

July 24, 2014

## President's Message

By: Michael W. Laney, Terracon



Mike Laney, CalGeo President 2014-15 accepts gavel from Past President Danny Cohen

It is hard to believe how fast time has flown since my election to the CalGeo Board of Directors in 2007. I am humbled to be leading this great organization this year, and continuing the legacy that so many great geoprosessionals before me have set into motion. Many of my mentors over my 21 year career are on the list of Past Presidents of CalGeo, and I thank you all for your support and encouragement.

Since joining the board, it has been my honor to work shoulder-to-shoulder with great leaders and professionals on the board, past presidents of CalGeo and our member firms. I will always treasure the friendships I have and continue to make here. I still remember being told as a new graduate that the geotechnical engineering community is a small, and tight-knit community, and my experience has shown me that this is true. CalGeo has always represented the best of this small community and I am proud to be a part of it.

I am pleased to welcome our newest board member, Judd King, G.E., from Earth Systems, and look forward to his contributions to our organization. Later this summer we will be shuffling who serves on which committees, and would like to offer you, our members, the opportunity to volunteer for some of these committees.

- Business Factors (salary survey);
- Communications (the E-Geo/Website);
- Government Practices/Legislation (lobbying);
- Membership/Marketing (recruiting members);
- Outstanding Projects Awards (judging OPA submittals);
- Programs (annual conference and regional meetings);
- Emerging Professionals (new professionals outreach);
- Student Outreach (student chapters);
- Technical Advisory (research subject); and,
- Technician Affairs/Safety (Loss Prevention Seminar).

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Involvement in these committees is a great way to contribute to our profession and organization in a tangible way. If you are interested, please contact Marsha Myers, and she will get you connected.

This year we are going to be diligent on increasing our membership, while continuing to offer high quality regional meetings, loss-prevention seminars, and annual meetings. We are going to continue to strengthen our relationship with the Board of Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists to increase our influence on how the state manages our practice. Other long-term goals that are in the works are to revamp the Geotechnical Engineer lecture series, and get involved with the California Building Standard Commission to influence future building codes. Most importantly we will continue to strengthen our Student Chapters and Emerging Professional groups. These are the two accomplishments of the board since I have been involved that I am most proud of, since this is the future of our profession. To accomplish all of this we will need your help and involvement.

I look forward to what the 2014/15 year has in store for CalGeo and the geotechnical practice in California. Thanks to all of you for making CalGeo such a great organization.

## CalGeo Board of Directors Election Results



New Board Member, Judd King of Earth Systems

Ballots for the election of CalGeo Directors and Officers were tallied as part of the general membership meeting during the CalGeo Annual Conference on May 2 & 3, 2014. CalGeo's Board of Directors consists of twelve members who are responsible for management of the Association's activities and affairs. The Directors consist of five officers and seven Directors-at-Large.

CalGeo is pleased to announce the election of our new Director—Judd King, G.E. He is a senior engineer at Earth Systems, a geotechnical, environmental, and materials testing consulting firm based in San Luis Obispo, California. Judd's broad range of geotechnical experience has included residential, commercial, industrial, and public infrastructure projects.

Judd has been an active supporter of CalGeo for many years, attending numerous loss prevention seminars and meetings. Judd was instrumental in establishing the student chapter of CalGeo at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, and continues to work with these students in a mentoring capacity. Judd has enjoyed his association with CalGeo throughout his career and believes that the organization is an integral part of the practice of GeoProfessionals in California. He is honored to serve on the board to give back to the organization and profession.

Mike Laney (Terracon) assumes the position of President, with Larry Taylor (Taylor Group, Inc.) elected Vice President/President Elect, Hannes Richter (Stoney-Miller Consultants) elected as Treasurer and Bob Lokteff (Blackburn Consulting) elected as Secretary. Outgoing President Danny Cohen (RMA Group) remains on the Board in the role of Immediate Past President. Current Directors Neal Berliner (Geocon), Chris Diaz (Diaz-Yourman & Associates), Rob Fingerson (Holdrege & Kull Consulting Engineers), Dave Hamilton (Hamilton & Associates), Martin McIlroy (Taber Consultants), and Mike Moscrop (GMU Geotechnical, Inc.) were re-elected to another term on the Board.

