



Association of Environmental & Engineering Geologists San Francisco Section

ANNOUNCING THE AEG SAN FRANCISCO SECTION
FEBRUARY 2012 MEETING

THE MYSTERY OF TERROIR – THE RELATIONSHIP OF GEOLOGY, SOILS, AND CLIMATE TO WINE

AEG 2012 Richard H. Jahns Distinguished Lecturer:
Scott Burns, Portland State University

MEETING DETAILS

Restaurant

Sinbad's
Pier 2 Embarcadero Street
San Francisco, CA

[Map](#)

Date and Time

Tuesday, February 14th, 2012
6:00 pm—Social Hour and Sign-in
7:00 pm—Dinner
8:00 pm—Presentation

Cost: \$40 Members; \$50 Non-Members, \$20 for Students

Menu

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| ☉ Salmon Florentine | ☉ Chicken Picatta |
| ☉ Snapper | ☉ Shrimp Louis |
| ☉ London Broil | ☉ Vegetarian Pasta |

Reservations*: To RSVP, please fill out the online form at <http://goo.gl/dJY83> (**NEW!!**) by **12 PM, Friday, February 10th**

Driving Directions: From the Bay Bridge, take the Fremont Street Exit and the Folsom Street Ramp. Go left (east) on Folsom Street, then left (north) onto the Embarcadero (Herb Caen Way). The driveway for Sinbad's is on the right, south of the historic Ferry Building. Please watch out for the pedestrians and cyclists when turning into the driveway. Thank you.

BART Directions: Exit the Embarcadero Station; walk up Market Street toward the Ferry Building (less than ½ a mile toward the Bay and to the east). Cross Embarcadero and Sinbad's is located next to the Alameda ferry pier on the south side the historic Ferry Building.

Parking: \$4 valet parking is available or there are meters located on nearby side streets.

*Please RSVP in advance. Walk-ins are welcome, but not guaranteed. No shows will be charged.

See next page for abstract and speaker biography.

**The Mystery of Terroir:
The Relationship of Geology, Soils, and Climate to Wine
AEG 2012 Richard H. Jahns Distinguished Lecturer
Scott Burns, Portland State University**

Speaker Biography

Dr. Scott Burns has been named the 2011-2012 Richard H. Jahns Distinguished Lecturer in Engineering Geology. Dr. Burns is a Professor of Geology at Portland State University (PSU) where he specializes in environmental and engineering geology, soils, geomorphology, Quaternary Geology and terroir. He just finished his 21st year of teaching there and his 41st year of teaching at the university level (previous positions in Switzerland, New Zealand, Washington, Colorado and Louisiana).

An author or co-author of two books, over 80 articles, and over 200 published abstracts, Scott has worked on research topics as diverse as landslide, debris flow, radon and earthquake hazard mapping, heavy metals and trace elements in soils, loess stratigraphy, slope stability, Missoula Floods, bio-geomorphology (pocket gophers, tree throw, and ants), alpine soil development, and terroir (relationship of geology, soils, climate and wine).

He was president of AEG (2002-2003) and vice president (North America) for IAEG (2006-2010). He has received the the Public Service Award from GSA in 2011 and the Meritorius Service Award (2006) from the Engineering Geology Division (EGD) of Geological Society of America. He has been the Chair of the Engineering Geology Division and the Treasurer of the Quaternary Geology and Geomorphology Division (for 12 years) of GSA. Scott has been an Associate Dean, chair of departments and president of faculty senates at three different universities, and president of one of the largest and oldest Rotary clubs in the world. Scott has won many awards for outstanding teaching with the most significant being the Faculty Senate Chair Award at Louisiana Tech University in 1987, the Distinguished Faculty Award from the PSU Alumni Association in 2001, and the George Hoffmann Award from PSU in 2007. He actively helps local TV and radio stations and newspapers bring important geological news to the public.

He has B.S. and M.S. degrees from Stanford University, plus a Ph.D. from the University of Colorado. Dr. Burns holds registrations in Oregon (RG and CEG) and a license in Washington (LG). Dr. Burns also is a consultant and an expert witness for law cases.

The Jahns lectureship, established in 1988, is sponsored by the Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists and the GSA Engineering Geology Division. Its purpose is to provide funding for distinguished engineering geologists to present lectures at colleges and universities in order to increase awareness of students about careers in engineering geology. The lectureship is named in honor of Dr. Richard H. Jahns (1915-1983), an engineering geologist who had a diverse and distinguished career in academia, consulting and government.

Abstract

Wines differ from each other based on seven different factors: the type of grape; the bedrock geology and resulting soils; the climate; the soil hydrology; the physiography of the site; the winemaker; and the vineyard management techniques. The first five of these factors make up what the French call terroir, "the taste of the place". Bedrocks weather into soils which then liberate chemical nutrients to the grape vines. Twelve of the sixteen essential elements for wine grapes come from the soil. All around the world the geology and soils make up an important component of the terroir of the wine. Using examples from the Willamette Valley of Oregon, terroir of the region will be discussed because it is strongly influenced by the bedrock geology and soils. The two dominant groups are the volcanic soils, the Jory Series, which developed on the Columbia River Basalts, and the Willakenzie Series of soils, developed on uplifted marine sedimentary rocks in the foothills of the Oregon Coast Range. The wines made from the grapes of these two soils are very different.

Thank you for the RSVP! See you on Tuesday, February 14th, 2012