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**“Happy Holidays
 To All”**
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VOL_XLVII NO_12

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Reminder:

Copy deadline for the Jan. 2008 issue is Dec. 1, 2007; copy deadline for Feb. 2008 issue is Jan. 1, 2008.



Los Angeles Section

Monthly: Est. 1913

ORANGE / SAN_BERNARDINO/RIVERSIDE / SAN_LUIS_OBISPO / SANTA_BARBARA/VENTURA / DESERT / SOUTHERN SAN_JOAQUIN / METROPOLITAN LOS ANGELES

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Mark Norton, P.E.
 Section President



Holiday Message

As Southern California begins to recover from the devastation of recent wildfires, our thoughts are with all those impacted by this tragedy. The fires were the most devastating in Southern California's recent history burning over 503,000 acres or 786 square miles, killing seven people, destroying over 3000 homes, and causing the evacuation of over 500,000 people. The causes of the fires are attributed to downed electrical lines from the Santa Ana winds, sparks from construction welding and in some

areas, arson. For those thousands of residents who lost their homes, the emotional scars of losing all of one's earthly possessions from a fire can be particularly painful this time of year. May we remember these families in need with a helping hand through donations and support during this holiday season.

Sadly, the consequences of the fires will have long term impacts in ways unbeknownst to many. If and when future major rain showers do arrive this winter, much of the runoff will not be retained due to a lack of vegetation from heavily scorched terra. Flow velocities will increase beyond the norm causing scouring conditions in streambeds and heavy erosion of stream banks sometimes to devastating levels to adjoining stream properties. The flows will also carry increased sediment and other particulates down tributaries and streams reducing the flood control channel capacities. In some areas, stormwater recharge operations will be hindered by silting in of recharge basins that depend on fresh water recharge to replenish the groundwater, a major source of water supply. Water quality will also be degraded from increased salt and turbidity levels which in turn will negatively impact native habitat and environmentally sensitive areas. Consequently, the challenges facing the region from record dry weather conditions over the past several years will be further exacerbated by these wildfires. These scenarios were proven out and observed from the past 2003 wildfires that impacted much of San Bernardino and San Diego County.

Beyond aid to those most heavily stricken, can we as civil engineers offer our community and society hope for the future in light of these challenges? My answer is a resounding, yes! From my many visits to various ASCE branches and YMF organizations in our Section in recent months, I am happy to report that civil engineers are responsive and aware of needs to step up to meet the challenges of the future. New programs are being established, seminars and luncheon speakers are being planned and new leadership and direction is being provided to support improvements for infrastructure needs and prepare for future changes. For example, in late September I attended a new seminar being offered through the Orange County Branch about sustainable design and becoming a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) accredited professional. This is a topic so important in dealing with protection of our environment, preservation of our resources and climate change that a symposium on sustainability has been included in the program for the ASCE National Conference in Orlando, Florida this year. It is this expanded level of leadership and forward thinking of a growing cadre of volunteer civil engineers that will help to address the needs of the future.

Can Civil Engineers LEED in Sustainable Design?

By: Sam Ali, PE, LEED AP

THE ANSWER IS YES!

There is a myth that only Architects are interested in Sustainable Design since it deals only with building design. Not true! Civil engineers can play an important role in Sustainable Design. For those who are not up to speed "Sustainability" refers to the ability of a society, ecosystem, or any such ongoing system to continue functioning into the indefinite future without being forced into decline through exhaustion of key resources. The goals of Sustainable Design are:

- Cost savings in the long run.
- Protecting our environment and natural resources.
- Conserving resources such as water, power, gas, etc.
- Creating healthier environment for people to live, work, study and shop.

