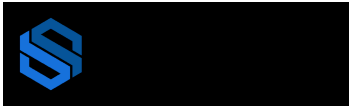


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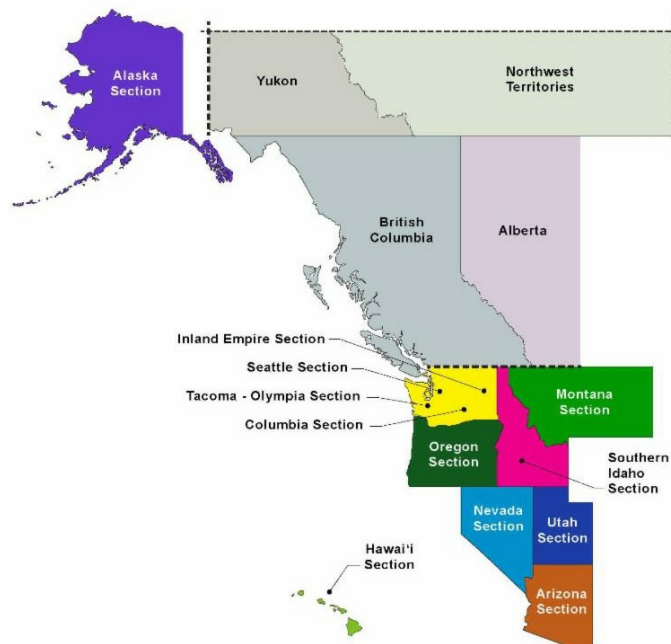
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*"Help you matter more and enable you to make a bigger difference"*

## MESSAGE FROM THE REGION 8 DIRECTOR



Hello, Region 8! As I am writing this article, we are nearing the end of the month of May, which is ASCE's annual national election month. This year, all ASCE dues-paying members who are in good standing (i.e., have paid their Society 2023 dues) are eligible and are strongly encouraged to cast their ballot for national and regional officers by the end of this month. This year, we have two highly qualified candidates running for the position of Society President-elect, and four candidates running for two of the three upcoming vacancies on the Region 8 Board of Governors. Per the Region 8 Bylaws, every third year, when there will normally be three vacancies opening on the Board

of Governors, the top two vote getters from the annual election are automatically elected to two of those vacancies and the third position is filled by a Region 8 member appointed by the Board of Governors. Our system of filling positions on the Board of Governors works well for our enormous geographically diverse region, and we try to ensure that that geographic diversity is reflected in the composition of the board.

Voting for President-elect and Region Governor is important because that is how you can demonstrate that you care about the future of our Society and who will determine what our positions will be on issues of interest and concern to all civil engineers. Voting is also quick and easy to do: Just go to the ASCE website, pull down the “elections” tab, enter your credentials and cast your ballot. The process only takes a couple of minutes to complete. If you are not familiar with the candidates, short bios are included on the ballot for each candidate.

Considering how important voting in our Society’s elections is, it has always amazed me just how few of our members take the few minutes it takes to cast their vote. Region 8 typically leads or is near the top region in election participation, but only a small percentage of our members ever exercise their right to vote for our leaders. Come on now folks, there are still a few days left before the polls close on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Please take a couple of minutes and VOTE!

One of my primary responsibilities as Region 8 Director is to get out and meet with our members. Earlier this month, I made my first official visit to the Hawaii Section in Honolulu, where I met with the Hawaii Section Younger Member Forum (YMF), the Section board, and the leadership for the Student Chapter at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I had a great visit and had the opportunity to meet and talk about ASCE and Region 8 with many folks. Special thanks to both Reyn Hashiro, Hawaii Section President, and Brandon Uejo, Hawaii Section YMF President, who were superlative hosts and really made me feel welcome during my short visit as only Hawaiians know how to do.

