

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year from the CAGE Board of Directors! Here is to a productive 2011!

CAGE is starting the new year building on the momentum of the last few years. For 2011, the CAGE board of directors consists of John Hart (Past President), Aaron Bagley (Treasurer), Paul Jordan (Secretary), Andrew Garner (Director), Tonya Hart (Director), Julie Foreman (Director), and myself (President).

Additionally, Robin Dornfest has joined the CAGE board as president of the Northern Colorado Chapter of CAGE. Adding this Chapter in 2010 took significant initiative on Robin's part and has resulted in several new CAGE members. Our hope is for this Chapter to become a model for new chapters in other parts of the state so CAGE can evolve to better represent geotechnical engineers statewide.



Mark Vessely, P.E.
CAGE President 2011

In December we held a successful technical seminar on incorporating reliability based design into the local geotechnical practice. We had over 55 people attend including both structural and geotechnical engineers, public and private sector professionals, and even guests from California and Wyoming. Based on forum discussions and feedback received after the seminar, CAGE will continue to pursue means to incorporate reliability based design methods into our practice, either through our monthly presentations or possibly forming a workgroup to address specific issues. This was our third annual seminar and we anticipate another seminar in 2011. If you have any ideas for a seminar topic, please contact me or any other members of the CAGE board.

Also in December, CAGE hosted two members from the CalGeo Board of Directors. CalGeo is the California equivalent to CAGE. While there are differences between organizations due to local practice and business models, there are many similarities that we can use to the benefit of our members. The CAGE board is looking forward to implementing some of the ideas learned from the exchange with CalGeo.

In 2010 we had enough surplus funds that we were able to fund two \$1,500 scholarships to upperclassmen pursuing a career in civil/geotechnical engineering at CU and CSM. The funds for these scholarships were generated from the scholarship silent auction/dinner in September as well as other events such as the annual technical seminar and sporting clay tournament. We will acknowledge these scholarship award winners at our January meeting. This is the fourth consecutive year CAGE has offered a scholarship and we believe this is an effective method of recruiting students to the profession while extending our exposure in the community.

This year CAGE is beginning our 16th year of existence. I think it fair to say that our history has been quite productive given the numerous publications on practice issues, seminars, and regular lunch meetings. We should be proud of CAGE's accomplishments towards promoting and voluntarily improving the practice of geotechnical engineering in Colorado, all in a relatively short period of time. As to the value of membership, all we need to do is consider what the local practice would be without the advocacy efforts of CAGE; the professional and social relationships that many of us have developed through involvement with CAGE; and the technical knowledge we gain each time we meet.

As we begin the new year, I commit to continuing the tradition of CAGE as the leader in issues related to our geotechnical practice. Additionally, the CAGE board will work towards ensuring that our members can readily recognize the value from their dues and participation. If you have any issues or topics you feel CAGE should address, please contact me or any of the other board members.

NOCOGEO (NORTHERN COLORADO SECTION OF CAGE)

The next meeting of the Northern Section of CAGE will be on January 19th at 11:30 AM at Tetra Tech's Fort Collins office. Joe Harris, Vice President of Hayward Baker will be presenting on **Ground Modification and Foundation Repair Using State of the Art Grouting Techniques**

Joe will provide an overview of when, where, and how to utilize low mobility grouts in residential, commercial, and civil applications, including case histories in a variety of soil conditions. Please let Robin Dornfest know if you are interested in attending so they can order lunches (provided by Hayward Baker).

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Communications Committee met twice in late 2010 with the aim of improving communication within CAGE. This would include both internal communication among members as well as external communication to students, prospective members, and the public in general. One of our first steps was to develop a LinkedIn page for CAGE. We hope that each member consider joining the CAGE group at www.Linkedin.com. Please feel free to use this forum to ask questions, start discussions, and contribute items of interest to the geotechnical community.

JANUARY CAGE MEETING

The January meeting is moving to Friday this month due to scheduled maintenance at Lakewood Country Club.

The January CAGE meeting will have a presentation by Dave Toney from Precision Sampling. Dave will discuss the state of the practice for the different drilling methods, such as solid and hollow stem, HQ and HQ3, and ODEX. He will review the expected production rates, advantages and limitations of each method, sampling options, as well as budgeting and scoping considerations. This presentation will be valuable to anyone involved in the planning and performing field investigations.

Friday, January 14, 2011
11:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.
Lakewood Country Club
6800 W. 10th Avenue, Lakewood

Drilling Methods

presented by Dave Toney, Precision Sampling

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Remember the January lunch meeting will be moved to Friday, January 14 due to the holiday schedule at Lakewood Country Club.

Please FAX or email your reservations before noon, Monday, January 10, 2011 to:
Becky Roland, CAGE

Fax: (720) 230-4846, admin@cagecolorado.org

You can RSVP online at www.cagecolorado.org. Just click on the January 14 event!

Walk-ins may not be guaranteed a meal, so please RSVP by January 10!

\$25 for CAGE members, \$30 for non-members, \$15 for students

For February, the meetings will return to the typical second Wednesday of the month.