

# Los Angeles Section

Monthly: Est. 1913

ORANGE / SAN\_BERNARDINO/RIVERSIDE / SAN\_LUIS\_OBISPO / SANTA\_BARBARA/VENTURA / DESERT / SOUTHERN SAN\_JOAQUIN / METROPOLITAN LOS ANGELES

*"We do not see things as they are; we see things as we are"*

- Talmud

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Shahnawaz Ahmad  
LOS ANGELES SECTION PRESIDENT

## 2003

The deadline for submitting articles for this newsletter is the first of the month for the following month's newsletter. For example, December 1 for the January newsletter, January 1 for the February newsletter, etc. I am writing this on New Year's Eve wondering where the year went. We're already three years into the new millennium.

In 2003, we lost the space shuttle Columbia, when it broke apart 38 miles above the earth, before its scheduled landing. There was a massive blackout on August 14, impacting 60 million Americans and Canadians on the east coast. SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) became part of the global vernacular as it spread rapidly around Asia, North America, and Europe, infecting 25 countries.

Central California experienced a 6.5 earthquake on December 22 and we had two fatalities and 40 injuries. Property loss was estimated at \$100 million. Four days later, on December 26, there was a similar size earthquake in Iran. The loss of life is expected to reach 40,000 with damage in the billions. Basically, the entire city of Bam was destroyed. Why were only two killed in California, but thousands in Iran? The answer is simple. The type of construction is totally different. There are building codes in Iran but they are not followed. The laws are there, but they are not enforced. Mud bricks are common in towns like Bam. They are cheap and popular because they keep houses cool in summer and warm in winter. However, they crumble easily, suffocating many who survive the actual earthquake. When buildings made of concrete collapse, there are pockets of air where you can breathe and survive a few days. But with mud houses, and the dust they produce when collapsing, fatalities occur much quicker. We are extremely fortunate that in California and the United States, building codes are strictly enforced so that loss of life is minimized during these catastrophic events. From every earthquake, our structural engineers improve the seismic code.

The other major event in 2003, of course, was the war in Iraq, where the already deteriorated infrastructure was further damaged. The same applies to Afghanistan after two years in that country. With every tragedy, there is opportunity. These disasters will require the infrastructure to be rebuilt, presenting opportunities for civil engineers.

Speaking of infrastructure, 2003 also saw the presentation of the Infrastructure Report Card for Los Angeles County. We did well in some areas and not so well in others. The overall grade was C+. We need to get the word out to John Q. Public about the deteriorating infrastructure. With that in mind, there will be an Infrastructure Summit on February 12 at the University of Southern California to discuss what it would take to get an "A" grade.

2003 also saw the first recall election in California history and the election of a new Governor, Arnold Schwarzenegger. In the same election, Proposition 53, the Infrastructure Funding Initiative, failed to pass by a substantial margin (it received only 1/3 of the vote). However, it did receive some coverage in the media and gubernatorial debates, with all the major candidates taking a positive position on infrastructure.

Another ASCE milestone was achieved in 2003 by the election of the first ASCE National woman president, Patricia Galloway, who, by the way, will be attending the Orange County Branch meeting on February 19.

What do we see happening in 2004? My crystal ball is foggy, but this is a presidential election year; so we will all be hearing a lot about politics. As I indicated in last month's article, engineers need to get involved. 2004 will also be a year of preparation for the ASCE National Conference in Los Angeles in 2005.

VOL\_XLIV NO\_2

In This Issue	page
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	1
EDITORIAL	2
NEW GOVERNANCE MODEL	2
LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT	2
ANNOUNCEMENTS	3-8
OBITUARY	5
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES	9
PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY	10-11

**Reminder:** Copy deadline for the March 2004 newsletter is February 1, 2004; copy deadline for the April 2004 issue is March 1, 2004.



## Engineering Transportation

Engineer's Week, traditionally celebrated every February, highlights the achievements of engineers and the importance of engineering in our everyday lives. Infrastructure, while very important, is commonplace, and quite often, we do not realize the various efforts that went into building such structures. Take the case of our freeway and highway systems. We pass through them everyday to go to work, to a leisure place, visit friends and family, or whatever your purpose is of traveling through these arteries. But have you ever wondered how our great cities would be like if, despite a burgeoning population, would have limited mobility to go from one location to another. Such is the case in a number of Asian and European countries in the past few years.

Being part of a transportation agency however, I need not look far from Los Angeles to realize that transportation issues here at home would be at par with the issues in other locations. Take for instance the long line of traffic lights that one sees while driving through our traffic congested streets and highways. I am sure you have seen those, stressed over them, and pondered why in the world you continue to live in this place.

