

# Los Angeles Section

*Monthly: Est. 1913*

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SOUTHERN SAN\_JOAQUIN / METROPOLITAN LOS ANGELES

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Kathereen Shinkai, P.E., M.ASCE  
Los Angeles Section President

VOL. LVI NO. 10

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## Renew Your Membership!



Many of you will be receiving or have already received e-mails and flyers from ASCE asking to renew your membership. You may ask why would you want to renew your membership or what the benefit is for you. When there are so many different organizations out there, these are valid concerns. ASCE represents more than 150,000 members of the civil engineering profession in 177 countries. Founded in 1852, ASCE is the nation's oldest engineering society. ASCE is a great organization to be a part of and the Society has broken down what we believe are the top benefits.

### Advances Technology and Encourage Lifelong Learning

As time changes with technology, we as civil engineers need to make sure that we have access to information on the industry's newest trends and innovations. ASCE has these tools readily available online, in person or in print. These can assist those of you who need to get CEUs or PDHs for your out-of-state licensure requirements or those who would like to continue their education. ASCE has something for everyone such as live, face to face and web seminars as well as on-site training, distance learning, and PE and FE review classes. The YMF groups also offer very affordable PE review classes during the year with wonderful instructors. ASCE has developed a new series of eLearning workshops for FREE. Yes, you heard correctly. It is free! The focus of these seminars is on effective communication, leadership, team building and management, personal finance, etc. Check out [www.asce.org/eLearning](http://www.asce.org/eLearning) for more information.

### Promotes Professionalism

Along with this training, ASCE also holds many conferences during the year in which you can exchange ideas with peers and meet with industry colleagues. I personally believe the opportunity to participate in discussion groups, technical sessions, and expositions is invaluable. This year I attended the National Convention in Portland, Oregon on September 28th to October 1st. I learned about the industry's current national issues and valuable trends. The weather was great, and I also enjoyed spending some time with the Branch, Young Member Forum, and Student Chapter leaders.

### Develops Civil Engineering Leaders

Leadership and Management Engineers are the communicators that drive people, projects, and our society forward. ASCE has very high industry excellence standards which are regularly showcased through industry awards and recognition at the Branch, Section, Region, and National level. ASCE has the tools and exposure which can help you to continue to be a well-rounded civil engineer ever-ready to advance the integrity and impact our profession. The great thing about these tools is that you can learn them in the safe environment of the ASCE umbrella.

This brings me to the topic of Ethics, the cornerstone of the civil engineering practice which holds us to the title of trusted advisor. At the ASCE convention,

*continued on page 3*

# State Investments and Legislative Update

by Richard Markuson, CA Region 9 Legislative Advocate



Governor Jerry Brown completed his consideration of the bills the State Legislature sent him in August but still no transportation fix. The “special transportation session” called by Brown two years ago expires at the end of November.

Brown signed ASCE supported AB 2800 (Quirk D). It will establish a Climate-Safe Infrastructure Working Group at the Natural Resources Agency to examine

how to integrate scientific data concerning projected climate change impacts into state infrastructure engineering. The bill embraces the findings of a 2015 ASCE report - Adapting Infrastructure and Civil Engineering Practice to a Changing Climate that presents an accurate discussion of the potential significance of climate change to engineering practice.

Brown also signed ASCE supported AB 1928 (Campos D) that extends the date the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission is required to adopt landscape irrigation equipment performance standards and labeling requirements from January 1, 2010 to January 1, 2018. The bill also requires the CEC to take into consideration recent developments in landscape irrigation efficiency when developing the standards and requirements.

Brown also signed ASCE supported SB 1085 (Roth D). It will require BPELSG licensees, upon renewal of their license, to complete a board-administered online assessment to reinforce their knowledge of laws applicable to their practice area. It provides that failure to complete the assessment within the allowed timeframe is cause for disciplinary action but provides that failure to complete this assessment does not prohibit renewal. The board is prohibited from charging a fee to take the assessment.

