

~
**“Happy New Year
 To All”**
 ~

VOL_XLVIII NO_1

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Reminder:

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



Moving Forward to Sustainability

In mid-November 2006, I had the privilege of participating in a tour sponsored by the ASCE Santa Barbara Ventura Branch and YMF of the Bren Hall, School of Environmental Science and Management Design at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Upon completion of its construction in 2003, this technologically advanced structure set a new standard for

environmentally friendly construction and design with recognition as the “greenest” laboratory building in the United States and was certified as a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Platinum building. The platinum certification reflects the highest standard for sustainability as established by the U.S. Green Building Council. This remarkable building includes extensive use of recycled materials, energy efficient design features, water conservation, non-toxic chemicals and use of available resources in construction. The Bren School serves as an excellent example of a movement that is gaining momentum in cities and campuses across the nation in seeking to achieve sustainability.

The concept of sustainability is not a new one though. For over a decade, the principles of sustainability have been promoted in various national and international organizations as well as through ASCE. I recall when I first got involved with an ASCE Branch leadership in the mid 90s, a fellow board member, Kevin Josker, prepared a series of Branch newsletter articles on sustainability as a member of the ASCE International Committee. With increasing concerns over our need to reduce carbon emissions and pollution, conserve water and recycle available resources, looking at ways that we can implement sustainability in our civil engineering practice is quickly becoming a necessity. Further, as stated in the new ASCE Vision for Civil Engineering in 2025, civil engineers have been entrusted to create a sustainable world.

In my own experience as a water resources engineer and planner, the need for sustainability in the field of water resources is taken very seriously. Being in a semi-arid environment here in Southern California, water managers realize that preparing for drought conditions must be a major focus in all water resource planning. Recent water shortages from Southern California drought conditions have been further exacerbated by court mandated cutbacks to imported water deliveries from Northern California and dwindling imported flows resulting from Colorado River Basin drought. In the water world, climate change is no longer viewed with speculation but instead is now accepted as a reality that we must quickly adapt and prepare for.

To deal with the growing needs to expand water supply reliability and promote sustainability, we as civil engineers must take an active leadership role as quickly as possible to reverse these alarming trends. Consequently, on December 5th I have asked for and received approval from the ASCE Los Angeles Section Board to address these issues head on by supporting the formation of two new committees, Water Policy and Sustainability.

What Matters Most

I am writing this on the afternoon I attended LeVal Lund's memorial service at The Atheneum. I had an editorial written before this but decided to scratch it the last minute for a very fundamental reason: How appropriate would it be to dedicate this issue of the newsletter to an icon of Southern California engineering, LeVal Lund.

Irv Sherman has graciously put together an obituary for LeVal which captures not only the highlights of his career, but more importantly, providing an exposition of the humanity, the realism of our colleague LeVal. I have known LeVal for a number of years. It is unfortunate that we did not get together as much or interact together as much, but in listening to the testimony of his friends and relatives as well as the overwhelming turnout during the service, it made me appreciate more how great of a person LeVal really is.

One of the statements that stuck in my mind from hearing the speakers during the memorial service was the story that one day in the 50's, the speaker was visiting LeVal when all of a sudden the phone rang. The story went on to say that LeVal uttered several yeses to the person he was talking with then at the end of the conversation just hang up the phone without saying anymore. LeVal then went into another room and took out a small stack of paper almost an inch or two thick. He showed the stack to his visitor, looked him in the eye and said, "That was the DWP Controller who called. They wanted to close the books for the year 1951, 1952, 1953, and 1954 but couldn't. They told me that I needed to cash these (showing the stack, which contained all of his paychecks for all those years)."

If a man could love his job so much as to not care much about cashing in his checks or how much he is getting paid, then our world may be a better place. For there is nothing better achieved and completed than that work that has been conceived, developed, and worked on with all the heart and soul and intensity needed to complete such work. The motive is simply to ensure that the greater good is achieved and that in the process, everyone (known or not) may directly benefit from the effort.

