

## ASCE Region 8 - February 2017 Newsletter



*"advance the Civil Engineering profession by serving the members of Region 8 as an extension of the Board of Direction"*

Greetings to Everybody!

ASCE may not be a known name in the movie industry, however we have now stepped into that arena with "DREAM BIG", and it may be coming to a giant screen location near you. The initial release was on 17 February. Check with your Section or Branch because many of them are making plans for a showing.

On to other things of excitement is ASCE's recognition of our Region 8 members for their civil engineering accomplishments. Please see the "Region 8 Members Receive Society Awards Recognition" article below to view the full list of award winners. It is such wonderful feeling to know that many of our members are being recognized, and it is always an added touch of "Oh Wow!" to know a recipient. Congratulations to all of you and to your accomplishments.

My January article had a discussion concerning the development of an ASCE Historic Civil Engineering Landmark; "The Lewis and Clark Trail". There was also a call for volunteers to assist Shoots Vies, Governor, Montana Section, to develop this project. A response was quickly received from Hank Landau saying that he recently kayaked (and portaged) the Lewis and Clark Trail from the Pacific to St. Louis (and beyond). How about that for fun and an adventure! We look forward to Hank's participation in the Lewis and Clark Trail project.

Looking ahead to March, ASCE has a busy schedule of events. First, the ASCE 2017 Report Card will be released on Thursday 9 March in Washington DC. It is my understanding that this is being done for a couple of reasons: 1) have the release prior to the Fly-In so that it has its own focus, and 2) not to overload the fly-in schedule of events. The week of 14-18 March includes the ASCE Fly-In, the Outstanding Projects and Leaders (OPAL) Leadership Awards events, and the ASCE Board of Direction (BOD) meeting, 17 & 18 March. Come Sunday, it will be giddy-up and go time, heading home with a brief pause in Tacoma for an energy recharge from our grandson - like getting down on the floor at his level for some serious fun after a busy week.

The BOD agenda has been received for the March meeting and I have only scanned the document. There appears to be a few things that may be of interest to you. My plan is to have my newsletter article out early enough to bring agenda items to your attention, and

thus an opportunity to provide comments and thoughts before the BOD meetings.

There is an action by ASCE's Executive Committee (ExCom) and I would be interested in hearing your thoughts. This action concerns two resolutions that were passed by ExCom on 3 February, and I do not remember these resolutions being presented to the BOD for discussion, and forwarding to ExCom. The Resolutions are:

- a) [No. 550, "Role of Science and Engineering Research in Government"](#), and
- b) [No. 551, "Visas and National Security"](#).

If you have thoughts that you would like share, please [email](#) them to me.

Have you invited the ASCE President Elect candidates? If you are thinking about inviting a candidate, please do. It is a good opportunity to meet the future ASCE President. The 2018 ASCE President-Elect candidates are: Robin Kemper, Region 1, and Guna Gunalan, Region 8.

Also, Region 8 will have three Governor candidates on the ASCE ballot. They are: Florence Ching (Hawaii Section), Fred Nelson (Phoenix Section) and Bob Turner (Inland Empire Section).

This is a good time to meet the candidates. Electronic Voting will start on 1 May 2017 and ends 1 June 2017.

The ASCE Student Chapters of Region 8 are busy finalizing their projects for competition at one of the four Student Conferences in April. As they complete their Concrete Canoes and Steel Bridges, there is always a need for support. Here is an opportunity to support your local Student Chapter. It takes a lot of time, hard work, and dedication to be involved in these activities. These students are receiving life skills of working together on design, construction, and presentation of their projects. They are our future engineers that will be doing great things.

Thank you for being a member of ASCE.

**Dale A. Nelson, P.E., F.ASCE**

Director, Region 8 ASCE

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## Region 8 Members Receive Society Awards Recognition

Dr. Rollin H. Hotchkiss, Ph.D., P.E., D.WRE, F.ASCE from the Utah Section has been selected by the Environmental and Water Resources Institute to receive the **2017 Hydraulic Structures Medal** "For his numerous achievements and contributions to the hydraulics structures engineering profession in the areas of culverts hydraulics, low-head dam operations and reservoir sedimentation throughout a most distinguished, dedicated research career."

