



President:  
Paul Hinson, P.E.

President Elect:  
Amanda Harmon

Vice President:  
Craig Ponte, P.E.

Secretary/Treasurer:  
Tony Gaynord

Younger Member Chair:  
Denise Nelson, P.E.

Education Outreach Chair:  
Mike Howell

College Liaison:  
Chris Miller

Richmond Branch - ASCE  
<http://www.ascevirginia.org>

## The Williams Mullen Tower

*A look at design challenges with structural engineers  
Speight, Marshall & Francis, P.C.*

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

#### 1 October Meeting Information

Date: October 20, 2009

#### 2 New Officers Elected to the Board, Golf Tournament Thank You, Post PE Exam Happy Hour

Place: Westwood Club

Time: 12:00 Lunch, 12:30 Program

Costs: \$20.00

Menu: Option 1 - Salad, Grilled Pork Loin, Sweet Potatoes, Green Beans,  
& Dessert

#### 3 MEET THE...President Paul Hinson, P.E., LEED AP

Option 2 - Salad, Grilled Chicken, Sundried Tomatoes Rice,  
Spinach & Dessert

Option 3 - Salad, Pasta Primavera, and Dessert

#### 4 Upcoming events

Contact Bryan Stevenson at [bryan.stevenson@aesva.com](mailto:bryan.stevenson@aesva.com) or 330-8040 by the end of the day on October 16, 2009.

The Williams Mullen Tower, located in downtown Richmond at 10<sup>th</sup> and Canal Streets, is a 17-story reinforced concrete mixed-use office building. The first level houses retail space with 5 levels of parking above and the upper portion is comprised of office space primarily occupied by the law firm of Williams Mullen. The tower is built adjacent to, and partially above, the Richmond Metropolitan Authority (RMA) parking garage which presented several opportunities for the design team to develop creative solutions. Speaking to us from the Structural Engineering and Special Inspections firm of Speight, Marshall & Francis, P.C. will be Daniel W. Speight, P.E. and Dennis R. Altman, Jr., P.E., S.E. Highlights of the presentation include:

#### Foundation complications

The existing garage extended 3 levels underground. To facilitate this, a foundation tieback system was used. The original intent was the future building would likewise have 3 levels of underground parking and these tiebacks would be removed. The new tower design did not extend below grade, thus the tiebacks had to stay and could not be damaged by the installation of the foundation. Learn how a little ingenuity solved the issue.

#### Building over the existing garage

Dynamic isolators were installed to minimize the project's effects on the existing structure. Learn how this product, primarily reserved for west coast applications, was implemented as the solution.

#### Developing a unique slab system

The Owner, Armada Hoffler Development Company, and primary tenant, Williams Mullen, stipulated a virtually column-free floor plate. Learn how the unique floor system accomplished this and was proven to be the most economical as well.

## New Officers Elected to the Board

The elected officers for 2009-2010 are:

President - Paul Hinson, P.E. (phinson@koontzbryant.com)  
President Elect - Amanda Harmon (Amanda.Harmon@kimley-horn.com)  
Vice President - Craig Ponte, P.E. (CPonte@ammann-whitney.com)  
Treasurer/ Secretary- Tony Gaynord (agaynord@McKinney-USA.com)

Additionally, the Branch has three appointed positions:

Younger Member Chair - Denise Nelson, P.E. (dnelson@greeley-hansen.com)  
Education Outreach Chair - Mike Howell (mhowell@brockenbrough.com)  
College Liaison - Chris Miller (chris.miller@timmons.com)

Congratulations to all of the new officers. If you see any of the above, let them know what you expect out of your Branch. They are happy to serve you.

Thanks to all who participate in this year's voting.

## The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual ASCE Golf Tournament and Picnic THANK YOU!

Final preparations for the annual Golf Tournament and Picnic are being completed at press time and the Branch is excited about another great turnout. The Branch and the Young Member group appreciate your support and participation.

Remember, your donations to the golf tournament are tax deductible (tax ID #23-7066182) within all appropriate tax laws.

This event can't happen without the help of many. Special thanks to Craig Ponte, P.E. and the volunteers for all of their hard work.

## Post P.E. Exam Happy Hour

Know any civil engineers taking the P.E. exam this fall? Send them to Positive Vibe Café (off Forest Hill Avenue) on Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup> from 5 PM to 7 PM. The Young Member Group is hosting a happy hour in honor of those who took the exam. The event is open to all.

Survivors of the exam get a free drink. Unfortunately, this offer is only extended to this most recent group of survivors.

## MEET THE... President Paul Hinson, P.E., LEED AP



Paul Hinson, P.E.

This month we profile President, Paul F. Hinson, P.E., LEED AP. Paul has been a member of the Richmond Branch since 1990 and a member of ASCE since 1985. He has served as the Treasurer/ Secretary and two years as Vice President. Paul is the Director of Engineering for Koontz-Bryant, P.C. and has worked there for the last 10 years.

Where are you from and where did you go to school?

My dad was an officer in the Navy so I have lived a lot of places. I spent most of my childhood in Charleston, SC. I went to high school at Clarke County High School in Berryville, Virginia and have lived in the Richmond area for the last 20 years. I got my degree from Old Dominion University.

Why did you become a Civil Engineer?

Ever since I was a small child I liked to dig in the dirt. I have worked construction since I was 14 and have always been interested in building things.

What is the most interesting thing you have done in your career?

I have done lots of interesting things in my career. I think the most interesting project I worked on was probably the Colonial Downs Race Track project. Not only did I get to do the site plan, but I was also involved in the design of the road network, WWTP and the water distribution system.

What are you excited about as the new President?

I am really excited to be working with such an energetic group of officers. They are passionate about their profession and are working hard to spread the word about civil engineering. We have a really strong educational outreach program started and an active younger members group. It is going to be a great year and I am glad to be a part of it. I also look forward to participating in the Section and National level ASCE meetings and getting to meet other people and talking to them about what their Sections and Branches are doing.

How did you get involved in ASCE?

I joined the ASCE in college and have been a member ever since. I liked getting the magazine and enjoyed coming to the Branch lunch meetings. At one meeting I asked the President how I could become more involved and was the Treasurer/ Secretary the next year. I would encourage anyone who is interested in ASCE to get with any of the officers and let us know what you would like to help with.

If you are interested in contacting Paul, you can reach him at [phinson@koontzbryant.com](mailto:phinson@koontzbryant.com) or (804) 200-1914.

## Schedule of Upcoming Richmond Branch and other Events

Date	Speaker	Topic	Location
October 6	-	7 <sup>th</sup> Annual ASCE Golf Tournament and Picnic	Rivers Bend Golf Course
October 15	ASCE Virginia Section	Press Release for <i>Report card of Virginia's Infrastructure</i> (soft release)	830 E. Main St.
October 20	Speight, Marshall and Francis	Williams Mullen Building Structural	Westwood Club
October 28	-	Post P.E. Happy Hour	Positive Vibe Café
January 20	ASCE Richmond Branch/ ASCE Virginia Section	General Assembly Legislative Happy Hour and release of the <i>Report Card of Virginia's Infrastructure</i>	830 E. Main St.

Support your branch! Would you like to advertise your company's logo in next month's issue? The cost is \$10 (checks only, made payable to ASCE Richmond Branch). Contact any board member for details.

Did you know there are over 200 active members of the Richmond Branch! Do you have something to say? Would you like to contribute an article? Let's hear from you, and maybe your thoughts will be in the next newsletter. Contact Bryan Stevenson at 330-8040.