Dinner on my first night in Honolulu  
with Hawaii Section YMF



Dinner the next night with Hawaii  
Section Board members and  
University of  
Hawaii Student Section leaders





## REGION 8 LIFE MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Life Member Spotlight:  
Bob Carlson, Ph.D., P.E.

### **Section, Branch**

Alaska Section, Fairbanks  
Branch

### **Education**

University of Wisconsin (UW) –  
Madison 1961 B.S., 1963 M.S.,  
1967 Ph.D. in Civil Engineering

### **Background**

Bob grew up in Wisconsin on a farm with his German mother, Swedish father, two siblings and many relatives in the area. While in high school, he had to give a speech about a profession. He picked civil engineering which planted the seed for his eventual career. While at UW - Madison, he met and married his wife Cam.

### **Coming to Alaska**

Bob came to the University of Alaska - Fairbanks (UAF) in 1965 as part of his Ph.D. He and his wife drove up the Alaska/Canada (ALCAN) highway in a new Jeep and lived in a men's dormitory where they were residence councilors. He left Alaska to complete his dissertation but returned to UAF in 1968.

### **Work/Professional Experience**

Dr. Carlson was an educator and researcher at UAF from 1965 to 2005 with a focus on cold region engineering. He served as Director of Institute of Water Resources (what is now the Water and Environmental Research Center) and served three terms as Engineering Department head. He is modest about his career in academia but was awarded the 2001 Emil Usibelli Distinguished Service Award for his dedication to students and the engineering community and appointed Professor of Civil Engineering, Emeritus at UAF in 2005.

### **Involvement in ASCE**

Bob joined ASCE in 1966. As a member of the UAF faculty, he participated in many local member meetings. He served on the ASCE Fairbanks Branch and Alaska Section board. He encourages student participation in ASCE and fostered networking between students and the engineering community. He aided in the success of the steel bridge competitions and Engineer's Week at the University during his tenure.

### **Advice for young engineering professionals**

He doesn't think one will have much luck looking for a job in the newspaper. Bob recommended joining ASCE and making personal connections! Over the years, he has recommended his students utilize the networks in ASCE and other professional organizations to talk to people, learn what they do, and understand how to prepare for a job in that field. He also emphasized the

importance of getting hands-on job experience such as construction that would enhance an engineering career.

### **Hobbies, interests or organizations**

Bob and his wife Cam have three children and four grandchildren that keep them traveling. They built their Fairbanks home along with other structures on their property. They also have built or supervised construction of church buildings and remain very involved in the community. Bob stays busy with MATLAB computer courses, woodworking, building, and operating his backhoe and other mid-sized equipment. He said that in another life he might like to have been a machinist, but his current dream job might be a grader operator... DOT look out!

---

## **REGION 8 FALL ASSEMBLY**

### **2023 Region 8 Fall Assembly – August 18-19, 2023**

**Please join us for the 2023 Region 8 Fall Assembly.**

**When: Fri, Aug 18 - Sat, Aug 19, 2023**

**Where: Helena, Montana**

**Meeting Location: The Professional Office of "Pioneer Technical Services, Inc."**

<http://pioneer-technical.com/>

**Please follow the link below for more information and register for the assembly using the online registration form:**

<https://forms.gle/FPWE3oZXpqJxMd8J6>

### **HOTEL OPTIONS:**

#### **COMFORT SUITES HELENA AIRPORT**

This is not a block, but a discounted rate at Comfort Suites Helena Airport, so **BOOK** your room **EARLY!!!**

From Comfort Suites Hotel Mgmt:

We're happy to offer you a great discount on our Suites to host your teammates and family. All of our rooms are suites and offer a King or 2 Queen beds, plus a separate sitting area with a pull out sleeper sofa and chaise lounge. Our suites also include a fridge, microwave, and desk area. Bathrooms are big, with long vanities and plenty of light and outlets. The best part, and easiest part, for you is that you don't have to worry about a block of rooms – we offer a team discount that is good for any room we have available.

When folks call us, all they need to do is ask for the "Team" discount. **Please follow the included link to book a reservation online.**

Comfort Suites Helena Airport:

<http://www.comfortsuites.com/ires/en-US/html/ArrivalInfo?hotel=MT075&srp=LTEAM1&pu=no>

#### **Additional Hotel Option:**

**DAYS INN BY WYNDHAM HELENA**

**2001 Prospect Avenue**

**Days Inn online website link:**



Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to seeing you at this year's Region 8 Fall Assembly.