Unfortunately, Brown also signed ASCE opposed SB 66 (Leyva D) that will expose all BPELSG registrants to identity theft by turning over to the Community College system your entire identity profile including you DOB, and SSN on the oft-chance you attended a community college CTE class and thus became an engineer. ASCE encourages all its members to send a letter to BPELSG directing them to withhold sharing of information.

You may be asking yourself, “How Often Do Governors Say No?” As a matter of fact, some Governors said no more than others.

## Recent Reports

Good news for “Senior” engineers, bad news for Junior” engineers Older adults staying in the labor force longer according to a report by Center for Retirement Research at Boston College. “Unlike

prime-age and younger Americans, who have experienced declines in employment and labor force participation since the onset of the Great Recession, Americans over 60 have seen their employment and labor force participation rates increase.... Like workers in all age groups, workers in older groups saw a surge in monthly transitions from employment to unemployment.... In contrast to the unemployed in younger age groups, however, the unemployed in the oldest age groups also saw a drop in their exits to nonparticipation. Compared with the nonaged, this tended to help maintain the labor force participation rates of the old.”

Congressional Research Service released Evolution of the Meaning of “Waters of the United States” in the Clean Water Act. “While some believe the EPA [Environmental Protection Agency] and the Corps [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers] consistently expanded the meaning of ‘waters of the United States,’ others contend that, in recent years, the agencies have construed the term in a narrower fashion than permitted under the Clean Water Act.... EPA and the Corps contend that the Clean Water Rule governs only waters that have been historically regulated under the Clean Water Act, but its opponents argue that it constitutes an unlawful expansion of authority beyond that which is allowed in the act or the Constitution. This report provides context for this debate by examining the history of major changes to the meaning of ‘waters of the United States’ as expressed in federal regulations, legislation, agency guidance, and case law.”

RAND Corporation released Driving to Safety: How Many Miles of Driving Would It Take to Demonstrate Autonomous Vehicle Reliability? “How safe are autonomous vehicles? One proposal to assess safety is to test-drive autonomous vehicles in real traffic, observe their performance, and make statistical comparisons to human driver performance... Given that current traffic fatalities and injuries are rare events compared with vehicle miles traveled, we show that fully autonomous vehicles would have to be driven hundreds of millions of miles and sometimes hundreds of billions of miles to demonstrate their safety in terms of fatalities and injuries... Our findings demonstrate that developers of this technology and third-party testers cannot simply drive their way to safety. Instead, they will need to develop innovative methods of demonstrating safety and reliability.”

The State Water Resources Control Board has released statewide water conservation data, finds water usage by urban water districts in July 2016 was 20 percent lower compared to July 2013 and a decrease from June 2016’s 21.5 percent savings compared to June 20.



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

many engineers represented their professional commitment and participated in the Order of the Engineer ceremony. They joined a very large group of engineers which wear their rings proudly.

Whether you excite the next generation of engineers through school presentations or reaching out to developing economies, becoming an active participant in the community illuminates the purpose of our work. If you are getting the itch to help out, we are always looking for volunteers. You'd be surprised how much you can personally benefit from these experiences.

#### Civil Engineering Articles

As an ASCE Member you also have complimentary subscriptions to ASCE SmartBrief, Civil Engineering magazine, the ASCE eNewsletter, and ASCE News. Branch members receive local branch updates through e-mails. With your membership you also receive free membership to one of the many Institutes. ASCE Institutes are a gateway to professional and personal growth opportunities in your specific civil engineering concentration. Each Institute focuses on the educational, technical, and professional aspects of your profession.

#### Younger Member Forum

I'd like to add that a unique benefit of our organization are our Younger Member Forums. If you are a member who is 35 years of age and younger, be sure to join the local Younger Member Forum which holds many social activities and it is a great way to meet your peers while pursuing the same community goals. Members of the Branches can also attend these fun events.

#### Issues and Advocacy

ASCE takes seriously the role of safeguard for the nation's infrastructure. We work constantly to inform and educate public lawmakers about key civil engineering issues which in turn, gives each of us the opportunity to ensure that our opinion and profession is heard. Each year, the Branches participate in the Legislative Fly-in in Sacramento. There, we speak to elected officials face-to-face and learn valuable skills to improve government relations. It is our way of informing everyone about legislative and regulatory issues that affect civil engineering. If you are interested in making a change, contact your local Legislative Committee. Each person can make a substantial contribution!

