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Richmond Branch - ASCE
<http://www.ascevirginia.org>

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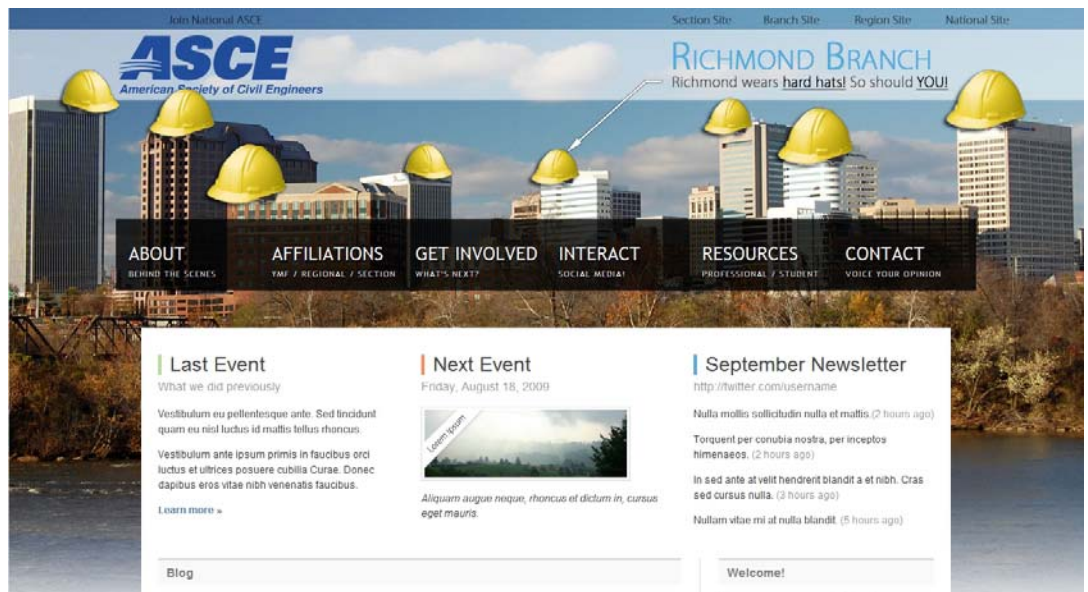
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NEW BRANCH WEBSITE

Going Live December 18, 2011

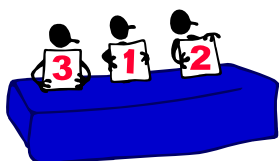
Kevin O'Neill, a new transfer member from Orlando, took on the role of **Website Chair** in the Communications Committee. He worked diligently to quickly build a new Branch website: www.ASCERichmond.org.

The site will have full functionality by the end of the month. Consider it a gift from the officers just in time for the holidays!



WEBSITE FEATURES

Interactive



An integrated comments feature allows for instant feedback from events increasing participation. In the future you will even be able to rate the events!

Event Sign-in



We've made participation a piece of cake! Members will be able to sign up for events directly from the website and pay online via PayPal.

Gallery



Images can be uploaded on the fly during the events. Any authorized user can upload images. No waiting around!

Newsletters



Viewable within the web-browser. Instantly available online the same day distributed by e-mail.

Surveys



Not problem, online surveys can easily be (and will be) created and implemented ready for your thoughts.

Calendar



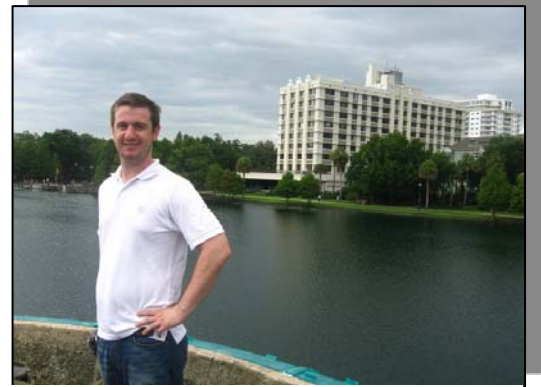
Want to know what events are coming up? Go no further than the homepage. The event time, location, speaker bio, event agendas, and downloadable event fliers will all be easily accessible to anyone interested.

MEET THE... WEBSITE SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIR

Kevin O’Neill, EIT

Hello! My name is Kevin O’Neill and I was recently elected to serve as the new Webmaster for the Richmond Branch. I have been working with website design for the better part of the last 10 years, mainly as a self taught hobby, with some freelance from time to time when opportunities arise.

I grew up in N. Ireland and my family immigrated to the United States in 1995 to Orlando, FL. I maintain dual citizenship with the United Kingdom and the U.S.A. I attended the University of Central Florida for both my Undergraduate degree in Civil Engineering and also my Graduate Degree in Structural and Geotechnical. Recently, this April, I accepted a job to move to Richmond to work with CH2M Hill as a Structural/Bridge Engineer, and couldn’t be more stoked! Richmond is a great little city! I have settled in very well.



