April 2011 Volume 57, Number 7

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# The ASCE-NCS Annual Awards Banquet Will Be Held April 19 Kathy Caldwell, P.E., ASCE's National President, will be the Keynote Speaker at the Banquet

Join us at the Crystal City Hyatt
Regency for one of the National Capital
Section's (NCS) highlights of the year.
This event gives us the opportunity to
recognize and celebrate local excellence
in projects, engineers, and students
who have contributed to our society and
our community. Recognized parties will

include our outstanding civil engineering Project of the Year, student scholarship award winners, outstanding graduating civil engineering seniors and other civil engineering students, the Community Service Award winner, Meritorious Service Award winner, members of the NCS who have achieved

Life Member status, and others deserving appreciation by the NCS.

We are honored to have Kathy Caldwell, P.E., M.ASCE, and ASCE National President as our keynote speaker. Ms. Caldwell is president of Caldwell Cook and Associates, in Gainesville, Florida. She joined Caldwell Cook and Associates in May of 2008, after retiring as president of JEA Construction Engineering Services, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Jones Edmunds and Associates, Inc. Caldwell's career at Jones Edmunds spanned almost two decades, during which time she served as a design engineer, project manager, and senior construction resident engineer for a variety of public works clients before becoming Division Manager and then Vice President. Within ASCE, Kathy has served as Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee and the Committee on Student Activities. She has also served on the Paraprofessional Task Committee, **Educational Activities Committee, Policy** Review Committee, and many others. She is a member of the Construction and Structural Engineering Institutes and a Past President of the Florida

Section. Caldwell is currently an adjunct professor at the University of Florida in Gainesville. She earned a bachelor's degree in structural and construction engineering from the University of Tennessee and in 2005 received the Outstanding Alumnus Award from the school's Department of Civil

Engineering.

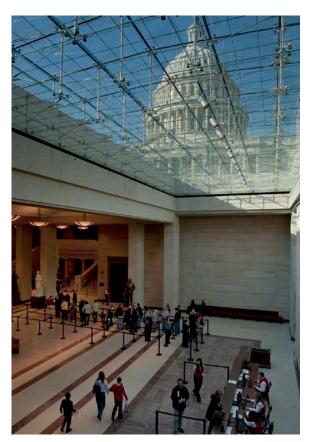
The topic of Ms.
Caldwell's keynote will be the focus of her term as ASCE's President, represented by the acronym "MOVE." MOVE stands for "momentum," "opportunity," "vision," and "engagement." Kathy will outline her plans to integrate these

concepts into her leadership of ASCE during her term.

This year's Project of the Year is the latest addition to the Capitol, the Capitol Visitor Center (CVC). Opened to the public on December 2, 2008, the CVC was built to "provide a welcoming and educational environment for visitors to learn about the unique characteristics of the House and the Senate and the legislative process as well as the history and development of the architecture and art of the U.S. Capitol." Congratulations to the CVC!

This year's Awards
Banquet will be held on
Tuesday, April 19, 2011,
at the Hyatt Regency Crystal
City, 2799 Jefferson Davis
Highway, Arlington, VA.
This location is close to the
Crystal City Metro Station,
serviced by the Blue/Yellow
Line. There is also a shuttle
operating between the

Crystal City Metro Station and the Hyatt every 15 minutes. Valet parking is available at the hotel (\$13 with validation); please ask for a validation sticker at registration. Self parking can be found at the three parking garages within walking distance; a limited amount of on-street parking is also available. Registration and networking will begin at 6:00 p.m. with dinner starting at 7:00 p.m. The program will start around 7:45 p.m. and close by 9:00 p.m. Please RSVP by April 15, 2011. The cost will be \$20 for students, \$40 for those preregistering, and \$50 for walk-ins. One Professional Development Hour (PDH) will be awarded to attendees. Click HERE to register. For questions, please e-mail Mark Leeman. ■



#### President's Corner

With the weather getting warmer and school spring breaks wrapping up, the NCS is gearing up for our Annual Awards Banquet. The event will be held on Tuesday, April 19, at the Hyatt Crystal City. This is the opportunity that we celebrate and recognize accomplishments in civil

engineering, including our project of the year, the Capitol Visitor Center, civil engineering graduates, scholarship recipients, and our community service award recipient. Again, we are fortunate to have ASCE's National President to present the keynote address for the event. President Kathy Caldwell's address will focus on the mission of her term as the Society's President.