As a member of ASCE, we shape the profession's future. ASCE's publication "The Vision for Civil Engineering in 2025" is an aspirational vision for the year 2025 highlighting that point that civil engineers will be the ones leading the charge to achieve a sustainable world and raise the global quality of life. You are a part of this charge. We are the master planners, designers, constructors, and the innovators. If you want to download a copy of the Vision 2025, go to <http://content.asce.org/vision2025/index.html>.

Many of you have seen the advertisement, "Build your Career. Advance your Profession. Enrich Your Life." This is what ASCE is all about. We are a part of a large professional network in the world. Let us keep our momentum going and renew your membership today! If you have a colleague that may be interested and is currently not a member, please get them involved.

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## Bi-Monthly Board Meetings

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Day:  
First Thursday of every other month

Time:  
6:00 pm

Location:  
OCTA  
550 S. Main St.  
Santa Ana, 92868

Everyone is welcome

# 2017 World Environmental and Water Resources Congress Comes to Sacramento

by David C. Curtis, Ph.D., 2017 EWRI Congress Chair



The Environment, Water Resources, and Climate are frontline topics for ASCE's 2017 EWRI\* World Environmental and Water Resources Congress coming to Sacramento during May 21 - 25, 2017. Interest in the international event is running very high! More than 300 technical sessions were proposed, which was nearly twice the available capacity. The sessions, designed to highlight the Congress theme, Creative Solutions for a Changing Environment, are organized to

cover broad areas of professional practice and development. There are topics of interest for every career stage; from students, to new professionals, to history and heritage. (See Table 1)

Table 1: Technical Tracks for the 2017 EWRI Congress

- Environmental
- Emerging Technologies
- Groundwater Symposium
- History & Heritage
- Hydraulics & Waterways
- Hydro-Climate/Climate Change Symposium
- International Issues
- Irrigation and Drainage
- Municipal Water Infrastructure Symposium
- New Professionals
- Planning & Management Symposium
- Professional Practice
- Smart Water Symposium
- Symposium Standards Development
- Students Symposium
- Sustainability
- Urban Watershed Management
- Water Distribution Systems Analysis Symposium
- Water, Wastewater & Stormwater
- Watershed Analysis

Specific training opportunities are planned for the Congress as well. Staff from US Army Corps of Engineers' Hydrologic Engineering Center will conduct workshops on the latest versions of several software packages. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA's) Jet Propulsion Laboratory is also expected to conduct a training workshop on satellite data. There will also be a session on Forecast-Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO), with case studies of the Folsom Reservoir and Lake Mendocino.

Field trips showcasing solutions to California's most significant and challenging water resources issues are planned. The dramatic new spillway at the Folsom Dam and the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta are likely to be featured destinations. And stay tuned; a trip to

Napa Valley to review state-of-the-art water management practices used to produce California's world class wines may be offered. Of course, some tasting to verify the world-class nature of California wines may be in order as well!



Figure 1: Folsom Dam. (Photo credit: David C. Curtis, Ph.D.)



Figure 2: Napa Valley Agriculture  
(Photo credit: CA DWR Water Quality Control Board)

Preparation for the 2017 Congress is in high gear. The Steering Committee of local professionals, led by Congress Chair, David Curtis, WEST Consultants, is hard at work creating a stellar conference experience for attendees. Chris Dunn, USACE HEC, and Brian Van Weele (Ret.) are the Technical Program Co-Chairs. David Ford, David Ford Consulting Engineers, is leading the Sponsorship/Exhibitors effort. The Workshop Chair is Mike Anderson, CA DWR. Our Local Arrangements Chair is Rich Juricich, CA DWR. Om Prakash, WEST Consultants, is ASCE Chapter Coordinator, and University Coordination is led by Colleen Bronner of UC Davis.

