

February 2023

ASCE SEATTLE FEBRUARY MEETING:

WED
FEB
15

5:30PM
-
7:00PM

A REVISIT TO THE 1980 MT ST. HELENS ERUPTION

from a Civil / Geotechnical Engineer's Experience:
The Repair of the Yakima Tieton Irrigation District Feeder Canal

JOIN US VIRTUALLY ON ZOOM

Speaker: Frank W Pita

This talk is about one of his early projects that happened in June of 1980, when a portion of an irrigation feeder canal was washed off a steep canyon hillside caused by the St. Helens ash that blanketed the area. The runoff from a typical afternoon thunderstorm when mixed with the new 4 to 8 inches of SM type ash resulted in a slurry that carried stumps, trees & rocks into the canal and not through the culverts beneath, which were plugged by the ash. This material 'dammed' the gravity flowing canal & backed up the water so it went over the edge in one critical place & eroded / undermined the natural hillside soils resulting in a huge landslide of the supported material that resulted in that portion of the canal dropping nearly 100 feet. The canal water then poured out, eroding nearly all the soil down the bedrock, until shutdown at the headworks.

Frank became involved 2 days after the failure of the canal and was part of the team that got the water running again in a total of 19 days. If not for the success of this team of engineers, contractors, and a helpful County government, approximately 26,000 acres of fruit trees would have been damaged or ruined. This talk will set the stage of what was happening in 1980 related to the eruption and explain the engineering design and approach developed to speed up the solution.

[Register Here](#)

Date: Wednesday, February 15

Time: 5:30pm - 7:00pm

Location: Virtual, Zoom
(register for link)



February President's Column

By Elyssa Dixon, PE

ASCE Seattle Section President

Hello Seattle Section!

It was so great to see many of you at the networking event in mid-January and I look forward to holding similar events in the coming months. We are hosting our first Ski

[Section Officers
Contact](#)

[Newsletter Editor
Contact](#)

[Upcoming Events
Calendar](#)

[Recent Board
Meeting Minutes](#)

[Current Job Board
Openings](#)

[Post a Job
Opportunity](#)

[Younger Members
Forum](#)

Night at Snoqualmie Pass on February 23. See below to sign up!

Our January meeting was a very engaging presentation coordinated by the YMF from Wayne Chang on his work with Save the Children as a Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Technical advisor in Ukraine. Thanks for sharing your experience and for everyone's wonderful questions!

I'm looking forward to our February joint meeting with the Geotechnical Institute and a presentation from Frank Pita on the repair of the Yakima Tieton Irrigation District Feeder Canal following the 1980 Mt. St. Helen's Eruption. Frank has been an active member of the R.H. Thompson Scholarship review committee for the past few years and I've greatly enjoyed hearing his experience as a geotechnical engineer in the Northwest.

See below for other ways you can get involved with our community and feel free to reach out any time. I hope to see you soon!

**MARCH 2023
NEWSLETTER
CONTENT DEADLINE:
February 20, 2022**

LOCEA Award Nominations Due February 13



NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN!

2023 ASCE SEATTLE
LOCEA
AWARDS

DUE 2.13.2023

LOCAL OUTSTANDING CIVIL ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

NEW!! **NEW!!**



NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN!

**2023 ASCE SEATTLE
LOCEA
AWARDS**

DUE 2.13.2023

ENGINEER OF THE YEAR / YOUNG ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

ASCE Seattle Ski Night



**ASCE SEATTLE SECTION
SKI NIGHT**

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 4PM-9:30PM
SNOQUALMIE PASS SKI AREA (CENTRAL)

Join us for a fun night on the slopes! The ASCE Seattle Section Ski Night is at Snoqualmie Pass Ski Area (Central) on February 23, 2023. This will be a great opportunity to reconnect with other ASCE members after a couple of years without many in-person events.

Who's Invited

Anybody affiliated with ASCE Seattle. Bring your coworkers, clients, consultants, and contractors! All ability levels are welcome.

