



# SAN DIEGO ASSOCIATION OF GEOLOGISTS

[www.sandiegogeologists.org](http://www.sandiegogeologists.org)

## SDAG MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

[WEDNESDAY, October 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2011](#)

**TOWARD A UNIFIED MODEL FOR THE GEOLOGIC AND TECTONIC HISTORY OF THE REGION BETWEEN INDIAN PASS AND PICACHO STATE RECREATION AREA, SOUTHEASTERN CALIFORNIA**

*Presented by*

**Dr. Gary Girty**

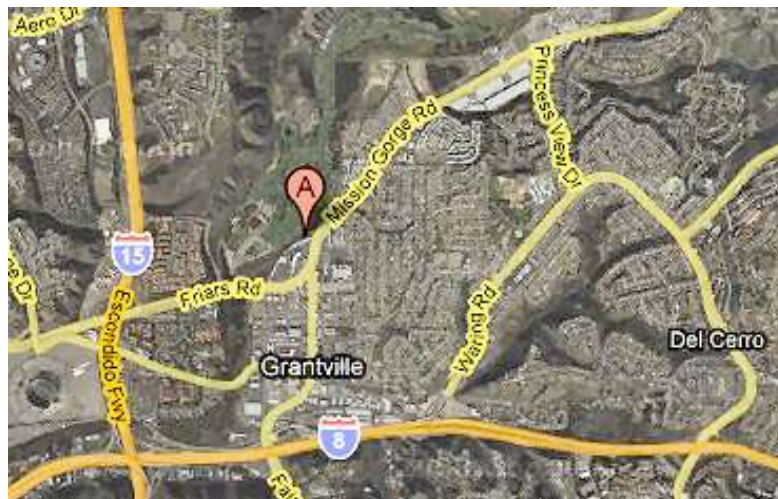
**Where:** **Emiliano's Mexican Restaurant** (Overlooking Admiral Baker Golf Course)  
6690 Mission Gorge Road, San Diego, CA 92120  
(619) 284-2460

**When:** 5:30 pm – Social Hour  
6:30 pm – Dinner  
7:15 pm – Program

**Dinner:** Mexicano fantastico. Beverage station. Cash bar.

**Cost:** \$30 per person, \$5 discount for members, STUDENTS: \$20. Add \$5 if you did not make a reservation

**Reservations:** Try to make your reservation **online** at [www.sandiegogeologists.org](http://www.sandiegogeologists.org) **no later than noon, Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup>**. Note reservations are always preferred over walk-ins.



## SPEAKER ABSTRACT

### TOWARD A UNIFIED MODEL FOR THE GEOLOGIC AND TECTONIC HISTORY OF THE REGION BETWEEN INDIAN PASS AND PICACHO STATE RECREATION AREA, SOUTHEASTERN CALIFORNIA *Dr. Gary Girty, San Diego State University.*

Between Indian Pass and Picacho State Recreation Area, exposures of an ~1.7 km thick lower Miocene volcanic and epiclastic unit are wrapped about the Chocolate Mountains anticlinorium. Lying unconformably beneath the lower Miocene volcanic and epiclastic rocks and forming the core of the anticlinorium is a regionally extensive metamorphic basement complex. Rocks of the lower Miocene volcanic and epiclastic unit are variably altered by hydrothermal metasomatism, and as a result, they cannot be classified using the total-alkali and silica classification scheme recommended by the IUGS. Hence, we used the Zr/Ti versus Nb/Y magma-series discrimination diagram as it utilizes elements that are commonly immobile.

Given that the rocks in the lower Miocene volcanic and epiclastic unit are metasomatically altered, any proposed stratigraphic terminology should not utilize an igneous-rock classification term such as dacite, rhyodacite, and rhyolite. Following this guideline we erected a working lithostratigraphic framework for the lower Miocene volcanic and epiclastic unit that includes from lowest to highest: (1) the  $23.4 \pm 0.4$  Ma Quechan volcanics, (2) the Marcus Wash unit and its apparent stratigraphic equivalent the Rojo Grande unit, (3) the White Wash unit, (4) the  $23.5 \pm 1.0$  Ma Taylor volcanics, and (5) the  $23.2 \pm 0.2$  Ma ignimbrite of Ferguson Wash. Published regional paleotectonic patterns and the geochemical character of samples analyzed from the lower Miocene volcanic and epiclastic unit suggest eruption within a continental-margin island arc setting.

