



May 2007

Los Angeles Basin Geological Society Newsletter

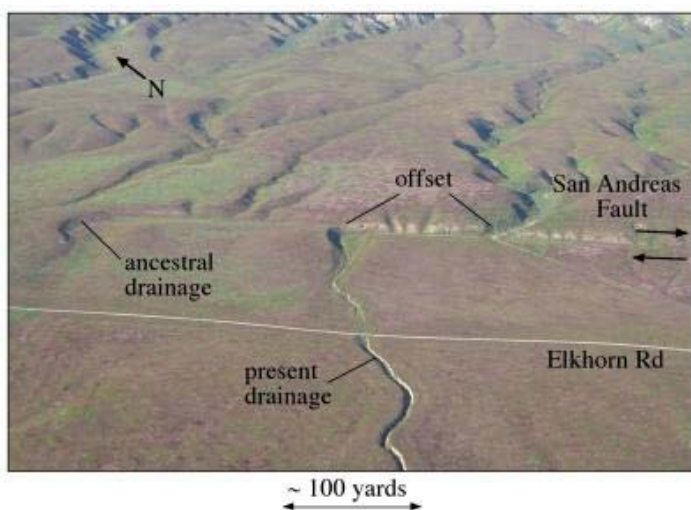
May 24, 2007 Meeting: David K. Lynch, PhD of The Aerospace Corporation
Will speak on a

Field Guide to the San Andreas Fault

Speaker Synopsis / Abstract

The San Andreas Fault is the most accessible plate boundary in the world. Yet, most people (geologists excluded) don't know where it is or how to look for it. In some places like the Carrizo Plain, where there is little ground cover and the fault has shifted in historic times, the fault is more beautifully exposed than anywhere in California: offset streams, pressure ridges, beheaded channels, left and right stepovers and many subparallel faults. In other places like the San Bernardino Mountains where no major movement has happened recently and where urbanization has hidden much of the fault's surface manifestation, the fault's trace is more subtle. Still, the fault and its attending landforms are there for anyone to see. In this talk I will present photographs and detailed maps that highlight the fault based on a series of driving trips from Cape Mendocino to the Mexican border, with an emphasis on southern California.

The San Andreas Fault at Wallace Creek



David Knight Lynch received a B.S. in Astrophysics in 1969 from Indiana University and a Ph.D. in Astronomy in 1975 from the University of Texas in Austin. He is Senior Scientist at The Aerospace Corporation where he specializes in infrared spectroscopy of comets, novae, supernovae, young stars and very old stars. Dr. Lynch has also held research positions at Caltech and UC/Berkeley. He has published over 150 scientific papers and 10 books based on observations from telescopes on Mauna Kea, Kitt Peak and Mt. Hamilton. He has organized 12 international scientific meetings.

The San Andreas Fault from the air at Elkhorn scarp on the Carrizo Plain



**A GREAT TALK TO START YOUR
SUMMER TRAVELS !!!**

Meeting Time, Place, Cost and Reservations

Time:

Thursday, May 24, 2007

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:

**Lunch and Speaker: \$20.00 with reservations
\$25.00 without reservations**

Student: FREE (Lunch and Speaker)

Meeting Reservations:

Make your reservations using our web site at www.labgs.org, emailing iaburto@breitburn.com or calling Ivan Aburto at (213) 225-5900 ext. 234. **Reservations must be made prior to Tuesday** before the meeting, but walk-ons are always welcome.

Upcoming 2007 Speaker Schedule

May 24, 2007 – The speaker this month will be David K. Lynch, PhD speaking on “**Field Guide to the San Andreas Fault**”.

June 2007 – There will be no meeting in June. Summer recess will begin. There will be a newsletter with a ballot so please look for it and vote.

September 27, 2007 – First fall meeting. Speaker to be announced later.

