



American Society of Civil Engineers

Maine Section

2007 OUTSTANDING SECTION / BRANCH AWARD NOMINATION FORM

SECTION/BRANCH (200 points total possible, with 25 points in 8 categories A to H.)

A. COMMUNICATION WITH MEMBERS (25 Points Maximum)

Indicate the number of newsletter issues published annually: 9

- See attached February 2007, issue of the Informant, as a sample for the Section's newsletter. (See attachment A)
- The Informant is published 9 times annually (Sept. thru May with a combined holiday issue and one summer issue) with a circulation of approximately 634 email and 612 paper, with supplemental special publications/emails sent out on an interim basis for special events.

List your Section/Branch website address, and a listing of its content, or information if applicable:

- The Maine Section website is over 5 years old and has gone through several improvements and upgrades in past few years, including major layout and content changes in 2006-2007 by Ralph Nelson our web master. The web address is www.maineasce.org. Content of the web site includes:
- A Home page with News, Monthly Letter from Section President, Announcements and Information;
- ASCE membership information;
- A page devoted to the upcoming events and ASCE events that might be of interest to Maine Civil Engineers, including national and local seminars and course offerings, local events, charitable meetings, and meetings/seminar/programs of neighboring ASCE sections;
- A page devoted to the INFORMANT, the 2006 award-winning newsletter of the Maine Section, including contact information and PDF versions of past issues;
- A page devoted to the current Maine Section Board members, contact information, minutes of board meetings, and past Section annual reports;
- A page listing the Committees of the Maine Section, including description of the committee's duties, activities, and member/chair contact information. This page also features a list of Maine Section members active in National committees;
- A page devoted to our very active Younger Member group, where their activities and schedules, and contact information are displayed;
- A page devoted to links to Engineering sites of interest, including ASCE National, other regional ASCE Sections, Maine professional and trade organizations, State Government offices, Maine and national professional societies, and other links of interest;
- History & Heritage page where we focus on Maine Section's long list of both National and State Civil

Engineering Landmarks, as well as providing a list of all Section Past Presidents;

- A DEP section where updates from DEP Task Force can be viewed;
- A Page devoted to our sponsorship of the WestPoint Bridge Design Contest;
- A page for Volunteer activities of the Maine Section, and information about volunteerism and the benefits of community service;
- A Career page, which advertises local and regional jobs in the engineering field;

Discuss any other communications tools published by your Section/Branch:

- The Maine Section's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Legislative Task Force members send out periodic emails of legislative and rulemaking initiatives at the State level for information, review, and possible action. The same DEP Task Force members also produce regular news articles on the DEP-Consulting Professionals Task Force transactions, a partnership with the primary state regulatory and enforcement agency.
- The A/E Task Force, on which the Maine Section has a representative, informs the membership on upcoming state legislative bills and referendums that pertain to civil engineering and consulting via email.
- Booth at MDOT Transportation Conference with membership info and Leadership available for questions and answers.

B. PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES/SCHOLARSHIPS/AWARDS-RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

(25 Points Maximum)

List any awards presented, scholarships provided to high school and/or college students, professional seminars or short courses conducted, and professional activities/events such as legislative activities, speakers bureau, career day, community involvement programs, etc.

- Engineer of the Year award was presented to Mr. Phillip Dunn, PE in May of 2007 (see attachment C brochure for the May meeting);
- Younger Engineer of the Year award was presented to Ms. Jen Tooley in May of 2007;
- Maine Section is in the process of establishing an Annual Public Relations Award that will be given to an individual member that exhibits exemplary community service, volunteering, or public relations. We will award this in May 2007 for the first time.
- Five Life Members were inducted at the Annual Meeting in May of 2007 including Laurence Perkins, Paul Archambault, Charles Horstmann, Arthur Taylor, and David Young.
- Two High School scholarships of \$2000 each were presented to Annika Mathiasson, Skowhegan Area High School (Attending the University of Maine) and Joseph Gagnon, of Jay High School (also attending the University of Maine) at Maine Section's annual meeting in May;
- Four ASCE/MBTA University of Maine scholarships of \$1000 each were presented to Riley Adams, Clarissa Livingston, Christiannah Holmes, and Torey Johnson (see Attachment D for thank you letters) from the proceeds of the Annual Maine Transportation Conference of which ASCE Maine Section is a founding sponsor. Additional scholarships are awarded each year as well from this Conference.