Growth and development is inevitable because of the continued growth in our population and the demand for more housing, schools, offices, parks and retail. It is our job as civil engineers to implement Sustainable Design to achieve our mission of "Balancing the natural and built environment." It is also our job to educate the general public and our clients about the benefits of Green Design. Here are some examples of design application that the civil engineer can play an important role in Sustainable Design:

- Sediment and pollutant control during construction, including erosion control.
- Perform a grading design that protect natural resources and open space.
- Provide innovation ideas to treat wastewater onsite.
- Use reclaimed water (where available) for irrigation in some building plumbing (like flushing the toilet).
- Reduce impact of increased run-off caused by development through the implementation of Retention/Detention methods.
- Treat storm water run-off onsite before discharging into the storm drain system.
- Design and specify light colored pavement to reduce heat island effect.
- Work with Planners and Architects to develop site plan with minimum site disturbance.
- Create carpool, vanpool and bike storage areas to minimize car usage.
- Work with developer, planners and public officials to design transit oriented transportation systems.

One of the most effective means to implement Sustainable Design is to become an Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design (LEED) Accredited Professional (AP). This is a program that is administered by the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) non-government, non-profit organization established in 1993. To become a LEED AP, one would take and pass a computerized test administered by USGBC. To learn more go to HYPERLINK "http://www.usgbc.org" www.usgbc.org.

We are at the tipping point for Sustainable Design. Architects and Engineers who are not yet on board Green Design will be left out since the public is demanding Green Design not only to protect the Environment, but also to create a healthier place to live and work.

Sam Ali is Vice President of Land Development services at Psomas, Costa Mesa. He is also Chairman of Continue Education Committee for ASCE, OC.



“Happy Holidays To All”

EDITORIAL

Awards, Fires, Hope, and Challenge

We are a group of very talented and self-serving engineers here in the Los Angeles Section. That statement is again recognized in various awards handed out to deserving individuals locally and nationally. In this issue, we highlight the names of individuals and groups who have shared their expertise, time, and commitment to the engineering profession. We congratulate our members for a job well done.

Section President Mark Norton, P.E.'s message reminds us of the fragile environment we live in here in Southern California. The recent wildfires have indeed brought much destruction in a number of areas throughout our Section. Thanks, however, to the brave men and women firefighters who have dedicated their time, resources, and courage in ensuring that no more structures are threatened or burned. My special thanks to the firefighters who have participated in the containment of the Grass Valley Wildland Fire in Lake Arrowhead, CA. Our mountain home is just a mile away from that fire.

As our environment changes, we need to change with it. Sustainability is in the forefront of a number of engineer's minds, nowadays. LEED design is one of the elements of sustainability that we as engineer's can significantly participate in. We are called to be actively involved in Green Design in the article written by Sam Ali, P.E in one of our articles in this issue. After reading the article, we hope that you will take on the challenge to become one with us in this movement.

Finally, the Holidays are upon us. As we reflect on the preceding year, we should think about others in our world who are less fortunate than most of us. In particular, those who have no infrastructure to maintain a living condition as we know it. These are the people with no roofs over their heads, no water to drink, no food to harvest, no ability to move around. You and I are engineers. We should continue building a better world for all of us. Happy Holidays to all!

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

Los Angeles Section Officers Installation and Awards Dinner

The Los Angeles Section of ASCE recently held the Officers Installation and Awards dinner at the Huntington Library. This is the annual meeting of the Section where the incoming officers of the Section are installed and awards are presented. This event is organized by the incoming president of the section (in this case Mark Norton), and is held at a location uniquely chosen by that individual. Some of our past locations are: the Seabee Museum in Port Hueneme, the Peterson Automotive Museum, Santa Anita Racetrack, The Brower Museum, Club 33 at Disneyland, and the Wrigley Mansion.

The Huntington Library was an excellent host for this meeting. This library holds fascinating documents that go back several hundred years. Guests of the library are able to review documents from the Jamestown settlement to the Spanish era in California. In addition, several art pieces such as "Blue Boy" are on display in this museum. For those who may be interested, several gardens on the campus of the library are not only very beautiful, but very interesting. Those who attended were able to come early to view the documents on display in the library and stroll through the gardens.