As I look back into my career as an environmental scientist and engineer, I look into the decisions I have made, the work I completed, and the career I have built. I look into these things and ask myself, who have I served and how have I served them. I am almost at the age which people consider the middle age. Am I moving in this life in the direction of how people like LeVal lived his. At the end of this journey, what matters most is relationships. Michael Josephson puts this idea best. Visit his thoughts on this subject at www.charactercounts.org.

We will miss you LeVal.

Enjoy this issue of your newsletter!

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

“Happy New Year To All”

2007 ASCE Annual Conference

Jay Higgins, P.E.
Section Secretary

Some ASCE members might ask, "Why would you want to attend the ASCE Annual Conference?" I can't answer for other members, but I do know why I attended this year's conference in Orlando, Florida. Since becoming active in ASCE in the Los Angeles area, I have attended annual Conferences in Baltimore in 2004, a great area if you like seafaring atmosphere, LA in 2005, our cosmopolitan city, and Chicago in 2006, (my former residence area) a vibrant city with a variety of things to do. For me, the opportunity of visiting new places is always a good reason to attend a conference. When I learned that the Annual Conference was in Orlando, I immediately thought of Mickey and the other Disney theme parks, the Kennedy Space center, and, in general, a great vacation spot. In my case, it was a decision to combine the professional development aspect of the conference with a few days of vacation (I was fortunate that my company picked the tab for my airfare and the hotel for the conference days). Now, the reason I went to the annual conference was not just to have a mini-vacation. There are two other primary reasons I attended: 1) to learn and keep up with the civil engineering profession and where ASCE is going; and 2) networking with my fellow professionals and the leadership and staff of ASCE. As an officer of the LA Section, I find it helpful to get to meet the devoted people who run our Society by putting a face with the voice on the other end of the phone when talking with someone at Society headquarters.

From the balcony of the Buena Vista Palace Hotel, the Disney theme parks and resorts were as far as the eye could see. One of the things that struck me about Orlando was the amazing amount of land that is devoted to the theme parks and resorts and the tremendous amount of residential development in central Florida that has taken place over the 25+ years since Disney World was created. Which leads me to the theme of this year's Annual Conference: "Infrastructure for all Generations: Plan – Design – Build – Manage."

The main body of the conference took place from Thursday through Saturday with Infrastructure theme topic presentations on Friday, November 2nd. Three central Florida developments were discussed, Celebration, Baldwin Park, and the City of Reunion. These developments had one thing in common; they were planned developments with the idea of a creating a full living experience. Also discussed were the impacts to and growth of the transportation system, as well as the impacts to and planned recovery of the Everglades ecosystem. I was particularly interested in the Baldwin Park project because it covered the full spectrum of development from a former military facility to a vibrant new community. This was planned growth, as opposed to unplanned urban sprawl, with an eye on sustainability development. By the way, after thinking about the phrase "sustainable development", I wasn't sure I fully understood this often used term, so I looked the meaning on the ASCE website. ASCE states that,

"Sustainable Development is the challenge of meeting human needs for natural resources, industrial products, energy, food, transportation, shelter, and effective waste management while conserving and protecting environmental quality and the natural resource base essential for the future development."
(Source: Article 1, ASCE Bylaws)

Baldwin Park has been carefully planned to create a definite sense of community and sustainability. The site that is now Baldwin Park has a long and proud history of United States military service. From 1940, throughout World War II and until 1968, the site was an Army Air Corps and Air Force base. In 1968, that base became the Orlando Naval Training Center and over 650,000 Naval recruits received basic training before it was closed in 1999.

continued on page 3



LeVal Lund, Jr.

1923-2007

LeVal Lund, a lifetime public servant and active Life Member of ASCE well into his 80's was born in Los Angeles on February 24, 1923. A graduate of John Marshall High School and active in the school's Alumni Association, he received

his BSCE from CalTech in 1947, after returning from service as a U.S. Navy Lt. in the SeaBees. He was active in various CalTech alumni organizations but also received his MS degree in civil engineering from USC.

