



November 2006

Los Angeles Basin Geological Society Newsletter

November 16 Meeting: Dr. Kevin Grazier

Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology

Will speak on

The Cassini/Huygens Mission to Saturn and Titan

Speaker Synopsis / Abstract

On June 30th 2004, the largest and most sophisticated spacecraft ever sent into deep space, the Cassini/Huygens probe, entered orbit around Saturn after nearly a seven year journey. For the past 2 ½ years the Cassini orbiter has been exploring Saturn, its rings, satellites, and magnetic environment, while the Huygens probe made *in situ* measurements of the satellite Titan in January 2005. Dr. Kevin Grazier, Investigation Scientist and Science Planning Engineer on Cassini, will provide an overview of the mission and science objectives. Dr. Grazier will also present some of the recent science results, and discuss the implications for life in the Solar System.

Dr. Kevin Grazier holds the dual titles of Investigation Scientist and Science Planning Engineer for the Cassini/Huygens Mission to Saturn and Titan at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena, CA. He earned B.S. degrees in computer science and geology from Purdue University, and a B.S. in physics from Oakland University. He earned his M.S. in physics from Purdue, and then went to UCLA for his doctoral research in planetary physics, performing long-term large-scale computer simulations of early Solar System evolution. At JPL he has written mission planning and analysis software that won both JPL- and NASA-wide awards. Dr. Grazier still continues research involving computer simulations of Solar System dynamics, evolution, and chaos with collaborators at UCLA, Los Alamos National Laboratory, the University of Auckland, Purdue University, and the Space Science Institute. He also serves on two NASA educational product review panels.

In addition to his JPL duties, Dr. Grazier is active in teaching the public about science and space. He teaches classes in basic astronomy, planetary science, cosmology, and the search for extraterrestrial life at UCLA and Santa Monica College. He is also a planetarium lecturer at LA's famed Griffith Observatory, and is the interim director of the John Drescher Planetarium at Santa Monica College.

*On a lighter note, Dr. Grazier is also currently the Science Advisor for the PBS animated educational TV series **The Zula Patrol**, and for the SciFi Channel series **Eureka** and **Battlestar Galactica**.*

Meeting Time, Place, Cost and Reservations

Time:

Thursday, November 16, 2006 SPECIAL DAY!!

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, emailing jkuespert@breitburn.com or calling Jon Kuespert at (213) 225-5900 ext. 224. **Reservations must be made prior to Tuesday** before the meeting, but walk-ons are always welcome.

Upcoming 2006 Speaker Schedule

November 16, 2006 (note the date change because of Thanksgiving) – The speaker will be **Dr. Kevin Grazier** of JPL - Pasadena speaking on “*The Cassini/Huygens Mission to Saturn and Titan*”.

No December meeting – Happy Holidays!

January 25, 2007 – The speaker will be Nancy Beresky speaking on an environmental topic.

February 22, 2007 – The speaker will be Dr. Gene Fristche speaking on “*The Santa Monica Mt Volcanics*”.

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

WE'LL BE THERE



Epoch is one of the energy industry's leading suppliers of wellsite data gathering systems. Our drilling instrumentation products, well-site reporting software and mud logging services are industry leaders, and myWells.com allows you to access that information anytime, anywhere. That means you can make more timely decisions that deliver efficiency and economy. If real time, accurate wellsite information is important to you, call Epoch. We'll be there.

EPOCH

3919 Rosedale Hwy. • Bakersfield, CA 93308 • 661.328.1595
www.epochwellservices.com • www.mywells.com

LABGS and the 2007 AAPG Convention field trips

The LABGS has offered to lead four field trips in conjunction with the national meeting. We need help with some of the trip help. If you have an interest and experience in field trips in the SoCal area please contact an officer to inquire about our needs. Please contact us now. We are working on day-trips to these areas:

Catalina Island Geology
The Santa Monica Mts Geology
Palos Verde Peninsula Geology
Los Angeles Urban Oil Fields

DAVID B. DEL MAR
Consulting Petroleum Geologist
California Registered Geologist #634

Development – Thermal EOR – Property Reviews

2027 Park Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90026

H (323) 664-3358
dbdelmar@earthlink.net

Announcements / Information

Jobs

Two groups have approached us with employment needs. They are:

Swift Energy (www.swiftenergy.com) with two fulltime positions in their new Carpinteria Office for a:

1. Senior Geoscientist and Team Leader
2. Senior Geoscientist

Please Contact Ed Duncan (805) 745-1981 or ed.duncan@swiftenergy.com

The Geology Investigations Unit of the Geotechnical and Materials Engineering Division of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works has spots for an:

1. Engineering Geologist
2. Engineering Geologist Assistant

Please contact Greg K. Johnson - Supervising Engineering Geologist at (626) 458-4923, or gjohnson@ladpw.org

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 2007 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

The Don Clarke Award

The Don Clarke Brunton Award is given to a qualified student graduating from an LA Basin Community College with an Associate Degree, enrolled in a Geology or Earth Science curriculum with plans to pursue a baccalaureate degree in Geology or the Earth Sciences.

The Society is currently looking for qualified applicants for the 2007 award.

To qualify for this LABGS award, the student must meet the following criteria:

- Plan to graduate in 2006 with an Associate Degree from a Los Angeles Basin Area Community College.
- Complete a Geology or Earth Science curriculum.
- Must be pursuing plans to enroll in a four-year college or university with Geology, Geological Sciences, or Earth Science as their designated major.

Student Sponsorship

Both Halliburton and Schlumberger are defraying the cost to the Society of our students-at-the-monthly meetings program. Thank you.

Fall Field Trip

We are working on a fall field trip for February of next year to the Laguna Beach area when the seasons change. We hope that you can join us. More information will be forthcoming in the January newsletter.

Your Name Here!

Advertising in newsletters is available!
Advertising rates for a business card size ad is \$90 for one year (9 issues). These fees help offset our publishing costs. If interested please contact a Board member.

New Publication

Field Guide to the San Andreas Fault

See and Touch the World's Most Famous Fault

“What is the San Andreas Fault?”

“Where can I go to see it?”

“What does it mean?”

“Will California fall into the ocean?”

These and many other questions are answered in the all-color, beautifully illustrated *Field Guide to the San Andreas Fault*. On twelve one-day driving trips that anyone can take in a regular car, the guide contains mile-by-mile road logs along some of California's most peaceful back roads that follow the fault. There are over 1100 miles of easily followed routes through sixteen California counties between Cape Mendocino and the

Mexican Border. And with hundreds of GPS coordinates, you can't get lost. Each trip begins and ends at a public park or gathering place where people can assemble and caravan along the routes. No four-wheel drive necessary. The trips are great family outings for rock hounds, bird watchers and nature photographers. School field trips and museum outings will find the book an ideal way to show people the fault and help them understand what it really is. The book contains complete geological explanations, a glossary and hyper-accurate fault coordinates. The book is spiral bound and lays flat for easy reading in the car. It is also available on CD so that people can print out just the route they are taking. If it gets dirty in the car, readers can print out a new copy.

David K. Lynch, PhD, is an astronomer and planetary scientist living in Topanga, CA. When not hanging around the fault or using the large telescopes on Mauna Kea, he plays fiddle, collects rattlesnakes, gives public lectures on rainbows and writes books (Color and Light in Nature, Cambridge University Press) and essays.

Contact: David K. Lynch 310 455-3335
dave@thulescientific.com, www.thulescientific.com
published 2006 ISBN 0-9779935-0-7 212 pages

President's Note

To all our members,

The October speaker was Dr. Rob Mellors of San Diego State University. Dr. Mellors spoke on the “**Tectonics of the Imperial Valley**”. It was an interesting talk and we had a great student turnout.

This month's talk will be by Dr. Kevin Grazier of the Jet Propulsion Lab in Pasadena. Dr. Grazier will speak on the Cassini/Huygens mission to Saturn and Titan. Dr. Grazier has a very interesting background and does work for JPL, our educational system, and the entertainment industry. Should be a great talk, please attend!

This year we are working in the direction of the National AAPG Convention, to be held this April 2-4 in Long Beach, CA . . . our backyard! We need volunteers to help with the field trips and other programs. Please volunteer, it is appreciated.

Thanks!

Jon

Contact Us – The LABGS Board

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

Program Chair: currently vacant

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

Secretary: currently vacant

OUR WEB SITE ADDRESS IS:
www.labgs.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	_____
Res or Bus ?	_____

Additional Directory Information

Employer	_____
Position / Title	_____
Bus Phone #	_____
Res Phone #	_____
Fax Phone #	_____
Spouse's Name	_____
Education	<i>Highest Degree</i> _____ <i>Year</i> _____
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**