

# CIVIL ENGINEER



T H E N E W S L E T T E R

Tacoma ♦ Olympia Section of the  
American Society of Civil Engineers



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**CIVIL ENGINEERS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE!  
THEY PROVIDE THE QUALITY OF LIFE!**

The **Civil Engineer Newsletter** is published for the Tacoma/Olympia Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers monthly from September to June.

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 prior to publication.

For address changes and corrections, contact the Editor.

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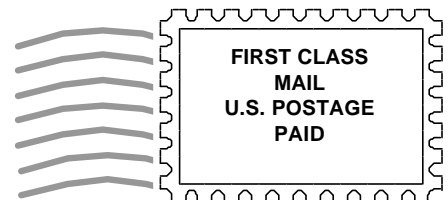
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**CIVIL ENGINEER  
The NEWSLETTER**

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# JUNE MEETING

## LUNCH MEETING

**Tuesday  
June 8, 1999**

Worthington Center,  
St. Martin's College, Olympia

Social: 11:30 AM

Lunch: 11:50

Program 12:20

The program is free to all. The lunch cost is \$15.00 for members, students, half-price.

### Environmental Remediation of the DuPont Works Manufacturing Plant

**Speaker:** Jim Odendahl, Weyerhaeuser  
From 1906 to 1975, the DuPont Works operated as a manufacturing plant, producing explosives for the mining, construction, and logging industries that helped build the West. The E.I. duPont de Nemours & Company operated the plant and built the company town of DuPont.

Today, Weyerhaeuser owns the former works property. Together, the Weyerhaeuser and DuPont companies, under the direction of Washington State Department of Ecology, are actively involved in the cleanup of the industrial waste left on the site when the works was decommissioned.

Initially, the site was investigated and assessed by an environmental engineering firm. Based on this work and samples from the soil and groundwater, the DuPont Works Cleanup Project isolated an 841-acre cleanup site within the 3,000 acre tract formerly known as the DuPont Works.

The cleanup site was divided into two parcels, Parcel 1 with 636 acres and Parcel 2 with 205 acres. Parcel 2 has been cleaned up to meet industrial land use requirements and will be developed by Weyerhaeuser Real Estate Company. Parcel 1 is still being remediated. Arsenic and lead are the primary contaminants remaining on the site. Residues of petroleum hydrocarbons, and traces of explosives were found. Most were found at the surface of the soil. Nothing on-site today poses a risk of explosion or fire. The decision has been made to construct a cap to remediate the contaminated soils on site which will result in a golf course .

The City of DuPont's water supply remains safe. Water wells are 9,000 feet away from the site and no chemical residues have been found in any drinking water. The site poses no threat to the surrounding community. Weyerhaeuser and DuPont are dedicated to cleaning the entire site to meet the state environmental standards.

Jim Odendahl of Weyerhaeuser will give us an overview of the project and it's current status.

### Reservations

Reservations for lunch are important. Please call Connie Linden at (253) 383-2422 or Mark Leingang (360) 754-9339 by the close of business, Friday, June 4, 1999\*. This will let us tell the cooks how many to expect. You can also make reservations by E-mailing Mark at MLeingang@MSN.com

Members with reservations who do not attend will be billed.

**\*NOTE: If you aren't able to call in your reservation by the deadline and you find you will be able to attend, please call anyway. It's better to call late than to just show up because we can let the restaurant know and add another seat.**

### Results of 1999-2000 Board of Directors Election!!

This slate will take office in October, 1999

PRESIDENT: Kathy Hargrave

PAST PRESIDENT: Jim Brigham

PRESIDENT ELECT: Richard Swanson

SECRETARY: Scott Sawyer

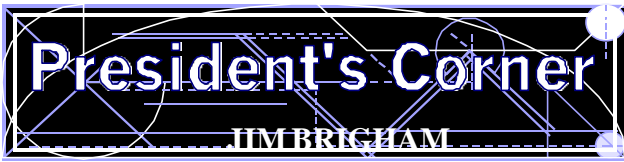
TREASURER: Brian Matthews

DIRECTOR (1 year): Michael Hale

DIRECTOR (2 years): Chris Beckman

NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Kristina Nelson, Rebecca Vader, & Craig Olsen



Well, it's finally June (almost). I am sitting here on Memorial Day Friday wondering why I am one of the few people at work - but hey, somebody has to hold down the fort.