The Neogene Bear Canyon conglomerate unconformably overlies the lower Miocene volcanic and epiclastic unit. It can be subdivided into three unconformably bounded sequences that are designated from oldest to youngest I, II, and III. Though the exact timing of formation of the three sequences in the Bear Canyon conglomerate is difficult to constrain, stratigraphic and our new  $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$  geochronologic data when viewed in the context of regional tectonic patterns suggest that sequence I probably was deposited after ~17 Ma and prior to ~9.45 Ma. In contrast, sequence II was folded prior to or after ~9.45 Ma while sequence III likely was folded after ~9.45 Ma and prior to deposition of flat-lying Quaternary alluvial sediments.

The EW trending Copper Basin reverse fault cuts Sequence II. In addition, key dextral components of a conjugate set of NW and NE trending dextral and sinistral strike-slip faults, respectively, transect the Copper Basin fault, the axis of the Chocolate Mountains anticlinorium, and the  $\sim 9.45 \pm 0.27$  Ma basalts of Black Mountain. However, neither the Copper Basin nor the conjugate faults disrupt flat-lying Quaternary alluvial sediments.

The episodic growth of the EW trending Chocolate Mountains anticlinorium during deposition of the Neogene Bear Canyon conglomerate, and subsequent formation of the EW trending Copper Basin fault and the conjugate set of dextral and sinistral faults all record transient NS shortening within the margin of the North America plate. These transient periods of NS shortening followed extensional deformation of early Miocene continental arc volcanic rocks, and are strain compatible with the 12-10 Ma to 6 Ma development of the Eastern California Shear Zone. Numerous other examples of late Cenozoic EW trending folds and reverse faults are reported in the literature to have formed during development of this 100-110 km wide zone of dextral shear. We therefore conclude that the geology between Indian Pass and Picacho State Recreation Area reflects changing continental margin strain patterns as the boundary between the Farallon and North American plates was transformed from a Paleogene convergent margin to a wholly Neogene transform setting.

## SPEAKER BIO

### SPEAKER: DR. GARY GIRTY

Gary has been a member of the faculty of the Department of Geological Sciences at San Diego State University since 1984. He served as the Chair of the department from 1998 – 2001 and then from 2003 – 2008. He also has served as the President of the Pacific Section SEPM (1996) and as the President of the Cordilleran section of GSA (2006), and was selected by the Academic Senate at San Diego State University for the *Excellence In Teaching Award – Recognizing Excellence As A Teacher-Scholar* for 2006-2007. In 2009 he was selected for the *President's Top 25 Award* at San Diego State University. He has supervised the successful completion of 71 Masters and 84 senior theses, and is currently supervising an additional 4 Masters and 4 senior theses. His current research projects are focused on the evolution and characteristics of the fault zone architecture of the San Jacinto fault, and the Paleogene to Neogene structural and tectonic evolution of the lower Colorado River region between Indian Pass and Picacho State Recreation Area.

## 2011 SDAG MEETING SCHEDULE – Mark your Calendars!

Meetings are usually on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month but may change to accommodate speaker and meeting place schedules. Check here for updates!

November 16, 2011	<b>Keith Meldahl - Rough-Hewn Land: A Geologic Journey from California to the Rocky Mountains</b>
December 14, 2011	<b>Tom Demere - San Diego Paleontology</b>

## 2011 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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## PRESIDENTS CORNER, JULY 2011

As always, Dr. Tom Rockwell delivered a truly quality presentation at our September meeting! Much “food for thought” as we look at earthquake prediction and preparation. Dr. Gary Girty will be presenting the talk at our October meeting, scheduled for Emiliano’s in Grantville on the 19<sup>th</sup>. His talk will be about the areas we will visit on the upcoming annual fieldtrip. Speaking of the field trip, it IS just around the corner now, November 4 thru 6 is weeks away. Be sure to sign up as soon as you can so we can plan accordingly.

Be sure also to get the November meeting on your calendar. Keith Meldahl will be presenting, “Rough-Hewn Land: A Geologic Journey from California to the Rocky Mountains.” That meeting will be November 16<sup>th</sup>. Note that both the October and November meetings are back to our typical third Wednesday. I look forward to seeing you this month and in-camp in early November! - Chuck Houser



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Hargis + Associates, Inc. is an environmental consulting firm specializing in hydrogeology and engineering. We are headquartered in San Diego, California and have offices in Mesa and Tucson, Arizona. Our practice areas include all aspects of hydrogeology and engineering.

