



"Help you matter more and enable you to make a bigger difference"

Region 8 Director's Column

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Some of the things I enjoy the most about serving as your Society Director is working with your Region 8 Board of Governors, organizing and executing the Region 8 Assembly meetings, and participating in the Western Multi-Region Leadership Conference. It was a good January because all three things happened in San Francisco, CA.

Region 8 Board of Governors

The Region 8 Board of Governors (BOG) met on January 22 in San Francisco, CA. The primary activity of the meeting was to interview and select candidates for two elected Governor positions with three-year terms starting in October

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2020.

After interviewing highly qualified candidates, the BOG decided to advance three names to the May Society election ballot.

The candidates are listed below in alphabetical order.

- Tor Anderzen, PE, F.ASCE - Alaska Section
- Fausto Burruel, PE, M.ASCE - Arizona Section
- Dan Karlin, PE, M.ASCE - Montana Section

The Region 8 BOG also needs to appoint one At-Large Governor for a three-year term starting in October 2020. The intent of the At-Large Governor would be to fill a need on the BOG. The criteria for the At-Large Governor will be announced in the March newsletter. The BOG would interview interested candidates. The At-Large Governor would be selected after the Society election.



The Region 8 Board of Governors in front of San Francisco Bay (pictured from left to right: Governor Fred Nelson, Governor Darren Hippenstiel, Society Director/Region 8 Chair Tony Lau, Governor Mark Lamer, Governor Kate Thompson, Governor Matthew Roblez, Governor Lance Mearig, Region 8 Historian/Treasurer Seth Olsen, missing: Governor Florence Ching)

Region 8 Assembly

The Region 8 Assembly met for its winter meeting on January 23 in San Francisco, CA. The Assembly consists of the Region 8 Board of Governors and representatives from each of the 12 Sections and the Western Regional Younger Member Council (WRYMC). In addition to formal Region business discussions, the program consisted of both Society informational sessions as well as interactive Society operations and best practice discussions.

The Assembly heard presentations on Effective Communication Strategies with

Legislators and Public Agency Leaders (I am one), an update on Engineer Tomorrow, introduction to the ASCE Foundation, and an overview of Society Finances.

The Assembly members learned about resources that could help them operate their Sections and Branches. Interactive tutorials on how to use Constant Contact and the ASCE membership database helped answer questions and resolve struggles that some geographic units had experienced.

The Alaska Section presented a Best Practice on their Infrastructure Report Card Video that they produced to help convey their message across about why it is important to invest in infrastructure. The Assembly members also had roundtable discussions to share best practices on five other topics as well as membership recruitment and retention. The Assembly members also heard from President Guna on his 2020 Initiatives and had the opportunity to talk with the two Society President-Elect candidates.



Alaska Section President David Gamez shares about their Infrastructure Report Card Video

Thanks to the Governors for coordinating a great meeting and thanks to the Region 8 leaders that participated. Looking forward to seeing everyone again in Vancouver, British Columbia in August for our Fall Assembly meeting.

Western MRLC

Nearly 500 ASCE leaders from Regions 8 and 9 gathered in San Francisco on January 24 and 25 for the Western Multi-Region Leadership Conference (MRLC). The MRLC consists of three separate conferences – the Workshop for Section, Branch and Institute Leaders (WSBIL), the Western Regional Younger Member Council (WRYMC) and the Workshop for Student Chapter Leaders (WSCL). Please see articles in this newsletter issue for further details about each of the conferences.



Region 8 Section/Branch/Institute Leaders, Younger Members and Students participated in a team building exercise during the MRLC's Region 8 Breakout Session

A Region 8 Section and a Region 8 Branch were recognized during the MRLC. Congratulations to the Oregon Section for winning the Outstanding Section and Branch Website Award for Large Sections (1001 to 2500 members). Congratulations to the Truckee Meadows Branch for winning the Outstanding Section and Branch Award for Small Sections and Branches (less than 501 members).



President Guna presents Oregon Section Treasurer Sophia Burkhart with the Outstanding Section/Branch Website Award for Large Sections/Branches



President Guna presents Nevada Section, Truckee Meadows Branch Treasurer Brian Moon with the Outstanding Section/Branch Award for Small Sections/Branches

One of the great things about the MRLC is the opportunity for networking with other leaders that you don't have the opportunity to regularly see even within your own Section, Branch or Institute. It was great to see bunches of members get together for Friday night dinner to interact and share ideas. I have attended this MRLC over 20 times in different roles. The relationships that I have developed over that time continue on today and have played a big part in my professional development.