Typically this conference generates \$7,500 to \$8,000 in civil engineering scholarships;

- The Maine Section has been an associate member of Maine's A/E Legislative Task Force for the last several years. The A/E Task Force was formed by Maine AIA and ACEC/Maine to monitor proposed legislation that has the potential to impact engineers and architects here in Maine. As of March 23rd, the A/E Task Force had reviewed more than 1,600 bills that have been introduced to the 1st Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature. Over 500 more bills are anticipated this session. The A/E Task Force monitored about 10% of the bills introduced to date. Be Schonewald (Past President) is the Chair of our Legislative Affairs Committee and sits on the A/E Task Force. The Legislative Affairs Committee was involved in presenting the Maine Section's position on several legislative and bonding issues this past year. One of the primary efforts was in response to proposed transportation bonding and transportation related bills (see next bullet item). The Maine Society of Landscape Architects submitted legislation to change their licensing statute from a 'title' law to a 'practice' law. As an allied discipline, MSLA provided Maine Section with the opportunity to participate in the development of the proposed language of the revised statute and made an effort to incorporate our comments. (see Attachment E, letter to Senator Bromley and Representative Smith, Co-Chairs Business, Research, and Economic Development Committee);
- A Transportation Coalition, lead by Maine Better Transportation Association (MBTA) formed to reform transportation financing and the Maine Section was one of the first to join. The Coalition has a diverse representation of over 50 organizations including engineering and construction groups, local chambers, municipal and regional groups, tourism interests, shipping, rail and many others as well. Legislators were targeted as specific legislation was developed that would reform how Transportation is funded in Maine. Municipal and other State leaders were targeted so that all advocacy groups for transportation would be on same page and support the program. The general public was targeted as their support was needed to provide grass roots support. In addition, Maine Section members were targeted and reached. Peter Merfeld, Maine Section President at the time, coordinated the information from MBTA and the Coalition to the Maine Section Leadership Team. He attended meetings with legislators and key state policy makers such as the Forum on August 7 (see Attachment F, thank you letter from House Majority Leader Cummings). The Maine Section used the membership meetings, our web site and the newsletter Informant to provide information to the membership on a regular basis. In addition special e-alerts would be sent out. One member of the Leadership team testified in front of a Legislative Committee in support of a bill regarding a Transportation matter, while letters were written by the Section's Legislative Committee on behalf of 3 other legislative bills either in support or in opposition (see Attachment F);
- In addition to the above legislative items, Phil Dunn (member of Government Relations Committee) attended the 2007 Legislative Fly-In and passed what he learned onto the general membership via his Report (Attachment G). He met with Representative Michael Michaud (Transportation and Infrastructure Committee), who expressed an interest in having a Maine Infrastructure Report Card. Phil won the ASCE Region 1 Citizenship Award this past year.

- The Maine Section is also strongly affiliated with and endorses Maine Engineering Promotion Council (MEPC). See Attachment B, a print out from MEPC's web page, www.engineeringme.com. The Maine Section provides a liaison from the Executive Board and works in conjunction with MEPC to provide a schedule of the Maine Section's activities and promote the role of Civil Engineering in Maine. Erik Wiberg, current Maine Section President-Elect also serves as the Maine Engineering Promotion Council Director. Stephen Cole, Chet Rock, and Be Schonewald, all past Maine Section Presidents and current ASCE members, are also involved on the Engineers Week planning committee and/or MEPC board members. Together, the Maine Section and MEPC work to administer and promote Engineer's Week, and to promote the engineering profession as a whole in the State of Maine. In 2006 Maine Section applied and received a Large SPAG (\$3563) and used the money received to sponsor the Section activities for this annual event in February 2007. (See SPAG application cover letter attachment I). The Maine Engineering Promotion Council (MEPC) has developed a broad, integrated, multi-media campaign (newspaper supplement, TV commercial, radio, website, and exposition) that provides a unique opportunity for the Maine Section, through ASCE's SPAG program, to efficiently and effectively conduct a statewide public awareness program.
- Lynn Farrington, University of Maine student chapter practitioner advisor established a new flagship program in the fall of 2007 allowing college students to job shadow for a day with a company of their choice. This enabled students to meet members of ASCE who may become mentors and/or employers in the future. This program was seen as a great success with ten companies opening their doors to many willing student participants. The Maine Section is currently teaming with the UMaine student chapter to host a job fair for civil engineering students and companies. Currently five companies have expressed interest in the recruiting possibility as well as a number of students.
- Lynn also was a volunteer mentor to a 6th grade girl for an entire year in a program that groups women in science and math professions with female students. Several members, including Student Outreach Chair Jeremy Bragg and New England Delegate Scott Gorneau, visited schools to help promote our West Point Bridge Design Contest.
- The Children's Discovery Museum of Augusta, Maine had closed it's doors due to financial problems in late 2005. The Museum was still valued by many in the community though and volunteers banded together to get the Museum back open. In Late 2006 and early 2007, the Museum was receiving much needed attention and updating. The Augusta Museum had been set apart from the other two Children's Museums in Maine by its large and very popular Construction exhibit which was in disrepair. Peter Merfeld, Maine Section President at the time, saw an opportunity for ASCE as well as the state AGC chapter to get involved and organized an effort that involved over 25 companies and individuals donating time, money, resources and materials to the cause. The new Construction/Engineering/Transportation exhibit was now renamed "Building our Future" exhibit and with its centerpiece, a real life Case skid steer, continues to be the most popular exhibit in the museum (for both kids and parents alike). The new Engineering exhibit includes a new drafting table area with

real engineers scales and graph paper, a display of boring equipment and tools, surveying equipment, real hard hats for kids, safety vests, and more. The Section is recognized in several prominent places through-out the Museum. The Museum re-opened in February of 2007, see Attachment O, thank you letter from museum.

- Maine Section President Tim Merritt and New England Delegate Scott Gorneau volunteered in the Maine Handicap Ski-a-thon. Maine Handicapped Skiing is a year-round adaptive recreational program that teaches adaptive sports activities to people with physical disabilities, ages 6 and up. Dave Kamila, our DEP Task Force co-Chair, also volunteers as a MHS photographer through out the year.
- Infrastructure Report Card Task Force member, Ellen O'Brien volunteered in October in New Orleans with Habitat for Humanity's St. Bernard Parish Recovery project. This was a large scale house-to-house reconstruction project. Ellen is going back in November with a group of 25 volunteers.
- Be Schonewald, Maine Section Past President, has been a volunteer puppy-raiser for the non-profit organization My Wonderful Dog for over five years. My Wonderful Dog raises and trains highly skilled dogs to serve as assistance dogs for people with disabilities. The program has successfully placed over a dozen dogs with individuals in Maine and elsewhere in New England. My Wonderful Dog works with youth-at-risk programs, as well as the Maine Department of Corrections, with high-risk youth and correctional facility inmates providing some of the dogs' training in a win-win scenario. When not at the training center, Be's puppy goes to work with her, and has attending business meetings, gone to construction sites, and is a regular at ASCE functions.
- Under the newly formed Public Relations Committee (see Section E), Tim Merritt PR Chair at the time, developed some volunteering promotional material using material from ASCE National. This resulted in a "Virtues of Volunteer Community Service" article for the Informant and our web page. We also developed a Volunteering page on our web page to highlight volunteer opportunities and contact information. On April 28, 2007 about 20 members volunteered for Rebuilding Together's National Rebuilding Day and since then Tim Merritt has joined the local RT board of directors (see Attachment J from web page). On October 27, 2007 about 20 members volunteered for Habitat for Humanity at both a southern and northern Maine location. We dedicated our entire October regular dinner meeting to the topic of Volunteering, Disaster Response, and Good Samaritan Laws. Member Vinal Applee who is the Bangor, Maine area director of Habitat and Steve Bolton who is the Portland, Maine director presented volunteer opportunities with Habitat including their need for professional site selection and permitting services. Dave Kamila gave a testimonial of his volunteer efforts in that arena. Past President Alan Fisher gave a presentation on his volunteer efforts with FEMA's Urban Search & Rescue in response to disasters like the WTC bombings. An insurance agent provided a summary of liability coverage under both state and federal good samaritan laws and advised the group on steps to take to protect themselves while volunteering.

List Section/Branch Professional Committees and the number of meetings and presentation topics for each.

Program committee responsible for a monthly meeting/program with at least 1 pdh.

