



# Tacoma/Olympia Section Civil Engineer THE NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2006

## Honors & Awards

Program:

*Low Impact Development*

presented by:

Doreen Gavin, P.E., AHBL

Len Zickler, AICP, AHBL

Tuesday, April 11th

Norman Worthington  
Conference Center  
Saint Martin's University  
5300 Pacific AV SE, Lacey WA  
360.491.4700

Dinner menu: Orange glazed  
chicken, garden salad, rolls &  
butter, fruit, pasta or rice salad,  
vegetables and gourmet dessert.

5:30pm Social  
6:00pm Dinner  
6:30pm Program

Price \$20

\*Students half price

### Reservations:

Please RSVP by  
Friday, April 7th  
Contact Kay Hoke at  
[khoke@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:khoke@cityoftacoma.org)  
or 253.591.5760

## Sustainable Site Design: A Low Impact Approach

AHBL is collaborating with Puget Sound jurisdictions to develop low impact development standards for their communities. Low Impact Development (LID) is an environmentally sensitive approach to land development and stormwater management that is designed to preserve the land's natural hydrologic conditions. LID strives to mimic nature by minimizing impervious surface infiltrating stormwater through biofiltration and bioretention facilities, retaining contiguous forested areas, and maintaining the character of the natural hydrologic cycle.



*Meadow on the Hylebos*

As a result of this collaboration, AHBL is involved in a LID pilot housing project, the *Meadow on the Hylebos*, a partnership between Pierce County and a private developer. AHBL is also applying low impact development techniques to site design for Peninsula Metro Park's *Sehmel Homestead Park*. AHBL principals, [Len Zickler](#) & [Doreen Gavin](#) will present information about LID, focusing on how it can protect and restore our communities from the effects of sprawl and deterioration of the environment utilizing the *Meadow on the Hylebos* and *Sehmel Homestead Park* as case studies. They will also touch on how these techniques can be applied to the new requirements in stormwater design.

### Speakers:

[Doreen Gavin, P.E., LEED AP, Principal, Civil Engineer, AHBL](#)



Doreen Gavin, a principal of AHBL is responsible for planning, designing and management of civil engineering projects. In her 26 years of experience, she has worked on a wide variety of projects, including schools, higher education facilities, civic structures, and retail developments. Doreen has presented projects to E&A Services, architects, and school districts. Her notable sustainable projects include: Northgate Library, Community Center & Urban Park; Washington State Light Industrial Park; Eastside Catholic High School; and Homestead Park Low Impact Development Site Design.

[Len Zickler, AICP, ASLA, LEED AP, Principal, Planner, Landscape Architect, AHBL](#)



Len Zickler, a principal of AHBL, has over 30 years of experience as a planner and landscape architect. Over the past few years, Len has assisted Washington area jurisdictions, including Pierce County, Olympia and the Puget Sound Action Team, in the development of Low Impact Development (LID) policies and guidelines. He recently worked with a private developer on Washington's first entitled LID pilot housing project, *Meadow on the Hylebos*. He presented this project at Greenbuild International Conference and Expo in 2003.



Sue Coffman  
Tacoma/Olympia  
Section President

Well, spring is here and many of us are busy with spring cleaning and maintenance for our houses. By doing that, we can increase our home's resale value and longevity. Speaking of longevity, at this month's meeting we will be honoring our **Life Members**. This year we have two members who have achieved this status. Life Member status is an honor

awarded to members who have made a lifetime commitment to ASCE and the civil engineering profession by remaining membership for the full length of their career.

You are probably wondering right now what it takes to become a Life Member. To obtain Life Member status, ASCE Members, Associate Members and Affiliate Members must have:

- Reached the age of 65 years
- Paid dues in any membership grade except student member for 30 years
- Had 10 years continuous membership immediately preceding the attainment of Life Member

So you're probably wondering what's so great about attaining Life Member status? Well, when you reach your Life year, you will become exempt from paying membership dues. And, your very own Tacoma-Olympia ASCE section treats you to a free dinner for you and a guest at our April meeting. Now that's something to look forward to!

A little reminder for everyone—we have annual board member elections this month. Your ballot has been included in this month's newsletter. Please don't forget to send in your vote. 

