



SEATTLE SECTION NEWSLETTER

March 2012
Volume 47 No. 7

The Seattle Section's 99th Year

Section Officers

October 1, 2011 – September 30, 2012

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WEBMASTERS

Ann Bryant and Glenn Schwantes
seattleasce@yahoo.com

Joint Meeting between ASCE Seattle Section and the Structural Engineers Association of Washington (SEAW)

Wednesday, March 14, 2012

Place: Mayflower Park Hotel, 405 Olive Way, Seattle, WA 98101

Limited free parking available in the Mayflower Park Hotel garage on a first come, first served basis.

Cost: \$40 per person with advance RSVP the SEAW website.
\$45 with reservations made after noon, Friday, March 9.
\$15 for students and unemployed members.

You can pay via credit card online in advance, or at the door by cash or check payable to "ASCE."

Meal: Pan-roasted chicken breast with garlic mashed potatoes or risotto with seasonal vegetables

5:30 Social Hour

6:30 Dinner

7:30 Program

RSVP at the SEAW website, www.seaw.org
by **12:00 p.m., Friday, March 9.**

Please indicate meal preference with your reservation.

Program: Aberdeen Pontoon Construction Facility

KPFF will present an overview of the design and construction of the new 55-acre Casting Basin Site in Aberdeen, Washington. The Casting Basin is being used by WSDOT to build 33 concrete pontoons for use in the new SR 520 floating bridge across Lake Washington. The primary pontoons are 360 feet long by 75 feet wide by 28 feet tall and will be cast in six cycles of construction.

The Aberdeen Casting Facility includes:

- A 20-acre concrete casting basin
- 110-foot-long moveable steel gate structure

See **March Meeting** on page 5



2013 is the Seattle Section's Centennial year. Please join us as we celebrate the "People, Projects and Policies" that have shaped the Section's 100-year history. Stay tuned for dates and locations of events in 2013 that will celebrate our anniversary. For additional information please contact the Centennial Committee Co-Chair Sunny Rose, roses@pbworld.com.

The deadline for the
April 2012 issue is
5:00 p.m.
Friday, March 23, 2012

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Your newsletter editor is:  
**Todd Crandell**  
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Phone: (206) 459-2250

#### 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 your updated information from ASCE.

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

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#### ASCE SEATTLE SECTION NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

##### Employment Ads:

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75 cents per word

Seeking Employment:  
First 75 words free  
75 cents per each additional word

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Contact the editor at  
[seattleASCEnews@gmail.com](mailto:seattleASCEnews@gmail.com)  
for pricing and format requirements.

## President's Column

By Dan Bergman, North Branch President

Thank you to those of you who made the effort to be involved with Engineers Week 2012, celebrating the positive contributions engineers make to society. Be proud of all that you do.

We want to tell you about the North Branch (NB) of ASCE. NB has well over 100 members between Island, Skagit, and Whatcom Counties. We favor more social settings and colleague camaraderie. Regular dinner meetings with guest speaker presentations are held throughout the year and alternate meetings between Skagit and Whatcom County locations. Alternating the meeting locations was initiated a couple of years ago and provides increased member involvement. Traditionally, officers progress from Secretary/Treasurer, to Vice-President/President Elect, and President. I appreciate this tradition and it provides consistent leadership to our members. Our Young Members Group has been idle since 2007 and we are pleased to have a Young Members Group Chairperson this year. We are exploring opportunities fitting for NB young professionals and their increased participation.

NB supports a variety of charitable opportunities and outreach programs. Our involvement ranges from providing laboratory equipment that elementary students would not otherwise have access to, to donations supporting area high school students participating in the International Bridge Building Contest. I have had the pleasure to assist local Cub Scouts secure their Engineering Pin and several NB members have volunteered to give career presentations to Skagit and Whatcom County high school students through Washington Engineering Institute (WEI) with Northwest Career and Technical Academy. The WEI program provides student exposure to the various disciplines of engineering in an early morning setting prior to their normal class schedule.

Upcoming this summer, we look forward to a joint venture service project with Seattle Section Younger Members Forum. I have heard reports of a

See *President's Column* on page 3

## Bios for March 14 Speakers

**Bob Riley** is a registered structural engineer in Washington and California and has 20 years of experience designing and managing a wide range of projects including buildings and marine structures. He is currently designing structural anchors for the new SR 520 Floating Bridge project and was Engineer of Record for the Casting Basin.

