



ASCE Richmond Branch Newsletter

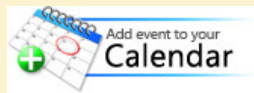
Volume 5 Issue 5

March 2013

Important March Dates

ASCE March Branch Meeting

March 26, 12:00 PM, Westwood Club, Richmond, VA



President's Message

ASCE's Raise the Bar initiative has quickly become an engineering hot topic. For those of us currently in the field, especially those licensed as a civil engineer, if/when this initiative becomes a standard it will not affect our careers. In fact, the earliest this could go into effect would be 2020. So, who does this effect and why should we support it?



Simply put, Raise the Bar calls for a Master's degree or 30 additional credit hours before an engineer could take the PE exam. If this initiative is passed, everyone would be required to have the additional education in order to be approved to sit for the PE exam. The need for these additional credit hours stems from the fact that as more technology is available, the requirements for certain courses are being eliminated instead of requiring more credit hours to accommodate the new courses. It is becoming increasingly difficult to fit all of the knowledge required for an engineering degree into a traditional 120 credit degree.

By supporting this effort, ASCE is helping ensure that engineering continues to progress as a professional career. Additionally, it will help the United States keep up with increasingly competitive countries, and produce better equipped entry level engineers.

As support for this initiative, ASCE put together the Civil Engineering Body

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Meet the Board and Chair Members!

[Click here for our bio's and contact information](#)

President - Amy Bird, P.E.

President Elect - Austin Clark, P.E.

Vice President - Brooke Young

Secretary/Treasurer - Tony Gaynard, P.E.

of Knowledge for the 21st Century (CE BOK). This book was created as part of ASCE's Vision for Civil Engineering in 2025, and describes ASCE's call for further education of engineers. According to the ASCE website, the purpose of the CE BOK, Second Edition is to define:

1. What are the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to enter into professional practice,
2. How can the Body of Knowledge be fulfilled by tomorrow's aspiring engineers, and
3. Who should guide the learning of the engineering student and engineer intern.

I encourage everyone to look more into this issue and be familiar with what future engineers are going to be faced with. Even if this will not affect current engineers, it is important to realize that there is a push to improve our field and keep progressing engineering.

For more information on Raise the Bar or to read the CE BOK, please see this link: <http://www.asce.org/PPLContentWide.aspx?id=7058>

Exciting Upcoming Events!

Past President - Mike Howell, P.E., S.E.

Communications Chair - Melanie Leckey, P.E.

Education Outreach Chairs - Caleb Lange, P.E., Ashley Johnson, P.E., and Josiah Johnson

Government Relations Chair - Chris Vaught, P.E.

Membership Chair - Vacant

Website Chair - Kevin O'Neill

Young Member Chair - Justin Watson

March Branch Meeting - Claims Case Study

Please join us for an informative discussion about a real case study involving an engineering firm and the different items involved with risk management and loss control issues. Topics to be discussed include the details of the case, identifying the problems the firm had, and identifying lessons learned.

Where: Westwood Club, 6200 West Club Lane, Richmond, VA 23226

When: Tuesday March 26, 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Cost: \$25

PDH: 1 credit

Menu: A buffet style lunch will be served

Please RSVP no later than 12:00 PM on Friday, March 22.

For more information and to register, please visit our [website](#) or contact Brooke Young at Brooke.Young@kimley-horn.com.



Kathy Blanchard, CIC, RPLU, Vice President - BB&T Insurance Services. Blanchard leads the Design Professional Liability Practice Group" out of Richmond VA for BB&T Insurance Services, the 7th largest insurance agency in the country. Her practice specializes in working the architects, engineers, and environmental consulting firms. Blanchard's team helps clients objectively compare and select their insurance programs and advises them on a broad range of risk management and loss control issues. A graduate of the University of Kansas, Blanchard also holds professional designations of Certified Insurance Counselor (CIC) and Regional Professional Liability Underwriter (RPLU). She is a frequent speaker on professional liability issues and serves on the boards of a number of industry organizations.



UVA ASCE Student Chapter Holds Panel of Young Professional Civil Engineers

The UVA ASCE Student Chapter will be holding a panel of young professional civil engineers sponsored by the ASCE Richmond branch on **March 26th** to answer questions concerning the transition from student life to working life, expectations upon graduating, etc. The meeting will be held at 6:30 PM, light refreshments will be provided. Please contact Josiah Johnson at Josiah@louisaengineering.com for more information.

