

Published Quarterly by the ASCE Los Angeles Section Younger Member Forums

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## Monthly YMF Board Meetings

### **SB/RC**

Every first Monday

### **SB/VC**

Every second Tuesday

### **MLAB**

Every second Tuesday

### **OC**

Every third Tuesday

### **SSJ**

Every other third Tuesday

For locations, please contact any  
board member.

**Everyone is  
welcome!**

## Civil Olympics in Los Angeles Pacific Southwest Conference at Cal State L.A.

By: Francisco Aragon, P.E.

On March 23rd through 26th, over 18 universities converged at CSULA to compete in this year's American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Pacific Southwest Conference (PSWC) under the aptly named theme of Civil Olympics.

For the first time in 32 years, CSULA was the host and with over 1,100 students registered the event proved a great success for our local student chapter. The conference began on Wednesday with a flag design and the rest of the conference included crowd favorites such as concrete canoe races, steel bridge competition, testing seismic design structures, surveying, and even new competitions such as building doghouses.

The canoe competition took place at the Santa Fe Dam Recreation Center in Irwindale, and the Steel Bridge Competition took place on campus. The conference ended Saturday with an awards ceremony held at the Quiet Cannon restaurant in Montebello.

MLAB YMF helped judge several events and led the Steel Bridge competition judging. The lateral criteria proved to be a challenge this year and many bridges were disqualified when subjected to the lateral load. However, there were great innovative designs and the students had a great time participating in this event.

See **PSWC 2011**... Page 11





## Santa Barbara and Ventura County YMF

### President's Message

Hello Fellow Young Civil Engineers,

Memorial Day is a holiday to honor those who have fallen serving our country. It is also a milestone signifying the end of spring and start of summer. I hope everyone enjoyed the long weekend!

The Santa Barbara/Ventura YMF was busy this past spring. In March, two of our members attended the Caprinteria High School Career Fair to discuss the civil engineering profession and necessary educational prerequisites. The group celebrated taking or passing the Professional Engineer exam in April by meeting for happy hour in Ventura. Just last week, I lead a technical tour of a seismic and historic rehabilitation of the Carrillo Recreation Center in Santa Barbara. My fellow officers have been planning more fun events for the summer.

The YMF will be hosting two events in Ventura this summer, including a technical tour in June and a professional development workshop in August. Our big social events for the summer include our Annual Wine Tasting in Santa Barbara on July 23 and our Annual Volleyball Tournament and Barbeque on September 10 at East Beach. Both events are open to other L.A. Section YMF members. We hope you can join us for wine and/or volleyball!

With the end of the fiscal year approaching, the YMF is working on recruiting new members to serve on our board. We are currently looking for a Treasurer and Secretary. Please let me know if you are interested and I'll setup a lunch meeting to discuss in more detail.

Thank you for your involvement in ASCE.

Adam Hendel, P.E.  
2010-2011 SB/V YMF President

### Board Members

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*City of Santa Barbara*

**James Winslow, P.E.**  
Past President  
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**Carrie Poytress, P.E.**  
Treasurer  
*Penfield & Smith*

**Matt Janousek, P.E.**  
Secretary  
*Fugro West, Inc.*



## Southern San Joaquin YMF

### President's Message

Welcome to the SSJB-YMF! I would like to introduce you to the branch on the other side of the hill.

We are just north of the Grapevine and at the southernmost end of the San Joaquin Valley.

We are in the midst of another successful year full of events and tours. Recently, we deliberated in a joint scholarship effort with our parent branch to award three (3) \$1,000 scholarships to local Civil Engineering students.

We are planning many more events, so come check us out! Visit our website at: [www.asce-ssjb-ymf.com](http://www.asce-ssjb-ymf.com)

Taylor Abernathy, E.I.T.  
2010-2011 Southern San Joaquin YMF President

### Board Members

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Past President

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**Alkan Bektur, P.E.**  
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**Pelin Bektur, P.E.**  
Treasurer



# San Bernardino and Riverside County YMF

## President's Message

Summer is upon us and we have long sunny days to look forward to! The last few months the YMF board has been busy planning and taking part in all the events we put together for our members. Some of these include a paintball event with the students of Cal Poly Pomona and Cal Baptist University, going to watch the home town baseball heroes the Rancho Cucamonga Quakes, a student outreach presentation at a local high school, and how can we forget the P.E. booth and happy hour. We also began our election process for next year's officers. I am excited about the response from new YMF members interested in being elected to the board. I can't wait to find out who will be leading San Bernardino/Riverside Counties YMF into another great year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the board for all their hard work.

Currently we are busy planning events for the summer months. I am really looking forward to what we have in store. Some of the events planned include a "beach cleanup and fun day" event, a happy hour at the restaurant inside bass pro shop, and a volunteer opportunity at the Ronald McDonald House in Loma Linda. We expect great turn outs at these events and hope to see all of you there.

