

November 2017

### President's Message

By Derek McCoy



I hope that all of you has a happy and safe Halloween and are bracing as we move swiftly into the 2017 Holliday Season! The section has already held two interesting events and we are already farther along than we have been in quite sometime to maintain our momentum in order to continue to bring our membership interesting, high-value programs each month.

Last month, we had a very interesting technical tour of the Green River Water Filtration Plant hosted by Jason Moline of Tacoma Water. The plant provides filtered drinking water to about 300,000 people in the greater Tacoma area. This month, the section has planned a Holiday Gathering at The Oyster House in Olympia. You have probably already received an email with a link to RSVP for the event. I encourage you to register and share the information with your friends and colleagues – the more the merrier! I am happy to announce that we have negotiated a new joint section meeting for the upcoming program year. As you know, September is our Joint Meeting with Structural Engineers Association of Washington (SEAW), December we partner with the Seattle ASCE Section, and in March we join the Mt. Tahoma Post Society of American Military Engineers (SAME). This January, we will hold our first-ever joint meeting with the Land Surveyors' Association of Washington (LSAW). Be sure to check out our [events webpage](#) for more information as we continue to coordinate these events.

I would like to take this time to highlight ASCE's Outstanding Projects and Leaders (OPAL) Awards program which recognizes individuals and projects that have made significant accomplishments, achievements, and differences in our community in the following categories: design, construction, government, education, or management. I would encourage our membership to begin the process early and submit nominations for: Outstanding Individual, Small Projects (Under \$1 million in value), and Large Projects (Over \$1 million in value). Award recipients at the Section level can go on to receive nominations and awards at the regional and national levels as well. You can find out more information about the nomination requirements by visiting our new [awards page](#).

I'm sure many of the section's young members took on the PE exam just last month and I send my hope and encouragement as they wait, patiently or not, for the results. I hope that the section, YMG, and GeoEngineers review events were beneficial. Our Past President, Frank Marscalco, dedicated a great deal of his time to coordinate these reviews. We would appreciate to hear any comments or suggestions that would help improve this program as we hope to do them again before the April exam. Send this feedback to [asce.tacoma.olympia@gmail.com](mailto:asce.tacoma.olympia@gmail.com).

Thanks for reading, and hope to see you soon!

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*Point Defiance Park sporting its fall colors.  
Photo credit to Claire Mendenhall. Reach her  
on Instagram at Detailgirl253!*

## November 2017 Monthly Program

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### Annual Holiday Gathering

It's that time again – holiday season is upon us! There's no shortage of holiday parties and gatherings to attend, and we are no different! Our annual holiday gathering is a great way to come out and socialize with your fellow section members in a relaxed, casual environment. This fun evening event is informal in that it lacks a schedule or a program, giving our members more time to network and share a laugh or two.

The section will provide appetizers and members are free to order entrees or drinks. Don't miss this opportunity to build your network and have a little fun! We hope to see you there!

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| <b>Date and Time</b> | November 15, 2017 at 6:00 PM   |
| <b>Location</b>      | The Oyster House<br>320 4 <sup>th</sup> Avenue West<br>Olympia, WA 98501     |
| <b>Menu</b>          | <a href="#">Click here to see the menu</a>                                   |
| <b>Price</b>         | There is no fee to attend, but members are expected to cover their own bill. |
| <b>Reservations</b>  | You can RSVP by <a href="#">clicking here!</a>                               |

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## Announcements

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We have plenty of information to share and opportunities to engage coming up, so be sure to check in.

- ***ASCE Tacoma-Olympia Swag: Coming Soon***

Our section will soon offer embroidered polo shirts for sale. When they are ready for pre-order, we will distribute a link. Look for that soon. Our section is also looking in to the possibility of offering other items to support our section.

- ***OPAL Awards Begins Early This Year***

In an effort to build a more successful OPAL Awards program in our section, our leadership has begun the awards process early this year. The idea is to allow our members plenty of time to put together nominations packages. The exact scoring criteria are still being evaluated, but members can get a preview and early look at the program by visiting our [awards page](#). Please take a moment to review last year's criteria and think of some great projects or engineers who might be candidates for awards this year.