In this respect, I have slowly appreciated the value and convenience of public transportation and the infrastructures associated with it. In a city of millions, only a fraction of us use our buses and trains to go to or from wherever we want to go. Some would argue that the car is king in this asphalt jungle and that efficiency in mobility is better achieved by using our own vehicles.

There is a beneficial tradeoff however. The longer commute time allows me to do a number of things. Whereas I used to not be able to read the Los Angeles Times cover to cover, I could do so now that I ride the bus or train. I also am able to ponder more on more serious decisions I have to make relating to family, work, and others. I also get to meet interesting people. Riding the bus or train makes me feel more part of this city, of this community. I have the occasional opportunity to speak to fellow bus or train riders about various subjects throughout our ride. I feel less stressed now that I am driven to work instead of driving to work.

It is not a long shot to connect this experience with what engineers do everyday. I am part of that group that plan, design, and build our transportation system. I am an engineer. As February rolls through, let us remember that it is not the only the month of hearts, but also a month to remember the people and the contributions of engineers here in Los Angeles and the rest of the world.

Enjoy this issue.  
- Cris B. Liban

## ASCE Board Moves Ahead on New Governance Model

by Blaine Leonard, Chair, Governance Restructuring Implementation Committee

At the November Board meeting, the ASCE Board of Direction passed, by the required two-thirds vote, a proposed amendment to the ASCE Constitution which would modify the way the Society is governed and better position ASCE to lead the profession into the future. The amendment will go to the members of ASCE this June for a ratifying vote.

The proposed restructuring focuses on three things: 1) a smaller Board of Direction, 2) alternate paths to service on the Board, and 3) the creation of Regional Boards to bring more of the Society's governance closer to the members. These changes are being proposed after more than four years of study by the Board, and after considerable discussion with the Society's leaders at all levels. A new committee has been constituted, the Governance Restructuring Implementation Committee, whose charge is to communicate the details of the proposed change to the members and to complete the detailed development and implementation of the proposed structure.

*continued on page 3*

## Letter to the President

To: Shahnawaz Ahmad

I enjoyed your Message in the ASCE Los Angeles Section News Letter. I can identify with it. I served on the City of Claremont Architectural Commission for six years, City Council for eight years and was Mayor from 89 to 92. Over the years I have spoken to classes at Harvey Mudd Engineering College here in Claremont and Bucknell on engineers in politics. Here are a couple additional thoughts.

Many, if not most, engineers (I am a Civil/Environmental, or what used to be called Sanitary Engineer) are faced with the challenge that we have to be right. We cannot make mistakes for there are always serious consequences such as loss of life, injuries, environmental repercussions, criminal and economic impacts. We engineers gather data, carefully evaluate it, apply our technical knowledge and come up with the answer. Presumably the correct answer. Thus when someone wants to pursue a solution to a problem that we believe does not address the data or meet the reasonable/logical/rational/analytical test, we are inclined to not accept it or oppose it.

Politics is the art of getting something done. Or as Otto von Bismarck said, "Politics is not a science...but an art...of the possible." In a political body, it takes a majority vote to accomplish an act. Thus one has to be prepared to compromise in order to accomplish what is in the best interest of the majority of the Public and get it passed. The result will not always be the "correct" or "best" one.

This type of thinking is difficult for engineers (and probably the medical profession).

Another road block for engineers is that we work against deadlines for which there are consequences for failing to achieve, such as economics, governmental penalties (sometimes criminal), and loss of jobs. Political timelines run in bewildering and divergent ways. Frustrating to engineers who are used to working with schedules.

I have also been told that engineers do not have the "Thick Skin" it takes to be in politics. This may be true for I had to work at controlling my emotions when confronted with opposing factions that use all the unethical tricks (at least as we engineers would define them) in the book to oppose your position.

Our training and practice is contrary to what it takes to be in politics. Engineers are closer to Science than the Humanities. Finally, I wonder if most engineers get such a satisfaction out of practicing their profession that they are not looking for other venues to express themselves.

Anyhow, I thought I would share my thoughts on the subject with you.

Regards,

Nick Presecan  
Parsons

*continued on page 6*

## **HANDS-ON SEMINAR**

### ***Design, Analyses & Optimization of Offline Retarding Systems using the Basin Analysis Software (B.A.S.)***

Learn how to:

- Identify ideal retarding situations
- Identify risks in retarding
- Analyze online and offline systems (Manually)
- Analyze & design side-weirs (B.A.S.)
- Analyze & design offline basins (B.A.S.)
- Optimize retarding volume and land (B.A.S.)
- Provide environmentally sensitive retarding
- Eliminate downstream scour
- Master B.A.S. through hands-on exercises

## **B.A.S. is included with the registration**

For more information, please visit  
[www.hydraulicsolutions.net](http://www.hydraulicsolutions.net)  
 or email: [bas@hydraulicsolutions.net](mailto:bas@hydraulicsolutions.net)

## **A Great Idea From the Life Members**

The ASCE Life Members' Public Image Committee request that members take their (to be discarded) Civil Engineering magazines to their doctor's office or barber shop and merge them with the stack of magazines. We feel that this will be an effective way to make the general public more aware of what civil engineers do.