Robert Vasquez, P.E.  
2010-2011 SB/R YMF President

## Board Members

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**Albert Marinez, P.E.**  
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**Kahlil Amin**  
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**Eva Mariscal**  
Newsletter Editor  
*Caltrans*

**Andy Leung - Community**  
Service Coordinator  
*RCFC & WCD*

**Melissa Barbosa, P.E.**  
K-12 Student Outreach  
Coordinator  
*City of Monrovia*

## YMF vs. Student Competition

### 6th Annual SB/R YMF vs. Student Softball Game Rancho Cucamonga, CA By: Robert Vasquez, P.E.

In what has become an annual tradition, the officers and members of the San Bernardino/Riverside Counties Branch YMF played a friendly game of softball against the student chapter members from the local universities: Cal Poly Pomona and Cal Baptist University. The match took place Saturday May 21, 2011 at Ellena Park in beautiful Rancho Cucamonga. Going into the match the record was three wins for the students and 2 wins for the YMF team. The game was dominated early on by the students who kept the YMF team at bay with superb hitting and outstanding glove work. After a rough start the YMF team rallied in the last 3 innings to take the game. With this win the record now stands even: 3 wins for the students and 3 wins for the YMF. Next year's game should prove to be really interesting as both teams come out swinging and hoping to break the tie. After the game, both teams were eager to light up some charcoal and get to grilling. We enjoyed some delicious hamburgers and hot dogs and began making plans for next year's game!





## Orange County YMF

### President's Message

I hope that everyone is doing well. Summer is well underway and OC YMF is proud to have many events planned for this summer. We recently had two successful K-12 Outreach events. One of them was at Stonegate Elementary in Irvine and the other was at McGarvin Intermediary in Westminster. We also had a successful Joint YMF event with the annual rafting and camping trip. Some things to look forward to include: our next Community Service event at the Ronald McDonald House in Orange, our Archery Social, our Angels Baseball Night, our 3 on 3 basketball tournament, and our beach day. Also this year, OC YMF is hosting a P.E. Review course for the October P.E. exam. Please keep posted for these events and contact me if you have any questions!!

Andrew Pham, P.E.  
2010-2011 OC YMF President

### Board Members

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### YMF Social

#### MLAB YMF Karaoke/Happy Hour Los Angeles, CA By: Julia Moye

On Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup> the MLAB YMF held a karaoke night and happy hour at the Brass Monkey in Los Angeles. This well known karaoke bar perfectly fits the definition of a dive bar while still maintaining a certain charm - this hip venue served as the perfect location for the YMF karaoke event!

The evening started out slow with attendees enjoying a variety of tunes while having a few drinks, snacking on delicious appetizers, and socializing with one another. As the alcohol began to work its magic, members of the group slowly made their way up to the microphone. A variety of songs were belted out by attendees - "Eye of the Tiger" by Survivor, "Oops I Did It Again" by Britney Spears, and even a some selections in Spanish including "Dile" by Don Omar. By the end of the night an impressive number of aspiring civil engineering singers had made their way onto the stage. MLAB YMF singers were upbeat, enthusiastic, and passionate. Some found the key a bit easier than others and some singers were quite talented, but admittedly, some singing was painful to the ear drums. Regardless, the attendees had a relaxing and fun time and perhaps it will take a few more karaoke socials before we find the next Civil Engineering Idol.

# Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch YMF



## President's Message

Summer is finally here but there is no need to worry, MLAB YMF won't be taking a break... In fact, it almost feels like we are just getting warmed up with so many great events in the works! Committees are continuing to work hard organizing our upcoming annual events such as Joint YMF Soccer Tournament and Santa Barbara Wine Tasting Trip. In addition, we also have Ballona Wetlands Habitat Restoration and Picnic, LA Union Station Tour, Archery with OC YMF, Chantry Flat Hike, Dodgers Game and Picnic with SB/R YMF and Fantasia at the Hollywood Bowl coming up. Our third General Meeting will feature a special presentation on Supercharging Your Career given by Kwame Agyare, P.E., current past-chair of the ASCE Committee of Leadership and Management. You can find information on all of these events and more by checking out our new and improved website at [www.mlab-ymf.org](http://www.mlab-ymf.org). New look, same great group!

Although it feels like we are just getting warmed up with a calendar full of events this summer, the past few months have been busy as ever. Recent events included our LA Section Student Night and Job Fair, LA Marathon Aid Station, LA River Day of Service, General Meeting at ESPN Zone, Griffith Park Hike and Picnic, Rock 'n' Roll San Diego Half Marathon, Joint YMF White Water Rafting and Camping Trip and Bread and Roses Cafe. We have also had several K-12 outreach events including an earthquake presentation and sugar cube activity at Clover Elementary, presentations on Civil Engineering for Great Minds in STEM as well as booths at the Mission Hills Cesar Chavez Festival, Tech Day and Sun Valley H.S. Open House.

One event in particular that I would like to highlight is our Annual LA Section Student Night and Job Fair that was held in the Starview Ballroom at the Sheraton Universal Hotel. This annual event recognizes and honors the most stellar university students from the eleven LA Section universities. It takes a significant amount of time and effort to organize this event and for that I want to recognize and thank the chair of this year's event, Ruben Mazzei, along with his committee and all the volunteers for their commitment and dedication to ensuring this event was a success. In addition, this event would not have been possible without the generous support of our LA Section leaders and corporate sponsors.

I would also like to highlight another committee that spends countless hours to ensure our Professional Engineer Examination Review Course (PERC) is a cost-effective and valuable resource for our members in preparing for the exam. The co-chairs of this year's PERC, Maria Miranda and Omar Sanchez, work hard to coordinate the schedule of classes with the instructors, assist students and attend every class to ensure it runs smoothly and meets the needs of the students. The two-month long course is offered twice a year and registration is now open for the Fall 2011 PE Review Course which will begin in early August and go through September. Now is the time to advance your Civil Engineering profession by obtaining your Professional Engineer license. You can find more information on our website at [www.mlab-ymf.org](http://www.mlab-ymf.org) or by contacting Maria Miranda ([mlmiranda3@gmail.com](mailto:mlmiranda3@gmail.com)) or Omar Sanchez ([oasanchez25@yahoo.com](mailto:oasanchez25@yahoo.com)).

