



SEATTLE SECTION NEWSLETTER

January 2011
Volume 46 No. 5

Section Officers

October 1, 2010 – September 30, 2011

SEATTLE SECTION OFFICERS

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YMF Chairperson (Position Vacant)

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425-266-8899

WEBMASTER

Lisa Martinez
seattleasce@yahoo.com

ASCE Seattle Section - Geotechnical Group Joint Dinner Meeting

Thursday, January 27, 2011

Place: Red Lion Inn, 11211 Main Street,
Bellevue

Cost: \$35 with advance RSVP.
\$40 with reservations made after
January 25 deadline or at the door.
\$15 for non-reimbursed public agency employees and students.
If you are a student and would like to be sponsored, please
specify when you RSVP.

Meal: Burgundy Beef Tips -or- Vegetable Lasagna

5:30 Social Hour

6:30 Dinner

7:30 Program

Note that the
January meeting
is on a Thursday.

Please make your reservation with your dinner entrée preference
by 4:00 pm, Tuesday, January 25.

Make advance reservations via:

- Website: www.seattlegeotech.org, or
- E-mail: rsvp@seattlegeotech.org

You can pay via Paypal or credit card online, or at the door by cash
or check payable to "ASCE Seattle Geotechnical Group."

Program: Observations During Reconnaissance Following the February 27, 2010 Maule, Chile Earthquake (MW = 8.8)

On Feb. 27, 2010, a large subduction zone earthquake (Mw of 8.8) occurred just off the central coast of Chile. The presenters were members of a couple of teams that traveled to Chile (primarily Santiago to Concepcion, and points in between) within approximately one month after the main shock to observe firsthand the extent of the damage, focusing primarily on the geotechnical aspects of the damage that occurred to structures, including buildings, bridges, walls, and port facilities, and damage to fills and slopes. They observed damage due to liquefaction, ground movement resulting from the presence of weak soils, tsunami, subsidence and uplift, and seismic ground motions. While there were concentrated areas of more severe damage, there were also major areas that suffered only minimal damage. Considering that Chile possesses many facilities that have been designed for both static and

See *Earthquake* on page 3

The deadline for the
February 2011 issue is
5:00 p.m.
Monday, January 24, 2011

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Your newsletter editor is:  
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#### CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

All change of address information (including your e-mail address for the newsletter) should be provided directly to ASCE at [www.asce.org](http://www.asce.org) or: 1801 Alexander Bell Drive, Reston, VA 20191-4400. The Seattle Section will receive the updated information from ASCE.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF  
CIVIL ENGINEERS, SEATTLE SECTION  
<http://www.seattleasce.org>

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## President's Column

By Marc Schulte, P.E.

Recently I had the opportunity to speak at Young Engineering Professionals of Puget Sound (YEPPS) event in downtown Seattle. The general topic of the presentation was "10 Things You Should Know About Civil Engineering." I worked with three of our Seattle YMF leaders - Rhiannon Parmelee, Sunny Rose, and Zorah Saidy - to brainstorm ideas and gather materials for the event. We decided upon a modified "Pecha-Kucha" style presentation, with only 10 ideas or slides to be presented in 10 minutes or less. And, by the way, there was to be no text on the slides. It turned out to be a fun and interesting challenge. I'd like to share a version of the topics we covered.



1. Humans have been civil engineers since ancient times. Since the beginning of history, humans have been building civil engineering works, on every continent and in every culture. Practically all the wonders of the ancient world are civil engineering projects. It seems that part of being human is to be a civil engineer.
2. We are civil engineers because we are not military engineers. The term civil engineer dates back to the 18th century and was once the term used for all engineers that did not practice military engineering. Thus, civil engineering is not actually the world's oldest (engineering) profession; it's the second oldest engineering profession.
3. Civil engineering covers many disciplines. When we turn on the tap, when we flush the toilet, when we commute to work, we have civil engineers to thank. Civil engineers deliver the infrastructure that society expects to be

