

Message from the President



Let me begin by wishing you the best for the New Year. Not quiet the hoopla of last year, however, on the plus side, the "M" word isn't spoken nearly as much (millennium for those not sure of the M word). By all indications, it looks like it will be another excellent year for our industry. We have been blessed with a good economy over the past several years resulting in a tremendous level of development and a need to improve the infrastructure of our communities. Additionally, with the focus on preserving communities and smart growth, civil engineers are being asked to look at projects in a different way.

Congratulations to Treasurer Tony Mawry for taking the lead in the development of the Baltimore Museum of Industry exhibit entitled "The Transportation Transformation". The exhibit was dedicated during our December meeting and will be on display for six months. A duplicate of the exhibit will also be on display in Annapolis. We owe a special thanks to the Maryland Department of Transportation for the

generous grant provided for the development of the exhibit. We also extend our appreciation to Liz Homer for her dedication to the success of the project. She was very influential in securing resources needed for the exhibit. This was a very time consuming effort for Tony for which he deserves a lot of credit. I believe visitors to the Museum will have a better understanding of how their quality of life has been improved by the accomplishments of Civil Engineers.

The Younger Member Committee will sponsor our meeting this month. Co-chairpersons Manda Cody and Amy Cole have arranged for Clarence Bishop, Senior Vice-President of the Washington Baltimore Regional 2012 Coalition to speak on the topic of the Olympics in Maryland. He is an excellent speaker who will provide an interesting discussion on the effort by the Committee to bring the Games to the Washington Baltimore region.

This is the time of year when our Awards Committee begins soliciting nominations for the Maryland Section Awards. Stuart Taub and Tony Fusco, co-chairpersons of the Committee, will be requesting nominations for the Civil Engineer of the Year, Young

Engineer of the Year, Outstanding Engineering Educator, Meritorious Service to Civil Engineering Profession, and the Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement for a Major Project and a Minor Project. We are very proud of the persons and projects receiving these awards in the past. As you receive the announcement letter from Stuart and Tony, I hope you'll have in mind deserving candidates for each category giving the Committee an opportunity to select the most worthwhile of the nominees.

I would like to thank several of our members for their response to my request to become active in the History and Heritage Committee. Matthew Fenton has generously agreed to become the Chairperson of the Committee. One of the tasks he hopes to undertake is working with the National Capital Section to have the Thomas Viaduct entered into the National Historic registry. Because my previous request was so successful, I thought I would try it again. For several years now, the Maryland Section has been attempting to develop a Strategic Plan in order to establish a vision for the future of our Section. National has recently completed

their latest version, which can be used as a model for the Sections to follow. What I learned during the session on Strategic Planning at the National Convention is that the individual chairing the planning effort should not be a member of the Board. The vision of the future should be independent of the immediate issues being addressed by the Board. If there is anyone who has experience in the process of strategic planning and is willing to help develop a plan, please call me at 410-728-2900. As with all of our committees, the work does not require an unreasonable amount of time and if we can get several people to serve on the committee, the individual effort becomes less.

Finally, many of you may have seen all or part of the PBS series called "Building Big". This was a sensational production sponsored by ASCE. The Maryland Section has ordered a copy of the video. If anyone would like to borrow the video to present at your office, school or at a community function, please contact me.

Best Wishes for a Terrific New Year

Michael Krupsaw
President

Section Announcements

Mercado Consultants, Inc. is pleased to announce that Cynthia S. Fink, P.E. has been promoted to Associate. Ms. Fink is a graduate of Purdue University. She joined the company in May 1997 and she has been a Professional Engineer since 1999.

Ms. Fink has contributed a very important role in the development and growth

of the company. She is in charge of the Civil Engineer Department.

Engineering Consulting Services, Inc. is pleased to announce Paul D. Pinkerton, Geophysical Manager for Geophysical Surveys, Vibration Analysis, and Non-Destructive Investigations has joined us in the Frederick, Maryland branch office.

BUILDING BETTER ENGINEERS

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Each time one of us becomes a new member of ASCE or renews our membership we are reminded of the numerous benefits we receive from ASCE. From insurance plans and great discounts, to access to news and many civil engineering publications, ASCE takes care of its members and keeps them abreast as to what is going on in our profession. However, there are some benefits that aren't expressed in any letters or advertisements, but are discovered through involvement in ASCE at the collegiate level.

