May 2013 Volume 59, Number 8

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Area where runoff and

## DC Clean Rivers Project and Bloomingdale Flood Mitigation

Steve Bian, P.E., (DC Water) and Edward Shea, P.E., (Greeley & Hansen) to present at May Section Meeting

In July and September 2012, intense rainfall in the Washington metropolitan area caused stormwater and combined sewage to flood the residential neighborhoods of Bloomingdale and LeDroit Park in Wards 5 and 1, respectively, of Washington, DC. In addition to flooded streets, residents reported flooding of basements, resulting from sewer backups and overland flow.

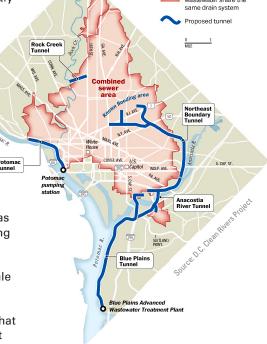
The Bloomingdale and LeDroit
Park Neighborhoods are served by
the Northeast Boundary Trunk Sewer,
which was constructed by the Federal
Government in the late 1800's. As with
many systems built in the 19th Century,
it is a combined sewer system that
collects wastewater from homes and
businesses and stormwater runoff from
streets and properties. The system



was designed to serve a low-density population and hasn't been significantly upgraded to meet the needs of the area's development over the last century. Most of the sewer pipes were constructed well before the District's 15-year storm design standard was established. Consequently, significant portions of the existing collection system serving this area do not have the capacity to convey the flow from storms with return frequencies beyond a 2-year storm without flooding.

Following the recent flooding and as a result of the limitations of the existing system, Mayor Vincent Gray established the Mayor's Task Force on the Prevention of Flooding in Bloomingdale and LeDroit Park. The Task Force was mandated to identify the causes of surface flooding and sewer backups that occurred in Bloomingdale and LeDroit Park; provide recommendations on short, medium, and long term mitigation measures; and summarize these issues within a regulatory, economic, and social context.<sup>1</sup>

The result of the Task Force is the Northeast Boundary Neighborhood



Protection Project, a three-step infrastructure initiative located on and near the former McMillan Sand Filtration Plant north of Bloomingdale. The goal of the project is to reduce the pressure on the undersized section of the Northeast Boundary Trunk Sewer that serves Bloomingdale and LeDroit Park by doing the following:

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The Mayor's Task Force was tied into the DC Clean Rivers Project initiative, a \$2.6 billion ongoing program to reduce combined sewer overflows into the District's waterways – the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers and Rock Creek. Clean Rivers is the largest project ever undertaken in DC Water's history. It consists of massive tunnels, up to 23 feet in diameter, designed to capture water during heavy rainfall, and is required to be completed in 2025 by a Federal Consent Decree signed by the U.S. Government, the District, and DC Water.<sup>2</sup> The May 21 presentation will provide an overview of the Clean Rivers Project as well as the Bloomingdale Flood Mitigation effort.

<sup>1</sup> District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority. Mayor's Task Force Report On The Prevention Of Flooding In Bloomingdale and LeDroit Park. MAYOR'S TASK FORCE REPORT ON THE PREVENTION OF FLOODING IN BLOOMINGDALE AND LeDROIT PARK, DRAFT. 2012. http://oca.dc.gov/node/415132

#### **DC Clean Rivers Project and Bloomingdale Flood Mitigation**

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- Adding up to 6 million gallons of stormwater storage at the Washington Aqueduct's McMillan Plant by re-purposing the existing underground slow sand filtration cells which were constructed in 1906 and have been abandoned since the mid-1980s. (Estimated completion: Spring 2014)
- Adding approximately 6 million gallons of stormwater and wastewater storage from a combined sewer line that runs west of the McMillan Plant, in a new tunnel under First Street NW. (Estimated completion: Spring 2016)
- 3. Re-aligning the Northeast Boundary
  Tunnel section of the DC Clean Rivers
  Project to make it more effective in
  preventing flooding and less intrusive to private property, and to accelerate construction of this section.
  (Estimated completion: 2022)

The total cost of the Northeast Boundary Neighborhood Protection Project is estimated at over \$700 million.<sup>2</sup>

Our distinguished speakers, Mr. Steve Bian, P.E., from DC Water, and Mr. Edward Shea, P.E., from Greeley & Hansen, will provide an overview of the ongoing Clean River Project and recent adjustments around the Mayor's Task Force on the Prevention of Flooding in Bloomingdale and LeDroit Park. The presentation will summarize the short, medium, and long-term engineering solutions proposed by the Task Force.