See *President's Column* on page 4

## Bio for January 27 Speakers

**Tony Allen** earned his bachelor's degree in civil engineering in 1980 and master's degree in geotechnical engineering in 1983, both at Oregon State University in Corvallis, Oregon. After leaving OSU in 1983, he began working for the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) as a geotechnical engineer. He has been the State Geotechnical Engineer for the WSDOT since 1993. In that position, he has functioned as the statewide geotechnical policy maker for the agency, and additionally manages 60 staff to provide geotechnical services to WSDOT statewide. He has also been active nationally in the geotechnical profession, serving as a member of the AASHTO T-15 Technical Committee on foundations and walls since 1997, and as Vice-Chair since 2003, playing a lead role in writing most of the current AASHTO foundation and retaining wall design specifications. Tony also chairs the AASHTO National Transportation Product Evaluation Panel (NTPEP) technical committee on geosynthetics. Tony has been active in research in retaining wall and foundation design, use of reliability theory to develop load and resistance factors for foundation and wall design, geosynthetics, and seismic design,

See *January Speakers* on page 3

**January Speakers** (continued from page 2)

and has published over 60 journal and conference papers, and manuals on these subjects. He has been the recipient of several international awards.

**Pedro Arduino** received his bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the Universidad Nacional de Cordoba, Argentina in 1988, a master's degree in civil engineering from the University of Puerto Rico at MayagYez in 1993, and a master's degree and Ph.D. from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1995 and 1996, respectively. His research interests include constitutive modeling of soils, mechanics of porous media, and numerical methods in geomechanics. In 1997, he joined the faculty of the University of Washington as an assistant professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

**Dave Baska** has been a practicing geotechnical engineer since graduating from the Colorado School of Mines in 1984. Dr. Baska's interest in earthquake engineering was sparked by Harry Seed while earning his master's degree from UC Berkeley in 1988. Nine years ago, Dave completed his doctoral program at the University of Washington. As a Senior Consultant for Terracon, he provides engineering seismology and earthquake engineering services throughout the world. Dave traveled to Chile as a member of the Structural Engineers Association of Washington reconnaissance team.

**Earthquake** (continued from page 1)

seismic loads using modern design codes, and that this earthquake could be very similar to the subduction zone earthquake that is likely to occur along the Pacific Northwest coast, there is much to be learned from the Chilean experience. The presenters will discuss their observations and findings from the information gathered from their travels in Chile.

**Open Technical Committee Chair Position – Urban Development and Transportation Committee**

**By Laura Ruppert, P.E.**

The Urban Development and Transportation Technical Committee is currently without leadership. The purpose of this group is to create an active forum where members can educate themselves about and advocate for improvement in those elements of the infrastructure for which civil engineers are responsible and to address Urban Development and Transportation issues. It is hard to imagine that this committee is not more active considering the major transportation projects going on in the Seattle metropolitan area right now! In the past, this committee has met monthly for transportation and urban planning professionals to socialize and hear technical presentations from colleagues. Please contact Laura Ruppert ([Laura@osbornconsulting.com](mailto:Laura@osbornconsulting.com)) if you are interested in this leadership opportunity.

**Welcome New ASCE Members!**

We welcome the following 16 members, who joined the Seattle Section since December 7!

Mr. Stephen Guarente A.M.ASCE

Mr. Robert Millar P.E., M.ASCE

Mr. Craig Funston P.E., M.ASCE  
*Redpoint Structures*

Dr. Hyungsuk Shin P.E., M.ASCE  
*Kleinfelder Inc*

Valeriya Filipova EIT, S.M.ASCE

Terry Baldwin P.E., M.ASCE  
*B & T Design & Engineering, Inc*

Mr. Nathan Watson P.E., M.ASCE

Mr. Keith Brown M.ASCE

Mr. Trevor Lighty A.M.ASCE  
*KPFF Consulting Engr*

Mr. Thomas Paulson S.M.ASCE

Mr. Theodore Jones P.E., M.ASCE

Mr. Timothy Calohan P.E., M.ASCE

Mr. Jay Cooke P.E., M.ASCE

Mr. Tyler Stephens P.E., M.ASCE  
*Shannon & Wilson*

Elizabeth Mcgehee P.E., M.ASCE

Mr. Erfan Nezami A.M.ASCE  
*Landau Associates*

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## Younger Member Forum to Host 16th Annual Popsicle Stick Bridge Competition

