



American Society of Civil Engineers

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

# Columbia Section

Since October 10, 1950

## Newsletter

February 2011

### Columbia Section Board

Paul Smith  
**President**  
(509) 374-4248 (B)  
[Psmith@mackaysposito.com](mailto:Psmith@mackaysposito.com)

Chris Ells  
**Vice President and President Elect**  
(509) 783-2144 (B)  
[cells@jub.com](mailto:cells@jub.com)

Paul Knutzen  
**Secretary/Treasurer**  
[ptknutzen@meierinc.com](mailto:ptknutzen@meierinc.com)

Jay Marlow  
**Past-President**  
Phone: (509) 372-7206 (B)  
[imarlow@ci.richland.wa.us](mailto:imarlow@ci.richland.wa.us)

Justin Bellamy  
**Yakima Branch President**  
(509) 966-7000 (B)  
[jbellamy@hlacivil.com](mailto:jbellamy@hlacivil.com)

Bernard (Ben) W. Volk  
**Director- Tri-Cities**  
(509) 783-2144 (B)  
[bvolk@jub.com](mailto:bvolk@jub.com)

**Walla Walla Director** - Open

Dave Krumbein  
**Director-Pendleton/LaGrande**  
(541) 278-5748  
[DKRUMBEIN@Bluecc.edu](mailto:DKRUMBEIN@Bluecc.edu)

**Newsletter Editor** – Tom Szymoniak

Bernard (Ben) W. Volk  
**Historian**  
(509) 783-2144 (B)  
[bvolk@jub.com](mailto:bvolk@jub.com)

Donald P. Kurkjian  
**Webmaster**  
(509) 371-3489 (B)  
[DKurkjian@yahoo.com](mailto:DKurkjian@yahoo.com)

### Columbia Section Meeting

**Date:** February 16, 2011

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

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

**Topic:** **Challenging USAID Projects in Kabul, Afghanistan**

**Speaker:** **Ahmad Qayoumi – City of Pasco Public Works Director**

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

RSVP to: Chris Ells [cells@jub.com](mailto:cells@jub.com) (509)783-2144<sub>h</sub>

### President's Remarks:

Dear Members,

Well 2011 is well under way and ASCE is back in the swing of things. At the last meeting Tom Szymoniak, our section Newsletter Editor, made an announcement about the Engineers Without Borders meeting, and this month's meeting will focus on another opportunity civil engineers have for serving those in nations who do not have the benefit of the same quality of infrastructure.

Ahmad Qayoumi, the new City of Pasco Public Works Director, will give a presentation on his participation in USAID and International City/County Management Association programs to help the City of Kabul, Afghanistan with public works projects.

This presentation will provide insight into infrastructure needs in developing countries and will open our eyes to interesting and exciting opportunities to utilize our special knowledge base and skill set to help others less fortunate. It will also give us an opportunity to meet the newest public works director in the area. I hope to see you all there.

I hope to see you all next week.

**Paul Smith**

**ASCE Columbia Section President**

## ENGINEERS WEEK DINNER

We are inviting Engineers and Surveyors from Northeast Oregon and Southeast Washington to join 60 Technical Student Association high school students from local high schools at a dinner at Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton.

Date: Thursday, February 17, 2011 (Dinner at 6PM)

Place: The Student Union in Pioneer Hall

Speaker: Project Manager, Wildhorse Hotel

Topic: **Construction of a 10 story building in Eastern Oregon Challenges and Opportunities**

Dinner at 6:00 PM, the students will be competing in a series of competitions during the day and you are welcome to come by any time after 3 PM and watch the activities.

Cost: **The cost is \$ 15 dollars per person.** If you would like to sponsor an individual student that would be great. We want you to sit with the students and visit with them about their plans. If you would like to sponsor a table, for seven students and yourself the cost would be \$ 120.00 for a table of 8.

Contact: Dave Krumbein, P.E., P.L.S.

541/ 278-5748

david.krumbein@bluecc.edu



## Regional Science and Engineering Fair (NEED JUDGES)

We are now organizing the 56<sup>th</sup> annual Mid-Columbia Regional Science and Engineering Fair to be held March 10-12, 2011 at the Columbia Center Mall. The Mid-Columbia Science Fair Association (MCSFA) outreach is to grade 6-12 students in our region. MCSFA motivates students to excel in science and engineering and provides them constructive critique from working professionals to guide their development. MCSFA encourages middle school participation through focused and constructive judging and the awarding of science camp scholarships. Camp scholarships cost \$600 on average. Sponsors are needed to help support the program.

### 2010 Highlights:

- **258 participants and 112 volunteers from throughout region.**

All students spoke with at least three Fair judges for five or more minutes each. They awarded eight science camp scholarships to 6-8<sup>th</sup> grade first place winners. Senior division grand prizes were won by Shalini Ramanan, Hanford HS and Katrina Hui, Richland HS. We sent them and two observers to the International Fair in San Jose, CA where Shalini won 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Medicine & Health division and Katrina won 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Physics division plus two special awards. A huge success! Katrina also won special awards 1<sup>st</sup> from American Association of Physics Teachers and the American Physical Society and Award of Merit from Society of Exploration Geophysicists. Congratulations to all our participants and to you for your part in making this possible.

