



American Society of Civil Engineers

Columbia Section

Since October 10, 1950

October/November 2003 Newsletter

www.asce.org
http://sections.asce.org/columbia

Columbia Section Board

Ben Volk, President
(509) 783-2144 (B)
bvolk@jub.com

Aaron Meilleur, President-Elect
(509) 546-2040 (B)
aaron.meilleur@hdrinc.com

Bryon Perry, Vice President
(509) 546-2040 (B)
bperry@hdrinc.com

Jocelyne Gray, Secretary/Treasurer
(509) 783-2144 (B)
jgray@jub.com

Eric Schmieman, Past President
(509) 375-6484 (B)
eric.schmieman@pnl.gov

Mustafa Mahamedali, Yakima Branch President
(509) 577-1637 (B)
mustafaUS@msn.com

Lawrence (Larry) A. Gaddis, Tri-Cities Director
(509) 627-4302 (H)
lgaddis@bechtel.com

Walla Walla Director - Open

Dave Wildman, Pendleton/LaGrande Director
dwildman@andersonperry.com

Yakima Director - Open

Delbert (Del) L. Ballard, Historian
(509) 946-6401 (H)
delballard@sbcglobal.net

Indrajit (Indra) Ghosh, Newsletter Editor
lghosh2000@msn.com

Chantill Kahler-Royer, Webmaster
chan@kahler-royer.com

Simeon Francis, Student Contact
(509) 527-7575 (B)
simeon.a.francis@nww01.usace.army.mil

Donald P. Kurkjian, PNC Director
(509) 371-2218 (B)
Dkurkjian@yahoo.com

President's Remarks

Dear Members:

Fall is here and it is time for the annual Future City Competition to begin. Once again, the event is being hosted by the local IEEE branch and spearheaded by Mr. Paul Jackson, 509-377-8527.

The Future City Competition is a wonderful opportunity for engineers and teachers to interact with 7th and 8th graders to develop a city of the future. The kids learn how to operate the SIM City 3000 software, build a scale model of their city, and present their city to a panel of judges. The engineer serves as a mentor to the students in helping them plan their city, build the model, and create an effective presentation. Working with the children is a rewarding experience that may also have the fringe benefit of providing some future engineers. It only takes about 1-2 hours per week from mid-October through February to be a mentor.



If you are interested in being a mentor or you have children in 7th or 8th grade that would be interested in building a city of the future, please contact Paul Jackson at 509-377-8527 or go to www.futurecity.org for more information.

Sincerely,
Ben W. Volk, P.E.

"When I am working on a problem I never think about beauty. I only think about how to solve the problem. But when I have finished, if the solution is not beautiful, I know it is wrong." - R. Buckminster Fuller, engineer, designer, and architect (1895-1983)

Columbia Section October Meeting

Date: October 22, 2003, Wednesday, 11:30 am
Place: International Ballroom II, Shilo Inn, George Washington Way, Richland
Meal: Buffet ~\$10 per person, CASH or CHECK ONLY.
Topic: *Bridge to Bridge, River to Rail Project in downtown Kennewick – Urban Design Assistance Team*
Speaker: Skip Novakovich
RSVP: Jocelyne Gray (509)-783-2144 by October 17.

Yakima Branch October Meeting

Date: October 22, 2003, Wednesday, 12:00 pm
Place: Shari's Restaurant, 1401 Lakeside Ct (40th Ave/Fruitland blvd), Yakima – take 40th St. Exit from SR12.
Topic: *Body of Knowledge and ASCE Governance Structure*
Speaker: Don Phelps, ASCE District 12 Director
RSVP: Mustafa Mahamedali (509) 577-1637 by October 20.

Technical Tour of McNary Dam

October 17, 2003 we will be touring McNary Dam on the Columbia River between Washington and Oregon. The tour begins at 9:00 am. We will meet at J-U-B Engineers parking lot, Clearwater Ave. and Hwy 395 (behind Burger King) at 8:00 am to carpool to the Dam. The tour should last about 3 hours then we will go out to lunch. Please send your full name and citizenship to Jocelyne Gray by October 2003 so she can send the information to the US Army Corps of Engineers for security.