By Rhiannon Parmelee, YMF President

The Younger Member Forum (YMF) of ASCE Seattle Section is proud to host the 16th Annual Popsicle Stick Bridge (PSB) Competition on February 19, 2011 at the Museum of Flight in Seattle. The competition is held in conjunction with the Puget Sound Engineering Council Engineer's Week fair and introduces civil engineering and construction careers to high school students.

The PSB Competition will include teams of students from Western Washington high schools who will design and construct bridges made from popsicle sticks and white glue. At the competition, the bridges will be inspected for conformance to competition guidelines then load-tested to failure. Awards are given to the top three bridges in each of the following categories: total load, aesthetics, and overall (a combination of efficiency and aesthetics), and new this year, a teamwork award.

The PSB Competition is fully sponsored by local engineering firms and would not be possible without their generous donations. We will be continuing the Corporate Cup again this year. Firms or individual sponsors that donate a minimum of \$100 will be able to enter a bridge in the corporate division. The winner will get their name on a rotating trophy. (Past Corporate Cup

winners were CH2M HILL, Brown & Caldwell and KPG, Inc.).

Much of the preparation for the competition has been completed, but there are still three key ways that you can help out:

1. You can be an official sponsor of the competition. Donations made to the PSB Competition are tax deductible. (Note: All donations of at least \$100 will have their company name recognized on the competition t-shirts if received before January 14, 2010).
2. You can volunteer on the day of the event. We need over 30 volunteers for set-up, registration, judging, clean-up, and much more.
3. Visit the Museum of Flight on February 19, 2011 to support our local high school students interested in civil engineering. Bridge breaking will start around 10:00 a.m. and awards will be given around noon. We look forward to seeing you there!

Please contact Sunny Rose and Robin Lee at [seattle.asce.ymf@gmail.com](mailto:seattle.asce.ymf@gmail.com) for more information, or if you wish to donate, participate, or volunteer.



*Participants in the 2010 PSB Competition*

there. Civil engineers provide transportation, safe buildings, clean water, enjoyable civil spaces, and restore the environment. We build the world and improve the quality of life for everyone.

#### What are civil engineers all about?

4. First, we are about public service. A lot of times when I tell people that I am a civil engineer, they assume I work for a government agency of some sort. I don't, but I'm glad they get the gist of what I do. Even if not employed by government, most civil engineering work is for the common good. We plan, design, construct, and maintain the framework of our lives, which benefit all people, absent of discrimination. As a result, it is important for civil engineers to be good listeners. If we are able to listen to and understand the viewpoints of the community, our projects are better for it. The public good is also why ASCE publishes infrastructure report cards, advocates for K-12 science education, and participates in community service events.
5. Civil engineers are about responsibility. Licensure is a big deal to civil engineers, at least relative to other engineering disciplines. It happens that my sister is a chemical engineer, and her husband and my brother are mechanical engineers. My Dad is an agricultural engineer. But I am the only one in my family that has a current professional engineering license. One might argue that a practicing civil engineer without a license is not a civil engineer.
6. Civil engineers are cautious people. Like the sartorially challenged person who wears both a belt and suspenders, civil engineers are very cautious. If we cannot design something to be fail-safe, we will try to make sure that it will fail safely.
7. Civil engineers do make mistakes, but we learn from them. This is why teams of civil engineers went to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, and to China, Chile, and Haiti after their disastrous earthquakes. Once we find out what and why things went wrong with a structure, we can modify our design practices and procedures to help ensure that it doesn't happen again.
8. For all our caution, civil engineers have always been bold thinkers. "A man, a plan, a canal - Panama!" is the longest palindrome I know of. It expresses how big civil engineers have always thought. And the bold progress of civil engineering marches on. The past decade has seen the world's tallest bridge (the Millau Viaduct in France), the world's tallest building (Burj Khalifa in Dubai), and the world's longest tunnel (the Gotthard Rail Tunnel in Switzerland).
9. Civil engineers are forward-thinking and innovative. Civil engineers no longer evaluate projects simply on dollar cost versus perceived economic benefit, but consider the "triple bottom line" of economics, society, and environment. We are building sustainable projects with recycled materials, building them with little or no waste, and minimizing CO2 emissions in the process.
10. Civil engineering will be more important than ever in the future. All the qualities of civil engineers just described - responsible servants of the public good, cautious about safety, but boldly looking forward - nominate us to help lead our world into the future. Working with our communities, we can make the world a better place and improve the quality of life for everyone across the globe.

