

# INVITATION TO ATTEND



Dear Colleagues:

I am pleased to invite you to attend the 22nd Annual Symposium on the Application of Geophysics to Engineering and Environmental Problems (SAGEEP) being held in The Worthington, a Renaissance Hotel in downtown Fort Worth Texas. The theme for SAGEEP 2009 is "Expanding Horizons for Near-Surface Geophysics".

This year's Technical Chair Dwain Butler has assembled an exceptional technical program which will include more than 120 presentations and posters covering a wide range of subjects, such as recent developments in near-surface methods, innovative uses of geophysics for challenging engineering and environmental problems, and many interesting case histories. Also, we have several special sessions planned which include sessions on Cavities and Tunnels, Agricultural Geophysics, Humanitarian Water Supply and a special session sponsored by the National Ground Water Association (NGWA). In addition, we will have a special student session. New this year will be keynote session speakers, which will add a whole new dimension to the technical program.

In its second year, and by popular demand, the Environmental & Engineering Geophysical University (EEGU) will be an available option for attendees. EEGU will consist of a series of classroom-style sessions in which near-surface methods and their applications are presented non-technically for new students of the discipline, teachers, and managers or technical staff who are considering geophysics in an environmental or engineering investigation but wish to know more before proceeding. Short courses which expose attendees to state-of-the-practice geophysical techniques and allow for the refreshing of one's skills are Surface Waves Are for Everyone (Active and Passive MASW), Borehole Geophysical Techniques for Groundwater and Environmental Applications, The Art and Science of GPR – Expanded, and Principles and Applications of Seismic Refraction Tomography. More detailed descriptions of these courses are provided in the brochure.

Approximately 40 exhibitors will be in attendance allowing attendees the opportunity to learn about the most recent developments in instrumentation, software, and services. This year's outdoor demonstration should prove to be a well attended event, with demonstrations of state-of-the-art geophysical equipment and techniques at the historical Fort Worth Stock Yards area, the outdoor demos will also be a combined event for students with a social time at Billy Bob's Texas ("The World's Largest Honky Tonk").

The opening keynote presentation will be made by Dr. John (Jack) Bacon of NASA. Dr. Bacon has often been called "A New Carl Sagan." He is an internationally-known motivational speaker, a distinguished lecturer (emeritus) of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), and one of the most requested speakers in the country for topics concerning technology and the factors that shape human society. This will be a real treat.

We are offering two different field trips, with the first on Sunday. We're offering a unique opportunity to take a guided SEGWAY tour of downtown Fort Worth. The second field trip will be a walking tour on Wednesday over an extended lunch hour, which includes lunch, a lecture and tour of the Trinity River Project in Fort Worth. The master plan for this project addresses such issues as the environment, ecosystems, flood protection, recreational opportunities, access to the waterfront, preserving green space, and urban revitalization based around the river.

The conference will start with the annual Ice Breaker on Sunday evening, which always is a good time to reconnect with friends and to make new acquaintances. You will not want to miss the SAGEEP Conference Evening Event on Tuesday night. It will be held in the historic Ashton Train Depot, instrumental in the growth of Fort Worth. It will be a wonderful night in a great atmosphere with good music, drinks, food, friends, and colleagues. Be sure to attend! Also, reserve yourself a spot for the EEGS Luncheon where we will hear a presentation by this year's EEGS / Geonics Early Career Award Recipient.

An exceptional technical program, social and great networking opportunities, and a chance to experience the city where the west begins are just some of the reasons you can't miss SAGEEP 2009!!! Fort Worth is a city filled with culture and western heritage and has much to offer. Be sure to set aside some time to enjoy the historical stockyards, great museums, exciting downtown, wonderful restaurants, and fun nightlife. SAGEEP 2009 looks to be an exceptional meeting, something you won't want to miss. So please, complete and submit your registration form and make your hotel reservations as soon as possible. We look forward to seeing you!

Doug Laymon  
SAGEEP 2009 General Chair

Technical Program, Short courses and EEGU sessions qualify for PDH credits for geoscientists & engineers registered in Texas.

