



President's Message

By R. Michael Hale

Happy fall my fellow ASCE Members! I am looking forward to the new season! Our section has some exciting plans for this new ASCE year.

As you are aware, the ASCE National Convention was held from September 28th to October 1st in Portland, Oregon. There were some very interesting educational sessions, tours, and other activities. Some main topics were diversity, innovation, research, sustainability, and ASCE's "Dream Big" program. This program is an outreach to children and students to generate and fuel their interest in the engineering and STEM fields. ASCE will be making a presentation nationally and globally for Dream Big in February 2017 during National Engineers Week – so be on the lookout! With this in mind, our Section is looking for members who are willing to be speakers or mentors to students in our area at local colleges, community colleges, high schools, and junior high schools. Let us know if you're interested.

We want our section to be as interesting, exciting, and beneficial as possible this year. We want to provide programs that are educational and useful at our meetings. You can help by telling us about projects that might be good for discussion or awards. We also need members to chair our awards and history committees. It would be great for us to acknowledge an outstanding person and project this year. You can help this cause by nominating people and projects you feel should be considered. Let's make it a great year!

Our Board elections are done and we have our new board for 2016-2017. Please join me in thanking them all for being willing to serve our section in these capacities. They will be inducted to their respective positions at this month's section meeting on October 27th by Mr. Bob Lamoreaux of the Utah Section, our Regional Governor. Please come and welcome them.

Finally, I want to thank you all for letting me serve as your section president this past year. I greatly enjoyed it. This will be my last message to you as president. I will continue to serve our section as past president on the board this year. I look forward to seeing you all at our Section Meetings and as we cross paths during the year.

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A bridge in Mt. Rainier National Park. Photo credit to Alex Hannum at alexhannumphotos@gmail.com

October 2016 Monthly Program

New Officer Inductions and National-Regional Update



October is traditionally the month in which new officers take their oaths and previous officers transition out from their leadership positions. We will be having Bob Lamoreaux of the Utah Section join us to perform the induction ceremony. Bob is our section's governor with Region 8. Bob will also be giving a brief talk to update our section on happenings at the national and regional levels of ASCE. Come join us in welcoming our new officers to the board. The ceremony and talk will be followed by an opportunity to network with other members over dinner.

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| Speaker | Bob Lamoreaux, PE |
| Date and Time | October 27, 2016 at 5:30 pm |
| Schedule | 5:30 pm to 6:00 pm: Reception and social 6:00 pm to 6:10 pm: Section business 6:10 pm to 6:20 pm: New Officer Induction 6:20 pm to 6:40 pm: Update from regional and national level 6:40 pm to end: Open floor networking |
| Location | La Quinta Inn & Suites of Tacoma 1425 East 27 th Street Tacoma, WA 98421 |
| Menu | Tossed green salad, sliced roasted turkey, sliced roast beef with burgundy glaze, homemade stuffing, mashed potatoes, turkey gravy, hot vegetable medley, dinner rolls, chef's variety of desserts. Beverages include coffee, tea, and water with decaffeinated options available. |
| Price | Members - \$27.00 Students - \$17.00 |
| Reservations | Reserve your spot by either responding to the Constant Contact invitation or by going online at our website: http://sections.asce.org/tacoma-olympia/events . |

October 2016 Announcements

Fall is already shaping up to be a really busy season for us! Be sure to keep current on all the happenings right here.

- ***New Officers***

Elections are over and we are pleased to announce the following new officers:

- Larry “Dale” Caswell is our new Secretary
- Chris Beckman joins us as a director
- Derek McCoy has moved from his director position to the office of president-elect
- Jessie Chen continues to serve as our Treasurer

Please join us this month at our section meeting where we will hold a formal induction ceremony to congratulate everyone on their new roles.

- ***October 2016 PE Exam Study Sessions***

GeoEngineers of Tacoma is hosting a geotechnical focus study session for PE candidates on Wednesday, October 5th. This is a great opportunity for engineers studying to take the PE exam. Even if you aren't taking the exam this fall, this is a good opportunity to get in the right mindset for studying and put yourself around others who are also studying.