Regards,

*Marc Schulte, P.E.*

Seattle Section President

**Reach over 2,000  
Engineering Professionals**

**Post Your Employment Ad  
in this Newsletter  
and on the Seattle Section Web Site**

**See advertising details on page 2**

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# ASCE Seattle Section Executive Board Meeting Minutes

## Minutes for November 16 and December 8, 2010

### November 16, 2010 Minutes

#### ATTENDANCE

##### Board Members

Ron Bard, Marc Schulte, Melissa Wu, Erin Fletcher, Sam Swartz, Mike Harney

Quorum: YES

##### Absent with Notice

Stefanie Herzstein, Laura Ruppert, Eric Herzstein

##### Other Members Present

Larry Costich

#### CALL TO ORDER

Section President Marc Schulte called meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

October 13, 2010 meeting draft minutes have been uploaded to eRoom.

ACTION ITEM: Mike will setup an eRoom poll to approve the minutes.

#### PROCEEDINGS

##### 1. Regular Business

##### Treasurer's Report

The final September treasurer's report has been uploaded to the eRoom.

ACTION ITEM: Sam will create an eRoom poll to approve the final September treasurer's report.

A draft treasurer's report has been uploaded to the eRoom. The report has not been finalized: Sam will reconcile a balance difference of \$30 before finalizing it.

ACTION ITEM: Sam will post the final treasurer's report to the eRoom, and create a poll to approve it.

The Board discussed the draft treasurer's report. In particular:

YMF has requested their budget today, as well as some additional funds. The Board concluded that additional funds cannot be provided without a justification from the intended recipient.

ACTION ITEM: Sam will issue YMF a check for their allotted budget, but additional funds will not be provided until YMF provides justification for their use.

There is a free ASCE webinar on December 16 for ASCE Section financial accounting. Sam and maybe Melissa will view the webinar.

##### Standing Committees

Standing committee report uploaded to the eRoom.

##### University Outreach

Lake Washington Technical College is interested in forming a student chapter. Marc previously told them that the Section will try to support them. Marc noted that there are standards and criteria for forming student chapters. Marc suggested perhaps forming an umbrella student chapter that could include all local technical colleges. The Board discussed providing seed funds for student chapter formation. Erin expressed concern about providing financial support before chapter formation; the Board concurred. Marc noted that any newly-formed student chapter would be provisional for 2 years, and that an application is necessary to become a provisional chapter. Erin recommended that the Board contact ASCE National to discuss procedures and policies for student chapter formation

ACTION ITEM: Marc will contact ASCE National to discuss student chapter formation procedures.

MOTION (Erin/Ron): The ASCE Seattle Section Board supports the formation of a student group at Lake Washington Technical College. [Motion passed unanimously]

##### History and Heritage

Planning is underway for the Section's 100th Anniversary. Planning committee members are needed.

ACTION ITEM: Marc will attend the next H&H meeting to discuss the event, volunteers, etc.

##### K-12 Outreach

The Board discussed how to announce future K-12 activities, and decided that putting flyers on dinner meeting tables would be a helpful way of advertising these.

