



American Society of Civil Engineers

Our web site: <http://sections.asce.org/columbia/index.html>

Columbia Section

Since October 10, 1950

Newsletter

January 2009

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Columbia Section Meeting

Date: Wednesday, January 21st, 2009

Place: **Shilo Inn, George Washington Way, Richland**

Meal: Buffet (Chef's choice) - \$15 per person
Please pay cash or check to treasurer at meeting

Topic: Federal/State Economic Stimulus Package and Recent Transportation Legislative Issues for the Region

Speaker: Mark Kushner, Transportation Director
Benton Franklin Council of Governments

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

RSVP to: Paul Smith, Psmith@mackaysposito.com or 509-374-4248 by January 20th, 2009.

Dear Members:

Well the holidays quickly slipped by and now it's back to business as usual. I hope you and your family had a blessed holiday season. This month Mr. Mark Kushner from the Benton Franklin Council of Governments has agreed to speak on the proposed Federal/state Economic Stimulus package and the recent transportation legislative issues for the region such as the Columbia River bridge proposal, commute trip reduction, reauthorization of the Federal Transportation Act and all weather roads.

In the past couple of newsletters we have been asking for any interest in the P.E. exam preparation courses offered by ASCE. We did not receive any interest in putting this together. If anyone else has other ideas on how ASCE may be of benefit to them in the development of their engineering career, please let me know and I'll be glad to take it to our members.

I hope you will be able to attend this month's meeting, I look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,

Jay Marlow, P.E.
Columbia Section, President

Presentation

Federal/State Economic Stimulus Package and Recent Transportation Legislative Issues for the Region

Speaker

**Mark Kushner, Transportation Director
Benton Franklin Council of Governments**

Mark will discuss the latest on the Federal/State Economic Stimulus package as well as the recent transportation legislative issues for the region...such as: new Columbia River Bridge proposal, commute trip reduction, reauthorization of the Federal Transportation Act, all weather roads.

Help Guide the Future of Our Nation's Infrastructure Renew Today!

Have you renewed your 2009 ASCE membership? ASCE dues were due on Dec. 31, 2008, which means if you haven't renewed your 2009 membership, you run the risk of losing your valuable ASCE benefits, such as membership in your local ASCE Section or Branch. Plus, 2009 has the potential to be a significant year for ASCE and civil engineers. As we prepare to welcome a new president who has promised to place infrastructure renewal at the forefront of domestic issues, the Obama administration has already tapped ASCE to play a leading role in deciding where money from the stimulus package would best be spent.

Take pride in your role in educating the public and policy leaders about the importance of infrastructure to our nation's safety and economic security. And support the fight to renew our nation's infrastructure by renewing your 2009 ASCE membership.

You can renew your ASCE and Section/Branch membership today by going to www.asce.org/renewal.

"Volunteers Needed"

Career Showcase February 11th

There will be a career showcase in Pendleton for 8th graders February 11th from 9am to 3pm. Approximately 800 – 1000 8th graders attend and tour various career booths. I could use some help manning a booth for Civil Engineering. It is held at the Convention Center and you get lunch.

Technical Competition February 22nd

On Thursday February 22nd we will be having a Technical Student Competition on Campus at BMCC. That evening I would like to have Engineers from the local area host and participate in a dinner for these students. They are all high school age and are competing in competitions that are aimed at engineering subjects.

If you can help on either of these projects contact Dave Krumbein,
541/278-5748 or
david.krumbein@bluecc.edu

Meet Your Officers

Columbia Section Secretary/Treasurer

Meet Chris Ellis, E.I.T.

Design Engineer, J-U-B Engineers, Inc.

Ph: 509-783-2144

1. Tell us a little about you – how did you end up in this industry?

I have always been interested in the Engineering world ever since I was a little kid. I loved to build things and look at large structures and wonder how they were built. After taking drafting classes in High School I decided that in order to continue my passion for designing things I would need to become a Civil Engineer, so I tailored the rest of my High School career to ready me for college in the Engineering profession.

I went on to attend Oregon State University and received my B.S. in Civil Engineering.

2. Tell us about your company?

I had started my work on the construction side to better understand how things could be designed to help the construction process be completed. Once I became more educated on how things were constructed and the problems associated with designs, I moved to J-U-B Engineers, Inc. Since I have been at J-U-B Engineers, Inc. I have enjoyed the chance to design roadways in challenging terrain, design a lot of the clean-up efforts for the Hanford Area, as well as working with home owners to find out information to better our designs so they are happy as well.

J-U-B Engineers, Inc. has 14 Offices in 4 states – Idaho, Washington, Utah, and Colorado. We currently employ approximately 300 employees. The Kennewick office has 27 full time employees, 3 of which are E.I.T.'s. We have four main departments within the Kennewick office which are Transportation design, Water/Wastewater design, Site Development and Construction Management.

3. Why did you join ASCE?

I joined ASCE while I was a student at Oregon State University and started my career there as an officer, first becoming the Treasurer/Activities Chair and moving my way up to Vice President by my senior year. The reason I joined was to become a part of a great society of Engineers in which I could meet lots of new people and learn about the Engineering world. As well as get my face out into the Engineering world so that I could have a better network of people to contact within companies for when I received my Civil Engineering degree.

4. What are the top challenges facing our industry?

The top challenges facing our industry vary year by year usually it is a challenge to have enough staff to complete the projects by their deadlines, but now with the economic downturn it is trying to figure out new paths to take as a company which will allow us to prosper and continue helping the society as best we can.

5. How should ASCE help address this issue?

I believe that ASCE does a significant job in promoting our industry. They give scholarship to college students, as well as grants to schools supporting engineering type activities. I think about the only thing that could be changes is focusing on giving more scholarships to college students interested in the Engineering Profession.

6. What else should other ASCE members know about you? Your business?

I am also an Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America so if anybody needs help in their troop around the Tri-Cities I would love to get involved again.



Washington Society of Professional Engineers

A state society of the National Society of Professional Engineers

Tri-Cities Chapter

Presents

“Air Quality”

by

Beth Hodgson, P.E.

Ms. Hodgson is owner and president of Spring Environmental, Inc. located in Spokane. She is also currently president of the Washington Society of Professional Engineers (WSPE). Beth has made one of her goals as president of WSPE to visit all WSPE Chapters. Ms. Hodgson is an air quality expert and will be talking about her work on identifying and controlling sources of fugitive dust emissions, monitoring air emissions, and permitting. She will also provide an update on WSPE activities.

Wednesday, January 21, 2009

Shilo Inn, Richland, WA

6:30 pm – Dinner

7:00 pm – Presentation

DINNER RESERVATIONS are required by 4:00 pm Tuesday, January 20, 2008

Required reservations should be forwarded to Steven Short, P.E.

via e-mail (Steve.Short@pnl.gov) or phone at 375-2868.

COST: Dinner (order off menu) + \$5 donation to WSPE to cover room costs

There is no charge to attend the presentation only.