



October 2017

President's Message

By Derek McCoy



It's hard to believe that it's October already! It was quite the eventful summer that has hardly ended and now the holiday season will be here before you know it. This month marks my first month as your new president. It is truly an honor to serve you all. I would like to thank Frank for his hard work as our president this past year and setting our section up for success in so many important ways. Frank will continue to serve our section as our past president and will surely have a very active role on the Board.

Perhaps the thing that I am most excited and thankful for this year is that for the first time in many years, our section has an elected officer in each of its board positions. We now have a Programming Committee Chair and a Government Relations Committee Chair and our YMG now has a co-chair! The additional leadership volunteers will definitely help our section to provide quality programming and valuable services for our members. Please join me in thanking the officers who have volunteered to help our section in the pursuit of our vision. You can [read about our new leadership](#) by visiting our website.

If you missed our September meeting, you'll have a chance to meet our new leaders face-to-face at our section function this month. We have arranged what I am sure will be a very interesting technical tour of the Green River Filtration Plant that provides filtered and disinfected water to about 300,000 people in the greater Tacoma area. Engineers from the Tacoma Water District have graciously offered to host this event on a Saturday at the treatment facility located at 36932 SE Green River Headworks Road, Ravensdale, WA 98051. A box lunch is included with your registration fee. Don't miss it! [Sign up now.](#)

The onset of fall also means that our section's young members are getting ready to take on the PE exam. Between section review events, YMG review events, and GeoEngineers, we have many free review sessions coming up! Our Past President Frank Marscalco has done a great job over the last couple years to coordinate these reviews that provide great exam preparation, networking opportunity, and a selection of delicious premium pizza all at no cost!! I forgot to mention that the past events have always had rave reviews and you won't want to miss it if you're getting ready to take the exam. Check out our [events webpage](#) for more information!

I am excited for this coming year's events, and look forward to working with all of our new leaders! I am confident that we will accomplish and provide great things for the members of this great section! It will be a great honor for me to continue to serve the section in my new capacity as president. Thanks for reading, and hope to see you soon!

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*Fall sets in to Tacoma's Stadium district.
Photo credit to Claire Mendenhall. Reach her
on Instagram at Detailgirl253!*

October 2017 Monthly Program

Technical Tour: Green River Water Filtration Plant

This month's meeting is a technical tour of the Green River Water Filtration Plant, operated by Tacoma Public Utilities. The plant provides drinking water to more than 300,000 people in the City of Tacoma and surrounding areas. The filtration is state of the art technology which improves the water by:

- Protecting against contaminants such as cryptosporidium
- Improving the taste and clarity of water
- Reducing the amount of silt and sand entering water pipes
- Minimizing natural organic material in water, which helps reduce byproducts from disinfection processing

To check out a video of the plant and get a sneak preview, [click here](#).

Our tour will take place on a Saturday afternoon so that we don't conflict with demanding work schedules. We are offering a box lunch through Ingallina's of Seattle. You can view options by clicking our link below. Be sure to let us know what you want.

Members are encouraged to carpool from each of our major metro areas. If you are interested in carpooling, let us know on your registration form. If you indicate an interest in carpooling, we will share your email with others in your area so that you can work out carpooling arrangements.



Date and Time	October 14, 2017 at 11:30 AM
Location	Green River Water Filtration Plant 36932 Southeast Green River Headworks Road Ravensdale, WA 98051
Schedule	11:30 to 12:30 Reception and Lunch 12:30 to 2 PM Tour
Menu	Box lunches provided by Ingallina's of Seattle. Check out all the options! Let us know which one you want with your registration.
Price	Members: \$15 Students: \$7
Reservations	You can RSVP by clicking here! RSVPs must be in by Friday, October 13 th .

Announcements

We have plenty of information to share and opportunities to engage coming up, so be sure to check in.

- ***General PE Exam “Freestyle” Study Session***

The YMG is offering an October study session for PE candidates, separate from the water and geotechnical sessions put on by GeoEngineers and ASCE Tacoma-Olympia in September. Candidates will gather to go over timed practice problems covering all disciplines. There will be time to discuss each exercise afterward so that everyone can benefit from seeing how others approach problem-solving. This sort of collaborative, focused effort can make the difference between success and failure on the exam. For details, [click here!](#)

- ***Annual Tacoma-Olympia Holiday Gathering***

The past few years have seen the creation of a new tradition for our section: an annual holiday party in November. We're continuing that tradition this year with an informal social gathering at The Oyster House on the water in Olympia. We have found that it's a good opportunity for our members to come together, get a drink, and socialize. The holiday season can be stressful between traveling, dinner parties, and juggling work and life commitments. Participating in our section activities is a good opportunity to decompress a little bit and give the agenda a break. [Sign up on our website!](#) Hope to see you there!

