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A MESSAGE FROM THE UTAH SECTION PRESIDENT



Matthew Roblez, S.E., SECB

Happy Holidays from the Utah Section. I hope this issue of the Civil Source finds you and your family happy and doing well.

Vince Lombardi once said, "The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined effort of each individual." And, "Individual commitment to a group effort – that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work."

So if there is no individual involvement in an organization, there can be no

achievements, and therefore the organization doesn't work. Achievements start with the individual and the commitment they make to an organization.

This month's feature article is by Shaun Dustin, the President-Elect of the Northern Utah Branch. He has taken the bull by the horns and will chair our newly formed "State and Government Relations Committee". Shaun needs volunteers for this organization. ASCE needs you all as individuals to step up and make a difference. Become

involved and make ASCE work and by extension the Civil Engineering community work.

If you decide that this committee is not for you, I ask you to find a committee to serve on. I want to remind all of you of our theme for the year:

The American Society of Civil Engineers is more than monthly meetings...The American Society of Civil Engineers makes something extraordinary happen

(Please see Mr. Dustin's article on page 5.)

NORTHERN UTAH BRANCH BY PAUL LINDHARDT

Thank you to Issa Hamud, Environmental Director of Logan City, for his presentation concerning the Logan City Landfill and its future. We had a great turnout from both ASCE members and friends.

Our next meeting will be held on December 8 at 12pm at the Bluebird Restaurant in Logan, UT. Since 2004, Logan City has gone through a process of reconstructing our DeWitt waterline. As part of this process, it was discovered that by upsizing from a 30-inch to a 36-inch waterline, there was significant available head at the tanks that would be available most of the year for the generation of power. Since that time, Logan City has pursued, and finally

completed the design and installation of a Francis turbine generator with an induction motor on this waterline rather than using more traditional methods of breaking head. During this presentation, Mr. Lance Houser will explain the process and benefits of this project and discuss future steps to further enhance this project. Following the presentation, anyone interested will be welcome to tour the turbine facility.

Lance Houser graduated from USU in 1992 and finished a MS in Civil Engineering in 1998 while working full time. Since 1992, Lance has worked in the Water Resources field includ-

ing municipal water and wastewater, storm water, and hydroelectric projects in 18 states and 4 countries. He has worked for Logan City since May of 2004 and currently serves as the Assistant City Engineer.

If you are not currently on the NUB email list but would like to be, please contact a member of the presidency.

WASATCH FRONT BRANCH BY SHAWNA SMITH

Thank you to everyone that was able to attend our luncheon last month. We enjoyed a great presentation by Chris Bias and the Kern River Gas Apex Expansion project. We appreciate everyone that was able to RSVP beforehand, and remember we can take payments by PayPal now which is very convenient. Feel free to contact us if you have any questions about PayPal, the lunches, or anything else you may think of.

This month we are looking forward to hearing from Bill Hendrickson, the Project Controls Manager on the Data Center project in Bluffdale. The meeting will be held on Friday, December 16 at the Desert Star Playhouse. More information will be sent out soon.

The WFB would like to congratulate Dr. Paul Tikalsky, Chairman of the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department at the University of Utah on being named the Utah ASCE Engineering Educator of the Year. In addition, Dr. Tikalsky was recently awarded the honor of ASCE Fellow. He is a valuable resource for our engineering community. We will also be announcing our scholarship recipients soon.

SOUTHERN UTAH BRANCH BY JARED MADSEN

This last month, we visited the Dixie State College Holland Centennial Commons Building. Jacobsen Construction gave us a good tour, and we appreciate everyone's attendance. I hope everyone is planning on the December Luncheon that we hold every year at the Pasta Factory in Ancestor Square. The date is set for December 15 at noon, and we will be giving out prizes to those who submit an award nomination form. We will be sending out the announcement and the nomination form this week.

Also, we have awarded the 2011 ASCE Scholarship. We are pleased to announce this year's recipient is Kelly Chappell - a very qualified student from SUU. He will be attending the Decem-

ber Luncheon where he will be officially awarded the scholarship.

CENTRAL UTAH BRANCH BY ERNEST BRAMWELL

Speaking personally, feelings of gratitude and awe come especially easily at this time of year when I think upon the miracle of American liberty and upon the richness and goodness of a culture influenced by the transcendent doctrines and deeds of the "Man of Galilee". Does any American civil engineer believe that his life, personal or professional, could be as full and satisfying but for those two historic movements? I have always been grateful for the high school counselor who pointed me toward civil engineering 50-plus years ago. I have found pleasant, honest, and talented colleagues wherever I have worked. I have believed that we were members of a worthy and noble profession, one dedicated to freeing people from disease and poverty, and

enabling us to share the planet more comfortably. I have been glad that ASCE upholds the highest technical and ethical standards, and thus has attained worldwide success and influence. But truly, the foundation for all this good fortune has always been the uniquely-American combination of freedom to seek one's own future within in a culture that emphasizes conscience, integrity, industry, and duty toward one's fellowmen.