Steve Bian is Supervisor of Civil and Structural Design in the Design Branch

of the Department of Engineering Service of DC Water. He is also Chairman of the DC Water New Material Committee. His duties cover a wide range of responsibilities related to plan-



Steve Bian, DC Water

ning, design, construction, and emergency response for both facilities and buried pipelines. Steve received his B.S. degree in 1984 from the Beijing Institute of Civil Engineering and Architecture and his Master's Degree in Civil Engineering from University of Nevada-Reno in 1993, with both degrees focusing on structural engineering.

Edward Shea is a Deputy Program Manager working on the implementa-

tion of the DC Clean Rivers Project. He chaired the Technical Committee of the Mayor's Task Force for Flooding Prevention in Bloomingdale and LeDroit Park, and in that role, represented DC Water in collaborating



Ed Shea, Greeley & Hansen

with other District agencies to evaluate short, medium, and long term remedial measures to address a flooding disaster. Ed received his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Civil & Environmental Engineering from Virginia Tech. His 15 years of experience in civil engineering includes a wide variety of water, sewer, and stormwater projects in the DC Metro region.

The presentation will be held on Tuesday, May 21, at the Hilton Arlington, 950 North Stafford Street, Arlington, VA, on the second floor in the Gallery Ballrooms. Parking is available at the hotel (\$8), at the Ballston Mall garage (\$1 after 6 p.m.), and on the street (free after 6 p.m.). This location is in the same block as the Ballston Station on Metro's Orange Line. Registration and networking will be from 6:00 to 6:45 p.m., followed by dinner. The program will conclude by 8:30 p.m. The cost will be \$10 for students, \$40 for those who preregister, and \$50 for walkins as space allows. Please RSVP by May 15. One Professional Development Hour (PDH) will be awarded to attendees. Click HERE to register. For questions, please contact Qamar Kazmi at <u>qkazmi@schnabel-eng.com</u> or (240) 238-2218.

Please note that because the NCS is charged for each meal guaranteed, those who register but are unable to attend will be charged the full registration fee. We welcome "walk-up" attendees, including any registrations made after the guarantee is given to the hotel. However, the cost for "walk-ups" is higher because the Section is charged accordingly by the hotel for late registrations.

#### Newsletter

**L.J. Sauter, Jr.,** *Editor* Telephone: 703-243-5298

September 2013 Issue Deadline: August 1, 2013

To Submit Articles:

newsletter@asce-ncs.org

#### **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.

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#### Committee Chairs

Please refer to the NCS website at <a href="http://www.asce-ncs.org">http://www.asce-ncs.org</a> for a current list of NCS committees and chairs.

<sup>3</sup> District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority. Northeast Boundary Neighborhood Protection Project. 2013. http://www. dcwater.com/workzones/bloomingdale/ NorthEastBoundary.cfm

The annual awards banquet is an opportunity for the Section to recognize individuals and teams for outstanding achievement. Over one hundred members, guests, and students converged to network and take part in the Section's signature annual event at the Hilton Arlington on April 16. David Mongan, P.E. and ASCE National Past President (2008), delivered the

keynote address. This year's Student Scholarship, Life Member, Community/ Meritorious Service, and Outstanding Civil Engineering Project recipients are described below.

# Civil Engineering Student Awards

The NCS awarded **\$9,500** in scholarships to deserving Civil Engineering students from three of our five area schools: Catholic University of America, George Mason University, and the University of the District of Columbia. We also honored the faculty's selection for Outstanding Senior from all five schools (which includes The George Washington University and Howard University). These individuals and their respective schools are listed below.

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NCS President Qamar Kazmi welcomes attendees to the NCS 2013 Annual Awards Banquet.

University	Scholarship Recipient	Outstanding Senior
Catholic University of America	Walter B. Hickey Daniel B. Koehr – Hathaway Memorial Scholarship Brenda E. Tedrick – Williams Memorial Scholarship	Nicholas J. Colameco
The George Washington University		Andrew C. Vasko
George Mason University	Lisa K. Grube – Hummel Memorial Scholarship Christopher N. Nelson Kelsey L. Ryan	Sean Lindenmuth
Howard University		Max Jordan T. Nguemeni
University of the District of Columbia	Curtis J. Day Elias A. Workie	Richard Barrett



NCS Scholarship Trust Chairman Bernie Dennis prepares to award scholarships.



