



American Society of Civil Engineers

Our web site: <http://sections.asce.org/columbia/index.htm>

# Columbia Section

Since October 10, 1950

## Newsletter

April, 2003

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### Columbia Section April Meeting

**Date:** April 23, 2003, Wednesday, 11:30 am

**Place:** Shilo Inn, George Washington Way, Richland

**Meal:** Buffet (Chef's choice) \$10 per person.  
Please pay cash or check to treasurer at the meeting.

**Topic:** Eastern Washington Stormwater Manual and Model Program (NPDES Phase II Regulations)

**Speakers:** David Moss, Tetra Tech, and Ross Dunfee, Benton County.

**About the Topic:** The Washington State Dept. of Ecology (WSDOE) formed committees in Eastern Washington Summer 2001 to develop the Stormwater Manual and Model Program to meet the new Non-Point Discharge Elimination System Phase II (NPDES) regulations set forth by the Environmental Protection Agency. Ross Dunfee of Benton County is the Chair of the Steering Committee that oversees the Manual and the Model Program Subcommittees. David Moss of Tetra Tech was hired by WSDOE to help in writing the Manual and Model Program documents.

**RSVP:** Not required, but please help Jocelyne Gray (509)-783-2144 for a head count by April 22.

### May Section Meeting

Hosted by the *Walla Walla College Student Section*

Date: May 7, 2003      Time: 6:15 PM

**Speaker:** Don Phelps

**Topic:** ASCE Involvement and Professionalism

**Location:** Alaskan Room, Kellogg Hall, Walla Walla College,  
College Place, WA

**Menu:** College Cafeteria, \$15 - checks made out to "WALLA WALLA COLLEGE."

**Summary:** Don Phelps is the current District 12 Director, National ASCE. His other duties include: Treasurer of EWRI, ASCE; General Congress Chair, EWRI Congress May 2005; and Co-Chair EWRI Workshop on Dam Removal, August 2003. He has been active in ASCE since 1985 when he was Faculty Advisor for the New England College Student Chapter.

**RSVP:** Jocelyne Gray, [jgray@jub.com](mailto:jgray@jub.com), (509)-783-2144 by May 5, 2003.

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**Columbia Section Board of Directors Encourages Formation of the Younger Member Forum (YMF)**

Credit certainly goes to our Vice-President Jocelyne Gray who made first move toward formation of the Younger Member Form. She already drafted the By-laws for the forum. She is compiling a list of the members. The Forum is expected to be official in a month or two. Please contact Jocelyne and let her know how you can help building the Forum.

**Younger Member Forum**

Let's Celebrate! Many of our members will be taking the Professional Engineers Licensing Exam April 11, 2003. After months of studying and hours of test taking, it is time to kick back. Join other Younger Members for good food and discussion of future YMF events. RSVP Jocelyne Gray by noon, Monday, April 14, 2003.

Location: Atomic Ale Brewpub and Eatery, 1015 Lee Blvd, Richland  
Date: April 14, 2003 Time: 11:30 am

Need nominations for President, President-Elect, and Secretary/Treasurer for YMF! Email your nominations to Jocelyne Gray at jgray@jub.com by May 1, 2003.

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**Ben Volk and Nate Jackson attend the Zone IV Workshop for Section and Branch Leaders**

Reported by Ben Volk

The ASCE Zone IV Workshop for Section and Branch Leaders was held in Honolulu, Hawaii from February 28 to March 2, 2003. The workshop provided a great opportunity to network with fellow professionals and learn more about the American Society of Civil Engineers. The workshop was attended by Ben Volk, Columbia Section President-Elect and Nate Jackson, Columbia Section Secretary-Treasurer.

One of ASCE's primary goals is to uphold and enhance the profession of civil engineering. ASCE accomplishes this mission effectively with a \$50 million annual budget and a staff of 300 people. Approximately 60% of the budget comes from dues while the other 40% comes from publications. The ASCE compares itself to the American Medical Association or the American Dental Association when it comes to representing our profession. ASCE's point is that our profession is critical to the health and safety of the public, and, as such, we need to present ourselves in a professional manner to the public.

ASCE offers many programs that can be accessed by individual Sections including:

- 1) State Public Affairs Grants – These grants can be used to prepare statewide report cards on infrastructure, legislative days at state capitals, media training for Section spokespeople, and other activities promoting the profession of civil engineering. The Columbia Section recently used one of these grants to prepare a 50-year history of the Columbia Section.
- 2) West Point Bridge Design Contest – ASCE sponsors the annual West Point Bridge Design Contest that encourages children from Kindergarten to 6<sup>th</sup> grade to consider careers in Civil Engineering.
- 3) Media Training Manual- ASCE National can provide a Media Training Manual to any section that will help them handle contacts with local media.
- 4) The Infrastructure Security Partnership – ASCE teamed with many other professional organizations to form The Infrastructure Security Partnership (TISP). The goal of TISP is to minimize the effects of terrorism on the U.S. through the effective and efficient planning, design, construction, and operation of the built environment.

