

Younger Member Group eNewsletter

1/15/10

Supplementing Branch Activities with a Focus on Younger Members

New Facebook page!

Fellow Younger Member Lee Jewell volunteered to put together a Facebook page for the Younger Member Group. Join the group “**ASCE Younger Members (Richmond Area)**” to get more info on upcoming events and connect with other members.

☺ Happy Hour ☺

Join the YMG at **Dave & Buster’s on Thursday, February 4th from 5-7pm for happy hour**. The **YMG will provide appetizers** and you’re on your own for drinks and games. Regular happy hour specials include half price well drinks, \$2.50 domestic pints, and 60 min. of video game play for \$10. Keep in mind that **you don’t have to be “Young” or a “Member” to hang out with the YMG**. And there’s incentive to invite other engineers to join us in the fun – the first two members that each **bring a non-member guest (someone in the civil engineering field)** will receive a \$10 card for games. So grab a co-worker, and we’ll see you there!

Congrats to all the new PEs and EITs!

Results from the October PE and FE exams are out, and we’ve got many new Professional Engineers and Engineers-In-Training among our ranks. Congratulations to all! Be sure to update your business cards, email signatures, résumés, and **hit your boss up for a raise**. Also, notify ASCE to update your status from Associate Member to Member.

Reminder: PE Exam Prep Courses for the April Exam

ASCE Continuing Education offers a many options to help you prepare for the PE or FE Exam!

- [Click here](#) to learn more about **Self-Paced Courses** (online or on CD)
- [Click here](#) to learn about **Live PE Exam Review Courses** (Feb. 16 – April 1)

Webinars are perfect for groups – ASCE hosts a 12 part, 2-hour webinar series on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3-5pm, March - April. Cost is \$1,995 per site and there is no limit to number of people at each site. Visit <https://secure.asce.org/files/estore/15335/PEwebinarFall2009.pdf> for more information. **If there’s enough interest, the YMG could host these** – contact dnelson@greeley-hansen.com.

Prefer classes in person? - Virginia Society of Professional Engineers (VSPE) hosts a Civil Engineering PE Exam Preparation course here in Richmond. Courses are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6-9pm, from March - April. Cost is \$700 for VSPE members and \$1000 for non-members. Visit www.vspe.org for more information.

It's Back – Engineers Week and the Popsicle Bridge Contest

The annual ASCE Richmond Branch **Popsicle Bridge Contest** for grade school students is anticipated to be a big event based on last year's record attendance (**over 50 bridges!**). The event is **Saturday, Feb. 28th from 1:00-5:00pm** at the **Science Museum of Virginia**. Anyone interested in helping at the event should contact our **Outreach Chair, Mike Howell** (mhowell@brockenbrough.com). **Volunteers** are needed from 12:00-6:00pm to help with set up, registration, judging, testing of the bridges, and cleanup. Volunteers are encouraged to stay for the whole event, but any amount of time will be appreciated.



EPA Hosts Video Competition to Promote 'Three Rs' of Consumer Waste

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is sponsoring a video contest that challenges filmmakers to produce short, creative videos that highlight the “Three Rs” of individual consumption: reduce, reuse, and recycle. The agency is accepting submissions for the contest, called “Our Planet, Our Stuff, Our Choice,” through Feb. 16.

Entries should be either 30 or 60 seconds in length. The video should creatively promote steps individuals and organizations can take to minimize negative environmental impacts within their communities on the following topics:

- Reducing and reusing
- Recycling
- Composting
- Consumption and its effect on environmental footprint

The winning submissions will be announced in April 2010 in time for the 40th anniversary of Earth Day. Awards will be given to the top three videos in the following amounts, as well as a special “Student Winner” category exclusively for submissions by persons 13 to 18 years old at the time of entry (1st Place - \$2,500; 2nd Place - \$1,500; 3rd Place - \$1,000; 2 Student - \$500). More information on the contest: <http://www.epa.gov/waste/wycd/video.htm>

Words Matter as Much as Brainwaves

*"An innovative idea is no good unless you can communicate it, writes author, blogger and professional speaker Scott Berkun. Household names like Edison, Bell and Jobs weren't just creative geniuses -- they were **exceptional communicators, capable of persuading, convincing and inspiring** investors and consumers. "The bigger the idea, the more explaining the world demands," Berkun writes." Find out more at: [Forbes](#).*