Every year student chapters of ASCE sponsor regional competitions pitting different colleges and universities against one another in various activities. Some of the activities include balsa wood bridge, concrete beam, steel bridge, and concrete canoe. Each of these are used to promote young civil engineers into taking a more active role in ASCE and civil engineering. These projects give students the chance to take some classroom theory and apply it to real life civil engineering projects. They also allow students to develop the necessary skills for working as a team, along with improving the students' effective communication skills.

Throughout my undergraduate and graduate career at Clemson University (Clemson, SC), I was a very active member of the Clemson University student chapter of ASCE. In 1997 I entered a technical paper and presentation into our Regional competition and in this same year I participated in the concrete canoe competition. I was so excited and interested in the concrete canoe project that I continued my involvement through my undergraduate and graduate career until obtaining my Master's Degree in 2000. During those 3 years, I was fortunate enough to play a major role in concrete canoe teams that finished 11th and 3rd in the Nation, and I was co-project manager for two National Championship teams (1999 and 2000). The skills, knowledge, and experience I acquired by participating in this project were the things I could not find in the classroom and have substantially contributed in my development as a young engineer.

All the projects that were mentioned above are similar in many ways in the objectives and benefits introduced to the students. For those of you not familiar with the concrete canoe competition, the objective is for students to design, construct, market, and race a concrete canoe using the knowledge, skills and techniques acquired through their civil engineering curriculum. Students develop and conduct all the research, construct the project, as well as manage the entire project. Once the project is complete, students compete at a regional level and upon winning their region, are invited to compete at the National competition

sponsored by ASCE and Master Builder's. Here, some of the best and brightest young civil engineers compete for the concrete canoe National Title. At this competition, students market their canoe to a panel of judges, comprised of industry professionals, by submitting a technical report, giving a presentation on their product, and building an exhibit showing the entire project from concept to completion.

The competition is not just about being the concrete canoe National Champions. It's about developing better civil engineers to enter our profession. In the concrete canoe project, students are faced with the challenges of developing lightweight, reinforced concrete that is strong in flexural strength. Students spend months developing concrete mix designs and testing reinforced concrete composites with innovative reinforcement schemes to develop the lightest, strongest reinforced concrete. This research provides individuals with the opportunity to learn more about concrete properties and different concrete admixtures as well as develop a better understanding of some of the principles of reinforced concrete. During this time, research is also conducted on developing the best canoe shape, or hull design. For this research, students study the flow patterns around the canoe either in a wind tunnel with smoke or in a flume with water. In essence, the research part of this project focuses on developing a better understanding of basic concrete properties, reinforced concrete, and fluid mechanics.

Along with performing the research, students must also organize and manage the project as a true engineering and construction project. Each year project managers are selected and an organizational structure is established for managing the team. Individuals accepting leadership responsibilities are faced with the task of taking a group of individuals, all with different opinions, strengths, and weaknesses, and bringing them together to produce a quality product. Management must also take on the task of organizing the research and construction to stay on a set schedule and under a set budget, just like a regular construction project. Managing the project allows students to apply project management tools and techniques to keep students motivated and the project running more smoothly and efficiently.

Possibly the best benefit of the concrete canoe project is the opportunity for students to improve their communication skills. Communication is one of the biggest factors in the success and failure of the concrete canoe project. Because you are dealing with different individuals with varying ideas, opinions, and experience, communication is key to keeping most everybody happy and motivated. Individuals in management positions must be able to communicate with fellow students in regards to objectives, what is going on, where to go, and what to do during the project. Students also get the opportunity to develop a technical report and presentation describing the project from concept to completion. Many civil engineers write technical reports and present to clients on a daily basis. The concrete canoe project provides students with valuable experience in developing reports and giving presentations. The development of these communication skills stays with an engineer throughout their entire professional career.

One of the main reasons these type of student activities are successful and students are able to get the most out of the projects is due to support from our industry. Whether it is financial, material, or expertise, the help we as professionals can provide to these students

(continued on page 5)

January MD Section ASCE Newsletter Younger Member News

by Kelly Brennan, Younger Member Co-Chair
<http://www.asce.org/gsd/sections/mdasce/ym.htm>

What's Happening

Hope everyone had a happy holiday! We still don't have any volunteers for the activities committee yet! As before, if anyone is interested please contact Mandy Cody. You'll have the opportunity to meet other ASCE Younger Members and it's a great way to get out and get involved.

