



April 2006

# Los Angeles Basin Geological Society Newsletter

**April 27 Meeting: Boris N. Zaprianoff – URS Corporation**  
*Will speak on*

## ***The Geology of the Black Sea, the Biblical Flood, and the Ancient Myths***

### **Speaker Synopsis / Abstract**

The Black Sea is an inland body of water in Eastern Europe with an area of 422,000 km<sup>2</sup>, and a maximum depth of 2210 m. The Sea is connected to the Mediterranean Sea by the Bosphorus and the Sea of Marmara. The inflow of 320 km<sup>2</sup> per year of freshwater create a net saltwater inflow through the Bosphorus of 200 km<sup>2</sup> per year, greatly influencing the pattern of present day natural processes in the basin.

*Is it possible that the Black Sea was the site of the Biblical Flood?* It is true that today this hypothesis is questionable, but have we really gone through all the pages of the newest history of the earth and world civilization? But it seems that nobody has dared to question the “well known” Biblical events and where geographically they happened. Or perhaps somebody has. William Ryan and Walter Pitman’s book “Noah’s Flood” and the BBC film “Noah’s Flood” caused a scientific sensation at the end of 2000. The book is a brilliant combination of scientific arguments from many fields of science united in a single geographical center – the Black Sea. Combining all the research efforts of numerous scientists and organizations creates persuasive geological evidence that the Flood did occur in the Black Sea area. This work lays the foundation for an interdisciplinary science – geo-archeology.

The widely accepted view that the oldest traces of writing date to approximately 3,000 BC seems to be rejected because of the proof of the existence of antediluvian writing. Harold Haarmann, provided evidence that the oldest writing was found in the Balkan Peninsula. Harmann dates the Tartaria tablets as being from 5,300 BC.

The critical analysis of ancient myths and the new geological and archaeological facts about the Black Sea basin are about to break the dogma and add new meaning to the Biblical myths.

Significant discoveries by Bulgarian archeologists, including the Neolithic necropolis of Varna and Durankulak (where the oldest gold artifacts in the world were found), gave rise to a number of questions, the most interesting of which is the question about the importance of the “Varna” culture in human history.

In his talk, Boris will present some of the geological, oceanographic and archeological evidence recently discovered in the Black Sea that appears to confirm the myths of “Noah’s Flood,” but in the area of the Black Sea.

*Boris N. Zaprianoff, RG, is currently a Project Engineering Geologist for URS Corporation. He was born and raised in Varna, Bulgaria, earned his MS Degree in Geology and Geochemistry from Sofia University, and worked for Bulgarian Academy of Science in the Institute of Oceanography at Varna with his thesis Professor, Petko Dimitrov, a major player in the Black Sea discoveries. In 1991 Boris moved to southern California, and in 1995, he attended a graduate certificate program in Geology at California State University, Long Beach. Since then he has worked on a variety of projects throughout California involving geologic and geotechnical investigations for residential and commercial developments and geologic investigations for highways and bridges.*

## Time, Place, Cost and Reservations

### Time:

**Thursday, April 27, 2006**

### Typical Meeting Agenda

**Lunch Served: 11:30 AM to 12:00PM**

**Announcements: 11:50 AM to 12:15 PM**

**Guest Speaker: 12:15 PM to 12:45 PM**

### Place:

**The Grand at Willow Street Conference Center** located at 4101 East Willow Street, Long Beach, CA. (562-426-0555). Take Lakewood Boulevard south from the San Diego Freeway (405), turn west onto Willow Street and turn right onto Grand Avenue at the sign for the Center. Park free in the garage structure.

### Cost:

**Lunch and Speaker: \$20.00 with reservations  
\$25.00 without reservations**

**Student: \$ 5.00 (Lunch and Speaker)**

### Meeting Reservations:

Make your reservations using our web site at [www.labgs.org](http://www.labgs.org), emailing [iaburto@breitburn.com](mailto:iaburto@breitburn.com) or calling Ivan Aburto at (213) 225-5900 ext. 234. **Reservations must be made prior to Tuesday** before the meeting.

