



THE INFORMANT

Newsletter of the Maine Section ASCE

Holiday 2006

From the Editors

It's that time of year again – the holiday season, which finds us all very busy. We're very proud to announce that the **Informant has been awarded the National Small Section Newsletter of the Year award!** In this issue you'll find tons of great info, from job ads to the January meeting to the upcoming March Technical Seminar. You'll also hear about the 2006 National Conference from Tim Merritt, President-Elect. Current President, Peter Merfeld, wants you to have a Happy Holiday and also to **make sure you participate in the web voting for the Constitution and By-Law changes** (see our website). We hope you enjoy this issue and have a safe and Happy Holiday Season! See you in January! Cheers!

Patti Korbet and Walter Fagerlund

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Maine Section YM Bowling Night

Building on the success of the recent Sea Dogs Game and Holiday Social, the Maine Section ASCE Younger Members Committee has set up a night of bowling fun for ASCE members. Please join us. Here are the details:

Tuesday, January 8th from 6-8 PM
Yankee Lanes, 867 Riverside St. Portland
Cost: \$12 for bowling

For more info or to RSVP, please contact:

Jen Tooley, GZA, 879-0099

jtooley@gza.com

or

Lynn Farrington, HNTB, 774-5155

lfarrington@hntb.com

The benefits of membership

This year we will be featuring a monthly segment called The Benefits of Membership. Each issue it will highlight something that makes membership in ASCE great. We hope you enjoy this new addition!

Did you know how critical you are in the governance of the Maine Section ASCE? Currently, it takes a simple majority of the section to vote changes into our **Constitution and By-Laws**. That means we need you to **VOTE at maineasce.org** when our ballot goes **online in the next week or so**. Every month when we have meetings, your input counts. If you have something you'd like to bring up at a meeting, feel free to contact the board to get on the agenda and as always, you can attend the board meetings. The board values the members and their contributions very much, and the same can be said for National. Isn't it great to be a part of an organization like that?



Joint Maine Section ASCE / SEAM Meeting
 Hilton Garden Inn
 Freeport, Maine
 Thursday, January 18, 2007

**RSVP by Friday,
 January 12th.**

**Composites in Civil Marine and Onshore Structures
 Martin Grimnes, Harbor Technologies, Inc.**

With many of Maine's coastal infrastructure approaching the end of its useful lifespan and with forecasted increases in sea level, many coastal civil engineering structures will require rehabilitation or replacement. Private and public sector investment in coastal and onshore structures, whether for intermodal facilities, transportation, retaining walls, or shoreline protection, will require twenty-first century solutions. Structural composites, engineered from two or more components usually a strong fiber such as steel, carbon or fiberglass and a binding element offer many environmental and structural benefits compared to traditional materials. The Maine Section ASCE and Structural Engineers Association of Maine (SEAM) invite you to learn about composites in civil engineering on Thursday January 18, 2007, in Freeport



Harbor Technologies Inc. of Brunswick, Maine, a leader in composite structures, was founded in 2003 in response to the growing need for cost effective environmentally friendly building products for the marine environment. Assisted by the Advanced Engineering Wood Composites facility at the University of Maine, Harbor Technologies has developed composite dock, piling, and load carrying beam systems for use at piers, ports, harbors, marinas, and rail facilities.

Composite pilings offer a number of advantages over steel and timber piles. Traditional pilings have a limited lifetime in the harsh marine environment due to corrosion, marine worms and borers, electrolysis, UV degradation and rot. Composite pipe and sheet piles are generally lower in weight, have higher strength, and are also electrical and thermal insulators compared to traditional materials

Martin Grimnes, Founder and President of Harbor Technologies, will present the history of composite manufacturing in Maine, composite applications in civil engineering, design and manufacturing of composite structures, pipe and sheet pile installation and connection methods, and case histories.

Schedule of Events:

4:00-6:00 *Maine Section Board Meeting (all welcome)*

5:00-6:00 *Social Hour/Cash Bar*

6:00-7:00 *Dinner*

7:00-8:00 *Presentation by Martin Grimnes,
 Harbor Technologies, Inc. (Potential 1 PDH)*

Price: \$30 ASCE Section and SEAM members

\$40 non-members and after RSVP

\$20 students, retirees, and unemployed members

Name: _____ Member: _____ Non-member: _____

Organization: _____

Hilton Garden Inn Dinner Buffet: Yankee Pot Roast with Caramelized Vegetables, Downeast Seafood Casserole with Maine Shrimp, Scallops and Haddock, New England Clam Chowder, Caesar Salad, Baked Tomato with Pesto Crust, Sweet Peas with Pearl Onion, Strawberry-topped Cheesecake, Chocolate Chocolate Cake with Raspberry Sauce, Warmed rolls, Regular and De-Caf Coffee, Hot Teas including Herbal.

