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## Monthly YMF Board Meetings

### **SB/RC**

Every first Monday

### **SB/VC**

Every first Wednesday

### **MLAB**

Every second Tuesday

### **OC**

Every third Tuesday

### **SSJ**

Every other third Tuesday

For locations, please contact any  
board member.

**Everyone is  
welcome!**



## Inspiring our High School Students

By: Francisco Aragon, LEED AP, P.E.

*"Overall, the feeling was of accomplishment."*



*"Volunteers learned how easy it is to provide inspiration to the future leaders."*

"Break It! Break It! Break It!" was all that could be heard in the multipurpose room. Students were excited to find out how much load their bridges could sustain and they were ready to push them to the limit. Many had been working on their bridge designs for over 2 months and were excited to see how much their work would pay off. There was a \$1,000 scholarship at stake but more importantly bragging rights. After all, being named the best LA team carries a lot of weight, especially in this competition.

It was February 19<sup>th</sup> 2010, over 250 high school students from 38 schools around the Los Angeles and Orange County areas and over 50 volunteers participated in what has become one of ASCE Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch (MLAB) Younger Member Forum's (YMF) proudest highlights, the 16th Annual Popsicle Stick Bridge Contest (PSBC.) The students and volunteers had no idea that they were learning and teaching each other so much while having so much fun.

This year, ASCE chaired the national festivities of Engineers' Week, and chose to celebrate it by highlighting volunteerism. In response, the PSBC organizing committee set-out with the task to both make the event a first-class competition for the students, and organize volunteers to: increase awareness of the value of staying in school, as well to expose students to the civil engineering profession. Judging by the screams and the phenomenal feedback received, they succeeded.

See **Popsicle Stick Bridge Competition.... Page 10**

# Santa Barbara and Ventura County YMF

## President's Message

As Daylight Savings fast approaches, we are gearing up for an exciting spring in Santa Barbara and Ventura. Later in the month of March, we have a technical tour of the debris racks and barriers the City of Santa Barbara installed following the Jesusita Fire to minimize damage to some of their facilities and infrastructure. It will be a great opportunity to see how the barriers worked during the winter rain we had this year. Incidentally, we have received 18.27 inches of rain this year (127% of the norm) compared to 8.69 inches of rain last year (60% of the norm) during the same period in 2009 [norm is approximately 14.43 inches for the July 1 through March 12<sup>th</sup> period].

Here is a quick update on other upcoming events we have planned: Younger Member's are participating in upcoming career fairs in Ventura and Carpinteria, we are scheduling technical tours of the Freeman Fish Ladder, near Saticoy, and the Lewis Road Widening project in Camarillo, and later this spring/early summer we are planning a BBQ and volleyball event in Santa Barbara. We are looking forward to a great turnout for these upcoming events.

Cheers,

James Winslow

2009-2010 YMF President

City of Santa Barbara



### Board Members

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*City of Santa Barbara*

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**Please visit our website to keep up to date on upcoming events:**

**<http://asce-ssjb-ymf.com/>**

# Orange County YMF



## President's Message

Time flies when you are having fun! I can't believe how quickly time has gone by and all the fun activities the Orange County YMF group has participated in, such as the annual holiday boat parade, Western Regional Younger Member Council meeting in San Diego and several general meetings. I am really looking forward to what is to come. Some of the events planned are the 3x3 basketball tournament, technical tours, professional development conference, whitewater rafting, community outreach events and the charity golf tournament.

Currently, we are seeking volunteers to help with the P.E. review, K-12 Outreach and membership. If you are interested in finding out more information please feel free to contact me. I am also pleased to share with you that Orange County will be hosting the Western Regional Younger Member Council meeting on Feb. 11th & 12th, 2011. Scarlet Ng and Jessica Ward are the co-chairs for the event; if you are interested in helping plan the conference please contact Scarlet and Jessica.

The website is currently undergoing changes and should be completed by the end of the summer, until then please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

John C. Maxwell said "A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way and shows the way." I want to thank the board for their hard work and leading the way to a successful year.

Jeannette Lindemann  
OC YMF President

## OC YMF End of Year Celebration

On December 10<sup>th</sup> 2009 the YMF 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 officers and committee chairs gathered to celebrate the accomplishments of the group for 2009 at Buca di Beppo in Irvine. Approximately 22 members were in attendance, some of the highlights of that night were the awards given to Ben Stanphill for Community Service, Chao-Chun Yang for K-12 Outreach, and Jeannette Lindemann for her leadership contribution to the group; Brian Smolke was presented a certificate of Excellence for his three year service to the group as Treasurer and Ken Zimmerman received a certificate for his service for the past four years organizing community outreach events. It was the perfect way for the group to gain momentum into 2010.

