

Los Angeles Section

Monthly: Est. 1913

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jay Higgins, P.E., M.ASCE
Section President

Year End Wrap-up



This is the traditional time of year to look back and reflect on the past year. September 30, 2010 will be the end of my term as President. As I look back over the past year, I think of the significant events that occurred that moved us forward toward achieving the goals that were set. Those top three goals for the year were:

- Develop Leadership;
- Expand Legislative Activities; and
- Expand Student Outreach activities.

The following is just a sampling of significant events that come to mind:

- Section Annual Event – over 100 Section award recipients and incoming officers were honored at the Autry Museum of the American West.

- A Student Chapter Roundup - held at Cal State Los Angeles, this annual event provides the incoming student chapter officers an opportunity to learn about ASCE organizational structure at the Society, Region, Section and Branch levels, and the resources that ASCE has available to help them in their activities. This was a great opportunity to network and learn from the other student chapters experiences. I found it particularly enjoyable to hear about their activities and was impressed with the enthusiasm with which they approached their goals.

- The joint MLAB and Orange County YMF Annual Popsicle Stick Bridge Competition, held at the L.A. Science Center, brought together over 300 high school students to build their bridges, present their design before a panel of judges, and load test their product. All good experience for the future.

- The Life Member Brunch was held last March in Monterrey Park. I always find this event a highlight of the year as we hear about the fascinating achievements of our Life Members. I made a concerted effort this year to increase the student member attendance, so they could learn what interesting career opportunities lay ahead. It was also a great opportunity for the students to interact with the many professionals from both the public and private sectors.

- The San Luis Obispo (SLO) Branch 50th Anniversary Celebration highlighted the long history of the Section and the many accomplishments of our Branches. This Branch continues the tradition of value to members through many ASCE activities. They also work very actively with the Cal Poly SLO Student Chapter.

- The unveiling of the Kern County and Orange County Report Cards attracted the attention of many organizations, the public, and the media. The unveiling was the culmination of many months of hard work by several subcommittees in the various categories of infrastructure. These report cards highlight the needed infrastructure improvements and are a valuable tool to reach out to the public and our legislators.

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The Year in Review

With the fiscal year over, we salute those who have contributed to the successful events and outreach efforts conducted throughout our Section. We first give significant credit to our Los Angeles Section President Jay Higgins, P.E. for his tireless handling of Section Affairs. His attention to detail, dedication, and magnetic enthusiasm are truly remarkable traits, making for a very productive year for all of us.

We have seen our ups and downs, activity-wise, throughout the past few years of writing for our newsletter and I can tell you that I have never experienced so much activity from a President and the Branches than this past year. Kudos to all who have worked hard to achieve their respective goals.

We also hear from our Past President Don Sepulveda, P.E. regarding the forthcoming Los Angeles Section Centennial celebration in 2013. Don is looking for several volunteers who can actively participate in this once in a lifetime event. This newsletter has previously participated in the National ASCE Annual Conference hosted by Los Angeles a few years ago. It was a lot of hard work but definitely fun. We hope you consider participating.

Finally, we also hear from Joan Al-Kazily, Ph.D., P.E., ASCE Region 9 Governor regarding her experiences in that position. We have fresh updates outlining the activities of our Orange County Branch. We also introduce in this issue our newly elected President-Elect John Hogan, P.E., LEED AP. John is the President and CEO of Hall & Foreman, Inc. (HFI) based in Tustin, CA. John will be serving three successive terms as our leader here in the Los Angeles Section: President-Elect, President, and finally, Past President.

We hope you enjoy this issue of your newsletter!

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

Reminder:

Copy deadline for the Oct. 2010 issue is Sept. 1, 2010; copy deadline for Nov. 2010 issue is Oct. 1, 2010.



www.ascelasection.org

Los Angeles Section Centennial Celebration

By Don Sepulveda, P.E., F.ASCE



It's hard to believe that it has been 97 years since the Los Angeles Section was established. For several years we have been looking forward to the celebration of our 100th birthday in 2013. A task committee led by Andy Machen has been working on ideas for our celebration and the time has come to put those ideas into actions. I have been appointed the Chair of this important committee and

Bob Bein has been appointed Honorary Chair. As Society President, and the Chair of the successful National ASCE Annual Conference hosted by the Los Angeles Section, Bob will be a tremendous team member as we work to achieve the goals that we have set for the celebration.