- ***Seeking STEM and MESA Mentors***

One of our past presidents, Mr. Michael Hale, is seeking members to join in our section's mentoring efforts. The opportunities include anything from volunteer math and science tutoring for high school and college kids all the way to one-on-one mentorships. Being a mentor is a great way to give back to your community. It doesn't take a tremendous effort, but research has shown that people with mentors succeed at a much higher rate than those without. If you are interested, [contact Michael!](#)

- ***Government Relations Committee Seeks Co-Chair and Participants***

We are pleased to announce that the section's standing Government Relations Committee has a new chair! Ms. Bernie Sison comes to our section with experience in legislative matters for several other professional groups, and we are excited to have her leadership for our own. If you have ever wanted to participate in government relations in ASCE, now is the time! If you are interested, contact Bernie directly at [berniepmi@gmail.com!](mailto:berniepmi@gmail.com)

Recent Events

Joint Meeting with the Structural Engineers Association of Washington

Our annual joint meeting with the Structural Engineers Association of Washington was a huge success. We had over 50 in attendance, including our very own Region 8 Director Mr. Dale Nelson, PE. F.ASCE. Dale performed the new officer induction ceremony. We were also joined by Mr. Don Ballantyne who received an award from the Society for his contribution to engineering our essential public utilities to be more resilient to earthquakes. Our speakers from the licensing board were fantastic. We learned a lot about the use of digital signatures and got a walkthrough of the new license renewal website. The food was fantastic and we are thankful for the opportunity to connect with our structural brothers and sisters at SEAW.



YMG Younger Members Hike

The Tacoma-Olympia Younger Members Group (YMG) hosted a hiking trip with the Seattle section's younger members September 16, 2017 at Teneriffe Falls in the Snoqualmie Region. Despite the smoky conditions, several members (and their furry friends) showed up for the hike with the majority of them being from the Tacoma-Olympia section. Unfortunately, Teneriffe Falls were dried up but the time spent hiking to and from them were not wasted! ASCE members were able to use the day to network with other young civil engineers and their family and friends. The YMG plans to hold events like these in the future, including the annual ski trip in February/March with the Portland, Seattle, and Bellingham YMGs. Contact Carlyn Harlow at tacoma.olympia.ymg@gmail.com if you would like to attend future events or have suggestions for the YMG!



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.

Government Relations Committee Participants; *Approx. time commitment: 0 to 1 day per month.* The Government Relations Committee is a standing committee within the Section. The committee has a chair and is now in need of a co-chair and participants. The committee may write articles for our newsletter, mobilize members to action for important legislative events or bills, or coordinate with state lobbyists. Some ASCE members even participate in the annual fly-in to Washington D.C. Now is an excellent time to step up and serve the committee under our experienced committee chair's leadership.

History and Heritage Committee Chair; *Approx. time commitment: 0 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.

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.

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 2017

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| 10 | PE Exam "Freestyle" Study Session – 5:30 PM
University Place Pierce County Library
3609 Market Place West
University Place, WA 98466
RSVP at our website: http://sections.asce.org/tacoma-olympia/events |
| 14 | October Section Meeting – 11:30 AM
Technical Tour of the Green River Water Filtration Plant
36932 Southeast Green River Headworks Road
Ravensdale, WA 98051
RSVP at our website: http://sections.asce.org/tacoma-olympia/events |
| 27 | Fall 2017 PE Exam
Washington State Fairgrounds
110 9 th Avenue Southwest
Puyallup, WA 98371 |

November 2017

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| 1 | ASCE Tacoma-Olympia Board Meeting – 6:30 PM
Hawks Prairie Restaurant & Sports Bar
8306 Quinault Drive Northeast
Olympia, WA 98516
RSVP not necessary – open attendance to all members |
| 15 | November Section Meeting – 6:00 PM
Annual Tacoma-Olympia Holiday Gathering
The Oyster House
320 4 th Avenue West
Olympia, WA 98501
RSVP at our website: http://sections.asce.org/tacoma-olympia/events |
| 23 | Thanksgiving! |

December 2017

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| 13 | December Section Meeting
Annual Joint Section Meeting with the Seattle Section
Capital Development and Engineering at the Port of Seattle
Location TBD
Keep an eye out for details on our website! |
| 25 | Christmas! |

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.

If you're a member seeking employment, you can request space in our newsletter to run a short ad. All you need to do is contact us!

Connect with us on Facebook! [Click here!](#)
Check out our Instagram account! [Click here!](#)

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

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