Looking back on the spring, I wish to thank all the volunteers that participated in our three events at the National Building Museum (NBM) -Girl Scout Day, Family Day, and Cub Scout Day. Of particular note, the efforts of Dean Westman and Emily Dean were vital to the success of these events, which were nice for both the kids and adults. Of course, the purpose of these events is to familiarize the next generation of students with civil engineering concepts and civil engineers. Not only did the kids get some exposure to engineering principles, but they got to meet actual practitioners who provided a great example of support for the profession. I think these NBM outreach opportunities were a great success.

ASCE also held its annual Fly-In event in March, with members from around the country visiting their congressional delegates for two days.



This was an opportunity for members of our profession to inform lawmakers of the particular issues affecting civil engineers and make the members' views known on Capitol Hill. ASCE's Government Relations group coordinated the event and provided a lot of direction to the mem-

bers that attended. The NCS had good representation at the Fly-In with more than five attendees representing Virginia and Maryland. The work doesn't stop with the congressional visits. Ongoing efforts are required to influence legislation and policy. As was mentioned by Kristina Swallow, one of the speakers at the February Section meeting held at the Rayburn House Office Building, ASCE's Key Contact program is an effective way to get your views to our representatives in Washington. The program is simple and easy. I encourage everyone to participate.

Members know that the NCS has distributed this newsletter in the E-Update format by e-mail for a number of years. E-mail distribution is a common trend in many associations and we are no different. The e-mail distribution has been helpful to the Section for speed, as well as the savings in printing and postage. We plan to continue electronic distribution, but want to offer the option of a hardcopy newsletter, mailed via the U.S. Postal Service, to those members that would prefer it or do not use e-mail. The Section wants to ensure that all members can receive the newsletter, whether they use e-mail or not. For cost reasons, we encourage all

members that can get the newsletter by e-mail to do so. (I recognize this newsletter is distributed by e-mail and may not reach all of our membership, particularly the non-e-mail users that we are targeting. A hard copy of this announcement will go out this spring as well, to make sure we reach them.) However, if you would like to receive a paper copy of the newsletter by regular mail, please alert our newsletter editor, L.J. Sauter, at (202) 502-8205 or laurence.sauter@ferc.gov. If you know of members that do not use e-mail, please help us spread the word and alert them to this feature we are offering.

Lastly, the Section has planned another Boundary Stones restoration project event on Saturday, May 14. This is a program that has been ongoing in the Section for several years now and is being led by Stephen Powers. ASCE-NCS has been championing efforts to preserve and restore this important civil engineering landmark. This spring, we hope to restore fences on at least three stones. Also that afternoon, after concluding our work, we will hold a Family Day outing near one of the stones. Whether you are able to participate in the Boundary Stone restoration project or not, you are welcome to attend the Family Day picnic. See the announcement elsewhere in the newsletter.

I look forward to seeing you at our Annual Banquet in April.

Sincerely,

Marh E. Leeman, P.E.

#### Newsletter

L.J. Sauter, Jr., Editor Telephone: 202-502-8205

May 2011 Issue Deadline: April 15, 2011 Note that May will be our last issue until September 2011

**To Submit Articles:** 

laurence.sauter@ferc.gov

#### **Address Changes:**

Call 1-800-548-ASCE, email <a href="mailto:member@asce.org">member@asce.org</a>, go to <a href="mailto:http://www.asce.org">http://www.asce.org</a>, or write: ASCE – Membership, 1801 Alexander Bell Drive, Reston, VA 20191. Remember to include your membership number.