## Board Members

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*RBF Consulting*

**Ben Stanphill**  
Community Service Chair  
*LFR*

# Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch YMF



## President's Message

During the month of February, we celebrated National Engineers Week. This year the celebration was co-sponsored by ASCE. MLAB YMF made sure that we joined in on the celebration with our 16<sup>th</sup> annual Popsicle Stick Bridge Competition. For the second year in a row, Francisco Aragon, P.E. spearheaded the organizing committee that brought hundreds of high school students and teachers, and dozens of volunteers to the California Science Center on February 19, 2010. Needless to say, the event was a success and it could not have been possible without our sponsors and the amazing team of volunteers that were lead by Francisco. I want to commend him and his team for not only meeting but surpassing all expectations and hosting one of our biggest K-12/Community Outreach events. They truly are the perfect example of the caliber of volunteers that MLAB YMF possesses.

With this in mind I also want to commend the rest of MLAB YMF's committee chairs who have put in hundreds, if not thousands of volunteer hours to ensure that our goals are met this year. They are role models to the rest of the young engineers who are looking to make a difference in their profession. These committee leaders have found ways to celebrate engineering every single day by taking our profession to the community, grade schools, universities, other professions and where few engineers have gone before; government. The following events are great examples of how we have celebrated engineering on a daily basis: the St. Joseph homeless Christmas celebration, the sugar cube and peanut butter structures earthquake presentation, university resume workshops, the Sacramento and Washington D.C. fly-ins, our annual Student Nigh/Job Fair, the Walt Disney Concert Hall technical tour, and many others.

Furthermore, I also want to thank our Branch and Section for their absolute support. This year has been a great year so far, not just because of our strong members, but because the support of our Branch and Section has allowed us to aim higher and further challenges our goals. Being involved in ASCE gives us the opportunity to voice our opinion and to guide the direction of our profession. The possibilities are truly endless when you have a group of highly motivated and passionate people who are all working towards the same goals and Los Angeles has this.

As we move toward the second half of our year, I invite you to continue your involvement in your local ASCE group. Join the rest of your ASCE leaders as we help make a difference in our engineering community and as we work toward advancing our profession to higher grounds. Become a section paid member if you haven't already done so and join us as we continue to celebrate engineering all year round. Engineering is an honorable profession that makes a world of difference, if we don't celebrate it, who will?

Heren Molina  
MLAB YMF President

## Board Members

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**Lizbeth Cordova, P.E.**  
**Newsletter Editor**  
*County of L.A. DPW*

# San Bernardino and Riverside County YMF



Please visit our website to keep up to date on upcoming events:

<http://www.asce-sbriv.org/Younger Member Forum/ymf.html>

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TKE

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Kahlil Amin - Historian  
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Komy Ghods - Recruiting Officer  
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Hilal Elhaddad - Practitioner  
Advisor #1 - Cal Poly Pomona  
Riverside County Flood Control

Albert Marinez - Practitioner  
Advisor #2 - Cal Baptist  
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Rosendo Saldivar  
Technical Tour Advisor  
Parsons

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PFEILER & ASSOCIATES

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Coordinator  
Riverside County Flood Control

Duc Tran - K-12 Student  
Outreach Coordinator  
AECOM

## LA SECTION YMFs



**P.E. Booth and Happy Hour  
Saturday, April 17, 2010**

# BURNED OUT? HUNGRY?

Join the Los Angeles Section YMF Groups @  
**ESPIAU'S Restaurante y Cantina**  
**in the Claremont Village**  
**SATURDAY 04/17 AFTER YOUR EXAM UNTIL 8 PM**  
**TO UNWIND, RELAX, SHARE TEST STRATEGY & EAT**  
**FREE FOOD**  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**

THE FOOD IS SPONSORED BY YOUR FRIENDS AT ASCE

[www.asce.org/membership](http://www.asce.org/membership)

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER CONTACT:

METROPOLITAN LOS ANGELES:	Francisco Aragon	<a href="mailto:francisco.aragon@lausd.net">francisco.aragon@lausd.net</a>
ORANGE COUNTY:	Jessica Cassman	<a href="mailto:jessica.cassman@tetratech.com">jessica.cassman@tetratech.com</a>
SAN BERNARDINO/RIVERSIDE:	Kamyar Ghods	<a href="mailto:krgghods@reflood.org">krgghods@reflood.org</a>
SANTA BARBARA/VENTURA:	James Winslow	<a href="mailto:jwinslow@SantaBarbaraCA.gov">jwinslow@SantaBarbaraCA.gov</a>
SOUTHERN SAN JOAQUIN:	Amanda Bucio	<a href="mailto:amanda_bucio@hotmail.com">amanda_bucio@hotmail.com</a>

