



## Younger Member Group eNewsletter

09/01/09

*Supplementing Branch Activities with a Focus on Younger Members*

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### Join Water Young Professionals for Service Project

Virginia's Water Young Professionals (members of American Water Works Association (AWWA) and Water Environment Federation (WEF)) invite ASCE members to participate in a **Community Service Project and Happy Hour** prior to **WaterJAM**, the VA AWWA and WEF Joint Annual Meeting. Meet on **Sunday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>** at 2pm at 14<sup>th</sup> Street Parking Lot by Brown's Island for cleaning and painting in the vicinity of the 42" trunk sewer along the James River. Afterwards, relax with a beer at Legend Brewing Company. Contact Jessica Keeler ([jkeeler@greeley-hansen.com](mailto:jkeeler@greeley-hansen.com)) to RSVP or for more information about this and other Young Professional events at WaterJAM.

### Good Fun at Happy Hour

Ellwood's Coffee and Community Place was a great, green venue for Happy Hour on Aug. 26. The appetizers were plentiful and the local beer was served at discount prices until 8pm. One server took the time to explain the green features of the new café, such as the reclaimed road signs and rebar converted to tables, sustainable concrete counters, reclaimed pine, refurbished furniture, etc.

If you missed this one, join us for our **Post-PE Happy Hour in October** (location TBD).

### Unemployed? How About Some Free Training?

Bentley Systems provides free software and training for the unemployed. "Be Employable" provides outplaced infrastructure professionals with no-charge access to Bentley software and training. It also provides online tools to help users develop their own personal learning needs, and the necessary Learning Units to help workers maintain professional qualifications.

<http://www.bentley.com/en-US/Community/Academic/Be+Employable/be+employable.htm>

Autodesk offers Free Civil 3D Training from Engineered Efficiency, Inc for the unemployed. Find out more at [www.eng-eff.com/freetraining](http://www.eng-eff.com/freetraining).

### Continuing Education Credits – Free or Cheap CECs

Okay, I admit it: I've become a **webinar junkie**. And now I'm trying to turn all of you into webinar junkies. But they are just too good a deal to pass up! Here are my latest favorites:

Utility Infrastructure Management hosts **free online webinars** provided by a variety of companies on topics related to, well..., utility infrastructure. Check out their website at

[www.uimonline.com](http://www.uimonline.com) for the list of upcoming and archived webinars and to sign up for their free eNewsletter.

Trenchless Technology also provides **free online webinars** highlighting new technologies and products for utility rehab. Go to [www.trenchlessonline.com](http://www.trenchlessonline.com) for the list of free and fee webinars and to sign up for yet another free eNewsletter.

Environmental Design + Construction (ED+C) is a website with a multitude of resources including **free webinars**, subscriptions to magazines, and product info. For more details, check out <http://www.edcmag.com/Webinars>.

And for those of you that prefer to learn in person... The Construction Expo, in Richmond on Sept. 23-24 at the convention center, is a **free expo with exhibitor booths and seminars**. The seminars address sustainable design, construction contract language, business topics, and more. Visit [www.constructionexpo.com](http://www.constructionexpo.com) for details.

### **How to Impress Your Boss**

Looking for motivation and hoping to improve business relationships? Check out Joe Takash at [www.joetakash.com](http://www.joetakash.com). His website boasts "*Joe speaks and consults on tangible behaviors that translate to measurable performance.*" I've seen him in action and find his enthusiasm inspiring. Plus he knows how to send home clear, concise recommendations that really do make a difference. For example, check out "Take 2 to Improve", a 2 minute video blog with a new message each week. And be sure to sign up for "Quicksters", an email listserv that provides three quotes every Friday. Short, sweet, simple, and it makes you think.

## **THE STUDENT SECTION**

For those still in school (and those who still love to tailgate)

By Chris Miller

While most of us here in the Richmond branch of ASCE have graduated from college and are knee deep in our professional lives, part of our mission as a branch is to reach out to local universities and assist their student chapters. This month, I want to show how the ASCE website can be a useful tool in helping us do so.