Our plans for this celebration are spectacular. Over our centennial year, we will be completing activities related to K-12 Outreach, Student Chapters, the Rose Parade Float, a Centennial Conference/Symposium, a Video providing insight into the Section, History and Heritage, Younger Member Forum (YMF), and Engineer's Week, just to name a few.

In order to make this happen, we want you to be part of the team. As with any great organization, the Los Angeles Section relies on its team members to accomplish goals. Each of you as a member of the Section is invited to join us in making our Centennial celebration a tremendous success. I am reaching out for volunteers that will chair the various committees that will ensure the success of our celebration and continue to show the rest of the Society that we know how to make things happen in Southern California.

Here are some of the positions that we are looking for:

- Student Activities Chair;
- Centennial Logo Chair;
- Fund Raising Chair;
- Rose Parade Float Chair and Co-Chair
- Conference/Symposium Chair;
- Public Relations Chair;
- YMF Chair;
- Webmaster; and
- K-12 Chair.

These are but a few of the ideas that have been put forward as part of the celebration. We are looking for more ideas. Perhaps more importantly, we are looking for dedicated people interested in taking on smaller parts of a very large task.

I will be organizing a meeting in the near future to kick things off. Please let me know what you would like to do to be part of the festivities. You are all important to the success of our celebration. Please feel free to email me at dsepulveda@hntb.com with any ideas, questions, or to request additional information.

Greetings from ASCE Region 9 Board of Governors!

Joan Al-Kazily, PhD, P.E., ASCE Region 9 Governor

This year, my last as a Region 9 Governor, I have continued working on Region 9's interaction with the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (BPELS) by attending the BPELS quarterly meetings. I also invited a BPELS Board member, Jim Foley, to attend the June face-to-face Region 9 Board meeting. The interchange was very informative.

Almost two years ago I wrote a Region 9 article on mandatory continuing education for relicensing in California and we have spent some time studying this issue. Since it is important to our Society, and since California is now in the minority of 16 states that do not have this requirement, the Region 9 Board considers it to be very important to work towards introducing it in California. Precedent for doing so exists in California because continuing education is a requirement for many other professions including nursing, physical therapy, and accounting.

Several months ago the Region 9 Board voted official support for the ASCE Policy 425, which supports documented continuing professional development for maintaining status as a licensed Professional Engineer. We are now drafting a concept paper to pursue legislation mandating 30 Professional Hours (PDF) of continuing education, in the two year renewal period, for re-licensing of Engineers in California. The proposed legislation will be similar to that already in effect in 34 states. Please look for direct e-mail communication containing details of the proposed legislation this summer. Your engagement in this issue is important to Region 9.

We acknowledge that this is a controversial issue among California lawmakers. But in our profession it is important for individuals to engage in professional development. The responsibility to do this and to select the appropriate continuing education activities lies with the individual. The proposed legislation will not change this, but it will affirm the principle that professional development is important. Current law suggests that once trained as an engineer no further education is needed to continue practicing. The proposed change will reinforce, to licensees, the need to stay current in their fields, and it will make the commitment to do so transparent to the public and our customers.

It has been my pleasure to serve on the Region 9 Board. I plan to stay connected through membership on committees including the BPELS/Continuing Education Committee and the History and Heritage Committee. I have accepted the task of chairing this latter committee for Region 9. Looking ahead, the Society's History and Heritage Committee is planning a 2-day symposium celebrating the 75th anniversary of the completion of the Hoover Dam, to be held in conjunction with ASCE's 140th Annual Civil Engineering Conference in Las Vegas this October 21st to 23rd. I hope many of you will be able to be there.

ASCE's 2010 Member-Get-A-Member Drive Depends on You!

John Hogan, P.E., LEED AP

ASCE Los Angeles Section President-Elect



John Hogan is President and CEO of Hall & Foreman, Inc. (HFI) based in Tustin, California. HFI, founded in 1961, provides civil engineering, surveying, and land planning services to both public sector and private sector clients. The firm has four southern California offices.

