by the 1964 M9.2 earthquake, including evidence of great paleoearthquakes as recorded in coastal marsh deposits. On Day 2 we will visit the Alaska Sea Life Center, view Seward Harbor (the location of one of the 1964 tsunamis that were responsible for 106 of the 115 deaths related to the 1964 earthquake), and we'll take a boat tour to look at the Resurrection Peninsula ophiolite, part of the active spreading center that was subducted in the early Eocene. The boat tour will include opportunities to see coastal birds and marine life, as well as spectacular scenery.

Field Trip 2

Title: Tertiary Coal Bearing and Holocene Deposits, Nenana Basin, Alaska

Dates: May 11-13, 2011 (Depart Sheraton Hotel 1:00 PM Wednesday, May 11. Return to Sheraton Hotel 8:00 PM Friday, May 13)

Field Trip Leaders: Jerry Siok (BP Exploration (Alaska), Inc.) and Steve Wilbur, Ph.D.
For more information contact Jerry Siok at jerry.siok@bp.com.

Cost: USD \$600 double occupancy, \$700 single occupancy - Cost includes all transportation (from & return to the Sheraton), two nights lodging, breakfasts, box lunches in the field and snacks along the way. Participants are responsible for their own dinners.

Minimum Number of Participants: 20
Maximum Number of Participants: 27

Requirements: This trip departs Anchorage at 1 PM on day 1 and returns to Anchorage by 8 PM on day 3. Trip participants must be physically able to walk 1 mile roundtrip up Suntrana Creek, ascend alluvial fans and walk on braided gravel bars. Typical weather in early May can range from warm and clear to wet, cold and snow. Rain gear and cool-weather clothing are recommended. Suitable waterproof footwear with ankle supports or rubber boots are required for the walk up the Suntrana type section on day 2. This time of year should afford good visibility of outcrops, but weather is very unpredictable – so be prepared.

Description: This trip will depart Anchorage and traverse up the Susitna River Valley through the central Alaska Range to Tertiary Interior basins. The drive north will be a general tour of central Alaska geology and include stops overlooking the Alaska Range with discussions and displays illustrating the tectonics of south-central Alaska. Weather permitting, we will have classic views of Denali, the highest peak in North America. Along the way we will observe large scale fluvial depositional systems and be able to relate stream processes to subsequent outcrop scale features. Two (2) nights will be spent in Healy, 250 miles North of Anchorage. We will examine in detail outcrop examples of Tertiary to Holocene fluvial and alluvial sequences in the Nenana Basin. Recent oil and gas exploration drilling has targeted these systems further north in the basin. We will walk up the type section of the Tertiary Coal Bearing Usibelli Group and Nenana Gravels with world class badland outcrop exposures. Usibelli Coal Mine Inc. is the only operating coal mine in Alaska. They will show us their state of the art engineering, modern mining equipment, active mine operations and reclamation activities.

Field Trip 3

Title: Wishbone Hill Field Trip

Dates: May 12 (Depart Sheraton Hotel 8:00 AM, Thursday May 12. Return to Sheraton 5:00 PM, May 12)

Field Trip Leaders: Mike Belowich (Alaska Earth Sciences), Anne Pasch, University of Alaska Anchorage)
For more information contact Mike Belowich at mbelowich@alaskaearthsciences.com.

Cost: USD \$60 - includes box lunch and drinks.

Minimum Number of Participants: 8

Maximum Number of Participants: 22

Requirements: Weather in May can be variable. Participants for the Wishbone Hill field trip should come prepared for the elements with proper hiking footwear, warm clothing, and raingear.

