

The Bulletin

ASCE / North Carolina Section Volume 44 No. 3 Jan. / Feb. 2008

Mark your Calendar:

E-Week, Feb. 17-23

Spring Technical Session
NCSU McKimmon Center
Raleigh, April 28

NC Section Annual Meeting
Marriott Executive Park
Charlotte, Sept. 11-12

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PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Jeffrey Coonse, PE

Congratulations to the North Carolina Section for winning the 2007 Outstanding Very Large Section Award and for winning the best State Public Affairs Grant (SPAG) award. The 2007 SPAG award was given for the outstanding statewide radio ad campaign supporting E-week. Jason Reeves, PE, the 2007 Board and our members were very active within our community, reaching out to members, legislators and the public.



We have an opportunity to build on the successes of 2007. The NC Section has been awarded the full SPAG grant for 2008 to sponsor a statewide newsprint campaign advocating for increased infrastructure funding in North Carolina. The newsprint ad campaign will be coupled

Please go to <http://eweek.fi.ncsu.edu/> to become a part of the team.

with letters to the editor and op-ed submissions by our members throughout the state. We are also quickly approach E-week, a time when you can go into the schools to encourage students to consider careers in Math and Science. Jason Philbin, PE will be leading E-week again this year. Please go to <http://eweek.fi.ncsu.edu/> to become a part of the team.

We all look forward to a productive and successful 2008!

PROBLEM CORNER

There are 9 uniquely numbered bags of sand, 1-9, arranged in the following fashion:

2 7 8 1 5 6 3 9 4

Multiply the single digit with the double digit on each respective side to obtain the triple digit number: $2 * 78 = 156$ and $4 * 39 = 156$. Using the same logic, move as few of the bags as possible to create a new solution. Please send your answer to Keith Rines, McDonough Bol-yard Peck, 3101 Poplarwood Ct., Raleigh, NC 27604.



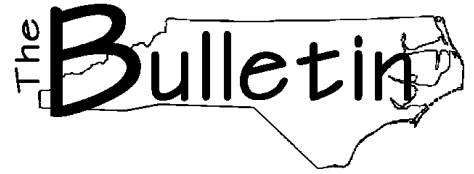
Student Chapter Update

The student chapter at UNC Charlotte has completed another successful semester.

To support the community, this November the student chapter had approximately a dozen of its members participate in framing a home for Habitat for Humanity. The students will return in January to hang drywall in the home.

The 49ers also showed their spirit when more than 20 volunteers represented the student chapter at their annual Lowes Motor Speedway fundraiser.

Bi-weekly meetings hosted speakers from LandDesign, Blythe Construction, HDR Engineering, and the Peace Corps on various topics including sustainable design and building, risk and innovation, and water treatment plant design.



Editor: RD Odell, PE
 421 Fayetteville St., Suite 1303
 Raleigh, NC 27601
 Email: nc.asce.bulletin@earthlink.net
Section Website: <http://nc.asce.org>

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 Terracon
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 Voice 919.873.2211
 Fax 919.873.9555
 Email ljhoffman@terracon.com

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Member
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Michael W. Johnson, P.E.
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Fax 336.855.5648

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Arden, NC 28704

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Fax 828.684.7334

Email jgarner@schnabel-eng.com

Member Profile

Elizabeth (Betty) A. Farr, PE

Elizabeth (Betty) A. Farr, PE, has been an active ASCE member with the NC Northern Branch of the ASCE for more than 11 years, beginning during her first years of attendance at NC A&T State University in 1996 as a civil engineering student. Since then, she has volunteered as an officer in addition to handling the newsletter editor position through most of those years. She has had the opportunity to work with many different ASCE members over the years who, like Betty, have contributed much time and energy to promote the Civil Engineering profession through ASCE. In addition to serving as the newsletter editor, Betty serves as the Scholarship Committee Chairperson, promoting timely engineering topics for scholarship essays, reading essays and promoting the Northern Branch ASCE scholarship process for the last four (4) years. She feels the rising engineering students have a lot to contribute by way of fresh ideas and enthusiasm. And this is one way to help those with initiative to not only discuss current issues, but also earn financial support at the same time. The Branch scholarships are awarded at a local Northern Branch ASCE meeting and excerpts from the scholarship applications are read and discussed.



Betty has undergraduate and graduate degrees from NC A&T State University in Civil and Environmental Engineering and is a licensed professional engineer in North Carolina. She also has two Associate's degrees, one in Horticulture Technology and the other in Architecture Technology and she is a NC Certified Plant Professional. In addition, her expertise covers a broad range of experience including: all aspects of site development design, permitting, sediment and erosion control, horticulture consultation, tree preservation, environmental investigation, stormwater bio-retention design, stream restoration/relocation, tree surveys, landscape designs, construction administration, wetland design, storm water management, presentations, hydrologic and hydraulic analysis and design, construction drawings and specifications and creative marketing.