**Trevor Lighty** received his B.S. in Civil Engineering from Purdue University and is a registered civil engineer in California. Trevor has four years of experience as design engineer for numerous marine and industrial projects and for the past two years has been intimately involved in the design and construction of the SR 520 Bridge Pontoon Construction Facility. His previous work includes the design of a bulk terminal for the Port of Tacoma, a marina for the Port of Bellingham, and a replacement fender system for Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton.

possible trail restoration project in the North Cascades. Other plans include participation in the preparation to celebrate civil engineering history and achievements in the Section's 100th anniversary in 2013.

That's a quick high level overview. Please let me know if you would like more information about NB. We look forward to upcoming events and seeing our friends again.

Warm Regards,

Cheers,

*Dan Bergman*

North Branch President

Telephone: (360) 937-0374

Email: [dbergma1@anvilcorp.com](mailto:dbergma1@anvilcorp.com)

## ASCE Construction Institute – Managing Construction Risk Seminar, April 20

Construction projects are fraught with claims and change orders. The ASCE Construction Institute's Claims Avoidance and Resolution Committee, construction industry professionals whose work and experience focuses on proactive dispute avoidance management, have compiled their years of experience to present a set of Best Practices for claims avoidance and resolution.

Speakers will share expertise on dispute resolution, successfully navigating through a delay claim, defining and pricing overhead costs, and techniques for constructability reviews. A session on "Claims 101," will also be offered, to introduce neophytes to the ins and outs of construction claims.

The Construction Institute and the Seattle Section of ASCE will co-host the event at the Red Lion Hotel in Bellevue, Washington, on April 20, 2012. Please visit the seminar website for additional details and registration: [content.asce.org/conferences/ciriskman/index.html](http://content.asce.org/conferences/ciriskman/index.html)

## Nomination Forms Available for 2011 Engineer and Projects of the Year Awards for ASCE Region 8

By Ron Borowski

The ASCE Region 8 Board of Governors is requesting nominations for 2011 Region 8 Engineer of the Year Awards and 2011 Project of the Year Awards.

Awards will be given in the following categories:

- Region 8 Engineer of the Year (Five Categories: Design, Education, Construction, Government and Management)
- Major Project of the Year (>\$10 million)
- Minor Project of the Year (<\$10 million)

Award Goals:

- Recognize achievement at the regional level
- Identify strong candidates for the Society awards
- Foster more overall public recognition of civil engineering achievements

These awards are for the nine state regional-level awards process. Award winners can be candidates for the Society's Projects and Leaders Awards. The application process is simple and straightforward. **The deadline is March 16, 2012.**

Now is the time to start identifying projects and distinguished engineers and gathering the supportive information. Project submittals are welcome from all sectors of civil engineering. For more information, award descriptions and nomination forms, see this site:

[www.asce.org/Regions-Sections-Branches/Region-8/Awards/Awards/](http://www.asce.org/Regions-Sections-Branches/Region-8/Awards/Awards/)

For more information, contact Pat White, P.E., Region 8 Awards Chair, at [patw@ctagroup.com](mailto:patw@ctagroup.com).

# Puget Sound Engineering Council Recognizes Three ASCE Members as 2012 Engineers-of-the-Year

By Paul Grant, P.E.

The 54th Annual Puget Sound Engineering Council (PSEC) Engineering Awards Banquet was held Saturday, February 18, in the Skyline Room at the Museum of Flight at King County International Airport (Boeing Field). PSEC recognized Engineers-of-the-Year in six categories: Academic, Industry, Government, Engineering Educator, Young Engineer, and Professional.

The awards were presented by PSEC President Kimberly Hicks and PSEC Banquet Chair Sam Gheesling. Three engineers nominated by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) received recognition from the PSEC officers:

## 2012 Academic Engineer-of-the-Year Dr. Steven Kramer, Ph.D., P.E.

A faculty member in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Washington, Dr. Kramer has earned wide recognition as an international expert on geotechnical performance-based earthquake engineering and is recipient of several prestigious awards from the National Science Foundation and the ASCE. As a leader of the Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research Center, he has helped develop a probabilistic framework that allows seismic design and evaluation to be expressed in terms that are useful to a broad group of stakeholders involved in civil construction. Since arriving at the University in 1984, he has led the revitalization of its geotechnical engineering program and prepared over 200 graduates for responsible positions in the Northwest. Dr. Kramer may be most widely known, both nationally and internationally, for the 1996 publication of his textbook, *Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering*, which was the first textbook published in this evolving field of study.