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

AAPG – National

Policy Statement: Climate Change Policy

The American Association of Petroleum Geologists, an international organization of over 30,000 earth scientists, supports expanding scientific climate research into the basic controls on climate, specifically including the geological aspects of climate change. This research should be undertaken by appropriate federal agencies involved in climate research and their associated grant and contract programs. Such support includes major research efforts into potential effects of decreasing as well as increasing temperatures and the mitigation of such effects. This research is important to sustain the ability of agriculture to feed the growing global population as well as to understand the effects of a colder climate upon society.

Geologists who study past climate variations understand that current climate warming projections fall well within documented natural variations in past climate. Therefore, for scientific reasons, the American Association of Petroleum Geologists does not support placing a carbon tax upon fossil energy sources as a tool to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, nor do we support any implementation of the Kyoto Protocol prior to Senate ratification.

Rationale

One of the most contentious debates in American public policy today encompasses proposals to restrict emissions of the minor atmospheric gas carbon dioxide in order to mitigate a perceived human influence on global climate. Current proposals (Kyoto Protocol signed by the executive branch of the U.S. government, but not ratified by Congress) would federally tax crude oil at the rate of about \$43.50 per barrel (1). No reduction in existing levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere would result from this massive transfer of wealth from the private sector into the federal government.

Recognizing the potential impact on the United States and world economy of such taxation and restriction of energy use, it is important that greenhouse theories be tested thoroughly and quickly.

Scientific examination of the government case for such draconian taxation does not support the supposition of human-induced global climate change; in fact, the study resulted in recognition that the supposition is neither provable nor disprovable. The following observations are germane to the position:

1. Scientific research has been stimulated by the proposal. Recently published research results do not support the supposition of an anthropogenic cause of global climate change (2).
2. Detailed examination of current climate data strongly suggests that current observations do not correlate with the assumptions or supportable projections of human-induced greenhouse effects.

AAPG – Policy Statement (cont)

Background

Geologists know:

1. Climate is constantly changing, and has varied significantly over human history. Climate changes over any time scale chosen, whether as small as a decade or as long as a geologic era.
2. Natural variability has been demonstrated to exceed any supportable estimate of human-induced variability.
3. Earth is still emerging from the Little Ice Age (A. D. 1250 - 1850). Significant rises in global temperature are a predictable consequence. The current level of global warming is real and natural.
4. Geologic controls on climate are significant. Long term changes can be demonstrated to occur congruently with geologic tectonic changes. Little is truly understood of the controls on short term changes. Solar variability, for instance, is significant in centennial to millennial changes, among other possible controls that should be examined.
5. Attempts to engineer Earth's very complex climate before understanding natural controls on climate are risky, if not impossible.

Summary

Science requires that all aspects of theory be investigated and that assumptions be tested.

Human-induced global temperature influence is a supposition that can be neither proved nor disproved. It is unwise policy to base stringent controls on energy consumption through taxation to support a supposition that cannot be substantiated.

Climate naturally varies constantly, in both directions, at varying rates, and on many scales. Warming events have been historically good for most human society, while cold events have been deleterious to much of society. It is vital that climate research to examine the effects of a colder climate also be supported. Critical target areas of this research should include the potential impact of climate change on food production. Further research should concentrate on mitigation techniques to combat any serious effects of either colder or warmer climate, naturally or artificially caused, on the ability of the world to feed itself.

The AAPG urges that any actions to implement or to ratify the Kyoto Protocol and any future declarations of climate policy be delayed until there is better understanding of present climate and the impacts of policy implementation, as well as some provision for mitigating errors in policy. There is no current viable substitute for petroleum-based fuels in the world's energy budget and economy.

1. The Energy Information Administration has estimated that implementation of the Kyoto Protocol would result in a carbon tax of \$348 per ton of carbon (E.I.A. SR/OIAF/98-30). Murphy Oil Company estimates of about .12 ton of carbon per barrel of oil (or 8 barrels per ton of carbon) (Oil

and Gas Journal, Nov. 2, 1998, p.30) results in an estimated \$43.50 carbon tax per barrel of oil.