#### National Capital Section

#### Officers (2010–2011)

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mark.leeman@feapc.com

John Casana, Vice President 703-377-8980 casana\_john@bah.com

Qamar Kazmi, Treasurer 240-238-2203 qkazmi@schnabel-eng.com

Rollie Berry, Secretary 301-415-6119 rollie.berry@nrc.gov L.J. Sauter, Jr., Newsletter Editor 202-502-8205

laurence.sauter@ferc.gov

David R. Dajc, Director 703-404-6363 david.dajc@fhwa.dot.gov

**Sara Guerrero,** *Director* 703-591-4855

sara.guerrero@feapc.com
Christian Manalo, Director

703-377-1697 manalo\_christian@bah.com

**Stephen Powers,** *Director* 703-417-0091 <a href="mailto:stephen.powers@mwaa.com">stephen.powers@mwaa.com</a>

Adam Stewart, YMF President ncsymfpresident@gmail.com

Fady Afif, Past President 301-921-8231 afiff@bv.com

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Webmaster (vacant)

and chairs.

# Committee Chairs Please refer to the NCS website at http://www.asce-ncs.org for a current list of NCS committees

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### Short Course on Seismic Design

# Presented by the ASCE-NCS Geotechnical Executive Committee Speaker: James R. Martin, II, PhD

This short course will provide a comprehensive discussion of earthquake engineering procedures and methodologies, and with a focus on geotechnical seismic design issues specific to the central and eastern United States (CEUS). The course will begin with a review of fundamental earthquake engineering and seismological concepts, such as fault mechanisms, attenuation of seismic waves, and local site effects. Coverage will include the basic concepts of probabilistic seismic hazard assessment and the development of the seismic hazard maps used for design. The discussion will cover recent studies that have led to increased seismic design requirements for the CEUS region.

Of particular importance, the course will cover IBC2009/ASCE-07 seismic design procedures and discuss unique geological and geotechnical conditions in the CEUS that require site-specific analysis. The tasks involved with sitespecific analysis, such as generation of time histories and site response analysis, will be discussed. The course will also include a brief review of liquefaction evaluation procedures and present new findings that suggest current procedures underestimate the seismic vulnerability of fine-grained soils, including silts and clays. The course will conclude with examples of sitespecific seismic analyses in the CEUS, performed as per the IBC2009 code. These examples will demonstrate the tasks required for site-specific seismic analysis, and importantly, illustrate the process involved with interpreting the results and using judgment to develop final design specifications.

Although more geotechnical in focus, the course will also cover important structural engineering concepts and is designed for practicing civil engineers with either structural or geotechnical engineering backgrounds.

When: Thursday, April 21, 2011, 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.: Continental Breakfast and Registration 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.: Program

**Where**: Marriott Tysons Corner, 8028 Leesburg Pike, Vienna, VA, 22182 (703) 734-3200

**Cost**: \$375. Full-Time Students: \$175 (must show proof of status)

A discounted rate of \$325 is available for firms registering four or more people. Please register by April 15th by clicking HERE or calling Kellie Owens at (703) 771-9844. Payment must be made in advance and can be mailed to: Shana Opdyke-Carroll, 10130 Old Frederick Road., Ellicott City, MD 21042. (Please make payable to "ASCE NCS.")

#### About the Speaker

James R. Martin, II, Ph.D., is
Professor of Civil and Environmental
Engineering and Director of the World
Institute of Disaster Risk Management at
Virginia Tech (DRM@VT) in Blacksburg,
VA. He has more than 18 years of
experience in professional earthquake
engineering practice and research, and
has taught undergraduate and graduate
university courses at Virginia Tech since
1990. He serves as Instructor for the
ASCE's Continuing Education Program,
and frequently presents short courses
to other professional organizations and
state and Federal agencies, such as

the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Dr. Martin also served as Instructor in the Advanced Earthquake Protective Design course at the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Multi-Hazard Building Design Institute in Emmitsburg, MD, and developed university-level courses on earthquake hazards for FEMA's Higher Education Project.

Dr. Martin specializes in the area of geotechnical earthquake and foundation engineering, including site response analysis and soil effects on ground motions; liquefaction; soil and site improvement; probabilistic seismic hazard assessment; risk management; and advanced numerical modeling. He is active in earthquake hazard assessment studies in the CEUS, and has been closely involved with the transfer of seismic engineering technology to the region and development of building codes. Dr. Martin is an active professional civil engineering consultant, and has worked on more than 100 major civil projects for more than 50 different private and public organizations.