- ***ASCE Tacoma-Olympia is on Facebook!***

Our section has its own Facebook page. Check us out and connect with us today!

- ***YMG: November Plan Reading and Composition Workshop***

The Younger Members Group is putting on a workshop for students, EITs, and younger members this November. It's all about the plans! One of the first things young engineers are exposed to in their careers is the development of engineering plans. This program includes a brief presentation followed by an opportunity for attendees to get some hands-on practice with their new skills. There is no cost to attend the workshop.

- ***Seeking Committee Chairs: History and Heritage, Awards***

Our section is seeking volunteers to chair the Awards Committee and the History and Heritage Committee.

Awards Committee

The Awards Committee is responsible for putting together a program each April in which we recognize distinguished individuals and projects within our section's area of coverage. The awards program is important because it gives our industry and its contributors positive exposure to the rest of the world. This type of exposure is critical to engineers and to the communities we serve – especially because our world is typically hidden from view unless something goes wrong. It is essential to recognize people and projects for their successes.

History and Heritage Committee

The History and Heritage Committee is responsible for writing about projects and people in our area that had a significant impact on our local engineering world. The topics can be projects, construction practices, landmark lawsuits and legislation, distinguished individuals, etc. By writing about history, we can teach new generations of engineers lessons learned in the past to help us be better and avoid repeating mistakes. It is a critical form of knowledge preservation. This opportunity is especially suited to our life members and retirees to continue their valuable contributions.

Recent Events

YMG: Networking and Communication

The Younger Members Group, with the help of Ms. Tara Yi, held an event at St. Martin's University to talk to student members and younger members. The presentation covered the importance of networking and communication skills for young engineers and gave attendees some basic knowledge and tools to enhance their skill set – especially through involvement with ASCE. The event was well attended with just over 20 people present. The Younger Members Group is looking forward to additional future programming. Please contact Carlyn Harlow at Tacoma.olympia.ymg@gmail.com if you have suggestions or requests for future gatherings.



Spotlight on History and Heritage

By Frank Marescalco

Our Younger Members Group is really coming to life. We've had tremendous success engaging with the Student Chapter at St. Martin's University and the young engineers in our local community by offering study sessions and programs that benefit young people who are just entering the profession. At the national level, ASCE is really pushing its members to think about what types of innovative processes we can use to transform our industry and our individual approach to solving problems. This is a valid push because it's clear that some of the practices we used to *build* our world aren't always appropriate to *maintain* it – let alone move forward to the future.



But with all of that focus on the new and the now, it's easy to lose sight of the valuable lessons that history can still offer. Organizations are starting to see it in a big way. With the economy being marginally better than it was in the crash, organizations and firms are seeing a massive exodus of retirees – and guess what? They are taking all of that accumulated knowledge right with them. This challenge has given birth to a new paradigm: knowledge management. This arcane new branch of over-specialization (pardon the sarcasm) concerns itself with creating policies and procedures to try to hold on to some of that knowledge *before* it goes out the door.

I personally have the pleasure of working with many individuals who have decades of experience in our industry. These folks have perhaps more experience than any generation of previous retirees thanks to their extra years of service on account of the Great Recession. Our senior members have seen through their careers the passing of historical legislation and lawsuits, the completion of projects that have significantly impacted our communities, the change from manual drafting to computer-aided drafting, and the shift from transit to GPS, just to name a few things. It's important to not lose sight of the way things used to be done, lest we lose understanding of how and why things which are now ever came to be in the first place. And you can only get that kind of knowledge in one place.

But there's a problem. In speaking to many of these folks, I've found a common theme. There's a general disconnect between them and the younger folks coming in the door. I've heard on more than one occasion from retirees that they simply don't feel respected by younger people. The phrase "put out to pasture" – and those aren't my words – sums up the sentiment. And unfortunately, I think there's a shade of truth in that feeling.

