



**Annual Conference & Short Courses  
Flamingo Conference Resort & Spa  
Conference April 19-21, 2018  
Short courses April 18 & 19**

**LET'S GET CRACKING IN SANTA ROSA**

**Download presentation slides on-line @ [www.calgeo.org/santarosa2018](http://www.calgeo.org/santarosa2018)**

# sponsors

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# Santa Rosa 2018



# conference & courses

## WEDNESDAY APRIL 18

	Event	Speaker	Location
10:00 - 5:00	A/E/C Financial Management Seminar *	David Burstein, PSMJ	Alexander

## THURSDAY APRIL 19

	Event	Sponsor	Location
7:00 - 12:00	Playing for Peanuts Golf Tournament & Breakfast	Farrell Design Build Inc.	Foxtail Golf Course
8:00 - 12:00	Slope Stability Short Course *	Dr. Thamer Yacoub	Alexander
9:00	Registration Opens		Flamingo Lobby
12:00	Affiliate Set-up		Empire
12:30	Past President's Lunch Meeting		Terrace Grill
1:00 - 5:00	Integrated Site Characterization Short Course *	Dr. Jason DeJong	Alexander
2:00 - 5:00	Board of Directors Meeting		Oak
6:00	Welcome Reception (includes dinner)	Hayward Baker & EagleLift	Flamingo Pool

\* Separate registration required for each short course. Conference registration does not include short courses and vice versa.

## FRIDAY APRIL 20

	Event	Speaker/Sponsor	Location
7:30 - 8:30	Breakfast	Tensar	Flamingo
8:30 - 10:00	General membership meeting		Flamingo
15 MIN	BREAK	JC Baldwin	Empire
10:15 - 11:30	  Key performance indicators to illuminate the road to financial excellence	Brian Flynn	Flamingo
10:15 - 11:30	  Planning now for the next proposal: modular writing	Heather Hutcheson	Alexander
12:00 - 1:15	Lunch & Presentation: Unified Design Method for Piles in Liquefied Soil	Tom Farrell, Farrell Design Build Inc.	Flamingo
1:30 - 2:45	 Two recent large geotechnical failures - lessons learned	Dr. Peter K. Robertson	Flamingo
15 MIN	BREAK	Stego	Empire
3:00 - 4:15	 Wine caves and similar underground structures	Scott Lewis	Flamingo
5:00 - 6:00	 Emerging Professional & Student Happy Hour		Oak

## SATURDAY APRIL 21

	Event	Speaker/Sponsor	Location
7:30 - 8:30	Breakfast		Flamingo
8:30 - 10:00	 Geotechnical instrumentation (covering your assets)	Gerry Kasman	Flamingo
15 MIN	BREAK		Empire
10:15 - 11:30	  Legislative update	Kelly Garman	Alexander
10:15 - 11:30	  Construction defect litigation & the expert witness's role	Tom Blackburn	Flamingo
12:00 - 1:15	Outstanding Project Award Luncheon		Flamingo
1:30 - 2:45	 CPT-based liquefaction triggering correlations	Kathleen Darby	Flamingo
15 MIN	BREAK		Empire
3:00 - 4:15	 Delta levees and earthquakes	Dr. Robert Pyke	Flamingo
6:00	Closing Banquet & Silent Auction	Middle Earth	Flamingo/Empire

# details & speakers

## THURSDAY APRIL 19

### Playing for Peanuts - Golf Tournament @ Foxtail Golf Course

6:30 - 7:30am Breakfast at the course. 7:30am Tee-off

Good grief, that's an early tee time! Our golfers will be treated to continental breakfast and coffee at the Playing for Peanuts (and prizes) Golf Tournament sponsored by Farrell Design-Build, Inc.



### Welcome Reception

6:00 - 8:00pm

Sample the bountiful harvest of California's wine region while mingling with conference attendees. Sponsored by Hayward Baker and EagleLift.



## FRIDAY APRIL 20

### Key performance indicators to illuminate the road to financial excellence

Presented by Brian Flynn, P.E. BCEE PSMJ Resources, Inc. ●●

10:15 - 11:30am *Concurrent Session*

Many A/E firm leaders want to improve their profitability but often mistakenly focus on utilization. In this presentation, a short list of financial Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) is developed and explained. The presentation includes several short case studies, with problem analysis using KPIs, and opportunities for profit improvement developed.

Brian Flynn is a consultant with PSMJ Resources, Inc., providing consulting and training in the areas of profit improvement, financial management and ownership transition. Prior to joining PSMJ he served as a Founding Principal of Environmental Resources Management (ERM) a global environmental engineering and science firm.



### Planning now for the next proposal: modular writing

Presented by Heather Hutcheson ●●

10:15 - 11:30am *Concurrent Session*

Address the key parts of modular writing related to the geotechnical engineering profession, including identifying tools and strategies to manage information and addressing challenges, such as consistency and currency. A review of best practices focused on efficiency in the proposal-writing process along with hands-on activities. This workshop will also address how this type of writing can be used in the development of cover letters for emerging geotechnical professionals looking to tailor their internship and career search.