Kevin is standing on the Lake Eola fountain in downtown Orlando.



Kevin is performing an underwater structural inspection of the deteriorating fountain.

My involvement with ASCE as a participant was kick started by the National Steel Bridge competition. I participated heavily for 2 years with a high point of qualifying for the National level after finishing a top team within our region. Very exciting time! No longer a participant, I took up leadership in running the National Steel Bridge competition the following year as UCF was to named the host school for the first time in its history. Judging for many structural and geotechnical competitions followed!

I’m excited to have a new project to work on (ASCERichmond.org). I believe having a great website for the Richmond community is essential, and we aim to bring just that to you by Mid-December! Enjoy and look out for it!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



At our planning meeting earlier this year, the board laid out a few ideas for the monthly branch meetings in 2011-2012 as we do every year. Because of its proximity to the holidays, we wanted to do something special in December and since it has so much impact in our local area we also knew that we wanted to do something to commemorate the start of the **sesquicentennial celebration of the Civil War** in 2011. When I moved to Virginia a few years ago, I believe that it took less than ten minutes before I heard someone refer to me as a 'Yankee' for the first time in my life. And yet, this was probably only a few minutes faster than it took to be reminded that the "War Between the States" had never truly ended! Having been born and raised in western Pennsylvania, I was not aware of how alive the memory of the Civil War was here in Virginia and the celebration of its 150th anniversary since then seems to have only heightened that excitement. Not surprisingly, it hasn't taken me long to become a full blown Civil War buff in this environment. In my eagerness to learn as much as I could about this conflict which defined our nation, I also really began to be particularly drawn to the development of so many aspects of modern day engineering that were really born out of this time period.

We are excited to bring this unique topic to the December meeting and invite **Tracy Chernault** from the **National Park Service** to speak on **how engineering was used in the Civil War** with a particular emphasis on the **innovations** used during the Battle of the Crater. This is a great opportunity to hear about an event that not only played a role in the history of our area but also had such an impact on our profession as well. It is often said that "necessity is the mother of all invention" (Plato, The Republic). Never was this more evident than during the American Civil War where Union and Confederate engineers were forced to adopt new technology and methods to meet the changing way the war was being fought. The Battle of the Crater was certainly no exception and was a great illustration of how important of a **role that engineering** played in the history of the war.

I hope that you can make time to attend our last ASCE meeting of 2011. **It's been an exciting year** and 2012 promises to be even more so.

To all of our members, on behalf of the Richmond Branch board, I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas, a **joyful holiday season**, and a happy New Year. I look forward to seeing you all again in 2012.

Yours Respectfully,

Mike

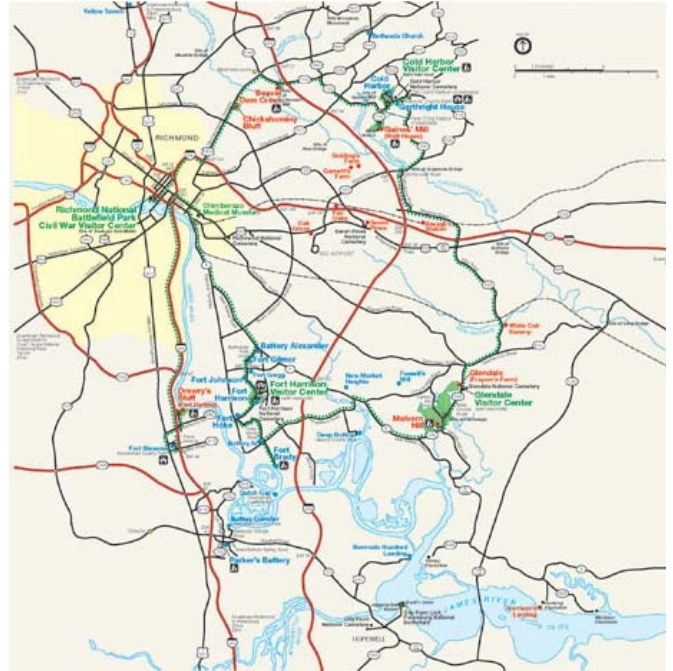
Michael Howell, PE
Structural Engineer
Austin Brockenbrough & Associates, LLP



DECEMBER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Civil Engineering in the Civil War

The campaign for Petersburg, Virginia lasted 292 days. The armies at times were no further than a football field apart on a landscape that more resembled the moon than 19th century America. Soldiers fought, slept, lived and died through this horrific ordeal in earthen fortifications and trenches that would stretch for more 70 miles across the countryside. One of the battles epitomized the horror as Union soldiers dug a mine under a Confederate fort, and using 4 tons of black powder blew it up, but then failed to capitalize to take the city in the fighting that ensued after. Join Park Ranger Tracy Chernault as he explains the events and engineering undertakings of those trying times that set in motion the future of this great Nation.



