

Palm Beach Branch Update

The Newsletter of the Palm Beach Branch, Florida Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers

Monthly Meetings

WHEN: Tuesday, January 9, 2006
from 12:00-1:00 P.M.

LUNCH MENU:

Please use the on-line registration provided at www.palmbeach-asce.org

Please make your reservation prior to 9:30 A.M. on the day of the meeting.

WHERE:

Florida Dept. Env. Protection
2nd Floor Conference Room
400 North Congress Avenue
West Palm Beach, Florida



(From I-95, go east on Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., then south on Congress Avenue, past Fire Station. Building is on the east side)

SPEAKER: Mr. Nicholas Uhren, senior professional engineer with the PBC Traffic Division

TOPIC: TPS Database on the Web: Traffic congestion today and tomorrow

January 2007



Dates to Remember:

ASCE Monthly Lunch Meeting

Tuesday January 9, 2007

Legislative Forum Breakfast 2007

**Tuesday 7:00 – 10:00pm
January 30, 2007**

Bowl-A-Thon 2007

**Saturday
January 20, 2007**

West Point Bridge Competition Florida Section

**August 16, 2007
Sawgrass Marriot,
Ponte Vedra Beach**

President's Message

Happy New Year and thank you to everyone who donated a toy at our December lunch meeting. In addition to those toys donated by ASCE members, the Palm Beach Chapter also donated \$500 for additional toys to be purchased to help those children that are not as fortunate.

The next two month will be very busy. Our Bowl-A-Thon is Saturday, January 20, 2007 at Verdes Tropicana. Our next event is the Legislative Breakfast on Tuesday, January 30 at the Double Tree Hotel in Palm Beach Gardens.

Additionally, the Florida Engineering Society ("FES") is holding their annual Mathcounts competition on Saturday, February 3. As a member of FES, I know it's a rewarding event to participate in and FES would welcome ASCE volunteers. Finally, Engineer's Week ("E-week") will be February 19-23 and will include our traditional E-week banquet. The date, time and location of the banquet will follow in next month newsletter.

Vishal Kakkad, our current Branch Treasurer, is transferring out of Palm Beach County with his current employer. We would like to wish him good luck in all of his future endeavors. If you are interested in nominating yourself or someone else for the position of Treasurer, please forward your recommendation to any of the officers at the January lunch meeting

Mike Roach

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2007 Joint Legislative Breakfast

Join ASCE and seven other professional affiliations at the Legislative Forum Breakfast on January 30th. See details in the attached flyer and sponsorship form.

Bowl-A-Thon 2007

Create you team and let's join the ASCE 2007 Bowl-A-Thon event on Saturday, January 20, 2007. See detail in the attached flyer.

Advertisement for Engineering Positions

See listed ads at the end of the Newsletter.

Young Member Social

Look for upcoming announcements for the next Young Member Social – Come and meet the young members and enjoy the food, fun and drinks! This is a great opportunity to meet new colleagues and friends in your profession.

Mentor Program

There will be a kick off meeting in the summer 2006 and all the information on how to be the best mentor possible will be given to you. If you are interested and would like please contact one of us an application,

Many Thanks from the Student Professional Development Committee!
Olive Bailey and Bonnie Serina
Olive.Bailey@WantmanGroup.com
bserina@millerlegg.com

Community Partnerships - The Elsie & Marvin Dekelbom Family Foundation has formed partnerships with a number of community stakeholders to create a state-of-the-art science center that will greatly expand the region's economic, educational, and cultural resources.



Entrance to Dekelbom Science Center

The planned \$54 million Dekelbom Science Center (DSC) will contain 100,000 square feet of innovative, interactive learning exhibits on three floors. The Center will contain a Planetarium Theater, an IMAX® Theater, an Everglades Interpretive Exhibit, a Sci-Tech Auditorium, a major aquarium gallery, a Florida Natural History exhibit, major exhibit galleries, and The Quantum Education Center with classrooms and laboratories.

The DSC will be located on nearly 11 acres of land beside Lake Lytal Park, one of Palm Beach County's most active public parks. Early site clearing and vegetation removal have begun. This venue will provide a comprehensive educational and entertainment resource for millions of residents and visitors for generations to come. State and federal governments have designated the DSC as a regional center for Martin, Glades, Indian River, St. Lucie, Hendry and Okeechobee Counties in the area of educational needs in science.

Fouad Masri, P.E.
Vice President • Branch Manager

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Increasing ASCE's Political Involvement

In mid-2005, ASCE's Board of Direction created a Task Force on Political Involvement to examine the Society's involvement in political activities, both current and future endeavors. During the past year the Task Force has evaluated our current activities and also looked at ways to increase the Society's public policy and political involvement.

The Task Force is preparing to recommend to the Board the establishment of a parallel 501(c)6 organization, thus allowing increased lobbying and political activity on behalf of the membership of ASCE. The Board will have the chance to act on the Task Force recommendations in 2007, but we have been reaching out to the membership in advance of any decision to provide more information and receive comments and suggestions.

At present ASCE is allowed to lobby within strict dollar limitations, but we are prohibited from engaging in any political activities (endorsing candidates). The recommendations would allow ASCE greater flexibility in its lobbying activities and allow ASCE to be involved in political campaigns by having a political action committee (PAC) and endorsing candidates. A PAC would be a separate entity from the new 501(c)6 and could allow for voluntary contributions to be made to the PAC by ASCE members which could then be given to candidates for federal office. The Task Force on Political Involvement wants to hear from ASCE leaders on this important issue. To facilitate a dialogue we will be hosting a series of Town Hall Meetings and webinars in the next 3 months (See schedule below). Participation in these events is free and open to all ASCE members, though advance registration is required.

Webinars (no cost):

- Tuesday, December 12, 2006 – 11:30 am-12:30 pm ET
- Tuesday, January 10, 2007 – 3:00-4:00 pm ET
- Wednesday, January 24, 2007 – 1:00-2:00 pm ET

To register for any of these events please email govwash@asce.org

ASCE Fall 2006/Winter 2007 Continuing Education Seminars

Earth Retaining Structures, Selection, Design, Construction and Inspection
Orlando, FL
February 1-2, 2007

Law School for Engineers
Palm Beach, FL
March 8-9, 2007

Wind Loads for Buildings & Other Structures
Fort Lauderdale, FL
March 22-23, 2007

Detailed descriptions of the seminars (by title) are available on ASCE's website at www.asce.org/conted/seminars.

Membership Update:

In order to be sure that everyone receives the newsletter and other benefits of ASCE, please take the time to go to <http://www.asce.org/membership/> or call 1-800-548-2723 to be sure all your information is up to date. For those of you, who are getting the newsletter and know of someone in your office who is a member, but is not getting the newsletter please have them check their membership data, email address etc.



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2006-2007

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2006-2007

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