Bernie presents an NCS scholarship to Catholic University's Walter Hickey (left) while Jeff Bugno, NCS Education Committee Chairman (right), watches.



Bernie presents the Hummel Memorial Scholarship to George Mason's Lisa Grube.

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Bernie presents an NCS scholarship to George Mason's Christopher Nelson.



Bernie presents an NCS scholarship to the University of the District of Columbia's Curtis Day.



Bernie presents an NCS scholarship to the University of the District of Columbia's Elias Workie.



Catholic University's (CU) Dr. Masa Okutsu (right) recognizes Nicholas Colameco as CU's Outstanding Graduating Senior.



George Mason's (GMU) Dr. Lisa Durant describes the growth and energy she has seen in the GMU ASCE student chapter from association with the NCS over the last several years.



The George Washington University's (GWU) Dr. Samer Hamdar recognizes the accomplishments of Graduating Senior Hannah Silber (center) and GWU's Outstanding Graduating Senior Andrew Vasko (left).



Howard University's (HU) Dr. Robert Efimba (standing, far right) introduces the HU Graduating Seniors. Shown (from left) are Max Jordan Nguemeni (HU's Outstanding Graduating Senior), Mathu Davis, Kara and Kandace Kea, Cameron Sanders, Samrakshak Lamichhane, and Devard Wharton.



Howard University's (HU) Dr. Efimba (left) and NCS President Kazmi (right) present the UDC's Outstanding Graduating Senior award to Max Jordan Nguemeni (center). Mr. Nguemeni is also a Tau Beta Pi Scholar and President of the HU ASCE student chapter.



University of the District of Columbia's Dr. Pradeep Behera (left) and NCS President Kazmi (right) present UDC's Outstanding Graduating Senior award to Richard Barrett (center).

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#### Life Member Awards

The following NCS members were awarded Life Member Certificates. To achieve this status, a member must have reached their 65th birthday, have paid dues in any membership grade except Student Member for at least 35 years, and have had at least 10 years of continuous membership immediately preceding the attainment of Life Member. We offer our sincere congratulations to our Life Members!

#### **Life Members**

Mr. John Airhart
Mr. John Eddy
Mr. Louis Robbins
Mr. William Allen
Ms. Judith Feely
Mr. William Seelig
Mr. William Allerton, III
Mr. James Franckiewicz
Dr. Michael Shapiro
Mr. William Bartlett, Jr.
Mr. Robert Garbini

Mr. Robert Sperberg
Mr. Douglas Brinkman
Mr. Dennis Garbis
Mr. Michael Strachn
Mr. Richard Burrow
Mr. David R. Gibson
Mr. Gilbert Tallard
Mr. Robert Candido
Mr. Gregory Hand
Mr. James Taylor
Dr. Jonathan Deason

Mr. Jimmie Jenkins Mr. Bhasker Tripathi Mr. John DeGroff Dr. Shinya Kikuchi Dr. Donald Vannoy Mr. William Dickens Mr. Thomas Moynahan, Jr. Mr. Rex Wescott

Mr. Henry Doyle, Jr. Mr. Dai Oh



ASCE Past President David Mongan (left) and immediate NCS Past-President John Casana (right) present the ASCE Life Member Certificate to NCS Past President 1990-91 Jonathan Deason (center).



David Mongan (left) and John Casana (right) present the ASCE Life Member Certificate to James Franckiewicz (center).



David Mongan (left) and John Casana (right) present the ASCE Life Member Certificate to Gilbert Tallard (center).

#### **Additional Award Recipients**

#### **Community Service Award**

■ Emily Dean, P.E., M.ASCE, for her leadership of the NCS' educational activities for grade school students. Emily's selfless spirit has furthered the welfare of the community by introducing basic civil engineering concepts to hundreds of students and their families at the National Building Museum's annual Discover Engineering Family Day.

#### **Meritorious Service Awards**

■ Christian J. Manalo, P.E., M.ASCE, has served tirelessly on the NCS Board of Directors and as NCS Water Resources Committee Chair. Chris also led the NCS Management and Best Practices Subcommittee, which in 2010–11, evaluated Section activities to identify means for optimizing the value of NCS membership. This effort provided vital information to better inform



John Casana presents the NCS 2013 Community Service Award to Emily Dean, P.E.