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## REGION 8 QUICK READS - WISH I'D KNOWN



This article on work-life balance early in a career appears online at ASCE's website, under the "Job & Career Advice" section at:

<https://www.asce.org/publications-and-news/civil-engineering-source/civil-engineering-magazine/issues/magazine-issue/article/2023/05/civil-engineers-need-to-maintain-a-good-work-life-balance>

By KP Bhatia, E.I.T., A.M. ASCE

Civil engineers need to maintain a good work-life balance. I wish I'd known the importance of a work-life balance. As a new civil engineer, I spent the first two years right out of college trying to learn everything I could. Work became my life. I had no hobbies and no friends outside work.

As a result, I soon lost touch with things that are equally important, like personal relationships and trying new experiences. Working at a large engineering consulting firm in downtown Philadelphia, I naively thought that hustling came with the job and that I was expected to be on my toes all day. I pulled many all-nighters, working on as many projects as I could, never saying no to senior engineers.

I spent hours of my personal time solving problems that could've easily been solved by senior professionals at work. All I had to do was ask, but I felt that I might come off as weak if I asked someone for help. My drive to learn was so visible that a fellow engineer thought I was "still living life like I was in college," and it wasn't long before I realized there was some truth to it.

Once I noticed the serious impact working nonstop was having on my mental health, I knew it was time to get help. So, I sought mentorship through ASCE's [Mentor Match](#) program. I created a profile and reached out to industry leaders willing to mentor young professionals such as myself.

Within a week, I was matched with an experienced professional engineer in Hawaii. We connected once a month online, and I asked him questions I was afraid to ask colleagues at work. Most importantly, this experience showed me it was possible to have a fulfilling career and a happy personal life at the same time.

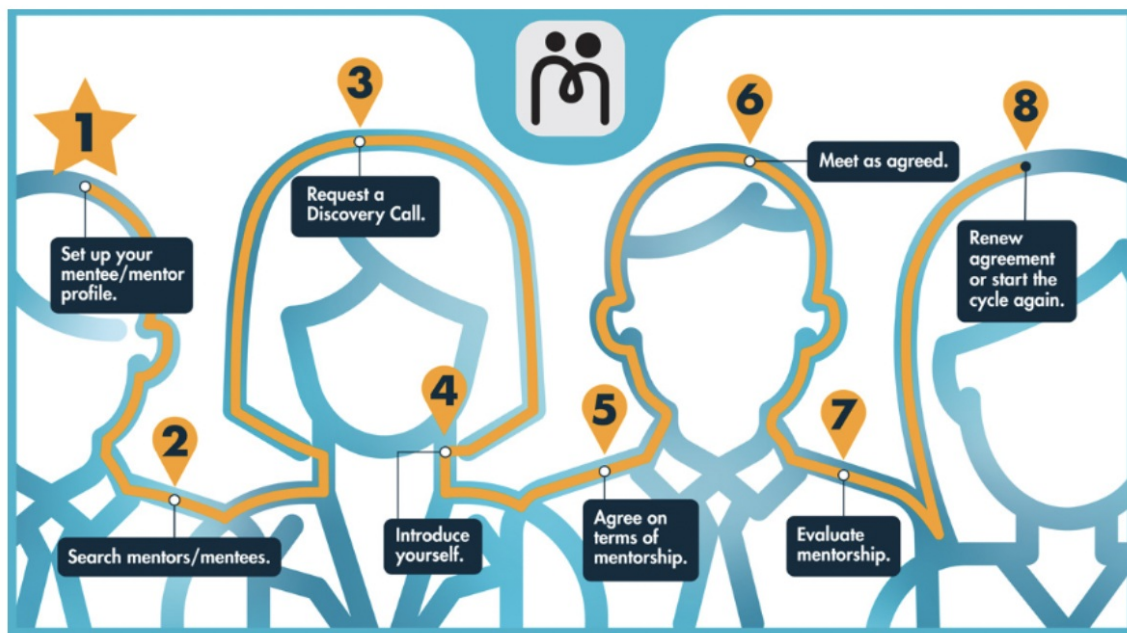
Working with an experienced professional — especially someone who could see the bigger picture — made me a better engineer. I now realize that things as simple as taking time off regularly, maintaining frequent check-ins with my supervisor, and being patient will help me maintain a healthy work-life balance.