##### Legislative

Larry discussed the 2012 Legislative Fly-In to Washington, D.C., scheduled for March 29-31. Typically, the Legislative Committee Chair and one other Section member attend. A Section member, Doug Lane, has expressed interest in attending, and Larry requested Board authorization to attend. Marc inquired about how information obtained from the Fly-In would be disseminated to the Section after the event. Marc also noted that the Board does not need to authorize attendance at the Fly-In but needs to be aware of it.

See **November Minutes** on page 7

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**November Minutes** (continued from page 6)

An attempt is typically made to invite attendees from different areas of Washington state. The application is downloadable from the ASCE website.

ACTION ITEM: Larry will send a link to the application to Doug Lane.

### **Branch Reports**

Branch report uploaded to the eRoom.

The Boeing Branch has 118 members, which is up from 25 members 2 years ago. Boeing has its own YMF. Erin noted that the Section's YMF should connect with Boeing's.

ACTION ITEM: Melissa will follow-up and connect Boeing Branch YMF and Section YMF.

The Branch Report lists the new Boeing Branch officers.

ACTION ITEM: Mike will update the Section roster in the eRoom with the new Boeing Branch officers.

The Board discussed having a Board migration to either a Kitsap or North Branch meeting sometime in the future. Ron noted that in the past the Section has paid Ferry tolls for members who attended a particular Kitsap Branch meeting.

### **Technical Committees**

Technical committees report has been uploaded to eRoom.

NO ACTION ITEMS

### **Younger Member Forum**

YMF report uploaded to eRoom.

YMF has had good turnout at recent networking events. Green Seattle Day was well-attended. The overall event was quite large (about 200 people). Melissa recommended a smaller event would make networking with fellow ASCE members easier. Marc noted that having ASCE caps, t-shirts, etc for volunteers would facilitate easier identification of fellow Section members at large events.

The popsicle stick bridge event is gearing up, and the YMF holiday party will be scheduled for December 7 or 14.

Marc announced that Brown & Caldwell and Anchor Environmental have received YMF Employer awards.

NO ACTION ITEMS

### **Membership Report**

Membership Report uploaded to eRoom. The Section has 25 new members since October 12, 2010. Eight of these are Gonzaga University students.

Marc asked how renewals were going.

ACTION ITEM: Melissa will check into the status of membership renewals and report at the next Board meeting.

The membership poll was announced in last month's newsletter. Only 8 responses were received. Marc noted that he would consider making a special e-mail blast announcement.

### **2. Old Business**

None.

NO ACTION ITEMS

### **3. New Business**

#### Rebuilding Together

Funds have been budgeted for this in the "Additional Funds" line item, which requires Board authorization for expenditure.

MOTION (Erin/Ron): The Board approves the release of \$4200 for the Rebuilding Together event this Spring. [Motion unanimously passed]

ACTION ITEM: Sam will issue a check for \$4200 for the Spring Rebuilding Together event.

#### Region 8 Governor Nomination

An announcement about this opening was placed in last month's newsletter - no feedback has been received. Marc noted that Ray Walton has some suggested nominees.

ACTION ITEM: Marc will follow-up with some potential nominees that were discussed.

#### ASCE National Conference

Marc described the conference and discussed the president's inaugural address, which focused on well-planned infrastructure.

#### Infrastructure Vision Statement

Marc discussed preparing an infrastructure vision statement for the Puget Sound region. This would be in lieu of an infrastructure report card, with the main difference being a positive focus rather than a negative one. The Board discussed whether we should consider preparing such a vision statement. Melissa asked for details on what it would entail, and Marc described his experience putting one together previously. Possible tie-ins with Legislative Committee actions and events were discussed, including presentation of the vision statement in Olympia. Larry noted that he supports preparing an infrastructure vision statement. Marc noted that it could involve other Sections and Branches. Ron noted we did a similar effort about 5 years ago, and that Ron Borowski is the point of contact. Ron also noted that the vision statement should attempt to

See **November Minutes** on page 8

identify good examples of well-planned infrastructure or well thought-out infrastructure plans.

