

Los Angeles Section

Monthly: Est. 1913

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"Knowledge speaks, but wisdom listens." —Jimi Hendrix

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Rich Haller, P.E.
Section President



Parlez-vous le français? Sprechen Sie deutsch? Yong-o haseyo? It's time for the Section's **4th Annual International Engineering and Construction Conference which is being held July 28th** at Cal State University, Fullerton! Rest assured, presentations will be in English but with an international flavor. Please plan on attending this one day conference featuring a variety of presentations on Project Planning and Management, Environmental Issues, Engineering and Construction. Arthur T. Leahy, Chief Executive Officer of the Orange County Transportation Authority will provide the lunchtime keynote address. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Region 9, representing the four sections within California, is currently preparing a **California Infrastructure Report Card**. Grades will be provided on the different areas of infrastructure and will be similar to the National and local report cards previously presented by ASCE. The report card will be unveiled on **September 27 in Sacramento**. The report card will provide timely information as voters consider four infrastructure bonds on transportation, levees and flood control facilities, education and housing.

Have a great summer trip planned? I hope so! Does it include visits to exciting civil engineering facilities? If not, it should! You would be surprised how easily stops to bridges, structures, dams, and other sites of note can be included. A little advance research can help your family and friends fully appreciate what they are seeing and the civil engineers' role. Speaking from personal experience there are some limits though; a tour of a wastewater treatment plant, even if it is one of the largest in the US, may not be fully appreciated! However, it is well remembered!

Have a safe and fun summer! The Section is busy planning events for this fall. The Section will hold its annual **Awards and Installation Dinner, Friday October 6th** at the Wrigley Mansion, also known as Tournament House. Tournament House serves as the permanent headquarters of the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Association. The 88-year old mansion is a majestic 22-room, 18,500-square-foot Italian Renaissance-style house designed by architect G. Lawrence Stimson. You won't want to miss this rare opportunity so be sure to mark your calendars now!

VOL_XLVI NO_7

In This Issue	page
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	1
EDITORIAL	2
CA's STRATEGIC GROWTH PLAN	2
CALIFORNIA CONSTRUCTION EXPO	3
ANNOUNCEMENTS	3~6
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES	7~9
PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY	10~11

Reminder:

Copy deadline for the Sept. 2006 issue is Aug. 1, 2006; copy deadline for Oct. 2006 issue is Sept. 1, 2006.



www.ascelasection.org

**ASCE's 2006
Member-Get-A-Member
Drive Depends on You!**

Summer is Here

The summer season is in full gear and your staff is busier than ever! We are in our third month of delivering our newsletter to some of us in electronic form and to some of us in paper form. We are hoping that we have by now resolved the issues of our initial month's effort to change the way we are distributing our newsletter.

In relation to this effort, let me repeat one more time (knowing that I have now the risk of being accused as a "broken record") of what everyone should be expecting if we continue with this manner of distribution. All of us subscribing members are scheduled to receive a postcard every single month indicating that the newsletter has been published on the ASCE Los Angeles Section website. For most of us, we will (in addition to the postcard) receive an e-mail broadcasting the publication of the same newsletter in the Section's website. For some of us, we are supposed to receive a paper copy of the newsletter if you so previously requested. So, in other words, any one subscribing member is supposed to receive two notifications that the newsletter is available.

I am repeating this information to quell any remaining questions in our member's minds on why they are receiving what they are receiving. We could have done it some other way, but this is the way that we thought to be seamless and least taxing, specifically to our volunteers who are either preparing the mailing list or sending out the e-mail broadcasts.

We will not be issuing a newsletter in August. As you probably noticed in the front page of this month's newsletter this is a combined July/August issue. Next time we publish the newsletter, we will attempt to quantify our average initial savings for going electronic and share with you, our readers, some of the feedbacks and the improvements we have made on the electronic version and distribution based on those feedbacks. If you have any comments about our changes, please send them to me so I can add and possibly publish in the upcoming issue. We want this newsletter to be of use to all. We will achieve that goal only if we hear from you.

Finally, as I mentioned in the beginning of this piece, summer is here. A lot of us are going out of town to somewhere (as one ad puts it) "nowhere near where you live". As our Section President puts it, take time to point out the engineering marvels to your companions during your trips. Who else can promote this profession except us? Who else should appreciate the products of our profession except those who use it everyday? These users will not do so if we do not put a special mention to these common wonders that make our quality of life better every single day.

Have fun! Enjoy this issue of our newsletter.

- Dr. Cris B. Liban, P.E.