Several of the local ASCE Younger Members will be attending the Northeast Regional Younger Member Leadership Conference in Maine at the end of January. (Myself included). We'll have the opportunity to meet YMs from other local chapters and hopefully find some new ideas to bring back to Baltimore.

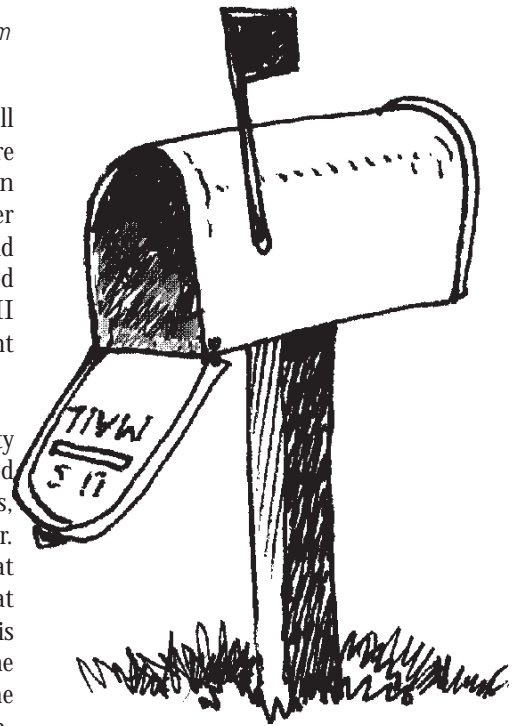
Younger Member Profile

This month's younger member profile is on Kristofer (Kris) Singleton. Kris is currently employed with Howard County DPW, Bureau of Environmental Services. He is an Environmental Project Manager and manages capital improvement projects such as landfill closures, landfill gas system improvements, and upgrading gas detection systems in an elementary school; manages Subtitle D compliance at the county's landfill; and he represents the Bureau on the Local Emergency Planning Committee. One of

his favorite projects is a new cut landfill improvement project which involves closure cap improvements, a landfill gas collection and destruction system, a groundwater pump and treat system, new roadways, and stormwater management. He has enjoyed the opportunity to work on Phase I and II site assessments of the Middle Patuxent Environmental Area.

Prior to working for the Howard County DPW, Kris was a member of the United States Army. He also worked at Macris, Hendricks and Witmer, P.A. as a surveyor. While at the University of Maryland at College Park (BSCE), Kris interned at Browning Ferris Industries. Some of his other college activities included starting the concrete toboggan team, working on the concrete canoe team, ROTC, and Chi Epsilon. Kris is currently working towards his Master's of Engineering degree at UMCP.

Kris has been actively involved in ASCE. He recently represented the MD YM forum at the 2000 ASCE conference in Seattle, Washington. While there, he attended numerous presentations and seminars in addition to accepting an award on behalf of MD section's Zone 1, Diamond Division leading member recruitment drive. He will also be attending the leadership conference in Maine this January.



In his free time, Kris enjoys running, biking, back-packing, and working around the house. He has volunteered for the Neighborhood Design Center project to evaluate environmental problems in three areas of southwest Baltimore targeted for revitalization. He has also been happily married to the lovely Eileen Singleton, P.E. for the past 4 years.

The ASCE Engineering News is a monthly publication, except July and August, published by the Maryland Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers and is provided free to Section, life and student members.

Comments or questions should be directed to the Editor.

Washington News & Notes

Clinton signs water resources projects bill into law.

President Clinton signed the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2000 into law on December 11th. This Act, Pub.L. 106-541, authorizes \$7 billion for flood control projects, navigation improvements, environmental protection and restoration efforts, and other water resources projects.

A key feature of the legislation authorizes the first stages of a plan for the Army Corps of Engineers to revitalize the Florida Everglades over the next 36 years. The Everglades plan is widely supported by federal, state, and local governments, and environmental, agricultural, and development groups.

The WRDA 2000 also includes provisions related to Corps of Engineers procedural and policy reforms. Among the reforms are National Academy of Sciences studies on independent peer review and project analysis of Corps projects, cost sharing based on sponsor's ability to pay, and monitoring of completed projects.

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(continued from page 2)



can make a difference. I have been fortunate enough during my time with the concrete canoe team to work with many wonderful people in the civil engineering profession. Without these individuals and their support, students from the Clemson Concrete Canoe Team might not have been able to take advantage of the benefits projects like this can offer.