John is a native Californian, born and raised in Palo Alto. John earned his BSCE from USC and his MSCE from Cal State Long Beach. He joined HFI as a project manager in 1987 after spending the early part of his engineering career with the Southern California Gas Company and AC Martin Partners. In 1993, John was appointed a principal and shareholder of HFI. He became the firm's fourth president in 1996.

During his 35-year engineering career, John has managed design teams for a variety of large-scale land development projects and challenging commercial, industrial and public works projects. He has developed expertise in performing feasibility studies, infrastructure planning, and identifying financing alternatives.

John is active in the ASCE Orange County Branch and served on the Branch board from 2002 through 2007. He was the 2005-2006 Branch president. John's involvement with ASCE has been continuous since his college days at USC where he was an officer of the student chapter. After graduation, John became involved in the LA Section AMF (now YMF), and was AMF President in 1980-81. John also serves on the Board of Directors of the Orange County Building Industry Association and is a member of the CSULB C.E. /C.E.M. Dept. Advisory Council.

John and his wife Becky have raised six children, the youngest of which (twins) are now in college. The Hogan's have resided in Laguna Hills since 1975. John is active in his community serving as board chair of the Saddleback Valley YMCA.

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.

Orange County Branch Update

By Ziad Y. Mazboudi, Vice President

On July 15, 2010, the Orange County branch had its annual Field Trip to the Environmental Nature Center (ENC) in Newport Beach. ENC is the first Platinum LEED certified building in Orange County. Bo Glover, Executive Director of the ENC made a presentation to the members explaining the great green features in the center. The ENC is naturally ventilated with no HVAC system. It has solar panels and wind turbine that generates about three times the power that is needed for the facility. Following the presentation, the attendees enjoyed the Barbeque cooked on site. Then they toured the nature center which contains a butterfly house and several eco-systems including an area of California Redwoods.

The History and Heritage Committee's new chair, Bill Lawson, and some of the committee members visited during the past couple of months several of the historic plaque sites. Among the ones visited were the City of Anaheim, who received their Historical Civil Engineering Landmark (HCEL) in 1982 in recognition of the City of Anaheim Water System as a Local HCEL. The other landmark visited was in the City of San Juan Capistrano, where the committee members visited the Mission San Juan Capistrano. The Mission received its plaque as a HCEL in 1993.

The Branch is taking applications for its annual award ceremony. Anyone interested in the various categories should visit the branch's website, at www.asceoc.org for details.

On August 19, the branch luncheon topic will be the four miles Santa Ana Garden Grove Street Car. The luncheon is at the Hilton Hotel in Costa Mesa.

Finally, the OC YMF took a tour of the Irvine Outdoor Education Center. This Center received the project of the Year Award in 2010. This site has three main areas, an Astronomy Camp, Mining Camp, and Ranching Camp. Irvine Ranch has a rich history and at the Center, children are able to learn about these particular topics by participating in each of the respective campsite activities. Embedded in the educational nature of the facility, the OEC provides a plethora of activities that act as hands on "learning stations".

The YMF will be going in August on their annual planning retreat in Big Bear. This is how our future leaders plan their year.

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EWRI 2011 Congress Call for Abstracts

The organizing committee of the World Environmental & Water Resources Congress 2011 welcomes abstract submissions for this year's event, being held May 22-26, 2011, in Palm Springs, California. Submissions are due by the deadline of September 7, 2010. In terms of requirements, abstracts must be in English, contain material not previously published or presented, include the title of the paper, a 250-500 word abstract of the paper or extended abstract and the author or a list of authors if appropriate. Please be certain to identify the expected presenter. For each author, please include their name, affiliation, mailing address, e-mail, and phone number. It should also be noted that the author who uploads the abstract is expected to be the same author that would ultimately submit the final paper.

A variety of tracks and sessions will be hosted at the 2011 Congress, and EWRI anticipates strong participation and a diverse sampling of technical content in the conference program.

Visit the Congress website for a list of sub-topics to supplement the above-listed subject matter. The website also provides additional information on housing, international attendees, tours, and opportunities to sponsor or exhibit in Palm Springs.