The Annual Meeting is perhaps the most important event of the year for the Los Angeles Section. Historically, the Branches schedule periodic meetings with guest speakers and networking opportunities. The Section on the other hand has two Section-wide events a year: the Annual Meeting in the fall and the Life Member Installation Brunch in March. Through these two events, the history and life experiences of the Section are particularly evident. In these events we honor folks like Jack Ralston, the recipient of the Life Member Award, who has a remarkable history both within the Section and personally. At these two events, we connect with those from the past – the Life Members, and those from the future – the Younger Members and student members.

Karl Longley, the Region 9 Director, installed the incoming Section Board at this event. This simple ceremony forms another link in the ever-evolving cycle of the Section. These individuals have succeeded at all levels of your organization and have received your confidence in their leadership through their work in the Branches and Sections, and as affiliate members.



Another important aspect of this night is honoring those that have excelled and successfully promoted civil engineering in projects and actions. The following is the list of award winners for this year:

Outstanding Civil Engineer in Private Sector
Michael P. Thornton P.E. has over 22 years of experience and enlightens the industry with his dedication, commitment, success and hard work. Rising through various Branch office positions of the ASCE San Bernardino and Riverside Counties Branch, he became branch president for two terms 1998-99 and 1999-00. In 2004-05, he served as the Section representative on the California Society of Civil Engineers and is starting his third year as Region 9 Governor. He has been a tremendously successful leader in establishing the ASCE Day at the Capitol in Sacramento

for the past three years wherein civil engineers meet face-to-face with legislators on important civil engineering issues. Over the past year he chaired the well attended first annual Region 9 Symposium that was held on February 5, 2007 in Sacramento. He is the owner and president of his own firm, TKE Engineering, Inc., and has taken an active role in his community in serving on the St. Frances De Sales School Board as Vice Chairman and providing presentations to middle and high schools about the career of civil engineering. Michael is an outstanding and dedicated professional civil engineer who has made a significant difference in the field of the engineering and ASCE.

Outstanding Civil Engineer in Government

Steven L. Malloy, P.E. is the engineering design manager for the Irvine Ranch Water District where he has worked for 28 years. He has been involved in planning, financing, design, and construction management of potable water, recycled water and wastewater systems. His major projects have included improvements at the IRWD water reclamation plants, membrane treatment plants, water well development, water pumping stations, storage tanks and transmission pipelines. He has a BS in civil engineering from Cal Poly Pomona, where he first joined ASCE. He also has an MS in environmental engineering from Stanford, and an engineering management certificate from UC Irvine. By his tremendous service and achievement in civil engineering in the public sector, he is well deserved to receive this prestigious award.

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Outstanding Younger Civil Engineer

As the President of the Younger Member Forum for the San Bernardino and Riverside Counties Branch, **Albert Martinez, P.E.** has led one of the most active YMF groups in the ASCE Los Angeles Section. Rising through various Executive Board positions as Secretary and Vice President in years prior, Albert was one of the original pioneers to spearhead the YMF group in its inception in 2004. As the leader of this dynamic organization, Albert has led workshops on topics in environmental, water resources, land development and the transportation fields. Working closely with the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program with K-12 students, his organization has taken a prominent role in sharing the civil engineering profession with students. In support of college programs, he established a program to provide scholarships to students at the Cal Poly Pomona Student Chapter of ASCE. Albert works for the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District as a professional engineer.



Outstanding Civil Engineering Project

The **State Route 22 Widening** is a 12 mile east-west transportation corridor of the Garden Grove Freeway in Orange County, California, that provides important transportation connections to all major north-south freeways in Orange County. The SR-22 also crosses most of the major north-south arterial streets making it a vital link to residents, businesses, and visitors. No major improvements have been made to the freeway since it was built in the early 1960s when it was designed to handle a maximum of 115,000 cars per day. Currently the SR-22 carries more than 200,000 cars daily, and its volume is expected to reach 250,000 by 2020.

On September 22, 2004 the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) in partnership with the California Department of

Transportation (Caltrans) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) began design and construction of the \$550 million project to increase SR-22s capacity. *This project is the first design-build project on an operating freeway in the State of California.* The engineering design consultant was URS Corporation Americas and Parsons Corporation was the project manager. Funding for the project came primarily through Measure M, a half-cent sales tax for Orange County transportation improvement projects passed by Orange County voters in 1990. Other sources include various federal, state and local city funds. The project was an extraordinary team effort of skilled workers, tolerant residents and patient commuters.