## YMF Technical Tours

### Walt Disney Concert Hall

**Designer:**  
*Frank O. Gehry*

**Acoustician:**  
*Yasuhisa Toyota*

**Concert Hall  
Construction  
Began:**  
*August 1997*

**Exterior:**  
*Stainless Steel*

**Doors Opened:**  
*October 23, 2003*

**Lead Architect:**  
*John A. Martin &  
Associates, Inc.*

**Special Thanks to**  
*Walter Steimle and  
Kunal Dewan for the  
Technical Presentation*



### Walt Disney Concert Hall Downtown Los Angeles, CA

By: Diana Szymanski



On Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> 40+ members of the Los Angeles YMF were part of a two hour technical tour of the Walt Disney Concert Hall. The guided tour was kick-off with a presentation

hosted by architect Walter Steimle and engineer Kunal Dewan from *John A. Martin & Associates, Inc.*, lead architects on the project who presented on design aspects and challenges of this engineering marvel. The Los Angeles YMF group was then joined by Walt Disney Concert Hall staff with a behind the scenes guide of the concert hall, showing us mechanical rooms, concrete columns and steel beams holding seismic loads and concluded with the beautiful concert hall.



Los Angeles YMF hosted appetizers at *McCormick & Schmick's* immediately following the event where tour participants further had the opportunity to mingle and network. L.A. YMF would like to thank Walter Steimle and Kunal Dewan for their insight into the design and construction of the Walt Disney Concert Hall and Jeanice F. Williams, Coordinator, Tours and Special Events Director for the Walt Disney Concert Hall for making this special tour a memorable experience for our participants.



Please visit L.A. YMF website at [www.mlab-ymf.org](http://www.mlab-ymf.org) for more photos of this tour.

## YMF Community Service



### St. Joseph's Holiday Event - Santa Monica, CA

By: Andrew Parkhurst

On December 12th 2009 the Younger Member Forum of the Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch of the American Society of Civil Engineers participated in an event put on by *St. Joseph's Center* to celebrate the holidays with homeless and underprivileged families in the West Los Angeles Area. The event was held at the auditorium of St. Monica's Church in Santa Monica, California and had roughly 500 attendees from all different backgrounds and ethnicities.

*"Children are the world's most valuable resource and its best hope for the future."*

*~John F. Kennedy*



Our Community Service YMF group was tasked with hosting an activity that would be fun for the children, interactive and educational. Our group decided to construct small catapults wherein each child got a bag of materials and had to put them together in such a way that it could launch a marshmallow a significant distance. The materials included popsicle sticks, rubber bands of all sizes, plastic spoons, tape, scissors, chop-sticks, clothes pins, and marshmallows. Many children joined us in constructing catapults and tried several different designs to make the best possible small mechanical catapult systems. Overall, the entire event was a success and we were able to share in the joy of the holiday spirit with underprivileged families during the holidays. For more information or to become involved in our community

service group please contact Andrew Parkhurst at [akparkhurst1@gmail.com](mailto:akparkhurst1@gmail.com), we look forward to having you participate in future events!

### KaBoom Playground Build - Culver City

By: Andrew Parkhurst



On December 3rd, 2009 the Younger Member Forum of the Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch of the American Society of Civil Engineers participated in an event hosted by *KaBoom*, a non-profit organization that builds playgrounds for communities in need of more space for children to play. Julie Kentosh and I were able to participate in the playground build in Culver City on that Thursday morning. We were quickly promoted to "build captains"; able to lead a group of volunteers in the installation of posts and framing of the playground pieces. In total there were approximately 50 volunteers from the community and other work places who pitched in. Julie and I aided in the construction of a great playground structure and the community was grateful we came out. Some amenities that were put in place included a slide, sliding pole, climbing wall and helix climbing bars. To learn more about KaBoom and how you can get involved with a playground build visit: <http://kaboom.org/>.

## YMF Community Service



### 2nd Annual Harvest Food Bank - Irvine, CA

By: Ben Stanphill

Braving the fierce winter rains, a dozen men and women from the Orange County Young Members Forum of ASCE gave a morning at the Second Harvest Food Bank in Irvine. Doubling the participant limit, we sorted donations, organized food, and boxed up sippy cups (soooo many sippy cups).

CVS had just donated 10 gigantic boxes of mixed items, and it was our job, along with the other volunteers, to sort them into smaller boxes that second harvest could easily manage. We were also the first

filter, throwing out things like open bags of M&Ms or sunscreen bottles without lids. We tore through those pretty quickly, and then they brought out the sippy cups, four pallets stacked 5 feet high with boxes of sippy cups, it was actually somewhat awe-inspiring. We sorted those out, broke down the boxes, and then got some cookies in the Second Harvest break room.