**TOP 8 REASONS TO ATTEND**

- ◆ Network with industry leaders and make valuable contacts.
- ◆ Connect with exhibitors showcasing state-of-the-art products, services and solutions.
- ◆ Interact with leaders in the profession, and learn about professional trends.
- ◆ Participate in the policy dialogue on water resource and environmental issues affecting the profession.
- ◆ Learn about the latest trends and techniques being applied in the industry.
- ◆ Meet top students, a highly qualified pool of potential employees.
- ◆ Earn valuable Professional Development Hours

More than 1,000 environmental and water resources professionals are expected to attend. EWRI Congress attendees are a mix of engineers, corporate decision makers, academics as well as consulting, federal, and municipal researchers, engaged in environmental and water resources engineering disciplines. They primarily represent engineering and scientific consulting firms, government and military agencies, resource management organizations, and institutions of higher education.

Exhibitors and Sponsors are important features at ASCE EWRI events. State-of-the-art-products, services, and solutions will be on display. You'll have many opportunities to connect with exhibitors and sponsors at planned networking events, luncheons, and breaks between technical sessions.

One of the planned networking events is an evening at the California State Railroad Museum in Old Sacramento. The museum is an amazing tribute to the role of the "iron horse" in connecting California to the rest of the nation. You can wander amidst 21 lavishly restored locomotives and rail cars, some dating back to the Civil War era. EWRI reserved the entire facility for an evening you won't want to miss!

As a civil engineering professional, you know you can find the latest information, innovations, and technologies when you attend EWRI conferences. You also know that to be competitive, you must constantly fine-tune your skills, find new ways to cut costs, streamline processes, and drive change. Here are some tips to aid your conference planning:

- **Program:** Identify specific courses that are beneficial to your company and calculate the PDHs you can earn toward maintaining your license.
- **Expenses:** Register as early as possible to take advantage of early bird prices and book your accommodations through our room block to maximize savings and enhance your networking experience.
- **Share:** Demonstrate what you have learned by sharing with your colleagues in a post-conference presentation.
- **Request Letter:** Download and customize template to request approval for your attendance.

The 2017 EWRI Congress is coming to Sacramento due in large part to the vision and hard work of local EWRI member, Pal Hegedus, PE, D.WRE. Pal worked tirelessly over several years to develop and promote the idea of bringing leading water resources and environmental professionals from around the world to Sacramento. The Steering Committee deeply appreciates Pal's efforts in bringing the 2017 Congress to Sacramento, and his on-going efforts to make it a success!

For more information about the 2017 Congress and program, check out the website at: <http://www.EWRICongress.org/> or contact Congress Chair, David Curtis ([dcurtis@westconsultants.com](mailto:dcurtis@westconsultants.com)), or Technical Program Chairs Chris Dunn ([christopher.n.dunn@usace.army.mil](mailto:christopher.n.dunn@usace.army.mil)) and Brian Van Weele ([vanweelesr@gmail.com](mailto:vanweelesr@gmail.com)).

*\*Created in 1999, the Environmental & Water Resources Institute is the recognized leader within ASCE for the integration of technical expertise and public policy in the planning, design, construction, and operation of environmentally sound and sustainable infrastructure impacting air, land and water resources. ASCE represents more than 150,000 members of the civil engineering profession in 177 countries. Founded in 1852, ASCE is the nation's oldest engineering society.*

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# ASCE Region 9 Accomplishments Over the Past Year

*by Jay H Higgins, P.E., ENV SP, F. ASCE, ASCE Region 9 Director*



September 30th marks the end of the Region 9 fiscal year, and it is at our September Face-to Face meeting, that the Board of Governors looks back over past year and plans for the future year. One of the important sessions of that meeting is hearing from the Governors on what they feel Region 9 has accomplished over the 2015-2016 year.

Listed below is a summary of the results of that discussion, which highlights the major accomplishments of Region 9 and its organizational entities toward implementing Society's three top strategic initiative; Sustainability Infrastructure Advocacy, Grand Challenge, and Raise the Bar:

- **Sustainability Committee Activities** – One of the three top strategic initiatives of the Society is sustainability. To support this initiative, Region 9 continues to maintain a Sustainability Committee, chaired by Mark Norton. The Committee seeks to have representatives from all the four Sections participating in conference calls and activities. They are coordinating their activities with the Society's Committee on Sustainability. This year, the Committee organized an Envision® Training Workshop the day prior to the Region 9 Infrastructure Symposium held in Sacramento in May. About 20 engineers were trained to become Envision® Sustainability Professionals at the workshop. The Committee is encouraging all Region 9 members to obtain the Envision® Sustainability Professional (ENV SP) credential. For more information concerning this credential, go to: [www.sustainableinfrastructure.org/rating/](http://www.sustainableinfrastructure.org/rating/).