**GRIPEN CONSULTING GROUP, INC.**

*Providing Expert Resources That Bring People and Data Together*

[www.gripengroup.com](http://www.gripengroup.com)

## **ASCE Board Moves Ahead on New Governance Model** *continued from page 2*

The Society's current Board of Direction is made up of 28 members, including 20 Directors who are elected from the 15 Districts, an International Director, four Vice Presidents, and three Presidential Officers. The proposed Board would consist of 17 members, including 9 Directors from the domestic geographic Regions, an International Director, two Directors representing the technical Institutes, two At-Large Directors, and three Presidential Officers. This smaller Board will be able to work more efficiently and more quickly, and will be more conducive to policy discussions. The addition of technical and at-large representation on the Board will give the Board a broader perspective and a better base from which to make policy decisions. The At-Large Directors will be Society members representing some of our diverse activities, and could include younger members, corporate executives, prominent educators, or others who may not have opportunities for service through the usual geographic channels.

Nine Regional Boards will be established in the United States under this proposal. These Boards will be comprised of five or more Regional Governors and will be led by the National Director representing the Region. These Boards will allow for more service opportunities for ASCE members, and will provide leadership and support to the local Sections and Branches. Regional Boards will take on some of the duties and functions currently conducted at the national level and will increase the opportunities for communication at the local level.

The financial savings which will result from reducing the size of the Board will be used to fund the Regional Boards. The governance proposal is, therefore, essentially a cost neutral issue.

If the Constitutional Amendment is approved by the membership, elections for the newly created Board positions would be held beginning in 2005, and full transition to the new governance model would take four to six years.

While most of the detail of the proposed restructuring has been defined, some of the details, including how the Regional Governors are elected, operational differences to meet the needs of different Regions, and the geographical boundaries of the Regions, are still being considered. The Implementation Committee welcomes insights and comments about these, and other, issues. You can e-mail your input to [governance@asce.org](mailto:governance@asce.org) or go to [www.asce.org/governance](http://www.asce.org/governance) to review the detailed information and provide comments directly from that screen.

Check out future issues of *ASCE News* for more details on the proposed restructuring.

## **NOTICE**

There will be a second printing of the book *CIVIL ENGINEERS BUILDING A BETTER WORLD*.

This book is the one produced by the Orange County Branch of the ASCE in recognition of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ASCE. It includes the pictures and descriptions of thirty-seven famous civil engineering projects, most of which are in Southern California. Also included are the biographies of twenty-three famous civil engineers.

It is planned that these books will be available at the next Branch meeting on December 18, 2003 for a donation of \$75.00 plus \$4.00 if mailed. They will make excellent Christmas presents for friends and clients.

This will be a limited edition of only fifty books. You may make your reservations by contacting Fred Meier by phone or fax at 714/550-7551 or email at [fredmeier@aol.com](mailto:fredmeier@aol.com)

**Tuesday, February 24, 2004**  
**5:30 – 7:30 pm**

**Topic:**

**Avoiding Construction Disputes**

Mr. Irwin's talk will cover new issues and developments in the construction disputes arena. He will discuss issues relating to total cost claims, cumulative impact claims, false claims and the use and misuse of construction progress schedules in construction delay disputes.

**Guest Speaker:**

**Jack Irwin, P.E.**  
**Senior Project Manager**  
**URS Corporation**

Jack Irwin is a professional mechanical engineer with over 23 years experience in all types of construction disputes. He has served public and private clients in the areas of construction claims and construction defects all over the West (CA, NV, AZ, WA, AK, OR, HI, and Guam). He is a member of the Neutral Panel of Construction Arbitrators with the American Arbitration Association. Jack is currently a Senior Project Manager in the Dispute Resolution Group of the Los Angeles office of the URS Corporation, one of the largest engineering companies in the US with offices nationwide. The URS Dispute Resolution Services group has a track record in construction claims and disputes consulting and expert services that goes back over 25 years when O'Brien Kreitzberg offered claims consulting services. OBK became part of URS in the 1990's.

**Location:**

Stevens Steak House  
5332 Stevens Place • City of Commerce, CA 90040  
(323) 723-9856

**Directions:**

**From I-5 Southbound:**

Take the **Eastern Ave** exit toward **Atlantic Blvd**; **Stevens Place** is straight ahead; turn left on **Eastern Ave** to the parking lot in back of the restaurant.