Lund was hired by the City of Los Angeles, Department of Water and Power (LADWP) in July 1947, retiring after almost 42 years in April 1989. He worked his way up the ladder, and headed the Aqueduct Division and the Engineering Design Division, both in the Water System of the department, during his service. He worked on a huge variety of projects, including the second Los Angeles Aqueduct and the Los Angeles Reservoir following the 1971 San Fernando Earthquake. He was a co-leader of a special task force which advised Mayor Tom Bradley's Blue Ribbon Committee on Water Conservation, which produced the city's first water conservation plan and the language for the first water conservation ordinance.

Lund continued to be involved in civil engineering after retiring from LADWP. He was active in ASCE; having served the Los Angeles Section as Secretary and as Vice President in the 1970's, and was a member of ASCE's Technical Council on Lifeline Earthquake Engineering even in the 21st Century. The technical articles which he wrote or edited are too numerous to list here. He was active in the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute and was known to jump into an airplane immediately after a major earthquake happened and travel halfway across the planet to observe first-hand the damage to lifelines such as highways, pipelines, ports, etc. At the local level, he helped establish the Los Angeles Metropolitan Branch of ASCE's Los Angeles Section, gave counseling to the Younger Member Forum, and helped the History and Heritage Committee place plaques honoring Historic Civil Engineering Landmarks. He attended meetings of the Metropolitan Water District's Board of Directors and the Colorado Water Board on his own, and participated in helping the Water Education Foundation inform the public about water-related issues. He established a friendship with his City Councilman, Tom LaBonge, that helped make civil engineering matters gain attention at City Hall.

An avid athlete and sports fan, Lund traveled to Greece for the recent Summer Olympics. He was also an activist in his home neighborhood; he lived almost his entire life in the Los Feliz neighborhood house that his parents built in 1925, where he was an avid gardener, and was involved in the creation of the Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council. He was a beloved friend to his neighbors and to all who knew him.

Lund died at home in Los Angeles on November 30, 2007 of complications of lymphoma. He is survived by his sister Ethel Lund Pattison of Manhattan Beach, a niece, a grand-nephew, and a cousin. He never married and had no children. A memorial service was held on December 8, 2007 at CalTech's Athenaeum.

2007 ASCE Annual Conference

continued

Baldwin Park has no gates or walls, but blends seamlessly into surrounding areas. It is pedestrian friendly with wide sidewalks. Homes are within easy walking distance of stores, offices, and restaurants. Parks, lakes, playgrounds and common areas are other places to meet and socialize. The parks, lakes, and open spaces have been carefully planned to contribute to a healthy environment that provides a meaningful habitat for flora, fauna, and people. The goal was to make Baldwin Park a model of environmental stewardship and a source of pride for its residents. The Audubon Society helped guide environmental conservation and wetlands restoration efforts. Two lakes were created, Lake Baldwin and Lake Susannah and to restore these lakes to a natural pristine condition, edge plantings were introduced. Stormwater that was formerly untreated is being filtered before it reaches the lakes. Natural conditions conducive to birds of prey such as ospreys, hawks and the American Bald Eagle are being created. Water fowl are also returning to Lake Baldwin.

At Baldwin Park, one of the world's largest recycling effort was undertaken. The former Training Center campus was demolished and painstaking care was taken to recycle nearly everything. In total, 256 buildings comprising 4,500,000 square feet, 25 miles of roads, and 200 miles of underground utilities were dismantled, inspected, and recycled. Eventually, 600,000 tons of clean concrete were crushed for use in road beds and other projects. This on-site recycling saved an estimated 25,000 dump truck trips through local neighborhoods. With 200,000 tons of the crushed concrete they built one of the most massive exfiltration trenches anywhere, about the size of 15 football fields. Now topped with parklands, this system cleans and filters storm water before it reaches Lake Baldwin and Lake Susannah. This was truly a remarkable project which can serve as a model for other site restoration and developments.