ASCE members email (ewiberg@rwg-a.com) or fax (286-2882) registration to

Erik Wiberg, P.E., Maine Section Vice President

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From the President

*Peter S. Merfeld, PE
President, Maine Section ASCE &
Chief Operations Officer, Maine Turnpike Authority*

Happy Holidays! I want to say something else, but I need to be politically correct. This time of year is a special one in my house. I have three kids, a wife with a big family and for most part our house is the gathering point for those who have moved away and return for any celebration. Thus, I need to take special care in designing and decorating my house so is appropriate for the season (picture Chevy Chase in Christmas Vacation...). We spend a great deal of time baking treats for our friends and co-workers. Of course we need to go shopping for gifts, not only for family but also for food baskets, toy drives and those in need. Many people are getting stressed out at this point, but not me. I organized and planned my activities for 2006 starting in January with sales at Home Depot on lights. I started installations beginning the day after Thanksgiving. A few hours every weekend is dedicated toward a Holiday related task. I apologize as Holiday Cards seem to be last on the list and might not go out until week of Christmas (but according to books of Etiquette this is OK). I am a little upset that Christmas has become like work, but if managed well, the rewards are very fulfilling (through the joy in my kids faces). Even so, I was reminded recently, as many of us are, that this is the time of Advent, a time of reflection. If we spend every waking moment planning, organizing, working or dreading certain aspects or expectations of the holiday season we miss the whole point. Even if you are not Christian, Christmas is still a day that celebrates the Birth (and life) of Christ. The spirit of Christmas should be year round though. This can be attributed to both Life and Career as well. Once and a while give yourself a break to re-charge and reflect on what is important. As they say, stop and smell the roses.

Now, an important matter is before the Maine Section ASCE. We need your vote! The section has been working to update our bylaws and constitution. According to the existing constitution we need a majority of our members (over 350 of you) to actually VOTE to make any modifications to the C & B. So following the holidays, please check out the web site for the changes we are recommending and VOTE!!!!

Before I take a break I must congratulate Patti Korbet and Walter Fagerlund for what a great job they do on the Informant. Congratulations to them for winning Best Newsletter for a small section. Also, I am happy to announce we recently heard back from Nationals on our two SPAG applications and the Maine Section will receive approximately \$7500 in grant money to go toward E-week activities and to assist in the Section's participation with MBTA for a Campaign for Transportation Funding reform. Congratulations to all, now we need your help to make those efforts worthwhile and effective.

Be Safe & Buckle Up!

Engineer's Week

MEPC Banquet and EXPO

2007 Maine Engineers Week Events - Get Involved!

The Maine Engineers Week Banquet will be held on Friday evening, February 23, 2007 at Verillo's Banquet Center in Portland, Maine. Kerry Hanahan of Westinghouse Electric Company will speak on nuclear power as a viable source in the United State's energy spectrum. With heightened awareness of carbon-based fuel depletion and effects of emissions, the use of non-combustion energy sources is growing. Mr. Hanahan will discuss nuclear energy's role in a sustainable and robust generation mix. This is an opportunity for engineers and their spouses, friends, and family to gather, renew friendships and meet others in their profession. For more information or to register for the banquet, contact Be Schonewald, P.E. (schonewald@gza.com) or go to the website listed at the bottom of this article.

The 2007 Maine Engineers Week Exposition will be held at the University of Southern Maine Field House in Gorham on Saturday, February 24, 2007 from 9 AM to 2 PM. This year's expo will be bigger than ever with over 1,000 children and adults expected to experience first hand the many contributions that Maine Engineers make to our communities and way of life. Maine's top engineering firms, engineering schools, educators, government agencies, industry, and engineering societies will exhibit throughout the field house. **This is an outstanding opportunity to gain positive exposure for your organization while inspiring the next generation of engineers. Participants can receive Maine Board of Licensure PDH credits.**

Sign up your organization as an exhibitor by downloading the form at the website at the bottom of this article or by contacting David Early, P.E. at dearly@usm.maine.edu or by calling 207.780.4160. The registration deadline is February 16th...space is limited, so sign up early!

Also on Friday, February 23rd, The Maine Society of Professional Engineers is sponsoring a continuing education opportunity. Visit www.mespe.org for more information.

For more information about 2007 Maine Engineers Week Events, visit www.engineeringme.com. (Banquet and exhibitor registration forms will be posted by mid January 2007)

Opportunities for the Next Generation

Design Squad - the K-12 program ASCE National is kicking off in February.