Jeffrey B. Bradley, Ph.D., P.E., D.WRE, F.ASCE from the Oregon Section has been selected by the Environmental and Water Resources Institute to receive the **2017 Arid Lands Hydraulic Engineering Award** "For his significant contributions during a stellar 40-year career in the areas of hydraulics, hydrology and sedimentation, especially involving debris flow effects on alluvial fan flooding and bridge scour."

Howard P. Thomas, P.E., P.Eng., F.ASCE from the Oregon Section has been selected by

the Technical Council on Cold Regions Engineering to receive the **2017 CAN-AM Civil Engineering Amity Award** *"For his outstanding forty-year career specializing in cold regions' engineering and task management, particularly public and private projects in Alaska and Canada encompassing a wide variety of engineering, regulatory compliance, and project management challenges."*

Jeffrey Berman, A.M.ASCE and Laura N. Lowes, A.M.ASCE, will be receiving along with their co-authors, the **2017 Moisseiff Award** *"For the paper, 'Full-Scale Pseudodynamic Testing of Self-Centering Steel Plate Shear Walls'."*

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## This Month's Featured Section: UTAH SECTION

The Utah Section was established in February of 1916 and recently celebrated its centennial. It has approximately 1500 members within its boundaries, which are the state boundaries of Utah. The Utah section has 8 Subsidiary organizations; these were formed within the Section to facilitate the carrying out of the objectives of the Section, to promote interest in the Society, and to provide to members of the Section a better opportunity for participation in local Section activities.

The subsidiary organizations are as follows:

- Northern Utah Branch (Counties of Box Elder, Cache, Rich, Morgan, and Weber)
- Wasatch Front Branch (Counties of Tooele, Davis, Salt Lake, Summit)
- Central Utah Branch (Counties of Juab, Millard, Utah, Sanpete, Sevier Wasatch, Duchesne, Carbon, Emery, Grand, Uinta, and Daggett)
- Southern Utah Branch (Counties of Beaver, Piute, Wayne, San Juan, Iron, Garfield, Washington, Kane)
- Younger Member Forum
- Geotechnical Institute
- Structural Engineering Institute

Within the Section boundaries are three ABET accredited universities each with a student chapter. They include:

- Utah State University, University of Utah, and Brigham Young University

A Faculty Advisor for each student chapter is selected by the Civil Engineering Department Head and is approved by the Branch President, and they each serve a term of three years. At least one Practitioner Advisor, formerly known as "Section Contact Members", is appointed for each Student Chapter by the Younger Member Forum; they shall serve a term of 1 year. The Practitioner Advisor will provide liaison between the Student Chapter and the Younger Member Forum/Branches/Section.

The section is governed by a Board of Directors composed of 12 voting members:

- Immediate Past-President
- President
- President-Elect
- Secretary-Treasurer
- Utah Engineers Council Representative
- President of the Northern Utah Branch
- President of the Wasatch Front Branch
- President of the Central Utah Branch
- President of the Southern Utah Branch

- Geo-Institute Chairman
- Structural Engineering Institute Chairman
- President of the Younger Member Forum

The board meets once a month and the board meetings are open to all members of the section to attend and observe.

The Board started a scholarship fund in 1990 which was originally intended to rotate between universities. It is now the policy of the Board to continue to contribute Section funds to this account and distribute a scholarship to each Branch to supplement their own scholarship award.

In 2012 the Board re-established a scholarship nest fund. The intention being to add as much as possible to the fund each year until it is self-supporting.