## 2012 Government Engineer-of-the-Year James W. Miller, P.E.

As the Engineering Superintendent in the Public Works Department for the City of Everett, Mr. Miller is responsible for utility planning, water resource management, project management, design, and information services for the city. He has been a leader in the application of hydraulic computer models to the management of river systems and served as the technical lead in the design and construction



*Dr. Steven Kramer*

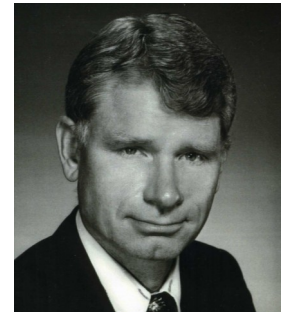
of the Tulalip Water Pipeline to supply water for the Tulalip Reservation's future needs. Mr. Miller was a founding member of the Washington Water Utilities Council which includes over 150 water utilities working toward improving public water supply systems. He also was a founding member of the Water Supply Forum which coordinates among the water utilities within Snohomish, King and Pierce counties. Mr. Miller has been an active participant in the American Water Works Association and the ASCE.



*James Miller, P.E.*

## 2012 WSPE Professional Engineer-of-the-Year John "Jack" V. Christiansen, S.E., P.E.

A retired structural engineer, he has been a leader in pioneering the effective use of thin shell concrete elements in construction. Through his over fifty years of professional practice, Mr. Christiansen was responsible for the structural design of many notable structures throughout the Northwest, including the Kingdome, the Pacific Science Center, Nalley Valley Viaduct, and the Museum of Flight. Because of the significance of his work, he was elected to the National Academy of Engineers and has been inducted into the Structural Engineers Association of Washington Engineering Hall of Fame.



*Jack Christiansen,  
S.E., P.E.*

In addition, PSEC presented awards to these individuals:

- **Industry Engineer-of-the-Year:** Linda M. S. Thomas – Nominated by the Society of Women Engineers (SWE)
- **Engineering Educator-of-the-Year, The Kenneth W. Porter Award:** Charles S. Beard – Nominated by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA)
- **Young Engineer-of-the-Year:** Kimberly Hicks – Nominated by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA)

The ASCE Seattle Section congratulates all six of these distinguished engineers on their achievements. For more information about the Puget Sound Engineering Council and their many volunteer activities, please visit [pseconline.org](http://pseconline.org).



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## Richard Williamson Jones Scholarship Applications Now Being Accepted

By Melissa Wu, P.E., President

Applications are being accepted for the Richard Williamson Jones Memorial Scholarship. The maximum \$2,000 award is given out annually to a student who has attained at least a junior standing in civil engineering. Candidates must be U.S. citizens and a permanent resident within the jurisdiction of the Seattle Section of ASCE (King, Snohomish, Kitsap, Whatcom, Skagit, San Juan, Island, Clallam, and Jefferson Counties). Richard Jones often commented that when he was a student, he would have been much better off if he just had a little more money for books and supplies. Applications must be postmarked by May 4, 2012 to be considered.

For further information and application forms visit [www.seattleasce.org](http://www.seattleasce.org). If you have questions contact Melissa Wu, P.E., President (425) 233-3306 or [Melissa.Wu@ch2m.com](mailto:Melissa.Wu@ch2m.com). Good Luck!

### March Meeting (continued from page 1)

- Sill, jamb, and bulkhead structures
- Elevated mobile crane rail structures on each side of the basin
- Access piers
- Hydraulic control structures to flood and drain the basin
- Dredging an approach channel with marine structures for pontoon launching



Aberdeen Pontoon Casting Facility

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## ASCE Seattle Section Executive Board Meeting Minutes Minutes for February 23, 2012

### ATTENDANCE

#### Board Members:

Sam Swartz, Laura Ruppert, Melissa Wu, Rhiannon Parmelee

Quorum: No

#### Other Members Present:

Doug Knapp

#### Members Absent:

Emily Spahn, James Chae, Mike Harney, Stefanie Herzstein

### CALL TO ORDER

Melissa called the meeting to order at 4:37 p.m.

January 2012 draft meeting minutes have been uploaded to eRoom.

