

President's Message

By Frank Marescalco



It's hard to believe that it's November already! It seems that summer has hardly ended, but here we are with the holiday season quickly approaching. This month marks my first month as your new president. It is an honor to serve you all. Please join me in thanking Michael for serving as our president this past year and holding our section together in so many important ways. Michael will continue to serve our section as our past president.

Now that I am writing the president's address, I may not produce an article for our newsletter each month. I encourage all of you to consider writing in to be featured in our newsletter. It's a fun way to generate discussion with other members and reach a large audience. I was personally surprised at how many people read what I wrote. We want to hear what you have to say.

Our new officers have been officially sworn in with the thanks and support of our members. We are fortunate to have a board full of capable, dedicated individuals. Some of you may also know that our former Region Director, Ms. Kristina Swallow, was inducted formally as the Society's President-Elect. Mark Woodson, the Society's sitting Past President, is also a Region 8 engineer. We have a lot of great engineers in our ranks.

This month, we'll be hearing from Josh Diekmann, the City of Tacoma's City Traffic Engineer. He is going to give a talk about the City's recently adopted transportation master plan – a first for Tacoma. This is an excellent opportunity for our transportation-minded folks to see the approach Tacoma has taken to its long-term traffic needs forecasting.

We are searching for input and volunteers to help us make our section the best that it can be. We want to provide programs that are educational and useful at our meetings – so please, let us know if there is a specific topic or interest you have. If you know of any exciting projects in our area, let us know. We also need members to chair our awards and history committees. It's important to recognize outstanding projects and individuals because it encourages us all to strive for greatness, and it reminds others outside of our industry about all the good work that we do as engineers.

November is the time of year when renewals of dues come up. Please consider renewing your membership for 2017. If you haven't renewed in a while, please consider renewing now. 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. Of course, 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.

We had a very successful year in 2016 and we will continue to deliver in 2017. We really hope to see you at a meeting soon. Thank you for reading.

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Autumn decorates French Road in Olympia this season. Photo credit to Alex Hannum at alexhannumphotos@gmail.com

November 2016 Monthly Program

City of Tacoma Master Transportation Plan

This month, Josh Diekmann will be coming out to talk to us about the City of Tacoma's recently adopted Transportation Master Plan. You can view the City's plan [here](#). The cost for the program is \$30 for members and \$15 for students and includes a catered meal.



Josh Diekmann is the City Traffic Engineer for Tacoma, Washington. Josh has twenty years of experience in Civil Engineering and Transportation, and has worked in the public and private sectors at the federal, state, and local level. Josh currently manages the traffic engineering and transportation planning functions for the City of Tacoma. Josh led the recent development of the City's Transportation Master Plan, which includes policies and projects to support all modes of transportation.

Speaker	Josh Diekmann, PE, PTOE
Date and Time	November 14, 2016 at 6:00 pm
Schedule	6:00 pm to 6:30 pm: Reception, social, dinner 6:30 pm to 6:40 pm: Section business 6:40 pm to 7:15 pm: Presentation 7:15 pm to end: Open floor networking
Location	Society Room Cebula Hall St. Martin's University 5000 Abbey Way Southeast Lacey, WA 98503
Price	Members - \$30.00 Students - \$15.00
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 .

November 2016 Announcements

Our ASCE year is well underway and the holiday season is quickly approaching. We have plenty of information to share and opportunities to engage coming up, so be sure to check in.

- ***Proposed Change to Bylaws***

Frank Marescalco has put before the board a proposed modification to our section's bylaws. The modification proposes to convert the secretary and treasurer positions from one-year terms to two-year terms. The terms would be staggered so that only one position is elected each year. This is similar to the way that our directors are set up. The longer, staggered terms for the secretary and treasurer positions increase the resilience of our board leadership by retaining individuals with some experience for a little bit longer and ensuring that the two positions don't turn over at the same time. It also means that we don't need to seek volunteers as often.

In addition, the proposal adds a third, appointed director position. This position is filled by the past president of the student chapter each year and is a one-year term of service. Service is optional and based on whether the individual stays within the area and wants to serve.

Frank will be discussing both of these proposed changes with our members at the November 14th meeting. We encourage you to attend and share your thoughts with us.

- ***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

WSDOT: Practical Solutions



Nancy Boyd and Roger Millar from WSDOT came out in September to talk to our group about what they call their Practical Solutions Approach to decision-making. Mr. Millar's appearance was a pleasant surprise. The program also constituted our annual joint meeting with the Structural Engineers Association of Washington. Our event was well attended and the presentation was fantastic. We thank WSDOT for their continued support of our section and the great programs they put on for us.



Officer Inductions and Regional Update

We performed our new officer induction ceremony this October with the help of our section's governor, Bob Lamoreaux. Bob is from the Utah Section of Region 8 and is one of our region's sitting governors. After the induction ceremony, Bob gave us a regional update in which he outlined the governance structure and we talked about some current events. We appreciate Bob for coming all the way out to perform the ceremony and meet our section members – thank you, Bob!



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

November 2016

2	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	November 2016 Program – 6:00 PM Josh Diekmann: Tacoma Transportation Master Plan Cebula Hall St. Martin's University 5000 Abbey Way Southeast Lacey, WA 98503 RSVP at http://sections.asce.org/tacoma-olympia/events .
24	Thanksgiving

December 2016

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	December 2016 Program Annual Joint Section Meeting with Seattle Section of ASCE Roger Millar: Connecting Washington Venue TBD
25	Christmas
31	New Year's Eve

January 2017

1	New Year's Day
12	Region 8 Spring Assembly Los Angeles, California
13	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/

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