Description: The Wishbone Hill Field Trip is a daylong excursion by four-wheel drive vans from Anchorage into south-central Alaska's lower Matanuska Valley and its bituminous coal field, to see the old Evan Jones coal mine and still open strip pits. Leaders will meet field trip participants in the lobby of the Sheraton Hotel in downtown Anchorage at 8:00 AM on May 12th to give a brief overview of the field trip prior to boarding. A bedrock geologic road log and other materials on the area will be provided to participants. The field trip area to be visited is very important in Alaska's early coal mining industry. The U.S. Navy's interest in high quality bituminous steaming coal for use in its early 20th Century Pacific Fleet was the driving force behind the initial construction of the Alaska Railroad to reach the Chickaloon coal field, located about 20 miles east of Wishbone Hill. Also around this time period (1914 – 1920), spur railroad lines were built to the Wishbone Hill area by the Alaska Engineering Commission to access the coal resources there. Interestingly, Anchorage was initially founded in 1915 as a tent camp for workers building the railroad to these coal fields. There is currently renewed interest by companies looking to reestablish the coal mines for export purposes as a result of the increasing global demand for high quality bituminous coal which the area possesses. Wishbone Hill is also a world class paleontological site for Early Tertiary fossils.

Field Trip 4

Title: Sedimentology, Reservoir Quality, and Tectonic Setting of Late Miocene-Early Pliocene Gas-Bearing Formations, Upper Cook Inlet, Alaska

Dates: May 12-14 (Depart Sheraton Hotel 8:30 AM Thursday, May 12. Return to Sheraton Hotel 6:00 PM Saturday, May 14)

Field Trip Leaders: Dave LePain (Alaska DGGS), Ken Helmold (Alaska DOG), Bill Morris (Conoco-Phillips), Greg Wilson (Conoco-Phillips), Bob Gillis (Alaska DGGS), Marwan Wartes (Alaska DGGS)
For more information contact Dave LePain at dave.lepain@alaska.gov.

Cost: USD \$565 double occupancy, \$675 single occupancy - includes all transportation (start and finish at the Sheraton Hotel), all meals, two nights lodging, and field guide. Dinners in Soldotna and Homer will include a no host bar. A limited number of single occupancy rooms will be reserved for participants on a first come, first served basis.

Minimum Number of Participants: 21

Maximum Number of Participants: 35

Requirements: Trip participants must be physically able to walk up to 1 ½ to 2 miles roundtrip on each beach walk, which will include descending/ascending steep gravel beach access roads and walking on soft sand and gravel. Typical weather in early May can range from warm and mild to wet, cool, and windy. Lightweight rain gear and warm wind-blocking clothing are recommended. Suitable footwear, such as lightweight hiking boots or rubber boots, is highly recommended.

Description: This field trip examines the sedimentology, sand body geometries, and reservoir quality of gasbearing late Miocene and early Pliocene strata (Beluga and Sterling Formations) exposed in coastal bluffs between Soldotna and Homer on the Kenai Peninsula. The tectonic context of the forearc basin is explored during the first day through several stops in Mesozoic age rocks of the accretionary complex bordering the eastern basin margin. The sedimentology and sand body geometries of the upper Sterling Formation are examined the second day through two beach walks, the first at Clam Gulch south of Soldotna and the second at a location near Ninilchik. Exposures of the Beluga Formation are examined the third day through a beach walk northwest of Homer. Brief sedimentologic, petrologic, and tectonic overviews will be presented prior to the start of each beach walk. Participants will return to Anchorage by 6 PM the third day.

DIBBLEE CENTER HAS COMPLETED THE DIGITIZING OF 96% OF TOM DIBBLEE'S MAPS
404 of the 419 maps have been digitized.
Only 15 of the maps remain to be digitized
We need help to finish the project

The AAPG is featuring Tom's maps in digital format in the Datapages section on their website for downloading as georeferenced, layered PDF files by end user. The Dibblee Geologic Map Collection is available to end users on a global level. Paper maps are still available.

Jason and I have been vigorously soliciting funds to digitize the original 76 maps of the Dibblee Collection that were prepared by hand. We need less than \$75,000 of additional funding to accomplish our goal. I am asking you to consider helping us to obtain funding for all or part of our mission. Help us to finish this project.

