

# NORTHERN CALIFORNIA GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



**NCGS DINNER MEETING Wednesday May 28, 2014**  
6:00 PM at Orinda Masonic Center

## ***“WHY DON’T VERTIBRATES CARE ABOUT MASS EXTINCTIONS?”***

**Speaker: Dr. Kevin Padian**, Professor and Curator, Department of Integrative  
Biology and Museum of Paleontology, University of California, Berkeley

**(Reservations are required by May 23, 2013, Limit 100 persons)**  
**We are sorry but we will not be able to accommodate “walk-ins”**

This is NCGS ‘s 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Stepping out of our normal routine, the **Northern California Geological Society** is pleased to announce this *special dinner and evening* with **Dr. Kevin Padian**. For this unique event, planned for our normal monthly meeting date, but starting one-half hour early, we are planning in typical NCGS style, a **Back Forty Texas BBQ dinner consisting of Pork Ribs and BBQ Chicken, Tossed Green Salad, BBQ Beans, Fresh Corn Cobettes. For vegetarian dinners a deluxe veggie burger will be served in place of BBQ. Desert will include assorted cookies and brownies. We may be again serving wines from California specials (90 pts +).**

Please note that a vegetarian option is available if notified ahead (please see the registration form below).

### ***Abstract:***

We know that there have been five major mass extinctions in the history of life. The problem is, no one told the vertebrates. We don’t have any serious evidence that terrestrial vertebrates have experienced heightened extinction rates during episodes when marine invertebrates have dropped in diversity. There is absolutely no convincing evidence for synchronicity between marine and terrestrial realms in these troubled times. But wait, it gets worse: we have no standard definition of mass extinction. So how do we know when a mass extinction has occurred? Worse than that, we don’t differentiate between increases in extinction rate and drops in origination rates when it comes to changes in net diversity. So it’s like not making a difference in going broke between losing your job and spending all your wages at the track. Is it any wonder we’re so confused?

### **\*\*\*\*\* Dinner Logistics \*\*\*\*\***

**Meeting Details:** Social Hour: 6:00 – 7:00 pm; Dinner: 7:00 – 8:00 pm **Presentation:** 8:00 – open  
**Time:** May 28, 2014, 6:00 pm, Orinda Masonic Center 9 Altarinda Road, Orinda, CA. **Cost:** \$25/person

### **\*\*\*\*\*REGISTRATION FORM (Dr. Kevin Padiane’s Dinner) \*\*\*\*\***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (day): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner: Regular: \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian: \_\_\_\_\_ (Please check one) Check Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail a check made out to NCGS to: **Tridib Guha**  
**5016 Gloucester Lane**  
**Martinez, CA 94553**

Questions: e-mail: [tridibguha@yahoo.com](mailto:tridibguha@yahoo.com) Phone: (925) 451-1999