

NISQUALLY CHAPTER OF THE
ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL &
ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS

The Official

AEG Nisqually Chapter Newsletter

Meeting Details

Wednesday April 22nd

Location: Mercato Ristorante

111 Market St NE

Olympia, WA

[Google Maps Link](#)

5:30pm Social hour and buffet

6:30 pm Presentation

7:30pm Brief Q&A

\$30 Member or Non-Member

\$15 Educators or Job Seekers

\$5 Student

\$5 Online

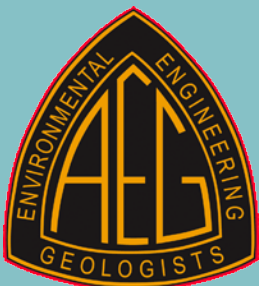
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Upcoming Meetings:

May 20: Britt Daley

The Long and Winding Road: One Geologist's 40-year Career as a Practicing Geologist & How to Survive the Corporate Machine

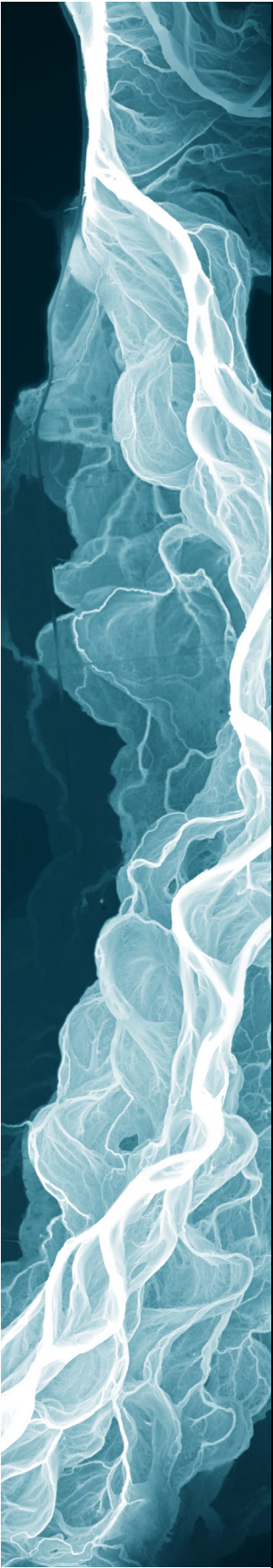
This presentation will focus on stories, highlights, and “lessons learned” from the career of a recently retired licensed/professional geologist. Over the course of his career, Paul worked in both the public and private sectors, in environmental and engineering geology, and on a great diversity of project types. With many years of experience comes many tales such what it was like doing the job before computers and cell phones, what do you do when your field geologist finds a dead body, when your field person shows up drunk to a job site, or when you're on an offshore oil rig and you drill through a major gas pocket. This presentation will also focus on the insights gained over the course of a 40+ year career spent mostly working as a geotechnical geologist working for engineering consulting companies ranging in size from under 20 employees to over 6,000 employees. Discussion highlights include how to thrive as a geologist in an engineer-dominated group, how to build up your experience resume by embracing opportunities, what will be expected of you as you advance in your career and what choices you have in the direction your career will take, how to deal with corporate B.S., and other insights to allow you to survive and thrive inside the corporate machine.



Biography: Paul Weaver, PG

2025-2026 AEG President

Paul retired from ESP Associates, Inc. in 2024 where he was the senior transportation geotechnical project manager in charge of all North Carolina transportation geotechnical work. Some of the many positions he held over his 40 plus year career include concrete and soil technician/soils and concrete laboratory manager, geologist/quality control manager for a limestone quarry, in-house specialist for subgrade and base stone chemical stabilization with the North Carolina Department of Transportation, drilling department manager, and geotechnical engineering department manager. Paul received his degree in geology from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington in 1981. He has been very involved in AEG for over 25 years serving as Chair of the Carolinas Chapter for 4 years, Southeast Region Director for 2 years, Co-Chair of the 2019 AEG Annual Meeting held in Asheville, Co-Chair of the AEG Meetings Advisory Committee, and he is currently Chair of the AEG Carolinas Scholarship Committee, advisor to the Carolinas Chapter, and Treasurer for the upcoming AEG 2026 Annual Meeting to be held in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Paul lives in Greensboro, North Carolina and is a licensed geologist in North Carolina. In his free time, Paul enjoys creating unique wood crafted items such as tables, benches, wine racks, etc





Message from the Chair

Hello, AEG Nisqually!

We only have two more meetings in our program this year, so we hope you'll be able to join us in April and May. This month, we host the AEG National President, Paul Weaver who will regale us with tales from his 40+ years of practice and serve up some timely tips on how to survive the corporate machine. In May, we will be bringing back our own past AEG Nisqually Chair, Britt Daley, for a talk on the I-5 huge rockslide up in the Bellingham area that you all may have heard about. Hopefully by the time you read this we will be opening the freeway, but no promises. Britt will give us all the dirty details.

Field-Developed Cross-Sections

Personally, I can't start thinking about any kind of problem until I have a decent diagram in front of me. When it comes to slopes, it has got to be a cross-section, preferably right down the center of wherever the problem is.

Getting a cross-section is easy if you have lidar and an hour with GIS; or, if you happen to have survey crew handy. The problem with lidar cross-sections is that they typically show the ground surface before there was a problem, or at least the current problem. Survey crews are great, but it's going to be a few weeks before you get your handy CAD file.

Thus, we have the field-developed cross-section, one of the oldest and most tried-and-true tools in the Engineering Geologist's toolbox. This requires a cloth tape, a clinometer, a compass, a field book, and a partner. It's also a pretty good time, if you ask me. This technique isn't taught at our universities and isn't typically taught on the job either, unless you happen to have a co-worker or mentor who has had the training.

Should AEG Nisqually host an FDCS class? We have a solid option for such a class. Our very own Ken Neal, long-time AEG Nisqually member, has taught this class for years and has recently passed the mantle over to a couple of FHWA folks. They have a guidebook, a two-day curriculum, and are looking for another group to bring the class to. I think we should offer it this spring. I ask you all to bring your opinions to our April meeting!

Please renew your membership and select AEG Nisqually

When you renew your AEG membership be sure to select Nisqually as your Chapter. It puts a few more bucks into the Chapter account and keeps our numbers up.

It's great to be part of AEG Nisqually! I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Gabe Taylor

taylorg@wsdot.wa.gov

Section Officers & Committee Chairs



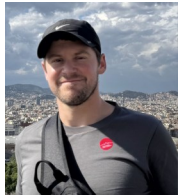
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National AEG webpage:
<http://aegweb.org>

The AEG Nisqually Chapter Newsletter

The Association of Engineering Geologists (AEG) contributes to its members' professional success and the public welfare by providing leadership, advocacy, and applied research in environmental and engineering geology. AEG's values are based on the belief that its members have a responsibility to assume stewardship over their fields of expertise. AEG is the acknowledged international leader in environmental and engineering geology, and is greatly respected for its stewardship of the profession.

AEG NISQUALLY CHAPTER NEWSLETTER is published monthly from September through April. Subscriptions are for members of AEG affiliated with the Nisqually Chapter or other Chapters, and other interested people. E-mail subscriptions are free.

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