For questions, or more information about the 2011 World Environmental & Water Resources Congress, visit the web-site, contact the Congress Technical Chair at ewri2011tc@asce.org, or send inquiries to ewri@asce.org.

If you would like to exhibit or cosponsor the conference please contact Sean Scully at 703-295-6154 or sscully@asce.org or Kira Simonson at 703-295-6349 or ssimonson@asce.org.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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- The Section's Sustainability Committee held the first ever "Tour de Green", a Bike ride with stops and tours of sustainable projects throughout the Santa Barbara area. This event was open to all Section members and was a tremendous success; we hope to see this activity continued each year.

- The MLAB Government Affairs Committee held its first Los Angeles City Hall Drive-in. Our members met with City council members and made a presentation before the city council about the need for infrastructure improvements. The committee was honored by a City Resolution proclaiming June 9th American Society of Civil Engineers day.

- Another highlight of the year for me was the K-12 Student Outreach event held at Clover Elementary school. Students built sugar cube and peanut butter structures which were subject to a shake table/earthquake test. It is hard to put into words the feeling one gets as when you see the smiling faces as they worked to create their structure and the laughter as the structure was subjected to the shake test. We were fortunate to have Society President-Elect Kathy Caldwell attend this event. These events contribute greatly toward achieving our goal of introducing young students to the potential of a career in civil engineering.

- Cal Poly SLO hosted the 2010 National Canoe Competition. This was by far the best student run activity I have ever attended. The event, which included over 1000 students from around the country, was not only extremely well planned and executed, but Cal Poly SLO took first place overall in the competition. Quite an achievement. I left this event assured that the future of civil engineering is in good hands.

- In August, the Section held its annual Training and Leadership Workshop. This workshop provides an opportunity for incoming Branch, YMF, and Student Chapter officers to learn about the ASCE organization and Section's Policy and Procedures and meet the Section Board Members.

- The MLAB Government Affairs Committee held its annual Engineers and Politics workshop. This workshop, which was open to all members of the Section, brought together interested individuals from ASCE and other engineering groups such as the State of California Professional Engineers in California Government. This was an opportunity to build relationships, identify common interests, and begin the process of achieving our common goals. Wayne Klotz, Society Past President, and Richard Markuson, the Region 9 Legislative Advocate/Lobbyist participated, added their insight into how to approach our legislators and inform the public about the need for infrastructure improvements. This was a very successful program and I look forward to programs next year being conducted throughout the Section's area.

The above is only a sampling of the many activities that take place throughout the Section. The Branches, YMF, LMF, and Technical Groups provide interesting presentations, tours of civil engineering facilities, and networking opportunities for our members. These activities add great value to being a member of the Section. I would like to thank all the Board members and committee and technical

group chairs who give so much their time to make these events such a success.

I made a personal goal as President-Elect and President to meet with each Branch, YMF, and LMF Board so I could learn firsthand about all the activities that we are conducting, and to find out how the Section could support them. I am pleased to report that I achieved that goal and am most impressed with the efforts the leaders of these organizations are making to promote the civil engineering profession. We want to spread Section-wide what we have learned from these many successful events. I also attended many Technical Group meetings. During my term next year as Past President, I intend to complete my goal to visit with all the Technical Groups.

As I look back over the past two years and reflect on all that has been accomplished by our Section, I am truly proud to be a member of this organization. If I had to pick the single most important benefit I have gained during my term as President I would say it was that I gained a much greater appreciation for ASCE and the civil engineering profession. After working with the Society staff and attending their training workshops, attending the Society's annual and regional conferences, participating in Region 9 Board of Governors meetings, and attending Branch, YMF, and LMF Board meeting and many Technical Group meetings, I truly see the benefits that this organization provides to its members. One of the most important benefits to me is the lifelong friendships I have made. I encourage all members to participate in Section activities and serve on a board or committee or join a technical group. If you truly want to benefit from your membership in this organization you must get involved. If you are interested in serving on a committee or being on a Board, contact your Branch President (their contact information is on the back page of this newsletter). They would be happy to hear from you and I am sure they have plenty of opportunities to get involved.