**From I-5 Northbound:**

Take the **Atlantic Blvd North** exit; turn left onto **Telegraph Rd**; turn left onto **S. Atlantic Blvd**; turn slight left onto **S. Eastern Ave**; **Stevens Place** is on the right; continue on **Eastern Ave** to the parking lot in back of the restaurant.

**Cost:**

Dinner will be served  
\$20.00 for ASCE members  
\$10.00 for Students

**Reservations/Dinner Choice (Steak, Chicken, or Vegetarian):**

RSVP by Tuesday, February 17, 2004, to Jay Higgins,  
ASCE Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch President-Elect  
at [jay\\_higgins@urscorp.com](mailto:jay_higgins@urscorp.com)

**Please join the ASCE Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch for dinner and a presentation**

## PSWRC 2004 Coming to SLO

That's right. Cal Poly is gearing up for an exciting time April 1-3, 2004. We've got new events and fun activities for everyone. The events are:

Steel Bridge  
Concrete Canoe  
Seismic Design  
Construction Bid  
Water Resources  
Surveying  
Concrete Bowling  
Technical Paper  
Quiz Bowl  
Impromptu Design

We are looking for professionals interested in judging one of the competitive events. This is more fun than it sounds. You get to see the inside workings of the greatest event of the year. So don't hesitate to send us an e-mail announcing your desire to take on this important role. We will have experienced students ready to help you through the process. If you plan to attend, please remember to register.

Kristina Skrehot  
Conference Coordinator  
[pswrcslo2004@hotmail.com](mailto:pswrcslo2004@hotmail.com)

## ASCE's 2003

**Member-Get-A-Member**  
**Drive Depends on You!**

### Hydrology/Hydraulics Software

**Automatic English to Metric Conversion**

~ WSPGW for Windows®

**Multi-day Storm Event Analysis**

~ FEMA Approved

**Rational Hydrology and**

**Unit Hydrograph Hydrology methods.**

**Flood Hydrograph routing, including retarding basins.**

**For Los Angeles, Riverside, San Diego,  
San Bernardino,  
and Kern Counties.**

**CIVILDESIGN® Corporation**

**Tel (909) 885-3806**

**Fax (909) 381-1721**

**[www.civildesign.com](http://www.civildesign.com)**

**Tuesday March 9, 2004  
5:30 – 7:00 pm**

**Guest Speakers:**

**Ken Wong, SE of Record, MHI Miyamoto**  
**Peter Luelsdorf AIA, Design Professional of Record, DMJMH+N**  
**Saif Hussain, SE, SHA Coffman Engineers**  
**Frank Quon, Caltrans District 7, Operation Deputy Director**

In Los Angeles, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 7 has implemented one of the largest Advanced Traffic Management Systems (ATMS) in the country, as part of its Intelligent Transportation System (ITS). Included with this system implementation is the design of a comprehensive transportation management center. This center is being built with the basic idea of managing freeway traffic to achieve the goal of reducing traveler commuting times, maximizing roadway capacity, and in the end providing a safer traveling medium for the general public. Caltrans and CHP staff will work in partnership to provide efficient traffic management in the region. They will monitor traffic conditions using closed circuit television cameras, ramp meters, changeable message signs, and highway advisory radio. The LARTMC is a 24-hour operation and will serve as "the hub" command center where all traffic information is collected and disseminated to the motoring public and the media. Caltrans District Director Mr. Doug Failing explains, "This new facility will integrate our State-wide management system with the cities and transportation agencies that allows a mechanism for providing seamless service to the traveling public". The project is part of a multi-faceted program, which is in conformity with the statewide TMC Master Plan. The goal of the Master Plan is to create a statewide network of TMC's, sharing information with each other, CHP and other law enforcement agencies. The new CHP upgraded communications system will provide CHP with the ability to efficiently process officer radio transmissions and cellular 9-1-1 calls and call boxes. It will further enhance their ability to manage traffic conditions on surface streets, transit and arterial roads along the freeway as they are able to link information systems to coordinate and better manage traffic flow in the county. The speakers will address structural, seismic, and architectural features of the state of the art command, control and communications center.

