

#### OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE

# South Coast Geological Society



In this edition:

- Upcoming Meeting
   Information
- THANK YOU! to our Sponsors
- Presidents Corner
- Survey from GRA
- Job Postings
- Membership
- Volunteer with SCGS
- Additional Links
- Ways to Support SCGS

### NEXT VIRTUAL MEETING DATE: MONDAY, JULY 5TH (5:00PM-6:30PM)

South Coast Geological Society welcomes you to join our virtual meeting on **Monday**, **July 5th** via Zoom! We are delighted to host **Dr. Jingmai O'Connor**, current Associate Curator of Fossil Reptiles at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, who will be presenting on her topic **The Multiple Evolutions of Dinosaurian Flight!** 

Please note, this month's meeting begins approximately 1.5 hours earlier than our normal start time of 6:30pm. Our virtual happy half-hour will begin at **5pm**, with our speaker presenting at approximately **5:30pm**.

All participants should sign up via Eventbrite (using the button below). A link to the meeting will be emailed to all participants approximately 30 minutes prior to the meeting start time. **Registration for this meeting will close at 4:00pm on July 5th.** 

**Attend Meeting** 

# **Upcoming Meeting Info**

#### Abstract:

Most of us are only just wrapping our minds around the fact that birds are living dinosaurs. But are birds the only flying dinosaurs? New specimens from China reveal a startling diversity of dinosaurs that flew in a diversity of ways.

The idea birds descended from dinosaurs dates back to the 19th century but only became widely accepted following the discovery of feathered dinosaurs in Cretaceous aged deposits in northeastern China in the late 1990's, more than a century later. Discoveries from the Early Cretaceous Jehol Biota, and later from the Upper Jurassic Yanliao Biota, have continued unabated for the late 20 years, revealing not only a huge diversity of birds only younger than Archaeopteryx but also four winged dromaeosaurids and even more unexpected - an enigmatic group of theropods with membranous wings. These discoveries strongly suggest that birds are not the only flying dinosaurs - that flight evolved multiple times in Maniraptora, together revealing a startling degree of experimentation with volant behavior that we are only just beginning to understand.

#### Speaker Bio:

Dr. Jingmai O'Connor is currently the Associate Curator of Fossil Reptiles at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago. Previously, she was a professor at the Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing where she worked for over ten years. O'Connor was introduced to paleontology by Dr. Donald Prothero while at Occidental College (Class of '04). O'Connor did her PhD studying Mesozoic birds at the University of Southern California (2009) with Drs. David Bottjer and Luis Chiappe (Los Angeles Natural History Museum). Her research explores the evolution of flight in the Dinosauria, the dinosaur-bird transition, and the biology of stem-avians, not through any one aspect but exploring Paraves through feather origin and function, aerodynamics, reproduction, respiration, trophics, anatomy, systematics, ontogeny, taxonomy, histology, and other topics as exceptional specimens arise. She has published over 120 papers some of which have appeared in top journals including Nature, Science, the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS), and Current Biology. In 2019 O'Connor was awarded the Schuchert Award by the Paleontogical Society which honors a paleontologist under the age of 40 who demonstrates excellence and promise. O'Connor has conducted field work in the US, China, Mongolia, Romania, Canada, and South Africa. She serves as an editorial board member for Scientific Reports and is a Research Associate of both the American Museum of Natural History and the Los Angeles Natural History Museum. O'Connor has been invited to give several keynote lectures, helped to organize several symposia, has trained numerous Master's and PhD students, and lectured at the University of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

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## **Presidents Corner**

June 2021

Greetings friends,

Happy summer solstice to you all – and happy re-opening of California! I hope you have been able to enjoy some quality time with family and friends. It has been so nice to see and hug loved ones again and take part in celebrations ... and my "dance card" is quickly filling up! With everything opening, we hope to have our first inperson meeting in September and I can't wait to see you all.

Once again, we are overwhelmed by the generosity of our members! Thank you so very much to our new Corporate Sponsors – your support and generous donations are needed to keep offering free membership to students and reduced prices for our annual field trip and monthly meetings. We have recently updated our website (<u>www.southcoastgeology.org</u>) to include our Corporate Sponsors on the home page as well as under a separate link. Please consider supporting our non-profit organization by joining as a member or becoming a sponsor!

Please save the date for our annual field trip – October 8 through 10, 2021 in the San Jacinto Mountains and surrounding foothills and fault zones. We are working on the road log and guidebook, actively tracking down caterers and have some exciting stops and field trip leaders lined up to share their research with you. More details to follow soon!

