

January 2017

President's Message

By Frank Marescalco



Hello, everyone! And happy new year! I can hardly believe it's here! I hope you had a great time over the holidays and found some time to relax and reflect. I wish all of you success on whatever undertakings you have planned for this new year. Remember that it is through diligence and perseverance that we achieve great things. All of the easy things have been done.

This month is a busy one for our section. Please take a look at our calendar and sign up for an event! This month's section meeting will be an informal social gathering in Tacoma. It's a great opportunity to come out and meet other members. The social gatherings are a bit different from our typical meetings in that they afford more opportunities for our members to connect with one another. Don't miss it!

Our Younger Members Group is holding an NFL football playoff party on Sunday, January 8th. Several of our members are attending the Multiple Region Leadership Conference in California next weekend, where great things are afoot. Our region's governors will be meeting in California just before the conference begins. There is also a PE study group session this month for those of you taking the exam soon.

We are currently in the process of planning for our April awards banquet. We need your help! We need our members to nominate projects and people for consideration in the awards process. If you know of an outstanding project or an engineer who went that extra mile this last year, let us know. We will be sending out a package to local firms and agencies to solicit nominations, but you don't have to wait for that to nominate. Contact us today.

In February, we will begin publishing a new section of our newsletter featuring local engineers seeking employment. If you are such a member and would like to be featured in our newsletter, which reaches over 500 readers each month, let us know. And remember that there are other ways to be featured in our newsletter: members may write guest articles on a topic of their choice, and firms may purchase space in our newsletter to advertise for job postings or firm services.

If you haven't yet renewed your ASCE membership, please consider doing so. Our section can only thrive with the support of its members. We use your support to put on our programs and deliver the benefits our members deserve. And remember that the benefits of membership aren't just local. The Society has a lot of great resources to offer to its members at the national level.

I hope this new year finds you well and that we will see you at one of our events very soon. Thank you for reading our newsletter.

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The banks of Mirror Lake near North Bend, sheathed in winter. Photo credit to Alex Hannum at alexhannumphotos@gmail.com

January 2017 Monthly Program

Section Social Meeting

Each year, we try to host at least one social meeting. Our social meeting is taking place this January. We have found that an informal social meeting adds a great value for our members because it allows everyone to come out in an informal setting and make new connections a little easier than at our more formal dinner meetings. It is an excellent opportunity to strike up a conversation with a fellow member. If you'd like to talk to us about the section or our events, this is the time for it. If you've been looking for a good "introductory" meeting, it doesn't get any better than this!

We will hold our social meeting at the Harmon Tap Room of Tacoma. The Tap Room is a casual venue that offers food, drinks, and some games. We will start the fun at 6 PM, but feel free to arrive at any time that is convenient for you.

So come on out! Make a new friend this month and learn something new.

Date and Time	January 25, 2016 at 6:00 PM
Location	The Harmon Tap Room 204 St. Helens Avenue Tacoma, WA 98402
Price	There is no cost for admission, but members are expected to cover their own costs for food and drinks.
Menu	http://www.harmonbrewingco.com/tap-room
Reservations	Reserve your spot by going online at our website: http://sections.asce.org/tacoma-olympia/events .

Announcements

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

- ***Upcoming Football Viewing Social for Younger Members!***

The Younger Members Group wants to remind you that it will be hosting a football viewing social THIS SUNDAY, January 8. The Green Bay Packers will be playing the New York Giants for what should be an epic NFL wildcard playoff game! The kickoff is scheduled for 1:40 PM, but feel free to come as early as 1:15 PM in order to loosen up and get to know some fellow civil engineers in the Tacoma-Olympia area. The event is at the Hawk's Prairie Restaurant and Sports Bar in Lacey, Washington. The more the merrier, so please invite friends and family. All ages are welcome and the YMG will be offering FREE APPETIZERS!! Check out the Tacoma-Olympia ASCE Section website or Facebook page for details. You can also email Carlyn Harlow at tacoma.olympia.ymg@gmail.com if you have any questions.