**NOTE: Hard hats and safety shoes is mandatory for all attendees**

**Location**

LARTMC construction site  
2901 West Broadway, Los Angeles, CA  
The construction site is located in the southwest quadrant of the intersection of the 2 and 134 Freeways

**Cost**

\$5.00 for ASCE and ACEI members  
Students are free  
Refreshments will be served

**Reservations**

Space is limited to 30 people, RSVP by Monday March 1, 2004 to Alexia Nalewaik, ASCE  
Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch Vice President, at  
Alexia.Nalewaik@hanscombgould.com

**Please join the ASCE Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch for a tour and presentation about the Los Angeles Regional Transportation Management Center**

**IN MEMORIAM**

**James E. Ballinger** died on October 19, 2003 at his home in Costa Mesa, California. He is survived by his wife, Helen, one son, two daughters, two grandchildren a sister and several nieces and nephews.

He was educated at Purdue University where he received a BSCE. While at Purdue he was President of ASCE student chapter and was honored by membership in Chi Epsilon and Tau Beta Pi honorary societies.

In the American Society of Civil Engineers he has been an outstanding leader as the President of both the Los Angeles Section and the Orange County Branch. He has been an active member of the Life Member Committee. He participated in many other engineering societies as follows: National Society of Professional Engineers as a member, California Society of Professional Engineers as President of the Orange County Chapter, Orange County Engineering Council as a founder and President, California Professional Engineers in Construction as Governor, Order of Engineers as a national board member, Institute for Advancement of Engineering as Fellow and President.

Jim worked for and retired from the County of Orange with the Orange County Flood Control District and the Harbors, Beaches and Parks District. While there he was the Chief Engineer for the development of Dana Point Harbor, the Sunset Aquatic Park and the Aliso Beach Fishing Pier.

Jim had California licenses as a Civil Engineer, a General Contractor and a Real Estate Broker. He was an elder and deacon for his church and a member of the Lions Club, Hoag Memorial Hospital Board, the Service Organization Council and the Purdue Alumni Association. He was a Shriner and a Mason, Scottish Rite.

He had some outstanding physical accomplishments. He rowed a kayak on the Sacramento River from Shasta Dam to Sacramento. He hiked the John Muir and Appalachian Trails and rode a bicycle from Denver to Marion, Indiana.

While Jim was accomplishing all of these things he had time to be a very good friend to a lot of people. He will be greatly missed.

[www.ascelasection.org](http://www.ascelasection.org)

**Saturday March 20, 2004  
9:00 – 11:00 am**

**Guest Speaker:  
Jack Sample  
Project Manager  
PCL Construction**

In July 2002, Home Depot, the USA's largest home improvement retailer, and AEG announced a 10-year partnership for the construction of the 85-acre multi-sport National Training Center on the campus of California State University, Dominguez Hills. Officially opened in June 2003 the \$140 million Home Depot National Training Center, designed by Los Angeles based architects Rossetti and Associates, is a unique 85-acre sports campus. The Home Depot Center is a 125-acre development featuring state-of-the-art stadiums and facilities for soccer, tennis, track and field, cycling, volleyball, baseball, softball, basketball and other sports. Designated as an Official US Olympic Training Site, the Home Depot Center is the nation's most complete training facility for Olympic, amateur and professional athletes. The ADT Event Center, part of the Home Depot Center in Carson, CA, will be the first permanent wooden indoor cycling track of international standard in the USA. The 250 meter, indoor, 41 degree wooden track, will seat up to 4,000 spectators. At a total cost of \$13.5 million, it will be a world class venue. The Center replaces the 5,000 spectator velodrome constructed in Carson for the 1984 Olympics. Scheduled to open in June 2004, the new facility will host training and competition under the guidance of USA Cycling. Events scheduled to be hosted at this velodrome include the UCI Junior World-Championships 2004, and the UCI Elite World-Championships 2005. Once the USA team for the 2004 Olympics is announced, they will be training on the track until they depart for Greece.

**Location**

California State University Dominguez Hills  
1000 Victoria Street Carson, CA

**Cost**

\$5.00 for ASCE and AACEI members  
Students are free  
Refreshments will be served

**Hard hats and work boots are  
required for this tour**

**Please join the ASCE Metropolitan Los Angeles  
Branch for a tour of the new Velodrome at the  
Home Depot Center / Cal State Dominguez Hills**

**Reservations**

RSVP by Monday March 8, 2004 to Alexia Nalewaik,  
ASCE Metropolitan  
Los Angeles Branch Vice President, at  
Alexia.Nalewaik@hanscombgould.com

**Engineering Solutions to Disputes**

**Jeffrey R. LeBoff, P.E.  
Mediator**

Call for information  
(714) 270-5281  
ocmediator@earthlink.net

**Letter to the President** *continued from page 2*

Nick:

Thank you for your e-mail and comments. I have heard of you, but have not had the pleasure of meeting you as yet. You're from the old Engineering Science gang of Gordon Magnusen, Joe Reichenberger, Richard Bentwood, etc. When I said at the beginning of my message that "we can count on the fingers of one hand the number of engineers that have been prominent in the political arena", you were one of the fingers.