See [President's Message... Page 6](#)

## Board Members

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*CH2MHill*

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*PPC Construction*

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**Paul Garcia - University Outreach**  
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**Nick Velasquez Social Activities Chair**

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**Alejandro Moreno Professional Association Liason**  
*City of L.A. Bureau of Engineering*

# Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch YMF

## President's Message

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With all of these activities and more, my time as MLAB YMF President has flown by! It's hard to believe in just a few short months my term as President will be over and yet, it never ceases to amaze me how truly fortunate I am to have this opportunity to work with so many inspiring young leaders in our profession and the quantity and caliber of events they organize for our members. None of our events would be possible without the tireless efforts and dedication of our entire Board of Directors and their committees. I simply cannot thank each and every one of them enough for all that they do to make MLAB YMF the successful, dynamic and active group that it is.

As always, I would like to personally invite you to attend our monthly board meetings and get more involved. Now is the perfect time, as the Call for Nominations for our 2011-2012 MLAB YMF Board of Directors has begun. Give back to your engineering community and be part of a fun and collaborative group of leaders. Becoming a YMF officer is a great opportunity to enhance your leadership skills, build your network, and take advantage of your ASCE membership. Members of the Board of Directors will also gain experience in project management, budgeting, and outreach. No experience is necessary for most positions.

The Board of Directors consists of the Executive Board and Committee Chairs. A complete list of available positions and responsibilities is available on our website at [www.mlab-ymf.org](http://www.mlab-ymf.org). If you would like to run for an elected position or be considered for appointment in any of the chair positions, please contact Jinny Huang ([jinny.c.huang@mwhglobal.com](mailto:jinny.c.huang@mwhglobal.com)) for more information.

Finally, congratulations to all of the recent graduates of our five MLAB YMF universities at CSULA, CSUN, LMU, UCLA and USC as well as our surrounding LA Section universities at Cal Baptist, Cal Poly Pomona, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, CSUF, CSULB and UCI! This is a great achievement you should be very proud of. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors and continued success as you begin your careers. Don't forget to upgrade your ASCE membership status from student to Associate Member and take your involvement with ASCE to the next level by becoming an active member of YMF.

Amber Girard  
2010-2011 MLAB YMF President

## 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 \$210 over five years

**Member:** \$210 annually

**Affiliate Member:** \$210 annually

**Fellow:** \$245 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.ascemlab.org/membership/>.

## YMF Technical Presentation and Tour

### Mission Blvd. and SR-71 Grade Separation Project Pomona, CA

By: Julianna Gonzalez

For those of you that attend YMF meetings, you usually see the same small group of participants every time. Not so for our April meeting, San Bernardino-Riverside Counties Branch YMF has not had this good of a turnout in a long time. It was great! Many young engineers and students were very interested in the SR-71 overpass project in the City of Pomona since it is a common commute for most people attending Cal Poly Pomona. Our presenter, Transtech, did not disappoint! Transtech hosted 40 people at Applebee's, which meant free food: delicious appetizers, food, and drinks for everyone attending the meeting. Mr. Robert Quintero, Project Manager and Senior Vice President of Transtech Engineers, and Mr. Kurt Pegg the Construction Manager for the project explained that the project will remove the existing at grade intersection and construct a new compressed diamond-designed interchange (Mission Blvd. over SR-71). Once completed the Mission 71 Project will alleviate congestion, improve traffic mobility and reduce delays at a total project cost of \$40,000,000. Not only did they wow us with their presentation, but Transtech also volunteered their time the next day and offered a technical tour of the project site which 30 people attended. We were able to roam around the project site and see how the steel formation was done. It was a great turnout, nice to see all of the new faces, and we hope to get the same interest for our upcoming events.



## YMF University Outreach

### MLAB YMF Student Night and Job Fair Universal City, CA

By: Ruben Mazzei, E.I.T., A.M. ASCE

In this arduous economy, approximately 12.4 percent of California's population is unemployed. As young professionals, during this difficult time, we turned to our local leaders and non-profit organizations for their support and leadership. For this reason, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Los Angeles (LA) Section, Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch (MLAB) and Younger Member Forum (YMF) encourage the prospect of positive change and promote engineering; both professionals and students are encouraged to continue their outreach activities.



On March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011 ASCE LA-Section MLAB-YMF hosted the Job Fair and Student Night at the Starview Ballroom in the Sheraton Universal Hotel. This year's Student Night and Job Fair served its purpose in honoring those that will carry the torch forward in constructing the built environment. ASCE took great pride in accentuating the talented student membership of the Los Angeles Section. The most stellar university students were spotlighted from all over the Los Angeles area. On that day, nearly two hundred engineering students from eleven universities as well as attendees from local engineering companies, and public agencies showed their support of our local community during the Job Fair, and the awards dinner. The purpose of the event was to help students connect with civil engineering firms during the Job fair and honor the student's achievement during the awards ceremony.



The first part of the evening started with the Job Fair which was intended to assist students in finding employment at local engineering firms. A special thank you from the LA Section, Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch, and Younger Member Forum community to some of the local companies that supported this event: AECOM, Arcadis, C2MHILL, Hall and Foreman, HDR, KPFF, MWH, and W2 Design, Inc. During the Job Fair, civil engineering students had the opportunity to introduce themselves, comingle with the company's representatives, and learn about each company's disciplines. In addition, the firms had a chance to interview the students and learn about their professional goals and objectives. It was an honor to have those companies support the event and the civil engineers of the future. As the Job Fair wound down, the crowd was escorted into the ballroom for the Student Night awards banquet. The Universal Sheraton Hotel set the tone for a modern and elegant evening, and a well organized slide show entertained guest until the ceremony commenced.