CALIFORNIA's STRATEGIC GROWTH PLAN

On May 5, 2006 the California State Legislature passed an infrastructure bond package authorizing four general obligation bonds for education, housing, levee repair/flood control and transportation.

Based on information provided by representatives of the Governor, the transportation proposal portion of this package authorizes the placement of a \$19.9 billion general obligation bond to fund repairs, reduce congestion, improve bridge safety, expand public transit, and improve port security on the November 2006 ballot. Here are some of the highlights of the transportation proposal.

- Relieving congestion: \$4.5 billion.
- Public transit: \$4.0 billion for public transit, intercity and commuter rail, and waterborne transit operations.
- Sea, land, and airport infrastructure: \$3.1 billion to relieve traffic congestion along major trade corridors, improve freight rail facilities, and enhance the movement of goods from port to marketplace.
- State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP): \$2.0 billion to augment funds for STIP, a five-year capital improvement program for state and regional transportation projects.
- Route 99: \$1.0 billion for improvements to this 400-mile stretch of highway through the Central Valley.
- Local streets and roads: \$2.0 billion for improvements to local transportation facilities that will repair and rehabilitate local streets and roads, reduce local traffic congestion, improve traffic flow or increase traffic safety.
- Transit safety, security, and disaster response: \$1.0 billion to provide increased protection against security and safety threats.
- Matching funds for counties: \$1.0 billion for counties that have raised local money for transportation projects.
- Highways: \$750 million for highway safety, rehabilitation, and pavement preservation project, including \$250 million for traffic light synchronization projects and other technology-based improvements to improve safety operations and the capacity of local streets and roads.

ASCE supports increased infrastructure funding. Although the bond may not meet all ASCE members' desires, ASCE encourages members to support the bond. For questions about the bond please contact Michael Thornton at mthornton@tkeengineering.com.

Find out the latest section & branch news @
www.ascelasection.org

CALIFORNIA CONSTRUCTION EXPO

The Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD), Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) together will host the first-ever California Construction Expo on August 17, 2006 at the Los Angeles Convention Center in downtown Los Angeles.

The Expo will allow contractors, designers, construction professionals and suppliers to learn directly from leading government agencies about increasing opportunities associated with billion-dollar public works programs in California currently proposed or underway, including the LACCD's \$2.2 billion Proposition A/AA Bond program. Registration, exhibition forms and information are available at www.CalConExpo.com.

Public agencies and businesses across Southern California are facing the challenge of increased competition for contractors and a shortage of laborers for construction projects. The California Construction Expo will showcase the latest innovative products and services relevant to the construction field and related industries. The Expo will also provide networking opportunities for businesses and individuals interested in Southern California's construction industry. Workshops covering a variety of areas in construction will also be offered to attendees, including building schools and airports, public utilities and infrastructure, sustainable design and 'green' building, and attracting skilled labor in today's marketplace.

While there are a number of construction events, California Construction Expo 2006 is being hosted by government sector agencies who understand the nature of the construction industry. This sector faces the challenge of meeting their schedules within their multi-billion dollar budgets under the shadow of a national labor shortage and the fiercest competition for contractors never before seen. California Construction Expo 2006 is the place where all those directly or indirectly related to construction come to establish and maintain relationships for the sole purpose of conducting business.

Sponsors of the Expo will benefit from the strong visibility among the thousands of expected attendees representing all segments of the design and construction market. The Expo will showcase the latest products and innovative services, the latest technology innovations in the industry, and experts will speak about the industry and future trends.

For more information on this event, contact the MWD Business Outreach Hotline at 1-877-8-CALCON or via e-mail at BusinessOutreach@mwdh2o.com.

Sponsor profiles are as follows:

The Los Angeles Community College District is one of the largest community college districts in the country, educating more than 110,000 students at its nine colleges each year. The Proposition A/AA Bond program is currently the largest public sector sustainable building program in the United States. The District has received numerous awards for its commitment to sustainable building and its innovative construction and management practices. For more information on the Proposition A/AA Bond program, visit the Web site at www.PropositionA.org.

The Los Angeles Unified School District is the second largest school district in the United States. Spanning over 704 square miles, it includes the city of Los Angeles as well as 26 additional municipalities. The District is currently underway on an ambitious **\$19.2 billion New School Construction and Modernization Program**; the largest school construction program in the nation's history.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is the nation's largest provider of treated drinking water. The MWD has over 300 million dollars in construction contracts at any one time. Project sizes range from large to small and may cover anything from the large-scale construction of a water treatment plant to the rehabilitation of a facility roof. Contract values range from \$14,000 for road repair work to \$70 million for a water treatment plant oxidation retrofit project, and everything in between.