With her background in Horticulture, she is in a unique position to look at projects from a plant preservation standpoint as well as a water resources and site development engineering point of view. One of Betty's civil site projects for the Moses Cone Hospital in Greensboro recently received the 2006 "Greening Greensboro" award for utilizing a unique approach for the preservation of mature trees while designing the site to maximize its use and still meet development requirements. She now works at JEWELL Engineering Consultants, based in Kernersville, NC, a company that provides Water Resources Services for local governments, individuals and commercial and industrial clients throughout the Piedmont Triad area as well as across North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia. She is pleased about the current trend toward using a "green" approach to site development, construction and other environmental issues. She has been working in that direction for many years and is very happy to see communities and individuals now also moving in that direction.

Betty returned to school and became an engineer at an age when some women (and men too) may feel it could be too late in their life to start obtaining an advanced education. But, she has enjoyed it immensely and encourages others to try it, at any age! She also appreciates the value of the ASCE organization and has enjoyed meeting and working with fellow Civil Engineers while promoting and highlighting the civil engineering profession. She says "they are a great bunch of people". Her favorite hobbies are gardening and following her children's activities that include Arabian horses and automobile technology. She and her husband, Bob reside in Pfafftown, NC.

Project Highlight by Jesse Jacobson, PE, of S&ME, Inc.

Ginn Laurelmor

The mountains of Western North Carolina have become a popular place to retire in recent years. A number of large retirement communities are in various stages of planning, development and construction throughout the western part of the state. One of the premier developments of this type is Ginn Laurelmor near Boone, North Carolina, a 6,300 acre development with over 1,500 proposed lots and over 50 miles of roads. The centerpiece of this development will boast a Tom Kite Signature Golf Course, chalets and condominiums, and an upscale clubhouse and spa. These amenities have been designed and incorporated around a 16 acre lake, to be used as a fire safety water supply, golf course irrigation, and as a golf course water feature. S&ME, Inc. and Schnabel Engineering South, P.C. have been retained by Ginn to design the dam and reservoir.


The proposed dam will be approximately 550 feet long and will be constructed of roller compacted concrete (RCC) to a

maximum height of approximately 125 feet. Based on the height of the dam and the downstream hazards, the dam will be categorized by the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources as a Very Large, High-Hazard Dam. The dam will have a crest width of approximately 18 feet and a vertical upstream face. The downstream face of the dam will have a vertical chimney section approximately 22 feet high with a 0.8 horizontal to 1.0 vertical stepped downstream face.

Due to the high head pressure, the results of in-situ hydraulics testing, the small watershed (~82 acres), and the stringent criteria with regards to the acceptable lake level, a liner system will be required for the reservoir. The liner design is anticipated to consist of a textured LLDPE geomembrane underlain by select fill, and in some cases cushioned by a non-woven geotextile.

The project design is currently underway. Construction is expected to begin in the Fall of 2008 and be completed in 2009.

MOVING YOU FORWARD



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Volunteers Needed!

This is the time of year when the Section and Branches are searching for volunteers. Members are needed to fill Board and Committee positions all over the state. If you want to be more involved, and more informed about what YOUR Society is doing, contact a member of the Section Board or your Branch Board and find out what positions need to be filled. Whether you can give a one-time 2-hour commitment or volunteer for an hour every week, there's a job you can fill.

Important Notice about *The Bulletin*

The Section Board of Directors is considering the possibility of producing *The Bulletin* in electronic format only (available via email or in pdf format from the Section website).

Please send your opinion (or at least a Yes or No vote) via email to: nc.asce.vote@earthlink.net, or by mail to the Editor of *The Bulletin*. If you've already sent a response on this subject, there's no need for another one.

It may be possible to produce and mail a few paper copies for those who don't have access to the internet. Please watch for updates in future issues of *The Bulletin* and in email notices from your local Branch.

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Branch News

The Southern Branch wrapped up 2007 with a December meeting at the Government Center in Charlotte's center city. The meeting was well-attended, with over 60 members and guests. The topic for the meeting was on Load Testing of Shallow Foundations, and was presented by Dr. Brian Anderson, a professor at the UNC-Charlotte.