Tracy Chernault was born and raised in Appomattox, Virginia. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from Averett College in Danville, Virginia. While in college, he began working summers at Appomattox Court House National Historic Park as a Park Ranger. He began his full-time National Park Service career in 1991 at Appomattox Court House and transferred to Petersburg National Battlefield in 1997.

He has co-authored a volume in the Virginia Regimental History Series, The 18th and 20th Battalions of Heavy Artillery, in addition to publishing several articles on the War Between the States. He is Past-President of the Lynchburg Civil War Round Table and Past-President of the Appomattox County Historical Society. He currently resides in Colonial Heights near Lee's Violet Bank headquarters with his wife Courtney and their two sons Jesse and Kyle.

Date: December 13, 2011, 11:45 am to 1:00 pm

Agenda: 11:45 am Registration, 12:00 pm Lunch Served, 12:10 pm Presentation

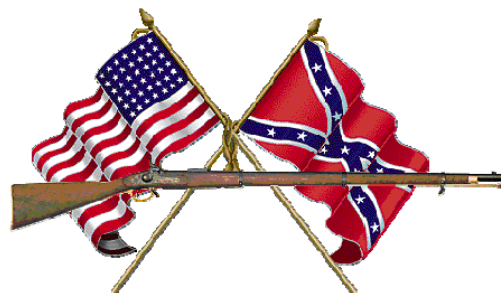
Location: Westwood Club, 6200 Club Lane, Richmond, VA 23226

Cost: \$20 (Cash or Check at the door)

Lunch: (both come with dessert and water/tea/coffee)


1. Roasted Turkey and Double Cream Brie Sandwich and a side
2. Tomato Basil Soup & Caesar Salad

RSVP by December 6, 2011 to Mark Yanik at 804-615-4900 or Yanik@PBWorld.com



JANUARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEET AND GREET

Save the Date!

| | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
|  |  |  <p>AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS <i>Virginia Section and Richmond Branch</i></p> <p>INVITE YOU TO THE 4TH ANNUAL MEET AND GREET FOR CIVIL ENGINEERS WITH OUR GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS</p> | |
|  |  | | <p>SAVE THE DATE</p> |
|  | | | <p><i>Place:</i> Jefferson Hotel 101 West Franklin Street Richmond, VA 23220</p> <p><i>Date:</i> January 18, 2012</p> <p><i>Time:</i> 5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.</p> <p><i>Light food and drinks will be provided.</i></p> |
| | | <p>Event Coordination Support Provided By:</p>   <p>www.transystems.com www.kimley-horn.com</p> | |

Contact your representative to invite them to the ASCE Meet and Greet!

If you don't know who represents you, find out by using [Who's My Legislator](#). Who's My Legislator gives you the contact information for your Delegate or Senator.

Information regarding the issues the General Assembly will be discussing and ASCE's recommendations is available at the new Branch website.

FEBRUARY ENGINEER'S WEEK EVENTS

Career Day & Popsicle Bridge Contest

The Science Museum of Virginia will again host Career Day on Sunday Feb. 19 from 12pm - 5pm in conjunction with Engineers Week. As in past years, contests for Middle and High School Students will include an egg drop contest sponsored by ASME and a popsicle bridge building contest sponsored by our Branch. For more information, visit the new Branch website at www.ascerichmond.org/2012bridgecontest or contact the Education Committee Chair.

Richmond Joint Engineers Council (RJEC) Annual Banquet

The 2012 Engineers Week Banquet has been scheduled for Thursday Feb 23rd at the Jefferson Hotel. David Lohr has agreed to be the Featured speaker, and various RJEC awards will be presented. Visit www.rjec.org for more information. Our Branch is sponsoring a table for members and for our UVA student essay contest winner. Contact the Branch President if you are interested in attending.



Please consider the environment before printing this newsletter.

RJEC Engineer of the Year Award

The RJEC Engineer of the Year Award is made to an engineer residing, working or otherwise affecting the greater Richmond, Virginia and surrounding counties for achievement in any engineering discipline. Nominations for the RJEC Engineer of the Year Award may be made by an individual; an engineering, professional or technical society; a business, or educational institution. Submission of the nomination form and any attachments shall constitute the required documentation. This documentation must be received by the RJEC by January 7, 2011. Visit www.rjec.org for more information.

FOLLOW UP FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Post PE happy hour

The post PE Happy Hour was a success bringing together several test takers and even a couple dare devils taking on the new SE test. The highlight of the evening was running into former ASCE Richmond Branch President Bob Cosby who stopped in to congratulate test takers and share stores over a round of drinks.