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## LABGS and the 2007 AAPG Convention field trips

The LABGS has offered to lead five field trips in conjunction with the national meeting. If you have an interest and experience in field trips in the SoCal area please contact an officer to inquire about our needs. We are thinking of day-trips to these areas:

**Catalina Island Geology**  
**The Deep LA Basin Geology in the  
Santa Monica Mts**  
**Palos Verde Peninsula Geology**  
**Los Angeles Urban Geology**  
**San Gabriel Valley Near Surface**  
**Water Contamination Issues**

## 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Earthquake Conference

On April 21-22 there will be an Earthquake conference in San Francisco which will cover discuss many aspects of safety and run several field trips on significant earthquake features. For more info please see [www.1906eqconf.org](http://www.1906eqconf.org). Or contact Sonya Hollenbeck at EERI at 510-451-5411.

## LABGS Future Meetings

Lunch meetings are held at *The Grand at Willow Street Conference Center in Long Beach, California*. Lunch starts at 11:30 AM.

## Upcoming 2006 Speaker Schedule

April 27, 2006 - The speaker will be **Boris Zaprianoff** speaking on "*The Geology of the Black Sea, the Biblical Flood, and the Ancient Myths.*"

May 25, 2006 – No speaker yet.

*If you have a speaker suggestion, please mention it to a Board member.*

**The exact titles for these talks may change. See the Newsletter for the most current info.**

**Your Name Here!**

**Advertising in newsletters is available!**

**Advertising rates for a business card size ad is \$60 for 6 issues. These fees help offset our publishing costs. If interested please contact a Board member.**

## Announcements / Information

### 2006 Student Recognition Awards

The Los Angeles Basin Geological Society offers two annual scholarship awards as a form of encouragement and recognition to those College students who show dedication and passion to the field of Geoscience. It is our goal to help future geoscientists on in their pursuits. Both of these awards consist of a Brunton Compass and a wall certificate.

## The LABGS Brunton Award

The LABGS Brunton Award is given to a qualified undergraduate student attending a four-year LA Basin College or University currently pursuing a baccalaureate degree in Geology or the Earth Sciences. The Society is currently looking for qualified applicants for the 2006 award.

### SELECTION PROCESS

The above award winner was selected from candidates nominated by a faculty member. The winner was selected based on the following criteria:

- Grade point average in earth science classes.
- An enthusiastic or special recommendation from the college advisor, department chair, or mentor professor

## Global Warming Publication

We have a limited number of autographed copies of Lee Gerhard's "**Geological Perspectives of global Climate Change**", AAPG Studies in Geology #47. LABGS is selling them for the AAPG price of \$49, and S&H is **FREE!** If you want a copy please contact Jon Kuespert or bring check or cash to the next meeting.

## LABGS Publication List

1. Guidebook from the 2004 LABGS Field Trip Examining the Catalina Schist and the Palos Verdes Peninsula. **\$20**. The book is 179 pages and printed in color. There is enough detail to allow you to recreate the trip on your own.
2. Neotectonics and Coastal Instability, Orange and Northern San Diego Counties, California - CD VERSION from the 2000 PSAAPG and WRSPE Field Trip Guidebook. **\$28**.

For Information regarding these publications, contact Ivan Aburto – His email is accessible from our web site at [www.labgs.org](http://www.labgs.org)

## LABGS T-Shirts ON SALE

The LABGS sells T-Shirts to generate additional funds to help support our scholarship and field trip activities. The shirt displays the LABGS logo on the back with the words "LA Rocks" on the front. The price for shirts is \$15.00 and available at our luncheon meetings or by contacting Ivan Aburto (see contact list in this newsletter). Sizes are limited to Medium, Large, and Extra Large.

## Renew Your Annual Dues and Address Changes

The Pacific Section AAPG and LABGS operate on a fiscal year from July 1 to June 30. If you are a current member, you will receive a PSAAPG membership renewal notice this month in the mail. Please note, when you renew you are renewing for both LABGS and PSAAPG (for one low price of \$12).

If you haven't done so, take this opportunity to send in a check and update your mailing information. New directories will be printed in the winter of 2006 and will be included in your dues for the next fiscal year (the directory is one of the key benefits of joining the LABGS through PSAAPG).

