



March 2006

# Los Angeles Basin Geological Society Newsletter

**March 23 Meeting: Dr. Lee C. Gerhard,  
Thomasson Partner Associates, Lawrence, Kansas**

*Will speak on*

## Geological Aspects of Global Climate Change

### Speaker Synopsis / Abstract

Global climate naturally changes constantly, at various scales of intensity, duration, and direction. Geologists view these changes in context of time and intensity at scales much longer than human history. Current theories of human-induced greenhouse climate change tend to ignore longer term climate history, focused instead on results of derived computer models, models that are predicated on greenhouse gas as the significant drivers of climate change.

Testing of the green house hypothesis has not been exhaustive, rather, many scientists who are not familiar with current research results and with climate history have adopted the anthropogenic greenhouse theory without question, in the assumption that the human race is capable of modifying a fundamental earth dynamic system with a tiny increase in a single and minor greenhouse gas, but one that increases annually and is attributed to human use of fossil fuels and modern agricultural practices.

One method to test the greenhouse hypothesis is to correlate climate change over varying time spans with variations in potential climate drivers. The potential drivers can be scaled to intensity and time period of effects. Of all possible drivers, changes in solar output and earth orbital motions correlate the best with climate changes ranging from about 1200 years periodicity to 11 year periodicity. When solar drivers are placed in the Cross and Lessenger one-dimensional sedimentary model, the resulting curve is a good approximation of the past 1200 years of climate change and may well predict the next 1200 years. Large-scale computer models have not been able to replicate past climate for the same period of time, suggesting that human influence on climate may be very small in comparison to natural variability.

Beyond the questions of scientific validity of greenhouse theory, and with the knowledge that past climate has varied dramatically under purely natural drivers, governments face the need to adequately plan for climate change that cannot be modified with present technology. Protection of earth's people and mitigation from the extremes of naturally varying climate change must be planned. Anything short of this is irresponsible.

*Dr. Gerhard is a consulting geologist and energy explorationist. He recently retired as Principal Geologist of the Kansas Geological Survey, having retired from the Directorship and as State Geologist in 1999. He received his B.S. in geology at Syracuse University and the M. S. and Ph.D. degrees at the University of Kansas. He has combined academic, government, and industry leadership and technical appointments, including petroleum exploration, management of exploration programs, oil and gas regulation, reservoir geology, and management of research. His research interests are in carbonate sedimentology, petroleum geology, and environmental public policy. He has also been the State Geologist of North Dakota, and led a marine ecology and geology research and teaching laboratory in the U. S. Virgin Islands. Prior to returning to Kansas, he was the Getty Professor of Geological Engineering at the Colorado School of Mines and operated an independent petroleum exploration company. He is a licensed geologist in Kansas and Wyoming.*

*Dr. Gerhard is an Honorary Member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, past president and Honorary Member of that society's Division of Environmental Geosciences, an Honorary Member of the Association of American State Geologists, and an Honorary Member of the Kansas Geological Society. He was inducted into the Kansas Oil and Gas Hall of Fame in 2002.*

*Dr. Gerhard has published more than 200 papers and books on geology, petroleum exploration, natural resources, and environmental policy. He co-chaired the American*

Association of Petroleum Geologists Climate Change Issues Committee. He is active in wildlife and fisheries conservation issues in the U. S. and Canada, and has organized three recent major conferences on resource and environmental issues. He lectures widely in the U. S. and in Europe about environment and resources and global climate issues. While President of the Division of Environmental Geosciences, he coined the DEG motto "Rational Science for Rational Policy," the thrust of many of his presentations.

Dr. Gerhard is the senior editor and author of the 2001 book "Geological Perspectives of Global Climate Change," published by the American Assoc. of Petroleum Geologists. His major current research interest is identifying and mitigating significant conflicts between earth resource development and environmental quality, and public education about resource issues. He is the vice chair of the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission Public Outreach Committee, and Chairs the American Association of Petroleum Geologists Public Outreach Committee.

## Time & Place

### Time:

Thursday, March 23, 2006

### Typical Meeting Agenda

Lunch Served: 11:30 AM to 12:00PM  
Announcements: 11:50 AM to 12:15 PM  
Guest Speaker: 12:15 PM to 12:45 PM

### Place:

The Grand at Willow Street Conference Center located at 4101 East Willow Street, Long Beach, CA. (562-426-0555). Take Lakewood Boulevard south from the San Diego Freeway (405), turn west onto Willow Street and turn right onto Grand Avenue at the sign for the Center. Park free in the garage structure.

