

October 15, 2014

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**CalGEO Annual Conference 2015**  
**“CARMEL – DESTINATION SUCCESS”**



CalGEO's Annual Conference will be at the Quail Lodge and Golf Club ([hotel info](#)) next spring, **April 23-25, 2015**. Join us for great speakers, fun activities and championship golf.

Our Programs Committee is diligently working to present the best speakers yet! So, SAVE THE DATE! Look for complete information coming your way and on our website (<http://www.calgeo.org/events/event-details.php?id=pp6e>) in late December/early January.

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**South Napa Earthquake**  
**Preliminary Reconnaissance Report**



As mentioned in the August-September 2014 e.Geo, a magnitude 6.0 earthquake struck northern California on August 24, 2014 approximately 4 miles northwest of American Canyon near Napa, CA. After the event, the National Science Foundation funded the Geotechnical Extreme Events Reconnaissance (GEER) association

(["http://www.geerassociation.org/"](http://www.geerassociation.org/)) to deploy teams to record the effects of the event on infrastructure and other seismic characteristics. A report has been prepared by GEER that focuses on seismicity, mapping of surface fault ruptures, recording of

infrastructure damage, and assessing the performance of dams and levees as a result of the event. Of interest

was a general lack of liquefaction and landsliding. The report can be found at [http://www.geerassociation.org/GEER\\_Post%20EQ%20Reports/SouthNapa\\_2014/index.html](http://www.geerassociation.org/GEER_Post%20EQ%20Reports/SouthNapa_2014/index.html).

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## Member News

### Dr. Noorany Honored



CalGeo is very proud to announce that long time member and frequent guest lecturer Dr. Iraj Noorany was recently honored with the Richard S. Ladd Standards Development Award from the ASTM Committee D18 on Soil and Rock. This award recognizes Dr. Noorany's commitment, dedication and effort in revising ASTM Standard Designation D4546 "Standard Test Methods for One-Dimensional Swell or Collapse of Soils". The award will be presented at Committee D18's Main Meeting which will be held in New Orleans, LA in January 2015.

Dr. Noorany's long-time commitment to improving the practice of geotechnical engineering, mentoring other engineers and sharing his experience and knowledge is invaluable to our organization and we appreciate his continued involvement and efforts.

Also, Dr. Noorany's latest paper, "Lateral Extension of Compacted-Fill Slopes in Expansive Soils" was published online on September 24 in the ASCE Journal of Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Engineering. Read it [here](#).

### Gregg Drilling's Canadian Division



Gregg Drilling is pleased to announce the creation of a Canadian division, Gregg Drilling & Testing Canada Ltd. A corporate office has been established in Calgary, Alberta and a field office and yard in Fort McMurray, Alberta.

Gregg Canada offers competitive drilling, sampling and Cone Penetration Testing (CPT) to the mine tailings industry and other geotechnical clients in Western Canada.

With access to the full suite of Gregg Drilling's equipment and services, Gregg Canada has taken delivery of two amphibious carriers to perform CPT and drilling on the tailings ponds. The picture shows one of the amphibious carriers with a custom designed CPT enclosure mounted. This rig will be able to perform CPT on and around tailings ponds with the ability to fully float in water if needed. The enclosed CPT container is heated and equipped with a bathroom, triple wash sinks, computer and data viewing monitor — everything you would expect from one of Gregg's cone trucks.

For more information on Gregg Canada's services and equipment, please visit the website: [www.greggdrilling.ca](http://www.greggdrilling.ca).

### Dr. Peter K. Robertson Awarded Prestigious Seed Medal by ASCE



Dr. Peter K. Robertson

Congratulations to Gregg Drilling's resident Technical Advisor and CPT "guru", Dr. Peter K. Robertson for his award of the H. Bolton Seed Medal which recognizes contributions to teaching, research and/or practice in geotechnical engineering.

Dr. Robertson will be giving the GI Seed Lecture at the ASCE International Foundations Congress and Equipment Exhibition to be held March 17-21, 2015 in San Antonio, Texas.

<http://www.ifcee2015.com/>.

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## Job Board

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

- ◆ Geotechnical Project Engineer with ENGEO
- ◆ Engineering Geologist with Wallace-Kuhl & Associates
- ◆ Project Engineer with Wallace-Kuhl & Associates

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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## Geo-Photos

Our Past President, Rex Upp, suggested we include this link in this newsletter, a link of very interesting geo-photos and articles. Be sure to check out the photo and article dated 9/21/14, co-authored by Rex Upp!

[http://epod.usra.edu/blog/\\_geologylinks/](http://epod.usra.edu/blog/_geologylinks/).

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## Protect Your Carved Pumpkin



Your carved pumpkin or Halloween jack-o'-lantern doesn't have to rot or mold before Halloween! Here is how to use chemistry to preserve a jack-o'-lantern so that it will last for weeks instead of days.

1. Mix up a preservative solution for your carved pumpkin consisting of 2 teaspoons of household bleach per gallon of water.
2. Fill a sink, bucket, or tub with enough of the

bleach solution to totally immerse the carved jack-o'-lantern. Place the jack-o'-lantern in the bleach mixture right after you have finished carving it. Soak the carved pumpkin for 8 hours or overnight.

3. Remove the pumpkin from the liquid and allow it to air dry. Spray the pumpkin inside and outside with a commercial pumpkin preservative or use your own mixture, consisting of 1 teaspoon of bleach in water. Spray the pumpkin once daily, to prevent the growth of bacteria and mold.

4. Smear petroleum jelly on all of the cut surfaces of the pumpkin. This will prevent the pumpkin from drying out and getting that puckered, shriveled look.

5. Protect the jack-o'-lantern from sun or rain, since one will dry the pumpkin out, while the other will promote the growth of mold. If possible, refrigerate your jack-o'-lantern when it's not in use.

### How It Works

Bleach is dilute sodium hypochlorite, an oxidizer that kills microorganism that decay the pumpkin, including mold, fungi, and bacteria. You need to reapply it because it loses its effectiveness fairly quickly. The petroleum jelly locks in moisture so the jack-o'-lantern doesn't get dehydrated.

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CalGeo | PO Box 1693, Placerville, CA 95667-1693 | Phone: (530) 344-0644 | [www.calgeo.org](http://www.calgeo.org)