The board operates by the bylaws of the organization. In 1989 a Duties and Procedures manual was published to assist in the "day to day" operations of the Section. The manual received a complete update from October of 2011 through April of 2012. The current version was adopted in May of 2012 and is updated every year by the Past President's Council with edits from the current Board of Directors. This has been an invaluable tool for the continuity of the section. We require each candidate for nomination to the board to read and understand the manual before committing to run for office. The manual is a part of each subsidiary board's permanent record for reference. As a result of the recently published Region 8 Welcome Packet, the Section board is putting together a FAQ page to be included in the 2017 edition of the Duties and Procedures Manual.

As a fundraiser, each branch holds a meeting for its members each month. This is usually a lunch or dinner meeting. In an attempt to increase participation, the meetings are formatted such that they include a technical lecture and the participants receive professional development hours for attending.

Each year the section donates money to a community service cause. It is the responsibility of the Section President to choose a worthy cause for participation or financial support. Most recently, the Board donated money for the West High School Science Lab to purchase an iPad and a Structure Sensor 3D Scanner for the iPad. The scanner is a smaller version of a LIDAR scanner that surveyors now use for 3D scanning and surveying. Over the summer, a student used the scanner and a 3D printer to help heal a cat with a broken leg. The student worked with his teacher (Christian Edgar) to scan, design and 3D print a custom splint for the cat. The student went to the Veterinary Hospital to see the cat and used calipers to take measurements, then used the 3D scanner to capture a true image of the cat's leg. With this data, and speaking with the veterinarian about the design of the splint, the student was able to design a 3D rendering of a splint and have it printed. As a follow up as president, Matthew Roblez went to speak to the student's class about real world examples of how in Civil Engineering and surveying we use scanning technology. Our community service effort was a success.

In 2012 the Utah Section started work on our state's first Infrastructure Report Card. It was officially published in 2015. We plan on forming our next report card committee in 2018 and plan to publish our next report card in 2020. Our board has decided that we will publish a report card every 5 years.

Our section publishes a monthly newsletter called "The Civil Source". In 2005 it became a completely online publication. We no longer have any members that subscribe to the hard copies. We have an extremely active Younger Member Forum, and we recently revived an

almost dead State and Government Relations Committee. In 2016 we conducted a nonscientific poll of our members. We asked them to ask the non-ASCE civil engineers they know why they are not members and what obstacles they have to becoming members. The most commonly heard response was that their respective companies won't pay for it. As a result, our president Matthew Roblez wrote an article entitled, "Pitching Your Boss on Paying for Your ASCE Membership". In this article, it is shown that not having an employee as a member will cost the company more than paying for the membership.

*Submitted by Matt Roblez, P.E., Utah Section President*

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## Team Members Needed

Are you a history buff and interested in researching more about the Lewis and Clark Expedition land survey from St Louis to the Oregon Coast?

The ASCE Lewis and Clark History and Heritage Project needs your help. We are looking for team members interested in researching, documenting and writing about the Lewis and Clark land survey in their state. We are also looking for team members to research, document and write about the land survey methods, instrumentation, innovation, and impact.

If this sounds interesting to you, please contact [Shoots Veis](#) or call him at 406-697-7128 for more information about the project and how to get involved.

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## Region 8 Calendar of Upcoming Events

### 2017 Student Conferences

Rocky Mountain Student Conference, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, April 6 - 8, 2017

Pacific Southwest Student Conference, UC Irvine, Irvine, CA, April 6 - 8, 2017

Mid-Pacific Student Conference, Chico State University, Chico, CA, April 20 - 22, 2017

Pacific Northwest Student Conference, Boise State University, Boise, ID, April 20 - 22, 2017

Environment and Water Resources Institute (EWRI) Annual Water Congress, Sacramento, CA, May 22 - 25, 2017

ASCE Region 8 Fall Assembly and Planning Meeting, Springdale (Zion NP), UT, Sept. 7 - 9, 2017

ASCE Arizona Section Annual State Conference, Phoenix, AZ, Sept. 15, 2017

ASCE National Convention, New Orleans, LA, Oct. 8 - 11, 2017

STAY CONNECTED:

