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Civil Engineer Newsletter is published monthly from September to June 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.

to

Tacoma Olympia Section ASCE Civil Engineer THE NEWSLETTER



MARCH 2003

MARCH Lunch

WEDNESDAY

March 19

ASCE/SAME

Lunch Meeting

Club House

Ft. Lewis Golf Course
(directions on website)

11:30am

Wine & Cheese Social
noon—Lunch & program

Lunch \$7/person* (please check lunch price when making reservation)

*1/2 price for students

RSVP

1LT David Lin at McChord
phone 253.982.5413.
(this meeting only)

Note: Members with reservations who do not attend will be billed.

NOTE: SEATTLE SPECIAL MEETING: SEE INFORMATION IN PRESIDENT'S COLUMN, PAGE 2.

High-resolution Seafloor Mapping of Major Deltas of South Puget Sound

Speaker: Guy Gelfenbaum, PhD
U.S. Geological Survey
Coastal and Marine Geology Program

A magnitude 6.8 earthquake struck southern Puget Sound on February 28, 2001 causing extensive damage to buildings and roadways in the region. The earthquake epicenter was located close to the Nisqually River delta. Geologists inspecting the region immediately after the earthquake reported numerous ground failures, including landslides along coastal bluffs and liquefaction features. Silt-laden plumes were also observed near major river deltas in southern and central Puget Sound suggesting submarine landslides may have occurred. If submarine landslides were generated by this earthquake they could pose a hazard to the ports of Tacoma and Seattle, or threaten the integrity of hazardous waste sites nearby. A joint NOAA-USGS cruise was quickly organized to examine the underwater portions of the Duwamish River delta in Seattle, the Puyallup River delta in Tacoma, and the Nisqually River delta near the epicenter. A high-resolution multibeam system was used to map the seafloor in unprecedented detail. Although no submarine failures were found on the Nisqually River delta, a variety of failures were found on the Puyallup and Duwamish deltas that may be related to the earthquake. Several known landslides, such as the 1894 landslide on the Puyallup delta and the 1986 Duwamish Head failure, were also observed, as well as numerous previously undescribed failures. The abundance of failures, both known and newly revealed by our mapping, indicates that the river delta fronts in southern Puget Sound have a high potential for failure.

Dr. Guy Gelfenbaum is a research oceanographer with the U.S. Geological Survey in Menlo Park, CA. His research areas of interest include coastal processes, sediment transport dynamics, and large-scale coastal change. Dr. Gelfenbaum has studied coastal processes on the west coast of Florida, on the Alabama/Mississippi coast and more recently on the Washington coast. He has also looked at sediment deposits associated with tsunamis in Papua New Guinea and Peru. Dr. Gelfenbaum received his B.S. in Geology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and his M.S. and Ph.D. in Oceanography from the University of Washington-Seattle. Dr. Gelfenbaum is currently a member of the Nearshore Science Team with the Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project.

Guy Gelfenbaum, PhD USGS Coastal and Marine Geology Program
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650.329.5483 fax650.329.5190 email gelfenbaum@usgs.gov



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President's Corner

Chris Beckman
lancia2u@yahoo.com

Our Engineer's Week in February seemed to take a back seat to the rising tension surrounding impending conflicts in the Middle and Far East. The annual dinner function at St. Martin's College that Friday was a good breather. The chance to see members of the other engineering organizations and societies for that once-a-year event is almost always a refreshing change of pace. This year the presenter took us on a historical and global tour of the world of bridge design. It was an opportunity to step back and examine our chosen profession from a larger perspective.

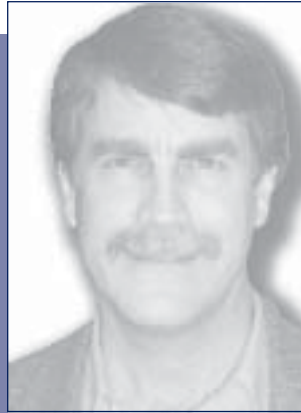
Sometimes I think the politicians should step aside and let engineers take over. Maybe then the nations of the world could concentrate on building "bridges" between countries instead of bombing each other's infrastructure...just my two cents worth.

Back here in the real world, we need to take a look around and see whether our co-workers (or boss) might benefit from becoming ASCE members. If the answer is yes, then present them with a membership packet and a word or two of encouragement to join.

Give them a recent or past newsletter and share your thoughts on recent presentations that you thought were interesting or informative.

