

# Palm Beach Branch Update

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

## Monthly Meetings

**WHEN:** Tuesday, March 13, 2007  
from 12:00-1:00 P.M.

### **LUNCH MENU:**

Please use the on-line registration provided at [www.palmbeach-asce.org](http://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  
2<sup>nd</sup> 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. Robert Priolo,  
Senior Project Manager with  
Alan Gerwig & Associates Inc.

### **TOPIC:**

**Lessons Learned as a Facility Manager:** Come hear Bob share 10 lessons that he learned during his 5 years as head of facilities at Palm Beach Atlantic University. These valuable lessons will greatly improve your service to clients with facility departments.

## March 2007



### **Dates to Remember:**

#### **ASCE Monthly Lunch Meeting**

**Tuesday, March 13,  
2007**

#### **ASCE- Palm Beach Branch, FAU and Broward Branch**

**Joint meeting in April**

#### **Engineers in Government Night**

**Tuesday, April 24, 2007**

#### **West Point Bridge Competition Florida Section**

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

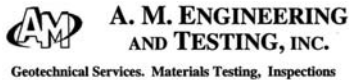
## President's Message

Thank you, those who showed up to this year's E-week Banquet on February 22, 2007. The guest speaker, Joe Hernandez, President and CEO of Innovation Biosensors, Inc., presented topics on the positive uses of Biotechnology.

Next months lunch meeting will be our annual joint meeting with the Broward chapter at the FAU Campus in Boca Raton. The date, time, location, and speaker will follow. Additionally, our Engineers in Government Night, "EIGN", will be held Tuesday, April 24, 2007 at the SFWMD office on Gun Club road starting at 5:30PM. Which leads me to two items: Nomination for; Young Engineer, Young Government, Engineer, Government Engineer or Project of the Year, need to be submitted to one of the branch officers by no later Wednesday March 21, 2007. If your firm is interested in being a sponsor for "EIGN", your Advertisement needs be turned into Shawn Waldeck by Friday, March 23, 2007. Please direct questions pertaining to the sponsorship levels or type of advertisements to Shawn.

To all the members, again thank you for your support.

**Mike Roach**



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www.erdmananthony.com

Malcolm T. Cooper, M.S., P.E.  
Civil Engineer

BRPH Architects-Engineers, Inc.  
1475 Centrepark Boulevard, Suite 275  
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## The South Florida Environmental Art Project (see attached flyer)

Dr. Hildegard Kurt of the Institute for Art, Culture and Sustainability in Berlin will speak at:

Okeehetee Park Nature Center  
7500 Forest Hill Blvd West Palm Beach Florida 33413

March 13, 2007 8:30 -11:00 a.m.

## 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.

**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.

**To register for any of these events please email [govwash@asce.org](mailto:govwash@asce.org)**

**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](mailto:Olive.Bailey@WantmanGroup.com)  
[bserina@millerlegg.com](mailto:bserina@millerlegg.com)

**ASCE Fall 2006/Winter 2007 Continuing Education Seminars**

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](http://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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 West Palm Beach, Florida 33407  
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**President**

Mike Roach, P.E.  
561-838-54401 / 835-4691 (fax)  
[mroach@townofpalmbeach.com](mailto:mroach@townofpalmbeach.com)

**Vice President**

Shawn Waldeck, P.E.  
(561) 242-5520 x-4023  
[swaldeck@sfwmd.gov](mailto:swaldeck@sfwmd.gov)

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Ana Carmen V. DeMelo, P.E.  
(561) 689-3336  
[demeloac.@cdm.com](mailto:demeloac.@cdm.com)

**Treasurer**

M. Anwar Zahid, Ph.D., P.E.  
(561) 840-0808  
[anwar.zahid@kimley-horn.com](mailto:anwar.zahid@kimley-horn.com)

**Past President**

Mike Evans, P.E.  
(561) 684-4055 / 684-4171 (fax)  
[mlevans@co.palm-beach.fl.us](mailto:mlevans@co.palm-beach.fl.us)

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**Branch Science Fair Coordinator**

Bonnie Serina, E.I.  
(561)689-1138  
[BSerina@millerlegg.com](mailto:BSerina@millerlegg.com)

**Younger Members Coordinator**

J.D. Whitaker, E.I.  
(561) 687-2220  
[JD.Whitaker@WantmanGroup.com](mailto:JD.Whitaker@WantmanGroup.com)

**FAU Practitioner / Advisor**

Olive Bailey, E.I.  
(561)6843375/ 689-8531(fax)  
[Olive.Bailey@WantmanGroup.com](mailto:Olive.Bailey@WantmanGroup.com)

**Webmaster** - Dan Roach

**FAU Student President**

Nadia Zeitinger  
[vanessah\\_65@hotmail.com](mailto:vanessah_65@hotmail.com)

**Faculty Advisor**

Dr. Shobham

**Chapter email address:**

[asce@civil.fau.edu](mailto:asce@civil.fau.edu)

**2006-2007**

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SFWMD, West Palm Beach  
[jjaramil@sfwmd.gov](mailto:jjaramil@sfwmd.gov)

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