Please contact JF Brown at (509) 371-7729, or by e-mail at [JF.Brown@pnl.gov](mailto:JF.Brown@pnl.gov), for any further information or to volunteer at the 2011 Fair. Visit their website <http://www.mcsf.net/> which has information for students, teachers, the public, and recognizes our sponsors. ASCE Columbia Section has provided a donation to the Science Fair.

## **FUTURE CITY WINNERS**

The team from St. Patrick's School in Pasco won the Future City Competition in Seattle in January. They were mentored by Joe Roach, an engineer who works out in the 200 West Area of Hanford. Their teacher was Mrs. Katie Thornhill. Ben Volk from JUB mentored Three Rivers HomeLink from Richland and they placed 3rd out of 18 teams at the competition.

For the past 5 years, the ASCE Columbia Section has sponsored the winner of the Regional Future City Competition to compete at the National Competition.

## **Check us out on FACEBOOK**

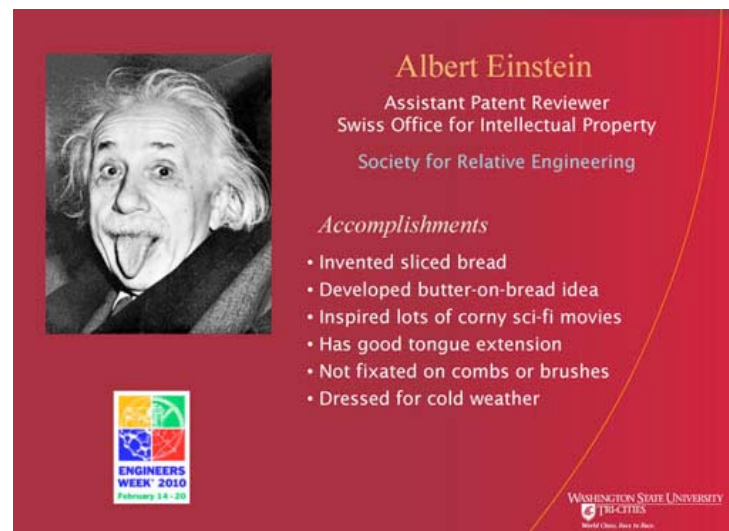
Paul Knutzen from Meir Engineering attended a ASCE workshop last month on communications. He came back with a lot of ideas. He has updated our website and put us on Facebook. We are seeking some volunteers to manage the website. Please contact Paul at 735-1589 if you are interested

## **TR-Cities Engineers Week**

**Reminder: Make reservations for the Tri-Cities Engineers Week Banquet by Feb. 15 -- contact [yan.shi@pnl.gov](mailto:yan.shi@pnl.gov) or [amy.qiao@pnl.gov](mailto:amy.qiao@pnl.gov)**

The National Engineers Week Foundation, a formal coalition of more than 75 professional societies, major corporations and government agencies, is dedicated to ensuring a diverse and well-educated future engineering workforce by increasing understanding of and interest in engineering and technology careers among young students and by promoting pre-college literacy in math and science. [Engineers Week](#) also raises public understanding and appreciation of engineers' contributions to society. Founded in 1951 by the National Society of Professional Engineers, it is among the oldest of America's professional outreach efforts. Co-chairs for this year's National Engineers Week are the IBM Corporation and the Chinese Institute of Engineers (CIE)-USA.

A highlight of the National Engineers Week locally is the annual Tri-Cities Engineers Week Banquet during which time we celebrate engineering as a profession, acknowledge the contributions of volunteers in helping Engineers Week activities, and present awards to deserving current and future professionals. The highlight of these awards is the awarding of the Tri-Cities Engineer of the Year by the Tri-Cities Chapter of the Washington Society of Professional Engineers (WSPE). Tri-Cities Engineer of the Year is a prestigious honor awarded to an engineer who contributed significantly as a practicing engineer and a member of the community during the past year.



**Albert Einstein**  
Assistant Patent Reviewer  
Swiss Office for Intellectual Property  
Society for Relative Engineering

*Accomplishments*

- Invented sliced bread
- Developed butter-on-bread idea
- Inspired lots of corny sci-fi movies
- Has good tongue extension
- Not fixated on combs or brushes
- Dressed for cold weather

ENGINEERS WEEK 2010  
February 14-20

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY  
TRI-CITIES  
World Class. Here It Begins.

This year's Tri-cities Engineers Week Banquet will be held at the Red Lion Hotel Hanford House, Richland, WA, on **Friday, February 22, 2008**. The featured speaker is Mr. Paul Kostek, IEEE-USA VP Communications and Public Awareness. He will be speaking on the impact of outsourcing on US innovation and the engineering profession. Mr. Kostek was the 2003 Chairman of the American Association of Engineering Societies (AAES) and the 1999 President of IEEE-USA. He has also served as a director of the Washington Aerospace Alliance and the 2000-2001 President of the IEEE Aerospace and Electronics Systems Society. You may download a <http://ewh.ieee.org/r6/richland/images/2008%20ebanquet%20poster.doc> for the event that you may wish to post in your office.

s