The second half of the evening continued at the Starview Ballroom located on the highest floor of the Sheraton Universal Hotel with an amazing view of Hollywood. Mr. Gilbert Ivey, Assistant General Manager/Chief Administrative Officer of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, was present to support this local community outreach event.

See [Student Night and Job Fair...](#) Page 9

# YMF University Outreach

## Student Night and Job Fair

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As the sun set, the ballroom filled and we had a charming dinner. The awards ceremony began with outstanding speeches from YMF President Amber Girard, MLAB President-Elect Marlon Calderon, and LA Section President Greg Hiertz. The common theme was encouraging the students not to give up on their dreams during these difficult times and continue their hard work towards the transition into the professional world. This year MLAB YMF was also proud to have as special guests the winners of the 2011 Popsicle Stick Bridge Competition. Francisco Aragon and Laura Rockett recapped the highlights of that great event, and presented the first place prize to Team Varignon of Francisco Bravo Medical Magnet High School represented by students Michelle Lee, Fatimatou Diallo, James Song, Duke Seo, and teacher Mr. Michael Morgan.



ASCE LA-Section MLAB-YMF also celebrated and honored student achievements in engineering and community outreach during the scholarship dinner. Paul Garcia and Julia Moye presented over a dozen scholarship awards provided to students from the Los Angeles Section. The scholarships awarded included: Los Angeles Section (Philip Abrams (2), Jeffrey Gordon, and Leo & Pat Hirschfeldt); Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch (Patti Gadomski Memorial, Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch Scholarship (2), Le Val Lund Memorial Graduate Scholarship); MLAB Younger Member Forum (Graduate Scholarship, Outstanding Student Member, and Outstanding Student Chapter). MLAB YMF congratulates all the recipients of awards, and thanks all those who put forth effort to make the night remarkable. The evening concluded with pictures of the entire group.



The 2011 school year has come to a close and so has another successful MLAB YMF event that could not have happened without the unwavering support of the boards and membership of LA Section, MLAB, and YMF. The success of this noble cause is completely reliant on the sponsorship of the civil engineering community whose benevolence drew us to the industry in the first place. Even in hard times, we know the engineering spirit will persevere. We thank you for truly making it a night that will always be remembered. We all gathered at this event to support our local community. Everyone's support of this



event allows ASCE to promote engineering amongst professionals and students, and continue our outreach activities. The American Society of Civil Engineers encourages the prospect of change and ASCE can help make sure it is a positive change. We hope that next year you are part of this magnificent outreach activity!

## YMF Community Service

### ACE Charter High School Graphing Paper Donation Camarillo, CA

By: Matt Janousek, P.E. and Adam Hendel, P.E.



The Santa Barbara/Ventura Branch of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Younger Member Forum (YMF) is pleased to announce the start of a community partnership with Architecture, Construction, and Engineering (ACE) Charter High School in Camarillo. The mission of ACE is to provide an alternative educational opportunity for students to explore construction related careers through a rigorous, contextual, and hands-on curriculum that prepares them for direct entry into college, professional apprenticeship programs, or a career.

The Santa Barbara/Ventura YMF has been looking for ways to help ACE with their mission. The YMF board recently discovered that ACE was in need of graphing paper for its blueprint reading module. The YMF drafted a custom graphing paper design with dual ACE and ASCE logos and had a local copy shop print tablets of paper. On May 12, 2011, Matt Janousek visited ACE Charter High School to meet with Ron Fisher, Principal, and donate 500 sheets of graphing paper for their computer-aided drafting class. The graphing paper is a much needed resource for the students, and they were grateful to receive the donation.

The Santa Barbara/Ventura YMF will continue to look for ways to help out at the school including through donations and technical presentations. If your company is interested in donating supplies or helping out at the school, please contact Ron Fisher at [ronald.fisher@vcoe.org](mailto:ronald.fisher@vcoe.org), or visit the school's website at [www.acecharterhigh.org/](http://www.acecharterhigh.org/).

## YMF General Meeting

### MLAB YMF Networking at ESPN Zone LA Live Los Angeles, CA

By: Kyle Burnham

On May 5, 2011, twenty members of ASCE MLAB YMF celebrated Cinco de Mayo at ESPN Zone LA Live with an evening of networking, food, drinks and games. This second general meeting of the year gave members an opportunity to let their hair down and show off some of their non-engineering talents. Highlights of the evening included lively discussions ranging from sports to Caltrans furlough policies, heated games including a free throw shoot out resulting in a new ESPN Zone high score and a fantastic view of the Cinco de Mayo celebrations taking place in the LA Live plaza below. The event attendees included students, non-members and members representing both public agencies and private engineering firms.

ASCE MLAB YMF General Meetings are held every few months and feature guest speakers, networking opportunities, technical presentations and numerous opportunities to become more involved in upcoming ASCE MLAB YMF activities. For more information on upcoming general meetings please contact the ASCE MLAB YMF Membership Chair, Kyle Burnham ([kyle.e.burnham@gmail.com](mailto:kyle.e.burnham@gmail.com)).