ANNOUNCEMENT

ASCE's Internet Advocacy Website

Yes you can now be intimately abreast with what is happening in Washington, DC through ASCE's Internet Advocacy Website.

This is an easy way to connect with your legislators to...

- Send your federal or state representative a message on current civil engineering legislation.
- Learn about issues and bills affecting civil engineering that are active in congress and your state legislature.
- Track how your U.S. Representative and Senators voted on key ASCE bills.

ASCE's internet advocacy website allows you to do all these things - simply go to <http://www.asce.org/pressroom/publicpolicy/advocacy.cfm> then click on the "Login now" button then enter your ASCE member ID number as the "Username" and your last name as the "Password" to get started.

Questions? Contact ASCE government relations at govwash@asce.org.

Maximize Your ASCE Membership!

To receive a weekly email update on legislative and regulatory issues affecting civil engineering, plus Key Alerts to let you know when action is needed, join ASCE's [Key Contact Program](#).

Please note: If ASCE does not have your email address in our database you will not be able to access the advocacy website. To provide us with your email, please update your address information through ASCE Membership at 800-548-ASCE (2723).

If you are not a member of ASCE you can still contact your elected officials through their personal websites. Visit your Representative's website by going to <http://www.house.gov> and choosing your Representative's name from the pull down menu. If you're not sure of your Representative, use the 'Find Your Representative' zip code match at the top of the page.

To find your Senators' websites go to <http://www.senate.gov> and choose your state from the pull down menu.

Announcement of Symposium

SHAPING SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA: TRANSPORTATION & WATER

A Symposium at the Huntington Library
1151 Oxford Road, San Marino
Ahmanson Classroom, Botanical Center

Sponsored by the Los Angeles Regional Planning History Group and the Huntington-USC Institute on California and the West

In cooperation with the American Society of Civil Engineers

Saturday, September 30, 2006

8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Plentiful water sources and excellent transportation connections are the infrastructure upon which Southern California has grown. The vast interurban railways provided the skeleton for the later extensive highway system that serves as the area's transportation network. Vast aqueducts importing water from around the West superseded earlier local sources in continuing efforts to satisfy the thirst of the area's growing population. The historical chronicle leaves a crucial question unanswered. Can Southern California find enough water and build enough highways and railways to continue its growth?

This one-day symposium will examine the history of these crucial building blocks of the area's growth. Speakers will explore the area's early twentieth century roots as well as more recent developments considering how changing technology, economics, public policy, and other aspects have influenced events. After observations from a leading commentator, the speakers will join to consider future ramifications of their studies, answering questions from the audience.

Schedule

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Registration and coffee

Speakers and Panelists

9:00 a.m. *Moderator:* Greg Hise, Associate Professor, School of Policy, Planning and Development, University of Southern California

9:15 – 11:00 a.m. **Transportation Speakers:**
Alan Jutzi, Curator, Huntington Library
Matthew Roth, Historian, Automobile Club of Southern California
Heinz Heckerroth, Executive Officer, California Transportation Foundation
Matt Barrett, Archivist, L.A. Metropolitan Transit Authority Library

11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **Water Speakers:**
Timothy Brick, Member, Board of Director, Metropolitan Water District
Steven Erie, Professor, University of California, San Diego

12:30 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. **Buffet Lunch on the Patio Terrace**

1:15 p.m. - 1:40 p.m. **Commentator: D. J. Waldie, Author**

1:40 p.m. – 2:40 p.m. **Joint Panel Discussion: “Man-Made Los Angeles: Land Use, Transportation and Water”**
Moderator: Professor Greg Hise

2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **Author Book Signings**

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Name: _____ Address: _____

E-mail: _____ phone number: _____

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Please send form and check payable to *LARPHG*, P.O. Box 5682, Pasadena, CA 91117, or pay by *PayPal* at *LARPHG.org*.
For additional information, please contact Alan Jutzi at the Huntington, 626.405.2178; ajutzi@huntington.org

ASCE Call for Disaster Assistance Volunteers

Each time a natural disaster, such as Hurricane Katrina, or a man-made event, such as the terrorist attacks of 9/11, occurs, ASCE members generously volunteer their time and talents to assist in response and recovery initiatives, and look to ASCE to provide an avenue to do so. The ASCE Committee on Critical Infrastructure (CCI), in response to our members' desire to lend support to such efforts, is developing a directory of members who express their interest and availability to assist. CCI is currently seeking volunteers to participate in disaster management activities (planning, preparedness, response, and recovery) on an as-needed basis. The information provided will be included in a directory for the ASCE Disaster Assistance Volunteer Program to use in the event of natural and man-made disasters requiring engineers for planning, damage assessment, and rebuilding efforts.

