President’s Message

Wow! Once again the Holidays are right around the corner. Starting with one of my favorites, Thanksgiving! A time to be with our families and friends, eat a lot and have a great time. But it is also a time to reflect and count all of our blessings, big or small, and to express and show our gratitude. So I want to take this opportunity to extend my appreciation to all of you, our members, for your ongoing support and participation in different events, programs and meetings. Thanks for helping to make this year a wonderful and successful year. With all of this positive energy, we are looking forward to an even more interesting year ahead.

Our October meeting was great. Trang Huynh, P.E., Chief Building Official of Rancho Cucamonga along with Jeff Simonetti, Senior Vice President of the Baldy View Chapter, Building industry Association of Southern California and BIA member Terry Kent presented very positive information on steps taken by the City to grow the economy by streamlining and improving the project review and plan check process. They suggested that advances within the City could benefit economic development in other jurisdictions in the Inland Empire.

Once again I would like to encourage everyone to visit our ASCE branch website at http://www.asce-sbriv.org/. This is a valuable resource available to branch members. The website provides general information about current ASCE events, past newsletters and access to other links. For example you can read more on ASCE’s 141st Annual Civil Engineering Conference. October 20-22 in Memphis Tennessee. 1,200 ASCE members from the US and 12 foreign countries participated in three days of short courses, technical tours, panel discussions, and lectures.
The Holland Tunnel

Begun in 1920 and completed in 1927, the tunnel is named after Clifford Milburn Holland (1883–1924), Chief Engineer on the project, who died before it was completed. Famed tunnel designer Ole Singstad finished Holland's work. The tunnel is one of the earliest examples of a ventilated design, having 80-foot-diameter (24 m) fans providing transverse air flow across the roadway at regular intervals, via systems of ducts. Ventilation was required by the advent of the automobile and associated exhaust.

The tunnel consists of a pair of tubes, each providing two lanes in a 20-foot (6 m) roadway width and 12.5 feet (3.8 m) of headroom. The north tube is 8,558 feet (2,608 m) from end to end, while the south tube is slightly shorter at 8,371 feet (2,551 m). Both tubes are situated in the bedrock beneath the river, with the lowest point of the roadway approximately 93 feet (28 m) below mean high water.

Completion of the tunnel took nearly seven years, and claimed the lives of fourteen workers. The tunnel opened on November 13, 1927, with President Coolidge pressing a golden lever that triggered American flags on both sides of the tunnel to separate. Vehicles were allowed to pass through the tunnel at one minute after midnight, with the widows of Chief Engineers Holland and Freeman in the second toll-paying vehicle. The tunnel was an immediate success. On its first day of operation, 51,694 vehicles passed through, paying a 50 cent toll ($6.19 in 2009 dollars) per car (25 cents for a motorcycle and truck tolls of up to two dollars), which was intended to defray the tunnel's $48 million price tag. In 1930 the tunnel was passed to the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which continues to operate it today.[33] Excluding the initial $48 million in construction, the Port Authority notes $536,600,000 of cumulative capital investment as of December 31, 2005.
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President’s Message continued
along with a great party at Elvis Presley’s “Graceland” mansion. They heard from experts and leaders in the profession, witnessed the recognition of 14 new “Distinguished Members” of the Society, and learned about ASCE’s current focus on sustainable infrastructure.

We will be making additional improvements to our website. You may already noticed that you can make reservations to our monthly meetings on line, and pay for conveniently using PayPal. Please keep in mind that we are here to serve you and we are always open to suggestions and new ideas.

We will not have any lunch meetings for the months of November and December because of the holidays. But don’t worry! We will start the New Year with a big and eventful meeting in January. The details will be posted in the Calendar section of the website, and will also be sent to all members with the usual monthly announcements and the newsletter.

I wish you and yours a very happy and safe Holiday Season!!

Sincerely,
Rita Escobar, P.E.
For more than 38 years, we’ve built a solid reputation as an authority on infrastructure cost estimates and construction management. Our team offers the resources you need for preliminary engineering and architectural support, bids, cost estimates, utility coordination, applicant design services, construction management, program management and contract administration.


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An engineer is lost in a hot air balloon when he spies a man on a hill. He hollers down and asks him if he knows where he is. The man on the ground says "yes, you are in a hot air balloon, about 40' off the ground at latitude 40 north and longitude 80 west" "Well," says the engineer, "I can tell that you are a land surveyor." "And how is that," the man on the ground replies? "You gave me a precise answer that is absolutely no help to me." "And I can tell that you are a Civil Engineer!" Says the man on the ground. "You are lost, ask me for help and now it's my problem!"
Work Sharing Program
California Employment Development Department

Civil Engineering and Geotechnical firms struggling through the current economic situation may benefit from the Work Share program offered by the California Employment Development Department.

Any business having at least two employees, comprising at least 10% of the firm’s workforce, who have had either their pay or their hours reduced by at least 10%, may apply. Essentially, EDD will pay a proportionate share of the benefits that would be due if an employee were to be laid off, based upon that employee’s full unemployment rate. For example, a 40-hour/week salaried employee whose work week is reduced to 24 hours would collect $180/week, less any tax withholding. Some firms have been on this program for over two years already. The benefits may not be enough to make the house payment, but every little bit helps.

The application process is not difficult. Once enrolled, the employer is required to fill out a simple form for each affected employee, signed by the employee and mailed in every two weeks. On-line payment are then made to a Bank of America debit card account.

Any employer can apply through the EDD website; details are available at:
http://www.edd.ca.gov/unemployment/work_sharing_claims.htm

NEWSLETTERS AND THE ASCE MAILING LIST

This newsletter is published monthly by the Board of Directors of your local Riverside/San Bernardino Branch of the Los Angeles Section. It is sent to all ASCE members listed in our geographic area, based upon a mailing list sent to us by the National headquarters. Most members have provided an e-mail address, and we try to send as many as possible this way. However, there are several hundred local members who do not have a current e-mail address. For these, we print an mail the newsletter, at a cost of about $450 per month. Your Board has directed that we make every effort to pare these costs. If you are receiving this newsletter by mail, you should expect a telephone call in the next few weeks. You can assist by calling or e-mailing your Newsletter Editor, John Rogers, at (951)698-1830, jrogers@cleengineering.com.
NOTABLE SOCIETY ACTIVITIES

On October 8, 2011, members of your Board of Directors of the Riverside / San Bernardino Branch attended the Annual Meeting, Installation of Officers, and Awards Luncheon of the Los Angeles Section. Your local President, Rita Escobar, was installed as a Director of the Los Angeles Branch. The Branch President is John Hogan, President of Hall & Foreman, Inc. of Tustin. Awards were presented for four outstanding projects in various categories. Eleven individual awards were presented; Outstanding Civil Engineers in Community Service, Legislative Activities, Faculty Advisor, Practitioner Advisor, Private Sector and Government and the Outstanding Younger Civil Engineer, among others. A Lifetime Achievement Award was given to L. Dale Mills of the Kern County Department of Public Works. Los Angeles Times correspondent Patt Morrison was given a special award of Excellence in Journalism, for reporting on infrastructure issues. A full report on the meeting, along with a host of photographs, is available on the LA Section Website at http://www.ascelassection.org/index.php.

The Los Angeles Section will be honoring its centennial in 2013. Established on March 22, 1913; For information leading up to the celebration, see http://74.54.153.80/Centennial/workshop/indexWORK.htm

The ASCE National Conference was held Oct. 20-22 in Memphis, TN. Attended by about 1,200 members from the US and 13 other countries, it proved to be both fascinating and enlightening. As in most past conferences, many of the activities focused around local features of engineering interest, including the Mississippi river (a sold-out boat tour of river facilities, ports and flood damage on the Corps of Engineers’ vessel MV Strong, AutoZone’s national headquarters building with it’s state-of-the art seismic base isolation system, the FedEx Memphis hub (with 8,000 employees and hundreds of miles of conveyor belts within its 5-mile perimeter. The focus of the conference was on “Sustainability”, with a keynote presentation by FedEx’s Mitch Jackson, Vice President of Environmental Affairs and Sustainability.

The 2012 national conference will be on October 18-20 in Montreal, Canada.

BOARD MEETINGS AND ACTIONS

The Riverside/San Bernardino Branch of the Los Angeles Section of ASCE, like many non-profit professional organizations, is managed by a Board of Directors. Our Board members gain experience by advancing through a chain of increasing responsibility over six years before becoming President, followed by a year as Past President. This gives the departing President a final year on the Board to pass knowledge back to the newer members before finally leaving office.

During the year, the Board will solicit the membership at large for a volunteer to serve as Assistant Newsletter Editor, a non-voting Committee appointment. In succeeding years the Assistant Editor becomes a full Board member, first as Secretary, then Newsletter Editor, Treasurer, Vice President and President-Elect, before becoming President. The Riverside/San Bernardino Branch President also serves as a Director of the Los Angeles Section.

Board meetings are usually held on the first Friday of each month, usually at 7:00 AM, and are open to the membership. Meetings are informal, but do follow a set agenda. The locations vary between several Engineering offices in the Inland Empire, including TKE Engineering, Inc. and HDR, Inc. in Riverside and RBF in Ontario. Please call any one of the Board members for location and time if you are interested in attending.
Come Join Riverside-San Bernardino ASCE YMF for our 3rd Annual Ontario Reign Hockey Game Night!