- **Raise the Bar Committee Activities** – Another of the three top strategic initiatives of the Society is Raise the Bar (RTB), which has a goal to advance the profession and the public welfare by actively supporting the National movement to raise the educational requirements for licensure of future professional engineers. The Region 9 RTB Committee is up and running with several representatives from the Sections and Branches participating in conference calls and activities. These activities are being coordinated with Society's RTB Committee. The Committee held a successful informational workshop in May just prior to the Region 9 Infrastructure Symposium, in which a dozen and a half professionals from all over the State gathered to discuss and share ideas regarding the initiative. The Region 9 Committee is available for presentations to your Branch or Section. If interested, contact Kwame Agyare at [agyare.kwame@gmail.com](mailto:agyare.kwame@gmail.com). For more information on the Raise the Bar initiative, go to: [www.asce.org/raise\\_the\\_bar/](http://www.asce.org/raise_the_bar/).

- **Creation of the Region 9 Grand Challenge Task Committee** – this year saw start up of the Society's newest strategic initiative - the Grand Challenge. The Grand Challenge is to reduce the life-cycle

costs of infrastructure by 50% by the year 2025. Region 9 created a Grand Challenge Committee, with Jim Frost, Region 9 Governor from the San Diego Section, as Chair, and is seeking representation from each of the Region's four Sections. The Society is in the process of developing an implementation plan for this initiative and Region 9 will be ready to assist. Stay tuned.

- **Region 9 Legislative Day Fly-In to Sacramento and Legislation Support** – At this year's Legislative Day Fly-In event, Region 9 continued with its goal to introduce engineers to the legislative process. The first half of the day was a training session to introduce members who are new to the legislative process to the work done by our Region 9 infrastructure advocacy initiative, and illustrate how they can participate in the advocacy process. The second half of the day was spent visiting State Legislators to discuss pending legislation related to infrastructure. ASCE offered to provide their technical expertise related to future bills and issues impacting the civil engineering profession. This activity is held each year in the spring, and Region 9 members are encouraged to participate. The Region 9 committees of Transportation, Water, and Government Relations regularly reviewed legislation, which resulted in a significant number of "support" letters to California State Legislators and the Governor.

- **California Infrastructure Symposium and Region 9 Awards** – Another significant activity is the annual Region 9 Infrastructure Symposium and Awards Dinner. This year, Region 9 partnered with the Sacramento Section. The day-long Infrastructure Symposium addressed the major issues in transportation and water. Region 9 greatly appreciates all of the efforts of the Sacramento Section members that worked so hard to make this event a success.

There were a number of other accomplishments throughout the year. Below are just some of the many other achievements of the Region 9 Governors, Committee Chairs, Sections, Branches, and Younger Member Groups:

- **Region 9 Envision Training Workshop** – This inaugural workshop was held in conjunction with the Region 9 Infrastructure Symposium, and registered 20 new ENV SPs;

- **Region 9 Younger Member Committee** – This committee was reconstituted with a new chair, Giditi Ludersirishoti from the LA Section, and aims to have representation from all four Sections on the committee;

- **Disaster Preparedness Training** – Region 9 Disaster Preparedness Committee Chair, Doug Taylor, focused on stepping up the efforts to train members to receive California Safety Assessment Program (SAP) certification;

- **California PE Board (BPELSG) Committee Meetings** – Region 9 was able to provide ASCE representation at all BPELSG meetings

throughout the year, and made presentations at two of these meetings. A presentation on Raise the Bar at the July meeting was well received, and garnered much input from the BPELSG board;