To aid our funding quest, blocks of the Adobe Illustrator Dataset as CS4 .ai files can still be purchased. Data in this set is in an unrestricted, layered format to allow the user to examine and manipulate the data, and to help incorporate it into their data set.

The AAPG Foundation has the E.F. Reid Dibblee Fund, created by Bud Reid, to support the work of the Thomas W. Dibblee Jr. Center for Geology of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. Contributions can be made through this fund, or directly to the Dibblee Map Digitizing Fund, Dibblee Geological Center, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History.

John Minch, Editor, Thomas Dibblee Jr. Geological Center
 Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, 2559 Puesta del Sol, Santa Barbara, CA 93105
 805-569-1800
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Hy Seiden

1915-2011

Excerpts and photo from The Bakersfield Californian article by Jeff Goodman (www.bakersfield.com/obits)

Hy Seiden, a survivor of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and a longtime Bakersfield, CA resident, passed away Sunday, March 6, at the age of 96.

After WWII, Seiden graduated from UCLA in 1950 (majoring in geology), and went on to work for Standard Oil in Bakersfield, Coalinga, and Taft, CA. He left Standard Oil at the end of 1960 to venture out as a consulting petroleum geologist. To bridge the financial divide in the early consulting years, Hy worked several other jobs, including substitute teaching in Bakersfield's schools.

In December 1962, the Asphalto oil field was discovered in the middle of 3 dry-holes. The discovery of the field triggered a resurgence of the Kern County oil industry from a 10-year slump. The discovery of Asphalto was followed in 1964 by the discovery of the smaller Holmes Pool field.

By the early 1970s the oil industry found itself in another slump. Hy and his wife Ruth acquired Panorama Liquors, which they retained until mid-1976. In acquiring the business, they just traded one vital fluid for another.

Hy completed his thesis and earned a master's degree in geology from UCLA in 1972, and became a donor to the school's Department of Earth and Space Sciences. Hy was very active in the Bakersfield community in his semi-retirement since the late 1970s, and also served as Vice President and President of the San Joaquin Geologic Society (1976-1978).



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AAPG Datapages and the AAPG Pacific Section announce our recent release of the digital archive, "Publications of the AAPG Pacific Section on DVD" released by the AAPG Bookstore.