#### Community Service Committee

Ann Bryant has agreed to coordinate activities for this committee.

ACTION ITEM: Marc will follow-up with Ann and ask her to draft a job description.

#### **4. Announcements for Meeting**

- Membership drive – Marc
- Workforce Re-Entry Scholarship applications due 12/31 - Marc

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 5:09 p.m.

Minutes taken and submitted by Secretary, Mike Harney.

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### **December 8, 2010 Minutes**

#### **ATTENDANCE**

##### **Board Members**

Ron Bard, Marc Schulte, Melissa Wu, Sam Swartz, Stefanie Herzstein, Laura Ruppert, Mike Harney

Quorum: YES

##### **Absent with Notice**

Eric Herzstein, Erin Fletcher

##### **Other Members Present**

None

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Section President Marc Schulte called meeting to order at 4:39 p.m.

November 16, 2010 meeting draft minutes have been uploaded to eRoom.

MOTION (Ron/Melissa): The ASCE Seattle Section Board approves the November 16, 2010 meeting minutes with the following correction:

Under the topic of "ASCE National Conference": Marc discussed the conference, not Melissa

Motion carried unanimously.

#### **PROCEEDINGS**

##### **1. Regular Business**

##### **Treasurer's Report**

The final October treasurer's report has been uploaded to the eRoom.

MOTION (Melissa/Stefanie): The ASCE Seattle Section Board approves the final October treasurer's report. Motion carried unanimously.

A draft treasurer's report for November was distributed and discussed at the meeting. The report has not been finalized.

There are some outstanding paperwork issues to resolve in transferring the account privileges. Sam noted that the Bank (Morgan Stanley) requires a physical address for the Section, as well as some other documentation. A P.O. Box is not acceptable. Ron asked whether the ASCE National address would be appropriate.

ACTION ITEM: Sam will call Nancy Berson to discuss using the ASCE National address. Marc recommended including the ASCE National CFO in the discussion.

The Board discussed the draft treasurer's report. In particular:

Sam has issued YMF a check for a portion of their allotted budget (\$4000).

Sam noted that membership renewal dues are coming in.

##### **Membership Report**

Membership Report uploaded to eRoom. Membership is steady. The Section has 16 new members.

Three winners have been chosen in the Membership Renewal lottery. They are: Mary Digenen, James Willhoit, and Gregory Varney.

ACTION ITEM: Melissa will follow-up with the lottery winners to distribute prizes.

The membership survey was discussed. Only 8 responses were previously received.

ACTION ITEM: Marc will put an announcement about the membership survey in the next newsletter.

##### **Standing Committees**

Standing committee report uploaded to the eRoom.

##### House and Hospitality

The Section's regular monthly meeting venue, McCormick & Schmick's, will be unavailable during the months of February and March due to remodeling. The Board discussed

See **December Minutes** on page 9



that it is preferable to keep the venue near Lake Union for the February meeting. Nearby options were discussed.

ACTION ITEM: Stefanie will pursue alternative venues for the February and March meetings.

### History and Heritage

The Board discussed the archival process of last year's documents and records. Mike is preparing a hardcopy of the archive.

Planning is underway for the Section's 100th Anniversary. Planning committee members are needed. A chair has still not been identified.

ACTION ITEM: Marc will attend the next H&H meeting to discuss the event, volunteers, etc. Cliff Williams will join Marc at the meeting

### Professional Practice

Marc discussed reviving the Professional Practice Committee with Ed Houston at last month's dinner meeting. The Board agreed that the committee should be revived, and that potential activities would involve continuing education, ethics, and responsible charge. There would be obvious overlap with some of the Legislative Committee's activities.

ACTION ITEM: Stefanie will ask Susan Garner who chaired the committee in the past.

### **Branch Reports**

Branch report uploaded to the eRoom.

The Board discussed having a Board migration to either a Kitsap or North Branch meeting sometime in the future.

ACTION ITEM: Stefanie will create and distribute an online poll to gauge interest and coordinate schedules for a potential Board migration.