ASCE members and staff networking over Friday night dinner at Thanh Long during the Western MRLC #ASCEEats

Changes to the ASCE Code of Ethics

The Society's Task Committee on the Code of Ethics has been charged with reviewing and preparing a new model to the ASCE Code of Ethics. The last review of the Code of Ethics in its entirety occurred in 1974. The draft proposal is available for members review and comment at [here](#). Feedback is due by February 28. Direct feedback to me is also welcomed. The revised Code of Ethics will be proposed to the Society Board of Direction for review and approval.

Mahalo for being a member of ASCE and for all that you do to help our great profession. #Region8isgreat!!!

Mahalo and Aloha,
Tony C.G. Lau, P.E., ENV SP, F.ASCE
Society Director, Region 8

Hawaii Section Update

Aloha Region 8 ASCE Members! Here is a quick summary of what's going on over here in the warm & sunny Hawaii!

Civil Engineers Receive Highest State Awards

The Hawaii Section is pleased to announce that two of its members have been recognized as the State's top engineers. Ken Kawahara has been awarded the prestigious Hawaii Society of Professional Engineers (HSPE) Engineer of the Year for his significant contributions to the profession and his many years of service with ASCE and community involvement. The Hawaii Council of Engineering Societies (HCES) has named Carly Kaneko the 2020 Young Engineer of the Year Award for her commitment to improving the engineering community and society at large. Lastly, this year's HCES Student Engineer of the Year, Rika Okino is a graduating Civil Engineer from the University of Hawaii at Manoa and is a standout student athlete as well. All three recipients will be honored at this year's 2020 Engineers Week Banquet on February 22, 2020 at the Koolau Ballrooms and Conference Center (See Upcoming Events below for more details on E-week).

UH Student Chapter

The University of Hawaii at Manoa's ASCE Student Chapter is gearing up to attend this year's ASCE Pacific Southwest Conference (PSWC) to be held at California State University, Fullerton on April 2-4, 2020. The team is working hard to prepare for this annual conference and we are very excited to hear how they did at our April Dinner Meeting. Our sole student chapter is led by their President – Maynard Lazo. Good Luck to the UH Students!

Younger Member Forum

The Hawaii Section YMF is continually busy with events such as monthly meetings, outreach, community service, field trips and social gatherings. We are proud of our YMF and their accomplishments led by this year's President Kapiolani Street, we are looking forward to yet another great year. Below are some of their most recent events.

During the ASCE 2019 Convention in Miami, FL, the YMF received the Younger Member Group Award for Small Groups during the Annual Business Meeting on October 12.

On November 30, Our YMF members joined together with the SEAHO YMG (Structural Engineers Association of Hawaii, Younger Members Group) to participate in the first ever Girl Scouts Gingerbread House Design Challenge. The event took place at the Central Union Church in the heart of Honolulu. Our volunteers not only helped the young scouts to build the candy houses, but also tested the stability of these houses on shake tables.



The event was a great success with most of the gingerbread structures still standing at the end.

On December 7th, YMF members participated in the 10,000-tree challenge. In an effort to restore our native Hawaiian

forest and make Hawaii the first Carbon Neutral State in the nation, our members volunteered to help plant 10,000 trees in one day. Thanks to the hard-working volunteers, our group planted 35 trees!



The forest we helped to leave behind at Gunstock Ranch in Kahuku was named “The Pearl Harbor Legacy Forest”, in commemoration of the Dec. 7th attack on Pearl Harbor.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Engineering Week or E-Week

Engineering week extends from February 16 to 22 and will kick off with a luncheon hosted by our local chapter of SAME. The ASCE Hawaii Section is currently assisting the Hawaii Council of Engineering Societies (HCES) in its preparations for their annual Banquet on February 22 at the Koolau Ballrooms. This banquet will mark the conclusion of the 2020 Engineers Week where various engineering awards will be distributed. E-Week is an exciting week for engineers promoting various activities and projects occurring around our communities. It promises to be a busy week with educational events as well as both the Governor’s and Mayor’s Engineering Week proclamations.

New Region 8 Leaders Converge on San Francisco for the Workshop for Section, Branch, and Institute Leaders

Section, Branch and Institute Leaders from Region 8 met with their counterparts in Region 9 for the 2020 Regions 8 and 9 Workshop for Section, Branch and Institute Leaders (WSBIL) in San Francisco, CA from January 24 to 25. The meetings were held concurrently and sometimes jointly with the Western Regional Younger Member Council (WRYMC) and the Workshop for Student Chapter Leaders (WSCL). Collectively, the three sets of meetings are known as the Western Multi-Region Leadership Conference or MRLC-West.



Participation in the WSBIL strengthens and expands the programs and activities of

Sections, Branches and Institutes through the interchange of ideas, information and experiences, while it exposes incoming officers to the tools needed to be effective leaders. We encourage Sections, Branches and Institutes to send their incoming officers and committee chairs to the WSBIL as their first ASCE 101 training at the Society level.