After our break, we consolidated trash cans full of food into large boxes, so the cans could be put out for food drives the next week. OC-YMF got an assembly line going, and we were most of the way done when the whistle blew and it was time to go home. Reluctantly, we threw the last few cans of vegetables and bags of rice into the boxes, and grabbed some lunch at a nearby restaurant.

If you'd like more information about Second Harvest, check [www.feedoc.org](http://www.feedoc.org), and if you'd like more information about our next community service event, e-mail Ben Stanphill at [Ben.Stanphill@Arcadis-us.com](mailto:Ben.Stanphill@Arcadis-us.com)

*"If you can't  
feed a hundred  
people, then  
feed just one."*

*-Mother Teresa*

## Membership has its Privileges

- Complimentary subscription to *Civil Engineering magazine* and *ASCE News*
- Access to ASCE's Online Research Library
- Access to The Civil Engineering Database
- Professional Books available at a significant member discount

### ASCE Membership Information; Join Today!

National Membership Rates (Please verify rates and grades at <http://www.asce.org/membership>).

**Student:** Free

**Associate Member:** \$50 year of baccalaureate degree and first year after, then incremental increase to \$180 over five years

**Member:** \$180 annually

**Affiliate Member:** \$180 annually

**Fellow:** \$215 annually

**Section (Branch) Dues:** \$45/year

- National ASCE Student Membership is FREE! Contact your Student Chapter leaders or Faculty Advisor for additional information.
- For membership information, go to <http://www.asce.org/membership/>.
- For questions about national ASCE membership contact: [member@asce.org](mailto:member@asce.org).

## YMF K-12 Outreach



### Clover Elementary Sugar Cubes Earthquake Presentation - Los Angeles, CA

By: Jane Tran

On Friday, March 5th, our K-12 Outreach Program held an earthquake presentation at one of our partner schools, Clover Elementary. The event was attended by 60 students and 20 volunteers, along with some teachers and parents. After an introduction to earthquakes, the students broke up into teams and built two-story buildings of sugar cubes and peanut butter. This was followed by a lively shake-out in which the structures were tested under earthquake loading to determine the strongest building. It was messy, loud, and loads of fun! To all of the volunteers and coordinators; great job! To our honored guests, Kathy Caldwell (Society President Elect) and Jay Higgins (LA Section President); a big thanks for their support.

For more information on future events like these, or to join the K-12 Committee, please contact Jane Tran ([jane.tran@hatchmott.com](mailto:jane.tran@hatchmott.com)).

### Discovery Teen Center - Thousand Oaks, CA

By: Sonia Flores

On the evening of December 14th, 2009, a few members of MLAB YMF drove to Thousand Oaks for a great event with the Discovery Center Teens. This is an after school program for teens who have an interest in science. Within the program they learn leadership skills and help out the community. We had the great opportunity to come and meet these teens as well as introduce them to the field of civil engineering and college life. We were able to show them a wonderful video that highlighted the Student Chapter Pacific Southwest Regional Conference in Hawaii, ASCE's local student chapters and the student's college life. We also hosted one of our most popular activities, catapult building. It is a creative and team building activity that highlights many civil engineering aspects; planning, designing, building, working with raw materials and working with others. The teens had fun building and testing their catapults, and demonstrating how well it worked by launching marshmallows. The most entertaining part was watching how far (or not far) the marshmallows flew. Check out the Discovery Center Teen website for more information: <http://www.discoverycntr.org/pages/teensa/teensa.html>. And please visit our L.A. YMF website at: [www.mlab-ymf.org](http://www.mlab-ymf.org) for more photos of the event.

## YMF K-12 Outreach

**LACES**  
*Los Angeles Council of  
Engineers & Scientists*

*Recognized ASCE with:*

*Harry Staubs  
Memorial Award  
for  
Community Service  
February 2010*



### Popsicle Stick Bridge Competition

*Continued from Page 1*

The students gathered in Los Angeles at the beautiful and futuristic Annenberg Building at the California Science Center for a full-day of interesting and engaging activities. The event rotations included: loading the bridges, poster competitions, technical reports, presenting in front of judges, and 2 impromptu events conducted in partnership with the Science



Center Education Department, which featured miniature sailboat races and a rollercoaster design contest; these were a highlight on their own, and together with the bridge loading were the crowd's favorites. Students also had a chance to explore the Science Center through a scavenger hunt at the main exhibits in the museum.