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## Technical Advisory Committee

By: *Danny Cohen-CalGeo Past President*

It is with great pleasure that I am announcing the formation of a new Technical Advisory Committee to help guide CalGeo in addressing Technical Issues. This committee has been an integral part of the CalGeo Board for many years but of late has become somewhat stagnant. For the past several years we have been looking for a way and a reason to revitalize this committee, which given the nature of our profession, should be a vital part of our everyday lives.

Siamak Jafroudi of Petra Geotechnical (CalGeo Past-President) has graciously accepted the challenge to chair this committee, along with current board and committee members Hannes Richter of Stoney-Miller Consultants and Chris Diaz of Diaz-Yourman Associates. Two or three individuals cannot accomplish this task. Therefore I implore you to get involved in this endeavor. Please contact Siamak, Hannes or Chris at the emails below and offer your services. Creating some uniformity and raising the standards in how we address the issues of today will serve not only our profession but the community at large.

Siamak Jafroudi [sjafroudi@petra-inc.com](mailto:sjafroudi@petra-inc.com)

Hannes Richter [hrichter@stonymiller.com](mailto:hrichter@stonymiller.com)

Chris Diaz [chris@diazyourman.com](mailto:chris@diazyourman.com)

Read full article [here](#).

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## Affiliate Board Liaison



Mike McCarthy of Stego Industries

Recently, the Board of Directors invited our Affiliate members to choose one of their own to represent them as an Affiliate Board Liaison, for a two year term. Mike McCarthy of Stego Industries, LLC was chosen and we welcome him and know that he will work effectively with the board.

Mike is the Senior Residential Manager working out of the corporate office in San Clemente, and has spent the last 9 years with Stego Industries building relationships and supporting design professionals throughout California. Most notably, he has been an affiliate member of CalGeo for roughly 6 years, as well as a member of the Construction Specification Institute (CSI) as a Certified Construction Product Representative (CCPR). Mike looks forward to bringing his experience in the construction industry, along with his Masters in Business Administration to the CalGeo Affiliate Board Liaison position.

Mike's goals as CalGeo's Affiliate Board Liaison include strengthening the correspondence between CalGeo's affiliate and geotechnical members to foster more productive and mutually beneficial relationships, year-round. His plan is to effectively communicate any concerns, suggested improvements, and success stories between the CalGeo Board and the other affiliate members. Additionally, he hopes to create opportunities to strengthen CalGeo's affiliate and geotechnical membership. Mike is excited and grateful for the opportunity.

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## Outstanding Project Awards

2013 Medium Category Winner — GMU Geotechnical  
Philemon Drive Landslide Repair — Dana Point, CA



Philemon Drive Landslide Repair

Most large landslides are repaired via some combination of mass grading, structural restraint systems, and/or dewatering. In 2005, a deep seated landslide occurred in Dana Point, California that resulted in the destruction of one home and the red-tagging of three others. Several attempts were undertaken to completely repair the landslide over a five-year period, but all attempts failed due to a lack of funds and concerns over landslide enlargement into adjacent properties. During preliminary design, a repair scheme was developed involving conventional grading and stabilization methods. To mitigate the potential for off-site landslide enlargement, an expensive caisson and tieback active restraint system needed to be integrated into the repair, along with a large toe surcharge and buttress for stability. However, this system resulted in the repair scheme being economically and logistically unviable. A unique repair scheme was then developed in conjunction with the contractor that utilized a high strength aggregate-cement slurry (ACS) keyway design in combination with a multi-faceted construction phasing scheme. The ACS consisted of a pourable mixture of aggregate rock, cement, and water. Construction phasing consisted of two phases: a global component and a keyway component.

In addition to further discussion of the project outlined above, design, construction methods, and testing are discussed in detail in the [full article](#).