The CUB's November's Branch meeting featured Mr. Jim Golden's presentation on "Lessons Learned in the SR-92 Highway Improvement" in Utah County. Nearly 60 members attended. We were introduced to an innovation called 'buried highway structure' which was

applied on this project. Mr. Golden also explained how the 'diverging diamond' interchange concept enabled UDOT to gain significant interchange capacity without re-constructing the existing I-15 structure at SR-92.

The next Branch meeting will be held in January, with subject, date, and location to be announced. The Branch has received 20 applications for the \$ 600.00 awards that will be made in January to two students from BYU's ASCE Student Chapter.

Season's Greetings, and see you in 2012.

YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM BY JENNI OMAN

December, already?? This year has flown by! November was a slower month for the YMF, our main activity was serving dinner to the families staying at the Ronald McDonald House. We served baked potatoes and delicious chili to about 30 people.

The end of the year means the end of my term as the YMF President. I have been glad for the opportunity I have had to serve as President, even on the days when I wish I could sit and watch from the sidelines.

People often ask why I am involved in ASCE. This has always been a hard question for me. I joined in college, because I figured it would look good on my resume. And then I stayed involved, because I was told by an YMF officer at the time that I was going to be the treasurer. But

really I stayed involved, because I felt like it was as way to help better my profession.

I like to call the YMF the fun part of ASCE, but really we deal with serious issues as well as socializing. Right now, ASCE is trying to be the national leader on informing the public about our infrastructure. And the Section is trying to change the stereotype of the engineer to show that we care and that we are not just machines. The YMF helps on both those issues, we discuss our infrastructure with our peers and we go out into the community to do service. Sure, we could be better at advertising what we do, but we engineers are humble people, we do things because they need to be done, not for the glory.

Thank you to everyone that has

been involved in ASCE this past year. It is often said that you will get out of ASCE as much as you put into it. And that is so true! If you would like to be part of something more, volunteer for a committee or come out to the socials and service projects. If you are content to merely have that card in your wallet, well then by all means, keep paying your dues, so the rest of us can change the world. Even though my term is up, I will still be involved, though I will not miss writing these articles.

Want to stay in touch with the Utah YMF? Become friends with the Utah YMF now to ensure you are up to date on the latest socials and announcements. Search for "ASCE YMF Utah" on Facebook today!

GEOTECHNICAL GROUP BY RYAN COLE

No update this month.

THE STATE AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE



*Shaun Dustin, President-Elect
Northern Utah Branch*

Who can take away your license, give you a job, kill your project, kick start your career, get you in trouble, save your bacon, create work that doesn't need to be done or fund a wastewater treatment plant, and move funding away from work that is critical for public health and safety or

fund work that makes all our lives better? The government, that's who. More specifically, our representatives that we elect to make things happen do these things.

Now I don't have any objective data on this, just my own observations, but I suspect that most individual engineers are not particularly active in the political process other than as voters, observers, or complainers. That's a problem because as Civil Engineers, our livelihood and our ability to have a positive impact on society are controlled by the legal and political processes. As an organization, however, ASCE has a huge impact on policy at the Federal level. The Report Card on America's infrastructure and various ASCE policy positions are relied upon heavily by Congress in formulating and implementing public policy. ASCE has a major voice in building codes, professional licensing, and other issues that impact us. This all happens, however, at the National level.

At a state level, we are developing a committee to be a resource for our lawmakers and to represent ASCE positions. We have a vested interest in infrastructure, development, and environment and these are fundamentally local issues. Our objective is to be a resource for legislators and their staffs to help them to evaluate proposed legislation and to understand the implications from a Civil Engineering perspective and provide

them with the information they need to make the best decisions they can.

We are looking for volunteers to serve on this committee; we need a wide geographic and discipline distribution. We are looking for specialties in Civil, Environmental, Structural, Transportation, Surveying, Process, Geotechnical, Municipal, Education, and At Large. If you would like to serve in a way that will impact your profession and your community, please apply. Send a statement of interest including your location, specialty, a brief summary of why you would like to serve to Shaun Dustin (shaun.dustin@usu.edu). We would like to have the committee functioning before the next legislative session.

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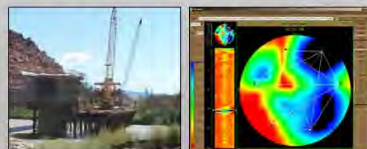
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