## Not a Member you say!!! Join and get on the LABGS Membership / Mailing List

Become a member of the LABGS and enjoy the benefits of membership. Our goal is to provide a value added service to the geologic community of the LA area at a reasonable cost. If you join the LABGS you also become a member of the PSAAPG and vice versa. The purpose of this is to reduce waste and duplicated effort. Check out the membership form for a list of the dual membership benefits. Membership is our primary source of income so I urge you all to join or renew. To join or renew, fill out the attached membership form and mail it in to PSAAPG or better yet bring it to the next meeting. This will ensure you are on our lists and the only way you can request a hard copy through the mail. The use of E-mail is our preferred method of distribution so please make sure we have your address.



Our March speaker, Dr. Lee Gerhard shaking hands with current LABGS President Jon Kuespert. To the right is past President Don Clarke.

## President's Note

To all of our members,

We had a great talk last month on Global Warming. The attendance was high and the questions rigorous. We were also selling autographed copies of Dr. Gerhard's book on the geology of Global warming at the AAPG bookstore price. We have some left, if interested please see the ad in this newsletter.

We are also searching to replace two individuals that have greatly contributed over the years to our Society. Our stellar Program Chair, Dick Brown, and Secretary, Ivan Aburto, are both leaving. If you have recommendations, or if you would like to place your name in the hat, please submit the name(s) to one of our officers.

Thanks!

Jon

## Contact Us – The LABGS Board

President: Jon Kuespert (213) 225-5900  
[jkuespert@breitburn.com](mailto:jkuespert@breitburn.com)

Program Chair: Dick Brown (562) 598-0595  
[dickbrowngeo@adelphia.net](mailto:dickbrowngeo@adelphia.net)

Secretary: Ivan Aburto (213) 225-5900, ext. 234  
[iaburto@breitburn.com](mailto:iaburto@breitburn.com)

Treasurer: Steve Zigan, (949) 355-4467  
[szigan@eri-us.com](mailto:szigan@eri-us.com)

**OUR WEB SITE ADDRESS IS:**  
[www.labgs.org](http://www.labgs.org)

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#### **Give to the Foundation Digital Products Alumni Fund today!**

My one-time gift of \$12,500 to the AAPG Foundation will endow a university subscription at my Alma Mater, providing the entire online AAPG/Datapages Digital Library to students as long as it has a geology department.

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For more information contact:

Attn: Rebecca Griffin  
[rgriffin@AAPG.org](mailto:rgriffin@AAPG.org)  
(918) 560-2644  
Toll-free: 1-888-945-2274 ext. 644

American Association of Petroleum Geologists  
Foundation  
P O Box 979  
Tulsa OK 74101-0979  
[foundation.aapg.org](http://foundation.aapg.org)



# Los Angeles Basin Geological Society Membership Form

Join the LABGS and become a member of the Pacific Section AAPG all for one low price of \$12.00 per year - 2 West Coast Geoscience Organizations for the price of one



## Membership Benefits

- LABGS Membership
- Monthly Luncheon Meetings with Strong Technical Programs
- Pacific Section AAPG Membership
- Pacific Section AAPG Bi-Monthly Newsletter
- Discounts for PSAAPG Bookstore Publications
- Bi-Annual West Coast Geoscience Directory - *next edition 6/03*
- Networking and Social Opportunities with Fellow Geoscientists

### Current Annual LABGS/PSAAPG Dues

1 Year Option = \$12.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
3 Year Option = \$36.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Extended E-Mail Announcement List Fees

To receive meeting notices from SJGS and CGS

1 Year Option = \$12.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
3 Year Option = \$36.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### PSAAPG Foundation Contributions

B. Hacker Publication Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Martin Van Couvering Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Dibble Map Foundation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
California Well Sample Repository \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
John Kilkenny Scholarship Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
PSAAPG Foundation Trust Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### TOTAL PAYMENT

Total Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Essential Member Information

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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Employer \_\_\_\_\_  
Position / Title \_\_\_\_\_  
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Fax Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Education *Highest Degree* \_\_\_\_\_ *Year* \_\_\_\_\_  
School \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

*Annual membership is handled through PSAAPG and runs from July 1, through June 30. If you are already a current member of PSAAPG and you selected LABGS affiliation you are already a member of the LABGS.*

**Please Make Checks out to PSAAPG and mail along with member form to:  
PSAAPG P.O. Box 1072, Bakersfield, CA 93302**