Heather Hutcheson has taught writing at Cosumnes River College in Sacramento, CA for more than fifteen years. She has also edited literary journals for over twenty years. She blogs at [shewhodareshownothing.wordpress.com](http://shewhodareshownothing.wordpress.com).

# Santa Rosa 2018



## FRIDAY APRIL 20

### Unified Design Method for Piles in Liquefied Soil

Presented by Tom Farrell, Farrell Design-Build

12:00 - 1:15pm



Enjoy our Affiliate sponsored lunch presentation by Farrell Design-Build. This talk will focus on using a neutral plane methodology (Unified Design Method) and how liquefied soils is accounted for in the analysis.

### Two recent large geotechnical failures, lessons learned

Presented by Dr. Peter K. Robertson Professor Emeritus University of Alberta

1:30 - 2:45pm

In the past few years there have been two significant failures of large tailings dams, one in Canada and the other in Brazil. Both failures resulted in significant financial and environmental damages and in one case, the death of 19 people. Although each failure was the result of different causes, there are important lessons to be learned by all geotechnical engineers. This presentation will briefly discuss the failures and their causes and identify the lessons learned.



Dr. Peter Robertson brings more than 40 years experience as an educator, researcher, consultant and practitioner specializing in the areas of in-situ testing and site investigation, earthquake design of geotechnical structures, and soil liquefaction. Peter is recognized as an expert both nationally and internationally in the areas of in-situ testing and soil liquefaction. He has been a consultant across the globe for projects involving liquefaction evaluation for major structures, stability of on-shore and off-shore structures, landslides, stability of natural slopes and tailings dams, and use and interpretation of in-situ tests.

### Wine caves and similar underground alternative structures - uses, challenges, design and construction

Presented by Scott Lewis Condor Earth

3:00 - 4:15pm

Over the past thousand years, man has stored wine in natural underground caves and man-made tunnels. Since the late 1850's, the practice of building specialty "wine caves" has been common in Sonoma and Napa counties. Approximately 150 to 200 wine caves exist in these two counties combined. Wine caves are built to reduce evaporative losses as well as for marketing, land use and permitting, topographic and surface limitations, and, as recently shown, resistance to wildfires. The presentation will include case histories and a recap of cave performance during the 2014 Napa Earthquake.



Mr. Lewis is a Principal Engineering Geologist and Tunneling Consultant with Condor Earth, located in Sonoma, California. He has worked on over 250 tunneling projects, including feasibility, design, construction and rehabilitation of over 200 wine storage caves and underground wineries throughout California and several western states.

# details & speakers

**SATURDAY APRIL 21**

## **Geotechnical instrumentation (covering your assets)** ●

Presented by Gerry Kasman Geocon, Inc.

8:30 - 10:00am

Geotechnical instrumentation plays an important role in our industry; from initial site investigations throughout the entire construction phase of a project. With the increase in litigation related to subsidence and distress on construction projects it becoming more and more important to be proactive in identifying movement when it begins, rather than being reactive after significant damage has already occurred. Advances in instrumentation have made the instruments themselves more accurate and less time consuming to read/measure.



Mr. Kasman has over 30 years of experience as an engineering geologist in Southern California. He began his career with LeRoy Crandall and Associates and moved to Geocon in early 2000 where he is currently a Vice President. Since 1990 he has been performing installation and monitoring of geotechnical instrumentation projects ranging from small slope stability investigations to large tunneling projects.

## **2018 Ballot initiatives and legislative update** ●●

Presented by Kelly Garman ACEC California

10:15 - 11:30am *Concurrent Session*

Kelly will discuss the myriad of measures Californians will see on the ballot in 2018 including the threat to repeal SB 1, the recently enacted gas tax funding. She will also discuss SB 496, the Duty to Defend Reform legislation seen as a major win for the design professional community.



Kelly Garman oversees the state government affairs program for ACEC California. She manages the efforts of ACEC California's legislative advocacy team, provides political counsel and is responsible for identifying, reporting and advising ACEC California leadership on upcoming policies and regulatory changes.

## **Construction Defect Litigation and the Expert Witness's role in California - for young professionals** ●●

Presented by Thomas Blackburn Blackburn Consulting Inc.

10:15 - 11:30am *Concurrent Session*

Construction defect lawsuits are big business in California. At some point in your career you will most likely serve as a forensics consultant and expert witness. Based on his experience on over 500 construction defect litigation cases (including cases where his firm has been sued), Mr. Blackburn will succinctly summarize the process and how to participate most effectively and ethically as a forensics consultant and expert witness.



