

Younger Member Group eNewsletter

2/22/10

Supplementing Branch Activities with a Focus on Younger Members

Happy Hour Recap

The YMG had a great Happy Hour at Dave & Buster's on February 4th. There were several new faces and tough competition for the "bring a non-member" challenge. The good crowd was topped off with ample appetizers, drinks, and the obvious entertainment from watching engineers compete in Dance, Dance Revolution (better luck next time, Tony!).

Regional YM Conference Recap

The Eastern Regional Younger Member Council (ERYMC), the annual YM leadership conference, was held in Atlanta on February 12-14th. Chris Miller, Branch College Liaison, attended representing our YMG. Chris came back excited about the many new ideas and resources available to YMGs. We'll be sharing these shortly...

The ERYMC is held annually for the benefit of YMG leaders in the eastern regions (regions 1,2,4, and 5). It is typically held jointly with the Workshop for Section and Branch Leaders (WSBL) and the Workshop for Student Chapter Leaders (WSCL). The Richmond Branch aims to send one representative to the ERYMC and one to the WSBL annually as part of officer training. Just another perk of getting involved!

Want to get involved ... *at a national level?*

The national ASCE Committee on Younger Members (CYM) is excited to announce that they are now accepting nominations for the following positions in our region:

- Eastern Geographic Member (April 1, 2010 to Sept. 30, 2013)
- Younger Member Leadership Symposium At-Large Member (Oct. 1, 2010 to Sept. 30, 2014)
- Corresponding Members (Oct. 1, 2010 to Sept. 30, 2011)

Descriptions for each position and the nomination form are available at ftp://gsd.asce.org/Younger_Members/CYM%20Nominations. Nominations must be endorsed by the Branch and are due by **March 1, 2010**.

VA Section Scholarship

The ASCE Virginia Section invites ASCE Virginia Student Members OR children and grandchildren of ASCE Virginia Section members or life members attending an ABET accredited civil engineering program to apply for a \$2,000 scholarship. Two \$2,000 awards will be made for the 2010-2011 school year. Download applications at www.ascevirginia.org. Application deadline is May 1, 2010.

15th Annual Popsicle Bridge Contest – Sunday, February 28th, 12:00-5:00, Science Museum of Virginia

This is the **BIG outreach event** of the year. There are approximately **170 middle and high school students** registered to enter **86 bridges**. We have upgraded our space at the Science Museum to include a demonstration stage, sound system, video equipment, and additional seating. The event will be taking place during the Careers in Engineering Field Day which will also host demonstrations by almost a dozen engineering societies from the Richmond Area. We will **need 10-15 volunteers** and can accommodate anyone who cannot volunteer for the entire day. The **most volunteers will be needed from 12:00-2:00 to get everyone registered** and the event started. Anyone interested in helping at the event should contact our **Outreach Chair, Mike Howell** (mhowell@brockenbrough.com).



Other Pre-College Outreach Opportunities

Richmond Area Program for Minorities in Engineering – February 16th, 10:15-12:30, Virginia State University. The Richmond Area Program for Minorities in Engineering (RAPME) program will be hosting Chesterfield County elementary students on campus for **hands-on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) learning**. The group will be exposed to engineering via rudimentary concepts and hands-on learning to include e.g. silly putty (polymers), energy transfer, molecular movement, buoyancy, density with packing peanuts, etc. Industry Mentors (us) will be facilitating the experiments. Experiments will already be set up and will not involve very complex engineering principles so knowledge in any particular area is not necessary. Max class size will be approximately 15 students each.

Chesterfield County Science Fair – April 23rd, 5:30-9:00, Manchester High School. **Judges are needed** to evaluate the students' science fair entries. Dinner is provided to the judges before the competition actually begins. Judges will be broken up into several areas of science including environmental studies, physics, engineering, and chemistry. Judges will evaluate the students entries and then conduct an informal face-to-face meeting with each student about their project.

Younger Member Student Panel – To Be Determined. This event is still in the very early stages but it is something I am trying to organize for later in the spring. The basic idea would be that

younger members would sit down with local high school students that are college bound to pursue an engineering degree. Members could share some of their lessons learned with the students regarding social and academic **adjustments from high school to college life**.