As professionals in civil engineering, we have a lot to offer these young engineers. By getting involved with the activities that ASCE student chapters participate in, we are supporting and aiding in the development of better engineers. Support doesn't necessarily mean donating money or materials, it could be just attending the competitions and showing the students that professionals in the industry are interested in what today's civil engineering students are doing. It could also be speaking about various topics in civil engineering at student chapter meetings.

We also don't have to be limited to supporting programs strictly in the areas from which we work. During my time at Clemson University (Clemson, SC), Fox Industries, an admixture company in Baltimore, provided all the admixtures and expertise we needed to develop a concrete mix design. Looking at the big picture, it doesn't matter which school you graduate from, we are all civil engineers and the students in school today are the future of our profession. We need to keep student members of ASCE enthusiastic and active within the organization. Many times those students which are most active at the collegiate level, take on a very active role at the National level. Our support of the activities these young engineers participate in can only benefit our profession as well as ASCE.

NATIONAL ASCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Free National Student Membership

National ASCE Student Membership is now available free of charge! ASCE's members also voted to open membership up to students who wish to join ASCE National, but do not have a chapter or club at their school (those who have chapters or clubs still must be a member of them before joining National). And, as of January 1, 2001, a new online Student Community will debut. At this time, all services and resources provided to students will be available exclusively on ASCE's web site. This is aimed at providing a greater number of students with the latest and most complete civil engineering information available.

Although this student-based web site will not be completed until January, ASCE has already made changes to its web site, making it possible for students to sign-up for National membership or renew their existing membership online today!

Please spread the word about this opportunity to all civil engineering students. For further information about ASCE's new, free National Student Membership please send an e-mail to ocatlin@asce.org, or call Claudia Catlin, Coordinator for Student Member Services, Membership Division at 800-548-2723 ext. 6296.

Annual Deep Foundations Members Conference

The Deep Foundations Institute will be holding its 26th Annual Members Conference in St. Louis, Missouri on October 4-6, 2001. The conference will consist of technical presentations ranging in subjects both practical and theoretical relative to Deep Foundations Design and Construction, as well as subjects pertaining to the support of deep excavations. The conference will also be the site of several social functions including the annual awards banquet. The Distinguished Service Award and Outstanding Project Award will be presented at the banquet.

The purpose of the Annual Meeting will be to promote the understanding of deep foundations design and construction by providing a forum for the industry regardless of commercial or professional affiliation.

Further information may be obtained by contacting: The Deep Foundations Institute; 120 Charlotte Place - Third Floor; Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632; Phone: (201) 567-4232 • Fax: (201) 567-4436; E-mail: dfihq@dfi.org • website: www.dfi.org

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DATED MATERIAL INSIDE

**– MEETING NOTICE –
 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS**

Date: January 10, 2001
Time: 6:00 P.M. — Social Hour
 7:00 P.M. — Dinner
 8:00 P.M. — Meeting

Place: Engineering Society of Baltimore
 11 W. Mount Vernon Place

Speaker: Mr. Clarence T. Bishop, Senior Vice President
 Washington/Baltimore Regional 2012 Coalition

Program: Washington/Baltimore Regional Bid for the
 2012 Olympic Games

Abstract: The Washington/Baltimore Regional Coalition (WBRC) is working to win the right to host the Olympic Games in the year 2012. Mr. Clarence T. Bishop, Senior Vice President of WBRC, will present the efforts of the group in the international competition for the games. Information on the necessary infrastructure changes in the Washington/Baltimore region will be discussed, which should be of interest to all disciplines in civil engineering.

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Non-Members:	\$35.00
Non-Dues Paying Members (MD Section):	\$35.00
Students:	\$14.00

Reservations: _____ (Total Members & Guests)

- Reservations will be considered firm and billed unless cancelled by not later than Monday noon prior to meeting.
- Cancellations must be submitted via mail or fax.
- Reservations can only be held until 6:45 p.m.
- Seats will be available for dinner after 6:45 on a first-come first-serve basis.
- If you are unable to attend dinner, you are welcome to attend the meeting at 8:00 p.m.
- Checks should be made payable to:

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- All reservations and cancellations should be sent to:

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 Attention: Ms. Stephanie Hill

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Guests: _____

Mail, fax or email by: January 8, 2001, 12:00 noon

FUTURE MEETING DATES:
 February 14, 2001
 March 14, 2001