### **Technical Committees**

Technical committees report has been uploaded to eRoom.

The Geotechnical meetings are on-going.

Ports and Harbors is currently planning for a conference or workshop in the Spring.

Water Resources and Environmental is struggling to identify presenters for monthly meetings. They have not had a meeting for a while.

Urban Development and Transportation has no committee chair.

ACTION ITEM: Laura will draft an announcement for next month's newsletter soliciting a UDT committee chair.

### Younger Member Forum

YMF report uploaded to eRoom.

Upcoming events include the Holiday event at Sky High Sports on December 14.

NO ACTION ITEMS

### **2. Old Business**

None.

NO ACTION ITEMS

### **3. New Business**

#### Coordination with Engineers Without Borders

Marc attended an Engineers Without Borders fundraiser last month, where he discussed possible coordination and collaboration with the Puget Sound Professionals chapter.

ACTION ITEM: Marc will meet with the Engineers Without Borders Puget Sound Professional chapter representatives to discuss coordination. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 14. Once the meeting specifics have been finalized, Marc will notify Board members for their possible attendance.

#### Region 8 Governor Nomination

No Section nominee was submitted for the Region 8 governor position this year. Nominations are due every year on December 1. Ron expressed interest in volunteering as a nominee next year.

### **4. Announcements for Meeting**

- YMF won the Regional Award and the National Paul Parisi Award – Marc
- Newsletter deadline is 12/17 - Marc

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Minutes taken and submitted by Secretary, Mike Harney.

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# Puget Sound Engineering Council Coordinates Engineers Week Activities February 19-26, 2011

By Paul Grant, P.E.  
PSEC Past President & ASCE PSEC Representative

Founded in 1951 by the National Society of Professional Engineers, Engineers Week is celebrated annually by thousands of engineers, engineering students, teachers, and leaders in government and business. In 1988, the National Engineers Week consortium expanded its scope and now includes more than 100 engineering, scientific, and education societies and major corporations dedicated to promoting pre-college interest in math and science, and engineering as a career option. The Foundation also works to enhance the public understanding of engineering.

Traditionally, Engineers Week falls on the week of George Washington's Birthday. President Washington was the first military engineer and land surveyor, and is considered the father of the American engineering profession.

The purpose of Engineers Week is to highlight our profession to our community, to honor significant achievements of our members, and to note the importance of our profession in the quality of life that our community enjoys.

The Puget Sound Engineering Council is an umbrella organization for many engineering organizations in this region, including ASCE. The following highlights some of the planned activities for Engineers Week and the Seattle Section's participation in these events.

## Engineering Fair

The Engineering Fair will be held Saturday, February 19, 2011, 10 am to 4 pm, in the side gallery at the Museum of Flight in Seattle.

The Puget Sound Engineering Council (PSEC) will be hosting the 2011 Engineering Fair in conjunction with local chapters of engineering societies and universities. The Engineering Fair generally has 20+ display booths, staffed by practicing engineers and technical people representing many engineering disciplines (e.g., mechanical, electrical, civil, aeronautical, material, etc.).

ASCE will have a display booth at the fair again this year and the booth will be staffed by volunteers from the Section. Our display will include interactive activities such as building structures with gumdrops and toothpicks or



straws and paperclips. The volunteers from last year had a great time and enjoyed interacting with the students. Anyone interested in volunteering for this year's fair should contact Paul Grant at [pgrant@pangeoinc.com](mailto:pgrant@pangeoinc.com).

In addition to the Section's display booth, the Younger Member Forum hosts the Popsicle-Stick Bridge (PSB) Competition at the fair in which over 20 teams of students from regional schools compete in various categories to see who builds the strongest bridge or which team can most accurately predict the maximum load carried by their bridge. The students are so good at this competition that they beat a team of practicing engineers in past year's competition. This is a must-see event!

The Fair is free and open to the public. For more information, visit PSEC's website at [www.pseconline.org](http://www.pseconline.org).