Highlights from this year's WSBIL included:

- A training session on Emotional Intelligence and how to apply and effectively use it;
- A breakout session to learn about Region 8 and network and directly interact with fellow Region 8 WRYMC and WSCL attendees;
- A sharing of ASCE resources available to local leaders to help you lead your local Sections and Branches,
- Two sets of breakout sessions during which successful Section/Branch Best Practices were shared by activity leads;
- A Question and Answer session with our current ASCE President Guna Gunalan, President-Elect Jean-Louis Briaud and Executive Director Tom Smith; and
- A Question and Answer session over morning coffee with the Society President-Elect candidates Maria Lehman and Dennis Truax.

This year, we had 35 Region 8 leaders from 10 Sections and 13 Branches attend the WSBIL meetings. We hope to see more Region 8 leaders at next year's WSBIL in Anaheim, CA on February 12 and 13, 2021.

2020 Western Regional Younger Member Council

Multi-Regional Leadership Conference

Two weeks ago, Regions 8 and 9 leaders and members gathered together in Burlingame, California for one of the most anticipated conferences of the year – the Regions 8 and 9 Multi-Regional Leadership Conference (MRLC).

The MRLC consists of three tracks to serve the wide array of membership and leadership groups within ASCE, including executives, national, regional, section, branch, and younger member groups throughout Regions 8 and 9. The conference was hosted by the combined efforts of the San Francisco and San Jose Younger Member Forums, Leadership Training Committee (LTC), and Society and included the following tracks: Western Regional Younger Member Council (WRYMC), the Workshop for Section, Branch and Institute Leaders (WSBIL), and the Workshop for Student Chapter Leaders (WSCL).

Shout out to the WRYMC conference committee team (San Francisco and San Jose YMF leaders) who helped bring the MRLC back to the Bay Area.

They helped fundraise and coordinate the weekend program for over 170 young professionals, including six project tours, a presentation on Cal OSHA's Safety Assessment Program (SAP), Diversity &

Inclusion workshops, and a Lunar New Year themed banquet and awards ceremony. Some of the highlighted technical tours included a tour of the new Bay Bridge and Salesforce Transit Center.



This premiere leadership conference helps cultivate leaders, strengthen networks, and showcases the many resources and support ASCE members have throughout the regions. Conferences like the Multi-Regional Leadership Conference are an effective way of providing education and elevating current and future leaders that will make significant impacts within the industry.

The 2020 Regions 8 and 9 Workshop for Student Chapter Leaders

The 2020 Regions 8 and 9 Workshop for Student Chapter Leaders (WSCL) was held in San Francisco, January 23 to 25, in conjunction with meetings for Section, Branch, and Institute Leaders and the Western Regional Younger Member Council.



The meeting with the students was full of training on how to run a student chapter, how to have effective meetings and how to complete their annual report among other training subjects. There was one student chapter from Region 6, one from Region 10, and 42 student chapters from Regions 8 and 9 and 213 students in attendance.

This WSCL was unique in that we had a presentation by a student, Vivian Chong, from UCLA who conducted a process where students discovered their WHY. This was framed in a “passion project” or focusing on what the individual student’s passion was and how they could achieve that passion and how that passion involves and affects ASCE.

We are so fortunate to have a rising generation of ASCE members in our students, full of passion for their community and their profession.



Working with the students is always invigorating and we encourage ASCE members at all levels to interact with the students and support them as much as you can. This is especially important to help the students as they prepare for their annual student conferences. If a conference is in your backyard, please volunteer to make those conferences successful.

The Canadian Centre for Welding and Joining, in collaboration with the AWS Alberta section and the Steel Centre are excited to invite you to attend a two-day industry seminar on steel structures with Robert E. Shaw, Jr., PE. On March 3, 2020 Mr. Shaw will be presenting the "Getting the Welds You Need and Want" session and "Structural Bolting" session on March 4, 2020. The seminar will cover a combination of both basic and advanced topics related to welded and bolted structural joints (details can be found in the attached flyer).



[View the Flyer](#)

Region 8 Calendar of Upcoming Events

- Steel Structures Industry Seminar on March 3-4, 2020 at University of Alberta with Robert E. Shaw, Jr., PE
- Legislative Fly-In, March 11 and 12, 2020
- Pacific Southwest Student Conference, California State University Fullerton, April 2-4, 2020
- Rocky Mountain Student Conference, Colorado School of Mines, April 2-4, 2020
- Pacific Northwest Student Conference, University of Washington, April 16-18, 2020
- Mid-Pacific Student Conference, University of California, Berkeley, April 23-25, 2020

Visit [Region 8 Events](#) for more information.