



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

Region 8 Director's Column

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Hou`oli Makahiki Hou!! Hope you all had a safe and Happy New Year!!

Your Region 8 Board of Governors and Assembly will be holding our winter meeting both in Las Vegas, NV and virtually on February 18 and February 19 and 20, respectively. If you have any concerns or ideas that you want us to discuss, please feel free to contact me or any one of our Region 8 Governors.



ASCE Board of Direction January Virtual Meeting

The ASCE Board Nominating Committee met virtually on January 15 to interview candidates for our next Society President-Elect. The Committee chose to advance two names to the 2021 Society election ballot. The two successful candidates are:

- Maria C. Lehman, P.E., ENV SP, F.ASCE
- Peter M. Moore, P.E., ENV SP, LEED AP, F.ASCE

Professional information and vision statements from both candidates will be available on the ASCE website elections page in the near future. The official candidates will be participating in a Q&A session at our Winter Assembly meeting on February 19. If you are interested in participating in the Q&A session, please let me know. The election takes place in May.

The Society's 2020 Section Membership Drive (SMD) Contest in conjunction with the Member-Get-A-Member (MGAM) campaign concluded on December 31, 2020. Congratulations to the Hawaii Section for finishing in first place with a total recruited member count of 11 new dues-paying members. They will be receiving a prize of \$1,000. Finishing in second and third were the Los Angeles Section and the Philippines Section with nine and eight new members respectively.

In a casual contest, I am proud to report that Region 8 finished first among Geographic Regions in the SMD contest with 32 new dues-paying members. Thanks for giving me bragging rights for the rest of my Director term. Region 8 continues to be GREAT!! Finishing in second and third place were Regions 3 and 10 with 26 and 24 new dues-paying members, respectively.

The Society's 2021 SMD contest started on January 1 and runs through December 31, 2021. For your new members to count, they must be recruited through the [MGAM website](#). For 2021, the SMD standings will be based on the largest percentage increase instead of total new member count. Additional rules are indicated on the MGM website.

Don't forget that Region 8 has its own membership contest. The term for the Region 8

membership contest is between Fall Assembly meetings which is roughly September 2020 to September 2021. The Region 8 contest is based on total new member increase.

Why so much focus on member growth, student transition, and retention? It's because ASCE's number one strategic goal is that "An ever-growing number of civil engineers are members of, and engage in, ASCE." The health of our organization, especially locally, is largely dependent on our membership and those members getting involved or participating. In the last 10 years, ASCE has lost over 10,000 members. Let's work together to get those former members back into our great organization, to recruit new people with new ideas, and to get the students to continue in ASCE as they begin their professional careers.

The Society Board of Direction met virtually on January 16. Among the discussions were Future World Vision (FWV). To date, the prototypes of two future cities, the Floating City and the Mega City, have been developed and shared at the last two Annual Conventions. Various video presentations and 3-D simulations of the Floating and Mega Cities are available for local groups to use. The two prototypes have been well received at the conventions and the Board is very excited for the potential impact of FWV for the future of our profession to be similar if not greater than the Dream Big movie (which is available for reviewing through Netflix). The Board voted to fund the continue development of a fully functional Mega City that would be shown at the 2021 Annual Convention in Chicago. Associated products would be developed for ASCE's use. A Floating City Proof of Concept will also be developed. Lessons learned from the Mega City would be used towards the fully functional Floating City in the next phase of development.

Mr. Gerald (Jerry) Buckwalter, ASCE Chief Innovation Officer and leader of our FWV activities, will be doing a virtual presentation on FWV at our Winter Assembly meeting on Saturday, February 20. If you are interested in viewing the presentation, please let me know.

The COVID-19 pandemic has no doubt had an effect on all of our lives to some degree. It has also resulted in FWV fundraising in support of FWV to be behind schedule. If you are in a position to do so and are excited about FWV potential for our profession as me, I ask you to join me in making a personal tax-deductible financial contribution to the ASCE Foundation to support the FWV program. Contact [Ms. Christine Williams, ASCE Foundation Executive Vice President](#), to make a financial contribution.