# ASCE Student Conference

## PSWC 2011

*Continued from Page 1*

The PSWC was attended by the ASCE student chapters from Region 9, which includes Nevada, Arizona, California and Hawaii. The event is well recognized by ASCE and the engineering community at large and it was a great event to have hosted by one of our MLAB universities. Congratulations go out to this year's Overall winners, and the great hosts, who spent countless hours putting together a great showcase of the Civil Olympics.



## YMF K-12 Outreach

### OC YMF Shakes things up at Sonagate Elementary School Irvine, CA

By: Eugene Gordon

On a bright May afternoon, seven members of the Orange County Branch of YMF presented Civil Engineering to a group of about ninety 4<sup>th</sup> grade students at Stonegate Elementary School in Irvine, California.

After coordinating with the interested teachers at the school, the YMF volunteers provided three different 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes with simple explanations of Civil Engineering and asked the students to think about all of the different ways that Civil Engineering affects their lives on a daily basis. The students shared various examples, which led to discussions about what it takes to become a Civil Engineer.

This broad introduction was followed by an interactive game with the kids. Each class was divided into groups and given a pre-sorted collection of Lego® bricks. The challenge was to build the tallest structure that would withstand the forces of a simulated earthquake. The students, despite their age (9-10 years-old), asked the volunteers about design strategies, and these discussions led to very stable structures as a result.

Earthquakes were simulated with small shake tables made of two identical boards connected with rubber bands and four rubber balls between the boards in each corner. The students really enjoyed creating their structures and testing their structural designs on the shake tables – many even had follow-up questions after the activity about Civil Engineering in general.



### 2011 San Bernardino-Riverside YMF Student Outreach

By: Melissa Barbosa, P.E.

This year the San Bernardino/Riverside Branch YMF outreached to a record 800 students ranging from 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. A team of ASCE members joined in the fun spreading the word about Civil Engineering and encouraging students to attend college once graduating from High School. The mission this year was to reach out to 6-12 grade students, and expand our efforts; we not only spoke to AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) students, but opened it up to all math and science teachers and to the career center. The students participated in an activity to create uniquely designed, aesthetically pleasing, and seismically sound structural buildings utilizing peanut butter, sugar cubes and card board. The events were not only rewarding to the students but to the ASCE members as well; they turned out to be a great success. This year we went to four schools: Rancho Verde High School in Moreno Valley (February 25, 2011), Slauson Middle School in Azusa (March 11, 2011), Ramona High School in Riverside (March 18, 2011) and Summit High School in Fontana (May 13, 2011).



## YMF K-12 Outreach

### Celebrate Science Pacoima, CA

By: Heren Molina

Celebra La Ciencia (Celebrate Science) was the theme of the 18th anniversary of the Cesar Chavez Celebration hosted on March 27, 2011 by the cities of San Fernando and Pacoima. MLAB YMF was invited to participate in the annual science fair portion of the celebration for the third consecutive year.

As civil engineers we wanted to highlight our profession in a fun and interactive way and the catapult building activity we prepared for the kids did just that. Over 150 kids of all ages and parents stopped by our booth to design, build, and test a catapult by using random materials (e.g. Popsicle sticks, rubber bands, clothes pins, etc.). Launching marshmallows was the highlight of the process; that was how they were able to test if their design worked.

We were able to bring out the engineer in everyone by having them work in teams, use their imagination and creativity, and see their design come to life. The air was filled with enthusiasm, creativity and excitement throughout the day, which made our effort even more worthwhile.

Thanks to our MLAB YMF and CSUN student volunteers we were able to introduce civil engineering to many of our future leaders. Everyone in attendance had an awesome time and is looking forward to next year.



# Advertising Rates

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- 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 e-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:

**Kimberly Gee** for OC at [Kimberly.Gee@aecom.com](mailto:Kimberly.Gee@aecom.com),

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

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

or **Adam Hendel** for SB/VC at [adamhendel@me.com](mailto:adamhendel@me.com)

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

[www.mlab-ymf.org](http://www.mlab-ymf.org)

[www.ymf-oc.org](http://www.ymf-oc.org)

[www.sbvasce-ymf.org](http://www.sbvasce-ymf.org)

[www.asce-ssjb-ymf.com](http://www.asce-ssjb-ymf.com)

[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).

# MLAB YMF P.E. REVIEW COURSE



ASCE Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch  
Younger Member Forum  
PE REVIEW COURSE



## FALL 2011 P.E. REVIEW COURSE

Registration is now open for the Fall 2011 PE Review Course. That is correct! Now is the time to advance in your civil engineering profession by obtaining your Professional Engineer's license. Our course is taught by practicing professionals in their respective fields. Our PE Review instructors cover all of the exam's subjects such as Environmental, Geotechnical, Construction, Water, Transportation, Structural, and the specialized topics of Surveying and Seismic.

The PE Review Course is taught at the Los Angeles City Department of Public Works, centrally located in the heart of Los Angeles, meeting twice a week on Tuesday and Thursday nights. The Surveying and Seismic courses are offered on three different Saturdays.

Please take note that registration is now open for the Fall 2011 PE Review. The review course will begin early August and go on through September, 2011. The PE Exam is scheduled for Friday October 28<sup>th</sup> and Saturday October 29<sup>th</sup>. Sign up to maximize your potential to pass!

There is a discounted rate for those that are ASCE members. If you are not a member, register now and receive the discounted rate for the Fall 2011 PE Review Course. To become an ASCE member, log on to <http://www.asce.org/membership> and register. There are many advantages to becoming a member of ASCE. Take heed of our website ([www.mlab-ymf.org](http://www.mlab-ymf.org)) as it contains insight of our tools, resources, events, and news for the well-rounded engineer.

