



Monthly Newsletter

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Visit us on the Web!
sections.asce.org/columbia

Since October 10, 1950

February 2012

Columbia Section Monthly Meeting

Date:	February 22, 2012
Place:	Rotunda in the Water & Environmental Center at Walla Walla Community College 500 Tausick Way, Walla Walla WA 99362
Meal:	Catering by: WWCC Culinary Arts Program (BBQ Chicken, Ribs, Baked Beans, Corn on the Cob, Potato Salad, Chips, Apple Crisp & Ice Cream) - \$20 for members and non-members. Please pay cash or check to treasurer at meeting.
Topic:	FISH FRIENDLY DESIGN CRITERIA FOR HYDROPOWER TURBINES
Speaker:	Shawn Nelson, PE PMP
Dinner will start at 6:30 pm. The presentation will begin at 7:00 pm.	

President's Remarks

Hi everyone,

It's February again, which means it's time for annual engineering week celebrations. This month's meeting will be on Wednesday, February 22nd. We are having our annual Walla Walla nighttime meeting at Walla Walla Community College. I am pleased to have Shawn Nelson speaking about fish friendly design for hydropower turbines!

Shawn Nelson, P.E., PMP; is a Project Manager for the Walla Walla District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Shawn has been with The Corps of Engineers for a total of 15 years, with a 4 year break in service working as a land development project manager in California. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from the United States Military Academy and a Master's Degree in Hydraulic Engineering from Missouri University of Science and Technology. Mr. Nelson's project focus in the Walla Walla District is primarily turbine design, replacement, and rehabilitation projects.

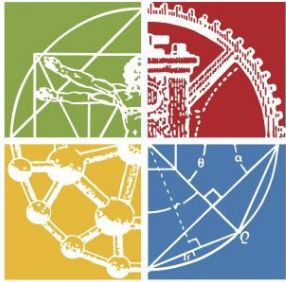
I hope to see you all there. This month especially it is imperative we have 72 hours notice for catering reasons of the venue. Please RSVP in a timely fashion. If you have any questions please feel free to contact myself or any of our other officers. Have a great week.

Sincerely,

Chris Ells, PE



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ENGINEERS WEEK® 2012

February 19-25



KAPLAN Offers Columbia Section Members Publication Discounts

Columbia Section recently partnered with Kaplan AEC Professional Publications to offer their members a 20% discount on all materials purchased through our exclusive web portal. Use this web address when looking to purchase items such as Civil PE Review, LEED v3 Preparation, among many others.

http://www.kaplanaecengineering.com/kaplanAECEngineering/home.aspx?catalog_id=ASCECS

2012 Tri-Cities Engineers Week Banquet

When: Friday, February 24th, 6:00 pm

Where: Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick

Tickets: Before Feb 17th-\$35, after Feb 17th and before Feb 22nd-\$40. Contact Bonnie Bates, bbates@tricity.wsu.edu or 509-372-7171.

Dr. Karen Panetta will present "Engineering the Future in the 21st Century."

Walla Walla University Engineers Week Banquet

When: Thursday, February 23rd, 6:30 pm

Where: Reid Campus Center, Whitman College, Boyer Ave. at Park St., Walla Walla

Tickets: General \$30/Students \$20. Call 509-527-2765. Deadline Friday February 17th.

Imagine a world without traffic and parking congestion. That dream is what motivated Rick Woodbury, founder and president of Commuter Cars in Spokane to start looking for an alternative to the 4-plus-passenger, gasoline-powered car or SUV that most of us currently drive. His solution: the Tango, an electric vehicle that is about the size of a motorcycle while still offering the safety and comfort of a car. At just 39 inches wide, it can fit comfortably in half of a lane and park in as little as a quarter of a parallel parking space.

Here more about the Tango, its features, and its production from Woodbury in a presentation titled, "Innovative Disruption in the World of Transportation". The presentation is a highlight of Engineers Week events sponsored by the Walla Walla University's Edward F. Cross School of Engineering.

Mid-Columbia Regional Engineering and Science Fair

When: March 8, 9, & 10, 2012

Where: Columbia Center Mall, Kennewick

We are now organizing the 57th annual MCSF. The MCSF outreach is to grade 6-12 students in our region. MCSF motivates students to excel in science and engineering and provides them constructive critique from working professionals to guide their development. MCSF encourages middle school participation through focused and constructive judging and the awarding of science camp scholarships.