ASCE's MLAB YMF organized this year's successful competition with help from dedicated volunteers. The organizing committee had been meeting consistently 4 months before the competition and their dedication showed as the students moved swiftly from rotation to rotation. That day, the committee was joined by other professionals who dedicate their entire day to host individual events and judge technical papers, display boards, and presentations. Also of great help, were the university volunteers who were instrumental in the success of this event. The University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) ASCE student chapter was part of the organizing committee and coordinated the bridge loading, and provided the bulk of the student volunteers. Other universities who provided volunteers include the ASCE chapters of California State University Northridge (CSUN), California State University Los Angeles (CSULA) and Loyola Marymount University (LMU).

At the awards ceremony, mixed-feelings were voiced, but the attendees all left with a sense of accomplishment. Some students were sad that they were graduating and stated they were sad to not come back next year. Other students complained that they wished they had started to build their bridge earlier. However, overall, the feeling was of accomplishment. Students learned the steps to getting a project from the concept phase to the construction and volunteers learned how easy it is to provide inspiration to the future leaders. The committee's task was successfully completed.

*Continued on.... Page 11*

# YMF K-12 Outreach



## Overall Competition and Bragging Right Winners

**1st Place:**

**Joules & Momentum  
(North High School)**

**2nd Place:**

**We Team  
(Garden Grove High School)**

**3rd Place:**

**SAN  
(Francisco Bravo Medical Magnet)**

## Popsicle Stick Bridge Competition

*Continued from Page 10*

The organizing committee is said to be excited about the growth of the event and happy of the service provided to the local students. The 2010 PSBC event was recognized with the Harry Staubs Memorial Award for Community Service by the Los Angeles Council of Engineers and Scientists. A special Thank You to our sponsors for the event; ASCE LA Section, ASCE Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch, UCLA School of Engineering, AECOM, Shannon & Wilson, Simpson Gumpertz & Heger, Adkan Engineers, Simpson Strong Ties, Hilti, Parsons Brinckerhoff, LA County Public Works, Engineering Resources, TBI & Associates, and PENCO.



# Western Regional Younger Member Council

## ASCE WRYMC Regions 8 and 9 San Diego, CA

By: Jinny Huang

The 2010 Western Regional Younger Member Council (WRYMC) was hosted by the San Diego Younger Member Forum at the Marriot Mission Valley Hotel in San Diego, California on February 26<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>. The conference kicked off with introductions and icebreakers presented by members of our Region 9 Directors, Geographic Services directors and managers, as well as the President of San Diego Section and ASCE National. The eventful program included round table discussions and breakout sessions where younger members, and section and branch leaders shared ideas on educational outreach, government relations, career enhancement, community service, and membership.

### *Notable Outcomes of WRYMC Business Meeting:*

*Created ad hoc  
committee to ex-  
plore benefits of  
operating as a non-  
profit organization  
under a  
401(c)6 versus  
a 401(c)3*

*WRYMC 2012  
To be hosted by  
Oregon Section YMF  
in Portland, OR*

### *San Diego YMF*

*Thanks for hosting a  
great event!*

This conference was a great opportunity to network with student and national leaders from Regions 8 & 9, and to collaborate with other groups in building a stronger ASCE community and achieving the "Vision for Civil Engineering [by] 2025." This year's WRYMC featured guest speakers Grant Litchman, Chief Operating Officer at Francis Parker School and author of "The Falconer" who discussed his guide

to teaching and learning strategic and creational thinking, and John Coleman, a local weather forecaster who debunked the global warming phenomenon. San Diego YMF set up three different tours for Younger Members (YMs) to choose from: Padre Dam Municipal Water District – Water Recycling Facility & Santee Lakes, San Vicente Dam Raise, or the Twin Oaks Water Treatment Plant. The conference also included time to explore the city; Friday night was spent exploring the nightlife at Pacific Beach where many YMs gathered at a local sports bar, MoonDoggies. The conference ended Saturday night in San Diego's Gas Lamp District where awards and recognitions were announced during banquet at Dussini's Loft Bar. MLAB YMF is excited for next year's WRYMC which will be held by the Orange County Younger Member Forum on February 11-12, 2010 in Costa Mesa.



## YMF At Play

### Annual YMF Mammoth Trip Mammoth Lakes, CA

By: James Weldon



Last January, the ASCE Young Members Forum traveled far and wide from branches in both southern and northern California, to join up for a fun filled weekend in the snow. Once again, we stayed at the luxurious Mammoth Estates condominiums. Friday night everyone was very excited as more and more members arrived to the retreat. It was unbelievable how large a turnout we had including nearly 30 fellow engineers from the Department of Water and Power who also came along for some fun.