You bring up some good points. Being flexible & willing to compromise is required not only in politics, but in life too. Engineers are making progress in the political arena, but slowly. CELSOC led the fight in Propositions 224 & 35 & that gave us significant clout in Sacramento. Also, with the proliferation of increasingly stringent regulations & laws, engineers are being forced to become more politically aware & astute.

I appreciate your comments. I'm glad that someone read the article!

Seasons Greetings to you & your family.

Shahnawaz Ahmad  
President  
ASCE, Los Angeles Section

**HYDROLOGY/HYDRAULICS/ENVIRONMENTAL SOFTWARE  
COMPLETE LIBRARIES OF COMPUTER SOFTWARE**

Based on the Hydrology Manuals for Flood Control Agencies throughout California. AES Program Authors include the Principal Authors of County Flood Control Agency Hydrology Manuals and Authors of U.S. Government Public Domain Programs for Hydrology, Hydraulics, Sediment Transport, Atmospheric Mechanics and Groundwater Flow.

**ADVANCED ENGINEERING SOFTWARE  
P.O. Box 4962  
GARDEN GROVE, CA 92842-4962  
TEL/FAX: (714) 780-8990**

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT

<http://www.aessoft.com>

The AES Programs and the AES Stormwater Information Management System (SIMS) have been used to develop 55 City-Wide and County-Wide Master Plans of Drainage and has been the standard for preparing drainage studies since 1980. AES Program Developers & Support: Theodore V. Hromadka, II, Ph.D., Ph.D., P.E., P.H., Professor, California State University, Fullerton; Johannes J. DeVries, Ph.D., P.E., University of California, Davis; Howard H. Chang, Ph.D., P.E., Professor, San Diego State University; Paolo Zannetti, Ph.D., QEP, President, EnviroCOMP; Robert J. Whitley, Ph.D., Professor, University of California, Irvine; Carlos Brebbia, Ph.D., Director, Wessex Institute of Technology; Gary Guymon, Ph.D., P.E.

# GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING GROUP of Los Angeles Section of ASCE & the GEOINSTITUTE

Presents the

## TWENTY SEVENTH SPRING SEMINAR AND INAUGURAL KENNETH L. LEE LECTURE AWARD

Wednesday April 28, 2004

2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Queen Mary

1126 Queens Highway, Long Beach

The Geotechnical Group of the Los Angeles Section of ASCE established the Ken Lee Lecture (KLL) award to honor the contributions of Professor Lee to his profession and recognize outstanding achievement in earthquake engineering, earth structures design, geotechnical engineering.

The first two recipients of the KLL Award are Professor Michael Duncan of Virginia Tech and Professor I.M. Idriss of UC Davis, both of whom were Ken Lee's contemporaries.

The after-dinner speaker, Professor James Mitchell, Professor Emeritus of Virginia Tech, will discuss the major contributions of Professor Lee to geotechnical engineering.

### 7th LA GEO EXPO

Businesses in the geo-industry have been invited to display their products and services concurrent with the Spring Seminar of the Geotechnical Engineering Group of the ASCE Los Angeles Section. If your company would like to exhibit, or if you know of a company that would like to exhibit, please contact

#### Rossana D'Antonio, ASCE LA County Dept. of Public Works

Geotech. & Materials Engr. Div.

900 S. Fremont Ave. – 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

Alhambra, CA 91803

Phone: (626) 458-4925 • Fax: (626) 458-4913

Email: rdanton@ladpw.org

#### Per registration:

One registrant per form. Please duplicate for additional registrants. Payment and completed form(s) MUST BE RECEIVED TOGETHER VIA MAIL BY APRIL 15, 2004

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_

#### Price

Received 4/15/03 or before ..... \$110.00

Received 4/16/03 to 4/21/03 ..... \$135.00

On-Site registration<sup>1</sup>, ..... \$160.00

Full-Time/Not Working Student<sup>2</sup> ..... \$35.00

<sup>1</sup> due to limited seating, you may be turned away if you did not pre-register.

<sup>2</sup> Must provide proof of registration at the door.

**Please enclose your check Payable to ASCE Geotechnical Engineering Group. No refunds for cancellations after April 23, 2004.**

**Mail to: Justin Kempton, Treasurer  
Kleinfelder Inc.  
1370 Valley Vista Drive, #150  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765**

**RBF CONSULTING** Land Development Project Managers and Engineers

RBF Consulting, ranked #76 in the Top 500 Design Firms in the nation by Engineering News Record (ENR) magazine, provides multi-disciplinary design engineering, planning and construction services to private and public sector clients. Founded in 1944, RBF has a current staff of over 700 professionals and is located in offices throughout California, Arizona and Nevada. We currently have opportunities for **Project Managers and Engineers** with a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering, PE, and experience in land development.