Dr. Martin has received numerous national, state, and university recognitions for teaching, research, and professional work, including the ASCE's Norman Medal. He received his B.S. degree from The Citadel, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Virginia Tech.

This course has been approved by the New York Board of Engineers. Upon completion of the course, attendees will receive 7 PDHs.

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### **Volunteers Needed for Cub Scout Day**

April 10th at the National Building Museum

Volunteers are *still* needed for Cub Scout Day at the NBM on Sunday, April 10, 2011. Volunteers are needed for both the morning shift (10 a.m. to 1 p.m.) and the afternoon shift (1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.).



2010 event: toothpick and gumball bridges.

We will be conducting the water filter experiment again with the scouts. After a short lecture on municipal water treatment, scouts build their own slow sand filters and test their engineering skills by filtering simulated raw Potomac River water.

All materials are provided by the NCS. A pizza lunch is provided by the NBM to all volunteers. Free on-street parking is available in DC on Sundays.



Water filter experiment at 2011 Girl Scout Day.

The NBM is also accessible by Metro (Red Line, Judiciary Square Station).

Contact Dean Westman at <a href="man@wrallp.com">dwestman@wrallp.com</a> for more information about Cub Scout Day 2011 or to volunteer.

# Important Announcement Regarding Receipt of the NCS Newsletter

For several years now, the ASCE-NCS newsletter has been issued in the E-Update electronic mail format. This format has been beneficial to reduce printing and mailing costs, as well as to speed delivery. To better serve its membership, the NCS will make the newsletter available in a hard-copy format, mailed via the U.S. Postal Service, to members that would prefer not to receive it by e-mail. To reduce labor and cost associated with the mailed distribution, only those members who have a strong preference for the mailed copy should sign-up for this service. If you know of members that do not receive this newsletter by e-mail, please share this information with them. A separate mailed communication on this topic will go to the membership later this spring. To sign up for this service, please contact the Newsletter Editor, L.J. Sauter, at (202) 502-8205, or send a message to ASCE NCS, P.O. Box 25186, Arlington, VA 22202.

# Volunteers Needed for 7th Annual National Sustainable Design Expo

Volunteers are needed for the 7th Annual National Sustainable Design Expo, Saturday and Sunday, April 16–17, 2011, on the National Mall between 4th and 7th Streets in Washington, DC. Volunteers for 2 shifts are needed: Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

For further information or to volunteer, contact Leslie Payne at <a href="mailto:lpayne@asce.org">lpayne@asce.org</a>. ■



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### February Meeting Recap

#### Federal Infrastructure Legislation and Funding

In February, the NCS held its meeting in the Gold Room at the Rayburn House Office Building. A well-attended meeting, we gathered to hear three Congressional representatives speak to the importance of the role of civil engineers in influencing federal policy related to infrastructure. Opening remarks were presented by Austin Durrer, Chief of Staff for Representative Jim Moran (VA). We then heard from James Walkinshaw, Representative Gerry Connolly's (VA) Chief of Staff. Our final speaker was former ASCE Congressional Fellow Kristina Swallow, who now specializes in transportation issues as a Legislative Assistant to Senator Tom Udall (NM). Having civil engineers' voices heard was stressed as an important way to move infrastructure policy forward in the US. With current budget uncertainty, it was a timely topic for members to hear. As expected, there was no overall solution presented, but the evening did provide some ideas on the way civil engineers can participate in one of



Former ASCE Congressional Fellow (now Legislative Assistant) Kristina Swallow makes a point.

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the country's most challenging public policy areas. ■

(Editors Note: Most of us are aware of ASCE's Key-Contact program. Kristina Swallow identified participation in this program as an extremely effective way to inform [and persuade] those in Congress of our position on issues that affect our profession. In the editors opinion, this was the single most important take-away from the February meeting, and one which he intends to begin engaging in.)



James Walkinshaw, Rep. Gerry Connolly's Chief of Staff

## The ASCE-NCS Scholarship Trust— Serving Five Universities

There are five Universities within the NCS boundaries: The Catholic University of America, George Mason University, The George Washington University, Howard University, and The University of the District of Columbia. The NCS Scholarship Trust Committee awards scholarships on merit to Sophomore and Junior students from these universities who are endorsed by their faculty advisor/dean, and submit an application along with their transcripts for review. Application packets are mailed to the Faculty Advisor in November. Each university is allowed to submit up to three applications annually for consideration by the NCS Scholarship Trust. Completed applications must be submitted and reviewed by the NCS Scholarship Trust Board of Trustees in February. Scholarships are awarded at the Section's Annual Awards Banquet in March or April.