It was not all about attending presentations and learning about civil engineering achievements. On Thursday night, the LA Section gathered for dinner at the hotel restaurant. There were about 30 members that attended and it was a great opportunity for the Board members to meet the younger members. The younger members included, Kathereen Shinkai, who was this year's recipient of the Edmund Friedman Young Engineer Award for Professional Achievement, and Gary Gilbert, the YMF Representative to the LA Section Board. In all there were over 20 YMF members and several LA Section Board members and their spouses who attended the dinner. The strong turnout for the conference of the younger members is just another example of their dedication to the civil engineering profession. I feel that the future of the Section is in good hands with these young members.

The time spent at the Annual Conference was a truly enjoyable experience. We were having such a good time in Orlando, my wife, Judy, and I decided to stay an extra day to visit Epcot Center. We had such a good time in Orlando that we plan to go back for a vacation.

Next year the Annual Conference will be in Pittsburgh on November 6-8 (A question for the geography buffs: What two rivers come together in Pittsburgh's "Golden Triangle" area to form the mighty Ohio river?). I hope to see you all next year for some learning, networking, and sightseeing.

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
818-345-9199 818-345-5283 fx

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.

ASCE's 2007

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

ASCE
American Society of Civil Engineers

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *continued*

The Water Policy committee under the Section would be formed not to duplicate any existing Section auxiliary committees or technical groups associated with water but rather to support them in water policy issues particularly in the need for improved water supply reliability in So Cal. The new committee will build partnerships with other water associations throughout the State in leveraging our message that water supply infrastructure needs must be addressed immediately. Further, this new committee has been encouraged to be formed at the Section level by the ASCE to support a major initiative designed to raise attention about our nation's failing water infrastructure through the promotion of a new public broadcast documentary currently under development but will be unveiled in the fall of 2008 called *Liquid Assets: The Story of Our Water Infrastructure*.

The new Sustainability Committee under the Section would be formed to support and promote existing sustainability programs and practices such as the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED program discussed earlier; build links with other organizations and associations to promote sustainability events and policies at the local, regional and State level; work closely with Branches, Younger Member Forum, Life Member Forum, technical groups, institutes and student chapters in helping to organize mini-conferences, seminars, and continuing education programs and to provide recognition to companies and organizations that have promoted sustainability design practices.

As with any new committee, your involvement and support are needed to spearhead these efforts into major roles for ASCE in So Cal. If you would like to participate on either of these committees, please send me an email at mnorton@sawpa.org. We are looking for champions for these causes who have a passion and recognition that action must be taken now.

In closing, it is with great sorrow we announce the passing of one of the great pillars of our profession, Le Val Lund, on November 30, 2007. He was a shining example of leadership in the ASCE LA Section and it was my pleasure to have worked with briefly through ASCE. Please see the obituary prepared by his close friend and colleague, Irv Sherman.

Find out the latest Section
& Branch news @
www.
ascelasection.org



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

HYATT REGENCY - HUNTINGTON BEACH

21500 Pacific Coast Hwy.
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Registration/continental breakfast at 8:00 a.m.

Presented by:
Gregg Drilling

Phone: (562) 427-6899
Fax: (562) 427-3314



www.greggdrilling.com

ADDITIONAL COURSE LOCATION/DATE -- CONCORD: MARCH 10, 2008 (Note: Both geotechnical & environmental courses offered)
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.

\$195.00 - early registration fee OR \$270.00 - late registration fee

Mail/Fax your completed registration form to:

(Make checks payable to: Gregg Drilling & Testing, Inc.;
if faxing please include a copy of check)

GREGG DRILLING ATTN: Maryann Keating
2726 Walnut Ave. E-MAIL: mkeating@greggdrilling.com
Signal Hill, CA 90755

COURSE DATE: MARCH 7, 2008

Geotechnical Site Investigation

Attendee Name: _____ Title: _____ Company/Agency: _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Payment information must be completed for processing: (Check one) My check # _____ in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.

Charge my credit card in the amount of \$ _____ AMEX VISA M/C Card number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Card Holder Name: _____ Billing Address: _____

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.