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

Alaska Section Update

Congratulations, we lived through 2020, from the ASCE Alaska Section to all! As a section that is separated by many beautiful miles of incredible scenery, the pandemic has been harder than most. Virtual meetings have taken the place of face-to-face meetings and business is finding the new normal at the Alaska Section. The Juneau, Anchorage, Mat-Su, and Fairbanks branches are conducting presentations to their members and inviting

members from other branches to their monthly virtual presentations. I am proud of the work the branches have done to keep members involved and raising the bar by presenting quality speakers on topics that interest the members.

Over the last decade the Alaska Section has been working on recognizing two distinguished historic landmarks. The Salmon Creek Dam in Juneau was constructed in 1914 and it was the first constant-angle arch dam in the world. It was constructed to support the Alaska Gastineau Goldmine hydroelectric project. The dam is significant in that the design enabled a 33% savings in material while also doubling the factor of safety against failure in comparison to conventional gravity dams. The dam also currently provides 1/3rd of the water used in the City and Borough of Juneau. The dam is owned and operated by Alaska Electric Light & Power (AEL&P). The ASCE Alaska Section spearheaded recognizing the dam as an ASCE National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark roughly a decade ago and in 2020 secured the approval to receive that designation.

Another landmark that the Alaska Section has spearheaded in recognizing is the O'Connell Bridge in Sitka. The O'Connell Bridge was constructed in 1972 as the first Cable-Stayed bridge in Alaska, and the first Cable-Stayed bridge in the United States to supporting modern vehicles. The bridge is unique in that it was the first of its kind to be constructed in a highly-seismic zone, and was an early example of a Cable-Stayed bridge to be structurally analyzed by computer (IBM 1130). The bridge is owned and maintained by the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (AK DOT&PF). The Alaska Section decided to recognize the bridge as a State Historic Civil Engineering Landmark in 2017.

Both Historic Landmarks were slated to be recognized with plaques and dedication ceremonies in 2020; however, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic decided to delay the dedications to 2021. The tentative plan is to dedicate both landmarks in the fall of 2021, pending the easing of the pandemic and travel restrictions.

I am so thankful and impressed by the hard work by the Alaska section board, branches, student members, and leaders in their fields to produce Alaska's second state report card. The expected release is the late spring of 2021. Alaska has added additional sections and it has really filled in the few gaps not addressed in our first report card. The success of our first report card has been incredible. I thank the many members that presented the report card to the house and senate, city assemblies, ADOT leadership, governors, and organizations interested in promoting the infrastructure needs of the State and local communities.

The Juneau, Mat-Su, Anchorage, Ketchikan, and Fairbanks branches all give multiple scholarships to high-school students pursuing engineering degrees. It has been a successful program that is very rewarding to many students.

The Alaska Section and many supporters have set up a Dale Nelson Civil Engineering Memorial Scholarship in 2020 given to Engineering students studying in the State of Alaska. The late Dale Nelson is the past Region 8 director and the Alaska Section continues to donate yearly to the scholarship in his name to offer scholarships now and in the future.

My journey in ASCE has granted me many forever friends and contacts, and taught me so much about leadership. I live in Juneau, Alaska and served on the Juneau branch for 4 years including holding the position of president of the Juneau Branch. I was approached by the Alaska Section board to serve on the State board and have served for the last 3 years with this year holding the position of Alaska Section President.

The ASCE Alaska section is grateful of all the past and current branch and section leadership that continue to give and help with all ASCE business. I couldn't ask for a better group of incredible men and women that just don't know how to stop helping make the Alaska Section successful. I am inspired to see the way so many are continuing to promote ASCE and do good work on its behalf. I am honored to be part of an amazing organization.

Sincerely,

Justin Kanouse, P.E. M.A.S.C.E.

ASCE Alaska Section President 2020-2021

Region 8 Members Award Spotlight

This month several of our ASCE Region 8 peers received impressive society awards for their hard work and continued dedication to the profession. Region 8 really is Great! It is truly wonderful to know that we have such outstanding members in our region. These award announcements and more award information can be found on the [Region 8 website Awards page](#).