Will set up eRoom poll to approve the meeting minutes.

### PROCEEDINGS

#### 1. Regular Business

##### Treasurer's Report

Posted to the eRoom. eRoom poll will be set up by Sam to approve the report.

With the exception of dinner meeting expenses, Section funds are tracking well. Usually by this time of year we have received a good portion of our expected allotment from the Society.

The Board authorized a \$250 budget for the Infrastructure Report Card Committee via eRoom poll earlier in the month. This will be under Line Item 99 in the budget, for Board Authorized items.

Meeting with the Section President, Treasurer, Centennial Committee treasurer and co-chairs to discuss how to han-

See [February Minutes](#) on page 6

dle the cash flow for Centennial activities is scheduled for March 7th.

UW Student funding request for lounge area – \$1,000 was previously approved by the Board to come out of the Student Activities Fund. The Section transfers \$1,800 from the main Section account to the Student Activities Fund each year. This year’s transfer has not yet been made. Sam requested to disburse \$1,000 from the main account to the UW students and then \$800 from the main account to the Student Activities Fund for this year. The Board felt this was acceptable as long as the accounting and documentation for these transactions is clear.

The Section has received an extension on tax reporting to May 15th. Branches and committees with their own accounts need to fill out a form for tax reporting and send to Sam. Sam is available to help if there are any questions.

**ACTION ITEM:** Laura and Mike to let the branches and committees know they need to fill out the tax form and provide to Sam by mid-March.

We are currently tracking over budget for dinner expenses. Two dinner meetings were more expensive than budgeted. We budget for a \$500 deficit per meeting and two dinner meetings this year were an extra \$1,000 to \$1,500 due to higher dinner costs than we typically had at McCormick and Schmick’s.

Dinner costs need to be raised for the remainder of the year. March’s meeting is at the Mayflower, which is typically more expensive than other venues. The Board discussed possible pricing options for March and the rest of the year. Eventbrite also charges up to a 10% fee for use of their registration and credit card payment system. Long term, the dinner meeting price will depend on whether we can find more economical meeting locations for the remaining meetings. The Board will discuss setting long-term dinner meeting prices at the March Board meeting.

Increasing the regular dinner meeting price to \$35 will only work out if the total dinner cost is \$2,500. In recent years, we have only been able to get this price at McCormick and Schmick’s.

**ACTION ITEM:** Melissa will call the Mayflower to review and determine the estimated cost for March’s meeting. Sam will send the financial summary of dinner expenses to the Board and post an eRoom poll proposing increased dinner meeting costs for March.

### **Membership Report**

Membership Report has been uploaded to eRoom.

### **Standing Committees**

Standing committee report has been uploaded to the eRoom. No action items.

The Diversity Committee awarded the 2011-2012 Workforce Re-entry scholarship to Kerry Peterson.

### **Branch Report**

Branch report has been uploaded to eRoom.

Based on the poll, Board members were available to travel to a Kitsap branch meeting in June. It was decided to attend the June 12th meeting in Silverdale, with the Board meeting to be held on the 4:30 pm ferry to Bremerton. We would need to have two volunteers drive to the meeting (arriving at the ferry around 3:45 pm).

**ACTION ITEM:** Melissa will coordinate logistics for travel to the Kitsap Branch meeting in June.

### **Technical Committees**

Report uploaded to eRoom.

The Infrastructure Report Card Committee is having a meeting on March 6th.

### **Younger Member Forum**

Board report uploaded to eRoom.

They will be moving their account to BECU in the next month. Sam is available to help if needed.

The annual Winter Leadership Retreat is this weekend.

## **2. Old Business**

### *Construction Institute “Managing Project Risks” Seminar*

The Seminar will be held on April 20th at the Red Lion Hotel in Bellevue. Ben Haines is now the lead for the Section on this event. No money is required from the Section up front.

## **3. New Business**

### *Region 8 Positions*

Region 8 Governor candidate Doug Knapp was present and requested endorsement from the Section Board. Region 8 Director candidate Kristina Swallow also requested endorsement from the Section Board. Resumes and bios were distributed to the Board members.

Rick Martin is gathering signatures for a petition to be placed on the Society ballot as a Region 8 Director candidate. His information and request has been distributed to the Board and recent Section Past Presidents. Two-hundred fifty signatures are needed for him to be on the ballot. The

See **February Minutes** on page 7

Board chose to take no further action as a Board regarding his petition.