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Board decisions. Various Subcommittee findings have been published in the NCS newsletter over the last year as the *At a Glance* column.

■ Ranjit S. Sahai, P.E., F.ASCE, is currently the NCS Vice President and Chair of the Automation Committee. For several years, Ranjit has diligently pursued a vision of streamlining NCS activities by enabling the Section to take better advantage of available technology. He also writes the popular Computer Corner column in the NCS newsletter.

Ranjit took this opportunity to thank the NCS with the following words:

Mentors are the spark who kindle the fire in their protégés to become sparks too. Dr. Efimba proved this eloquently tonight in the way he lit the spark in his students. For this award, my mentor who lit my spark was Fady Afif. Fady: For me, this award is in your honor. Thank you for being my spark. Now it is my turn to be a spark and I promise to deliver that spark this year. I encourage you (all who are reading this – Editor's Note) to attend this event next year to discover whose fire I ended-up lighting. Thank you!

# Outstanding Civil Engineering Project Award

■ District of Columbia Government Consolidated Forensic Laboratory Building. NCS newsletter readers are well acquainted with this important project, which was the lead article in our April 2013 newsletter. If you missed this article, please visit the ASCE-NCS website (<a href="http://asce-ncs.org">http://asce-ncs.org</a>) and look under the *Newsletters* tab.



John Casana presents the first of two NCS 2013 Meritorious Service Awards to Christian Manalo, P.E.



John Casana presents the second of two NCS 2013 Meritorious Service Awards to Ranjit Sahai, P.E., F.ASCE.



John Casana (right) presents the NCS 2013 Outstanding Civil Engineering Project Award for the *District of Columbia Government Consolidated Forensic Laboratory Building*. Award recipients include (from left) June Locker (Deputy Director of Construction for the DC Department of General Services), Dr. William Vosburgh (Prince Georges County Police Department and former Lab Director of the DC Department of Forensic Sciences), Jeffrey Anderson (Project Director for Jacobs Project Management Company), Nancy Beavers (Vice President of The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company), and Allam Al-Alami (Construction Executive at the DC Department of General Services, Executive Program Manager for the Project).

#### **President's Appreciation Award**

■ John Casana, P.E., and Mark E. Leeman, P.E. John and Mark are both NCS Past Presidents (2011–12 and 2010–11, respectively), and were recognized for their outstanding dedication to the Section, their sage advice, and their ready assistance.

#### The NCS wishes to extend its hearty congratulations to all the 2013 award recipients!

# TOGE

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### **NCS Committee News and Updates**

#### Sustainability Committee - June 4th Waste-To-Energy Plant Tour

The Sustainability Committee has arranged a tour for 20 participants of the Covanta Waste-To-Energy Plant located in Alexandria, VA. <a href="http://www.covantaenergy.com/facilities/facility-by-location/alexandria.aspx">http://www.covantaenergy.com/facilities/facility-by-location/alexandria.aspx</a> Unfortunately, this tour has already been filled to capacity, so due to the overwhelming enthusiasm of the Section members, we will be arranging for a second (or possibly third) tour at a later date.

The June 4th tour will be followed by an informal happy hour/dinner meeting of the Sustainability Committee at Thai Lemon Grass at 506 South Van Dorn Street in Alexandria. There is more space available for this follow-up event. The Section will be paying for non-alcoholic drinks and appetizers. <a href="http://www.allmenus.com/va/alexandria/281569-thai-lemongrass/menu/">http://www.allmenus.com/va/alexandria/281569-thai-lemongrass/menu/</a>

If you can attend the happy hour/dinner meeting and/or would like to be notified of the date and time of the additional tour(s), please contact Alex Rosenheim, ASCE-NCS Sustainability Committee Chairman, at <a href="mailto:tcc-sus@asce-ncs.org">tcc-sus@asce-ncs.org</a> (or <a href="mailto:alex.rosen-heim@gmail.com">alex.rosen-heim@gmail.com</a>) or or at 202-412-3090.