Where: Citizens Business Bank Arena
Address: 4000 E. Ontario Ave. Ontario, CA 91764
Date: Wed. Nov. 30, 2011
Time: 7:00 PM
RSVP: $10/ticket
20 Tickets Available

If you are interested in joining San Bernardino-Riverside for this event please contact:
Melissa Cayir
melissa.cayir@transtech.org
The ASCE San Bernardino-Riverside Branch Geotechnical Committee held yet another successful event the evening of October 26, 2011 in Rancho Cucamonga. Geotechnical committee meetings usually involve two speakers, one presenting a technology element, presenting a particular product or system of interest to geotechnical community, followed by a technical presentation of a more theoretical or scientific nature.

The technology presentation this month involved a presentation on the Pavement Recycling and Reclaiming Center By Bill Kitch, PhD, PE, Associate Professor at Cal Poly Pomona. The Technical presentation was on the dynamic behavior of levees on very soft peaty organic soil in the Sacramento - San Joaquin Delta presented by Dr. Scott J. Brandenberg, Associate Professor and Vice Chair of Undergraduate Studies, UCLA.

The event, our third, was our most successful to date as more than 35 people were present. A special thanks to Malcolm Drilling Company of San Francisco and their Los Angeles office in Irwindale for sponsoring the event. Malcolm Drilling has been a leader in the specialty foundation industry in the western United States since 1962.

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**Toys For Tots**

**Toy Drive:** November 10, 2011 to December 1, 2011

**Toy Donations accepted**

Give your Toy Donations to an ASCE YMF Officer

The ASCE San Bernardino-Riverside YMF will be collecting toy donations and we need your help to brighten up a child’s day. If you or your company would like to take part in collecting toys, we can arrange a collection time on Friday to pick up the toys. We will be donating the toys to the Riverside area, see website below.

[http://riverside-ca.toysfortots.org/local-coordinator-sites/lco-sites/default.asp](http://riverside-ca.toysfortots.org/local-coordinator-sites/lco-sites/default.asp)

Contact: Hector Gonzalez
Community Service Chair
Phone: 909.368.8388
E-mail: hector.gonzalezjr1@gmail.com

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**RBF Consulting PE Review Course**

**January 7 – April 7, 2012**

(13 Saturdays, no class on Feb. 25th)
Centrally located in Irvine

RBF Consulting presents our comprehensive Professional Engineering License Review Course to prepare applicants for the 2012 Civil Engineering License Exam. The course fee of $1800 includes textbooks; practical exercises and 100 hours of instruction, including Seismic and Surveying, all taught by experienced professionals. Participants can earn 10 CEUs by completing the course. Only need Seismic or Surveying? Those can be registered for separately.

Visit our website [www.rbf.com/Outreach/PE_Review.asp](http://www.rbf.com/Outreach/PE_Review.asp) or contact Lori Schneider at lsnieder@rbf.com or (949) 310-4138 for more information or to register for the course.
November/December

Meeting
No Meetings Scheduled

November 30, 2011   YMF Night at the Ontario Reign Professional Hockey match against the Stockton Thunder.  

Toys for Tots:   YMF will be collecting toy donations for underprivileged children in the Riverside/San Bernardino area. Collection drive ends December 10

Jan. 13 -15   YMF Western Regional Conference, in conjunction with ASCE Training Session for Board Members, Portland, Oregon.

January Branch Meeting: January 18, 2012. Lt. Col Steven Sigloch, Deputy Commander, Los Angeles District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers speaking on construction opportunities, both Military and Civilian, in the Los Angeles area.

Membership Information

Type of Membership and Annual Dues (National)

Students: Free
Associate Member: $50 year of baccalaureate Degree and first year after, then incremental increases to $205 over five years.
Member: $205 annually
Affiliate: $205 annually
Section (Branch) Dues: $45/year

1. National ASCE Student Membership is now FREE! Those who have chapters or clubs still must be a member of them before joining National. Log onto https://www.asce.org/online/ fill out the short application and instantly become a member of ASCE or call 1-800-548-ASCE (2723)

2. Online Membership renewal available, go to https://www.asce.org/renewal/inforenewal.cfm. You need your membership number, all payments must be made with a major credit card. An e-receipt is transmitted to the member upon completion of the transaction.

Over the summer your ASCE San Bernardino – Riverside Branch will be contacting you for a business card advertisement in your monthly newsletter. The proceeds from the business card ads defray the costs of newsletter so that the Branch funds can be used for purposes of providing student scholarships, Engineer’s Week in February where the Branch volunteers make presentations to the local high schools to generate interest in the field of engineering, and other community programs. The cost of the newsletter advertisement is $250 for a one-year subscription of 10 issues. Included with the Business Card advertisement is a business spotlight in the monthly newsletter where one or two businesses are highlighted. If you would like to reserve your spot early for next year’s newsletter please contact your Treasurer for next year – Brandon Reyes 909.974.4967 and let him know which month you would like your Business Spotlight (1st in line gets first choice).
If you’d like to have your business card or company information listed in the Professional Directory, please contact:
The Branch Treasurer, Matthew Addington, at (909) 477-2710 ext 4202 or email at
Jan. 18 Branch Luncheon
Lt. Col Steven Sigloch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.