[More information and registration here.](#)

High School Seeks Volunteers to Supervise Canoe Project



Gibson Ek High School, a project-based public school in Issaquah, is seeking two or more adult volunteers to come to campus to supervise students in their campus Production Lab/woodshop from 9am to noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays through the end of the school year to finish a handcrafted cedar-strip canoe.

Volunteers don't need to know all of the ins and outs of building a boat. Very specific instructions will be provided. If you know of anybody interested, please email Internship Coordinator Casey Henry at henryc@gibsonek.org.

Upcoming Committee Meetings

History & Heritage Committee
The next History & Heritage Committee Meeting is

Diversity Committee
The next Diversity Committee Meeting is

scheduled for **Saturday, February 4 at 8am.**

scheduled for **Tuesday, February 21 at 5pm.**

History & Heritage Committee meetings are held via Zoom. If you are interested in joining ASCE Seattle's History and Heritage Committee or attending their monthly virtual meetings, reach out to [Cindy Hirsch](#).

If you are interested in joining ASCE Seattle's Diversity Committee or attending their monthly virtual meetings, reach out to Diversity Chair, [Joshua Shin](#).

Younger Member Forum (YMF)

Interested in networking events and opportunities with ASCE Seattle's Younger Members? Be sure to [subscribe to the YMF Newsletter here](#) to stay up to date.

Engineer's Award Banquet - February 18

The 64th Annual PSEC Awards Banquet will be held Saturday, February 18th, at 6:00 PM at the Boeing Museum of Flight. This is a unique opportunity to celebrate the profession of engineering and to recognize the extraordinary achievements of our colleagues.

This year's keynote presentation will be provided by Zach Slaton, Senior Assistant Chief Engineer (Embedded Systems) with Kenworth Truck Co. Kenworth will be celebrating their 100th anniversary in 2023.

Honorees for the evening will include the 2023 PSEC Academic Engineer of the Year, Industry Engineer of the Year, Government Engineer of the Year, Young Engineer of the Year and Professional Engineer of the Year. This year, ASCE members will receive the following awards:

Academic Engineer-of-the-Year

Prof. Pedro Arduino, Ph.D., University of Washington

Government Engineer-of-the-Year

Tony Allen, P.E., Washington State Department of Transportation

Professional Engineer-of-the-Year

Donald Anderson, Ph.D., P.E., GE, D.G.E., Jacobs Engineering

Kenneth W. Porter Award

Nicole Peden, Davido Consulting Group

Young Engineer-of- the-Year

Philip Yu, Mott MacDonald, LLC.

Please join us at the banquet to honor the awards winners. For more information on the banquet and a link to the registration page, visit <https://pseconline.org/engineers-banquet/>

K-12 Volunteer Interest Form

Are you interested in volunteering for K-12 STEM events and interested in inspiring the next generation of engineers?

If you answered **YES**, please fill out the google form to the right if you would like to be updated about future K-12 volunteer events in the Seattle Area. After you fill out this form, you will be notified of K-12 volunteer opportunities in the area. Please know that you are not required to sign up for any event by filling out this form.

Please contact Nicki Peden (K-12 Outreach Chair) at k12asce.seattle@gmail.com for any questions, comments or additional information



[Google Form](#)

Section Meeting Recordings Now on YouTube!

ASCE Seattle is now on YouTube! Find recordings of our past Section Meetings and subscribe to our

ASCE Seattle Job Board

No current jobs posted - advertise yours today!

Advertise your current open positions to ASCE Seattle members today for only \$75 for the first month and \$50 for each subsequent month of the same content.

[Email communications@seattleasce.org to learn more.](mailto:communications@seattleasce.org)

DID YOU KNOW?

All ASCE Seattle Members are always invited to join the Seattle Section Board Members at the monthly Board Meeting. Interested in attending? Check the [calendar on the ASCE Seattle website](#) for the meeting time and location and email president@seattleasce.org if you plan on joining us!