- ***Younger Members Ski Trip: February 24th to 26th***

All ASCE younger members and students are invited to join the Tacoma-Olympia Younger Members Group for a ski trip with the Portland, Seattle, and Bellingham YMGs at Mount Hood on Friday, February 24th through Sunday, February 26th. The YMG will be renting cabins in Welches, Oregon. Not a skier? Don't worry! There are plenty of other activities to do around Mount Hood! Cost will be \$90 for lodging, dinner Saturday night, and breakfast. To register, follow the following link: <http://conta.cc/2ilDn7T>. Space is extremely limited, so please register as soon as possible! You can also email Carlyn Harlow at tacoma.olympia.ymg@gmail.com if you have any questions.

- ***History and Heritage Committee Chair Wanted***

Within our section and our engineering community, we are fortunate to have a lot of experienced, retired members and life members. One of the most important things we can do throughout our career is to mentor younger engineers and pass on valuable information to new generations. Being a mentor and teaching others is a highly satisfying activity. The ASCE's way of incorporating experience and passing on knowledge is through the History and Heritage Committee. Our section's committee is currently inactive, but all it needs to be active is you – a willing volunteer to step up! This opportunity is perfect for our life members, retirees, or even practicing senior engineers.

Recent Events

Annual Joint Meeting with Seattle Section

Our Section held its annual joint meeting with the Seattle Section of ASCE in December 2016. The event was well attended, with about 40 members in attendance between the two sections.

Our presenter was Secretary Millar with the Washington State Department of Transportation. Mr. Millar is a distinguished member of ASCE and an excellent speaker. He has published articles at the national level and is an active contributor to our local ASCE communities.



Mr. Millar talked to our members about projects and initiatives happening at the DOT. His presentation had a lot to do with how the agency itself is handling its challenging work – and on defining exactly what those challenges are. WSDOT is grappling with many of the same things that other agencies and firms are facing such as loss of knowledge with retirees, keeping wages in line with cost of living, and recruiting new talent. Some of the technical challenges WSDOT faces are daunting, but the agency has innovative ways to approach new problems. Thank you, Secretary Millar!

Besides a great presentation, the joint meeting offered a chance for our local members to interface with members of the Seattle Section. The interaction across section boundaries is good for both sections and benefits all of our members. Tacoma-Olympia is thrilled to be able to offer this opportunity to its members. If you missed out, you missed a good one!



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.

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

January 2017

1	New Year's Day
4	ASCE Tacoma-Olympia Board Meeting – 6:30 PM Hawks Prairie Restaurant and Sports Bar 8306 Quinault Drive Northeast Olympia, WA 98516 RSVP not necessary – open attendance to all members
8	Younger Members Group Football Playoff Party Hawks Prairie Restaurant and Sports Bar 8306 Quinault Drive Northeast Olympia, WA 98516 RSVP at http://sections.asce.org/tacoma-olympia/events
12	Region 8 Spring Assembly Los Angeles, California Location TBD
13-14	Regions 8 and 9 Workshop for Section and Branch Leaders Los Angeles, California http://www.asce.org/regions-8-9-workshop-for-section-and-branch-leaders/
24	Early Bird PE Exam Study Session – 5:30 PM Tully's Coffee of Downtown Tacoma 764 Broadway Tacoma, WA 98402 RSVP at http://sections.asce.org/tacoma-olympia/events
25	ASCE Tacoma-Olympia Section Social Meeting – 6:00 PM The Harmon Tap Room 204 St. Helens Avenue Tacoma, WA 98402 RSVP at http://sections.asce.org/tacoma-olympia/events

February 2017

1	ASCE Tacoma-Olympia Board Meeting – 6:30 PM Hawks Prairie Restaurant and Sports Bar 8306 Quinault Drive Northeast Olympia, WA 98516 RSVP not necessary – open attendance to all members
14	Valentine's Day
19-25	Engineers Week 2017 Contact us to get involved! Lots of opportunities available! http://www.discovere.org/our-programs/engineers-week
24-26	Younger Member's Group Ski Trip Joint Trip with Oregon, Bellingham, and Seattle Sections RSVP at http://conta.cc/2ilDn7T
TBD	St. Martin's University Engineering Banquet Keep an eye out for details!

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!](#)

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/>.