



American Society of Civil Engineers

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Columbia Section

Since October 10, 1950

Newsletter

May, 2006

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Columbia Section Meeting – May 17th, 2006

Date: May 17th, 2006

Place: Shilo Inn, George Washington Way, Richland

Meal: Buffet (Chef's choice)

Topic: Secondary Water Systems

Speakers: **John Wilkins-Wells**, Assistant Professor/Senior Research Scientist at Colorado State University, and **Steve Smith**, chairman and vice president of Aqua Engineering in Fort Collins, Colorado

Lunch will start at 11:30, and the presentation will begin at Noon.

RSVP: Darral Moore, dsm@jub.com or 509-783-2144 by May 15th, 2005.

President's Message

Thanks to all who attended our April meeting. Who said there are no free lunches. Mr. Ray Latham, Water Quality Section / CRO, Washington State Department of Ecology gave a great informational presentation regarding temporary storm water permitting for construction sites. Keep this in mind when working on projects in Eastern Washington or you may see Mr. Latham on different terms. The results of the informal survey will be shown in next month's newsletter.

Our next presenters are Mr. John Wilkins-Wells and Mr. Stephen Smith. Mr. Wells is an Assistant Professor/Senior Research Scientist at Colorado State University and is an expert on secondary water systems throughout the Western United States. Secondary water is non-potable (irrigation) water which is provided to residences for lawns and gardens (a la KID).

John conducts workshops on water supply contracts, USBR policy, relative costs, etc. Mr. Smith is chairman and vice president of Aqua Engineering in Fort Collins, Colorado and is working with Mr. Wells on secondary supply. See attached documents for more information about our speakers. The lunch meeting will be on May 17th starting at 11:30 at the Shilo Inn in Richland. Sorry, no free lunch this time. Hope to see all of you there. Sincerely,

Darral

Important Reminders:

Howard Preston Scholarship

This year ASCE Columbia Section will present two Howard Preston Scholarship awards. Each scholarship is awarded for \$1000 and will be presented on August 1, 2006. Applications are available at the colleges and universities for students meeting the qualifications. Scholarships must be received by June 1, 2006.

ASCE Columbia Section Elections

Voting of new officers for 2006-2007. Elections will be conducted during our June meeting. If interested in becoming involved please contact any of the current officers.

What is a WTP, and what does EVMS have to do with it?

Walla Walla College Student ASCE Chapter Banquet

May 10, 2006 – 6:15 PM Ice Breaker, 6:45 PM Dinner, 7:15 Presentation
Alaskan Room, Kellogg Hall, Walla Walla College, College Place, WA
Parking at Corner of Ash and Whitman

Price \$15: Vegetarian menu still being finalized

RSVP by Monday, May 8 to Renee at (509) 527-2765, but please come even if you don't call ahead.

Ron Clendenon has twenty years of experience developing and evaluating cost estimates, and project controls support, for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). He has prepared Government Fair Cost Estimates for juvenile fish facilities on the Lower Snake and Columbia rivers, and prepared estimates for environmental cleanup activities at the DOE Hanford site. Ron has served as the Federal Cost Engineer for the Environmental Restoration Management Contract at the Hanford Site from 1994 to 1999. Since that time Ron has led preparation of the government check estimates at the DOE Office of River Protection for the tank Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant (WTP) Project. Ron is a licensed professional engineer, and certified earned value professional.

Stephen W. Smith

Progress toward PhD., Civil Engineering, Colorado State University
M.S. Irrigation Engineering, Colorado State University
B.S. Agricultural Engineering, New Mexico State University

Steve founded Aqua Engineering, Inc. in 1975 and currently is chairman and vice president of Aqua Engineering in Fort Collins, Colorado. Steve is actively working on his doctorate at Colorado State. In 1996, Steve authored Landscape Irrigation: Design and Management, a non-proprietary textbook on landscape irrigation which was published by John Wiley & Sons. Currently much of Steve's project work has to do with using raw water for landscape irrigation (secondary supply), urbanization impacts on canal companies and irrigation districts, anal modernization, and SCADA.

John Wilkins-Wells

Assistant Professor, Senior Research Scientist
Department of Sociology
Colorado State University

Dr. Wilkins-Wells served in the Armed Forces from 1962 to 1967. He has an M.A. in Cultural Anthropology and a Ph.D. in Sociology. He currently generates 100% of his own faculty appointment funding through competitive grants and domestic and international consulting. He has held his position at Colorado State University since 1986. He received a certificate in 2003 for twenty years of distinguished service at Colorado State University.

He is active in international development projects in agriculture, having conducted research and technical support for the U.S. Agency for International Development in Sri Lanka, Nepal, Pakistan, Egypt, Myanmar (Burma) and Spain. He teaches the annual International Development Seminar, a capstone course offered through the Office of International Programs at Colorado State University.

He conducts water-related institutional research in the West for such entities and agencies as the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Geological Survey, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Colorado Water Conservation Board, the Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station, the Colorado Injury Control Research Center and the Western Center for Risk Management Education. He specializes in research and extension-type projects involving issues facing canal companies and irrigation districts in the Rocky Mountain Region, particularly urban encroachment issues. He has recently organized and conducted fourteen workshops on this issue in four states (California, Idaho, Utah, and Colorado).

He is co-founder of the Ditch and Reservoir Company Alliance of Colorado (www.darca.org), an organization designed to help irrigation companies and districts adjust to urbanization of agricultural lands. He recently received the annual "Headgate" award from the Four States Irrigation Council. He has assisted the Navajo Nation to develop water users associations, and was instrumental in initiating an irrigation demonstration farm of the Shiprock, New Mexico campus of Dine College (formally Navajo Nation Community College).

Between 1995 and the present, he developed the Sociology Water Lab. This facility, located at Colorado State University, has received competitive grant assistance since 1995 in excess of one million dollars. The Lab focuses on practical and applied research in service to irrigated agriculture in the western United States. The Sociology Water Lab website can be found at <http://waterlab.colostate.edu>.

Recent research conducted by the Sociology Water Lab at Colorado State University and funded by the Bureau of Reclamation has focused on a nexus of related issues having to do with water conservation and the future of agricultural water supplies in arid lands. These include: 1) documenting the rising costs of irrigation canal management due to urban encroachment, 2) documenting recent trends in the dollar investment that growers have made to improve their on-farm irrigation technologies and, 3) identifying innovative ways to help finance the modernization of large irrigation canal systems to conserve more water in the future. This includes entering into the provision of pressurized secondary water for lawns and gardens in urban fringe areas.