ASCE and Engineers Without Borders-USA Announce Formal Partnership

To further their common goals of making the world a better place and improving the engineering profession, ASCE has formalized an affiliation agreement with Engineers Without Borders-USA (EWB-USA). "It's a natural fit for our two organizations to work together to further each other's vision and activities to enhance the welfare of humanity," said ASCE president David G. Mongan, P.E., F.ASCE. With the significant administrative and financial support provided by ASCE in the new agreement, EWB-USA will be able to expand their role in educating engineering students and professionals while empowering developing communities through the creation of locally sustainable solutions, and ASCE members will gain a greater opportunity to contribute to and participate in EWB-USA projects and programs.

Leadership Training in Government Relations Program

Every Spring, ASCE hosts a Government Relations Leadership Training Program in Washington, D.C. This intensive two-day program provides participants with an inside look at the political process, beginning with briefings on the latest civil engineering issues pending in Congress. Participants then head to Capitol Hill to educate their Representatives and Senators on the issues. Anyone interested in walking the halls of Capitol Hill and learning first hand how policy is crafted would benefit from this program.

The 2008 Leadership Training in Government Relations Program will be held March 5-6 at the Madison Hotel and on Capitol Hill.

Any ASCE member is invited to attend the Program. There are no registration fees - the only cost to attend is travel expenses. A limited number of travel stipends are available. Please complete the application and secure your Section president's approval to be considered for a travel stipend.

Applications are due to ASCE's Washington office no later than January 18, 2008. Successful applicants will be notified by the end of January 2008.

For additional information contact:

ASCE's Government Relations Department
101 Constitution Avenue, NW
Suite 375 East
Washington, D.C. 20001
Phone: 202-789-7850
Fax: 202-789-7850
govwash@asce.org
<http://www.asce.org/govrel>

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M/F/D/V





Second Annual California Infrastructure Symposium & ASCE Region 9 Awards Dinner

February 19, 2008

Sheraton Grand Hotel

1230 J Street • Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 447-1700

Sponsored:

American Society of Civil Engineers
Region 9 Board of Governors

Co-Sponsored:

Public Works Officers Department, League of California Cities and
APWA (several chapters)

Speakers:

Senator Allen Lowenthal, 27th District
Mark Cowan, Dept of Water Resources
Joseph Grindstaff, Bay Delta Authority
Larry Smith, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Will Kempton, Director, CALTRANS
Others.

Program Highlights

The vitality of California infrastructure is an essential key to its economic growth and prosperity. This Symposium will assess the State's infrastructure particularly on water and transportation issues. This symposium will focus on the magnitude of the infrastructure problem as well as identifying resources and opportunities available to meet the demands of California.

Topics include:

- ❖ California's Water Future and Plans
- ❖ Bay-Delta Issue
- ❖ Recycled Water—The "Untapped Resource"
- ❖ Levees and Bridges—Are they safe?
- ❖ Proposition 1B and the Legislative Vision and Role on the Transportation
- ❖ Infrastructure Money & Funding—"Getting Your Fair Share"

**Visit the ASCE Region 9 web site,
<http://region9.asce.org/Region92008InfrastructureSymposium.html> to view the complete agenda.**

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Name: _____

Title: _____ Firm: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

California Symposium Registration (includes breakfast and lunch)

ASCE member (member # _____)	\$150 _____
non-ASCE member	\$195 _____
ASCE Student member (member # _____)	\$ 30 _____
Late Registration (after February 1 st)	\$225 _____

ASCE Region 9 Awards Ceremony Dinner	
ASCE member (member # _____)	\$ 70 _____
non-ASCE member	\$ 85 _____
ASCE Student member (member # _____)	\$ 30 _____

Dinner choice: Vegetarian Non-vegetarian Total Enclosed _____

Please return complete form with payment to: American Society of Civil Engineers
PO Box 1028 • El Cajon, CA 92022
Attention: Region 9 Symposium Registration

Schedule: 8:00 Registration and continental breakfast
 9:00 to 5:00 California Infrastructure Symposium
 6:30 ASCE Region 9 Awards Dinner

