



American Society of Civil Engineers

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Columbia Section

Since October 10, 1950

Newsletter

June, 2005

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Columbia Section Meeting – June 15th, 2005

Date: Wednesday June 15th, 2005 from 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Place: Shilo Inn, George Washington Way, Richland

Meal: Buffet (Chef's choice) \$15 per person.
Please pay cash or check to treasurer at the meeting.

Topic: United States Bureau of Reclamation

Speaker: David Murillo

David Murillo is the Yakima Field Office Manager for the USBR. He oversees the 5 reservoirs for the service area. David will discuss the decision process that affects power generation, distribution of irrigation and protecting fish habitat. Due to the water shortages of 2005, these decisions will have an impact on all of us.

Lunch will start at 11:30, and the presentation will begin at Noon.

RSVP to: Aaron Meilleur, aaron.meilleur@hdrinc.com or (509) 546-2045
by June 14th, 2005

President's Remarks:

Dear Members:

This upcoming June luncheon will lead us into our summer break as a section before we start again in September with our newly elected officers. I want to thank all of you that participated in Columbia Section activities and luncheons over the last year. It's been my honor serving as the Section President this last year with the help of the other section officers and board members.

I look forward to continued service to the ASCE Columbia Section as Past-President and member of the board. I encourage all of you to become active within your profession by participating in the local professional opportunities with ASCE and other affiliate organizations. You'll find it a very rewarding experience.

I congratulate Darral Moore, President-Elect, for taking over as the Section President for next year. He has done a commendable job coordinating and developing the speaker program for this last year as the Section Vice-President and I'm sure that he will do the same as President. I also congratulate Paul Harmsen for keeping our section on track in the position of Secretary/Treasurer this last year and his increased responsibility as the Section Vice-President for the upcoming year.

Once again, thank you.

Sincerely,

Aaron M. Meilleur, P.E.
Columbia Section, President

Columbia Section ASCE Structural Technical Group Organizes Field Trips

Two trips were organized by the ASCE Columbia Section's STG to the Sun Building Systems at Sunnyside. The first trip was on April 29 and the second on May 20. About a dozen engineers took part in each trip. The Sunnyside Sun Building Systems is a part of Canam Steel based in Canada. Canam Steel has 13 plants in Canada, US and Mexico. The plant at Sunnyside covers over 250,000 sq. ft, and metal decking and siding and truss joists are fabricated in this plant. Everyone enjoyed the trips.

Thanks go out to plant manager Roger Rudebush who guided the tours. At the end of the tour we had the opportunity to meet with the engineers who answered all our technical questions. We also received Canam Steel deck and joist design catalogs. As a token of appreciation we presented Mr. Rudabush an ASCE travel coffee mug.

Columbia Section ASCE Structural Technical Group Meeting

A technical meeting was held at Shilo Inn, Richland on May 25 at 6:00 PM. The speaker was Mr. Tim Holtermann, the corporate engineering manager of Canam Steel. The subject was *Vibrations and Trends in Steel Joist Floors*. The presentation was excellent. Mr. Holtermann explained the main issues of floor vibrations, and the ways to control. He explained the complicated equations of frequency computation of floor joists. Many technical questions were asked from the floor, and lively discussions followed.

We were expecting a good attendance, but unfortunately, only about a dozen engineers from local companies including some from Sun Building Systems, Sunnyside, attended the meeting. The dinner menu was superb, as usual.

At the end, as a token of appreciation, Paul Harmsen, our Secretary/Treasurer, presented Mr. Holtermann with an ASCE travel coffee mug.

ASCE Columbia Section Board of Direction Thanks Indra Ghosh

Indra has been the Section's newsletter editor since 1999 – on and off. Replacement for him has been a struggle. Now finally, Julie Nelson has taken over from him. As an appreciation for his long service and contributions, President Aaron Meilleur presented Indra an ASCE watch on behalf of the board, after the Columbia Section luncheon meeting on April 20th, 2005, at Shilo Inn. Indra thanked Aaron for the appreciation, and said that he has enjoyed being the newsletter editor for the Section.