Please join us for our next meeting, which will be held at a special time – 5:30 pm on Monday July 5 – although it is a holiday for most of us, I'm sure you won't want to miss our speaker, Dr. Jingmai O'Connor, coming to us through the internet all the way from the Field Museum in Chicago, home of SUE the T-Rex – if you haven't met her, I highly recommend a visit next time you are in the Windy City!

Have a safe and fun Independence Day and we hope to see you online the day after the crazy night of fireworks.

Cheers! Lynne Yost SCGS President

## Groundwater Resources Association of California Survey

### GRA HYDROFLASH I NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF GEOLOGICAL MAPPING

The Association of American State Geologists (AASG) and the Kansas Geological Survey invites you to consider participating in a national assessment of the economic benefits of geological mapping. This assessment is the largest and most comprehensive study of its kind ever conducted for the discipline of geology. It comes at a time when significant improvements to infrastructure have long been touted at the Federal, State, and local levels, and now more than ever are required for optimum economic recovery.

The larger the response rate, the more significant are the results, and its eventual outcome for helping to justify this most basic of geologic endeavors. If you cannot fill out the questionnaire in one sitting, a button in the upper right, titled "Save and continue later", asks for your email address, and will send you a message with a link directing you to where you left off.

If you are able to participate, please have the survey completed by July 15, 2021.

Take Survey

### JOB POSTINGS

**LGC GEOTECHNICAL, INC.** has an immediate opening for a Staff Geologist with a solid work ethic, organizational skills, and the capability of working in a fast-paced, team-oriented environment.

#### <u>Requirements</u>

- Education: B.S. in Geology required. M.S. in Geology preferred. GIT preferred (or the ability to obtain within 1 year).
- Entry level to 3 years of geotechnical consulting experience, including conducting subsurface evaluations, laboratory testing, analysis of field and laboratory test data, preliminary geotechnical analysis and design, construction observation and testing, drafting of geotechnical information.
- Strong computer skills in the use of Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Adobe, AutoCAD and Google Earth.
- Strong communication and report writing skills.
- Ability to work independently or in close coordination with a team in a multidisciplinary environment.
- Ability to organize and adjust to changing priorities and assignments, strategically plan and coordinate multiple tasks in an efficient manner.
- Must have own vehicle, a valid driver's license and willing to travel locally to job sites.
- Positive work attitude and a thirst to learn and achieve continuous improvement in a team environment.

#### **Responsibilities**

The Staff Geologist will be expected to have strong analytical skills, technical knowledge of the principles of geology and field geologic mapping skills and experience.

Project tasks may include the following:

- Planning, scheduling, conducting and/or coordination of field and laboratory testing.
- Performing preliminary field geologic mapping, sampling and logging of exploratory borings and trenches, preparation of geologic maps and crosssections, and drafting for geotechnical projects.

- Preparation of proposals, report writing, reviewing drawings, geotechnical reports, calculations, and maps.
- Performing grading and construction observation and testing.

LGC Geotechnical, Inc. offers competitive benefits and salaries and an excellent work environment. Their benefits package includes employee health insurance, short- and long-term disability insurance, paid time off, 401k, vehicle and mileage compensation, and educational reimbursements. Group rates are also available for family health insurance, dental and vision insurance. Salary determination is based on experience.

Please submit a PDF copy of your resume and cover letter to Amanda Amado (aamado@lgcgeotechnical.com).

### THOMAS HARDER & CO

#### Staff Level Hydrogeologist Opening – Field Emphasis

Thomas Harder & Co. is a hydrogeological consulting firm specializing in groundwater basin characterization and management, groundwater models, water wells, artificial recharge, and groundwater quality. We serve a critical role providing technical support and water resources advice for municipalities, private industry, law firms, and agricultural interests across California, Nevada, Arizona and Mexico. Among other things, we specialize in the siting, design, and construction management of large diameter, high-capacity municipal water supply wells.

We are a tight-knit, collaborative group that knows the best outcomes for our clients come from the collective intellectual contribution from each of our team members. We are looking to add a skilled and motivated hydrogeologist to provide field data collection and construction inspection for our well projects.

Primary Responsibilities:

- Field Data Collection and Construction Management Support Tasks: Lithologic logging during drilling projects; Inspection of geophysical logging; Sieve analyses of samples; Monitoring groundwater levels; Groundwater quality sampling; Data collection during pumping tests; Analysis of pumping test data; Well siting reconnaissance and documentation; and assistance with preparation of reports.
- Provide construction management support including: Preparation of well construction design drawings; Well construction inspection; Well destruction inspection; and field documentation of daily activities.