November Meeting - Innovative Pavement Techniques



Brian K. Diefenderfer, Ph.D., P.E., Senior Research Scientist at the Virginia Center for Transportation Innovation and Research, discussed the 2011 Virginia Department of



Transportation project to rehabilitate a 3.66-mile section of pavement on southbound I-81 with in-place pavement recycling. This was the first time in the United States that the three processes of full-depth reclamation, cold central-plant recycling and cold in-place recycling were combined for a single pavement rehabilitation project on an interstate highway.

YOUNGER MEMBER GROUP NEWS

Look for information on our upcoming Q&A session with senior civil engineers in the next newsletter!

P.E. Planner

Upcoming exam date is April 13, 2012 (application deadline is December 5, 2011).
Next exam date is October 26, 2012 (application deadline is June 18, 2012).

ASCE's Live P.E. Exam Review Courses on the web are a comprehensive, proven, and time-tested method to help you and/or your colleagues prepare for and pass the P.E. Exam. One site registration fee allows multiple staff members from your firm/organization to prepare for this very important exam.

** Reminder: Registration Ends Tuesday, February 7, 2012 **



EDUCATION COMMITTEE NEWS

University Student Scholarship Contest

Our Branch sponsors a Scholarship Contest for University Students and members of a Student Chapter of ASCE. The 2011-2012 Scholarship Essay Topic follows:

In 2009, ASCE issued its "Report Card for America's Infrastructure", which rated our nation's infrastructure with a grade of D. Government officials have been in opposition over ways to address this issue. One goal is to restore our nation's infrastructure with high impact improvements that create a positive outcome on the economy and have a long service life. What innovative type of infrastructure improvement would you create within our existing system that would support this goal?

This year's winner is a 4th year UVA student from Midlothian, VA named Kirk Millikan, who is concentrating in **environmental engineering**. Kirk has been a member since August 2009 and is active in the UVA student chapter. He will be awarded the \$1,000 scholarship at the Engineers Banquet. His winning essay is available for review at the new Branch website.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE NEWS

Preparing for the General Assembly Regular Session

The committee will soon start reviewing pre-filed legislation. Contact Austin Clark at alclark@transystems.com to get involved.

ASCE urges Virginia to pass a multi-year transportation program that includes new revenues. Any new legislation should focus on four goals: expanding infrastructure investment; maximizing infrastructure effectiveness; building for the future; and enhancing infrastructure delivery.

The General Assembly meets annually, beginning on the second Wednesday in January, for 60 days in even-numbered years and for 30 days in odd-numbered years, with an option to extend annual sessions for a maximum of 30 days. For 2011, they will convene on **January 11th** for 30 days.

The Governor may call a special session when it is deemed necessary or advisable, and must do so when petitioned by two-thirds of the members of both houses. A reconvened session is held on the sixth Wednesday after adjournment of each regular or special session for the purpose of considering governor's recommendations and vetoed legislation.

ASCE's Legislative Fly-In

The Fly-in (March 20-22, 2012 in Washington, DC) gives ASCE members the opportunity to educate and influence lawmakers on public policy issues affecting the profession of civil engineering.

This program includes:

- Briefing sessions on key legislation active in Congress
- Training on lobbying and influencing your elected leaders
- Networking with your ASCE peers from across the country
- Tips on continuing relationships with your elected officials once you return home
- Lobbying visits with elected leaders on Capitol Hill

Apply now to attend this informative and interactive two-day program at www.asce.org.



Governor McDonnell Announces Government Reform Initiatives for 2012 Legislative Session

Governor Bob McDonnell announced today his government reform initiatives that are contained in a Government Reorganization Plan submitted to the General Assembly. The proposals are a result of the ongoing work of the Governor's Commission on Government Reform and Restructuring. The proposals include eliminating two state agencies; merging seven state agencies into others; eliminating 19 boards and commissions; merging 23 boards and commissions to form 11 boards and commissions; moving four offices and initiatives; and, de-regulating three professions. The Government Reorganization Plan will be considered as a resolution in the 2012 session of the General Assembly. Initial estimates by the Department of Planning and Budget find that the submitted reforms will save at least \$2 million per year.

Changes relevant to Civil Engineers:

19 Boards and Commissions Eliminated

- *Virginia Public Buildings Board*
- *Board of Surface Mining Review*
- *Board of Mineral Mining Examiners*
- *Sewage Handling and Disposal Appeal Review Board*
- *Board on Transportation Safety*

23 Boards and Commissions Merged to form 11 Boards or Commissions

- *Reforestation of Timberlands Board into the Board of Forestry*
- *Board for Geology with the Board for Professional Social Scientists and Wetlands Professions*
- *Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority*
- *Virginia Scenic River Board into the Board of Conservation and Recreation*

4 Functions Moved

- *Virginia Office of Environmental Education from the Department of Environmental Quality to the Department of Conservation and Recreation*
- *Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) Permitting from the Department of Conservation and Recreation to the Department of Environmental Quality*



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Celebrating the Achievements of Former Officer... Bob Cosby, PE



Robert "Bob" Cosby was president of the Richmond Branch in 1985 and subsequently served as a Director. In 1989, he received the ASCE VA Service Award. He is currently an ASCE Fellow and member of the Construction Institute.