Dr. Edward Kavazanjan, Jr., Ph.D., P.E., D.GE, Dist. M. ASCE, NAE

Dr. Kavazanjan of the Arizona Section was selected by ASCE's Geo-Institute to present the 2022 Karl Terzaghi Lecture for "significant contributions to earthquake engineering, the design of waste containment systems, and in leading the emerging field of biogeotechnical engineering." The award will be presented during the Society's Geo-Congress 2022 in Charlotte, NC, March 20-23, 2022.

Dr. Kyle F. Flynn, Ph.D., P.E., M.ASCE

Dr. Flynn of the Montana Section was selected by ASCE's Environmental and Water Resources Institute to receive the 2021 Samuel Arnold Greeley Award for the paper, "Evaluating Hydraulic Habitat Suitability of Filamentous Algae Using an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle and Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler," that appeared in the March 2020 issue of the Journal of Environmental Engineering. He and the paper co-author will receive the award at the EWRI World Environmental & Water Resources Congress in Milwaukee, WI, May 23-26, 2021.

Dr. Bruce Rittmann, Ph.D., Dist.M.ASCE, NAE

Dr. Rittman, of the Arizona Section, along with the other co-authors Dr. Rosa Krajmalnik-Brown, Yihao Luo, Youneng Tang, and Chen Zhou, were selected by ASCE's Environmental and Water Resources Institute to receive the 2021 Rudolph Hering Medal for the paper, "Modeling Trichloroethene Reduction, Methanogenesis, and Homoacetogenesis in a H₂-Based Biofilm," that appeared in the February 2020 issue of the Journal of Environmental Engineering. He and the paper lead and co-authors will

receive the award at the EWRI World Environmental & Water Resources Congress in Milwaukee, WI, May 23-26, 2021.

Dr. Albert Clemmens, Ph.D., P.E., D.WRE, M.ASCE

Dr. Clemmens of the Arizona Section was selected by ASCE's Environmental and Water Resources Institute to receive the 2021 Hydraulic Structures Medal for "advancing the science and engineering of flow measurement for irrigation." He will receive the award at the EWRI World Environmental & Water Resources Congress in Milwaukee, WI, May 23-26, 2021.

Dr. Richard H. Cuenca, Ph.D., P.E., M.ASCE

Dr. Cuenca of the Oregon Section was selected by ASCE's Environmental and Water Resources Institute to receive the 2021 Royce J. Tipton Award for "significant contributions to irrigation engineering, including evapotranspiration sensing and estimation, crop water use and measurement and reporting, education and teaching, including a world renowned irrigation engineering textbook, standard development, regional hydrologic water balance measurement, remote sensing and professional leadership." He would receive the award at the EWRI World Environmental & Water Resources Congress in Milwaukee, WI, May 23-26, 2021.

Oregon Section

The Oregon Section has been awarded the 2020 Outstanding Section and Branch Website Award for large Sections and Branches by the Leader Training Committee. The Oregon Section will receive their award at the Region 8 Winter Assembly meeting in Las Vegas, NV on February 19 and 20, 2021. Their award includes an ASCE Virtual Recognition Award for display on their website.

The Oregon Section will present a Best Practice on their award-winning website at the Region 8 Winter Assembly meeting on February 19. If anyone is interested in participating virtually during this session, please contact [Society Director Tony Lau](#).

Visit the [Region 8 Awards](#) page to find out more about Region 8 Awards.

Region 8 Calendar of Upcoming Events

- Region 8 Board of Governors Winter Meeting, Las Vegas, NV, February 18, 2021 (Tentative)
- Region 8 Assembly Winter Meeting, Las Vegas, NV, February 19-20, 2021 (Tentative)
- Society Legislative Fly-in, Washington, DC , March 2021
- Pacific Southwest Student Conference, University of California, Los Angeles, March 25-27, 2021
- Rocky Mountain Student Conference, Brigham Young University, April 8-10, 2021

- Mid-Pacific Student Conference, California State University, Fresno, April 13-16, 2021
- Pacific Northwest Student Conference, University of Washington, April 15-17, 2021
- Regions 8 and 9 MRLC, DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Anaheim, Orange County, CA, July 9-10, 2021

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

ASCE Region 8 | <http://regions.asce.org/region8/>