<http://www.mcsf.net/index2.html>



**ENGINEERS
WEEK® 2012**
February 19-25

Made possible by:

**Tri-Cities Engineering Week
Coalition**

**3 Rivers Community Foundation
(Tri-Cities EWeek – 3RCF) &**

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
TRI-CITIES
World Class. Face to Face.

Engineers turn dreams into reality

2012 Tri-Cities Engineers Week Banquet

Friday, 24 February 2012

Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick, WA

6:00 PM – Social hour with no host bar

*6:30 PM – Buffet Dinner, Program & Awarding of the
2011 Tri-Cities Engineer of the Year*

DINNER RESERVATIONS are required

Before 4 PM Friday, 17 February 2012: \$250 for table of 8 or \$35 per person

After Feb 17th & before 4 PM Feb 22nd : \$300 for table of 8 or \$40 per person

(to join a table contact your technical society or your EWeek corporate POC)

For Information or Reservations (table or individual) contact:

Bonnie Bates, bbates@tricity.wsu.edu or 509-372-7171

*Checks for reservations (or donations) will be made out to "Tri-Cities EWeek – 3RCF" and sent to:
3 Rivers Community Foundation ~ 1333 Columbia Park Trail #310 - Richland, WA 99352*

Speaker: Dr. Karen Panetta

Professor & Director of the Simulation Research Laboratory at Tufts University, MA

NASA Langley Research Scientist "JOVE" Fellow

Created the nationally acclaimed "Nerd Girls" program, where undergraduate engineers research renewable energy topics and serve as role models for younger students

2011 Anita Borg Institute Women of Vision Award winner for Social Impact

2010 Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring

-- awarded by the White House to individuals and organizations, recognizes the crucial role that mentoring plays in the academic and personal development of students studying science and engineering.



Presenting: *Engineering the Future in the 21st Century*

2012 Tri-Cities EWeek Sponsors: Battelle, WSU Tri-Cities Alumni

National EWeek Chairs for 2012: Battelle and ASME

Learn more at: www.eweek.org

“Innovative Disruption in the World of Transportation”

Located in the Reid Campus Center, on the Whitman College campus.

Thursday, February 23, 2012 at 6:30PM.

*Dinner is \$20.00 per student or \$30.00 for the general public.
For more ticketing information, contact Renee at 527-2765.*

Deadline for reserving tickets is February 17, 2012.

Steve Jobs once said, “People don’t know what they want until we show them.” When asked by a reporter, what kind of market analysis he did before coming out with the Macintosh, Jobs scoffed and asked, “What kind of market analysis do you think Alexander Graham Bell did before inventing the Telephone?” But it is also true that people sure know what they don’t want. They hate traffic congestion and looking for parking places. A disruptive innovation is needed.

An electric car is not a disruptive innovation. It does not make peoples’ lives easier or more enjoyable. Being green will certainly sell a number of EVs. However, it is not enough to get tens of millions to switch from gasoline to electric.

Disruption must provide a major improvement, and in the case of electric cars, must have huge benefits to offset the drawbacks.

Looking through the lens of getting a job done, it is obvious that commuters are using the wrong tool for the job. There are 140 million workers in the US, of which 106 million are single-occupant drivers carrying around four or more empty seats, which are the cause of traffic and parking congestion. The right tool for the job is the size of a motorcycle with the safety and comfort of a car that can fit in half a lane and park four in a typical parallel parking space.

This vehicle now exists. It is called the Tango. It is expensive at present, but could be manufactured as inexpensively as any other car of the same quality, if produced in a similar volume. The dilemma is finding the capital to build in volume when companies depend on market analysis to make their decisions.



ABOUT OUR SPEAKER

Rick Woodbury, President and founder of Commuter Cars, has widespread sales and marketing experience in the high-end car industry, and an extensive mechanical and electrical engineering background.

In about 1982, while stuck in traffic, commuting from Hermosa Beach to Beverly Hills, he noticed that all of the cars around him had only a single occupant. Noting that there are millions in this exact situation every day wasting precious hours of their lives, the narrow vehicle solution dawned on him. Tired of waiting for automotive companies to do the obvious and create a narrow car, Rick started building a prototype with his son Bryan, in a garage in 1998. The Tango has been in constant development since then, and Tangos have been sold to the Google founders, George Clooney, and a number of others.