Saturday morning most of us awoke extra early and scrambled to the lifts, hoping to be the first one of the day to get to the fresh powder. The day started out a bit windy and cloudy but by noon the weather cleared nicely. Mammoth has it all from board parks, half-pipes and black diamond's, to bunny-runs and inner- tubing. Everybody can have tons of fun in Mammoth. We had a lot of experienced boarders and some first timers. It was very impressive to see how many first timers came out to Mammoth to learn how to snowboard. There were a lot of new faces and that was really great. You can always count on a warm welcome and great ASCE hospitality!

After a full day of carving up the slopes we gathered at one of the condominiums for a little bit of rest and a hearty home cooked meal. It was very apparent how much fun everybody had. After a few cocktails, everybody was back in the spirit to get out and enjoy the local night life.



Sunday morning was another was another day of fun for some and for others it was time to head back home. This is one of the funniest events of the year and I hope to see you all again next year. For those of you that didn't make it we all hope you can come out with us next year, it's a blast! For more photos please visit our website, <http://www.mlab-ymf.org/>.



## YMF At Play



### Los Angeles Clippers vs. Cleveland Cavaliers

By: Marlon Calderon, P.E., M.ASCE

On January 16, LA YMF hosted a game night at the Staples Center to watch LeBron James from the Cleveland Cavaliers take on Baron Davis and Rasual Butler and the rest of the Los Angeles Clippers. The game started at 7:30 p.m. and it was an exciting and nail biting game to the last minute. The Cavaliers came back from behind in the last few minutes and were able to hold the Clippers to 101 – 102

## YMF Festivities



### Annual Holiday Boat Parade Balboa Island, CA

By: Jeannette Lindemann

On December 19<sup>th</sup> 2009 Ted and Ruth McConville, ASCE life members, opened their doors for the 10<sup>th</sup> year to YMF to watch the 101<sup>st</sup> Newport Beach Christmas Boat Parade. This year's theme was "The Joys of Christmas Toys". Eleven members and friends gathered to network and share food and the great view of all the boats; and of course we can't forget about Willow (McConville's champagne colored Pomeranian). Toys were also collected for the "Toys for Tots Drive" which were delivered to a Fire House in Huntington



## YMF Festivities

### Santa Barbara/Ventura YMF Holiday Party 2009 Carpinteria, CA

By: Adam Hendel, P.E.

On Thursday, 17 December 2009, the Younger Member Forum Santa Barbara/Ventura branch hosted our annual Holiday Party at The Palms Restaurant in Carpinteria, CA. About 20 members came out to celebrate with holiday cheer!

Seated at a long table in the back of the restaurant, we welcomed the company of old friends and some new faces. Once everyone was seated, each person was eager to open their holiday gift bag, full of goodies including a travel coffee thermos, candle, candy and everyone's favorite – scratch off lottery ticket. Dinner consisted of a salad and potato bar and market fresh



meat that we each cooked ourselves, seasoned to our liking. By cooking the food ourselves, we were able to get up, mingle and make the most of our time together.

As dinner wrapped up, Loree Berry, past President, and Adam Hendel, Vice-President, led this year's highly anticipated raffle! Raffle prizes included gift certificates donated by Kennedy/Jenks Consultants and Fugro West, ASCE Bridges Calendar, bottle of wine from Gainey in Santa Ynez, Mammoth gift certificate donated by Paul Callaway, branch President, and this year's grand prize – a voucher good for two nights of lodging on the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Mammoth ski/snowboard trip from 28-31 January 2010. This year's big winner was Shonna Sommer of Calleguas Municipal Water District, who took home the grand prize. Congrats to all the winners and a big thanks to all those who donated the prizes!

In addition to members winning raffle prizes, children over at the Unity Shoppe (<http://www.unityshoppe.org/>) in Santa Barbara were the real winners, receiving several brand new toys donated by members attending the Holiday Party. Since this is the time of year to think of others, we were happy to combine our celebration into a fund raising event.

On behalf of the YMF Santa Barbara/Ventura branch, we wish everyone a healthy and happy holiday season, and let's make 2010 great!

“..... let's Make 2010 great!”

## MLAB YMF General Meeting

### General Meeting at the Conga Room Downtown Los Angeles, CA

By: Francisco Aragon, P.E.



Our Second General Meeting had a distinct Latin Flavor at the beautiful and famous Conga Room. Despite the heavy rain, over 30 members made it out to LA LIVE on Thursday, January 21<sup>st</sup> to meet new friends, learn about our active chapter, and to explore a new beautiful spot.

#### Networking,

The meeting attendees had a unique opportunity to meet fellow members in a casual networking reception . There was no structured agenda and people had a chance to speak and build connections with fellow members, committee chairs, and board members, as well as to catch up with older friends. The business cards were passed around, the volume began increasing and the drinks were ample. Conversations ranged from better running exercises to how to deal with deadlines and plan checking. It's always great to step back and acknowledge all the things that our members have in common, the goal for our event was to facilitate this.