Best Regards,

Sue Coffman

Tacoma-Olympia Section President

 Articles from  
**ASCE.ORG**  
[www.asce.org](http://www.asce.org)

## New Leadership Forum To Advise ASCE in Facing Broad Civil Engineering Challenges

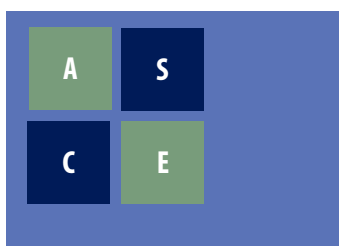
ASCE is pleased to announce the founding of the Civil Engineering Forum for Innovation (CEFI). Expanding on the mission of the former Civil Engineering Research Foundation's Corporate Advisory Board, the new Forum will bring together leaders from industry, academia and government to define realistic options and progressive strategies to strengthen the profession and industry through technical innovation and public policy. ASCE believes that through this Forum, senior leaders within industry will become closely engaged in strategic actions on behalf of ASCE's mission.

» To read more go to [www.asce.org](http://www.asce.org)

## IPET Releases Preliminary Findings for 17th Street Canal Levee Breach

The team conducting the Federal performance assessment of the New Orleans hurricane protection system released the second of its four scheduled reports, Status and Interim Results. The 700-page report, issued during a meeting between the Interagency Performance Assessment Team, led by the US Army of Corps of Engineers, and the ASCE External Review Panel, includes a preliminary finding on the cause of the breach at the 17th Street Canal levee. This levee is among those that breached before reaching its design capacity.

» To read more go to [www.asce.org](http://www.asce.org) 



Engineers Make  
The Difference—  
They Provide the Quality of Life!

Civil Engineer Newsletter is published monthly from September to May for the Tacoma/Olympia Sections of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

To submit ads or articles of interest please contact the President of the section or the Editor. Information must be submitted not later than the 15th of the month to be included in the next publication.

*For address changes/corrections, notify the Editor or the WEBmaster.*

See Your AD  
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Post a business card sized ad in our newsletter for \$200 per year. If you are interested, please contact:

Sue Coffman  
253.594.7905  
[suecoffman@tyotacoma.org](mailto:suecoffman@tyotacoma.org)

## Celebrating New Life Members

### John Adsit

John was born in 1933 and raised in Whitewater, Wisconsin by his mother, her only child. In high school he was president of the senior class, and on the student council. At the University of Wisconsin in Madison where he studied Metallurgical Engineering, he was president of Chi Psi Fraternity. After receiving his Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) commission in 1956 he joined the Army's 11th Airborne Division in Germany. While in Munich John met and married Nancy Philbin in 1959, which he claims to be the best decision he ever made. John and Nancy had two sons, John and Dan. John is an attorney in Los Angeles and Dan directs Ford Motor Company's North American Recycle Program.

John decided to stay in the Army, integrating into the Regular Army. While serving along the 38th paral-

lel in Korea in 1963, his company was awarded the Ischner Award, the best Army engineering company worldwide. John served two tours in Germany, two in Korea, and one in Vietnam. He received a below the zone promotion to Lieutenant Colonel and later was promoted to Colonel. He attended the Army's Command and General Staff College and Army War College. While in the service he received a degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Missouri at Rolla and later returned to the University of Wisconsin to complete his Masters in Civil Engineering. He was a licensed Professional Engineering in Missouri and California and retains an active license in Washington.

Prior to leaving the service he commanded the San Francisco District Corps of Engineers and was the Deputy Chief of Staff Engineer for the Army's Training and Doctrine

Command at Fort Monroe, Virginia. Among his military awards are the Legion of Merit w/Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal w/Oak Leaf Cluster, Air Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal.

After leaving the military with 24 years service in 1981, John Directed Metcalf & Eddy's Far East Division in Bangkok, Thailand where he managed the company's \$120 million water supply program. Upon completion of the program and his contract, he returned to the U.S. where he was named Dean of Engineering at Saint Martin's University and Administered the Department of Corrections Prison Construction Program for nine years.

In 1998, he retired from the State of Washington and became a consultant. He now is happily supporting Nancy's piano teaching passion.

## Celebrating New Life Members

### Gary Emerson Culmer Minns

Gary was born in Nassau, Bahamas where he enjoyed the beautiful beaches, sunshine and an excellent education at Government High School where Gary took advanced courses to successfully pass the Cambridge Higher School Certificate.

He worked a year at ESSO Standard Oil where he refueled planes, unloaded oil from tankers and worked in accounting. When scholarships were offered to him, Gary left ESSO to study Civil Engineering at the University of Florida. There, Gary's relationship with ASCE began over 43 years ago. He achieved advanced placement because of the Cambridge Certificate. Taking the maximum classes per semester Gary completed the 5 year Bachelor of Civil Engineering program in a little over 3 years.