Secondary Responsibilities:

 Assist Senior Staff with Analytical Tasks: Preparation of well construction technical specifications; Preparation of maps, charts, tables, and other exhibits for analysis and reporting; Preparation of reports and technical

memoranda; Analysis of pumping test and water quality data; Compiling and processing data necessary for conceptual and numerical models; and hydrogeological research for well siting and design studies.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Bachelor of Science in Geology, Hydrogeology or Hydrology
- 0 to 3 years of experience in a geology, hydrogeology, or hydrology-related field
- Proficient in the use of Microsoft Excel and Word.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Proficiency with ArcGIS software
- Excellent written and oral communication skills.

If you are interested in joining our team, please email your resume to: Ms. Georgie Aronson (garonson@thomashardercompany.com)

### THOMAS HARDER & CO

#### Staff Level Hydrogeologist Opening – Model Emphasis

Thomas Harder & Co. is a hydrogeological consulting firm specializing in groundwater basin characterization and management, groundwater models, water wells, artificial recharge, and groundwater quality. We serve a critical role providing technical support and water resources advice for municipalities, private industry, law firms, and agricultural interests across California, Nevada, Arizona and Mexico. We specialize in the development and application of numerical groundwater flow models for use in informing groundwater basin management decisions. Our team has been at the forefront of developing a practical methodology for applying predictive uncertainty to model results.

We are a tight-knit, collaborative group that knows the best outcomes for our clients come from the collective intellectual contribution from each of our team members. We are looking to add a skilled and motivated hydrogeologist with a particular interest in groundwater modeling to add to our team.

Primary Responsibilities:

 Analytical tasks: Compile and process data necessary to develop conceptual basin models; Prepare hydrogeological cross sections; Prepare groundwater elevation contour maps; Prepare and analyze hydrographs; Pumping test analysis; Prepare structure maps of basin boundaries; Conduct water budget analyses; Prepare model input files Calibrate models and process output; Compile, update, and manage databases; Hydrogeological research and analysis for well siting and design studies; Preparation of maps, charts, tables, and other exhibits for analysis and reporting; and prepare model reports and technical memoranda. Secondary Responsibilities:

 Field data collection tasks: Documentation of daily tasks in the field; Logging boreholes for well construction projects; Inspection of geophysical logging; Sieve analyses of samples; Monitoring groundwater levels; Groundwater quality sampling; and pumping test data collection and analysis.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Bachelor of Science in Geology, Hydrogeology or Hydrology.
- 1 to 5 years of experience in a geology, hydrogeology, or hydrology-related field.
- Proficient in the use of Microsoft Excel and Word.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Master of Science in Geology, Hydrogeology or Hydrology
- Proficient with MODFLOW groundwater modeling software.
- Proficient with ArcGIS software.
- · Excellent written and oral communication skills

If you are interested in joining our team, please email your resume to: Ms. Georgie Aronson (garonson@thomashardercompany.com)

**Become A Member** 

**Become A Corporate or Individual Sponsor** 

**CONTACT US** 



Lynne Yost, SCGS President

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Memberships allow SCGS to host stellar field trips, provide over \$2,000 annually in student scholarships, and improve the society in many ways. South Coast Geological Society raises our annual budget through private contributions, so your membership is essential for us to continue the society, make improvements, provide phenomenal meetings, host field trips, and award student scholarships. To support the goals of SCGS we are asking for your membership renewal for 2020.

A membership to South Coast Geological Society has many benefits including discounted meeting and field trip costs, exclusive field trips and events, and more!

We welcome you to join or renew your membership with SCGS, one of the largest, most active Geological Societies in Southern California.

> Membership Costs: Professionals: \$35 / year Students: Free

**Become A Member** 

## **Volunteer with SCGS**

South Coast Geological Society is seeking motivated individuals to serve as committee members for our scholarships, poster sessions, field trips, and community outreach.

Contact us if you are interested!

CONTACT US

### **ADDITIONAL LINKS**

Association of Environmental & Engineering Geologists - So. California

Association for Women Geoscientists - LA/OC Chapter

American Society of Civil Engineers

**Coast Geological Society** 

Groundwater Resources Association of California - So. California

**Inland Geological Society** 

Los Angeles Basin Geological Society

San Diego Association of Geologists

San Joaquin Geological Society

Southern California Paleontological Society

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# South Coast Geological Society, Inc.

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We accept all Cars, Trucks, Vans, Boats, Motor-homes, Junk Cars, Disabled cars, and Wrecked cars. No Title? Failed Smog Check? No Problem!

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