- October 2006 – Sharon G. Newman of Preti Flaherty Beliveau & Pachios LLP made a presentation about Maine's recently adopted "Vernal Pool Rule," the rule's relationship to current state and federal regulations, and how the regulatory framework could affect our members' projects.
- November 2006 - Conversion of Cutler Harbor Naval Station Adam Myers presented project information about the conversion of the Cutler Naval Base into a residential community with a business park and commercial center. In addition to structural and renovations, the project required development of new water supply sources and wastewater disposal infrastructure all within hundreds of feet from the Gulf of Maine
- January 2007- Maine Section hosted this joint meeting with Structural Engineering Association of Maine (SEAM). Martin Grimnes, Harbor Technologies presented on *Composites in Civil Marine and Onshore Structures* including the history of composite manufacturing, applications within Maine, and case histories.
- February 2007- Dr. Robert Roseen, University of New Hampshire and the UNH Environmental Research Group made a presentation on the use of *Porous Pavement in Cold Climates*. Dr. Roseen discussed the principles of porous pavement design, the implication on site design and construction, and the long-term maintenance, performance, and life-cycle costs
- April 2007 - Annual joint meeting with Student Chapter at University of Maine in Orono, Maine. Steve Curtis of Tetra Tech and President of the ASCE Institute Coasts, Oceans, Ports and Rivers discussed the Hurricane Katrina Damage Assessment.
- May 17, 2007 - Maine Section Annual Meeting – The program included a guided Technical Tour of Penobscot Narrows Bridge followed by an evening presentation by Maine Department of Transportation Deputy Commissioner Bruce Van Note. Mr. Van Note and FIGG Engineering bridge design engineer discussed commissioning, planning, design, and construction of the bridge.
- September 20, 2007 - Bath Iron Works Corporation hosted the Maine Section with a yard tour and presentation on the civil and structural engineering tasks conducted at the shipyard. The presentation included an overview of the shipbuilding process, as well as an explanation of the civil/structural tasks associated with construction support and new ship design.
- October 18, 2007 - Volunteering – Risks and Rewards Steve Bolton of Habitat for Humanity and Maine Section member Vinal Applebee discussed the opportunities that Habitat for Humanity has for both layman work and professional services. Maine Section member Dave Kamila provided an overview of his efforts with volunteering for Habitat. Maine Section member Alan Fisher shared his experience with FEMA's Urban Search and Rescue unit and the opportunities for others to help. Brent Cross covered the legal obligations and responsibilities of engineers while volunteering as well as the impacts of the recent "Good Samaritan Acts."
- Greatly expanded Younger Members Group- Maine Section ASCE has a very strong Younger Members Group led by Chair, Jen Tooley with assistance from Lynn Farrington and Lauren Swett. A series of workshops aimed at "life issues" for younger members was developed and continues to go strong. In

March of 2007 they hosted the free workshop to present information to our Younger Members on Financial Planning. In the Fall of 2007 they continued to support the PE Review course by registering participants and hosting two centralized locations for people to take the review course (Portland and Augusta).

C. TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES (25 Points Maximum)

List the Section/Branch Technical committees and the number of meetings and presentation topics for each.

List Technical Seminars/Workshops, or short courses of at least 3 hours duration and the subjects/topics.

State the benefits of technical/educational activities for members and other engineers.

Program Committee (sub-committee- SEAM outreach); Technical Seminar Organizing Committee; DEP Task Force; Transportation Conference Organizing Committee; E-week planning committee (MEPC):

- March 28, 2007 - Our annual all day Technical Seminar was held in Lewiston (7.5 PDH). "PSMJ's A/E/C Project Management Bootcamp" was the title and featured a highly respected and professional speaker on all aspects of project management. Over 80 registered attendees participated in the program. (See Attachment K Tech Seminar Brochure).
- The Maine Section has begun an attempt to form a local SEI branch, in conjunction with representatives of the Structural Engineering Association of Maine (SEAM) organization, which is the local representation of the NCSEA. To foster positive relations with SEAM, the Maine Section partnered with SEAM on the exhibit at the Maine Engineers Week exposition held at the University of Southern Maine on February 23, 2007.
- In addition to the annual Technical Seminar, the Maine Section maintains primary responsibility for forging the Technical Track at the annual Maine Transportation Conference. The Maine Section, in conjunction with the Maine Department of Transportation and Maine Better Transportation Association annually sponsors the Transportation Conference at the Augusta Civic Center. The themes vary and there is always a good mix of "soft" engineering and policy related topics along with the "hard" technical topics that the Maine Section has the majority of input on. The annual conference draws a crowd of over 700 civil engineering related professionals and administrative personnel from all over northern New England, and is another primary source of CEU's for our membership. (See attachment L, Conference Announcement).
- The DEP Consulting Professionals Task Force meets 4 or 5 times each year with Department staff at the Augusta headquarters.
- Annual E-week events include an all day Technical Seminar held on Friday, February 28, 2007 in Portland, promoted by Maine Section and sponsored by MSPE. The focus of the seminar was Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) practices in engineering..