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Contact: **Jim Ashby**



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*Add yourself to this list* - Sponsors, Corporate Sponsors, and Patrons provide a significant portion of SDGS's and SDAG's operating and scholarship budgets. SDGS is (a 501(c)3 public benefit nonprofit educational corporation). For more information, please see our Sponsorship Form

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

### 2011 SDAG FIELD TRIP "Picacho and the Cargo Muchachos" November 4, 5, & 6, 2011

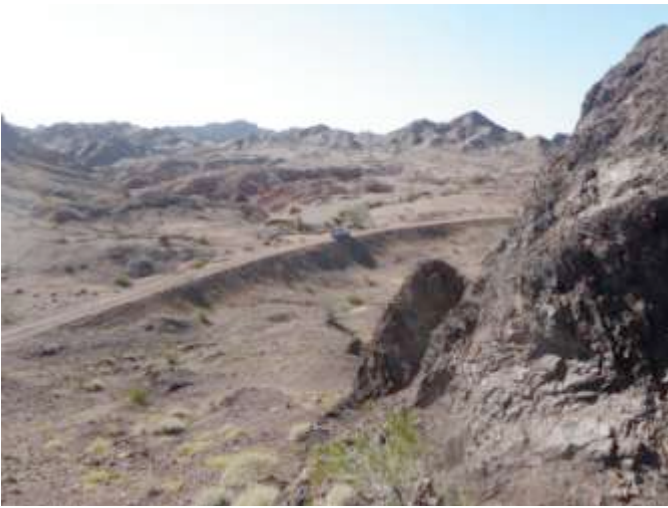
In my opinion, the food and friends alone are worth the cost of the trip! Please sign up for the trip here: <http://www.sandiegogeologists.org/FieldTrip2011Reg.pdf> . Dr. Gary Girty will be leading us to the best geology outcrops in Picacho, and we will come away with an enlightened view of the tectonic processes that shaped the landscape. From there, we will draw upon our newfound

knowledge and view the mines of the Cargo Muchacho Mtns and/or the southern Chocolate Mtns with a sense of wonder and understanding. At least, that's the plan!

A quote to keep in mind while pondering the 23 Ma ignimbrite of Ferguson Wash:

"Geology, perhaps more than any other department of natural philosophy, is a science of contemplation. It requires no experience or complicated apparatus, no minute processes upon the unknown processes of matter. It demands only an enquiring mind and senses alive to the facts almost everywhere presented in nature. And as it may be acquired without much difficulty, so it may be improved without much painful exertion." - *Sir Humphrey Davy*

For the unenlightened, I shall provide a shortened interpretation of Sir Humphrey Davy's pronouncement: "Have another beer and you'll see the outcrop a whole lot better."



Please complete and submit the sign-up sheet as soon as possible, so that proper arrangements can be made regarding car pooling and such. Arrival on November 4 is optional but recommended. Last day for signing up: Friday, October 28. Call or email me with any questions: [todd@wirths.com](mailto:todd@wirths.com) ; 858-337-0098.

### **The JAWS are talking and they want to share their secrets with you.**

Our fantastic collection of Jaws will be on display at our Open House at the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park celebrating National Fossil Day and the secret desert treasures in the Stout Research Center. Visitors will find out just what secrets jaws and teeth can reveal. Many of these fossils have never been on display and will include carnivores, herbivores, and omnivores that inhabited this region over the past 5 million years. Both our Paleontology Preparation Laboratory and Collection Hall will be open and volunteers from the Paleontology Society will be your guides. Come and join us to hear what secrets JAWS can tell us. **Where:** Meet at the ABDSP Visitor Center. A guide will meet you there for the short walk to the Stout Research Center Paleontology Laboratory and Collection Hall. **When:** October 22: 1pm to 4pm and October 23: 9am to noon. [www.anzaborregopaleo.org](http://www.anzaborregopaleo.org)

# Shake Out

## Get Ready to ShakeOut!

Have you practiced how to protect yourself in an earthquake? Participate in a ShakeOut drill near you and be ready to Drop, Cover, and Hold On!

▶ [LEARN HOW TO PARTICIPATE](#)

On October 20 at 10:20 a.m.\*, millions of people will participate in the 2011 Great California ShakeOut! In 2010, more than 7.9 million Californians practiced [Drop, Cover, and Hold On](#) to practice how they will protect themselves during earthquakes, and increased their overall preparedness. Join us in 2011!



### South Coast Geological Society Poster Session - Call for Presenters

The South Coast Geological Society will be holding our annual poster session on Monday, December 5th at our regular meeting location in Santa Ana, the Doubletree Club. All are encouraged to create a poster to share with the group. Posters in the past have focused on proposed work, completed research and sometimes good old fashioned show and tell!

Please submit your poster title and a brief abstract (3-5 sentences) by November 1 so that we can create a program for our December newsletter. For those that have not participated before, we find that this session is good practice for those with thesis projects that are almost done, a great way to get feedback from a variety of professionals, and a good opportunity to see some of what's going on in the "real world."