Hone your testing preparation for the PE exam and use this opportunity as a great networking tool by getting involved with the myriad of ASCE MLAB-YMF talent pool.

**Share this with co-workers and colleagues.**

If you have additional questions, feel free to contact Maria Miranda at [mlmiranda3@gmail.com](mailto:mlmiranda3@gmail.com) or Omar Sanchez at [oasanchez25@yahoo.com](mailto:oasanchez25@yahoo.com).

## YMF Adventures

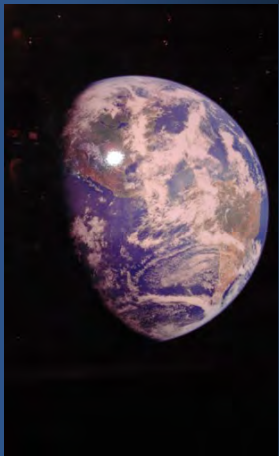
### It's all about the Journey, Not the Destination Griffith Observatory

By: Julia Moye and Omar A. Sanchez



Hiking would not be as enjoyable if you just uneventfully got there. On May 7, 2011, MLAB YMF hosted a 3-hour hike lead by Ranger Ybarra and Ranger Brown of Los Angeles. The three mile hike, which started at the Griffith Observatory, was fun and as an added bonus we learned about poisonous plants and which plants we could taste without getting sick. The weather was overcast but it was not dark enough to dampen the sights of civilizations' creations such as the skyscrapers of Culver City and Downtown L.A. The hike was suitable for beginners of almost all ages. As we hiked to the summit that overlooks the Hollywood sign, we stopped to listen to stories about Griffith J. Griffith's vision and bequeathing of money to create Griffith Park and the Observatory. This free event included tasty snacks and a pleasant luncheon for our hikers. We finished the event by roaming the Observatory. It is an interesting place that will take your mind out of orbit. There were many exhibits and a short film about

the Observatory's major renovations. Did you know that hydraulic jacks were used to raise the building to construct the underground exhibit area? During the construction process, the observatory was preserved with care and precautions for potential earthquakes were taken. You must check out the next MLAB YMF event. Whether the event is a social, sports, professional development, community development, or for developing government affairs awareness, it will enhance your career and make it more rewarding. Consider getting involved with ASCE. In the end, it's not the destination that counts, but the journey you embark on.



## YMF Marathons

### YMF Rocks the San Diego Rock 'n Roll Half Marathon

By: Jane Tran

Despite waking up at 4:30 a.m. and having to endure the early morning chill in thin running gear, on Sunday, June 5th, six ASCE YMF members excitedly gathered in Balboa Park near the start line of the San Diego Rock n' Roll Marathon, hearts racing and minds focused on one thing—completing a 13.1 mile foot-race through San Diego. For several, this would be their first half marathon. At 6:15 a.m., our runners were off, swarming through the streets and freeways of San Diego with 32,000 other participants. The course took them through parts of San Diego that included Balboa Park, Hillcrest, SR-163, Mission Valley West, and South Shores Park. Live rock bands and spectators cheered them on throughout the race, keeping our runners energized and entertained. The race finally ended at Sea World with free food, a beer garden, and concert. Everyone who participated had a lot of fun. When asked what made this race memorable, participant Omar Sanchez said, "I associated a lot of 'P words' that made up this trip/race/journey: punctuality, power, pride, philosophy, pump-up, pranks, phenomenal, ponder, poetry, positivity, peace, perseverance, permanent, Peroni beer... just kidding. In tough economic times, we divided the costs for hotels and rides, and multiplied the fun! The aftermath was muscle aches but also lots of pride and joy."

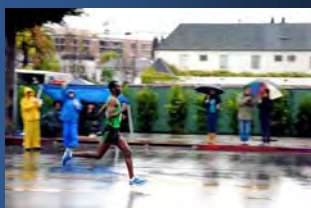


### ASCE Conquers a Rainy Los Angeles Marathon

By: Omar A. Sanchez

According to Wikipedia, a marathon is a race created to commemorate a Greek soldier that ran as a messenger in "The Battle of Marathon" in Athens. Today, civil engineers run the world with vivid messages of their own. There is no doubt that ASCE greats such as Albert Martinez, Amber Girard, Androush Danielians, Avygail Sanchez, Edwin Quiñonez, Helio Takano, Komy Ghods, Maria Miranda, and Robert Vasquez made a statement in taking on the cold, windy, and rainy 2011 Los Angeles Marathon.

At Mile #17 in Beverly Hills, MLAB YMF assisted racers by handing out Gatorade drinks that repelled them from quitting the stormy mission. ASCE participants teamed with SC Edison to alter the racers' tempo with encouragement. Recounting the highlights of this event was rewarding. MLAB YMF volunteers sat under the overhangs of a building viewing the race after volunteering for 3 hours. As we sat there and ate warm hot dogs, coffee, and muffins, we created a message of our own: "It's not how you start; it's how you finish" and "Congratulations to our runners. We got wet too!"



## Upcoming Events

### General Meeting: The Lake Elsinore Aeration Project.

#### San Bernardino/Riverside YMF



Join the San Bernardino/Riverside County Younger Forum for our July general meeting. We will be updating you on what the chapter has been up to, as well as give information on upcoming activities. Our guest speaker for the evening will be Mr. Mark Norton, P.E., LEED AP, from the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA). Mr. Norton serves as the water resources and planning manager for SAWPA, a joint powers agency organized to support water resources in the Santa Ana River Watershed. His presentation will introduce us to the Lake Elsinore Aeration Project. Completed in 2007, this project was designed to infuse the water in Lake Elsinore with oxygen to improve the quality of the lake.