Young people are so hard-pressed by powers that be and by the technology age that many of them don't stop to think about what value history really has to them. That's a potentially very dangerous mistake to make – especially in our industry. Civil engineering is, in essence, the sum of our collective experience as a civilization in what works and what doesn't work. To devalue history is to take away from the essence or, sometimes, even miss the point completely. It's incumbent on us younger folks to take a step back and think hard about what lessons we can learn from history. It isn't right that retirees and senior staff feel left behind or unrespected by the younger generations.

Our section is rich with experienced life members, retirees, and senior members who would jump at the chance to share their knowledge with the rest of us. And that is why I am inviting them to come forward and jump-start our History and Heritage Committee. The committee is an excellent opportunity to pass on knowledge and experience that no one else can. The committee writes articles about local history and can oversee the dedication of local monuments to engineering accomplishments. The functions of the committee are flexible to those who chair and act on the committee. If you know someone who would contribute, please send them this message! If you would like to volunteer, just give me a shout!

If you're older, you're smarter. I just believe that. If you're in an argument with someone older than you, you should listen to 'em. Even if they're wrong, their wrongness is rooted in more information than you have.

-- Louis C.K.

Volunteering Opportunities

The Tacoma-Olympia section of ASCE needs all of its members to make our section all that it can be! We currently have positions to serve on committees, get involved with our Younger Members Group, and help coordinate events or give presentations. We also have volunteer opportunities for community-minded individuals. Here are some open volunteer positions we have available now. Our volunteer opportunities are always changing, so remember to check back next month if you can't join anything this month! Contact any of your board members if you are interested in serving.

Committees and Section Positions

Membership Steward; *Approx. time commitment: 0 to 2 days per month.* This standing position with the Section is responsible for increasing member recruitment, retention, and participation. The position may include occasionally being a lead for events, interpreting survey/feedback information from members, and attending board meetings.

Government Relations Committee Chair; *Approx. time commitment: 0 to 2 days per month.* The Government Relations Committee is a standing committee within the Section. The chair position is responsible for recruiting co-chair members for the committee and contributing to committee initiatives and activities. The committee may write articles for our newsletter, mobilize members to action for important legislative events or bills, and coordinate with our state lobbyist.

Project and Engineer Awards Committee Chair; *Approx. time commitment: 0 to 2 days per month.* The Outstanding Projects and Leaders (OPAL) Awards Committee is responsible for organizing the Section's annual awards program in April. The committee campaigns for and accepts nominations for awards in various categories (set by the committee) and chooses winners for the awards. The program also recognizes our life members at the ceremony. The committee may also be tasked with providing contributions to the Section's newsletter pertaining to outstanding projects and engineers in the community.

History and Heritage Committee Chair; *Approx. time commitment: 1 to 2 days per month.* The History and Heritage Committee is a standing committee concerned with local civil engineering history. This committee position is an excellent fit for history buffs. The responsibilities include researching and dedicating historic works of civil engineering within our geographic area of coverage. The committee is also tasked with producing a quarterly newsletter article about a local work of civil engineering and what makes it historically significant.

Younger Members Group Co-Chair; *Approx. time commitment: 2 to 4 days per month.* The Section's Younger Members Group is an active and exciting part of our presence here in the South Sound. The group's leadership organizes events for our younger members such as social outings, workshops, career training, and outreach. The YMG leadership team may also occasionally be tasked with providing reports to the board and producing articles for the newsletter.

Community Outreach

Bates Technical College Engineering Club Mentor

Ongoing; *Approx. time commitment: 4 hours per month.* The Engineering Club at Bates Technical College is seeking an ASCE member who would attend meetings and provide a mentorship role to the students in the club. The club meets one evening per month.

Math and Science Tutor

Ongoing; *Approx. time commitment: varies.* Our Section members help local students with math and science tutoring through programs in our schools and colleges. If you have a knack for helping young people with their technical studies, our Section needs your help! You can volunteer for positions that are local and work within your time limitations.