Towards the end of the night Heren Molina, ASCE YMF President, recognized the committee chairs and board members present and spoke of the upcoming activities and ways to become more active in our group. She was also available to answer questions for new members.

For this meeting we decided to branch out and explore a new venue for us. This place is very unique to the area and it's co-owned by Jimmy Smits, Sheila E., Paul Rodriguez, and Jennifer Lopez. It is a place full of color and grandeur and has been recognized by many Architectural and Interior Design Awards. We reserved 2 private rooms and had a chance to join the Main room for music and dancing after our meeting. The food was provided by Wolfgang Puck Catering.

The event was a success and new and old members had a chance to interact and learn together. We look forward to hosting more events as successful as this and to continue to facilitate networking for our members.

If you would like information on how to become a member or are looking for ways to become involved, contact our membership chair, Francisco Aragon at: [faragon@hntb.com](mailto:faragon@hntb.com)

#### Donating to the scholarship fund,

#### A great time was had by all.

# ASCE Student Chapters

*“Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success.”*

*~ Henry Ford*

## 2010 Student Round-Up

By: Paul Garcia

Our MLAB Younger Members were honored to co-host this year's Student Roundup! After several years of absence, the Student Roundup was reintroduced by our LA Section to bring together all ten LA Section Universities; University of California Los Angeles, University of California Irvine, California State University Los Angeles, California State University Northridge, California State University Long Beach, California State University Fullerton, Loyola Marymount University, University of Southern California, Calpoly Pomona and Calpoly San Luis Obispo. The day included speakers discussing the structure of ASCE and where students fit in. We'd like to thank Section President Jay Higgins, Section Past-President Don Sepulveda, and Branch President Serge Haddad for their exemplary presentations.

The student Roundup left a great impression on the students. Along with an overview of ASCE structure, students were given advice and tips for their Annual Reports and teleconferenced with representatives from Las Vegas for their upcoming Regional Conference. Student board members were given the opportunity to meet with other board members to discuss existing challenges within their chapters and how they have solved problems in the past. It was a great event for student members to network and receive helpful information about the Regional Conference for their chapters!

## Featured Student Chapter Events



### UCLA Professor-Student BBQ

By: Brad Gerlick

Each quarter, ASCE hosts a Professor-Student BBQ where professors, undergraduate and graduate students, and alumni can enjoy a relaxing evening away from school. This past Fall BBQ was a perfect way for new students to become acquainted with the civil engineering department and the people that are most closely associated to it. Just as in past years, Professor Stewart gladly opened his home to the ASCE family for a very successful, Halloween themed event. Please watch the ASCE Calendar for our next barbeque, as there are many more networking opportunities and great memories to come!

## Featured Student Chapter Events

### ASCE UCLA 3rd Annual Officer Retreat

By: Kristine Gali

Welcoming the New School Year

The 2009-2010 ASCE UCLA Officer Board started the year off with a weekend getaway to Big Bear for the 3rd annual Officer's Retreat. While staying in a cozy cabin fit for all 33 officers, the retreat was not only a great opportunity to enjoy the last few days of summer, but also introducing new officers to the ins and outs of our student chapter here at UCLA. The weekend presented officers with the opportunity to plan for the coming school year. Workshops took place in order to brainstorm ideas, set goals, schedule events, and budget for the year. Most im-

importantly, the weekend allowed officers to build teamwork, leadership, communication, and organizational skills. The ultimate test came when officers were blindfolded, paired up, and led through obstacle courses in and around the forests of Big Bear. Hikes up the nearby mountains and to Big Bear Lake further gave officers the chance to get to know one another and to create lasting memories for the school year. To celebrate the end of a successful weekend, an A-S-C-E theme party took place in which officers creatively dressed up according to any word beginning with their A-S-C-E letter of choice. Overall, the weekend was definitely successful and a great way to prepare for the upcoming year.

After an exciting weekend getaway, officers were ready to welcome the new freshmen and transfer students at UCLA's *Welcome Week* with a Bruin Bash Activities Fair, Engineering Welcome Day, the Civil and Environmental Engineering 1 class, and the ASCE UCLA Open House. Recruitment went very well as membership numbers soared well above 100 within the first week. Membership remains open throughout the school year and new faces are always welcome at any event, meeting, or project. For more information on membership, feel free to contact, Shane Shin at [shashashin@gmail.com](mailto:shashashin@gmail.com).