### Election

Results are in for our new slate of officers; no surprises, we have a great team for next year. Plan ahead to come to the October meeting and give these people a nice welcome during their installation.

### Lunch in Olympia

This month we are trying something new (again). It's our first LUNCH meeting Olympia. Our topic is also new as Jim Odendahl of Weyerhaeuser will speak to us about the Environmental remediation of the old DuPont Manufacturing works. This plant once made explosives, among other things, so this should be a dynamite topic. Did I really write that? Sorry. It's obviously time for summer break. Anyway, the logistics of environmental remediation are not easy, and the people dealing with these issues deserve our support in returning brown fields to productive use. Please come welcome Jim and help make our first Olympia Lunch meeting a success.

Now it's for summer break. I wish you a wonderful, restful, enjoyable, loong summer, even though we all know it will be over in a flash. This September we are planning a landslide speaker and field trip, so stay tuned. Details in the September Newsletter.

Until then,



### Feedback

Your feedback is always welcomed and can only make this newsletter and your President more useful. Please address questions, comments, statements, and opinions to JBrigham@GeoEngineers.com

Hope you enjoy the Engineer Joke (sent to me by my brother, a software engineer)

Jim Brigham, President  
Tacoma Olympia Section  
JBrigham@GeoEngineers.com

### GENESIS

A physician, a civil engineer, and a software engineer were arguing about what was the oldest profession in the world.

The physician remarked, 'Well, in the Bible, it says that God created Eve from a rib taken out of Adam. This clearly required surgery, and so I can rightly claim that mine is the oldest profession in the world.'

The civil engineer interrupted, and said, 'But even earlier in the book of Genesis, it states that God created the order of the heavens and the earth from out of the chaos. This was the first and certainly the most spectacular application of civil engineering. Therefore, fair doctor, you are wrong, mine is the oldest profession in the world.'

The software engineer leaned back in his chair, smiled, and then said confidently, 'Ah, but who do you think created the chaos?'

### Book Review

*Ship of Gold in the Deep Blue Sea*

by Gary Kinder; ISBN: 0375703373

This book was recommended to me by our office manager, Terry Parks. From Amazon.com:

The facts speak for themselves. In 1857, the Central America, a sidewheel steamer ferrying passengers fresh from the gold rush of California to New York and laden with 21 tons of California gold, encountered a severe storm off the Carolina coast and sank, Carrying more than 400 passengers and all her cargo with her. She then sat for 132 years, 200 miles off-shore and almost two miles below the ocean's surface--a depth at which she was assumed to be unrecoverable--until 1989, when a deep-water research vessel sailed into the harbor at Norfolk, Virginia, fat with salvaged gold coins and bullion estimated to be worth one billion dollars.

Author Gary Kinder wisely lets the story of the Columbus-America Discovery Group, led by maverick scientist and entrepreneur Tommy Thompson, unfold without hyperbole. Kinder interweaves the tale of the Central America and her passengers and crew with Thompson's own story of growing up landlocked in Ohio, an irrepressible tinkerer and explorer even in his childhood days, and his progress to adulthood as a young man who always had "7 to 14" projects on the table or spinning in his head at any given moment. One of those projects would become the preposterous recovery of the stricken steamer, and the resourcefulness and later urgency with which the project would proceed is contrasted poignantly with the Central America's doomed battle in 1857 to stay afloat.

Thompson, who spent nearly a decade planning and organizing his recovery effort, emerges as one of the great unsung adventurers of these times (the technical innovations alone required for such a task produced a windfall for the scientific community and defined a new state-of-the-art for deep-sea explorers and treasure hunters), and the story of the steamer's sinking is compelling enough to make any reader wonder why the Central America sinking isn't synonymous with "shipwreck" in this Titanic-happy age.

<http://www.asce.org/>



#### From the Internet:

People have been spreading out into the suburbs for years, creating what we've come to call "urban sprawl." But now, this development pattern and the traffic and quality of life problems it creates have brought the public to a new level of frustration, resulting in a highly charged political environment for infrastructure and land use issues.