The information for your poster can be sent to Jeff Miller [jmiller@e2managetech.com](mailto:jmiller@e2managetech.com). We anticipate awarding a few prizes based on member polling.

The November Meeting will be Monday November 7. Dr. Nate Onderdonk of CSULB will be giving a talk on our impending San Andreas "big one" that we have all been waiting for.

### Geothermal Resource Council's announces its 35th Annual Meeting and GEA Trade Show

To be held October 23 to 26, 2011 at the Town & Country Resort & Convention Center in San Diego. More information can be found at <http://www.geothermal.org/meet.html>

**Plan to share your research with a presentation or a poster  
2012 Desert Symposium**

**Presentation Theme:** Life in the Desert: Adaptations to Environmental Extremes

**Field Trip Theme:** Search for the Pliocene: Southern Exposures

**Desert Studies Center**

**April 20, 21, 2012**

**Field Trip April 21- 23, 2012**

**Zzyzx, California**

Additional information to follow. Please forward this information to other interested individuals and invite them to send their email addresses to [wpresch@fullerton.edu](mailto:wpresch@fullerton.edu). California State University, Fullerton



**Association of Earth Science Editors 45th Annual Meeting**

**“Expanding our Boundaries:  
Geoscience Editing in the Digital  
World”**

**Governors Inn Hotel, Tallahassee, Florida**

**November 14–17, 2011**

**Technical sessions November 15–16**

**Field trip on karst features November 17**

For more information about the annual meeting, visit [www.aese.org](http://www.aese.org) or contact Jane Eggleston, host chair, [jegg@usgs.gov](mailto:jegg@usgs.gov), or Carole Ziegler, AESE vice president, technical program chair, [sdageditor@gmail.com](mailto:sdageditor@gmail.com). AESE is an organization of

editors, journal managers, and others involved with publication in the earth sciences. Its purpose is to facilitate cooperation among editors and to promote effective dissemination of earth-science information. AESE maintains liaisons with AGI, AAAS, CSE, EASE, and GSA. The registration fee for the annual meeting includes a one-year membership in AESE. Membership benefits include a subscription to AESE’s quarterly digital newsletter, the *Blueline*, and access to a members-only listserv and jobs board. Follow us on our Web site at [www.aese.org](http://www.aese.org), on our blog at [geoeditors.wordpress.com](http://geoeditors.wordpress.com), on Facebook at [tinyurl.com/3n2vrwx](http://tinyurl.com/3n2vrwx), on Twitter at [twitter.com/#!/AESERocks](http://twitter.com/#!/AESERocks), and LinkedIn at [tinyurl.com/3scpt7e](http://tinyurl.com/3scpt7e)

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Experience in leading and conducting geological and geotechnical field work. Used to working in a team environment to successfully deliver projects. Interested in informational interviews as well employment opportunities. Contact: Carme Cervantes, [carmecervantes@hotmail.com](mailto:carmecervantes@hotmail.com), 4250 4th Avenue, San Diego 92103, C.A. (858) 888-3716

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Qualifications Summary and Objective: I have 14 years experience directing surface water quality monitoring programs with a proven record of excelling in monitoring plan implementation, quality control, public notification and continuous improvement in operational effectiveness and efficiency. I have built and maintained relationships with key staff in academia, industry, and all levels of government in San Diego and California. I have a widely applicable skill set which includes: analytical thinking, communication and writing skills, data analysis and management, inter and intra- agency project coordination, and staff supervision and training. My objective is to obtain a career position with an industry leader where I can contribute my skills to build the success of my employer as well grow professionally. Detailed work experience, education and more at [www.linkedin.com/in/cbclifton2010](http://www.linkedin.com/in/cbclifton2010). Email [cbc2006@cox.net](mailto:cbc2006@cox.net) or 619-964-1776. Contact: Clay Clifton

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"ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST- MS in Geology, 13 years of the industry experience (CA, NY/NJ, overseas), California P.G., proficient in methods of subsurface exploration and geotechnical hazard evaluations, geophysical surveys, construction quality control, geotechnical engineering analyses, special interest in earthquake-hazard and seismic design related applications, strong problem solving and organizational skills, enjoy being challenged. I worked in San Diego in 1998-2004 and would love to move back. Detailed resume available upon request. Anna Fyodorova, [Afyodorova103@gmail.com](mailto:Afyodorova103@gmail.com)."