Outstanding Civil Engineering Project – Honorable Mention

The **Hemet Water Filtration Plant** is a 10 million gallon per day (mgd) membrane filtration plant expandable to 40 mgd owned and operated by the Eastern Municipal Water District. The plant treats State Project Water (SPW) assuring good quality through the removal of carcinogenic disinfection by-products and potential taste and odor events. The design includes 500-micron screens, a flash-mixing system, three flocculation basins, ultra filtration membranes trains, a disinfection chlorine contact basin, a finished water pump station, and chemical feed facilities. The design team commissioned to complete the design was Carollo Engineers. Using an innovative construction implementation process, Carollo Engineers reduced the construction time by two months by awarding a design sub-consultant contract to the membrane supplier and approving submittals during design and another three months by having a membrane pilot unit at the plant site during the construction period rather than before design. The project was unique in mitigating many environmental impacts with a 5 acre construction site bounded on all sides by residential housing. By these innovative engineering measures, this project receives honorable mention for this outstanding civil engineering project.

Outstanding Civil Engineer in Community Service

Cung Nguyen P.E. is a graduate of San Diego State University (SDSU) and is working as a senior civil engineer for the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Flood Maintenance Division. Cung has been very active in community service serving as the Board Director and Chair of the Education Committee for the Asian American Architect and Engineers Association (AAa/e). As one of the founding members of the AAa/e Foundation, the organization has been instrumental in providing opportunities and scholarships for students pursuing a career in architecture, engineering and construction and recently recognized by the LA County Board of Supervisors and the LA City Council. Cung has also served his community as a member of the Advisory Council for the College of Civil and Environmental Engineering for SDSU and recently was elected to the Board of Education for the Arcadia Unified School District, an elected four year position. Cung was President of the ASCE Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch in 2006-7.

Outstanding Life Member

Jack W. Rolston P.E. has served as a civil engineer for over 60 years working for the Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District for 20 years and the Foundation Engineering Co. for 40 years. Jack has served in a prominent role as a member of the ASCE Geotechnical Group, Building and Safety Committee which created the first grading code in the nation in 1953. Jack serves as chairman of the ASCE Disaster Preparedness Committee and on the Steering Committee for the Governor's Office of Emergency Services. He organized the Soil and Foundation Engineers Association in 1970 (now the California Geotechnical Engineers Association) and served as its charter president. Jack has been active in ASCE since 1947 has taught and trained over 200 engineers in the region to be certified evaluators for disaster preparedness under the Office of Emergency Services. Jack is a graduate of the Colorado School of Mines, the Harvard Graduate School of Engineering and Stanford University. As a retired civil engineer and an outstanding ASCE Life Member, Jack has continued to be active in support of ASCE and the community to this day.

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National Conference Awardees

In November, members of our Section has garnered two very prestigious awards of achievement: the Edmund Friedman Young Engineer Award for Professional Achievement and the Younger Member Group Award for Large Groups. Shown below are the awardees.



Kathereen M. Shinkai, P.E., M.ASCE was awarded the "Edmund Friedman Young Engineer Award for Professional Achievement" by ASCE National President, W.F. Marcuson III.

The Orange County Younger Member Forum was awarded the "Younger Member Group Award for Large Groups" for the 2005 ~ 2006 year.



(From left) Patrick J. Natale, Executive Director, Kathereen M. Shinkai, P.E., Gary Gilbert, P.E., and W.F. Marcuson III, ASCE National President.



Awardees Shinkai and Gilbert with LA Section officers, Rich Haller and Jay Higgins.

