

***Past and Future Earthquakes in the San Francisco Bay Area:
In Commemoration of the 140th Anniversary
of the Hayward Earthquake***

Dr. David Schwartz, U.S. Geological Survey, Menlo Park

At a special dinner meeting, Dr. Schwartz will describe the timing of prehistoric earthquakes in the San Francisco Bay Area for the past 2000 years, showing that at some times earthquakes appeared to occur closely together in time. He will discuss the chances for future earthquakes in the Bay Area during the next 30 years.

Biography: David Schwartz is a leading earthquake geologist at the U.S. Geological Survey who is credited with having pushed forward the newly developing fields of earthquake geology and paleoseismology (the study of prehistorical seismic events). One of his major contributions is the characteristic earthquake recurrence model, which has become a cornerstone of many seismic hazard analyses.

Dr. Schwartz formerly headed the San Francisco Bay Area Earthquake Hazard Project and he co-chaired the Working Group on California Earthquake Probabilities that issued the 2003 Bay Area 30-year earthquake forecast. In addition, Dr. Schwartz served as the regional Coordinator for the USGS Northern California Earthquake Hazard Program. Dr. Schwartz traveled extensively outside the U.S. looking at the ground cracking produced by large earthquakes around the world. He has described the Hayward Fault as a tectonic time bomb.