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## **JOB OPENINGS!**

Hargis + Associates, Inc is looking for motivated entry level hydrogeologists with relevant course work in hydrogeology, geochemistry, and environmental sciences to join our San Diego and Phoenix Offices. <http://www.hargis.com/jobs-hydrogeologist.html>, <http://www.hargis.com/jobs-hydrogeologist-mesa.html>. We are looking for a motivated and experienced Staff/Senior Engineer with demonstrated writing, design, and field implementation experience to join our San Diego Office, <http://www.hargis.com/jobs-senior-staff-engineer.html>. We are also seeking an engineer with extensive experience in the mining industry for a position in our Tucson office. This position is well suited to a self starting individual with strong ambitions for success and promotion within Hargis + Associates. <http://www.hargis.com/jobs-senior-staff-engineer-mining.html>.

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Seeking a Career in Southern Vice President Environmental Services (VPES) Seeking a successful VPES (seller/owner) to help grow an environmental consulting company in San Diego, CA. The main focus is new client sales and client retention. Other duties will include technical direction and management for client projects. The primary focus for sales and technical project management are in the areas of air quality, CEQA permitting, water discharge, stormwater permitting, regulatory compliance, hazardous materials and waste management, and environmental mitigation management. 5+ years of experience, minimum Bachelor's Degree, and the ability to bring in and retain a large book of business is required. Candidates from the Orange County, CA, area will also be considered. Inquiries and resumes to: [resumes@proconnectweb.com](mailto:resumes@proconnectweb.com)

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ENVIRONMENTAL DATA ANALYST, JOB CODE: MEP20110826-064, POSTED: AUGUST 26, 2011 LOCATION: SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA OFFICE ( [VIEW MAP](#) )  
[HTTP://WWW.DDMSINC.COM/ABOUT\\_US/CAREERS\\_CURRENT\\_OPENINGS.HTML](http://www.ddmsinc.com/about_us/careers_current_openings.html)

Description: de maximis Data Management Solutions (ddms) is currently seeking a full-time Environmental Data Analyst for our San Diego, California office. The successful candidate will work as part of a multi-office project team which includes a single and multi-party (e.g., Superfund) Project Coordinators and support staff, one or more Analysts, Technicians, Programmers, Engineers, Geologists and Data Validators. Analysts perform data management and analysis services on large industrial environmental remediation projects. Day-to-day duties include the tasks associated with managing, analyzing and reporting analytical and field measurement data collected through various groundwater, surface water, sediment, soil and "O&M" sampling events. Duties also include environmental database management, GIS maintenance and development, hydrogeologic and fate and transport analysis, table and map report preparation, and significant contributions towards frequent team meetings, project management and client communications. This position requires the ability to commit to some light infrequent travel throughout the year.

Requirements include:

- Strong Work Ethic
- Ability to communicate effectively with co-workers and clients
- Ability to manage data management related tasks, projects and budgets
- Bachelors degree preferably in one of the physical sciences (e.g., geology, chemistry, environmental sciences), engineering or geography
- Experience in the environmental remediation industry
- Minimum 5 years experience using Esri ArcGIS® software products required
- Minimum 5 years experience managing environmental databases (EQuIS® Professional and schema experience desired but not required)
- Experience using environmental visualization packages desired but not required (e.g., C-Tech MVS®, RockWorks etc)
- Proven fluency in modern office software programs (i.e. Microsoft Windows® and Office® including Word® and Excel®)
- Strong experience using database applications and related languages (e.g., Microsoft Access®, SQL syntax)
- Positive attitude and ability and desire to learn new technical skills quickly
- Must be a self motivator and able to work independently
- 40 Hour Hazwoper Training a plus but not required

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Environmental Staff/Sr. Staff Professional – E2 ManageTech - We are seeking a dynamic team member with a background in environmental consulting . The ideal candidate will be an individual who has focused on conducting and completing Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs) for the past 2 years and is looking to advance and develop further in their career. The candidate can expect to spend an average of 25-50% of their time on providing the full scope of services related to Phase I ESAs and the remainder of the time on projects related to environmental compliance and/or Phase II Site Investigations and Remedation. The ideal candidate will possess the following:

- Bachelor's degree in Geology, Environmental Sciences, or Civil Engineering with a focus in Environmental Engineering
- 2+ years of experience conducting the full scope of services related to Phase I Environmental Site Assessments which include conducting site walks, reviewing EDRs, identifying RECs on industrial/commercial sites, preparing reports, and client communication.
- Registered Environmental Assessor (REA) a plus, but not required
- Detail oriented individual with advanced technical writing skills

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### **Parting Lineation...**

Biblical Uniformitarianism: That which hath been is that which shall be; and that which hath been done is that which shall be done; and there is no new thing under the sun. *Ecclesiastes* 1:9 (Revised Version) (c. 100 BC)