- Region 9 Awards Recognition – The process to completely align each of the four Sections comprising the Region, with the Region 9 Award categories for both individual and project awards, was almost completed. The process is expected to be full aligned by early next year;
- Legislative Advocacy – Region 9 Committees reviewed throughout the year many State Assembly or Senate bills affecting the civil engineering profession and the Board of Governors approved ten “support” or “oppose” letters, which were sent to State legislators and the Governor;
- Ballot Initiative Opposition – The Region 9 Board of Governors approved a letter to the Region membership opposing one ballot initiative - the “No Blank Check Ballot Initiative”, Prop 53 - that it felt would damage the state’s ability to fund new infrastructure investments and negatively impact the state’s economy;
- Governors Serve on Society Committees – Part of the responsibility of a Region 9 Governor is to serve on a Society Committee. Several current Region 9 Governors sit on Society committees, including the Critical Infrastructure Committee (Oscar Serrano); Leadership and Management Committee (Kwame Agyare); Member Communities Committee (Kwame Agyare, Corresponding Member); Program & Finance Committee (Jay Higgins); Public Agency Peer Review Committee (Kwame Agyare); Public Policy Committee (Ken Rosenfield-Member, Kwame Agyare- Corresponding Member); Scholarships (Gregg Fiegel); and State Government Relations (Ken Rosenfield). If you have a concern or question about your Society, contact your Section’s Governor, and they can steer your inquiry so that it can be addressed by the proper committee and, if necessary, brought to the attention of the Society’s Board of Direction;
- Scholarships for Students – The Sacramento Section raised an unprecedented \$60,000 during the year for scholarships for deserving students. This was a tremendous fundraising achievement from companies and individuals in the Sacramento Section;
- National Landmark – A San Diego civil engineering project, the All-American Canal, will in December 2016 be received designation as a National ASCE Historic Civil Engineering Landmark, due to the efforts of the San Diego Section working in conjunction with Society Headquarters;
- Envision ISI Platinum Award - A San Diego civil engineering project, the Green Build Project at San Diego International Airport, in May 2016, received the Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure’s (ISI) Envision rating system’s Platinum award. Owned by the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority, the project is the first airport development to receive an ISI Envision award, and is also the 13th project in North America to receive an Envision rating system award;
- Emergency & Carryover Storage Project, Mr. Jerry Reed, P.E., M.ASCE from the San Diego Section Project was selected as one of five finalists for the 2017 Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement (OCEA) award. The other finalists are: Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport – Terminal 2, Mumbai, India; Dallas Streetcar Project, Dallas, TX; One World Trade Center, New York City, NY; and Pearl Harbor Memorial Bridge, New Haven, CT. One of these five finalists will be announced as the winner of the Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement award presented at the Outstanding Projects and Leaders (OPAL) Gala on March 16, 2017;
- OCEA Awards – A project from the San Diego Area, the Emergency and Carryover Project was selected as one of the finalists for the 2017 Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement (OCEA) Awards to be chosen in March 2017 at the ASCE Awards Ceremony;
- Orange County Younger Member Forum of Los Angeles Section was selected by the ASCE Committee on Younger Members to receive the 2016 Younger Member Group Award for large groups “For outstanding professional, technical, social, outreach, and community service activities on behalf of the Orange County Younger Member Forum.”
- Ravi Shah of the Los Angeles Section was selected by the ASCE Committee on Leadership and Management to receive the Edmund Friedman Young Engineer Award for Professional Achievement “For professional achievement in service to the advancement of the profession, evidence of technical competence, high character and integrity, and contributions to public service outside their career.”
- Ms. Emily Guglielmo, P.E., S.E., F.SEI, M.ASCE from the San Francisco Section was selected by the Committee on Younger Members to receive the 2016 Edmund Friedman Young Engineer Award for Professional Achievement “For professional achievement in service to the advancement of the profession, evidence of technical competence, high character and integrity, and contributions to public service outside their career.”
- Dr. Craig A. Davis, Ph.D., P.E., G.E., M.ASCE from the Los Angeles Section was selected by the Infrastructure Resilience Division to receive the 2016 Le Val Lund Award for Practicing Lifeline Risk Reduction. “For his extraordinary contributions to lifeline risk reduction and dedicated leadership in advancing seismic performance of lifeline systems globally.”