D. MEMBERSHIP (25 Points Maximum)

List Section/Branch actions/activities to recruit new members.

Describe the program, if any, to recognize members' employers.

List Section/Branch activities to retain members and demonstrate the value of ASCE membership.

Describe actions/activities to transition Student Members to Associate Members.

Describe any special membership focus activities/events.

- The Younger Members Group has put together several great 'fun' events. In May 2007, a trip to see a Boston Red Sox game was set up. 85 tickets were sold at a profit, allowing Younger Members to fund their workshops for the year. In August of 2007, A Portland Sea Dog (Red Sox Minor league team) game was used as a fund raiser for the group with 40 attendees. They also had a bowling outing in January to recruit new YM's along with 5-6 Happy Hours around Greater Portland area. A YM BBQ was held on August 11th at Wassamki Springs Campground with food, swimming, and soccer/Frisbee with 12 attendees.
- The Maine Section offers significantly reduced rates for the monthly meetings to students and members that are unemployed at the current time.
- Maine Section has a Membership Chair to lead the charge and assure that Section is doing all it can do. Membership information and forms are available at every meeting. List of non-members is created for each meeting and distributed to Board/Leadership team so that those attendees can be sought out and encouraged to join;
- Maine Section has one of the highest percentages of Subscribing Members that pay section dues in the country (over 65%);
- A section of Informant is now dedicated to "the benefits of membership." We have also added a link to National's membership section on our web page to encourage people to become new members.
- The Maine Section is searching for membership champions in most of the state governmental agencies that have civil engineering employees.
- We budgeted \$1000 at 2007 Summer Planning meeting for use by Membership committee. We plan to send out gifts/post cards for graduates of U.Maine Civil Engineering in spring '08.
- Added GIS membership data to web site on location of members within state, will use to plan meetings and events around the state.
- We requested list of what ASCE considers lost members, and have located 7 of the 8.
- The Maine Section holds two meetings a year in conjunction with the U.Maine Student Chapter in order to foster an atmosphere of support from Maine Section for Student chapter, assist with any needs and activities of Student Chapter, network opportunities for both students and Maine Section members and encouragement for students to continue as members of ASCE after graduation.
- The Maine Section's student liaison makes annual direct contacts with recent UMaine graduates in order to educate them on the benefits of continuing their involvement with ASCE and to assist them in making the transition to Associate membership. The UMaine student chapter won the Region 1 Governor's Award and went to the Concrete Canoe national competition.
- As a part of the Informant's normal publication, the Maine Section offers that employers can place "help wanted" ads or business cards in the Informant at very competitive rates.
- The Maine Section offers break even rates for each of its monthly technical meetings so that we can

offer attractive attendance fees to the membership at-large, thus allowing for more people to attend that might not otherwise.

- ASCE Maine Section is proud to provide many opportunities for its members to participate in educational and professional development events, seminars and meetings through out the year. The Program committee strives to cover many aspects and timely topics of Civil Engineering each year. For the past several years, this service has been invaluable as Maine has required 15 pdh's per year in order to maintain a PE license.
- ASCE Maine section also provides opportunities for members to network and share ideas at its many functions and events through out the year.

E. PUBLIC OUTREACH/ EDUCATION ACTIVITIES (25 Points Maximum)

List local public outreach/educational activities, including (but not limited to) practitioner-educator partnering activities with colleges; educational outreach activities to elementary, middle, and high schools; activities in support of the ASCE student chapters/clubs in your area; and outreach to media, television, etc.