**Project Managers** will lead design teams in all aspects of design and plan preparation for residential and/or mixed use land development projects, design and review civil engineering plans, write proposals and specifications, and develop budgets and schedules. Requires a minimum of 6 years of progressively responsible land development experience, and 3 years of project management experience. Positions available in our **San Diego, Ontario and Camarillo, CA.** offices.

**Project Engineers** will direct a design team in the preparation of grading and improvement plans for residential and/or mixed use land development projects, assist in the preparation of proposals and specifications, monitor budgets and interface with clients and public agencies. Requires 4 years of experience in the design of civil engineering improvement plans for land development projects. Positions available in our **Irvine, Ontario, and Temecula** offices.

Founded on a commitment to quality, professionalism and continuing innovation, RBF has also been ranked among the "Top 20 Civil Engineering Firms To Work For" in the Nation by Civil Engineering News. RBF offers an excellent compensation package, including 401(k), profit sharing and bonus plans.

For further information please visit our website [www.rbf.com](http://www.rbf.com) and send your resume to:

**RBF Consulting**  
14725 Alton Parkway • Irvine, CA 92618  
Email: [hrmail@rbf.com](mailto:hrmail@rbf.com) • Fax: (949) 855-7060  
EOE/M/F/D/V

## GEOTECHNICAL PROFESSIONALS INC. (GPI)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### JOB WANTED – GEOTECHNICAL

Seasoned SoCal G.E. seeks  
Senior Supervisory Job.  
Office, field, report, and plan review, etc.

W.G. Nelson, M.Sc., P.E., R.C.E., G.E.  
P.O. Box 7436  
Laguna Beach, CA 92607-7436  
Telephone: (949) 582-3553  
Fax: (949) 305-3352

### SEEKING OPPORTUNITY!

Senior Civil/Structural engineer, MSCE, PE, experienced in design and construction management of industrial, commercial, and residential projects. Also experienced as forensics engineer/home inspector. Seeking opportunity to join/partner with a Los Angeles firm. Please call Mike at

( 3 1 0 ) 2 0 7 - 8 5 9 0

### KPFF CONSULTING ENGINEERS

KPFF Consulting Engineers seeks motivated and energetic **civil and structural engineers** and **CAD operators**. 2+ years of design experience desired. California P.E. preferred. Also seeking CAD Operators with 1+ years of experience. Excellent communication and teamwork skills are essential. Substantial growth opportunity for all levels, and the opportunity to work on a wide variety of interesting and challenging projects. Positions available in our Los Angeles location. Please contact, fax or e-mail resume to the following:

Ms. Tamara Kealty  
**KPFF Consulting Engineers**  
6080 Center Drive, Suite 300  
Los Angeles, CA 90045  
Phone: (310) 665-1536  
Fax: (310) 665-9070  
e-mail: tkealty@kpff-la.com

Geotechnical Professionals Inc. (GPI) has career opportunities for the following positions:

#### Project Geotechnical Engineers

Immediate opening for project engineer with strong communication and geotechnical consulting skills. Minimum requirements include: M.S. degree in geotechnical engineering, 5 years experience in geotechnical consulting, and California registration in Civil Engineering.

#### Geotechnical Field Technicians

Immediate opening for geotechnical field technician with strong communication and technician skills. Field technician positions require a minimum of 3 years experience in earthwork observation and testing. We are also interested in promising candidates with less experience.

GPI specializes in foundation engineering services for commercial developments and public works projects. We offer excellent growth opportunities for talented engineers and technicians, a pleasant and professionally stimulating work environment, competitive salary and fringe benefits, profit sharing, and incentive bonuses.

Please send resume in confidence to

#### Geotechnical Professionals Inc.,

Attn.: Ms. Kami Gremillion, Human Resources,  
5736 Corporate Ave., Cypress, CA 90630, Fax (714) 220-2122,  
kamig@gpi-ca.com, No calls please. GPI is an equal opportunity employer.



### STORM WATER PROJECT MANAGER

RBF Consulting is currently seeking a **Storm Water Project Manager** to join our team in Irvine, California. The position requires a BSCE, professional registration, and a minimum of seven years of experience in flood control, drainage design and surface water quality with specific skills in computer modeling programs.

RBF develops cost effective storm water management solutions to protect surface water quality through innovative research and design. Our storm water engineers conduct comprehensive evaluations of watersheds including identifying pollution sources and mitigation strategies, coupling this with flood hazard protection. Our Stormwater group also performs hydrology and hydraulic calculations, and prepares drainage reports, improvement plans, and municipal storm water management plans.