These accomplishments could not have happened without the leadership and dedication of Governors, Section Presidents, Committee Chairs, and active members who give so much of their time to support Region 9 activities. To them I would like to express my sincere appreciation and look forward to working with our members over the next year to continue to provide quality activities throughout the Region.

I would also like to take this time to thank Gregg Fiegel, Oscar Serrano, and Kwame Agyare, the three outgoing Governors, for their service

over the past three years. Gregg served as a Governor-at-Large, and Chair of the Nominating and Audit Committees. Oscar served as the External Secretary, and Chair of the California PE Board (BPELSG) Committee. Kwame served as a Governor, Vice-Chair, and Chair of the Raise the Bar Committee. We are fortunate that Kwame will be filling in a rotation gap as the Governor-At-Large for the next year, and

will also continue to serve as the Vice-Chair and Chair of the Raise the Bar Committee. The dedication and service of these individual has contributed greatly to the successes of Region 9 over the past year.

If you have any questions about Region 9 or your Society, please feel free to contact me at [jayhiggins896@gmail.com](mailto:jayhiggins896@gmail.com)



Jay Higgins presents a plaque to Kwame Agyare in appreciation for his service as Region 9 Governor



Jay Higgins presents a plaque to Gregg Fiegel in appreciation for his service as Region 9 Governor-at-Large



Thor Larsen receives a plaque from Jay Higgins on behalf of outgoing Sacramento Section, Region 9 Governor Oscar Serrano (right) in appreciation for his service





# All-American Canal System

## *National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark Dedication Event*

Please join the American Society of Civil Engineers, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the Imperial Irrigation District and the Imperial Dam Advisory Board for a joint event to mark the dedication of the All-American Canal System as a national historic civil engineering landmark.

Monday, Dec. 19, 2016 🦋 10:30 a.m. PST / 11:30 a.m. MST

*Hidden Shores Village  
10300 Imperial Dam Road  
Yuma, Arizona*



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# 2016 ASCE Los Angeles



# Section Award Winners

Congratulations to all our 2016 ASCE Los Angeles Section Individual and Project Award Winners! We presented our awards at the Annual Meeting, Officer Installation, and Awards Event at the Queen Mary in Long Beach, California on October 8th. We had over 150 attendees and it was very successful event. Please view the list of award winners and enjoy the event pictures on these pages.

## **INDIVIDUALS**

President's Award: Gayle Stewart, CAE

Carl Blum Award: Josue Vaglianti, P.E.

Outstanding Civil Engineering Student: Cindy Anaya

Outstanding Faculty Advisor: Patrick Lynett, Ph.D, M.ASCE

Outstanding Younger Civil Engineer: Linda Luu, P.E.

Outstanding Civil Engineer in Legislative Activities: Ravi Shah, P.E.

Outstanding Civil Engineer in Community Service: Brian Phan, EIT

Outstanding Civil Engineer in Service to ASCE YMF: Remi Candaele, P.E.

Outstanding Civil Engineer in Service to ASCE LA Section: Androush Danielians, P.E.

Legislator of the Year: Congressman Tony Cardenas

Outstanding Civil Engineer in the Public Sector: Kevin Onuma, P.E.

Outstanding Civil Engineer in the Private Sector: Fred Minagar, P.E.

Lifetime Achievement Award: Harvey Gobas, P.E.

## **PROJECTS**

Airports and Ports Project of the Year: Port of Long Beach - West Basin Approach Borrow Project

Architectural Engineering Project of the Year: City of West Hollywood Automated Garage

Bikeways & Trails Project of the Year: Promenade on College Heights Blvd. (Class I Bike Path)

Bridge Project of the Year: Lincoln Avenue Widening over the Santa Ana River

Community Improvement Project of the Year: 4th Street Community Park

Construction Project of the Year: Green Port Gateway Rail Project

Energy Project of the Year: Waste to Energy Bowerman Power Project

Environmental Engineering Project of the Year: Happy Valley Bioswale – Meiners Oaks Urban LID Retrofit