Anyone interested in volunteering for any of these events should contact our **Outreach Chair, Mike Howell** (mhowell@brockenbrough.com).

Reminder: PE Exam Prep Materials for the April Exam

Self-Paced Courses (online or on CD) – [Click here](#) to learn more.

PE and FE Exam Review Printed Materials - Through a strategic partnership with [Kaplan AEC Education](#), **ASCE members can now receive a 10% discount** on all Kaplan exam preparation materials for the Fundamentals of Engineering Exam (F.E.) and the Principles and Practice of Engineering Exam (P.E.).

Effective with the April 2008 Civil P.E. Exam, Construction makes up 20% of the breadth portion and is **now offered as a topic in the depth portion** of the exam. To assist you in studying for the upcoming exam, ASCE is pleased to offer the new [P.E.-Construction Engineering Module](#) as a review for the Construction portion of the Civil P.E. Exam. It includes everything you need to prepare for the new Construction module and content in the exam, including theory and practice problems with step-by-step solutions for the practice problems.

THE STUDENT SECTION

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

By Chris Miller

The ASCE Richmond branch is doing some exciting things this semester with the UVA student chapter. First, we are going to host a presentation at UVA sometime in March to **discuss the opportunities for ASCE involvement post-graduation**. Secondly, we are hosting a **student/professional happy hour** in Charlottesville on April 22nd with the purpose being to introduce students into a real-world networking environment through which they can meet professionals in the area. We will be looking for volunteers to attend this happy hour (cocktails and appetizers included), so if you are interested please contact me. Finally, **the UVA student chapter NEEDS OUR HELP**. Their **steel bridge team** is underway with their steel on order, but **they need some instruction on how to weld!** If you are or know anyone willing to teach the UVA steel bridge team how to weld please let me know as soon as possible. If you are willing to help out in any way with these events, or just want to get involved with local student chapters, please contact me at chris.miller@timmons.com or 804-200-6598.

Crazy Conversions – Just for PUN

Are you good with unit conversions? How about solving clever puns? See if you can solve these (answers will be in the next newsletter):

Example:

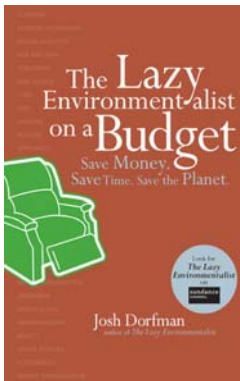
Q: What is 1000 grams of wet stockings?

A: 1 liter-hosen

1. Ratio of an igloo's circumference to its diameter?
2. 2,000 pounds of Chinese soup?
3. 1 millionth of a mouthwash?
4. Time between slipping on a banana peel and smacking the pavement?
5. Weight an evangelist carries with God?

Green Corner

Check out my new favorite book: *The Lazy Environmentalist on a Budget: Save Money. Save Time. Save The Planet* by Josh Dorfman. The book includes suggestions that are truly easy and cheap for becoming more environmentally sustainable. Some of the suggestions may even be too simple for some of you hard core tree huggers out there, but others are a good start for greening aspects of your life you may have not yet considered. Find it at the library or any bookstore. And if you're even too lazy to read, check out Seasons 1 and 2 of The Lazy Environmentalist on the Sundance Channel or on demand at Netflix.com.



Upcoming Events:

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
February 28	Engineers Career Day and Popsicle Bridge Contest	Science Museum of Virginia
March 8	Branch Meeting – Rainwater Webinar	Timmons
March 18	James River Green Building Council Meeting	U of R
March 18	Richmond Green Drinks	TBD
March 22	World Water Day	
April 8	Virginias Student Competition	DC
April 16	VA Society of Landscape Architects Conference	Renaissance Conference Center
April 22	Student/Professional Happy Hour and Banquet	UVA

April 23-25	Richmond Green Conference	Convention Center
April 28	Post-PE Happy Hour	TBD

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>.

Join the group “**ASCE Younger Members (Richmond Area)**” on **FaceBook** to get more info on upcoming events and connect with other members.

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



9020 Stony Point Parkway, Suite 475
Richmond, VA 23235

804-204-2407 (direct)
804-355-0285 (fax)

dnelson@greeley-hansen.com
www.greeley-hansen.com