2. All geologists who are interested in the climate debate probably should read two books:
 - Moore, Peter D., Bill Chaloner, and Philip Stott, 1996, Global environmental change: Blackwell Science, Oxford, England, 244 p.
 - Lamb, H. H., 1995, Climate, History, and the Modern World: 2nd Ed., Routledge, NY, 433 p.
 - Three recent papers of interest to scientists are:
 - Bluemle, J. P., J. M. Sabel, and W. Karlen, 1999, Rate and Magnitude of Past Global Climate Changes: Environmental Geosciences, v. 6, n. 2, p. 63-75.
 - Fischer, H., M. Wahlen, J. Smith, D. Mastoianni, and B. Deck, 1999, Ice Core Records of Atmospheric CO₂ Around the Last Three Glacial Terminations: Science, v. 283, p.1712-1714.
 - Fan, S., M. Gloor, J. Mahlman, S. Pacala, J. Sarmiento, T. Takahashi, and R. Tans, 1998, A Large Terrestrial Carbon Sink in North America Implied by Atmospheric and Oceanic Carbon Dioxide Data and Models: Science, v. 282, p. 442-446.

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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 2007 award.

SELECTION PROCESS

The award winner is selected from candidates nominated by a faculty member. The winner is 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

The Don Clarke Award


The Don Clarke Brunton Award is given to a qualified student graduating from an LA Basin Community College with an Associate Degree, enrolled in a Geology or Earth Science curriculum with plans to pursue a baccalaureate degree in Geology or the Earth Sciences.

The Society is currently looking for qualified applicants for the 2007 award.

To qualify for this LABGS award, the student must meet the following criteria:

- Plan to graduate in 2006 with an Associate Degree from a Los Angeles Basin Area Community College.
- Complete a Geology or Earth Science curriculum.
- Must be pursuing plans to enroll in a four-year college or university with Geology, Geological Sciences, or Earth Science as their designated major.

WE'LL BE THERE



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Student Chapter Activities

The SDSU student chapter of the AAPG had it's annual BBQ in eastern San Diego on Sunday April 29th. There was a mix of students, instructors and staff in attendance. A great time was had by all and all student chapters should do the same!



Elections

The time is fast approaching for two different election needs. The election ballot will come out in the June newsletter.

- The LABGS needs individuals interested in being Secretary, Treasurer, Program Chair and President. This is a real issue, your elected officers have been in office for close to 4 years. Although the tasks are not great, the need for help is. Please volunteer or nominate (with their knowledge!) somebody.
- We are searching for candidates for the House of Delegates positions. Although we do not have an open spot now I would like to have some staggering of future terms. Names would be appreciated.

Student Sponsorship

Both Halliburton and Schlumberger are defraying the cost to the Society of our students-at-the-monthly meetings program. *Students are free at all meetings.* Thank you.

Contact Us – The LABGS Board

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

Program Chair: currently vacant

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

Secretary: currently vacant

OUR WEB SITE ADDRESS IS:
www.labgs.org

President's Note

To all our members,

This month's talk will be given David Lynch, PhD on a "Field Guide to the San Andreas Fault". David has written a book on the subject and should give a great talk at the meeting. Please come and support the last speaker of the year ! ! ! ! !

Last month I attended the SDSU AAPG Student Chapter BBQ in San Diego. It was a fun event held at a Polo field owned by one of the instructors. I hope to encourage more Student Chapter get-togethers next year as I assume my responsibilities as AAPG Pac Section President.

And it is ELECTION time. We need volunteers to help with the Society. I will remain here as President, unless a volunteer comes forward. The VP/speaker coordinator, treasurer and newsletter editor spots are not time-consuming, and do not require a PhD, just somebody willing to put some effort in. I want people who are interested, referrals are nice but I want the nominator to be doing the legwork of contacting the candidate. We will not have elections as late as last year.

Please help NOW!

Thanks!

Jon



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**