- The Maine Section kicked off its state Infrastructure Report Card Task Force in the fall of 2007. We are currently recruiting members to serve on the committee to cover 15 specialty areas as well in developing plan/goals/strategy for implementation. We had a phone conference on 10/26 with several ASCE National representatives to discuss development and implementation. We plan to have all put together for late summer/early fall of 2008, with intention of printed material and press release in late fall 2008 during election cycle for new legislature which begins January 2009.
- In the fall of 2006, the Maine Section formed a new Public Relations Committee. The Public Relations Committee strives to establish and improve the general public's acknowledgement and positive perception of Civil Engineering in Maine. The Committee will pursue activities such as volunteer community service, charity events including the A/E Golf Tourney, educational outreach in local schools and events like National E-week, and creation and distribution of press releases regarding general Section events and news. We have begun to assemble a database of reporters that routinely write articles that relate to civil engineering and construction.
- Maine Engineer's Week 2007 activities (first week in March): Through the SPAG program the Maine Section leveraged grant funding with other sponsors of the Maine Engineering Promotion Council (MEPC). The program supported the Maine Section's goal of promoting civil engineering among the general public, attracting middle school and high school-aged students to the civil engineering profession, and promoting ASCE in integrated media formats (television, radio, web, and print). The Maine Section ASCE promoted ASCE and the brand of ASCE to the public engineering community through ASCE logo placement on the MEPC website and on promotional literature promoting the expo distributed to all middle and high schools in the state. The culmination of the Engineers Week activities is the E-Week Exposition, which was held February 24, 2007 at the University of Southern Maine. The Maine Section hosted a display at the exposition. Over 1,200 children and adults attended the Expo. The Maine Section partnered with the Structural Engineering Association of Maine (SEAM) to roll out

the Maine Section's very successful West Point Bridge design contest at the Engineers Week exposition. In the months that followed, the contest attracted over 100 team entries from all over the state of Maine. The Maine Section exhibit consisted of several computer stations with LCD projection of bridge models as they were developed and tested in real time.

- The Maine Section also distributed handouts acquired from ASCE for distribution to children and the public including "Who Makes It? Civil Engineering Fun Book", "Careers in Civil Engineering" brochures, and posters all embossed with the ASCE logo. Through participation in MEPC and EWeek activities, the Maine Section ASCE promoted the brand of ASCE to the public through name-mention in a 60-second radio commercial (421 runs in southern and mid-Maine markets), logo placement on TV commercials (79 runs state-wide), the MEPC website, and on promotional literature promoting the expo distributed to all middle and high schools in the state (over 650 T-Shirts and 1,200 "Save the Date" E-week announcements). The Maine Section published advertisement space in Engineers Week newspaper supplements having a total statewide circulation of about 265,000.
- April 2007: A joint meeting was held with the Maine section and the Student Chapter (as done every year).
- The Maine Section maintains a contribution to the U.Maine Student Chapter as a regular line item in the annual budget. The Maine Section also responds to specific requests from the student section for help with community projects, special projects, concrete canoe and bridge competitions, etc. In 2006/07 the Section contributed \$1500 in fall 2006 as an annual budgeted allotment along with \$1000 for steel bridge/concrete canoe seed money. In June 2007 the Section donated \$1000 to concrete canoe team to participate in the National competition.
- West Point Bridge Design Contest: The Maine Section sponsored a local bridge design contest courtesy of the West Point software. The contest was very successful in its first year, attracting 68 participants from 16 public schools, a few home schooled students and even a few adults. Participants hailed from at least 21 different municipalities ranging from Northern to Southern Maine. Another 50 teams signed up for the contest without submitting a bridge design. The section was able to obtain sponsorship for the contest from 14 local businesses and subsequently offered prizes to 24 students ranging from \$20 to \$500. The contest was advertised via E-Week, flyers sent to all high schools and email communication through various contacts. There was a dedicated web page linked to the Maine Section home page which attracted well over 1000 hits. We are gracious to the BSCE for helping us with the start up of this program and for also creating the first annual New England contest which will also extend into the future. (See Attachment H, web page summary of contest)

F. SPECIAL SECTION/BRANCH EVENTS & ACTIVITIES (25 Points Maximum)

Describe the events/ activities within the Section/Branch, such as exhibits, public service projects, and i.e. Habitat for Humanity, and other events or activities to increase the awareness of civil engineering:

- October 27, 2007; The Maine Section ASCE joined forces with the Greater Bangor and Greater Portland affiliates of Habitat for Humanity (HFH) to aid in the construction of two homes. The Maine Section organized over 20 member and affiliate volunteers to work on home building projects in Brewer and Portland, Maine. The Maine Section reached out to HFH to explore ways the Section can aid HFH through volunteer opportunities and develop contacts within the civil engineering community who might be interested in offering professional assistance.
- On April 28, 2007 about 20 members volunteered for Rebuilding Together's National Rebuilding Day and since then Tim Merritt has joined the local RT board of directors.
- Maine Section is proud to have developed and produced a pamphlet containing the 10 state and 6 National Historic Civil Engineering Landmarks in Maine. Over 4400 copies were produced for the 2006-2007 season, distributed by the Bureau of Tourism at 4 Tourist Information centers across the State and the Maine Turnpike Authority. (Please see attachment M, pamphlet). Throughout the year, ASCE or the historic designation is referenced as seen in article in the 10/11/07 Portland Press Herald (attachment N).
- The Maine Section is also strongly affiliated with and endorses the Maine Engineering Promotion Council (MEPC). The Maine Section provides a liaison from the Executive Board and works in conjunction with MEPC to provide a schedule of the Maine Section's activities and promote the role of Civil Engineering in Maine. Together, the Maine Section and MEPC work to administer and promote Engineer's Week, and to promote the engineering profession as a whole in the State of Maine, including TV ads to reach throughout the State of Maine.
- June 2007: Numerous members took part in the Annual Architects/Engineers Charity Golf Tournament sponsored by the Maine Section. This annual event which takes place solely for charitable purposes requires top three winning teams to name a charity that their 'winnings' would be donated to. In 2007, the golf tournament donated \$5,700 to charity.

G. DIVERSITY (25 Points Maximum)

Describe your Section or Branch activities in the promotion and advancement of diversity in the civil engineering profession.

- Maine Section is proud to recognize that 3 out of the past 8 Presidents of the Section were women. We currently have 3 women on the Board in-line to leadership in a few years. We have several of our Committee Chairs that are women as well (of 18 committee/non-Board positions 8 are women).
- The Maine Section established a new committee in May named the "Committee on Diversity". Our goals are: 1) to establish the status today of women & minorities in Civil Engineering in Maine in comparison to the rest of the working population, 2) to review current ASCE programs and activities to assure that ASCE is representing Civil Engineering in the best light and making Civil Engineering attractive to all individuals, 3) to work with other groups, agencies, or associations (such as the Maine Dept. of Transportation, the Maine Chapter of the Society of Women

Engineers, and the University of Maine Civil Engineering program) who have similar goals to promote Civil Engineering as a career choice for women and minorities.

- Minorities in Maine comprise 2.9 % of the workforce. Women account for 47.9 %. Enrollment in Civil Engineering at the University of Maine is approximately 21% women. In order for Civil Engineering to be more representative of the state as a whole, ASCE needs to attract more women into Civil Engineering and the ASCE membership. Part of the mission for the Committee on Diversity is to take a leadership role in identifying strategies to attract and retain a diverse and high caliber workforce/membership that better reflects the population of Maine. Typically, ASCE programs are well attended by women.
- This year our Section coordinated with the Maine Chapter of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) to co-sponsor a monthly meeting. SWE has also offered to publish our meeting announcements and job postings in their newsletters.
- Maine DOT is the largest employer of Civil Engineers in the State of Maine. In August of 2006, the Deputy Commissioner of the Maine DOT requested a study of gender fairness in the Maine DOT workplace, with the aim of understanding why the percentage of women in many job classifications remained significantly lower than the percentage of women in the population at large. Therefore it made a lot of sense for the ASCE Committee on Diversity and the newly formed Maine DOT Equal Employment Opportunity Group to work together toward our common goals.

H. OTHER ACTIVITIES (25 Points Maximum)

Any other activities that are not listed above that describe your Section or Branch promotion/advancement of the civil engineering profession to either your members or the public.

- See discussion under Section F above regarding the Maine Section's distribution of our Maine Historic Civil Engineering Landmarks brochure.
- See discussion under Section D above regarding our newly expanded Younger Member Group and its many professional and fun-filled activities.
- Maine Section sets up a golf outing prior to each Annual meeting in May. 2007 was no different as several foursomes hit the links at Bangor Municipal Golf Course for a fun filled day of golf.
- Maine Section promotes the society by handing out ASCE decals at every meeting/event and encourages all members to proudly display them.
- The Maine Section underwent a comprehensive update of our Constitution & Bylaws beginning in 2006. The proposed changes were presented to the membership via our Informant, our web page, and at every meeting. We had a voting drive that involved a drawing for several Home Depot gift cards and ultimately the changes were approved by all that voted and Nationals.