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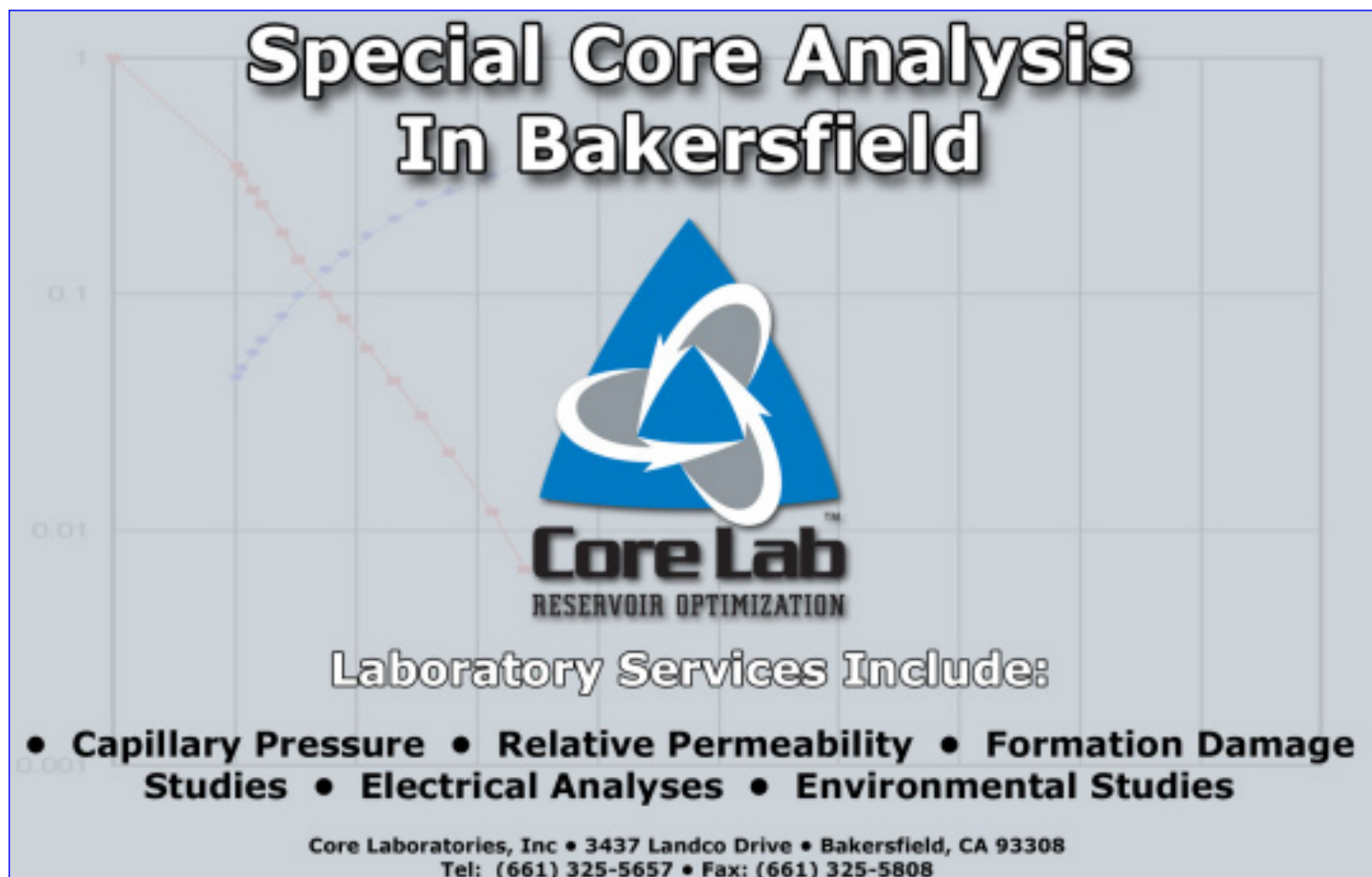
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Alaska Geological Society

www.alaskageology.org

P. O. Box 101288
Anchorage, AK 99510

Contact: Tom Morahan
907.230.1672



Luncheon meetings are held monthly September through May, usually on the third Thursday of the month, at the BP Energy Center (1014 Energy Court) from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The hot lunch cost is \$20 for members with reservations; \$22 for non-members with reservations; and \$25 without reservations. The box lunch cost is \$13 for members with reservations, \$15 for non-members with reservations, and \$18 without reservations. For reservations, call the AGS reservation voice mail at 907-258-9059 or contact David Hite at hiteconsult@acsalaska.net by noon on Monday before the meeting.

President:	Tom Morahan	907.230.1672	tmorahan@petroak.com
President-Elect:	Ken Helmold	907.269.8673	ken.helmold@alaska.gov
Vice-President:	Ken Helmold	907.269.8673	ken.helmold@alaska.gov
Secretary:	Chad Hults	907.786.7417	chults@usgs.gov
Treasurer:	Alan Hunter	907.263.7947	alhunter@chevron.com
Past-President:	Tom Homza	907.770.3701	Thomas.Homza@shell.com

Coast Geological Society

www.coastgeologicalsociety.org

P. O. Box 3055
Ventura, CA 93006

Contact: Mike Nelson
805.535.2058



Dinner meetings are held monthly September through May, usually on the third Tuesday of the month, at the Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Road in Ventura. Social hour starts at 6:00 p.m., dinner is served at 7:00 p.m., and the talk starts at 8:00 p.m. The cost of dinner with reservations is \$20 (members), \$25 (non-members), or \$10 (students and K-12 teachers); the talk is free. For reservations, please email Jerry Nichols (secretary@coastgeologicalsociety.org). Reservations should be made by 4:00 p.m. on the Friday before the meeting.

