



LOS ANGELES BASIN GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

June 2024 Meeting Announcement, Newsletter

Acceleration and Remobilization of the Ancient Altamira Landslide Complex, AKA the Portuguese Bend Landslide(s)

Daniel C. Steward, President of the LABGS

Thursday, June 27th, 11:30AM

**Signal Hill Petroleum, 2633 Cherry Ave., Signal Hill
2nd floor Conference Room,**

Abstract

The Ancient Altamira Landslide Complex (ALC), AKA, the Portuguese Bend Landslides, have accelerated in the face of above average rainfall in 2023 and thus far in 2024. At least one slide within the “Ancient” area has remobilized. The ALC is composed of at least seven ancient to modern landslides with four being very active: Ancient “Area 2”, Portuguese Bend, Abalone Cove, and Sacred Cove. Ongoing toe-of-slope wave erosion results in ongoing instability in the slides’ toe regions which creates destabilizing effects upslope in the case of linked slides. The regional dip of Monterey formation at 3-degrees SSW, as exposed at Inspiration Point, is sharply contrasted with steep and very steep NE dips of coherent Monterey blocks within the slide areas. Hence, these blocks are interpreted as backward rotated, detached mini-blocks, mobilized and migrating downslope within their respective slides. Upslope extensional crevices, down-dropped and/or back-rotated blocks are wreaking havoc with all infrastructure, homes and roads, in particular.

Biography

Dan Steward, a native of Taft, California, has served as the Society’s president since September 2022. Dan’s most recent role was as Amplify Energy’s VP of Operations, covering the Beta Offshore production asset in San Pedro Bay. In prior roles, he participated in or supervised exploration across the deepwater Gulf of Mexico (U.S. and Mexico), west African continental margin (Sierra Leone, Cote d’Ivoire, Ghana, Equatorial Guinea,

and Cameroon), the Black Sea, and the Barents Sea. Early-career exploration, production, and development assignments focused on the Bakersfield Arch, Point Arguello, Kern River, and Midway Sunset.

Luncheon prices, cash or check

Lunch and Talk (pre-registered)	\$25.00
Retired:	\$20.00
Student:	\$10.00
Walk-ins:	\$35.00

Reservations are required by noon Wednesday, June 26th at labgs.org/meeting_info.html or directly contact LABGS Secretary Joseph Landeros at (626) 497-1710 or landerosjd@gmail.com.

The Society needs a Treasurer

If you have been considering ways to be more involved and engaged in your local geological community, being directly involved as a member of the Society's executive committee is an excellent way to accomplish that. Contact daniel@ironhorseenergy.com, or any of us below, if you are interested, thinking about it, or seek more information about the role.

Thank You Signal Hill Petroleum!

The Society would like to sincerely thank Signal Hill Petroleum for their gracious and steadfast support of our monthly meetings by providing a very nice and roomy venue.

In Virtual Memoriam

Society President Dan has been reviewing PSAAPG's newsletters, beginning with the first in January 1947 and reaching to about September of 1950, so far. This isn't a lot of progress but it is a lot of reading! Among the many fascinating anecdotes, jokes, stories, tall tales, and general mischief reports, there have been several excellent biographies and memorials to dear Section members who passed on, at times expected and at others very much not expected. These men, their professional work, and their roles and involvement in the Sections' activities would be otherwise lost to history without these memories painstakingly written down and enshrined in the newsletters. Taking it one step further from lessons learned doing ancestry work, Dan checked their names against the online gravesite record, findagrave.com. If you've lost track of the final resting place of a dear family member, this website is just the thing.

I am very happy and honored to report that the following Section members of history now have their biographies and/or memorials, and sometimes a picture, incorporated with their online memorials on findagrave.com: [John Roy “Bill” Pemberton](#), [Richard R. Crandall](#), [Elwin “E.B.” Hall](#), [Arthur “Art” May](#), [Eugene “Hal” Rader](#), and [Harold B. “Ratz” Rathwell](#).

Latest from the Field



A large, internally coherent block composed of the Alta Mira shale member of the Monterey formation within Rancho Palos Verdes Ancient Alta Mira Landslide Complex, covered in this month's talk. This block has been detached and rotated from its near-flat regional position to 36-degrees dip to the ENE. This block sits on the western edge of the Portuguese Landslide Complex.

Personal Items

Pacific Section newsletter editor Tony Reid has been bringing his “A-Game” with the historical reviews of the Section and its members – have you seen the articles yet? Check out the current edition [here](#)

LABGS VP and Program Director, Rick Behl has recently returned from a family vacation to Mexico – the highlight? The Mexico National Museum of Anthropology in Mexico City!

Karla Tucker, LABGS Scholarship Chair, reports that she is officially retired. Despite this, I am sure she stays busy.

LABGS’ faithful Secretary, Joe Landeros, needs a beer. This request may or may not be related to his workload of late.

Dan Steward was invited to review landslide damage within one of the neighborhoods of Rancho Palos Verdes. The next thing you know, there was a talk made ready. But is it any good? We can’t say yet.

Professor Emeritus of Geophysics from CSU Bakersfield, Rob Negrini, has been continuously exploring the eastern high Sierra trails near his home in June Lake – see his Facebook page for eye-popping scenery.

The family of Jean Paul “J.P.” Chauvel, who generously made available J.P.’s technical library to the Society, held his memorial service at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in Ojai on Saturday, June 21st.

LABGS Board Members

President: Dan Steward, (424) 634-6740, daniel@ironhorseenergy.com

VP & Programs: Rick Behl, (949) 201-0025, richard.behl@csulb.edu

Scholarships: Karla Tucker, (714) 658-0474, ktkr2@aol.com

Secretary & Webmaster: Joseph Landeros, (626) 497-1710, landerosjd@gmail.com

“An invasion of armies can be resisted, but not an idea whose time has come.”
Victor Hugo (1802 – 1885)