Has your work been affected by regulations, legislation or public attitudes in your community about smart growth or urban sprawl? How should civil engineers and ASCE address these issues? What are the technical solutions? Share your experiences with your colleagues and fellow

#### Positions Wanted/Positions Open

Resume Policy: Our section newsletter will provide free space for ASCE students and members to advertise their qualifications. The resume information needs to be received by the 20th of the month to make the next newsletter. If you still don't have a job, send it again the next month. The resume information is limited to: *Name, Engineering Degree/Year, Position Desired, Years of Related Experience, Membership Status, ASCE section, Address to obtain more information, and Daytime Phone.* Please send information to [JBrigham@GeoEngineers.com](mailto:JBrigham@GeoEngineers.com)

#### Position Open: Geotechnical Engineer

GeoEngineers, a NW based geoscience consulting firm, is looking for a Geotechnical Engineer to join our Tacoma, WA office. Resp. include, technical briefings, technical reviews, field exploration, budget monitoring, client billing and some marketing activities. BA/BS in Civil Engineering and MS in Geotechnical Engineering is strongly preferred with 5+ yrs related exp.

Please send your resume to: [GeoEngineers](mailto:GeoEngineers), Human Resources,

#### AWARDS up for Grabs!

This month's mailbag features application forms for the following ASCE Awards:

- \* **Government Civil Engineer of the Year**
- \* **Gold/Silver/Bronze Engineering Management Award**
- \* **Government Employer Recognition Award**

Award applications are now available. If interested, please contact Jim Brigham ([JBrigham@GeoEngineers.com](mailto:JBrigham@GeoEngineers.com)).

## ASCE Annual Calendar

Our section holds open meetings once a month from September through June. Meetings are typically held on the second Tuesday of the month, but can vary for special speakers or joint meetings. Locations alternate between Tacoma and Lacey and times vary between lunch and dinner meetings.

The local Board conducts open meetings, generally the first Wednesday of the month at 5:30 PM. Locations vary, so please contact the President for the location if you would like to attend a Board meeting.

Our preliminary schedule is shown below. Please check our web page or contact a house chair for firm information one week prior to each listed meeting. Or, for a monthly meeting announcement and newsletter mailed to your address, please join the Tacoma-Olympia Section (in addition to the national organization).

Seattle Section information for the 2000 Convention is included below.

**May 11** Dinner – Curtis Ratcliffe, Port of Tacoma, Hyundai Terminal

**June 8** Lunch – St. Martins - Verne Moore, Weyerhaeuser Dupont Environmental Remediation

**September 14** – Tacoma- Ken Buss, GeoEngineers, Kelso Landslide (possible Field Trip on September 18).

**October 12** – Seahawks Stadium

To register for a course, please call Engineering Professional Programs at 206/543-5539. Early registration fees are applicable until two weeks before commencement of the scheduled course. Additional information is available on the internet at:

<http://www.engr.washington.edu/epp/Pepl/peplcal.html>

Use of Constructed Wetlands for Improving Stormwater Quality  
September 8 and 9, 1999: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. \$345 (early registration)/\$375

Basics of Project Management for Design Professionals  
September 14, 16 and 21, 1999 (three sessions): 4:00 - 6:30 p.m.  
\$175 (early registration)/\$195

Effective Writing for Technical Professionals  
September 14, 16, 21, 23 and 28, 1999 (five sessions): 3:30 - 6:30 p.m. \$320 (early registration)/\$345

Stormwater Treatment: Chemical, Biological and Engineering Principles  
September 15 and 16, 1999: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. \$345 (early registration)/\$375

Fundamentals of Urban Surface Water Management  
October 13 and 14, 1999: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. \$345 (early registration)/\$375

Seismic Site Response Analysis  
December 3 and 4, 1999: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. \$345 (early registration)/\$375

Successful Project Negotiation Skills  
December 8, 1999: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. \$215 (early registration)/\$235

Creating Winning Technical Presentations  
December 9 and 10, 1999: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. \$345 (early registration)/\$375

#### PELP Programs

For additional information about these or other PELP courses, or to have your name added to the course announcement bulletin mailing list, contact Ron Bucknam, PELP Program Director. PELP Program Director, at 206/543-1178; fax: 206/685-3836; or E-mail: [rbucknam@u.washington.edu](mailto:rbucknam@u.washington.edu).

All courses will be held on or near the University of Washing-