Upcoming EPA Expo in Washington, DC

The Environmental Protection Agencies' **P3: People, Prosperity and the Planet Student Design Competition for Sustainability** will be held the weekend of April 19th through 21st on the National Mall in Washington, DC.

For more information of this event, please visit:
<http://www.epa.gov/ncer/p3/index.html>

ASCE Spring/Summer 2013 Continuing Education Seminars and Workshops Announced

Geographic Services is proud to announce the Continuing Education Schedule of seminars and workshops for Spring/Summer 2013. These seminars/workshops have been produced by ASCE's Continuing Education Department. Please check out the following link if you are interested in learning about these great opportunities:

<http://www.asce.org/Regions-Sections-Branched/Region-4/Links/Links/>

Local News and Projects

Congratulations Richmond ASCE!

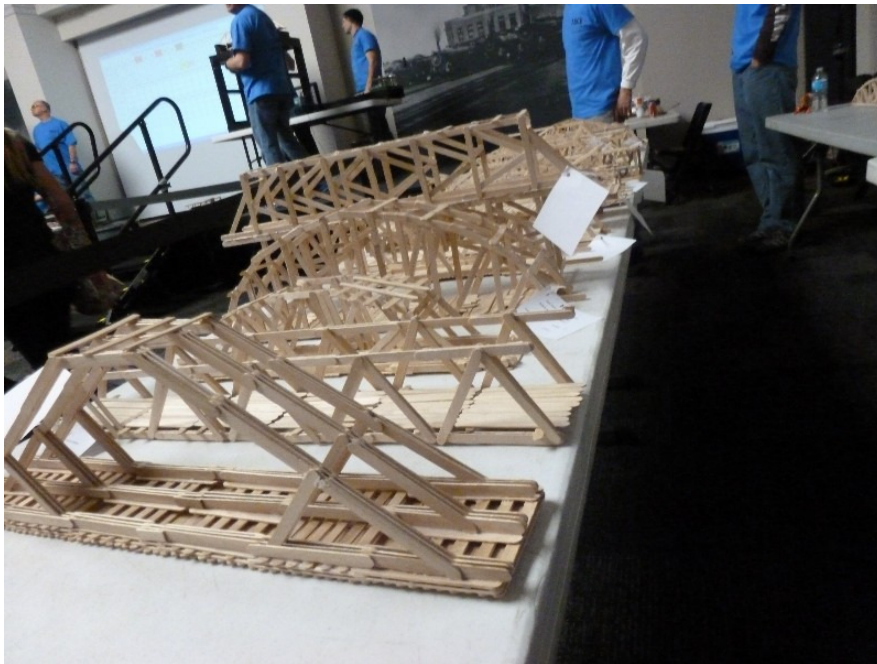
Austin Clark, PE traveled to Rhode Island to accept the Outstanding Section and Branch Website Award from ASCE President Elect Randy Over for the Richmond Branch of ASCE. Congratulations again, Richmond!



18th Annual Popsicle Bridge Contest Drew Local Middle and High School Students from All Over Richmond

This year's competition had excellent attendance with 79 teams, 156 students, and 24 volunteers.

For all of this year's winners and to see pictures from the event, please check out our [website](#).



ASCE's 5th Annual General Assembly Meet and Greet a Great Success!

Many members of ASCE and other leaders in our industry met with Virginia legislators in ASCE's 5th Annual General Assembly Meet and Greet on January 23rd. The reception gave civil engineers an opportunity to discuss proposed bills that affect how we do business and allowed us to create relationships with lawmakers. The event continues to grow successfully and we invite you to be on the lookout next year for the 6th annual event.

Thanks to our Sponsors this Month!

Interested in advertising in this newsletter and being seen by hundreds of local engineers and companies within the Greater Richmond Area? Email Melanie at mleckey@dewberry.com for more information!



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Our next Competent Person training course is November 14-15. Please visit our web site for additional information or contact Rachel Pest at rpest@itac.us.com.

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If you have any comments regarding this newsletter, please don't hesitate to contact me at mleckey@dewberry.com.

Thanks!
Melanie Leckey
ASCE Richmond Branch Communications Chair

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