**Cost:** Free to attend. Dinner is included. Space is limited to the first 20 people to RSVP

**When:** Wednesday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011

**Time:** 6:00 PM-7:30 PM

**Meeting Place:** SAWPA Offices  
11615 Sterling Avenue  
Riverside, CA 92503

**Contact:** Robert Vasquez  
[revasquez@rcflood.org](mailto:revasquez@rcflood.org)  
951-955-8845

## Upcoming Events



**ASCE**  
American Society of Civil Engineers



**WINE  
TASTING**

<b>PRESIDENT</b> Adam Hendei City of Santa Barbara	<b>V. PRESIDENT</b> Ryan Gallagher AECOM	<b>SECRETARY</b> Matt Janousek Fugro	<b>TREASURER</b> Carrie Poytress Penfield & Smith	<b>PAST PRESIDENT</b> James Winslow City of Santa Barbara
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### Santa Barbara Urban Wine Tour

**SATURDAY, JULY 23**

**Where: Downtown Santa Barbara**

**Cost: \$20/person, payable to ASCE YMF SBV**

**Amtrak Schedule:**

**VEC 9:31 am to SBA 10:12 am, \$14**

**VEC 11:02 am to SBA 11:36 am, \$14**

**SBA 4:37 pm to VEC 5:16 pm, \$14**

**SBA 6:59 pm to VEC 7:37 pm, \$14**

**RSVP Deadline July 20th:**

Contact: Carrie Poytress

Telephone: (805) 963-9532 x148

E-mail: [ceo@penfieldsmith.com](mailto:ceo@penfieldsmith.com)

### Wine Tasting Schedule

**11:35 am – Santa Barbara Train Station, 209 State St**

**11:45 am – Kunin Wines, 28 Anacapa St**

**12:45 pm – El Torito Restaurant, 29 E Cabrillo Blvd**

**2:15 pm – Corks n' Crowns, 32 Anacapa St**

**3:15 pm – Santa Barbara Winery, 202 Anacapa St**

**Please join us for a great day of tasting!**

**Parking Locations: Mason St, Anacapa St, Helena St, Yanonalli St, Cabrillo Blvd**

# Upcoming Events



## AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS METROPOLITAN LOS ANGELES BRANCH YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM



**What:** YMF Technical Presentation  
**Supercharge Your Career**  
**Past Chair of the ASCE Committee of Leadership and Management**  
**Kwame Agyare, P.E.**

**Where:** Almansor Court  
700 S. Almansor St. Alhambra, CA 91801

**When:** Thursday, July 28, 2011  
6:30 PM – 9:00 PM

**Cost:** \$15 Members  
\$20 Non-members  
\$10 Students

} Includes dinner  
See options below

**RSVP:** **Wednesday, July 20, 2011**  
Kyle Burnham  
[kyle.e.burnham@gmail.com](mailto:kyle.e.burnham@gmail.com)  
or online at: <http://mlab-ymf.org>  
Please indicate dinner entrée choice.



### Speaker Bio:

Kwame Agyare is the current past-chair of the ASCE Committee of Leadership and Management. He has over 17 years of involvement with ASCE including serving as a YMF chair and Branch President, and also as chair of the ASCE Committee on Younger Members in 1999. Kwame moved to Fremont, California in 2010 where he is currently the Water Supply & Production manager for the Alameda County Water District. Prior to that, Kwame spent 18 years in Arizona working as a civil engineer in State and local government.

### Speaker Topic:

Kwame Agyare will share strategies on job-hopping and how changing jobs can be a career strategy and how it may look to potential employers.



### Dinner:

#### Entrees (please choose one):

*Chicken Dijonaise: Boneless breast of chicken in a delicate whole grain mustard sauce*

Or

*Vegetable Lasagna: Sheets of pasta layered with vegetables, marinara sauce and three great cheeses*

#### Dessert:

*Chocolate Obsession Cake: The ultimate in chocolate decadence*

#### Drinks:

Coffee, tea, or soda

## Upcoming Events



# Los Angeles Dodgers

## vs. Arizona Diamondbacks



**WHO:** Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch and San Bernardino-Riverside YMF

**DATE:** Saturday, JULY 30, 2011

**TIME:** picnic/potluck starts at 3:00pm and game starts at 7:10pm

**COST:** \$20/per ticket (only 30 tickets available)

Please note that if you purchase a ticket and decide not to go, you will not get reimbursed unless someone takes your spot.

**LOCATION: Park** 1873 Academy Rd., Los Angeles, CA 90012 (park located near the entrance on Stadium Way - see map on next page)

**Game:** Dodger Stadium 1000 Elysian Park Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Please bring your favorite dish... enough for two. YMF will provide meat, grilled veggies, and drinks (water and soda)

If you are interested in joining this event please contact:



**Omar Sanchez**  
[oasanchez25@yahoo.com](mailto:oasanchez25@yahoo.com)  
Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch YMF  
Or

**Julianna Gonzalez**  
[juliannagonzalez@rcflood.org](mailto:juliannagonzalez@rcflood.org)  
San Bernardino-Riverside YMF



## Upcoming Events



### Second Annual Santa Barbara/Ventura ASCE YMF Volleyball Tournament

Please join us for a volleyball tournament, barbeque, and fundraiser at East Beach in Santa Barbara!