## Cost

### Cost:

Lunch and Speaker: \$20.00 with reservations  
\$25.00 without reservations  
Student: \$ 5.00 (Lunch and Speaker)

### Meeting Reservations:

Make your reservations using our web site at [www.labgs.org](http://www.labgs.org), emailing [iaburto@breitburn.com](mailto:iaburto@breitburn.com) or calling Ivan Aburto at (213) 225-5900 ext. 234. Reservations must be made prior to Tuesday before the meeting.

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## LABGS and the 2007 AAPG Convention field Trips

The LABGS has offered to lead five field trips in conjunction with the national meeting. If you have an interest and experience in field trips in the SoCal area please contact an officer to inquire about our needs. We are thinking of day-trips to these areas:

Catalina Island Geology  
The Deep LA Basin Geology in  
the Santa Monica Mts  
Palos Verde Peninsula Geology  
Los Angeles Urban Geology  
San Gabriel Valley Near Surface  
Water Contamination Issues

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## LABGS Future Meetings

Lunch meetings are held at *The Grand at Willow Street Conference Center in Long Beach, California*. Lunch starts at 11:30 AM.

## Upcoming 2006 Speaker Schedule

March 23, 2006 - The speaker will be **Professor Lee Gerhard** speaking on "Geological Aspects of Global Climate Change". (see above for the abstract)

April 27, 2006 - The speaker will be **Boris Zaprianoff** speaking on "*The Dead Sea and Noah's Flood: Recent Sub-sea Archeological Discoveries.*"

May 25, 2006 – No speaker yet.

*If you have a speaker suggestion, please mention it to a Board member.*

**The exact titles for these talks may change. See the Newsletter for the most current info.**

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## Announcements / Information

### 2006 Student Recognition Awards

The Los Angeles Basin Geological Society offers two annual scholarship awards as a form of encouragement and recognition to those College students who show dedication and passion to the field of Geoscience. It is our goal to help future geoscientists on in their pursuits. Both of these awards consist of a Brunton Compass and a wall certificate.

### The LABGS Brunton Award

The LABGS Brunton Award is given to a qualified undergraduate student attending a four-year LA Basin College or University currently pursuing a baccalaureate degree in Geology or the Earth Sciences. The Society is currently looking for qualified applicants for the 2006 award.

#### SELECTION PROCESS

The above award winner was selected from candidates nominated by a faculty member. The winner was selected based on the following criteria:

- Grade point average in earth science classes.
- An enthusiastic or special recommendation from the college advisor, department chair, or mentor professor

### LABGS Publication List

1. Guidebook from the 2004 LABGS Field Trip Examining the Catalina Schist and the Palos Verdes Peninsula. **\$20**. The book is 179 pages and printed in color. There is enough detail to allow you to recreate the trip on your own.
2. Neotectonics and Coastal Instability, Orange and Northern San Diego Counties, California - CD VERSION from the *2000 PSAAPG and WRSPE Field Trip Guidebook*. **\$28**.

For Information regarding these publications, contact Ivan Aburto – His email is accessible from our web site at [www.labgs.org](http://www.labgs.org)

### LABGS T-Shirts ON SALE

The LABGS sells T-Shirts to generate additional funds to help support our scholarship and field trip activities. The shirt displays the LABGS logo on the Back with the words "LA Rocks" on the Front. The Price for shirts are \$15.00 and available at our luncheon meetings or by contacting Ivan Aburto (see contact list in this newsletter). Sizes are limited to Medium, Large, and Extra Large. **Buy one at the November Meeting for that Holiday gift giving to the earth scientist of your choice!**

## **Renew Your Annual Dues and Address Changes**

The Pacific Section AAPG and LABGS operate on a fiscal year from July 1 to June 30. If you are a current member, you will receive a PSAAPG membership renewal notice this month in the mail. Please note, when you renew you are renewing for both LABGS and PSAAPG (for one low price of \$12).

If you haven't done so, take this opportunity to send in a check and update your mailing information. **Changes to the semi-annual directory will be closed very soon.** New directories will be printed in the winter of 2006 and will be included in your dues for the next fiscal year (the directory is one of the key benefits of joining the LABGS through PSAAPG).