- Design Squad, an ASCE newly sponsored televised engineering program, is a reality-based competition produced by PBS (WGBH – Boston) where teams of young people pair up to work on a variety of engineering design projects. At the end of each season, one Design Squad cast member will win a scholarship to the tune of \$10K.
- ASCE will show some of the early trailer clips at the 2007 Leadership Conferences and conduct a series of comprehensive, hands-on workshops for engineers who are involved with – or want to become involved with – outreach at the K-12 levels.
- The Design Squad series will be launched during National Engineers' Week, February 18-24, 2007, however, Design Squad outreach materials will be available in November.
- Visit the Design Squad website and sign up for their eNewsletter. <http://pbskids.org/designsquad>

ASCE partnered previously with WGBH to produce Building Big, and ZOOM into Engineering, and the activity guides and video material that went with both of those.

Work Zone Safety Awareness Week

It is still a few months off, but the 4th grade Design a Poster contest is now underway!

You can NOW vote for your favorite 4th grade Work Zone Safety Design-A-Sign contest entry, sponsored by MaineDOT. Check out the seven finalists selected from the hundreds of entries received at <http://mainebackseatdriver.com/>. These will be included in the next Work Zone Safety calendar.

Voting will end at midnight on December 22nd. Please share this information with others who may wish to participate in the voting.



Infrastructure Champion Program

The Infrastructure Champion Program is a network of regional and national multidisciplinary professionals who are focused on critical infrastructure protection and resiliency from the affects of all hazards. The members of the Infrastructure Champion Program will take an active role within their geographic areas to define the direction of the engineering profession on activities related to homeland security and multi-hazard protection of critical infrastructure.

Infrastructure Champions (IC) will:

- Act as local liaisons for ASCE on activities related to critical infrastructure resilience and multi-hazard protection;
- Serve as local media spokespeople;
- Support and promote engineers' involvement in emergency operations at the local, state, and federal level;
- Identify threats and vulnerabilities, evaluate possible impacts, and assess opportunities to mitigate and/or protect critical infrastructure within their geographic area; Share the latest innovative solutions, strategies, and technologies to secure, protect, and mitigate critical infrastructure with other ICs;
- Elevate the situational awareness of the vulnerabilities of regional assets and critical infrastructure; and
- Assist and support local endeavors related to critical infrastructure protection

This is an exciting time to get involved with the Infrastructure Champion program. To join or to learn more about the program, please visit our website at <http://ciasce.asce.org/InfrastructureChampions.html>. We look forward to members' participation in this important endeavor.

Employment Opportunities

Engineering,
Landscape Architecture
and Environmental Science



Project Engineer

Growing Northeast based multidisciplinary consulting firm seeking Project Engineer for expanding coastal Maine office. Candidate should have minimum 6 years of diverse and progressive experience in both the design and management of general civil engineering, site development, municipal infrastructure, and roadway projects. Candidate should also possess excellent oral and written communication skills, experience with both private and public sector clients and have a working knowledge of AutoCAD. BSCE with Maine PE required. This is an opportunity for a motivated individual to join a rapidly growing, progressive firm with a comprehensive benefits package and opportunities for continued advancement. EOE M/F/V/D. Send resume to danah@miloneandmacbroom.com or Milone & MacBroom, Inc. P.O. Box 549 Newcastle, ME 04553, Fax #207-563-7879

NEWCASTLE ME, Construction Inspector- Experience in highway, bridge and general civil engineering for multidisciplinary engineering, landscape architecture and surveying firm. The firm provides a wide range of construction related services, private and public, including Construction Management, Project Administration, and Construction Observation/Inspection. Tasks include preparation of Construction Documents, Specifications, Cost Estimates and Quality Control for all of our projects. BSCE or at minimum, NICET II certification required. Send resumes to danah@miloneandmacbroom.com or Milone & MacBroom, Inc., P.O. Box 549, Newcastle, ME 04553, fax: (207) 563-7879 EOE M/F/D/V



Engineer 1 - Portland, ME

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2006 ASCE ANNUAL CIVIL ENGINEERING CONFERENCE OCTOBER 19-21 IN CHICAGO

*Tim Merritt
Maine Section President-Elect*

I had the pleasure of attending the annual ASCE conference a little over a month ago. The conference format has changed substantially over the last few years. There is less technical content and more focus on national issues that affect civil engineering as a whole and ASCE's efforts in those regards. The more technical issues are left to be taken up at the Institute level and the annual conferences that they provide. This seems like a positive change, because there are many contemporary issues affecting our profession and its future. These issues include items like hazard mitigation, lifeline system resiliency, infrastructure funding and advocacy, professional licensure and continuing education, engineer recruitment and retention, oversea labor outsourcing, political action and lobbying, and homeland security to name a few.