As BCI's president, Tom has helped build an outstanding 40-person, 3-office firm. Tom has a passion for geotechnical engineering and he works hard to enhance it through continuing education for staff, professional association involvement and ethical professional practices.



# saturday

## Outstanding Project Awards Luncheon

12:00 - 1:15pm

CalGeo's Outstanding Project Awards Luncheon will recognize exemplary projects demonstrating innovation, difficulty of investigation, quality of geotechnical design, success of interaction between parties involved, and the social impact of the project. Awards will be presented by past-president, Hannes Richter. Each winning firm will provide a brief overview of the project and receive their crystal trophy.

The Student Outreach Committee will present the Rising Star Award to this year's winning student chapter. Awards will also be presented for volunteer commitment, best student poster and most active student chapter.



## CPT-based liquefaction triggering correlations ●

Presented by Kathleen Darby UC Davis

1:30 - 2:45pm

This presentation describes lessons from a case history and recent centrifuge model studies regarding CPT-based liquefaction triggering correlations. During the 2014 Napa Earthquake, no liquefaction-induced settlements were observed at the site, despite the predictions of liquefaction triggering analyses. This discrepancy illustrates the importance of understanding a site's geology and spatial variability.

Kathleen Darby received her B.S. in Civil Engineering at UC Berkeley in 2013 and her M.S. in Civil & Environmental Engineering at UC Davis in 2015. She is currently a Ph.D. candidate at UC Davis. Her research involves using a mechanistic framework to generate CPT-based liquefaction triggering correlations from centrifuge data.



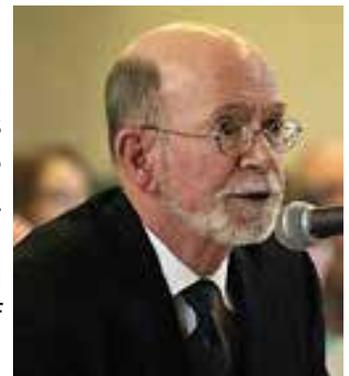
## Delta levees and earthquakes ●

Presented by Dr. Robert Pyke G.E.

3:00 - 4:15pm

The history of the Sacramento - San Joaquin Delta Levee System is summarized and the current threat to this system from earthquakes is evaluated. The interaction of these subjects with California water policy and politics is also discussed. It is concluded that in the current environment good engineering not only has to take into account technical knowledge and experience but also personalities and politics.

The speaker is an individual consultant in geotechnical and earthquake engineering and was one of the principal authors of the Delta Economic Sustainability Plan of the Delta Protection Commission.



# Santa Rosa 2018

# area info & activities

## Closing Banquet & Silent Auction

6:00pm

Life is too short to just *blend* in! We can all experiment with wine blending and testing our taste buds at this year's closing dinner. Our popular silent auction will help to raise money for our Student Outreach Program as well as 10% of the auction proceeds going back to Santa Rosa wild-fire relief ([www.redwoodcu.org/northabyfirerelief](http://www.redwoodcu.org/northabyfirerelief)).



## Flamingo Resort & Conference Center

2777 4th St., Santa Rosa, CA

Website: [www.flamingoresort.com](http://www.flamingoresort.com)

The Flamingo Resort is located in beautiful Santa Rosa, California. As we are all aware, Santa Rosa was recently the site of devastating wildfires. Luckily the hotel was unscathed and is excited to welcome our group in April 2018.

### Spa

For those wishing to relax, the Flamingo spa focuses on health and injury prevention offering modalities for athletes of all

abilities and activity level. Hotel guests receive complimentary use of the Flamingo's Health Club facilities with all spa treatments 50 minutes or longer.

### Exercise

The Health Club offers tennis, 25 meter lap pool, classes, cardio, strength training, child care and full facility locker rooms. For additional details go the Club website or contact the Club at 707-526-0529. A \$15 day use fee for hotel guests applies to the fitness center. Additional fees for child care, private training and spa services.

### Area Activities

Santa Rosa is known as the home of Charles Schultz, the creator of the iconic Peanuts Cartoon strip. You can visit the Charles M. Schultz Museum: [www.schultzmuseum.org](http://www.schultzmuseum.org) to learn all about Charlie Brown, Snoopy and the gang.

Multiple wineries are located in and around Santa Rosa. A short 15-min drive to Kenwood brings you to a small tasting village where you can shop, eat and drink the best of Sonoma county in one spot.

Take your family on safari at *Safari West* for a glimpse of the Sonoma Serengeti: [www.safariwest.com](http://www.safariwest.com)

On April 21 & 22 you can catch the Sebastopol Apple Blossom Festival & Parade. Music, food and fun. \$12/adult, free for kids under 10. More information on the festival is available on-line: [www.appleblossomfest.com](http://www.appleblossomfest.com)



Don't miss all Santa Rosa has to offer: wineries, redwoods and more! Visit: [www.SonomaCounty.com](http://www.SonomaCounty.com) for information and events.

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