The Southern Branch is currently taking an active role in Engineers Week activities, coming up on February 17 through 23. The Southern Branch has allotted \$500 to support E-Week activities, including supplies and give-aways to take into middle school classrooms. We hope to exceed last years total of volunteers to help spread the word about the exciting challenges and careers of engineers to our youngsters. The theme for this year is "Engineers Make a World of Difference." Other events coming up this spring include another stream cleanup as part of the Adopt-A-Stream program for Little Sugar Creek Greenway. The date for our primary fundraiser, our ASCE golf tournament, has also been set as May 9, 2007 at the Birkdale Golf Club in Huntersville, North Carolina.

The Western Branch held our November meeting on November 29th at the Asheville Design Center, which was jointly hosted by AIA Asheville. We had an excellent turnout of ASCE members, as well as architects and other designers from the local community. The meeting was intended to promote open discussions about good community-focused design practices and processes, with an emphasis on the I-26 connector project in Asheville. Joe Minicozzi gave a presentation on the status of the I-26 connector and an update on the progress of the Asheville Design Center. One PDH was awarded.

Our December meeting was held on December 18 at La Paz restaurant. At this meeting, we collected unwrapped toys for our annual Toys For Tots donation. Thanks to all who attended and donated toys, as we had an impressive collection of toys to help those who are less fortunate this holiday season. The presentation was given by Cynthia Barcklow, Buncombe County Floodplain Administrator, who discussed the progress of the Buncombe County Floodplain Mapping program. We also heard from Cheryl Alderman, the Associate Director of NCSU Engineering Programs at UNCA, who spoke about engineering education opportunities at UNC Asheville through NC State. We had approximately 30 attendees, and one PDH was awarded.

We are looking forward to our annual E-Week Banquet on February 21st, which will be a joint meeting with the other local engineering societies. The location and presentation topic for this meeting is also to be announced.

The Northern Branch planning meeting was held on December 12, 2007 in Kernersville, NC. Topics discussed included upcoming newsletters, upcoming meeting topics and the Carolinas Conference.

The November branch meeting was held on November 15, 2007 at the Fire Mountain Grill in Kernersville. The topic was GIS and Engineering. Micah Cullough,

GISP, of ARCADIS presented to 27 members representing 17 organizations. Specific subjects included the use of GIS to enhance the collection and organization of geospatial data. 1 PDH was awarded.

The date is fast approaching when North Carolina A&T will host the 2008 Carolinas Conference on March 27-29. Branch members are being encouraged to assist with the Branch sponsored event. The Board members are planning to assist with the Meade paper submissions. Dr. Huynh is the contact for any questions.

Branch members have been actively involved in planning and mentoring for both the Curious George Let's Build (K-1st grade) and Future City (6th-8th grade) outreach programs. Scarlett Kitts is spearheading the Future City event and Stephen Lacz presented a lesson on tools and building to 80 eager kindergartners at Greensboro Academy.

The Eastern Branch November meeting was held on November 15th at the Holiday Inn Brownstone in Raleigh. The speaker was Greg Lucier, Research Engineer, NCSU Constructed Facilities Laboratory. His presentation was entitled "Observations from the I-35 Bridge Collapse and Innovations for Bridge Sustainability." We had 95 members and non-members attend the meeting. One PDH was awarded.

A new toy collection drive to benefit Toys for Tots was conducted during the holiday season. Eastern Branch members and others contributed just over 200 toys to the Salvation Army this past December.

Andy Batts represented the Eastern Branch at the 2008 Regions 1/2/4/5 Workshop for Section and Branch Leaders in Baltimore, MD. The Eastern Branch also sent Dave Lubitz as a representative to the Younger Member portion of the workshop.

If you are interested in volunteering time to work for the promotion of your profession in civil engineering, please contact one of the Eastern Branch board members. Our contact information is in this issue of *The Bulletin* on page 3 and on our website.

Golf Tournament

Presented by the Eastern Branch
to benefit the NC Section Scholarship Fund
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Rates are posted on the website at
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Deadlines for submissions are listed in the calendar on the back cover.

Career Opportunities

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Position reports to the North Satellite Office in Cornelius, NC and will primarily serve the towns of Huntersville, Cornelius and Davidson.

Pay range is \$59,784-\$78,466. To apply, go to <http://www.charmeck.org/Departments/Human+Resources+County/Apply+Online.htm>, Job Opening No. 3411



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|------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|------|------|------|-------|
| Section BOD | | 8 | | 10 | 13 | | | | | | | |
| Coastal | | | | 8 | | | | | | | | |
| Eastern | 18 | 15 | | 17 | 21 | 20 | 17 | 15 | | 17 | | 18 |
| Northern | | 15 | | 23 | | | | | | | | |
| Southern | 16 | 26 | 17 | | | | | | | | | |
| Western | 18 | 29 | 20 | 24 | | | | | | | | |
| Bulletin Deadline | 31 | | 31 | | 29 | | 30 | | 30 | | 31 | |