On the ASCE website, there is a great section dedicated just to students and their chapters. For individual students, the site details the benefits of being an ASCE member while a student, and gives resources such as available scholarships and finding their local branches and younger member groups. The Career Resources link allows students to create a profile in ASCE's Career Connections database, thus granting access to all of ASCE's great civil engineering career resources. The website also has everything that a student chapter of ASCE would need. This includes links to national civil engineering competitions (i.e. concrete canoe, steel bridge, etc.), student conferences, and awards. All the ASCE forms student organizations will need are also on this site, as well as links to other ASCE student chapter websites. All of this comes in a very convenient and fun bulletin board style website as pictured below:



The website is <http://content.asce.org/student/index.html>. So if you are in school, have friends or relatives still in school, or had a summer intern at your company, pass the word around that there is an outstanding resource waiting for them at their fingertips. Thanks for reading, and good luck to those starting a new semester.

### Solar Decathlon 2009

The US Dept. of Energy sponsors the Solar Decathlon to challenge teams of university students to design and build houses powered entirely by solar energy. Teams arrive at the event, assemble their pre-design/pre-build houses, put them on display, and undergo a variety of tests. Display days are October 9-13 and 15-18. The event takes place on the national mall in DC. There are twenty teams this year including one from Virginia Tech and a few from overseas. For more information, go to [www.solardecathlon.org](http://www.solardecathlon.org).

### Alphabet Soup – Professional Societies

More fun with acronyms:

- ASLA – American Society of Landscape Architects
- AIA – American Institute of Architects
- NSPE – National Society of Professional Engineers
- AICHE – American Institute of Chemical Engineers
- AIME – American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers
- AIST – Association for Iron and Steel Technology
- SME – Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration
- SPE – Society of Petroleum Engineers
- TMS – The Minerals, Metals & Materials Society
- UEF – United Engineering Foundation

AACE – Association for Advancement of Cost Engineering  
 ASHE – American Society of Highway Engineers  
 ASHRAE - American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers  
 ASQ – American Society for Quality  
 CSI – Construction Specifications Institute  
 IEEE – Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers  
 IIE – Institute of Industrial Engineers  
 NBSE – National Black Society of Engineers  
 PMI – Project Management Institute  
 SWE – Society of Women Engineers  
 ITE – Institute of Transportation Engineers  
 AWWA – American Water Works Association  
 WEF – Water Environment Federation  
 EWB – Engineers Without Borders

Too many? I’m sure there are plenty more out there. If I left your favorite off the list, send me an email to let me know.

**Upcoming Events:**

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sept. 13	WaterJAM Service Project and Happy Hour	Brown’s Island
Sept. 16-17	Virginia Engineer’s Conference (ASCE, VSPE, ACEC)	Williamsburg
Sept. 22	Branch Meeting	TBD
Sept. 22	UVA Networking Night	UVA
Oct. 6	Golf Tournament	Rivers Bend
Oct. 20	Branch Meeting	TBD
Oct. 23	PE Exam	VA
TBD	Post PE Happy Hour	TBD
Oct. 29-31	ASCE Annual Conference and Younger Member Leadership Symposium	Kansas City, MO

**We want to hear from you!**

- Do you have something to share with other Younger Members?
- What would make ASCE better for Younger Members?
- What topics are Younger Members specifically interested in?
- What issues are unique to Younger Members?

Please feel free to **share this eNewsletter** with your colleagues. You may also reply to the sender to submit email addresses for colleagues that would like to be added to the distribution list. You can find archived copies of the eNewsletter on the Section website at:

<http://www.ascevirginia.org/ASCE%20Newsletters/Forms/AllItems.aspx>

You are on this newsletter listserv as a registered or prospective younger member or younger member supporter in the Richmond Branch of ASCE. The Younger Member Group intends to send no more than

2 emails per month to the listserv. If you wish to be removed from the listserv, please reply to the sender with your request.

Thank you,  
Younger Member Group Chair

Denise Nelson, P.E., LEED AP



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