Professional Engineer Exam Study Leader

Ongoing; *Approx. time commitment: 4 hours per month.* If you are interested in helping younger members pass the professional engineering exam, leading a study session is a great way to help out. You can do this individually or as a firm. We have local members who already provide examinees with help studying for the exam who can help you get involved or even develop a technical session of your own.

Volunteer Coordinator

Ongoing; *Approx. time commitment: 1 to 2 days per month.* This standing position is responsible for coordinating all of our volunteering opportunities so that members get the best possible options for participation. Responsibilities include finding and reporting on volunteering opportunities in our region and maintaining an updated list of opportunities. This person would also serve as the point of contact for members interested in participating in events or assigned positions.

Section Programming

Programming Coordinator; *Approx. time commitment: 1 to 2 days per month.* This position is a standing position with the Section responsible for coordinating programming for the Section. The primary duty of this position is to secure speakers for upcoming programs.

Program Speakers; *Approx. time commitment: 2 days per event.* Our section is always looking for individuals willing to speak to the Section at our monthly programs. Topics pertaining to engineering are always welcome, but our Section has hosted speakers who have given presentations about a range of other topics as well. Speakers are provided with a meal and a small personal item as thanks for their willingness to contribute.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

October 2016

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| 5 | GeoEngineers Geotechnical Focus Study Session for the PE – 5:00 PM GeoEngineers Office in Tacoma 1101 South Fawcett Avenue, Suite 200 Tacoma, WA 98402 RSVP directly to sbraicks@geoengineers.com to sign up. |
| 27 | October 2016 Program New Officer Inductions and National-Regional Update – 5:30 PM La Quinta Inn & Suites of Tacoma 1425 East 27 th Street Tacoma, WA 98421 Click here to register. |
| 28 | Fall 2016 Professional Engineer Licensure Exam – 8:00 AM Puyallup, WA |
| 31 | Halloween! |

November 2016

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| 3 | YMG Plan Reading and Composition Workshop – 6:30 PM Cebula Hall – Room 201B St. Martin's University 5000 Abbey Way Southeast Lacey, WA 98503 Click here to register. |
| 14 | November 2016 Program City of Tacoma Transportation Master Plan Tacoma, WA – venue TBD. |
| 24 | Thanksgiving! |

Membership Information

National membership rates may be found at <http://www.asce.org/membership>.

Section membership rates

- Individual: \$25 per year
- Student member: free
- Life member: Free

Advertising Rates

Did you know you can purchase advertising space to promote your business, sponsor the section, and spread the word about job opportunities? Our newsletter is distributed to a growing membership base with about 500 viewers each month. We offer space in our newsletter at the following monthly rates:

- 1/4 page: \$25
- 1/2 page: \$50
- Full page: \$100

If you are interested in purchasing space in our newsletter, contact our treasurer Jessie Chen at (253) 310-6046 or Jessie.asce@hotmail.com.

Looking for a previous issue of the newsletter? You can find them all on our website at: <http://sections.asce.org/tacoma-olympia/newsletter>.

| Branch Contact Information | | |
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| President Frank Marescalco, PE City of Tacoma (253) 591-5423 fmarescalco@cityoftacoma.org | President-Elect Derek McCoy, PE Hatton Godat Pantier, Inc. (719) 200-3041 dukemccoy@gmail.com | Secretary Larry "Dale" Caswell, PE U.S. Army (253) 219-9453 d_cas@hotmail.com |
| Past President R. Michael Hale, PE City of Tacoma (253) 377-8221 skahale3@yahoo.com | Treasurer Jessie Chen APA – Engineered Wood Association (253) 310-6046 Jessyyue78@hotmail.com | Director Chris Beckman, PE (253) 468-0309 bmwjupiter@gmail.com |
| Younger Members Chair Carlyn Harlow Apex Engineering, PLLC (253) 473-4494 carlynharlow@gmail.com | Director Samuel Dunn SCJ Alliance (360) 349-3270 samuel1dunn@gmail.com | Director Vacant |

Visit us online at <http://sections.asce.org/tacoma-olympia/>.