# Eligibility & Application Process

Full-time undergraduate students at the Sophomore or Junior levels of Civil Engineering programs at the time of submitting an application for scholarship are eligible. Awards are for use during the following academic year at one of the five four-year universities in the NCS area. Recipient must be a member of the ASCE Student Chapter or Club at one of these university programs.

Recipients must have a minimum cumulative Grade Point Average of 3.0 based on a 4.0-point system. Their application must include a written 500 word essay outlining their participation in the ASCE Student Chapter, extracurricular activities, and a personal statement of their professional goals. In addition, they must provide a copy of their transcript and a one- or two-page professional resume. They must continued on page 6

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# Discover Engineering Family Day at the National Building Museum

NCS members participated in Discover Engineering Family Day at the NBM in Washington, DC on Saturday, February 19, 2011.

An estimated 14,000 young people and their families participated in this year's event. NCS members helped young participants build a high rise structure, at least 18-inches tall on a cardboard base, out of a few sheets of newspaper, string, and drinking straws. An additional load was added to the structure (tennis ball) and a wind load



Look what I did!

(table fan) was added to test the structure. Structure builders learned a few fundamentals of civil engineering and more importantly, **had fun**.

The NCS table was one of the busiest events at this year's NBM Family Day thanks to group leader Emily Dean. We also wish to thank this year's NCS volunteers:

Jacobo Flores	Tim Garland	
Sara Hagan	Jon Jacobsen	
Pam Jacobsen	Randall Rhodes	
Cary Skahn	Scott Wolf	
Rob Burkhart	Joe Arrowsmith	
Sara DeGroot	Drew Herseth	
Emma Herseth	Leslie Payne	
Jordan Pitt	Sarah Steele	
Todd Abraham	Mark Leeman	
Dean Westman		

Special thanks to **ASCE President Kathy Caldwell** for participating. ■



Meeting the minimum height requirement.



Structure building is a family activity.

### The ASCE-NCS Scholarship Trust—Serving Five Universities

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also include written recommendations from the ASCE Student Chapter Faculty Advisor and the Civil Engineering Department Chair or Dean.

Applications are completed by the student and submitted to their ASCE Faculty Advisor, who screens applicants and selects a maximum of three students from their university. Final applications are submitted to the NCS Engineering Education Committee (EEC) Chair for assembly and transmittal to the NCS Scholarship Trust.

The Scholarship Board of Trustees convenes to review all applications received. The Board may establish, at its option, a Scholarship Review Panel selected from the EEC and the Scholarship Board. If it is felt advantageous, the most qualified applicants may be interviewed.

Selection criteria used by the Scholarship Board of Trustees, as well as by the ASCE Faculty Advisor include:

- 1. academic achievement and potential;
- 2. interest in Civil Engineering as a profession; and
- participation and demonstrated leadership in extracurricular activities, indicating the candidate's diversity of interest and good citizenship.

#### **Responsibilities of Recipients**

The scholarships are awarded in the form of a check directly to the students at the Annual NCS Awards

Banquet. The money is intended to provide direct support to the student's academic pursuits in civil engineering, as contribution to tuition or living expenses. Recipients are expected not to use the funds

for anything other than these types of expense. Students are not limited to a one-time award.

(Editor's Note: This is the second of three articles prepared by Bernie Dennis on the history and workings of the NCS Scholarship Trust. Bernie served as President of the NCS in 1996 and is presently Chairman of the NCS Scholarship Trust.)

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#### The Computer Corner

# What You Must Know About Protecting Your Company's Critical Data

"The Computer Corner," a monthly column by Ranjit S. Sahai, P.E., F.ASCE

If your server suddenly crashed and ALL your data was erased, how long would it take before you returned to business as usual?

If you aren't sure or if you think it would only be a short period of time, read on.

