



March 2009

# Los Angeles Basin Geological Society Newsletter

**March 26th (Thursday), 2009 Meeting: Mr. Joe Lovenitti of AltaRock**

**Will speak on . . .**

## “An Engineered Geothermal System Demonstration Project”

### Speaker Abstract

AltaRock Energy Inc. (AltaRock) in cooperation with the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is planning to conduct an Engineered Geothermal System (EGS) Demonstration Project at The Geysers Geothermal Field in northern California. This geothermal resource activity targets hot rock at depth and mines its heat for electrical generation. This is accomplished, in general, by (1) drilling an injection well, (2) hydroshearing a volume of rock, (3) defining the newly fractured rock reservoir via microseismicity mapping, (4) drilling a production well into the new fractured reservoir, (5) injecting cold water down an injection well, (6) circulating that fluid between the injection and production well to heat up the injectate, (7) producing the heated injectate via a production well, and (8) generating electricity from the produced geothermal effluent.

The Geysers is a vapor-dominated geothermal field currently producing around 1000 MWs. It is located in the Mayacmas Mountains in northern California between the Mercuryville and Collayomi Faults. The geothermal reservoir trends NW-SE and occurs in Jurassic-Cretaceous Franciscan rocks which were intruded by silicic magmas that form a composite pluton, referred to as the felsite. The axis of the felsite is approximately coincident with the axis of the field. NCPA holds two U.S. Bureau of Land Management geothermal leases totaling 4,077 acres in the southeast portion of the field where it also owns and operates two geothermal power plants totaling 220 MWs. The AltaRock EGS Demonstration Project is comprised of

three phases: Pre-stimulation/ Stimulation/ Long term data collection and Monitoring.

### Speaker Biography

*Joe Lovenitti is a professional geologist with expertise in geothermal energy exploration, development, and production programs; environmental hydrogeological characterization and in-situ remediation; water resources; and select enhanced oil recovery methodologies. He received his B.S. in geology from City College of New York in 1974, and M.S. in geology from New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology in 1977.*

*Mr. Lovenitti has performed geothermal hydrothermal resource assessments in many states throughout the western United States (U.S.); Java and Bali, Indonesia; The Philippines; Guatemala; and Honduras. He has conducted geothermal exploration, development and/or production programs throughout the western U.S. and Hawaii. He is currently the Vice President Resource for AltaRock Energy, Inc., an engineered geothermal system (EGS) geothermal company whose primary objective is to mine heat from hot rocks to generate electricity.*

*He is a member of the American Geophysical Union and Geothermal Resources Council. He was a member of the Board of Directors for the Pacific Industrial and Business Association and the Geothermal Resources Council.*

**Come and hear about a fascinating geothermal project that will be an aid toward securing more energy!!**

## Meeting Time, Place, Cost and Reservations

### Time:

**Thursday, March 26, 2009**

### 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: FREE (Lunch and Speaker)**

### Meeting Reservations:

Make your reservations using our web site at [www.labgs.org](http://www.labgs.org), by calling Marieke at (562) 624-3364., or emailing Marieke\_Gaudet@Oxy.com.

**Reservations made prior to Tuesday before the meeting is appreciated, but walk-ons are welcome.**

## Upcoming 2009 LABGS Speaker/ Event Schedule

March 26, 2009 – Joe Lovenitti of AltaRock will speak on Geothermal Systems Project.

April 23, 2009 – Mark Harrison – Prof of Geochemistry @ UCLA will speak on a new view of Earth's early history – How Cool? (hint)

May 28, 2009 – to be announced

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

## OTHER EVENTS

### PSAAPG 2009 Convention

May 2-7, 2009 Ventura, see [www.PSAAPG.org](http://www.PSAAPG.org) for more details

### National AAPG 2009 Convention

June 7-10, 2009 Denver, see [www.AAPG.org](http://www.AAPG.org) for more details.

### The LABGS Don Clarke Award

The Don Clarke Brunton Award is given to a qualified student attending a LA Basin community college with the goal of getting an Associate degree, and enrolled with plans to pursue a baccalaureate degree in Geology or the Earth Sciences.

*The Society is currently looking for a qualified applicant for the 2009 award. Check our website.*

### SELECTION PROCESS

The award winner is selected from candidates nominated by a faculty member at their original school. The winner is selected based on the following criteria:

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

## WE'LL BE THERE



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## 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 2009 award. Check our website.*

### SELECTION PROCESS

The award winner is selected from candidates nominated by a faculty member. The winner is 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

## SEE THE WEBSITE FOR FORMS

## TOTY

The LABGS Teacher of the Year (TOTY) Award nominations are open for 2009. The TOTY is a \$250 award for a teacher with 3+ years experience in K-12, who teaches at least one unit per year in the natural resources. Please see this newsletter, or our website [www.LABGS.org](http://www.LABGS.org), for more details.

## Student Sponsorship

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

## 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 PSAAPG directories are now available 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).

## LABGS T-Shirts

The LABGS T-Shirt is baaaaaaacck!!!

These unique crafted quality white T's are emblazoned with the distinctive LABGS logo and have a great look. We now have a good selection in all the relevant sizes. But come early to buy them.

T-Shirts will sell for \$18 if you pick them up at the at The Grand at the meetings, ie this does not include shipping + handling charges.



### Los Angeles Basin Geological Association Advertising Costs 2008-2009

#### Newsletter and SoCal website posting:

- |                         |            |            |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|
| • Business Card size ad | \$25/month | \$230/year |
| • 1/4 Page              | \$45/month | \$450/year |

Website posting only: \$20/month



## AAPG House of Delegates

This year the LABGS Has been given 2 delegates to the National AAPG House of Delegates. A delegate makes a 3-yr commitment to attend 2 National conventions (Denver this year). The society delegate acts on behalf of the Society to implement changes in National policy. If you would be interested please see an officer. We will hold informal elections at the May Meeting.

## PSAAPG Convention

The LABGS will be sponsoring the Convention field trip to the offshore Santa Barbara channel seeps. The trip is . .

### *Oil Seeps and Whale Watching on Sunday, May 3.*

Please be aware that we appreciate your participation.

## Contact Us – The LABGS Board

President: Jon Kuespert (213) 225-5900 x 224  
[jkuespert@breitburn.com](mailto:jkuespert@breitburn.com)

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Secretary: Marieke Gaudet (562) 624-3364  
[marieke\\_gaudet@oxy.com](mailto:marieke_gaudet@oxy.com)

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

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***The LABGS Newsletter reaches a large range of Geo-types and engineers, So Advertise and get noticed.***



## Vice President's Note

*To all our members,*

At the last meeting (February) we had as a speaker Dan Pignatiello of Halliburton. Dan spoke on the integration of surface and sub-surface data with image logs. It was a Great talk – Thank You Dan

This month our speaker on Thursday, March 26th will be Joe Lovenitti of AltaRock. Joe will speak on AltaRock in cooperation with the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) plans to conduct an Engineered Geothermal System (EGS) Demonstration Project at The Geysers Geothermal Field in northern California. Wow – this is going to be a interesting talk, so please come and hear about this ‘State of the Art’ Geothermal project.

The above picture was from my archives going back many years to hard rock summer field mapping just south of Mammoth in the High Sierra's. Yes - that is me many moons ago. I bring this up because our May Meeting will be here before you realize and typically LABGS hosts a talk that is a vacation travel log with interesting geology.

If anyone would like to volunteer, let me know very soon. For an example last year - Rick Behl of CSULB, spoke on his trip to Croatia “*Sailing through Underseas Fold and Thrust Belts for Fun and Science*” – it was fascinating.

*Bill*



# 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 *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**