**SATURDAY AT NOON**  
**September**  
**10, 2011**

# SAVE THE DATE

## FOR A FUN DAY AT THE BEACH!

Where: East Beach, Cabrillo Blvd. & Ninos Dr., Santa Barbara, CA 93101

What: 4 on 4 beach volleyball tournament and barbeque

Why: To assist the Young Member Forum raise money for upcoming events

Who: American Society of Civil Engineer Los Angeles Section young members

Contact Adam Hendel at [adamhendel@me.com](mailto:adamhendel@me.com) or (805) 450-5995 if you are interested in entering a team, being a sponsor, or assisting the day of the event

## Upcoming YMF Events - At a Glance

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
7/13/2011	SB/R YMF General Meeting—The Lake Elsinore Aeration Project Contact: Robert Vasquez at <a href="mailto:revasquez@rcflood.org">revasquez@rcflood.org</a>	6:00 p.m.	SAWPA Offices 11615 Sterling Ave. Riverside, CA
7/16/2011	MLAB YMF Chantry Flat Hike Contact: Julia Moye at <a href="mailto:Julia.Moye@lacity.org">Julia.Moye@lacity.org</a>	7:30 a.m.	Chantry Flat Arcadia, CA
7/19/2011	OC YMF Baseball Night Contact: Andrew Pham at <a href="mailto:apham@ci.irvine.ca.us">apham@ci.irvine.ca.us</a>	7:00 p.m.	Angel Stadium Anaheim, CA
7/23/2011	SB/V YMF Wine Tasting Contact: Carrie Poytress at <a href="mailto:cep@penfieldsmith.com">cep@penfieldsmith.com</a>	All Day	Santa Barbara, CA
7/23/2011	OC YMF Basketball Tournament (3 vs. 3) Contact: Mark Beltran at <a href="mailto:mbeltran@koacorp.com">mbeltran@koacorp.com</a>	10:00 a.m.	Heritage Park Tustin, CA
7/28/2011	MLAB and YMF Technical Presentation: Supercharge Your Career Kwame Agyare, Water Supply & Production Manager, Alameda County Water District Contact: Kyle Burnham at <a href="mailto:kyle.e.burnham@gmail.com">kyle.e.burnham@gmail.com</a>	6:00 p.m.	Almansor Court Alhambra, CA
7/30/2011	SB/R YMF and MLAB YMF Joint Event @ Dodger Stadium SB/R Contact: Julianna Gonzalez at <a href="mailto:juliannagonzalez@rcflood.org">juliannagonzalez@rcflood.org</a> MLAB YMF Contact: Omar Sanchez at <a href="mailto:omarasanchez25@yahoo.com">omarasanchez25@yahoo.com</a>	Potluck @ 3 pm Game @ 6 pm	Dodger Stadium Los Angeles, CA
7/30/2011	OC YMF Annual Beach Day Contact: Philip Wang at <a href="mailto:philipsw1@gmail.com">philipsw1@gmail.com</a>	11:00 a.m.	Newport Beach Newport, CA
8/05/2011	OC YMF & OC Branch Joint Golf Tournament Contact: Tori Yokoyama at <a href="mailto:tyokoyama@rbf.com">tyokoyama@rbf.com</a>	8:00 a.m.	Oak Creek Golf Club 1 Golf Club Drive Irvine, CA
8/06/2011	Southern CA YMF Soccer Tournament OC YMF Contact: Andrew Pham at <a href="mailto:apham@ci.irvine.ca.us">apham@ci.irvine.ca.us</a> SB/V YMF Contact: Adam Hendel at <a href="mailto:adamhendel@me.com">adamhendel@me.com</a> SB/R YMF Contact: Julianna Gonzalez at <a href="mailto:juliannagonzalez@rcflood.org">juliannagonzalez@rcflood.org</a> MLAB YMF Contact: Omar Sanchez at <a href="mailto:omarasanchez25@yahoo.com">omarasanchez25@yahoo.com</a>	TBD	TBD
8/09/2011	OC YMF PE Review Course Commences Contact: Mark Beltran at <a href="mailto:mbeltran@koacorp.com">mbeltran@koacorp.com</a> or Tony Ngo <a href="mailto:Tony.Ngo@aecom.com">Tony.Ngo@aecom.com</a>	6:00 p.m.	HDR Inc. 3230 El Camino Real, Suite 200 Irvine, CA
8/13/2011	MLAB YMF Wine Tasting Contact: Julia Moye at <a href="mailto:Julia.Moye@lacity.org">Julia.Moye@lacity.org</a>	TBD	Santa Barbara, CA
8/21/2011	MLAB YMF Hollywood Bowl Night Contact: Laura Rockett at <a href="mailto:laura.a.rockett@gmail.com">laura.a.rockett@gmail.com</a>	7:30 p.m.	Hollywood Bowl Hollywood Bowl, CA
9/10/2011	SB/V YMF Annual Volleyball Tournament & Fundraiser Contact: Adam Hendel at <a href="mailto:adamhendel@me.com">adamhendel@me.com</a>	TBD	East Beach Santa Barbara, CA
9/17/2011	OC YMF Annual CA Coastal Cleanup Day Contact: Gidti Ludesirishoti at <a href="mailto:Gidti.Ludesirishoti@hdrinc.com">Gidti.Ludesirishoti@hdrinc.com</a> Contact: Michelle Ochoa at <a href="mailto:michelle.ochoa@aecom.com">michelle.ochoa@aecom.com</a>	TBD	TBD

Spring  
**2011**  
Editor:  
Lizbeth Calderon

# YMF Newsletter

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