Below are three common and costly misunderstandings many businesses have about their data backup that give them a false sense of security:

#### Misunderstanding #1

Believing that tape backups are a reliable way to secure your data. WRONG! Tape backups have an average failure rate of 100%—they will fail, it's just a matter of when. What makes this even worse is that tape backups will APPEAR to be working, giving you a false sense of security.

Solution: External USB drives offer a fast, economical, and reliable way to backup your critical data and server disk image. Couple external drives with a Network Attached Storage (NAS) device and you receive a second level of data backup protection that can make backup data available for use on computers even when the server is down. To protect and keep data accessible even when your office building goes down, you should also consider an offsite backup solution.

#### Misunderstanding #2

Backing up your data will allow you to restore your network to its original state, quickly and easily. WRONG AGAIN! Having just a copy of your data doesn't guarantee this at all. To help you understand, let me give you a simple analogy.

Let's suppose we made an exact replica of all the items in your house right now and put them offsite in a storage facility—that would be a backup of your "data." If your house burned to the ground (God forbid!), we would have to first rebuild the HOUSE (which corresponds to the server,



software, and supporting environment) BEFORE we could restore all your items back from the storage facility. Obviously, that takes some time. That's why simply having a copy of your data doesn't guarantee that you'll be back up and running FAST. It could take several days before everything was restored; and that's assuming you have the data in a clean state and all the originally installed software disks.

**Solution:** Including a disk image in your backup will greatly speed up the task of restoring your server in case of server hard drive failure. If your network needs to recover from server failure almost instantly, you should consider a Backup and Disaster Recovery (BDR) appliance. These appliances take over the functions of a failed server in minutes without any noticeable impact on users while the failed server stays offline for repairs.

#### Misunderstanding #3

Trusting that backup is automatically working without doing periodic test restores. I see this happening a LOT. If you think your backups are working because you don't see any error messages or apparent problems, think again. I have seen instances when a critical file was needed from backup, it was discovered that backups stopped working MONTHS ago and all that data is now gone.

**Solution:** Don't setup backup and forget it. Schedule periodic test restores. There is no better way to ensure your data is available to you when you need it.

#### **Conclusion**

Want to know for sure if your data is safe? The following list of questions should help you determine if you are adequately protected from data loss:

- Have you implemented an unattended data backup solution?
- Does your backup process include a disk image backup?
- Is your backup storage space adequate for the next six months? Or, the next year?
- Can the recovery disk be easily obtained in case the server needs to be restored?
- Have you implemented two levels of onsite backup that incorporate a NAS device?
- Are your mission critical servers cloned to a BDR appliance?
- Do you need access to backup data should your computers and office be inaccessible?
- Do you periodically check your backups by performing test restores?

#### **About the Author**

Ranjit S. Sahai of RAM Consulting Corporation has been writing on computer topics since 1987 and has authored five books. He is a licensed Professional Engineer and the Chair of the ASCE-NCS Automation Committee. He welcomes comments and feedback via email. Visit the Contact Us>Committee Chairs page at <a href="https://www.asce-ncs.org">www.asce-ncs.org</a> or the Contact Us page at <a href="http://www.rcare-solutions.com">http://www.rcare-solutions.com</a> to send Ranjit feedback or suggestions.

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# ASCE-NCS Automation Committee and GMU ASCE Student Chapter Celebrate Excellence in Automation

On the evening of February 22, 2011, ASCE Student Chapter members from George Mason University (GMU) and several members of the NCS gathered in Fairfax, VA to celebrate excellence in the use of automation in civil engineering. The annual NCS-GMU Excellence in Automation Awards event is a collaborative effort between the Automation Committee of the NCS and the ASCE Student Chapter at GMU. This group celebrates excellence in Civil Engineering automation annually by recognizing projects and/or initiatives in the metropolitan Washington, DC area that have demonstrated superiority in the use of automation in planning/design, construction, and/or operations.

The event keynote was presented by Tad Daniel of the Maryland State Highway Administration. Mr. Daniel is the coordinator of the Erosion and Sediment (E&S) Quality Assurance (QA) Team for the Environmental Programs Division at Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA). His duties include QA field reviews and the assessment of construction projects for compliance with the E&S permit conditions and measures. He

played a significant role in the design of the functionality of the QA Toolkit application that has automated SHA's QA program. The keynote was a fascinating account of the efficiencies gained in the field through automation.