ASCE Booth at the Fair

It is not too early to start thinking about participating in our booth at the Puyallup Fair in early September. Those that have volunteered before



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can tell you how rewarding it is to see a young person get excited about designing their own bridge in cyberspace. I would like to see more members get involved and lessen the number of double-shifts that some board members have shouldered in the past.

Seattle Section Meeting—March 18

The Seattle Section special meeting will highlight a speaker from National HQ on the topic of Master's Degree as a prerequisite to licensure and continuing education. It should be interesting to say the least. The first panel will discuss and answer questions about Policy 465 (the first professional degree to practice civil engineering). The panel will consist of Dr. Jeff Russell, the Chair of the ASCE Board of Direction's Task Committee on Policy 465, and Seattle Section Past President John Hastig. District 12 Director Don Phelps will moderate.

The second panel will address the issue of whether the Section should support the concept of continuing education credits (CEUs or PDHs) as a State of Washington requirement for license renewal. Jeff Russell will be a panelist, and District 12 Director Jim Carlsen will moderate.

Reservations: **Please e-mail your reservation by noon NOON Thursday, March 13 to house@seattleasce.org or call (206) 926-0482.** Cancellations must be made 24 hours in advance of the meeting, otherwise "no shows" will be charged.

Tac/Oly SAME Lunch Meeting

Lastly, this month's joint meeting with SAME is a spotlight on one of the many things that the Federal government does well. The USGS provides valuable data and analysis of the physical world around/beneath us. I'll see you there.

Regards

—Chris Beckman
2002-03 President
Tacoma/Olympia Section

TRANSPEED Courses

The Winter/Spring TRANSPEED Schedule Please view our website at <http://www.engr.washington.edu/epp/transpeed> for specific course descriptions and dates. Questions? Call: Christy Pack
TRANSPEED Program Coordinator
UW Engineering
Professional Programs
10303 Meridian AV N #301
Seattle, WA 98133
1.866.791.1275 toll free
206.543.5539 206.543.2352 FAX

Technical Communication for Engineers and Planners
Mar. 10-11, Seattle

Traffic Engineering Operations
Mar. 19-21, Seattle

Basic Roadway Geometric Design
Mar. 24-26, Seattle

Legal Liability for Transportation Professionals
Apr. 1-2, Seattle

Roundabout Design Concepts and Guidelines
Apr. 16-18, Seattle

Techniques for Pavement Rehabilitation
Apr. 23-25, Lacey

Managing Scope, Schedule and Budget
Apr. 28-30, Seattle

Infiltration Design Seminar Tuesday, March 25.

Full day seminar includes presenters from the private and public sectors. TARGET AUDIENCE: designers and regulators. Covers the basics of infiltration facility design, geotechnical considerations, Western Washington Manual requirements, underground injection control regulations, etc.. For additional details go to www.asceor.org <<http://www.asceor.org>> - see the link "for information on an upcoming Stormwater Infiltration Seminar in SW Washington".

Or contact me directly. Deadline for registration is March 18.
Charles E. "Chad" McMurry, PE chad@olsonengr.com
360.695.1385 voice 360.695.8117fax 503.289.9936voice

Section Calendar of Events

March 19 Ft. Lewis
Joint meeting with SAME
Ft. Lewis Golf Club House
USGS Underwater Survey
Puget Sound

***April 8th** Lacey
Honors & Awards night
AELC legislative update,
Life member & Fellows
recognition

***May 13th** Tacoma
Program/Location to be
announced

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

Section Meetings are open and held once a month, September through June. 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.

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.

2003 Winter/Spring Professional Development Course Calendar

Please log onto the web site <http://www.engr.washington.edu/epp/cee/ntc> for a complete description of the course and registration information, or call us at:
Engineering Professional Programs
University of Washington
phone: 206.543.5539 or (toll free) 1.866.791.1275

Geology and Geomorphology of Stream Channels
March 5 & 6, Seattle

How to Improve Stormwater Management Using Low Impact Development Practices -NEW-
April 9 & 10, Seattle

Quaternary and Engineering Geology in the Puget Sound Lowland May 1 & 2, 2003, Seattle

Infiltration Facilities for Stormwater Quality Control
May 14 & 15, Seattle

Biological and Ecological Assessment and Habitat Monitoring -NEW-
June 4 & 5, Seattle

For Management/Organizational Success Professional Development Short Courses, please see the website.