#### Younger Members Group - June 5th Happy Hour Planned

The NCS Younger Members Group is planning a Happy Hour from 6–8 p.m. on June 5, at a yet-to-be-determined location. *Watch for an e-mail in May.* 

The Younger Members Group holds monthly happy hours and various professional development activities in Arlington, VA, or Washington, DC. If you would like to become involved with the Group or would like more information on its events, please contact its President, Jordan Pitt, at <a href="wjpitt@mbakercorp.com">wjpitt@mbakercorp.com</a> or <a href="mailto:ncsymf-president@gmail.com">ncsymf-president@gmail.com</a>.



#### Water Resources Committee - June 19th Luncheon Meeting on FEMA Risk MAP

The Water Resources Committee will be hosting a luncheon meeting at the Pier 7 Restaurant, 650 Water Street SW, in Washington, DC, on June 19. The guest speaker will be Mr. Doug Bellomo, P.E., and Director of the Risk Analysis Division within the Mitigation Directorate at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Doug's talk will focus on the evolution of Risk MAP and its implication going forward. His responsibilities at FEMA include flood hazard mapping as part of the National Flood Insurance Program, Risk Assessment, Mitigation Planning, as well as the National Hurricane and Dam Safety programs. Mr. Bellomo holds a B.S. and M.S. in Civil Engineering. He has been working with flood hazard and other mitigation issues for about 18 years.

The luncheon will be held from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. **Please RSVP by June 14**. Prepaid registration is required; \$10 for students, \$30 for others. For additional information or to register, contact Sudhanshu Mishra, P.E., at <a href="mailto:sumishra@gmail.com">sumishra@gmail.com</a> or (301) 741-5632. ■

## **Opportunity Alert!**

The NCS is looking for a volunteer to become an E.I.T., that is, Editor-in-Training for the NCS newsletter. Our current editor's 2-year term will expire in September 2014, at which time the E.I.T. will assume all duties and responsibilities for coordinating, editing, and issuing the NCS newsletter eight times each year. The NCS is establishing this position now in order to ensure a smooth transition of responsibilities in 2014.

This is an ideal position for an individual who is interested in becoming more involved in the NCS and, potentially, higher offices in ASCE. The newsletter editor is a member of the NCS Board of Directors. In this position, one participates in Section business and learns how the Section works, which is excellent preparation for subsequently moving to other Section positions of responsibility (i.e., Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President, and President). As such, this position provides the opportunity to grow your professional credentials in the NCS and ASCE.

For more information, contact L.J. Sauter, Jr., at <a href="newsletter@ascencs.org">newsletter@ascencs.org</a> or call (703) 243-5298. ■



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The SK&A Group



# ASCE Volunteers Participate in the EPA People, Prosperity, and the Planet Event

On April 18 and 19, the ASCE participated in the 9th Annual National Sustainable Design Expo and P3 (People, Prosperity and Planet) Student Design Competition for Sustainability, sponsored by the U.S. Environmental



Protection Agency (EPA), ASCE, and Engineers Without Borders-USA.

Hundreds of students, scientists, nonprofits, and national, state and local govern-

ment entities joined under the tent on the National Mall overlooking the U.S. Capitol, the Washington Monument, and the Smithsonian Institution to see the latest innovations for the environment and sustainability. Students competed for the EPA and the ASCE P3 Award and exhibitors showcase their ideas for achieving sustainability for the planet.

The ASCE exhibit featured the popular K-12 outreach program *ASCEville*. Visitors were encouraged to spend time

talking about the program and to participate in the scavenger hunt challenging kids to find 20 ways civil engineers are endeavoring to make our communities better



places to live and work. The booth had both a laptop at the computer kiosk and a laminated dry erase poster offering a low tech/high-touch opportunity to learn ways individuals and communities are choosing to maintain a healthy water supply, save energy, and conserve scarce resources.

The judges picked the winner from the P3 competition for the 2013 ASCE Sustainable Development Award. Listed below are the winner and the two second-place winners, along with the title and a short summary of each project.

#### Winner:

■ Stanford University – Project Title: "Community-Level Water Disinfection Technology for Dhaka, Bangladesh Treatment." (Challenge Area: Water)

Source: Stanford Dhaka Water Project – Bangladesh

Stanford University students with the assistance and collaboration of the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment and the International Center for Diarrheal Disease Research, Bangladesh, are developing a low-cost



Source: Stanford Dhaka Water Project - Bangladesh

in-line chlorination device that will disinfect drinking water without relying on electricity or moving parts. The device is designed to provide safe drinking water to approximately 10–50 households per chlorinator.