Bob has been the President and Class "A" representative of Will & Cosby since the company started 30 years ago. Will & Cosby is a class "A" General Contractor & Engineering Entity. They specialize in Design and/or Construction of Custom Residential and Custom Light Commercial. They do New Homes, Buildings, Additions, Renovations, Repairs, Design/Build, etc. Because of his experience, he also works as an "Expert Witness" on Stick Built Construction Projects that run into trouble.

Prior to that, Bob worked 8 years in Northern Virginia for a Commercial Concrete Subcontractor building High Rise Office Buildings, Apartments, Condos, and other Heavy Construction. He graduated from VPI&SU in 1972 and is a member of the Alumni Association. He is also a member of the Kappa Sigma Alumni Association of Richmond, 23 year member of Rotary International, a 30 year member of the WEST RICHMOND BUSINESS MENS ASSOCIATION.

In 1980, Bob Designed and Built an Earth Sheltered Home (Underground - there is 8" of Soil & Grass on the Roof) that was a two Stories High, High Mass, Super Insulated, High Efficiency Home. He has been living in that house for last 31+ years. Basically it was Green Construction before anyone else came up with the word "Green".

In his free time, he and his wife participate in Ball Room Dancing and enjoy world travel. He played in a Soccer League until he was 42. He is also a Photographer.

Bob is still an active member in the Branch, and we all greatly appreciate his support and enthusiasm.

Robert Cosby, P.E., F.ASCE, President

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LOCAL NEWS

Quiet Asphalt Surface Comes to SR 288

Remember that *Seinfeld* episode where Uncle Leo complained about the humming in his ears? Well, he lived in New York City where noise was constant. How about those of us who live outside Richmond near roadways - where does that humming come from? Most likely it is coming from the highway. For roads that have lots of intersections and slower moving traffic, much of the noise comes from the drive train and exhaust systems of the vehicles.

Where the predominant speed is 45 mph and higher, much of the noise is generated from the tire-pavement interaction. To reduce that noise, two primary options exist - change the tire treads on the vehicles using the road or change the texture of the road surface. Since getting new tires for millions of cars and trucks is out of the question and highway noise is a concern in several areas of the Commonwealth, VDOT was directed in HB 2001 (passed in the 2011 Legislative Session) "to expedite the development of quiet pavement technology."



In response to the 2011 legislation and building on past research done by the Virginia Center for Transportation Innovation and Research, VDOT and the paving industry (Virginia Asphalt Association and American Concrete Pavement Association) formed a task force to respond. Five test sections were constructed in 2011 - 3 asphalt surfaces and 2 concrete surfaces, with additional sites planned in 2012 using new and innovative materials.

In the Richmond area, SR 288 from approximately the Courthouse Road interchange to the Bailey Bridge overpass was overlaid with four different quiet pavement technologies by Branscome, Inc. located in Richmond. Each technology covers both lanes in each direction and is one mile in length. Over the next few years, VDOT will be monitoring the noise levels for these surfaces and how they change over time. In addition to the noise reduction, drivers will notice the reduced splash-spray and improved night-time visibility during rain events. Finally, VDOT will be evaluating the winter maintenance requirements and performance for these surfaces.

More information on this and other projects can be found at: <http://www.vtti.vt.edu/CSTI-research/va-quiet-pavement-implementation-program.php>

Article Provided by Trenton Clark, P.E.
Director of Engineering;
Virginia Asphalt Association



*Serving The Needs Of Virginia's Asphalt
Community Since 1952.
Visit us at www.vaasphalt.org*



CIVIL ENGINEERING IN THE CIVIL WAR

The Infrastructure Advantage in the Civil War

Written by Craig Ponte, former Branch Vice President

This month, the Richmond branch is marking the 150th anniversary of the civil war. Civil Engineering played an essential role throughout the war and shaped its outcome. The superiority of Northern industry and infrastructure sealed the fate of the Confederacy. The Union enjoyed a far superior rail road system with 10 times as many track miles as the Confederacy. The three battles at Bull Run were fought in to defend the major railroad head at Manassas Junction. Without an efficient means of moving men and materiel throughout the south, the Confederacy suffered a major tactical disadvantage against the Union army.

