

THE TPS REPORT

<http://younger.asce.org/sandiego/>

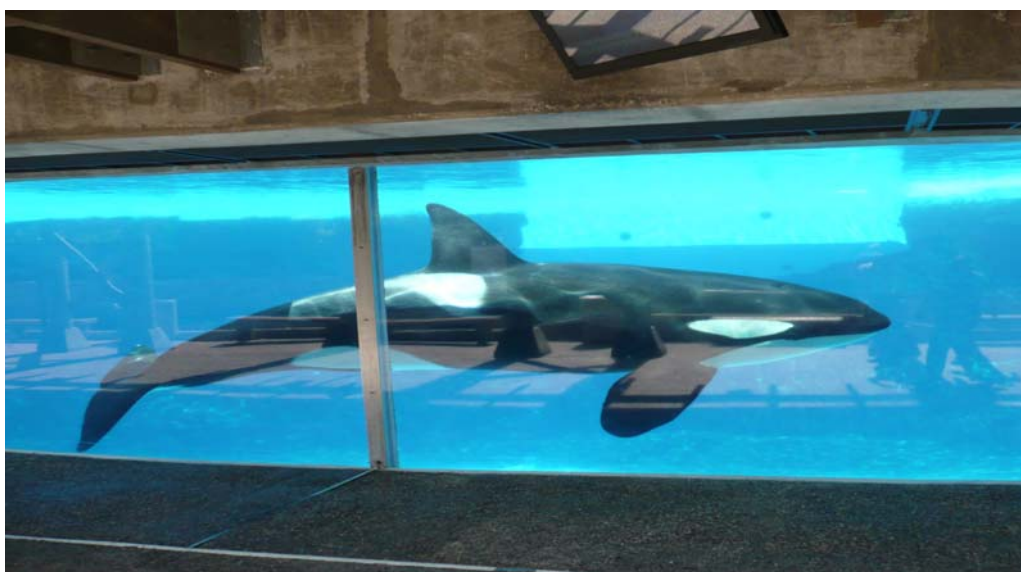
Important ASCE YMF Dates:

- January 8, 2008. Board meeting. Location TBA.
- January 12, 2008. P.E. Updated Review Course begins. See Flyer in Project Partners.
- January 14, 2008. Begin distribution of scholarship applications.
- January 15, 2008. Membership Party & Engineers Without Borders presentation at Karl Strauss Brewery and Gardens.
- January 24-27, 2008. Mammoth Ski Trip. Contact the YMF Social Chair (SmcCarty@rbf.com) for more information.
- February 5, 2008 Board Meeting. Location TBA.
- February 8-9, 2008. WRYMC Las Vegas, NV.
- February 17-23 Engineering week and E-day at the mall.
- February 19, 2008. Meeting at Karl Strauss Brewery and Gardens.
- March, 2008. Scholarship applications due. Exact date TBA.
- March 18, 2008. Meeting at Karl Strauss Brewery and Gardens.

ASCE YMF Reminders:

- Visit www.asce.org/ membership to become an ASCE member
- Want to get involved with YMF? Come to the Board Meetings for 2008, to learn about exciting opportunities. The meeting location TBA starting at 6:00 PM. All are welcome!

ASCE YMF Members Have a Whale of a Time!



On June 15, 2007, twenty Younger Members with lightning quick RSVPs arrived at Sea World to get a glimpse of what the engineering staff does. The behind-the-scenes tour was graciously organized with the help of Sea World engineer and Younger Member Jennifer Nakayama. We started with a presentation that covered everything from wastewater treatment to discharge permits to the interruption of the fireworks show (which is, happily, back on in the summer).

After the detailed Power Point presentation from staff members in both the Design and Environmental departments, the group was led throughout the park in the early morning hours for a tour of the attractions and exhibits. Because the park had not yet opened, we were offered a look inside the Journey to Atlantis ride to view the elevator shaft that brings ride cars from the bottom level to the start of their journey. Due to space constraints in the elevator shaft, the cars actually lean out of the way as they pass each other. Another stop was at the newly renovated penguin exhibit, which houses several species of penguins. During the renovation, some penguins were transferred to other zoos or animal parks for temporary housing. Not to worry, each penguin was tagged and identified to make sure everyone made it back home. Interestingly enough, the material that makes the "ice" in the exhibit look so good is almost a hindrance to the penguins – the slippery surface makes it hard for them to climb back out of the water!

Did you know that both Sea World and the San Diego Zoo were offered the chance to get a manatee for a new exhibit? Thanks to an existing space that could quickly be modified for the manatee, Sea World was able to show their ability to meet the fast paced timeline and the manatee got a new home in the aquatic park.

It was exciting to see how civil engineers contribute even to a theme park environment. It's not the first place you'd think of applying your skills, but the principles and design really aren't that different from municipal treatment plants and other infrastructure projects. Many thanks to the Engineering staff for taking time out of their morning to show us around. YMF is planning a second tour in early spring, so keep an eye out for the announcement!

- Submitted by Leanne Abe

Message from the President

This is my first ever "Message from the President," and I feel I have a tough act to follow! Last year, with the help of an enthusiastic group of officers and many active members, the San Diego Younger Member Forum had numerous successful meetings, tours, and social activities. YMF organized and presented their first annual scholarships to UCSD, SDSU, and community college students. Members enjoyed guided tours of the Twin Oaks Valley Water Treatment Plant and Sea World, and the recent tradition of hosting an annual officer retreat was continued.