- ***ASCE is Now Offering Professional Development Hours***

As if you needed another reason to come out to our great monthly programs! Our section is now issuing professional development hours (PDHs) for attendance at our technical tours and dinner presentations. When you sign up for an event, use the electronic form to indicate whether you would like to receive PDHs for attending the meeting. Many of our members have already taken advantage of this great value-add!

- ***Government Relations Committee Seeks Co-Chair and Participants***

We are pleased to announce that the section's standing Government Relations Committee has a new chair! Ms. Bernie Sison comes to our section with experience in legislative matters for several other professional groups, and we are excited to have her leadership for our own. If you have ever wanted to participate in government relations in ASCE, now is the time! If you are interested, contact Bernie directly at [berniepmi@gmail.com](mailto:berniepmi@gmail.com)!

## Recent Events

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### *Green River Water Filtration Plant Technical Tour*

October's technical tour of the Green River Water Filtration Plant was a huge success. Tacoma Water's Jason Moline led our group through the plant. The group was able to witness a backwashing operation on two of the plant's filters and the group was able to get up close and personal with the largest installation of screw presses in use for the production of drinking water. The weather was a bit on the wet side and the drive was a little long for a Saturday morning, but it was all worth it! If you missed out, I feel sorry for you!



## Volunteering Opportunities

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The Tacoma-Olympia section of ASCE needs all of its members to make our section all that it can be! We currently have positions to serve on committees, get involved with our Younger Members Group, and help coordinate events or give presentations. We also have volunteer opportunities for community-minded individuals. Here are some open volunteer positions we have available now. Our volunteer opportunities are always changing, so remember to check back next month if you can't join anything this month! Contact any of your board members if you are interested in serving.

**Government Relations Committee Participants;** *Approx. time commitment: 0 to 1 day per month.* The Government Relations Committee is a standing committee within the Section. The committee has a chair and is now in need of a co-chair and participants. The committee may write articles for our newsletter, mobilize members to action for important legislative events or bills, or coordinate with state lobbyists. Some ASCE members even participate in the annual fly-in to Washington D.C. Now is an excellent time to step up and serve the committee under our experienced committee chair's leadership.

**History and Heritage Committee Chair;** *Approx. time commitment: 0 to 2 days per month.* The History and Heritage Committee is a standing committee concerned with local civil engineering history. This committee position is an excellent fit for history buffs. The responsibilities include researching and dedicating historic works of civil engineering within our geographic area of coverage. The committee is also tasked with producing a quarterly newsletter article about a local work of civil engineering and what makes it historically significant.

**Math and Science Tutor (Ongoing);** *Approx. time commitment: varies.* Our Section members help local students with math and science tutoring through programs in our schools and colleges. If you have a knack for helping young people with their technical studies, our Section needs your help! You can volunteer for positions that are local and work within your time limitations.

**Program Speakers;** *Approx. time commitment: 2 days per event.* Our section is always looking for individuals willing to speak to the Section at our monthly programs. Topics pertaining to engineering are always welcome, but our Section has hosted speakers who have given presentations about a range of other topics as well. Speakers are provided with a meal and a small personal item as thanks for their willingness to contribute.

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

### November 2017

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|----|---|
| 1  | ASCE Tacoma-Olympia Board Meeting – 6:30 PM<br>Hawks Prairie Restaurant & Sports Bar<br>8306 Quinault Drive Northeast<br>Olympia, WA 98516<br>RSVP not necessary – open attendance to all members   |
| 9  | ASCE Tacoma-Olympia Budget Audit Meeting – 5:30 PM<br>Tully's in Downtown Tacoma<br>764 Broadway<br>Tacoma, WA 98402  |
| 15 | November Section Meeting – 6:00 PM<br>Annual Tacoma-Olympia Holiday Gathering<br>The Oyster House<br>320 4 <sup>th</sup> Avenue West<br>Olympia, WA 98501<br>RSVP at our website: <a href="http://sections.asce.org/tacoma-olympia/events">http://sections.asce.org/tacoma-olympia/events</a> |
| 23 | Thanksgiving!   |