Los Angeles Section Officers Installation and Awards Dinner *continued*

Excellence in Journalism Award

Jeff Rowe is a journalist for the Orange County Register and has been a journalist for almost 30 years, reporting and producing for television, radio, newspapers, magazines and online. He has been a broadcast writer for the Associated Press, a staff writer for the Wall Street Journal and broadcast editor for the Orange County Register, coordinating coverage between the newspaper and its radio and television partners. He teaches broadcast new writing at the California State University Fullerton. He's the author of "Broadcast New Writing for Professionals" and is recognized for his outstanding coverage of Orange County infrastructure and issues of importance to the engineering community.

President's Awards

The participants in the development of the ASCE California Infrastructure Report Card for 2006 from the ASCE Los Angeles Section are recognized for their outstanding leadership and support of ASCE and the profession. These individuals played a prominent role in working with over 100 volunteers across the state in publishing the first ASCE California Infrastructure Report Card which was released to the public and media in October 2006. The Report Card was instrumental in bringing attention to the need for further infrastructure funding to support the needs of California and its people into the future. The report card was unveiled at the steps of the State Capitol in Sacramento with significant media coverage. The leadership of the report card co-chairs and the committee co-chairs from the LA Section who supported this important effort is recognized. Their names and affiliation are listed as follows:

- C. Stephen Bucknam Jr., P.E: President, Bucknam & Associates – Aviation Committee Co-chair
- Carlo Luzzi: Manager, Rail Transportation Port of Long Beach – Ports Chair
- Kevin H. Kondru, P.E: County of Orange, Integrated Waste Management Department – Solid Waste Co-Chair
- Hamid Bahadori, P.E., T.E., P.T.O.E.: Principal Transportation Engineer, Automobile Club of So Cal – Transportation Co-Chair
- Sonia Nasser, P.E: County of Orange/RDMD – Urban Runoff Co-Chair
- Blake Anderson, P.E: Owner, Blake Anderson Consulting – Wastewater Co-Chair
- Harvey Gobas, P.E: Sr. Project Manager, Psomas – Water Co-chair
- Mark Norton, P.E: Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority – Water Co-chair
- Michael McGaughy, P.E: Aviation Practice Leader, Carter & Burgess – Aviation Co-Chair
- Jean Watt, Retired: Friends of Harbors, Beaches, & Parks – Parks & Open Spaces Co-Chair
- Yazdan T. Emrani, P.E: President & CEO, Advanced Infrastructure Management, Inc., Co-Chair of ASCE California Infrastructure Report Card 2006

Special thanks to Mark Norton and his team for organizing this wonderful evening. Plan on joining us next year where we will honor those that contribute to the Branches, the Section, the Younger Members, Life Members, and student leaders.



A SHORT COURSE ON Geotechnical CONE PENETRATION TESTING

Gregg Drilling & Testing, Inc. is pleased to announce the scheduling of our 2008 short course on cone penetration testing (CPT) in geotechnical site investigations.

COURSE CONTENT

Geotechnical Site Investigation

- Liquefaction Evaluation
- Shallow Foundation Design
- Pile Design
- Other In Situ Tests
- Field Demonstration

COURSE FORMAT

The course has been designed to illustrate the principles of cone penetration testing through the evaluation of case histories and worked examples. Our new format will allow for frequent opportunities for audience participation and open discussions of technical methodologies as they apply to project scenarios.

COURSE PURPOSE

Site characterization is the basic first step for any geotechnical study. This short course will provide engineers and geologists with the knowledge and background to plan and supervise site investigations and to interpret CPT data.

COURSE ATTENDEES

The courses are intended for Geotechnical Engineers and Engineering Geologists working with liquefaction evaluation, foundation design, and geotechnical site investigation. Each attendee will earn eight (8) Professional Development Hours (PDH's) for participation in the short course.

NOTE: Environmental short course available in Concord only, visit our web site for more information.

COURSE INSTRUCTOR:

Peter Robertson, Ph.D.

Friday - MARCH 7, 2008

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Visit our web site at www.greggdrilling.com/seminars.htm for further details and alternate registration forms.