Diarrhea is a major cause of death of young children in developing countries. The microorganisms that cause the disease often enter water distribution systems through broken pipes. Stanford University students, working in Bangladesh, are designing low-cost devices that are placed at points in a distribution system that deliver water to small groups of homes. Called a chlorinator, the device automatically disinfects water with chlorine before it flows into homes.

#### **Two Honorable Mentions:**

■ Cornell University – Project
Title: "AguaClara Stacked Rapid Sand
Filtration – A Robust Filtration Process
For Sustainable Drinking Water
Infrastructure." (Challenge Areas: Water,
Green Infrastructure)

Cornell University students are improving the design and evaluating the performance of the AguaClara stacked rapid sand filter, which is an efficient, inexpensive, and fully hydraulic unit process for municipal-scale water treatment.

Suitable drinking water is a critical need world-wide, and fresh water is the limiting resource on the planet for the foreseeable future. Cornell University students have built an innovative municipal water treatment system in Honduras that uses a stacked rapid sand filter. They are now improving the design to reduce the energy and water required for maintenance; lower capital and operating costs; and simplify daily operation.

■ University of Washington – Project Title: "SQWater: Atmospheric Water Resources in the Slums of Lima, Peru." (Challenge Areas: Agriculture, Water)

University of Washington students are designing fog harvesting technologies for slum communities in Lima that will provide clean water at the point-of-use, reduce air pollution, and supply irrigation for public green spaces and gardens.

In Lima, more than a third of the city's 9 million occupants live in slums, many without reliable access to clean water. The city's primary water supply, Andean glaciers below 5500 meters, will melt as a result of climate change. University of Washington students are experimenting with fog harvesting technologies to extract water from the shroud of fog that covers Lima from June to December. They are designing and evaluating new fog collection materials, configurations, and systems to provide clean drinking water and irrigate public gardens for slum communities.

# Related Links for more information:

- EPA Design Expo and P3 Competition: <a href="http://www.epa.gov/ncer/p3/nsde/index.html">http://www.epa.gov/ncer/p3/nsde/index.html</a>
- ASCE K-12 Outreach Website ASCEville: http://www.asceville.org/
- ASCE Award Winner (Stanford University): <a href="http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncer\_abstracts/index.cfm/fuseaction/display.abstractDetail/abstract/9867/report/0">http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncer\_abstracts/index.cfm/fuseaction/display.abstractDetail/abstract/9867/report/0</a>
  - Participating Student Group:
     Stanford Dhaka Water Project –
     Bangladesh: <a href="http://stanford-dhakawater.wordpress.com/about/">http://stanford-dhakawater.wordpress.com/about/</a>
  - ☐ Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment: <a href="http://woods.stanford.edu/news-events/news/improving-access-clean-drinking-water">http://woods.stanford.edu/news-events/news/improving-access-clean-drinking-water</a>
  - ☐ International Center for Diarrheal Disease Research, Bangladesh (icddr,b): http://www.icddrb.org/
- ASCE Honorable Mention (Cornell University): <a href="http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncer\_abstracts/index.cfm/fuseaction/display.abstractDetail/abstract/9858/report/0">http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncer\_abstracts/index.cfm/fuseaction/display.abstractDetail/abstract/9858/report/0</a>
- ASCE Honorable Mention (University of Washington): <a href="http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncer\_abstracts/index.cfm/fuseaction/display.abstractDetail/abstract/9866/report/0">http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncer\_abstracts/index.cfm/fuseaction/display.abstractDetail/abstract/9866/report/0</a>

#### The Computer Corner

# The Internet Connects the World and More – Please Protect Yourself

The Computer Corner by Ranjit S. Sahai, P.E., F.ASCE

When you install a window in your home to view the world outside, you also open a view inside your home to a curious passing neighbor or stranger whose intent, whether good or bad, you don't know.

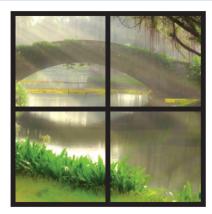
The same is true about your network when you connect it to the Internet. The difference is that the view inside is no longer restricted to a curious passing neighbor or stranger who must be physically near your network. It is open to a security breach from anywhere across the globe.

The Internet connects networks that span the world and more. Humans controlling computers traverse the Internet; so do robotic software algorithms that can scan information at blinding speed.

It is for this reason that engineers who manage vital corporate networks protect their networks with technologies that differ from those suitable for homes. Why?