## Engineer's Award Banquet

The 53rd Annual PSEC Awards Banquet will be held Saturday, February 26, at 6:00 pm in the Museum of Flight, which is a rather fitting venue that features aerospace engineering achievements. This is a unique opportunity to celebrate the profession of engineering and to recognize the extraordinary achievements of our colleagues.

This year's keynote presentation will be provided by Mr. Michael P. Delaney, Vice President of Engineering for Boeing's Commercial Airplane Division, who will speak on future trends in commercial aviation and next steps for the Boeing Company.

For more information on the banquet and a link to the registration page, visit [www.pseconline.org/Events/AwardsBanquet/](http://www.pseconline.org/Events/AwardsBanquet/).

## CALL FOR ENTRIES: 2010 Local Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Awards Program

By Ron Bard, P.E., Immediate Past President

Have you been doing interesting work? Did you complete an innovative project in 2010?

Start planning to apply for a Local Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award. Don't miss this opportunity to gain recognition for you and your organization or clients. The application process is relatively simple and winners receive terrific benefits, including:

- Make a presentation about your project at our June meeting
- Receive plaques for you and your organization or clients
- Be offered a feature page in our monthly ASCE newsletter that reaches over 2,400 civil engineers in the Puget Sound area
- Post your project on our webpage
- Display your project at one of our monthly meetings
- Display your project at the ASCE booth at the Annual Engineers Week Fair
- Be nominated for an Outstanding Project Award in Region 8 which covers Washington, Oregon, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Idaho, Montana, Alaska and Hawaii
- Looks fantastic on your resume

Don't delay! **Entry Deadline is March 4, 2011.**

For the Application and Rules visit  
[www.seattleasce.org/awards](http://www.seattleasce.org/awards).

## Employment Notices

To post an employment notice or an employment wanted notice in the newsletter and on the Section's web site, please contact the editor in advance of the monthly deadline. Rates for advertising are shown on page 2.

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### Seeking Employment

Hello, my name is Paul Nitardy, P.E., and I am seeking employment. I have experience in land development (some Civil 3D), and structural design of buildings. I have used AutoCAD to produce hundreds of drawings. I am detail oriented and have letters of recommendation from past jobs. I would be happy to serve and help meet your needs for around 52k/yr. Please contact me at [Paulnitardy@comcast.net](mailto:Paulnitardy@comcast.net) for more information. Thank you.

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## Membership Renewal Drive Update

By Melissa Wu

Thanks to all members who renewed their ASCE membership before December 14 and participated in the ASCE Renewal Race. The Seattle Section had one of the highest percentages of renewed members at approximately 40 percent! This earned us a strong third place "finish" in the Large Section category, just behind the Louisiana and St. Louis Sections. Congratulations to Seattle Section members Mary Digenan, James Wilhoit, and Greg Varney, who were our local Renewal Race drawing winners. Each won a gift card to either Starbucks or Barnes and Noble. Thank you to all who participated!

If you haven't renewed yet, make sure to do so ASAP to ensure your ASCE membership benefits continue in 2011. You can easily renew by going to [www.asce.org/finishline](http://www.asce.org/finishline), mailing in your renewal form (sent to you in September), or calling ASCE Customer Service at (800) 548-ASCE (2723) or (703) 295-6300 between 9:00 am - 5:00 pm ET, Monday-Friday.

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

**Thursday, January 20, 5:30 pm**

**YMF - January Networking**

Location: Rock Bottom Brewery, 1333 Fifth Ave,  
Seattle

Contact: Shane Binder,

[shane.binder@transpogroup.com](mailto:shane.binder@transpogroup.com)

**Saturday, February 5, 8:30 am**

**History & Heritage Committee Meeting**

Location: Grand Central Bakery, 1616 Eastlake Ave  
E, Seattle

Contact: Cindy Hirsch, P.E., (206) 438-2150,

[Cindy\\_Hirsch@URSCorp.com](mailto:Cindy_Hirsch@URSCorp.com)

January 2011 Newsletter  
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AMERICAN SOCIETY  
OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

SEATTLE SECTION