Learning is a lifelong journey, and the field of civil engineering is so vast and technical, there's something new to learn every day. There are always new problems to solve — but these problems can only be solved if you're healthy physically and mentally.

*KP Bhatia, E.I.T., A.M.ASCE, is a staff engineer at Olsson in Phoenix. This article first appeared in the May/June 2023 print issue of Civil Engineering as "Wish I'd Known."*

## ASCE REGION 8 MEMBER BENEFITS SPOTLIGHT - MENTOR MATCH

### ASCE MENTOR MATCH POWERED BY ASCE COLLABORATE



ASCE offers mentorship matching with ASCE professional members. Take the first steps:

- Step 1: Set up your mentee/mentor profile
- Step 2: Search members/mentees
- Step 3: Request a Discovery Call
- Step 4: Introduce yourself
- Step 5: Agree on terms of mentorship
- Step 6: Meet as agreed
- Step 7: Evaluate mentorship
- Step 8: Renew agreement or start the cycle again

For more information, or questions, please contact ASCE's Tirza Austin at [taustin@asce.org](mailto:taustin@asce.org).

Link: <https://collaborate.asce.org/mentoring/home>



## SECTION YMF

Region 8 Governor, Bernie Sison, representing Tacoma-Olympia and Seattle Sections, attending the first board meeting for Tacoma YMF group, meeting at University of Washington campus.



(Left to Right) Lorne Arnold, Angela Kitali, Bernie Sison, Belle Lake, Rachel Williams, Vinial Kumar, Laci Bostwick

At the University of St. Martin's, Governor Bernie Sison attends the Student of the Year and Order of the Engineer Ceremony with ASCE student recipient, Sydney Brown.



Congratulations, Sydney.

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## ASCE STUDENTS IN ACTION HIGHLIGHTS - 2023 ASCE PACIFIC NORTHWEST (PNW) SYMPOSIUM













## REGION 8 JOB POSTINGS

- **Technical Sales (Alaska) – beadedstream:**
  - **beadedstream** is targeting a Technical Salesperson to maintain and grow our Alaskan market. This role would be an Alaskan geographic territory focused on the Infrastructure, Environment, Oil and Gas and Renewables industries.
  - This role is based in our headquarters in Anchorage, AK.
  - Qualifications:
    - Technical degree appropriate to the role (civil, mining, geological, environmental engineer/scientist/geologist) is preferable.
    - Technical knowledge of the target industries and with existing contact and speaks the customer's technical



language.

- For more information, please visit:

[www.beadedstream.com/careers](http://www.beadedstream.com/careers)



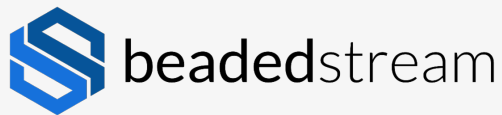
**beadedstream**

**JOIN OUR TEAM**  
**WE'RE HIRING!**  
TECHNICAL SALES (ALASKA)

beadedstream is targeting a Technical Sales person to maintain and grow our Alaskan market share for our Digital Temperature Cables (DTCs), data loggers and beadedcloud. The territory is the state of Alaska, focused on the Infrastructure, Environment, Oil and Gas and Renewables industries.

[www.beadedstream.com/careers](http://www.beadedstream.com/careers)

## REGION 8 NEWSLETTER SPONSORS



**About the Company:** beadedstream's mission is to enable anyone to collect data easily from anywhere in the world.

They are headquartered in Anchorage,

AK, USA. Their **beadedcloud** software presents ground temperature monitoring insights, collecting data from our rugged digital temperature cables and direct-to-orbit data loggers.

If you'd like more information on how to become an ASCE Region 8 Newsletter Sponsor, please [contact us](#).

## REGION 8 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- August 18-19: Region 8 Fall Assembly, Helena, Montana
- October 19-21: ASCE National Convention, Chicago, Illinois

[ASCE REGION 8 EVENTS](#)



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