The theme of this year's conference was "Surviving the Future." The last 10 years have presented many new challenges for us civil engineers to consider in our project development processes. We have all been affected by events such as Hurricane Katrina, 9/11, Oklahoma City bombing, the 2003 northeast black-out, the establishment of the Department of Homeland Security, tsunamis, earthquakes, dam failures, etc. The natural and man-made events that we now must design for are much more extreme and the level of performance and resiliency expected by the general public has greatly increased. This alone is and will continue to elevate our profession to a whole new level. With that comes new technologies and the breadth of knowledge and experience required to perform civil engineering is growing by leaps and bounds.

The keynote address was provided by General Barry R. McCaffrey, USA (Ret.). When he retired, he was the most highly decorated 4-star general in the Army. He has held many positions including assistant to General Colin Powell, advisor to the Secretary of State, U.S. Ambassador to the UN, Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Armed Forces Southern Command in Latin America, and the National Drug Policy Director. General McCaffrey highlighted the current state of international affairs including terrorism, sanctions, intelligence efforts, and our counter-terrorism efforts in Iraq, Afghanistan, North Korea, Cuba, and Libya. He stressed the need for homeland security, protecting our borders and points of entry, infrastructure improvement, and mobility being the key to national and local emergency response. General McCaffrey will be the dinner speaker at this year's Maine Transportation Conference for those interested in hearing more.

The sessions focused on hazard mitigation, vulnerability assessments, prioritizing critical infrastructure, understanding system interdependencies, emergency response, and system resiliency. Speakers came from a variety of backgrounds including wastewater/water supply management, transportation infrastructure security, FEMA, US Army Corp, and power generation/supply. There was an entire session on Katrina that was very well done. The US Army Corp presented its research on why and how the levees failed, highlighted the emergency response efforts, the lessons learned, and the changes that the agency is instituting. The chair of the ASCE External Review Team also presented the results of the independent peer review that was requested by the Corp. It was interesting to hear the slightly different view points and the level of cooperation that occurred. Our industry needs more of these types of efforts.

Many annual awards were presented to individuals and various groups. William F. Marccuson III was inaugurated as the new President. He urged for the investment and preparation of individual civil engineers and the non-stop cycle of education, experience, education, experience. Another noteworthy item is that there were many groups representing foreign countries, making the conference truly international.

Update on the 2007 Annual Technical seminar

March 28th, 2007
Ramada Inn, Lewiston

Project Management with PSMJ

PSMJ, a nationally recognized project management group, is tailoring a program for the Maine Section's Annual Technical Seminar. While the topic might seem less 'technical' than usual, we all know that every project begins and ends well with successful project management. We're intending this program, which will employ aspects of PSMJ's acclaimed Boot Camp, to appeal to the young engineers, seasoned project managers, independent consultants, small businesses and large, for a fraction of the usual cost for the Boot Camp. Look for more information about the seminar agenda and other details in the next few weeks. We will send out an electronic mailing and you'll also find information on the website and in the upcoming February Informant.

PLEASE NOTE: We have adjusted the date for the seminar from March 22 to
March 28, 2007.



Current Maine Section Meeting Schedule 2006-07

The following dates and locations have been tentatively set for this year's programs. Please mark your calendars and don't miss out on these excellent opportunities!

- **January 18, 2007**- Maine Section Monthly meeting/dinner program (including Board meeting) in Freeport;
- **February 15, 2007**- Maine Section Monthly meeting/dinner program (including Board meeting) in the Portland area;
- **February 2007**- Maine Section sponsors E-week celebrations/promotions/events in the Portland area (Feb 19-24) including an all day technical seminar, dinner program (Feb 23rd) and an expo for school aged children (Feb 24th);
- **March 15, 2007**- Maine Section Board meeting only in Portland ;
- **March 28, 2007**- Maine Section Annual all day Technical Seminar at the Ramada Inn in Lewiston;
- **April 2007**- Maine Section Monthly meeting/dinner program (including Board meeting) in Orono (April 19th)- this meeting is the annual joint meeting with University of Maine ASCE Student chapter;
- **May 17, 2007**- Maine Section Annual Meeting/dinner program in Portland area including officer induction for the new year, awards, and a technical presentation/tour.

If you would like more information about the monthly meetings, please contact Erik Wiberg (ewiberg@rwg-a.com) or 286-8008.

ASCE MAINE SECTION CONTACT LIST

2005-2006

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