James River Green Building Council (JRGBC) 2010 Series

*"The Luncheon Series **cityGREEN** will examine the past issues, current trends, and future realities that **contribute to the "building" of sustainable communities**. Targeted toward outreach and action, the series will present a focused discussion of our buildings, education, design, leadership, economics and society and the way these entities engage to create sustainable community." Meetings are usually the third Thursday of every other month (starting 1/21/10) and run \$25 for non-members. Full details are available at www.jrgbc.com.*

Green Party Supplies – New Local Source

Party City has **biodegradable plates, bowls, and cutlery** and **recycled napkins** in their Eco Friendly section. With a **white color**, they are a must for those of you avoiding the common tan and/or speckled appearance of other eco friendly products. Try some out at your Super Bowl party!

SmartBriefs – Free Emails With News Related To The Topic Of Your Choice

You may already know that **ASCE has its own SmartBrief**, and, if not, you may want to consider signing up (<http://www.smartbrief.com/asce/index.jsp?campaign=webIndustries>). But SmartBrief puts out emails related to every industry and several career development related topics. Consider ones for the **Construction Specifications Institute** and the **Associated General Contractors of America**. Or to focus on your career, consider the ones on **Your Career, Leadership, or Workforce**. My favorite is on **Sustainability**. For a complete list and to see samples or sign up, visit: <http://www.smartbrief.com/signup/>.

Continuing Education Credits – Free or Cheap CECs

Are you also a member of the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE)? If so, take advantage of their four free online seminars on ethics topics. More information at: <http://www.nspe.org/MemberBenefits/fourfreepdhs.html>.

How to Impress Your Boss

"GTD" is the popular shorthand for "Getting Things Done", the groundbreaking work-life management system and book by David Allen that transforms personal overwhelm and overload into an integrated system of stress-free productivity." Check out David Allen at his website www.davidco.com, the GTD blog at www.gtdtimes.com, by signing up for his email newsletter with free advice, or follow him on twitter, Facebook, or LinkedIn.

THE STUDENT SECTION

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

By Chris Miller

As all us young CE professionals know, going green is the newest trend in the civil engineering world, and it is changing how we do our jobs. Therefore, students coming out of school need to be well versed in the most up to date standards in green engineering. For those students local to the central Virginia region, the James River Green Building Council is a great resource for everything you need to know about LEED and going green in design. They offer workshops in both the metro Richmond area as well as Charlottesville. Specifically in Charlottesville, there are free monthly luncheons, and the first one this year is Tuesday 1/19 where the subject is the new LEED standards. For more information, go to www.jrgbc.org. If you are a civil engineering student, or know one, I can't stress enough how important these standards have become in our industry, and being familiar with them can only help your job search!

Final Reminder: Last Chance for Paper Competitions!

1. ASCE Collingwood Prize Application – Want more recognition for a paper you've already published? The Collingwood Prize is awarded to the Younger Member (35 or under) author or authors of a paper describing an engineering work with which the author(s) have been directly connected; or recording investigations contributing to engineering knowledge to which the author(s) have contributed some essential part; and containing a rational digest of results. Papers must have been published by the Society during the twelve (12) month period ending with September 30, 2009. Applications must be endorsed by the Branch and are **due by February 1, 2010**.
2. Daniel W. Mead Prize and Daniel V. Terrell Award - Want to kill two birds with one stone? The Daniel W. Mead and Daniel V. Terrell competition have the same topic: **"What ethical problems might the engineer of 2025 encounter with advancements in technology and communication?"** These are two separate competitions but the same paper can be submitted to both. Mead is open to all ASCE members, and Terrell is open to Region 4 members only. Applications must be endorsed by the Branch and are **due by February 1, 2010** (Mead) and March 1, 2010 (Terrell).

Full rules and applications are available upon request or can be downloaded from www.ascevirginia.org.

Upcoming Events:

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
January 20	VA Report Card Release and Happy Hour	VCU
February 4	YMG Happy Hour	Dave & Busters, Short Pump
February 16	Branch Meeting	Westwood
February 14-20	National Engineers Week	
February 18	RJEC Banquet	Jefferson
February 28	Engineers Career Day and Popsicle Bridge Contest	Science Museum of Virginia

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

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