Sea power was another major handicap that the south could not overcome. From the start of the conflict, the U.S. navy controlled the entire coastline of the confederacy through an effective naval blockade. The Confederate Navy was a small force of war ships and privateers primarily engaged in running the blockade, seizing enemy ships at sea, and defending Richmond from Union assault through the James River. The Confederate Navy maintained control of the James River between Richmond and Drewry's Bluff until the end of the war. The fortifications at Drewry's Bluff repelled Northern naval assaults and prevented the U.S. navy from threatening Richmond.

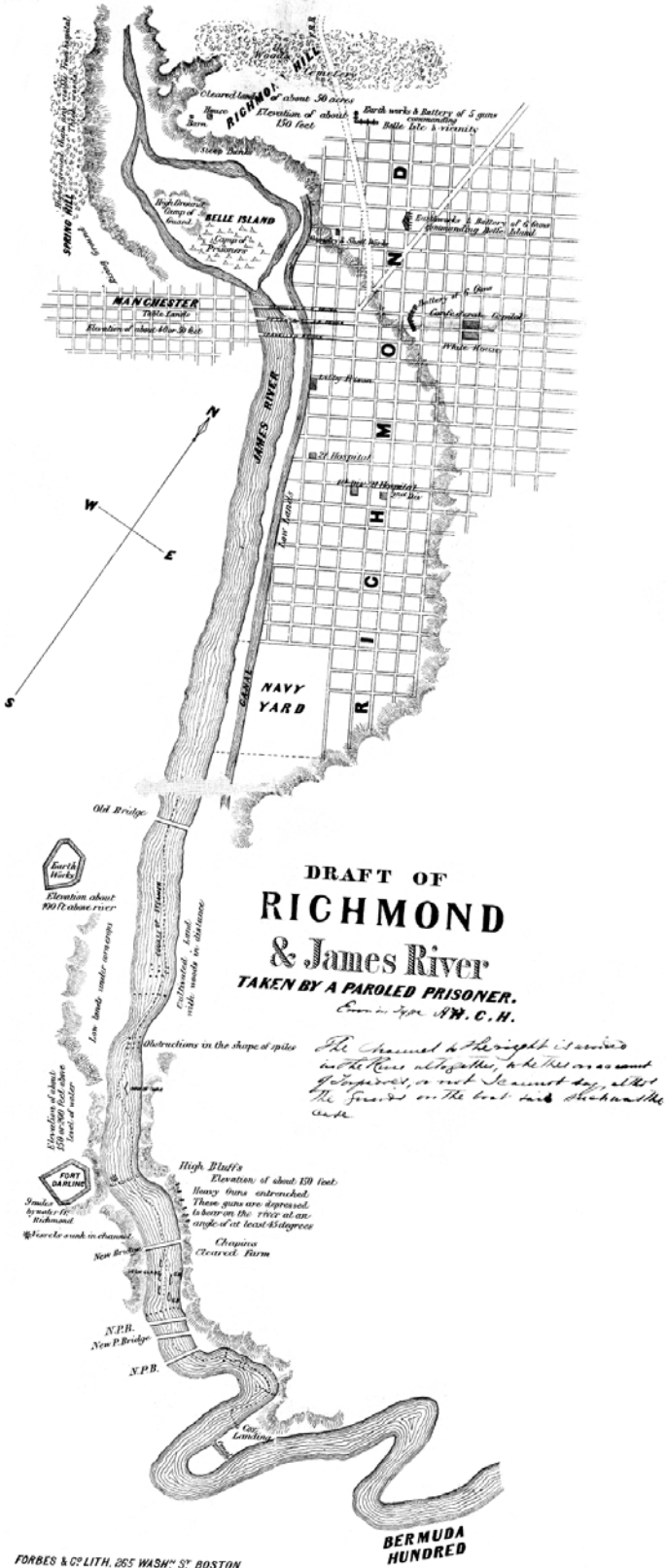
Ultimately, the Confederacy was no match for an adversary with a far superior infrastructure system. As a rural farm based economy, and a political philosophy steeped in states rights, the Confederacy prohibited federal funding to promote the modernization of transportation networks. The Confederate States Construction explicitly prohibited the ability of "...Congress to appropriate money for any internal improvement intended to facilitate commerce..." This policy put the Confederacy at a material disadvantage with the Union and ultimately helped to hasten its own defeat.

The Engineers Role

"The Corps of Engineers' duties included planning and erecting defenses, construction and destroying roads and bridges, placing and removing obstruction, conducting topographical surveys during campaigns, reconnoitering enemy works, and preparing and distributing accurate maps."