Vice President's Letter

Greetings,

It seems like yesterday it was the beginning of Spring. Now, with Fall officially upon us, we are in the process of scheduling speakers for the upcoming year. The board met and discussed options for speakers and dates at the September 19 board meeting and had some great ideas; however, I think this would be a great time to hear what the section would like. Interesting and relevant topics keep you coming back to the luncheons month after month.

Ideas that the board has discussed include:

- An update from the Department of Ecology on the progress of the Eastern Washington Stormwater Manuals, specifically the Underground Injection Controls (UIC) that will have a direct impact on drywells (Class V UIC wells);
- a presentation on fish advances at the dams;
- a follow-up discussion on the Columbia Basin water rights decisions;
- an update on the Vitrification Plant progress;
- a presentation on the Kennewick water treatment plant pilot project and expansion;
- a presentation on the Public Facilities District Convention Center construction; and
- additional planned construction on the Sacajawea Heritage Trail around the Tri-Cities area.

Dates for meetings this year are typically the third Wednesday of the month. Exceptions to this are the October and December, 2003; and the April 14, 2004 meetings.

If you have any thoughts for topics or speakers, please email those to me or call me at (509) 546-2053.

Thank you,

Byron Perry, P.E.
Vice President
Columbia Section

ASCE National Civil Engineering Conference & Exposition

Keys to Your Future

Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center
Nashville, Tennessee – November 12-15, 2003

For details and online registration, visit:
www.asce.org/conferences/annual03

Walla Walla College Colloquiums

Walla Walla College Society of Women Engineers hosts Colloquiums Wednesday evenings during the school year. They have asked us to provide one speaker per quarter (Fall, Winter, and Spring). If you are interested in talking to engineering students, please contact Louie Yaw at YawLou@wwc.edu. The college is located in College Place near Walla Walla, Washington.

Section Dues

Please elect to pay section dues when you renew your ASCE membership. Section dues are \$12.00 and can be paid when you pay your national dues, please mark the Section Dues on the form. These funds help the Section provide local programs.

Columbia Section November Meeting

Date: November 19, 2003, Wednesday, 11:30 am
Place: International Ballroom II, Shilo Inn, George Washington Way, Richland
Meal: Buffet ~\$10 per person, CASH or CHECK ONLY.
Topic: Open
Speaker: Open
RSVP: Jocelyne Gray (509)-783-2144 by November 14.

Yakima Branch November Meeting

Date: November 19, 2003, Wednesday, 12:00 pm
Place: Shari's Restaurant, 1401 Lakeside Ct (40th Ave/Fruitland blvd), Yakima – take 40th St. Exit from SR12.
Topic: *Quality Assurance and Corporate Performance*
Speaker: Brian Willets, WSDOT
RSVP: Mustafa Mahamedali (509) 577-1637 by November 17.
*There will be no Branch meeting in December.

Columbia Section November Meeting

Date: December, 2003, Wednesday, 11:30 am
Place: International Ballroom II, Shilo Inn, George Washington Way, Richland
Meal: Buffet ~\$10 per person, CASH or CHECK ONLY.
Topic: *City of Kennewick Water Filter Plant Pilot Project and Expansion*
Speaker: Michael Norton, HDR
RSVP: Jocelyne Gray (509)-783-2144 by November 14.

Member Relocation

Chantill Kahler-Royer, our newsletter editor and webmaster has relocated to Minnesota. She will continue to update the website, but the newsletter has been turned over to Indra Ghosh and Jocelyne Gray. Please note: we are having technical problems with our website. Until further notice, the website will not be updated. Sorry for the inconvenience. Chantill is working with National HQ to determine the problem.

September Section Meeting Summary

Gary Weatherly from SCM Engineering spoke about the Jadwin Ave./Stevens Dr. sewer interceptor project. Due to high groundwater, wells were installed every 50 feet during construction to remove the water below the pipe bedding. The meeting was attended by 18 people. At the end of the meeting, Ben Volk presented a Past President's pin to Eric Schmieman for his service as President last year.

Section FY04 Budget

Jocelyne Gray, E.I.T., ASCE
ASCE Columbia Section
2810 W. Clearwater Ave., Ste. 201
Kennewick, WA 99336