President:	Jon Schwalbach	805.648.8518	president@coastgeologicalsociety.org
Past President:	Mike Nelson	805.535.2058	pastpresident@coastgeologicalsociety.org
Vice President:	John Harris	805.407.7644	vicepresident@coastgeologicalsociety.org
Secretary:	Jerry Nichols	310.245.8897	secretary@coastgeologicalsociety.org
Treasurer:	Ed Magdaleno	805.535.2086	treasurer@coastgeologicalsociety.org

Los Angeles Basin Geological Society

www.labgs.org

515 So. Flower Street, Ste 4800
Los Angeles, CA 90071

Contact: Bill Long
213.225.5900 x 205



Luncheon meetings are held monthly September and October; and January through June, usually on the fourth Thursday of the month, in the Monarch Room at The Grand at Willow Street Conference Centre (4101 E. Willow Street) in Long Beach. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m., and the talk starts at 12:15 p.m. The cost is \$20 (with reservations), \$25 (without reservations), or \$0 (students are covered by Halliburton and Schlumberger). Reservations can be made online at www.labgs.org or by contacting Marieke Gaudet at 562.624.3364 or marieke_gaudet@oxy.com. Reservations must be made prior to Tuesday before the meeting.

President:	Bill Long	213.225.5900 x205	william.long@breitburn.com
Vice President/Program Chair:	Greg Hummel	213.225.5900 x251	ghummel@energy-reserves.com
Treasurer:	Bert Vogler	562.432.1696	hvogler@kleinfelder.com
Secretary/webmaster:	Rebecca Lanners	562.624.3364	Becca_Lanners@oxy.com
Scholarship Program	Jean Kulla	949.500.3095	k2mobile@msn.com

Northern California Geological Society

www.ncgeolsoc.org

9 Bramblewood Court
Danville, CA 94506-1130

Contact: Barb Matz
Barbara.Matz@shawgrp.com



Evening meetings are held monthly September through May, usually on the last Wednesday of the month, at the Masonic Center (9 Altarinda Road) in Orinda. Social hour starts at 6:30 p.m., and the talk starts at 7:00 p.m. (no dinner). For reservations, contact Dan Day at danday94@pacbell.net before the meeting. Cost is \$5 per regular member; \$1 per student member; and \$1 per K-12 teachers.

Northwest Energy Association

www.nwenergyassociation.org

P. O. Box 6679
Portland, OR 97228-6679

Contact: Tim Blackwood
503.656.0156



Breakfast meetings are held monthly September through May, usually on the second Friday of the month, at the Multnomah Athletic Club (1849 SW. Salmon Street) in Portland. Meeting time is at 7:30 - 9:00 am. The cost is \$18. For information or reservations, contact Steve Walti.

President	Tim Blackwood	tblackwood@pacificgeotechnicalllc.com
Treasurer	Steve Walti	steven.walti@nwnatural.com

Sacramento Petroleum Association

P. O. Box 571
Sacramento, CA 95812-0571

Contact: David Hartley
530.304.4277



Luncheon meetings held monthly January through November, on the third Wednesday of the month. Location: Club Pheasant Restaurant in West Sacramento. The meetings starts at noon. The cost is \$16 - \$20. For information or reservations, contact Pam Ceccarelli.

President:	Jerry Reedy	916.486.2643	JWR5532@aol.com
Vice-President:	David Hartley	530.304.4277	drilmax1@aol.com
Secretary	TBD		
Editor/Treasurer	Pam Ceccarelli		

San Joaquin Geological Society

www.sjgs.com

P. O. Box 1056
Bakersfield, CA 93302

Contact: Kurt Johnson
kurt_johnson@oxy.com



We have dinner meetings on the second Tuesday of the month at the American Legion Hall at 2020 "H Street" in Bakersfield. There is an icebreaker at 6:00 pm, dinner at 7:00 pm, and a talk at 8:00 pm. Dinner is \$20.00 for members with reservations and \$25.00 for nonmembers, \$25.00 for members without reservations and \$30.00 for nonmembers without, and the talks are free.