Flood Management Project of the Year: Eagle Canyon Dam & Debris Basin

Geotechnical Project of the Year: Cow Camp Road Design – Phase 1A & 1B

Historical Renovation Project of the Year: North Main St. Bridge over Los Angeles River

Parks & Recreation Project of the Year: Ocotillo Park, Cathedral City

Roadways & Highways Project of the Year: Bristol Street Improvements Phase II

Small Project of the Year: City of Torrance Stormwater Basin and Treatment Wetlands Enhancement

Structural Engineering Project of the Year: East Fork Road over North Fork San Gabriel River Bridge Retrofit

Sustainable Engineering Project of the Year: LAPD Metropolitan Division Facility

Transportation Project of the Year: Foothill Gold Line – Pasadena to Azusa

Urban or Land Development Project of the Year: Alegre Affordable Apartments

Water Project of the Year: North Kern WSD Drought Relief Project

Water/Wastewater Project of the Year: COS Rehab Market St. to Slauson Ave. & COS at 59th & Fourth Ave.





# 2016 ASCE Los Angeles Section Annual Meeting, Officer Installation & Awards Event

Thank you to our Platinum Sponsor!

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# Thank you to our Bronze Sponsors!



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This Year's ASCE LA Section  
Award Recipients**

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# Life Member Forum Visits Carlsbad Desalination Plant

by Joe Buley, P.E., F.ASCE



On September 27th, 15 members of the Los Angeles Section Life Member Forum were the guests of the newly operational, 100 million gallon per day, Claude "Bud" Lewis, Carlsbad Desalination Plant; built on industrially zoned land adjacent to the Encina Power Station. Our tour began at the plant's entrance gate where our identification was verified, safety indoctrination given and safety protection gear issued. Our two guides for the tour then provided a plant overview.

Seawater is pumped from the Agua Hedionda Lagoon to begin the initial pretreatment process. Each day 50 million gallons is processed to drinking water and 50 million gallons is returned to the Lagoon carrying all the original salt, in its journey back to the sea.

## Pretreatment

The seawater arrives at the pretreatment facility via a 72 - inch stainless steel pipe for processing thru multimedia filter tanks; a layered filter bed of anthracite, sand and gravel. The filtration removes algae, organic materials and other particles.



Administration Building and Desalination Plant



Briefing Life Members



Agua Hedionda Lagoon



Pumping Station



72 inch Intake Pipe



Multi Media Filter

## Secondary Filtration

The water then moves to secondary filtration to remove smaller – sometimes – microscopic- impurities.



Micro Filtration tanks and Piping



Micro Filter for Secondary Filtration

The water is now ready for the heart of the process, reverse osmosis. Reverse osmosis occurs in a structure containing 2000 pressure vessels that contain 16,000 reverse osmosis membranes. The water is pushed through the semi-permeable membranes that act as microscopic strainers that allow only water molecules to pass thru; leaving behind salt, minerals and other impurities.



Reverse Osmosis units

The water then moves thru a limestone bed that restores some minerals; chlorine disinfectant and fluoride are added. The water is held in a 1.5 million gallon storage tank before transportation, 10 miles, thru a 54 – inch pipe to the San Diego County Water Authority's Aqueduct connection facility in San Marcos.



Reverse Osmosis Membrane



Limestone used to re-mineralize the water

## Recycling to Energy Services

144 micro turbine energy recovery devices recycle the pressure from the reverse osmosis process saving 146 million kilowatt hours per year, reducing carbon emissions by 42,000 metric tons; the equivalent of annual greenhouse gas emissions of 9,000 passenger vehicles. The overall energy consumption process is reduced by 46 percent.

## Cost

The current cost of production is approximately \$2,200 per acre foot. This equates to approximately \$0.0068 per gallon.

## Operation

The facility is operated and maintained, under a 30 – year contract, by a respected Israel company with a long history in the design and operation of desalination plants.

## Acknowledgement

A special thanks to our life member Garvin Pederson for arranging this most informative and enjoyable tour including lunch at the Claim Jumper Restaurant.



Energy Recovery Device



Tasting the finished product

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