2008 SHORT COURSE REGISTRATION FORM — HUNTINGTON BEACH

Payment must be received by **FEBRUARY 15, 2008** to qualify for early registration. **Mail/Fax your completed registration form to:**
\$195.00 - early registration fee OR \$270.00 - late registration fee
(Make checks payable to: Gregg Drilling & Testing, Inc.; If faxing please include a copy of check)

COURSE DATE: MARCH 7, 2008

Geotechnical Site Investigation

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2726 Walnut Ave. E-MAIL: mkeating@greggdrilling.com
Signal Hill, CA 90755

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Registration fee includes seminar, reference materials, continental breakfast, lunch, break refreshments, and hotel parking. Class size is limited; early registration is advised. On-site registration will be on a space available basis. Gregg Drilling & Testing, Inc. reserves the right to cancel any seminar. If a course must be cancelled, a full refund will be issued. If registrant is unable to attend, a charge of \$75.00 for any cancellation within 10 business days of the seminar will be assessed. No refund for cancellation within three business days of the seminar will be offered.

DISASTER TRAINING

Classes are being organized for volunteers under the auspices of the State of California, Office of Emergency Services (OES) to help in the event of a major disaster. Classes will be held in alternate ASCE Branch areas when there are sufficient requests. Qualified individuals are California Registered Civil, Structural, Geotechnical, Certified Engineering Geologists, or Architects. If you are interested in attending a class please contact the ASCE Disaster Preparedness Committee Chairman. The class lasts 5-6 hours and the cost is \$15. Classes are midweek and start at 9 or 10 AM.

To register for the class, submit your name along with your telephone number, fax number, e-mail address, and zip code. You will be contacted when 10 or more individuals request a class. The maximum number in a class should not exceed 20.

If your Branch or Firm would like to offer the use of its facilities for a class, please register and provide the contact person, phone, fax, and e-mail. You will be contacted to make arrangements. All of our classes have been held at a private firm or governmental office. The class should have at least 10 and not more than about 20.

Thank you for your support of the American Society of Civil Engineers

Jack W. Rolston
Chair, Disaster Preparedness Committee, ASCE L.A. Section
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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.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *continued*

How can we assure that this tide of innovation and support for the civil engineering profession continues? A simple and important step is to renew your ASCE dues. Your funding support to the ASCE Society and to the Section assures that funding is passed on to the local ASCE branches, Younger Member Forums, student chapters, technical groups and other auxiliaries. This year we are presented a new opportunity to serve our international community through a membership partnership with Engineers Without Borders. This organization is having a powerful impact in sharing our civil engineering expertise with underdeveloped communities struggling to achieve the basics of life. As a new partner with ASCE, I encourage all civil engineers to become a part of this important organization as we extend a hand of support to those in need here locally and abroad during this season of giving. Have a wonderful holiday season!



REGION 9



Save this Date: February 19, 2008!

Second Annual California Infrastructure Symposium & ASCE Region 9 Awards Dinner Sacramento, CA

**The Symposium will feature outstanding speakers from:
Governor's Office, California
Legislature and Agencies
Federal Agencies and Several Experts**

**Infrastructure topics to be featured are:
Water, Transportation, Bridges,
Bond Measures and so much more...**

Whether you are in the private or public sector, this all day beneficial event will provide you with new insights, updated information and a great opportunity to network with your fellow ASCE members.

So Come and Join Us!!

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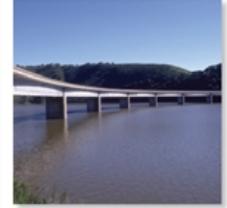
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All graphic materials submitted for use in this newsletter should have all fonts outlined, and links included; .eps files preferred. Other formats are: Quark, Adobe Illustrator or Adobe Photoshop; additional acceptable file formats are: .qxd, .eps, and .tif; PDF files are acceptable for proofing only. Images embedded in Microsoft Word documents should be sent separately, at a minimum resolution of 150 dpi at the display size desired. Collected files, including links and fonts, should be compressed and emailed, or sent on zip disk (provide return address). Business cards can be submitted electronically as well, or send clean, crisp, b&w laser print, unfolded.

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