Corporate digital assets are more valuable than those stored in homes. This makes corporate networks more attractive than home networks to those with bad intent. Note, however, that if the focus shifts to computing power instead of digital data, home networks become just as attractive as corporate networks.

If you wish to better secure your digital data and/or computing power, consider investing, if you have not done so already, in a managed





A window provides a view to the world outside, but also opens up a view inside to passing strangers.

universal threat management (UTM) appliance or another technology or service that wards off intruders. When investing, expend the effort to be sure you get the benefit you seek for a cost you'll be willing to pay.

#### Need More Technology-Related Insight? Help Will Come Monthly.

Did you find this information helpful? If so, make a point to watch out for similar information that will come your way monthly in the NCS' Computer Corner. If you simply can't wait for the monthly installments and wish to get your hands on all the tips at one time, let me put in a pitch for the booklet my company has put together. It is free, but you have to request it.

The booklet is titled "Timeless Ways to Grow Business with Technology." To request a copy, go to http://www.rcare-solutions.com.

#### **About the Author**

Ranjit has been writing on and teaching computer topics since 1987 and has authored several books on CAD (MicroStation and AutoCAD). His next book, *The Silent Motor* (thesilentmotor.com), is on success in life and business. He is the founder of RAM Corporation and Vice President of the ASCE-NCS. He welcomes comments and feedback via e-mail. To e-mail Ranjit, visit the *Contact Us>Committee Chairs* page at www.asce-ncs.org or the *Contact Us* page at www.rcare-solutions.com.

# Interested in improving your leadership skills?

Sponsorships are available for ASCE members to attend the 2013 Emerging Leaders Alliance Conference

ASCE, as a partner in the Emerging Leaders Alliance (ELA), will sponsor eight members to attend the 2013 ELA leadership conference. The conference provides rising leaders with tools to more effectively lead their organizations and serve our professional community. This program also allows you to network with engineers and scientists from other disciplines

and earn PDHs. The workshop will take place on November 11–13, 2013, at the Hyatt Regency Reston in Reston, VA. Interested ASCE members must apply for sponsorship online at <a href="http://www.asce.org/Emerging-Leaders-Alliance/">http://www.asce.org/Emerging-Leaders-Alliance/</a> by July 1, 2013. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.emergingleadersal-liance.org">http://www.emergingleadersal-liance.org</a> or contact <a href="professional@asce.org">professional@asce.org</a>. ■

Editors Note: **Attention YMF members!** Because this activity is in northern VA, it would require only minimal travel time and cost with an ASCE sponsorship. Act now, as this could be a very valuable experience!

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# A Final "Thank-You" to the 2013 NCS Annual Award Banquet Sponsors

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#### Get your company in the spotlight!

Promote your company to the engineering community in the ASCE-NCS newsletter, at NCS monthly dinner meetings, and at special events like the Annual Awards Banquet. Become an NCS Partner. Contact the newsletter editor at <a href="mailto:newsletter@asce-ncs.org">newsletter@asce-ncs.org</a> to invest in your company's future.

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

#### **May 21**

NCS monthly meeting at the Hilton Arlington. The program will feature a presentation by DC Water on the \$2.6 billion Clean Rivers Project and the Northeast Boundary Neighborhood Protection Project. The Clean Rivers Project is the largest construction project ever undertaken by DC Water. (See newsletter lead article.) The May meeting will be our final dinner meeting until September 2013.

#### June 5

NCS Younger Members Group will host a happy hour from 6–8 p.m. at a yet-to-be determined location in Arlington, VA, or Washington, DC. Watch for an e-mail with further details in May. (See newsletter brief.)

#### June 19

NCS Water Resources Committee luncheon meeting at Pier 1 Restaurant in Washington, DC, beginning at 11:30 a.m. The speaker will be Mr. Doug Bellomo, P.E., and Director of the Risk Analysis Division within the Mitigation Directorate at the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Doug's talk will focus on the evolution of Risk MAP and its implication going forward. **RSVP by June 14**. To register or for more information, contact Sudhanshu Mishra at <a href="sumishra@gmail.com">sumishra@gmail.com</a> or (301) 741-5632. (See newsletter brief.)

#### September 17

The NCS will resume its monthly diner meetings at the Hilton Arlington in Arlington, VA. **Have a safe and happy summer!** 

#### **Employment Clearinghouse**

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.

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