Lodging: Sheraton Grand Sacramento Room Reservations may be made by calling (800) 325-3535 and asking for the ASCE Region 9 group rate. You can also FAX (916) 341-3600 or go on line at <http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/booking/reservation?id=0711011653&key=4097E>. Single and double occupancy rates are \$175.00 plus applicable taxes and fees. The Sheraton must receive [your hotel reservation by February 1, 2008 in order to get the group rate.](#)

Registration Fee for the Symposium and Awards Ceremony Dinner Is Due February 1, 2008

Be Active, Be A Key Contact Program Representative

In the hustle and bustle of everyday professional life, you may not always have a chance to stay up-to-date on the critical national issues affecting civil engineers, much less be in a position to impact Congress. The ASCE Key Contact Program provides you with the opportunity to get involved in the Congressional debate. Moreover, it's easy to join and participate.

ASCE Key Contacts generally receive 6 Key Alerts annually, which contain timely information on important civil engineering issues and advice on how to best influence the legislative process. The Key Alert contains all the information necessary for composing a convincing letter to your Member of Congress. Key Alerts are also time sensitive, so when you receive one, you know it is the best possible time to act. An issue may be at a critical juncture, your Representative is focusing on it, and he or she needs to hear from informed constituents like yourself. Your letter at the right time, can make the difference.

How effective is the Key Contact Program? It can be quite effective. During the 105th Congress, ASCE's Key Contacts made their voices heard on numerous issues, including the Airport Trust Fund, federal investment in civilian research and development, surface transportation, tax-exempt educational assistance, and the national dam safety program. Many of these legislative successes were achieved through the grassroots efforts of civil engineers in the Key Contact Program. We expect to repeat our successes in 2001, and look forward to continued support from Key Contacts. Over 13,000 ASCE members have joined the Key Contact Program.

In addition to Key Alerts, Key Contacts receive occasional Keynotes, which summarize Congressional activity on various issues.

A final note - our recruiting effort is a continuous one. To become a Key Contact participant, simply submit the following completed enrollment form, or fill out and mail a Key Contact enrollment card, or send your name and address to the Key Contact Program in ASCE's National Headquarters in Washington, D.C. After you sign up, encourage your colleagues to participate in this worthwhile program. For more information on the Key Contact Program or specific legislation, contact the Government Relations staff at govwash@asce.org, or call 202/789-2200.

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“Happy New Year To All”
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Find out the latest Section
 & Branch news @
www.ascelasection.org

Congressional Fellows Program

In 1996 ASCE inaugurated its Congressional Fellows Program, which provides an opportunity for an ASCE member to spend one year working in the U.S. Congress. The Federal Legislature deals with a multitude of technical issues, many of which directly impact how civil engineers conduct their professional practice. Congress will make decisions with, or without, input from the civil engineering community.

ASCE's Congressional Fellows Program places a civil engineer in the middle of these important policy debates. The Fellow works on Capitol Hill as a staff member of either a Committee or an individual member of the U.S. Senate or House of Representatives.

ASCE will provide an annual stipend of \$57,000 to the Congressional Fellow. ASCE welcomes support from the Congressional Fellow's employer and is willing to consider alternative arrangements, not to exceed \$57,000 in cost to ASCE. ASCE will also provide a \$3,000 relocation reimbursement and provide full reimbursement for finalists selected to travel for interviews.

Society members selected for congressional fellowships would typically take a one-year leave of absence from their employers. ASCE will not provide any benefits and encourages ASCE Congressional Fellows to make arrangements with their employers.

To date eleven ASCE members have been selected to serve as Congressional Fellows on Capitol Hill. The deadline for applications for the 2008-2009 Fellowship year is March 14, 2008.



I'M AT HOME ON THE RAILWAYS

I'M HOME AT ASCE.

Civil engineers are mass transit pioneers and problem solvers, enabling workers to make their journey safely to and from work everyday. ASCE is here to make your professional journey exciting and secure with resources and peer-to-peer networking to keep you informed, inspired and innovative. Rest assured, no matter where you go in your civil engineering career, you'll always have a home at ASCE.



The home for civil engineers and the civil engineering profession.

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