This year's award-winning project was Project Manager II, an application used by the Traffic Engineering Design



The NCS thanked Mr. Daniel with a goody-bag after the event.

Division at Maryland SHA for streamlining project management tasks from concept to completion. The award was presented to the SHA Traffic Engineering Design Division's Systems Engineering

Team for its outstanding work on Project Manager II.

The NCS Automation Committee thanks the GMU ASCE Student Chapter officers for their help in organizing the location and making this event a success. The event was free to attend and pizza was provided by the NCS. ■

# Younger Member Professional Development Meeting— Sustainability & LEED

On February 16, 2011, the ASCE-NCS Younger Members held their latest Professional Development meeting in Arlington, VA. It was a sold-out crowd of 30 that met to hear Mayra Portalatin, LEED AP O+M, a Project Manager with Facility Engineering Associates, discuss sustainability and LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design).

Ms. Portalatin began the presentation reviewing the history of sustainable design and how the architectural and engineering community developed the LEED rating system. Sustainability efforts, in one of the more simple formulations, are an attempt to improve the "Triple Bottom Line" of social, economic, and environmental perspectives in design, construction, and operations. Through the work of the U.S.

Green Building
Council (USGBC),
a non-profit group
of architects,
engineers, and
product developers, the LEED
rating system
was developed.
Over the years,
the process has
seen formalization
and refinement



of early practices. The Green Buildings Certification Institute came into being, working closely with USGBC to undertake the

building certifications and professional accreditation program.

Now the industry has several credentials that engineers and non-technical professionals can obtain, ranging from Green Associate, to the more common LEED AP, to the newer LEED AP Fellow. Fellows contribute to the standards of

practice and body of knowledge for achieving continuous improvement in the green building field.

Ms. Portalatin gave examples of the different LEED rating systems and the number of buildings certified in each category, indicating the industry has accepted LEED and has effectively used it across many building types.

LEED Rating System	Number of Certified Buildings	
LEED CI	1,056	
LEED CS	514	
LEED EB	5,618	
LEED Schools	90	
LEED NC	3,257	
LEED Retail	216	
TOTAL	10,751	

Several examples of how LEED points can be obtained by incorporating sustainable design elements into building designs were provided. Concepts such as sustainable site planning, green roofing, and reuse/recycling of materials were covered. Good questions from the attendees indicated the presentation resonated with the interests of the audience.



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### PONS&ASSOCIATES



# Benjamin Wright and the Birth of American Civil Engineering to Be the Topic at the May NCS Meeting

Please save the date for the May NCS dinner meeting on **Tuesday, May 17**. Steve Pennington will be the speaker for the evening and present an overview of the life of Benjamin Wright, the father of American civil engineering. Wright (1770–1842) was given that title by ASCE in a declaration on the 200th anniversary of his birth in 1970. Among his varied career experiences,

Wright was chief engineer for the Erie Canal, completed in 1825. Late in his life, he also participated in efforts to formally organize the civil engineering profession into a technical society. Mr. Pennington is currently under contract with ASCE Press to write a biography of Wright, due for publication later this year. More details will be provided in the May newsletter.



Benjamin Wright, courtesy Francis Delafield Wright, III, and taken from an article by Neal FitzSimons, F.ASCE.

#### **Upcoming Events** (Also available on the NCS website under the Events tab)

#### April 6

YMF Happy Hour from 6–8 p.m. at Buffalo Billiards, 1330 19th Street NW, Washington, DC. No RSVP is needed. Contact <u>Sonja Hinish</u> if you have questions, and watch for an e-mail from YMF.

#### April 11-13

ASCE International Conference on Vulnerability and Risk Analysis and Management/Fifth International Symposium on Uncertainty Modeling and Analysis will be held at the Marriott Inn & Conference Center, University of Maryland University College in Hyattsville, MD. To register online, click HERE.