He graduated in the summer of 1963 at a time when Science and Engineering degrees were in demand. Several job offers were the norm and Gary chose the offer from the Washington State Department of Transportation to design bridges and structures. He had planned to move to Australia after getting his professional licenses but soon fell in love with all Washington had to offer. He currently designs bridges and other structures for the WSDOT and enjoys the work. Gary has worked on steel, concrete, wood, railroad and floating bridges.

He enjoys sailing, rugby, soccer, mountain climbing, hiking, coaching and refereeing. Now, he participates at a more leisurely level with his 3 grandchildren.

Music, drama, opera and arts continue to be a passion. Gary is fascinated by the structure of languages and communication. He sees himself

a patron of the arts, and as one who enjoys living and who is fortunate to be a life member of the ASCE.

## Section Calendar

Section Meetings are open and held once a month, September through May. Meetings are **generally held** on the **second Tuesday** of the month. Locations alternate between Tacoma and Lacey, and times vary between lunch and dinner meetings.

### 2006 Section Meetings:

#### DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

**May 9, 11:30 am-2:00pm**—tour of the Tacoma Narrows bridge by WSDOT engineers Eric Ostfeld and Dennis Engel.

**\*DATE/TIMES/LOCATIONS ARE TO BE VERIFIED**

Local Board Meetings are open and **generally held** the **first Monday of the month** at 5:30pm. Locations vary. Please check the WEB site, this calendar, or contact the president for confirmation.

**Board Meetings:**  
**Monday April 3 5:30pm Tacoma,**  
**location to be announced**

<http://sections.asce.org/tacoly/tacoly.htm>

### See Your AD Here!

#### Advertise in our newsletter!

Post a business card sized ad in our newsletter for \$200 per year. If you are interested, please contact:

**Sue Coffman 253.594.7905**  
[sue.coffman@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:sue.coffman@cityoftacoma.org)

## TRANSPEED Courses

The TRANSPEED Schedule Below is a list of the upcoming courses.

**Please view our website at**  
<http://www.engr.washington.edu/epp/Transpeed/index.html> for specific course descriptions and dates. Click on the specific course link to view the course outline. or contact:

\*\*\*\*\*

**Christy Pack**  
TRANSPEED Program Manager  
UW Engineering Professional Programs  
10303 Meridian Ave N #301  
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1-866-791-1275 toll free  
direct 206-543-5539 206-543-2352 FAX  
croop@u.washington.edu

**See the website at**  
<http://www.engr.washington.edu/epp/Transpeed/index.html> for more.

## 2006 Winter/Spring Professional Development Short Courses

For a complete description of the course and registration information visit our website <http://www.engr.washington.edu> or call us at: Engineering Professional Programs, University of Washington, phone: 206.543.5539 (fax) 206-543-2352 or (toll free) 1.866.791.1275

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## Continuing Ed

In our continuing effort to enhance communications between ASCE's Sections, Branches and ASCE National, Geographic Services is pleased to advise you of the following seminars scheduled in your geographic area from April through September 2006:

**May 4-5, 2006 Seattle, WA**  
Structural Condition Assessment of Existing Structures

**June 8-9, 2006 Portland, OR**  
Design of Waste Containment Liner & Final Closure Systems

**June 14-16, 2006 Seattle, WA**  
Introduction to the Design & Construction of Tunnels

**June 22-23, 2006 Portland, OR**  
Dam Safety and Rehabilitation

**July 20-21, 2006 Portland, OR**  
Post Tensioning Construction & Design

**August 10-11, 2006 Portland, OR**  
Design and Renovation of Wood Structures

**August 24-25, 2006 Seattle, WA**  
Structural Renovation of Buildings

**September 13-15, 2006 Seattle, WA**  
HEC-RAS Computer Workshop

**September 28-29, 2006 Seattle, WA**  
Residential Land Development Practices

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These in-depth, practice-oriented programs are produced by ASCE's Continuing Education Department and may be of interest to many ASCE members in your Sections and Branches. We would greatly appreciate if you would consider posing information on these seminars in your newsletters and on your websites.

Detailed descriptions of the seminars (by title) are available on ASCE's website at [www.asce.org/conted/seminars](http://www.asce.org/conted/seminars).

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Kelly Jarvis, Continuing Education Registrar at [kjarvis@asce.org](mailto:kjarvis@asce.org) or Michael Cook at [mcook@asce.org](mailto:mcook@asce.org).



Tacoma/Olympia Section Board **2005 - 2006**

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**We're on the web!**

<http://sections.asce.org/tacoly/tacoly.htm>