This year, I appointed several new Section Committee Chairs:

- Chair of the Legislative Activities Committee
- Chair of the Public Relation Committee
- Chair of the Sustainability Committee

I asked each of them to reach out to the Branches, YMF, and LMF and encourage the Presidents to appoint a chair within their organization, if they haven't already. The organizational chairs make up the Section Committee, which is working toward the goal of spreading the lessons learned from the successful programs Section-wide. Each of these Section Committee chairs is currently working on developing workshops which will occur over the coming year, possibly, as early as this fall.

I am pleased that we have partnered over the past year with the ACE Mentor Program and was encouraged to hear that President-Elect Greg Heertz intends to continue our relationship with ACE. ACE gives students hope for the future and allows them to see the opportunities that a career in architecture, construction, or engineering offer. This is an important part of the Section's student outreach program.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Section Board for their hard work and dedication to ASCE. These leaders are the "doers", and their hard work moves us forward to achieve our goals. It takes time away from free time and family and I truly appreciate all their efforts. Thank you for letting me serve as our President.

Enjoy your newsletter. If you have any questions and comments please feel free to send me an e-mail at jay_higgins@urscorp.com. Articles for the Newsletter may be submitted to the Newsletter Editor, Cris Liban, at LibanE@metro.net.

REGION 9 Fall 2010, Winter 2011 Continuing Education Calendar

Region	DATES	SEMINARS AND COMPUTER WORKSHOP LINKS	Technical Division
9	Nov. 4-5, 2010	Design and Strengthening of Shallow Foundations for Conventional and Pre-Engineered Buildings	Structural
9	Nov. 4-5, 2010	Finite Elements in Geotechnical Engineering	Geotechnical
9	Nov. 18-19, 2010	Bridge Rehabilitation	Structural
9	Nov. 18-19, 2010	Risk-Based Seismic Design and Evaluation ~New	Structural
9	Dec. 9-10, 2010	Construction Contract Management	Construction/Development
9	Dec. 9-10, 2010	Pipe Selection for Municipal Facilities	Hydraulics & Water Resources
9	Dec. 9-10, 2010	Wind Loads for Buildings and Other Structures	Structural
9	Jan. 13-14, 2011	Design and Installation of Buried Pipes	Geotechnical
9	Jan. 20-21, 2011	Leadership Development for the Engineer	Management & Leadership
9	Jan. 20-21, 2011	Progressive Collapse Mitigation: Practical Analysis Methods and Proven Solutions	Structural
9	Jan. 26-28, 2011	Dam Breach Analysis using the Hydrologic Engineering Center's River Analysis System HEC-RAS	Hydraulics & Water Resources
9	Feb. 2-4, 2011	GIS for Hydraulic and Hydrologic Modeling Using ArcGIS Desktop ~New	Hydraulics & Water Resources
9	Feb. 3-4, 2011	Modern Detectors for Traffic Surveillance Management, and Traveler Information ~New	Transportation
9	Feb. 10-11, 2011	Stormwater BMPs That Work: Effective Analysis, Design and Maintenance	Environmental
9	Feb. 17-18, 2011	Financial Management for the Professional Engineer	Management & Leadership
9	Feb. 23-25, 2011	Introduction to Tunnel Design and Construction	Geotechnical
9	Feb. 24-25, 2011	Aluminum Structural Design with the 2010 Aluminum Design Manual	Structural
9	March 8-11, 2011	Pumping Systems Design for Civil Engineers	Hydraulics & Water Resources
9	March 17-18, 2011	Design Build Contracting	Construction/Development
9	March 17-18, 2011	Water Hammer in Transmission and Distribution Systems	Hydraulics & Water Resources
9	March 24-25, 2011	Risk Assessment in Geotechnical Engineering	Geotechnical/Transportation

Job Hunting

With many Civil Engineers of all experience level searching for new career opportunities in this tough economy, ASCE has tools that may be of some assistance to you.

ASCE Career Connections

ASCE's Career Connections offers one-stop, online career advancement advice and access to current opportunities, qualified candidates, and job postings.

If you are job seeker or a employer with positions available visit ASCE's Career Connections at this link <http://careers.asce.org/>

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