### December 2017

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|----|---|
| 6  | ASCE Tacoma-Olympia Board Meeting – 6:30 PM<br>Elmer's of Tacoma<br>7427 South Hosmer Street<br>Tacoma, WA 98408<br>RSVP not necessary – open attendance to all members   |
| 13 | December Section Meeting<br>Annual Joint Section Meeting with the Seattle Section<br>Capital Development and Engineering at the Port of Seattle<br>Ramada Tukwila Southcenter<br>15901 West Valley Highway<br>Tukwila, WA 98188<br>RSVP at our website: <a href="http://sections.asce.org/tacoma-olympia/events">http://sections.asce.org/tacoma-olympia/events</a> |
| 25 | Christmas!  |
| 31 | New Year's Eve  |

### January 2018

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| 1  | New Year's Day<br>Get ready: 2018 will be here before you know it! |
| 17 | Joint Section Meeting with LSAW                                    |

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## Membership Information

National membership rates may be found at <http://www.asce.org/membership>.

Section membership rates

- Individual: \$25 per year
- Student member: free
- Life member: Free

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## Advertising Rates

Did you know you can purchase advertising space to promote your business, sponsor the section, and spread the word about job opportunities? Our newsletter is distributed to a growing membership base with about 500 viewers each month. We offer space in our newsletter at the following monthly rates:

- 1/4 page: \$25
- 1/2 page: \$50
- Full page: \$100

If you are interested in purchasing space in our newsletter, contact our treasurer Jessie Chen at (253) 310-6046 or [Jessie.asce@hotmail.com](mailto:Jessie.asce@hotmail.com).

If you're a member seeking employment, you can request space in our newsletter to run a short ad. All you need to do is contact us!

Connect with us on Facebook! [Click here!](#)  
Check out our Instagram account! [Click here!](#)

Looking for a previous issue of the newsletter? You can find them all on our website at: <http://sections.asce.org/tacoma-olympia/newsletter>.

| <b>Branch Contact Information</b>   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <b>President</b><br>Derek McCoy, PE<br>Hatton Godat Pantier, Inc.<br>(719) 200-3041<br><a href="mailto:dukemccoy@gmail.com">dukemccoy@gmail.com</a>                         | <b>President-Elect</b><br>Tim Horton, PE<br>Skillings Connolly, Inc.<br>(360) 491-3399<br><a href="mailto:thorton@skillings.com">thorton@skillings.com</a>       | <b>Secretary</b><br>John "Chase" Eaton<br>Parametrix<br>(253) 604-6600<br><a href="mailto:jchase.eaton@gmail.com">jchase.eaton@gmail.com</a> |
| <b>Past President</b><br>Frank Marescalco, PE<br>City of Tacoma<br>(253) 591-5423<br><a href="mailto:fmarescalco@cityoftacoma.org">fmarescalco@cityoftacoma.org</a>         | <b>Treasurer</b><br>Jessie Chen, PE<br>APA – Engineered Wood Association<br>(253) 310-6046<br><a href="mailto:Jessyyue78@hotmail.com">Jessyyue78@hotmail.com</a> | <b>Director</b><br>Chris Beckman, PE<br>(253) 468-0309<br><a href="mailto:bmwjupiter@gmail.com">bmwjupiter@gmail.com</a>                     |
| <b>Younger Members Chair</b><br>Carlyn Harlow<br>Apex Engineering, PLLC<br>(253) 473-4494<br><a href="mailto:tacoma.olympia.ymg@gmail.com">tacoma.olympia.ymg@gmail.com</a> | <b>Director</b><br>Deepa Akula, PE<br>McFarland Cascade<br>(253) 572-3033<br><a href="mailto:akuladeepareddy@yahoo.co.in">akuladeepareddy@yahoo.co.in</a>        | <b>Director</b><br>Vacant  |

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