



Younger Member Group eNewsletter

10/05/09

Supplementing Branch Activities with a Focus on Younger Members

Post-PE Happy Hour

Besides landing a job, the PE has to be the biggest hurdle for younger members. Join us for **Happy Hour on Wednesday, October 28th** to celebrate this achievement for your fellow engineers who took the test the Friday prior. It will be several months before we know if all the time and effort studying paid off, so, for now, let's just celebrate that it's over! Appetizers will be provided and **survivors of Friday's exam get a free drink**. We'll be at Positive Vibe Café off Forest Hill Ave from 5-7pm.

Grade School Outreach

Our local Outreach Chair, Mike Howell, is charging forward organizing outreach activities and providing assistance and advice to those already involved in outreach programs. Be sure to contact him for more information or to be included on his email list (mhowell@brockenbrough.com). The next event includes hosting several sessions for middle schoolers at the **Math Science Innovation Center's "Math Field Day"** coming up on October 13th. This year's theme is **"Mathematics: The New Frontier."** Contact Mike to volunteer with discussions, demonstrations, and activities or to brainstorm on connecting the theme to Civil Engineering.

Greening Virginia Universities Conference

The fourth annual Greening Virginia Universities and Colleges Conference is scheduled for October 22 at VCU. The all day event looks at state, national, and global sustainability issues, highlights efforts at Virginia Universities and Colleges, and includes a tour of the LEED Platinum Rice Center at VCU. Admission is \$75 (or \$20 for students). For more information, visit http://www.vsbu.org/docs/20091022_GreeningUniversities_Flyer.pdf

Continuing Education Credits – Free or Cheap CECs

Let's talk about serious online learning... for free! The USEPA's Watershed Academy Web Program offers **free online self-paced training modules** related to **watershed management**. The modules (either PDF or HTML format) resemble interactive lectures and include plenty of color illustrations and photos, a glossary, and self tests. Complete and pass 15 modules and receive a training certificate. Visit www.epa.gov/watertrain/intro/intro to learn more about the web program and certificate.

But if you prefer to learn EPA topics **the couch potato webinar way**, you're in luck. They offer many archived webinars (free) at <http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/wacademy/webcasts/>.

The **next live webinar (free)** is scheduled for Oct. 27, 2009 from 1-3pm on the topic “Working together to address the effects of climate change on water resources.”

THE STUDENT SECTION

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

By Chris Miller

Over the past month we have been very active in conjunction with the UVA student chapter. The first event was a panel style meeting where civil engineers from different branches of the profession were asked career oriented questions by the approximately 50 students in attendance. As this time of year is when college seniors are deciding what exactly they want to do after their undergraduate career, the panel was a perfect opportunity for students to learn more about the options available to a young civil engineer with a bachelor’s degree. Craig Ponte and I attended the meeting on behalf of the Richmond branch, and offered advice on entering the professional world.

The second event was the UVA chapter’s Networking Night. This career fair style event was a gathering of prospective employers and the students of the UVA chapter of ASCE. The Richmond branch’s role was to inform students the benefits of being a part of ASCE after graduation. Denise Nelson and I showed the students the networking benefits of being in ASCE as well as the professional resources the organization offers.

These events are the first step in our effort to improve our relationship with the ASCE student branches in the area. If you know any students in an ASCE student chapter in the area who you think would be interested in events like those I just mentioned, or would just like to learn more about the professional side of ASCE, please have them contact me at 804-200-6598 or chris.miller@timmons.com.

Don’t forget! - 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.

Competition and Awards

If it seems like there are numerous competitions and awards available at all different levels of ASCE, that’s because there are! Here’s a summary of the majority with descriptions and deadlines. Start planning now to apply or nominate a fellow Younger Member! Go to www.asce.org or email dnelson@greeley-hansen.com for application/nomination materials.

Due Date	Name	Purpose	Sponsor
11-Dec	Outstanding YM in Private Sector	Recognize outstanding YM	Eastern Regional Younger Member Council
11-Dec	Outstanding YM in Public Sector	Recognize outstanding YM	Eastern Regional Younger Member Council
11-Dec	Outstanding YM in community service	Recognize outstanding YM	Eastern Regional Younger Member Council
11-Dec	Outstanding YMG in community service	Recognize outstanding YMG	Eastern Regional Younger Member Council
1-Feb	Meade Paper Competition	Best paper on given topic by a YM	National
1-Feb	Collingwood Prize	Best paper on any topic by a YM	National
1-Feb	Friedman YM Award	Recognize outstanding YM	National
1-Feb	YMG award	Recognize outstanding YMG	National
1-Mar	Terrell Paper Competition	Best paper on given topic by a YM (same topic as Meade paper)	Region 4
1-May	College Student Scholarship (\$1,000)	For outstanding college student at UVA	Richmond Branch
1-May	College Student Scholarship (\$2,000)	For outstanding college student in VA	VA Section
1-Aug	Employer Recognition	Recognize Employers who support employee involvement	National Committee on Younger Members
1-Oct	Citizen Engineer Award	Recognize a member for public service	National
1-Oct	Public Service Award	Recognize a Branch or Section for public service	National

Alphabet Soup – Professional Societies (revisited)

Last month's list of Professional Societies was by no means complete, but I tried to list the ones most relevant to Civil Engineers. Readers let me know I left a few of their favorites off the list:

- SEI – Structural Engineers Institute
- ULI – Urban Land Institute
- ASPE – American Society of Plumbing Engineers
- ASSE – American Society of Safety Engineers

APWA – American Public Works Association
 VAMSA – Virginia Municipal Stormwater Association
 VAS – Virginia Association of Surveyors
 CMAA – Construction Management Association of America

Upcoming Events:

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Oct. 6	Golf Tournament	Rivers Bend
Oct. 20, 12pm	Branch Meeting	Westwood Club
Oct. 23	PE Exam	VA
Oct. 28, 5-7pm	Post PE Happy Hour	Positive Vibe Café
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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