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## ASFE Changes its Name

Geoprofessional Business Association (GBA) is the new name of the organization formerly known as ASFE/The Geoprofessional Business Association. According to GBA President Steven D. Thorne, P.E., D.GE (Terracon), “The time had come. Continually fewer of our most active members knew what ASFE originally stood for or how we’ve evolved over the years. Geoprofessional Business Association identifies who we are today.”



Click [here](#) for full article.

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## Member News

### Member Benefits Just Got Better!

If you haven't signed up yet for Business AdvantEdge you're missing out on a great member benefit. To learn more about these programs and to sign up for CalGeo member benefits, please visit the [CalGeo MarketPlace](#). Note: On your first visit to the MarketPlace, please register as a "New Member" to set up your user name and password.



Here are your summer 2014 special promotions: Office Depot-new enrollees receive an additional 10% off the first minimum order of \$100.00. Save 5%-85% on hundreds of items, 60% off print/copy, plus pick 10 for 15% off. Staples-12% base discount, 40-70% off top 300 items, free shipping! Office Max-Save up to 90% off everyday low prices with FREE, next day delivery.

For a Quick Overview and expedited enrollment, [please visit Program Enrollment](#).

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## Job Board

Visit our [website](#) for the latest information on current positions available throughout the industry, including:

- ◆ Project Geotechnical Engineer with Geosoils Consultants, Inc.

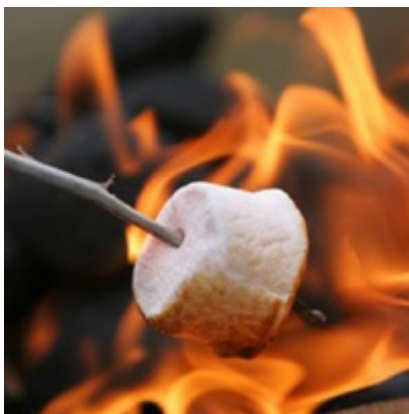
If you're LOOKING for help throughout the year, we also have a number of resumes on our website at <http://www.calgeo.org/job-board/current-resumes.php>.

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## Safety First

### How To Keep Your Campfire From Becoming a Wildfire...



- **Call before you go** — Call your local forestry or fire district to learn if there are any current campfire restrictions.
- **Select the right spot** — Maintained campgrounds with established fire pits provide the safest venue for campfires. If campfires are allowed outside campgrounds, avoid areas near your tent, structures, vehicles, shrubs and trees, and be aware of low-hanging branches overhead. Clear the site down to mineral soil, at least five feet on all sides, and circle your campfire site with rocks. Store your unused firewood a good distance from the fire.
- **Keep your campfire small** — A campfire is less likely to escape

control if it is kept small. A large fire may cast hot embers long distances. Add firewood in small amounts as existing material is consumed.

- **Attend your campfire at all times** — A campfire left unattended for only a few minutes can grow into a costly, damaging wildfire. State law requires you to stay with your campfire from start to finish until dead out, to ensure any escaped sparks or embers can be extinguished quickly.
- **NEVER use gasoline or other accelerants (flammable or combustible liquids) to start or increase your campfire.** — Once the fire is ignited, wait until the match is cold and then discard it in the fire.
- **Always have water and fire tools on site** — Have a shovel and a bucket of water nearby to extinguish any escaped embers. When you are ready to leave, drown all embers with water, stir the coals, and drown again. Repeat until the fire is DEAD out.
- **Make sure it's out** — Completely extinguish your campfire before leaving. If it is too hot to touch, it is too hot to leave. A campfire that appears to be extinguished can harbor heat for weeks. Then, a warm day with a little wind can rekindle the “sleeper fire” into flames.
- **Burn ONLY wood** — State regulations prohibit the open burning of any material that creates dense, toxic smoke or noxious odors.

When it's time to leave the campfire and head to bed or back to town,  
make sure you put the campfire out — **DEAD OUT!**

**Drown all embers, sticks, and coals,**  
especially those that might have fallen under the rocks

**Stir the coals,** to make sure all heat has been removed

**Drown** the area again

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