#### April 19

NCS monthly meeting: the Annual Awards Banquet, which will feature Kathy Caldwell, P.E., ASCE National President, as our speaker. Awards presented will include Community Service, Meritorious Service, and student scholarship winners. Also, announcement of the Outstanding Civil Engineering Project and recognition of the NCS' new Life Members. (See newsletter article.)

#### May 11-13

HEC-RAS Computer Workshop for Unsteady Flow Applications. Held in conjunction with the ASCE EWRI Institute at the Radisson Plaza Lord Baltimore in Baltimore, MD. ASCE members, \$1,485; nonmembers, \$1,695. Attendees will receive 2.4 Continuing Education Units (CEU). Click HERE for more information.

#### May 12-13

Financial Management for the Professional Engineer. Held at the Hilton Garden Inn Baltimore Inner Harbor in Baltimore, MD. ASCE members, \$1,225; nonmembers, \$1,445. Attendees will receive 1.4 CEUs. Click HERE for more information.

#### **May 14**

NCS boundary stone repair/restoration event. Come and be a part of history as we tackle three more stones in the NW-SW quadrants! Contact Stephen Powers at (703) 417-0091 or <a href="mailto:stephen@design-powers.com">stephen@design-powers.com</a>. Also, join friends and colleagues at the NCS family picnic near one of the boundary stone sites after our work is completed. Come to either event or BOTH. Picnic planning is being headed-up by Fady Afif (AfifF@bv.com), who is looking for a couple of volunteers to help out.

#### **May 17**

NCS monthly meeting: History and Heritage presentation by Steve Pennington to focus on Benjamin Wright, the Father of American Civil Engineering. (See newsletter brief.)

#### **May 25**

2011 Annual ACE Scholarship Awards Breakfast. Held 7:30–10:30 a.m. in the 13th floor Ballroom of the National Press Club, Washington, DC. The Keynote speaker will be Stephen T. Ayers, AIA, LEED AP, Architect of the Capitol. For additional information, visit <a href="www.acementor.org/592">www.acementor.org/592</a> or write to washingtondc@acementor.org.

#### June 2-3

Load Rating of Highway Bridges. Held at the Radisson Hotel Reagan National Airport in Arlington, VA. ASCE members, \$1,235; nonmembers, \$1,455. Attendees will receive 1.4 CEUs. Click HERE for more information.

#### June 23-24

Risk-Based Seismic Design and Evaluation. Held at the Radisson Hotel Reagan National Airport in Arlington, VA. ASCE members, \$1,225; nonmembers, \$1,445. Attendees will receive 1.6 CEUs. Click HERE for more information.

### **Employment Clearinghouse**

#### **Positions Available**

Fairfax Water is accepting application for the positions below.

For job descriptions and further information, click <u>HERE</u> to go to the job site hosted by the Washington Post. Also see <a href="http://fairfaxwater.org/employment/index.htm">http://fairfaxwater.org/employment/index.htm</a>.

The ASCE-NCS provides the Employment Clearinghouse as a free service to its membership. The Clearinghouse allows members to post short notices for available positions or candidates seeking employment. All employers listed herein are equal opportunity employers. If you have questions or would like to

post a position, please contact the Employment Conditions Committee, National Capital Section ASCE, 8502 Buckhannon Drive, Rockville, MD 20854-3503; phone: (301)983-9777; fax: (301)983-1953; or e-mail sassi22@verizon.net.

Position	Hiring Range*	Salary Range	Job Code	Closing Date
Water Utility Worker I/II—TEMP (Chantilly & Newington)	\$27,802—\$36,517	\$27,802—\$50,102	10-033	Open Until Filled
Engineering Inspector I/II (Fairfax)	\$40,706—\$55,000	\$40,706—\$73,354	11-004	4/04/2011
Manager, Construction (Fairfax)	\$84,000—\$150,000	\$84,000—\$150,000	11-005	4/08/2011
Industrial Electrician I (Herndon)	\$37,005 <b>—</b> \$48,000	\$37,005—\$60,623	11-007	4/04/2011
Meter Technician I/II (Chantilly)	\$27,802—\$36,500	\$27,802—\$50,102	11-008	4/04/2011

<sup>\*</sup>Starting rate of pay depends upon experience. Some candidates may be hired at a rate higher than the ranges listed above.