Founded on a commitment to quality, professionalism and continuing innovation, RBF was ranked #76 in the nation by the Engineering News Record, and among the "Top 20 Civil Engineering Firms To Work For" by Civil Engineering News. We offer an excellent compensation package including 401(k), profit sharing and bonus plans. For further information please visit our website at [www.rbf.com](http://www.rbf.com) and send your resume to:

**RBF Consulting**  
14725 Alton Parkway • Irvine, CA 92618  
Email: [hmail@rbf.com](mailto:hmail@rbf.com) • Fax: (949) 855-7060  
EOE/MF/D/V

# ASCE OFFICERS OF THE LOS ANGELES SECTION, FY 2003-2004

## NATIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT, ZONE IV

Norm Buehring, P.E.  
normbuehring@msn.com

## NATIONAL DIRECTOR, DISTRICT 13

Carl Blum, P.E., F.ASCE  
clblum@pacbell.net

## SECTION OFFICERS

President  
President-Elect  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Vice-President/Technical Groups  
Vice-President of Student Chapters  
Past President  
YMF Past President  
CA Society of CEs  
Director, San Bernardino/Riverside  
Director, Desert Area  
Director, Orange County  
Director, Metropolitan Los Angeles  
Director, San Luis Obispo  
Director, Southern San Joaquin  
Director, Santa Barbara/Ventura  
Director, Life Member

Shahnawaz Ahmad, P.E.  
Neil Morrison, P.E.  
Edgar G. Dymally  
Dr. Mark Tufenkjian  
Rich Haller, P.E.  
Abigail Swaim, P.E.  
Harvey Gobas, P.E.  
Lorena Arce  
Steve Marvin, P.E.  
"Jarb" Thaipejr, P.E.  
Nick Sprague  
Sonia Y. Nasser  
Jalal Vahabnezhad  
Jeff van den Eickhof  
Terry Schroepfer, P.E.  
Esau Blanco, P.E.  
Ted McConville

sahmad@saassociates.net  
nmorrison@waldenassociates.net  
edymally@mw2h2o.com  
mtufenk@calstatela.edu  
rhaller@sawpa.org  
aswaim@rbf.com  
hgobas@hotmail.com  
smarvin@labellemarvin.com  
jthaipejr@ci.loma-linda.ca.us  
sonia.nasser@pfrd.ocgov.com  
jvhab@ladpw.org  
jvandeneikhof@ascsls.org  
terrys@quadknopf.com  
eblanco@rbf.com

A complete list of addresses and phone numbers for all Section affiliated officers are found in [www.ascelasection.org](http://www.ascelasection.org).

## NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

### Publisher

ASCE LA Section  
Steve Sumner  
1405 Warner Ave.  
Tustin, CA 92780  
Phone (714) 258-8306  
Fax (714) 258-8391  
E-mail: ssumner@associationplanet.com

### Editor

Cris B. Liban, D.Env.  
LACMTA  
One Gateway Plaza  
Mail Stop 99-17-2  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
Phone (213) 922-2471  
FAX (801) 457-2687  
E-mail: cliban@UCLAlumni.net  
Typesetting & Layout: The Center Quickprint



Please send all copy to the Editor by the first of the month preceding publication.

### Identification Statement

ASCE Newsletter, (ISSN 0273-6233) is published monthly by ASCE, Los Angeles Section, 1405 Warner Avenue, Tustin, California 92780. Subscription price included in Section dues of \$45.

### Circulation

Circulated monthly (except for a joint July/August issue) to the 4,000 subscribing members of the Los Angeles Section, ASCE.

### Advertising Rates (NEW RATES)

EMPLOYMENT ADS	DISPLAY ADS
\$75/column inch	1/8 page \$150
	1/4 page \$250
	1/2 page \$415
	1 page \$690

### PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

\$350 per business card for a full year (Additional fees may be applied for typesetting. Please call for information.)

### POSITION WANTED ADS

No cost to L.A. Section members.

For more advertising and billing information, please contact Russ Ryan, P.E., at MWD at (213) 217-6625 or rryan@mw2h2o.com

National ASCE (800) 548-2723 (ASCE)  
Access National ASCE at: [www.asce.org](http://www.asce.org)  
L.A. Section web site at: [www.ascelasection.org](http://www.ascelasection.org)

POSTMASTER: THIS CONTAINS TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIALS.  
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY.



THIS NEWSLETTER IS PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER.

NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

PERMIT NO. 1441  
SANTA ANA, CA

Los Angeles Section  
Monthly: Est. 1913  
1405 WARNER AVE.  
TUSTIN, CA 92780

Please contact ASCE Membership at  
1-800-548-ASCE for any address changes.