President:	Jack Grippi	JGrippi@aeraenergy.com
Past President:	Kurt Johnson	kurt_johnson@oxy.com
President-Elect:	Tim Elam	paselam@peoplepc.com
Vice-President:	Stephano Mazzoni	Stephano_Mazzoni@oxy.com
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Treasurer:	Linji An	LAn@aeraenergy.com

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Newsletter Deadline

May & June Issue

May 1st



The Fritsche's GeoTrek IV

Preliminary Announcement

GeoTrek IV in support of Coast Geological Society Geology Student Scholarships will get underway in February, 2011. Rather than a long continuous hike over a series of days as in past years, this GeoTrek will consist of ten separate hikes, each of about 10 miles in length and each designed to teach the participants some aspect of the geology of the area surrounding the San Fernando Valley. Six of the hikes will be on Saturdays in order to encourage participation by CGS members and other friends of geology. The other four will be held on Wednesdays. The total distance hiked by Gene over the ten days will be about 100 miles. As in the past, your support of Geology Student Scholarships will be in the form of pledges made to the Coast Geological Society before or during the hike and collected when Gene finishes hiking the 100 miles. Dates and topics for the hikes are listed below. Put the dates on your calendar and plan on joining Gene as often as you can to learn about the geology of the region around the San Fernando Valley. One of the hikes is already scheduled for the Ventura area and there is an opportunity for you to suggest a second one on either May 4 or May 25 for near Ventura so that CGS members will have an opportunity to join a hike near their home. Send your ideas to Gene or ask questions about the GeoTreks at geneandsuef@dslextreme.com.

GeoTrek IV-A – Saturday, February 12, 2011

Mesozoic and Paleogene sedimentary and structural history of the Santa Monica Mountains. Traverse from the south end of Reseda Blvd. to Malibu.

GeoTrek IV-B – Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mesozoic plutonic and Neogene sedimentary, volcanic, and structural history of the eastern Santa Monica Mountains. A circular traverse in Griffith Park.

GeoTrek IV-C – Saturday, February 26, 2011

Neogene sedimentary, volcanic, and structural history of the western Santa Monica Mountains. Traverse from Lost Hills Rd. to Puerco Canyon trailhead.

GeoTrek IV-D – Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Discovering a Neogene volcano in the western Santa Monica Mountains. Traverse from Potrero Valley to the ocean at Sycamore Canyon.

GeoTrek IV-E – Saturday, March 12, 2011

Mesozoic and Cenozoic sedimentary and structural history of the Simi Hills. Traverse from a Palo Comado Canyon trailhead to Wood Ranch.

GeoTrek IV-F – Saturday, April 30, 2011

Neogene sedimentary and structural history of the Santa Susana Mountains. Traverse from Towsley Canyon to O'Melveny Park in Granada Hills.

GeoTrek IV-G – Wednesday, May 4, 2011

Traverse and topic still to be determined. Perhaps you have a suggestion for a trail in an area where you would like to learn something about the geology.

GeoTrek IV-H – Saturday, May 14, 2011

Paleogene sedimentary and structural history of the Topatopa Mountains and a Quaternary lake. Traverse from Sespe Creek at Lion Canyon to Ojai.

GeoTrek IV-J – Wednesday, May 25, 2011

Traverse and topic still to be determined. Perhaps you have a suggestion for a trail in an area where you would like to learn something about the geology.

GeoTrek IV-K – Saturday, May 28, 2011

Neogene sedimentary history of the Soledad Basin and age of the San Gabriel Mountains. Traverse from Soledad Canyon to Vasquez Rocks County Park.

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