Source: "Historical Times Encyclopedia of the Civil War" Edited by Patricia L. Faust
<http://www.civilwarhome.com/engineers.htm>





Company A, U.S. Engineer Battalion- Petersburg, VA, August 1864. Source: <http://www.civilwarphotos.net/files/engineering.htm>



Ruins in Front of the Capitol - Richmond, VA, 1865 Source: <http://www.civilwarphotos.net/files/richmond.htm>

Source: <http://www.mdgorman.com/Maps/maps.htm>

An American Turning Point: The Civil War in Virginia



www.vahistorical.org

Virginia Historical Society
February 4 - December 30, 2011
Admission to the exhibit is FREE

From 1861 to 1865 Virginia stood at the center of a military and social revolution. How we define freedom, liberty, patriotism, and nation today is directly related to the diverse experiences of the individuals who participated in the Civil War. Using original objects, interactive technology, and state-of-the-art audiovisual programs, *An American Turning Point: The Civil War in Virginia* relates the personal experiences of the free and enslaved men, women, and children of wartime Virginia. Visitors are encouraged to consider what was lost, what was gained, what was decided, what was left uncertain, and how an event that occurred 150 years ago still influences us today. *An American Turning Point* is a signature program of the Virginia Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War Commission.

ASCE ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Colleagues who have contributed to civil engineering through their outstanding leadership, research or substantial career accomplishments merit the accolades of their peers. The **Honors and Awards Program** of the American Society of Civil Engineers has as its objective the advancement of the engineering profession through the recognition of exceptionally meritorious achievement. The Program maintains current information online at www.asce.org/awards.

Nominations Due January 15th

- Lefevre AWARD, WALTER

Nominations Due February 1st

- Collingwood Prize
- Edmund Friedman Young Engineer Award For Professional Achievement
- Daniel W. Mead Prize For Younger Members
- Younger Member Group Award



NOW TRANSFERRING NUTRIENT OFFSET CREDITS IN THE JAMES RIVER

CBNLT is now providing NUTRIENT OFFSET CREDITS for immediate transfer in the Chesapeake Bay. DCR & Virginia Localities now allow the use of OFFSETS to meet water quality and stormwater requirements.

- * **State wide acceptance — YES**
- * **EPA, Va, DCR and Locality supported under VA CODE § 10.1-603.8:1**
- * **Offsets follow TRIBUTARY and/or 8 digit HUC system.**
- * **COMPLIANCE and AUDIT needs? EPA\DCR use supported**
- * **BMP replacement option**

CONTACT: info@cbnlt.com

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CBNLT: Virginia authorized
Offset Broker

CONTACT:

bfults@cbnlt.com

sreed@cbnlt.com

cjensen@cbnlt.com

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CONFERENCES AND TRAINING

Governor McDonnell to Host Statewide Transportation Conference

“Virginia – Gateway to the World”

Governor Bob McDonnell will host the 2011 Governor’s Transportation Conference, themed **Virginia - The Gateway to the World**. The conference will be held Dec. 7 through Dec. 9 at the Norfolk Waterside Marriot Hotel, 235 E. Main Street in Norfolk, Virginia. Governor McDonnell will be joined by Transportation Secretary Sean T. Connaughton, Federal Highway Administrator Victor Mendez and numerous transportation, government and legislative leaders to discuss Virginia’s transportation projects and programs, as well as upcoming transportation and legislative initiatives.

The conference will feature sessions on:

- Projects of statewide and regional significance
- Launching the future from Virginia’s commercial spaceport
- The importance of multimodal transportation to Virginia’s global competitiveness
- Creating connections through transportation choices
- DMV as a gateway to service
- Advancing the transportation program through VDOT’s new business plan
- Virginia’s global aviation access
- Alternative fuel infrastructure in Virginia
- 2012 transportation funding and legislative initiatives

The full agenda and registration can be found at: www.vatransconf.org.

Low Impact Development (LID) Competition

The Virginia Low Impact Development (LID) Competition challenges teams of development professionals to demonstrate cost-effective approaches to replicating pre-development hydrology on selected development sites within the Commonwealth of Virginia. A \$15,000 prize will be awarded to winning designs in each of three design categories: **Suburban Residential, Commercial Redevelopment, Green Roadways**. Finalists will be announced at the Virginia Lakes and Watershed Conference to be held on March 6, 2012. The Virginia LID Design Competition winners will be announced at the 23rd Annual Environment Virginia Symposium on April 12, 2012. **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: FEBRUARY 17, 2012.** For full details on the Virginia LID Competition, visit www.VirginiaLIDcomp.org

First Virginia Geotechnical Conference – Save the Date

By: ASCE Geo-Institute and Virginia Chapter

Topic: Lessons Learned in Geotechnical Engineering

Venue: Williamsburg Lodge; Williamsburg, VA.