**ACTION ITEM:** Melissa will set up eRoom polls to vote on Doug's and Kristina's endorsement.

*Department of Ecology Municipal Stormwater Permit – Cascadia GBC Letter*

Cascadia Green Building Council sent a letter to the Department of Ecology commenting on Ecology's proposed changes for Municipal Stormwater Permit requirements and asked for the Seattle Section's support. However, the public comment period ended February 3rd. The Board discussed the issue and given the timing (public comment period over) and because the Board has not had an opportunity to research the issue, chose to take no action.

*Local Outstanding Engineering Achievement Awards*

The LOCEAA applications are available. Spread the word. Laura will work on securing judges from the technical committees.

*2012-2013 Board Nominations*

It's time to start thinking about filling the positions of President-Elect and Standing Committees Director. Please send suggestions and thoughts to Marc and/or Melissa.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

Minutes taken and submitted by President, Melissa Wu.

## Welcome New ASCE Members

Seattle Section records show that 59 people have joined the Seattle Section since the November 2011 meeting.

|                          |                     |                         |
|--------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Charles Abrahamson       | Jamie M. Gallagher  | Eric Opincar            |
| Rylee D. Archuleta       | Gregory M Hensley   | Rodney G. Pfielfle      |
| SurendrAan Balendra      | Katherine Herr      | Brian Porter            |
| Derek J. Belka           | Sherry Jin Kim      | Judith Rivas            |
| Anthony M. Brooks        | Kelly Kobashigawa   | Keith D. Rogers         |
| Hunter Brown             | Axel R. Kordel      | Juan F. Romero          |
| Bethany M. Brown         | Yanxiang Kuang      | Ryan S. Sanders         |
| Travis S. Carroll        | Lawrence A Kyle     | Zachary Schrempp        |
| Tamara B. Carter         | Ho Yin Lai          | Tena Seeds              |
| Chi-Ping Ted Chen        | Se-Yeun Lee         | Reza Sehhati            |
| Chun Ho Chen             | Nancy J. Lucero     | Mohammed Adballa Shamia |
| Naiwen Chi               | Rosslyn G. Luke     | N. Tucker Stevens       |
| Nick Colson              | Jeff Lykken         | Matthew K. Strand       |
| Kevin K. Cook            | Michael Macdonald   | Alexandra N Stroud      |
| John Cross-Whiter        | Kevin A. Martin     | Catherine J Sutherland  |
| Lisa M. Dale             | Nancy K. Martin     | Ashley A. Thompson      |
| Tricia Linn Lamb Demarco | Fady G. Masoud      | Derek Uchiumi           |
| Kenneth Z. Ellingsen     | Fred Merrill        | David Ward              |
| Ryan Feskens             | Christina M. Nguyen | Arthur E. Whitson       |
| Michael R. Friesen       | Courtney L. O'Neil  |                         |

# CALL FOR ENTRIES

## 2011

ASCE Seattle Section  
Local Outstanding Civil Engineering  
Achievement Awards Program

Entries are due by  
**March 16, 2012**  
Application and rules are  
available at  
[www.asceseattle.org](http://www.asceseattle.org)

2011 LOCEA Award Winner SR 519/490 to SR 99 Intermodal Access Improvements  
(Photos/Illustrations by WSDOT <http://www.flickr.com/photos/wsdot/collections/72157611230638731/>)

## Your Project Deserves Recognition!

Did you complete an innovative project in 2011? Be sure to apply for our Local Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement (LOCEA) Award!

clients. The application process is easy and this year we are going paperless!

Winners receive important benefits, including:

- 9 A presentation about your project at the June ASCE Seattle Section meeting.
- 9 Award plaques for your organization and client.
- 9 A feature article in the Daily Journal of Commerce.
- 9 A personal letter of recognition from our elected officials.
- 9 A feature page in the ASCE Seattle Section newsletter, which reaches 2400 civil engineers in the Puget Sound area.
- 9 Recognition on the ASCE Seattle Section website.

9 Nomination for outstanding project in ASCE Region 8 (WA, OR, ID, MT, NV, Alaska, Hawaii). Region 8 winners may present their projects at the Fall Region 8 meeting.

9 A prestigious recognition on your resume.

Entries are due March 16, 2012. Applications and rules are available at [www.asceseattle.org](http://www.asceseattle.org)