We also heard about ASCE's Policy #465 – Academic Prerequisites for Professional Practice. The scope of Policy #465 is "ASCE supports the concept of the Master's degree or equivalent as a prerequisite for licensure and the practice of civil engineering at a professional level."

Overall, the 2003 Zone IV Workshop for Section and Branch Leaders was a positive learning and networking experience for all who attended. Oh, and it didn't hurt that it was in Hawaii!

Nate Jackson and Ben Volk are grateful to have been selected to attend this workshop.

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## Home Rehabilitation Program ...

Members wanted to organize **Rebuilding Together Home Rehabilitation** events for local aged, disabled, and disadvantaged families in the Tri-Cities area. Leadership needed to organize volunteers, select families, and promote the event. It is similar to Habitat for Humanity, but we would fix up an existing home.

If you are interested in organizing the event, please contact Jocelyne Gray at [jgray@jub.com](mailto:jgray@jub.com) or 783-2144.

### **More information regarding Rebuilding Together:**

Are you a skilled craftsman? Ever tightened a screw? Can you lift heavy stuff? Know how to stand around and look cute while passing out water? If you have any of these skills, you should consider becoming a Rebuilding Together volunteer.

For the small price of a simple, one-day commitment, you can help ASCE rehabilitate the home of a local family so that they may continue to live in warmth, safety, and independence. Rebuilding Together helps people, particularly the elderly, individuals with disabilities and families in need, with home repair projects to keep them safe, warm and able to stay independent in their homes.

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### **About our March 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting .....**

Columbia Section Meeting/Presentation: March 19, 2003, 11:30 am, Shilo Inn, Richland

Topic: Mathematical Analysis of Surgical Implants

Attended by about 30 engineers Prof. Bill Kinsel's presentation on the design of metallic surgical implants was very revealing to the engineers. He passed around some implant specimens, and explained how the stresses in the implants are predicted by finite element analysis.

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### **Invitation to "Innovative Solutions to Restore Infrastructure"**

**When:** April 30, 2003, 11:30 am      **Where:** Shilo Inn, 50 Comstock Street, Richland, WA  
**Admission:** Free      **Meal:** Free

**Invited by:** Matheson Painting Concrete Division

**Presented by:** HJ<sub>3</sub> Construction Technologies, LLC

**Who should attend:** Engineers, and Architects.

**About the topic:** HJ<sub>3</sub>'s vision is to provide materials and technology for cost-effective solutions to complex construction problems in the areas of retrofitting and upgrading structures. Their line of Fiber Reinforced Polymer (FRP) composite products make building safer, make transportation infrastructure stronger, protect against explosions, and mitigate the harmful effects of seismic forces. By minimizing installation time, saving structures from demolition, and making them stronger than their initial design capacities, HJ<sub>3</sub>'s products result in a cost-effective and innovative solution for restoring the world's infrastructure.

**RSVP:** Arnold Porter (509)-302-1543 by April 25.

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The Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton will be having a career day for high school students (about 150 students) on April 30. They are looking for working engineers to talk to students. The event begins at 9:00 am and goes until 2 or 3 PM.

If you are interested please contact **DAVID KRUMBEIN** at [dkrumbein@bmcc.cc.or.us](mailto:dkrumbein@bmcc.cc.or.us).

Indra Ghosh, F. ASCE  
ASCE Columbia Section  
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# Yakima Branch Members: Please fill in this form and send to Mustafa Mohamedali

## ASCE Yakima Branch Revival Effort: Member Questionnaire

Recently several members of the Yakima Branch met concerning the immediate future of the Yakima Branch. The members proposed the following questionnaire to gauge interest from ASCE members that may be affected by the decision to either restart the branch, or discontinue its function. Please take a few moments to complete this questionnaire, fold to expose return address and stamp, staple and return your responses to Mustafa Mohamedali ASAP (ASCE Yakima Branch, c/o Mustafa Mohamedali, 2209 Lila Ave. #1, Yakima, WA 98902). Your input prompt is important for the future of your Branch and will be greatly appreciated.

**Name and title :** .....

**Contact information**

Address : .....

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Email : .....

Telephone(s): ..... Fax : .....

**Meeting preferences** (please circle or highlight ALL preferred options):

When : **Lunch (12:00 Noon) or Evening (6:00 PM)**

Duration : **45 min      1 hr      1 hr 15 min      1 hr 30 min**

Day(s) of week : **M      T      W      T      F**

Week of month : **1<sup>st</sup>      2<sup>nd</sup>      3<sup>rd</sup>      4<sup>th</sup>**

Frequency (once every): **month      or      2-months (odd months)**

What month(s) would you definitely find it difficult to attend : **J F M A M J J A S O N D**  
(e.g., construction and holiday seasons)

What makes the meetings most worthwhile for you: **Presentations Networking      Other (please explain): .....**

**Presentations**

Field of interest: **All      Transp'      Wat/Sew      Irrig'n      Struct'      Env'**

**Other:** .....

Can you organize a presentation for a meeting in 2003?

**Subject :** ..... **Preferred Month:** .....

Can you think of an interesting topic (or project) for a presentation by others?

**Subject(s):** ..... **Contacts:** .....

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**Further comments or suggestions regarding revival of the Yakima Branch:**

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