Date: April 30, May 1 and 2, 2012

Speakers: 16 high qualified geotechnical speakers (PDHs: 10hrs)

Website: www.virginiageoinstitute.org

Conference Chair: Jose N. Gomez, M.ASCE, MSc, PE (jgomez@ecslimited.com)



NATIONAL NEWS

Recap: 2011 ASCE National Conference, Memphis, TN (October 20-22)

This year's conference theme was **Sustainable Infrastructure with Civil Engineering Solutions**, which focuses on the "new" triple bottom line (TBL) of sustainability. This idea tries to balance competing goals of economics, environmental, and social issues. With this goal, a large portion of discussion was put on the new *envision* program, which is a rating tool for Civil Infrastructure. The *envision* program is operated by the **Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure (ISI)**, a collaboration of engineers from ASCE, the American Public Works Association (APWA), and the American Consulting Engineering Council (ACEC). This program is unlike like LEED, which only focuses on buildings. ASCE offers a new online course to support this program, *Fundamentals of Sustainable Engineering*. More information can be found on the ASCE website - keyword Sustainability or at sustainableinfrastructure.org.

The Industry Leaders Forum summed up the ideals of ASCE's new initiative. The speaker was Mitch Jackson, *Vice President of Environmental Affairs and Sustainability for FedEx Corporation*, which happens to be based out of Memphis, TN. You know you are in the hometown of FedEx as soon as you plane comes into view of the Memphis Airport, and hundreds of FedEx planes are below. Through this super hub FedEx delivers over 3 million packages a day. FedEx has been paving the way for sustainability using what Mitch calls practical environmentalism - performance, transparency, innovation, and leadership. They have a goal of improving fuel efficiency standards by 20 percent by 2020 by optimizing facility placement, route efficiency with dynamic route updating, and by using hybrid/electric vehicles. He is an advocate for stronger environmental regulations to spur innovation within the industry. His message to young engineers was to know the function of your organization, don't be comfortable, understand processes, and have passion.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Are YOU Ready to Make a Difference?



At Greeley and Hansen we have a passion for delivering engineering solutions that sustain valuable water resources. Our firm has earned a proven reputation for providing clients in the public and private sectors with **innovative solutions** to meet their unique project challenges.

Greeley and Hansen has career opportunities available for **civil/environmental engineers** in the following locations:

- Richmond, Virginia
- Landover, Maryland
- Washington, DC
- Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Come join our talented team and work with **industry leaders** to help create better urban environments! If you're ready to make a difference, visit our website to apply online at www.greeley-hansen.com.



BRANCH BUSINESS

Now Accepting Longer Articles!

The Richmond Branch of ASCE is soliciting articles for our winter newsletters. Articles related to **Virginia Legislation** are encouraged for **January**, and articles related to **Engineers' Week** are encouraged for **February**. Articles of 200 words or less will be printed in the newsletter. **Longer articles (up to 1000 words) will be posted on the website**; a summary (up to 200 words) will be printed in the newsletter. Articles may describe interesting projects, procedures, industry trends, etc.; however, articles with a heavy sales pitch will not be printed. Photos and figures are encouraged. Please contact the Communications Chair if you have any questions or to submit an article.

Now Accepting Job Postings!

Does your company have openings?
 Post your positions here for a nominal fee (see advertisement fees).
 The newsletter reaches over 500 potential employees monthly!
 Please contact the Communications Chair to post the positions.
 Advertisement cost is \$10 for a ¼ page, \$20 for a ½ page, and \$40 for a full page per month.

Space is limited!
 Contact the Communications Chair for details.

Schedule of Upcoming Events

| Date | Speaker | Topic | Location |
|---------------------|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| December 13, 12pm | Tracy Chernault, National Park Service | Civil Engineering in the Civil War | Westwood Club |
| January 18, 5-8pm | -- | General Assembly Meet and Greet | Jefferson Hotel |
| February 19, 12-5pm | -- | Popsicle Bridge Contest | Science Museum of Virginia |
| February 23, 6pm | David Lohr | Engineers Week Banquet | Jefferson Hotel |

There is more great information at

www.ascevirginia.org

www.asce.org

The Newsletter is distributed to all ASCE Richmond Branch Members. If you received this copy from a colleague, consider becoming a member! Membership information is available at the links above.

Contact Information

| Name | Office / Committee | Company | Phone | Email |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|
| Mike Howell, PE | President | Austin Brockenbrough & Assoc. LLP | 592-3905 | MHowell@Brockenbrough.com |
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| Chris Vaught | Younger Member Group | AECOM | 515-8300 | Chris.Vaught@aecom.com |
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| (Available) | Membership | | | |


THIS NEWSLETTER IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY:




Dewberry





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Transportation
I-81 D/B Corridor Safety and Operational Improvements
Project includes the addition of a Truck Climbing Lane in the south-bound direction of I-81 for approximately 5 miles including drainage improvements, the replacement of three bridges, retaining walls and upgrading all guardrail.



Water
City of Richmond Department of Public Utilities
CH2M HILL provides expertise in project delivery, program and construction management, and public private partnerships. Our clients count on us to efficiently, safely, and cost effectively deliver amazing projects.

Diverse Business Portfolio
We help our clients build a better and more sustainable community in the areas of:

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