## **Not a Member you say!!! Join and get on the LABGS Membership / Mailing List**

Become a member of the LABGS and enjoy the benefits of membership. Our goal is to provide a value added service to the geologic community of the LA area at a reasonable cost. If you join the LABGS you also become a member of the PSAAPG and vice versa. The purpose of this is to reduce waste and duplicated effort. Check out the membership form for a list of the dual membership benefits. Membership is our primary source of income so I urge you all to join or renew. **To join or renew**, fill out the attached membership form and mail it in to PSAAPG or better yet bring it to the next meeting. This will ensure you are on our lists and the only way you can request a hard copy through the mail. The use of E-mail is our preferred method of distribution so please make sure we have your address.

## **SPECIAL SPEAKER**

For the March 23 meeting we are have a very special speaker, Professor Lee Gerhard. Professor Gerhard is in Los Angeles to receive an award for his work. He is a great speaker and one of the world's foremost experts on **global warming**. Professor Gerhard is an AAPG member and rarely comes to California, and this is a good chance to get a world class speaker on this very important topic.

### **Global Warming**



*Photo by Amber Rothrock*

## **President's Note**

To all of our members,

The year has been an exciting one so far. We have had some great speakers and we are gearing up for Spring activities, including field trips. We are actively looking for field trip leaders for our trips in conjunction with the National Meeting here in Long Beach in 2007. If you want to help with these field trips please contact an officer now.

We are also looking for two individual to replace our superb Program Chair, Dick Brown, and our stellar Secretary, Ivan Aburto. Both have been doing their responsibilities for a long time. If you have recommendations, or if you would like to place your name in the hat, please submit the name(s) to one of our officers.

Thanks!

*Jon*

## **Contact Us – The LABGS Board**

President: Jon Kuespert (213) 225-5900  
[jkuespert@breitburn.com](mailto:jkuespert@breitburn.com)

Program Chair: Dick Brown (562) 598-0595  
[dickbrowngeo@adelphia.net](mailto:dickbrowngeo@adelphia.net)

Secretary: Ivan Aburto (213) 225-5900, ext. 234  
[iaburto@breitburn.com](mailto:iaburto@breitburn.com)

Treasurer: Steve Zigan, (949) 355-4467  
[szigan@eri-us.com](mailto:szigan@eri-us.com)

**OUR WEB SITE ADDRESS IS:**  
[www.labgs.org](http://www.labgs.org)

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[library@AAPG.org](mailto:library@AAPG.org)



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My one-time gift of \$12,500 to the AAPG Foundation will endow a university subscription at my Alma Mater, providing the entire online AAPG/Datapages Digital Library to students as long as it has a geology department.

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Phone \_\_\_\_\_

For more information contact:

Attn: Rebecca Griffin  
[rgriffin@AAPG.org](mailto:rgriffin@AAPG.org)  
(918) 560-2644  
Toll-free: 1-888-945-2274 ext. 644

American Association of Petroleum Geologists  
Foundation  
P O Box 979  
Tulsa OK 74101-0979  
[foundation.aapg.org](http://foundation.aapg.org)



# Los Angeles Basin Geological Society Membership Form

Join the LABGS and become a member of the Pacific Section AAPG all for one low price of \$12.00 per year - 2 West Coast Geoscience Organizations for the price of one



## Membership Benefits

- LABGS Membership
- Monthly Luncheon Meetings with Strong Technical Programs
- Pacific Section AAPG Membership
- Pacific Section AAPG Bi-Monthly Newsletter
- Discounts for PSAAPG Bookstore Publications
- Bi-Annual West Coast Geoscience Directory - *next edition 6/03*
- Networking and Social Opportunities with Fellow Geoscientists

### Current Annual LABGS/PSAAPG Dues

1 Year Option = \$12.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
3 Year Option = \$36.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Extended E-Mail Announcement List Fees

To receive meeting notices from SJGS and CGS

1 Year Option = \$12.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
3 Year Option = \$36.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### PSAAPG Foundation Contributions

B. Hacker Publication Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Martin Van Couvering Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Dibble Map Foundation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
California Well Sample Repository \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
John Kilkenny Scholarship Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
PSAAPG Foundation Trust Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### TOTAL PAYMENT

Total Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Essential Member Information

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
*Res or Bus ?* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Additional Directory Information

Employer \_\_\_\_\_  
Position / Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Bus Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
Res Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Education *Highest Degree* \_\_\_\_\_ *Year* \_\_\_\_\_  
School \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

*Annual membership is handled through PSAAPG and runs from July 1, through June 30. If you are already a current member of PSAAPG and you selected LABGS affiliation you are already a member of the LABGS.*

**Please Make Checks out to PSAAPG and mail along with member form to:  
PSAAPG P.O. Box 1072, Bakersfield, CA 93302**