The ultimate goal of the directory is to be prepared to respond to future disasters by employing the expertise of qualified members. Data provided may be made available upon request to qualified parties including local, state, and federal agencies as well as private consulting firms seeking professional engineering expertise. **As of June 1, 2006, members may update their ASCE member profiles by providing disaster assistance related information for inclusion in the directory.** To ensure the accuracy of the directory, members may be asked to confirm the information provided on an ongoing basis.

Two ASCE Members Named Top Inventors in Modern Marvels Contest

(Reprinted from www.asce.org)

ASCE members Dr. Henry Liu and W. Denney Pate, P.E., were named semi-finalists of the Modern Marvels Invent Now Challenge on May 24. The national competition recognizes the ingenuity of independent inventors. Dr. Liu invented Durable Fly Ash Bricks made from a new process that transforms fly ash, a dust collected from coal-combusting power plants, into durable bricks. Denney Pate's Cable-Stay Cradle System directly increases the service life of a bridge by allowing a continuous stay to be carried from a bridge deck through the pylon and back to the bridge deck, eliminating anchorages in the pylon and preventing interaction among the strands of the stay.

The semi-finalists and winners were announced at the 2006 Modern Marvel of the Year ceremony in New York on Wednesday, May 24. ASCE President Dennis Martenson served on the panel of famed inventors and experts that selected the 25 semi-finalists and the grand prizewinner. David Mongan, official nominee for ASCE president-elect, offered insights to semi-finalists at their training seminar Thursday on finding a market for inventions in government and private sectors. As a trade partner in the contest, ASCE promoted Modern Marvels this year and will encourage inventors to participate in future competitions.

More than 4,000 inventors from all 50 states entered the contest. Under Secretary of Commerce Jon Dudas joined officials of the National Inventors Hall of Fame, the History Channel and Time Magazine in presenting the award.

For more information about the Modern Marvels contest and the 25 semi-finalists go to www.invent.org.

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CALIFORNIA PRECAST CONCRETE PIPE ASSOCIATION

TOPIC: Precast Concrete Retention/Detention Systems

LOCATION: TBA

DATE AND TIME: August, 2006/ 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

SPEAKERS: Steve Hiner & Jim Johnston, Rinker Materials

COST (Includes Full Lunch):

Members	\$20.00
Non-Members	\$25.00

RESERVATIONS: Jim Johnston, CPCPA, Rinker Materials
Phone: 909-322-7604
Fax: 949-654-5507
Email: jjohnston@rinker.com

CREDIT HOURS: One (1) PDH/CEU

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Products can be specified under conditions which include shallow cover, special waterway requirements and/or unusual loading situations.

WWW.

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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.



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For Pasadena:

Ms. Tamara Kealty
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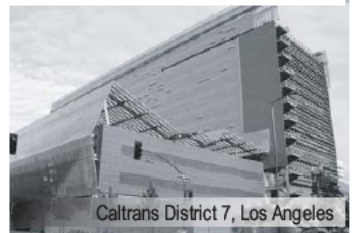
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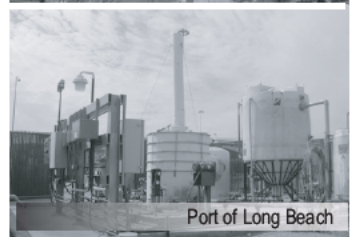
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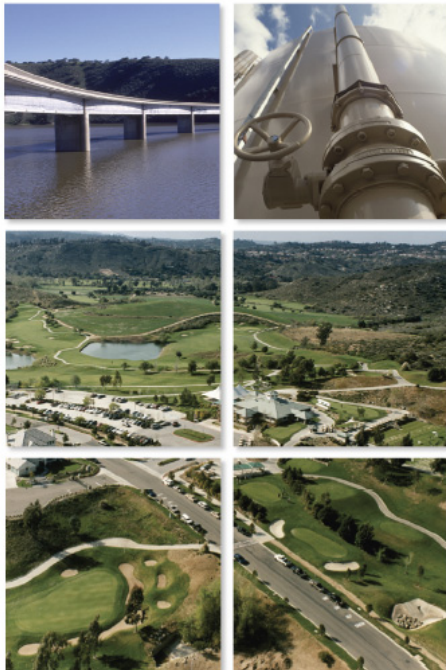


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