*"Ability is what you're capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do. Attitude determines how well you do it."*

*~ Lou Holtz*

Save The Date!!!



save the date

2010 ASCE YMF  
Charity Golf Tournament  
Friday, June 11th

eagle glen golf club in corona  
all proceeds to benefit charity

## Advertising Rates

### Business Cards:

\$20 per Individual Issue  
\$60 for Annual Subscription  
(Quarterly Publication - 4 Issues/Year)

### Job Listings:

Contact your local YMF for rates & promotions

- Sponsorship forms are available upon request. Please contact the newsletter editor at: [cordova\\_liz@yahoo.com](mailto:cordova_liz@yahoo.com)
- Scanned business cards may be e-mailed to the newsletter editor at: [cordova\\_liz@yahoo.com](mailto:cordova_liz@yahoo.com)

*Los Angeles Section YMF Newsletter is a quarterly publication circulated to over 3,000 professionals. Advertise with us! Your support helps fund the many activities and outreach events highlighted in this publication. All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.*

### Join Our Email Lists!

Keep up to date with all the latest YMF events and important announcements.  
To join our e-mail lists please contact:

**Tricia Maruki** for OC at [Tricia.Maruki@aecom.com](mailto:Tricia.Maruki@aecom.com),

**Francisco Aragon** for LA at [faragon@hntb.com](mailto:faragon@hntb.com),

**Komy Ghods** for SB/RC at [krghods@rcflood.org](mailto:krghods@rcflood.org),

or **Adam Hendel** for SB/VC at [ahendel@santabarbara.ca.gov](mailto:ahendel@santabarbara.ca.gov)

### For more information about YMF, check out our Websites:

<http://mlab-ymf.org/>

<http://www.ymf-oc.org/>

<http://sbvasce-ymf.org/>

<http://asce-ssjb-ymf.com/>

[http://www.asce-sbriv.org/Younger\\_Member\\_Forum/ymf.html](http://www.asce-sbriv.org/Younger_Member_Forum/ymf.html)

For extended calendar of events, please visit the ASCE Los Angeles Section website at:  
[www.ascelasection.org](http://www.ascelasection.org).

## Upcoming YMF Events—At a Glance

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
4/03/2010	OC YMF 3x3 co-ed Basketball Tournament Contact: Ananda Kirana at <a href="mailto:akhairankirana@gmail.com">akhairankirana@gmail.com</a>	10:00 a.m.	Heritage Park 2350 Kinsman Tustin, CA
4/17/2010	LA Section YMFs Host PE Booth and Happy Hour Contact: See flyer on page 5	After Exam	Espiau's Restaurant
4/22/2010	Olinda Land Technical Tour Contact: Patricia De Leon at <a href="mailto:patriciann207@gmail.com">patriciann207@gmail.com</a>	TBD	Olinda Landfill Brea, CA
4/24/2010	Professional Development Conference Joint OC YMF and SWE OC Event Contact: Jeannette Lindemann at <a href="mailto:jlindemann@ddbe.com">jlindemann@ddbe.com</a>	TBD	Boeing Theatre Huntington Beach, CA
4/30/2010	MLAB YMF Comedy Night with Special Guest John Carapulo Contact: Rocio Duran at <a href="mailto:rduran129@hotmail.com">rduran129@hotmail.com</a>	10:00 p.m.	The Ice House Comedy Club 24 N. Mentor Ave. Pasadena, CA
6/05/2010	Corazon Community Service Event Contact: Ben Stanphill at <a href="mailto:benjamino1@gmail.com">benjamino1@gmail.com</a>	TBD	Northern Baja, Mexico
6/06/2010	San Diego Rock & Roll Marathon and charity fundraiser Contact: Andrew Parkhurst at <a href="mailto:aparkhurst1@gmail.com">aparkhurst1@gmail.com</a>	All Day	San Diego, CA
6/11/2010	ASCE OC YMF Charity Golf Tournament Contact: Tori Yokoyama at <a href="mailto:tyokoyama@rbf.com">tyokoyama@rbf.com</a>	TBD	Eagle Glen Golf Club Corona, CA
6/25/2010	Irvine Ranch Outdoor Education Center Technical Tour Contact: Patricia De Leon at <a href="mailto:patriciann207@gmail.com">patriciann207@gmail.com</a>	TBD	Irvine Ranch OEC Orange, CA
6/25/2010 to 6/27/2010	Kern River Water Rafting/Camping Trip Contact: Rocio Duran at <a href="mailto:rduran129@hotmail.com">rduran129@hotmail.com</a>	All Weekend	Upper Kern River 11300 Kernville Rd. Kernville, CA

Winter  
**2009**  
Editor:  
Lizbeth Cordova

# YMF Newsletter

Metropolitan Los Angeles • San Bernardino/Riverside •  
Orange County • Santa Barbara/Ventura • Southern San Joaquin

**ASCE** American Society  
of Civil Engineers