Once again we have a great year ahead with a full board of officers and lots of activities planned for our members. My focus will be on ensuring that new traditions continue and promotion of our already successful YMF events. The 2nd Annual YMF Scholarship planning is already underway. Starting in January, the PE Review Course will begin for the April 2008 exam. Changes have been made to the design code standards and focus topics, so be sure you're prepared. Look for email announcements and information on our website for both of these events and much more. Speaking of websites, we are currently in the process of updating our look! Check back soon for the new and improved San Diego YMF website.

Another goal this year is to continue our great relationship with the San Diego ASCE Section board and members. YMF offers an important avenue for young engineers to get involved with ASCE after college, and interact with fellow industry professionals of all ages. I look forward to partnering with the Section members on YMF event promotion and volunteer opportunities such as our annual Engineering Day at the Mall event.

In October and November, YMF held two dinner meetings with technical presentations: the TransNet Program, presented by Charles "Muggs" Stoll of SANDAG, and the Panama Canal Expansion Project, presented by Joe Cazares of CH2M Hill.

At the November meeting, members donated canned goods for a local food bank and financial contributions for the American Red Cross. The Red Cross contributions will be matched with YMF funds and donated specifically to benefit San Diego wildfire victims. Look for future announcements on how you can get involved by volunteering your time.

I am excited to serve as your president for the 2007~2008 term. Let me know how we can make YMF exciting for you. I hope to see new and familiar faces at our meetings, and if we haven't met, come say hi to me!

-Submitted by Angela Juran



Greg Kump helping the wildfire victims with erosion control measures. Picture courtesy of John Prince.

Advertise your Job Openings in the YMF Newsletter

Email Hector Maytorena at hmaytorena@Burkett-wong.com to learn more about placing job postings in the YMF Newsletter.



From Student to Full Time Worker

I never knew how different it would be to work full time. I imagined it to be a lot less time consuming when compared with school. No homework, no mid-terms, no commitments. With full time work, that's exactly what it is: full time. Do not get the wrong idea, I love doing what I do.

During the time between graduation and my first day, I decided to do something that I've always wanted to do: travel the world. Along with a friend of mine, I got to see England, Greece, Turkey, Malaysia, China and Japan; all in one trip. It was definitely one trip that I will never forget. I arrived back home on June 30. The day I started work, however, was on July 2nd.

Still jet lagged, I struggled through the first week. My daily routine would consist of getting up, going to work, work, come home, and sleep. It got better as time passed by. I am still adjusting to sitting at a desk for 40 hours throughout the week, learning more than the average school week, but I have some energy now to go out and do things that I wasn't able to do when I first started.

I started organizing activities after work from playing tennis on Mondays to playing softball on Fridays. One activity that was of particular interest to me was getting involved with was the ASCE YMF group. Being involved at the ASCE Student Chapter at SDSU and attending some of the YMF General Meetings prior to graduation allowed for a smooth transition from being a student to becoming a young professional. It was one of the few things I was familiar with and was happy to get involved with.

All in all, working full time is definitely a life-changing experience. It's great to finally apply something that I learned throughout my years as a student. Now I'm looking forward to retirement!!! Well, okay, not for at least 30 years!!

-Submitted by Benjamin Espiritu

10 Reasons To Volunteer

1. Give back to the community.
 2. To have fun!
 3. Make someone else's day.
 4. Because you are passionate about a cause.
 5. It's great for your resume.
 6. Make new friends.
 7. Build personal and professional contacts.
 8. Develop new job skills.
 9. Improve your people and communication skills.
 10. Because you CAN make a difference.
- Stay tuned for future emails regarding different YMF community service events we will be hosting!

-Submitted by Shannon Lehman

Wildfire help

Although the recent wildfires that swept across California caused destruction, the fight is not over. Over fires a layer of fine ash is left on the thousands of acres of hillsides that is prone to wash away with rain-water during the upcoming storm season. It is imperative for agencies and homeowners to take erosion control to ensure that no further damage is caused from the wildfires. Greg Kump and John Prince spent two Saturdays in Ramona to help the County out with this effort. The County offers free sandbags, fiber rolls, and seed to homeowners to help protect their structures from these debris flows. Responding to hundreds of requests of homeowners to evaluate their property, Greg and John visited properties all throughout Ramona to help assist homeowners in determining whether their structures are at risk and, if so, helping them understand how the products work and where they should be placed. It was a great experience to visit with and try to help those most affected by the fires. Some houses on properties visited were burned to the ground, making the experience even that more realistic. Thank you to Greg and John for representing Civil Engineers in our communities and lending a helping hand.

-Submitted by Jessica Prince

ASCE YMF General Meetings

San Diego YMF held their first meeting and technical presentation of the year on October 16th at Karl Strauss in Sorrento Mesa. We had a great turnout with thirty three people in attendance. The meeting was sponsored by Simon Wong Engineering. Simon Wong met with members before the meeting and gave an upbeat overview of the company as well as regional opportunities for young engineers during the business meeting.

Muggs Stoll of SANDAG was invited to discuss the TransNet program. In order to provide some background, Muggs discussed state and regional transportation funding measures and explained the breakdown of funds for highways, local streets and roads and transit. In 2004, San Diegans approved a half-cent sales tax extension to fund the program for an additional 40 years (!) beginning in 2008. SANDAG will administer the program and partner with Caltrans as the lead agency and Engineer of Record for many TransNet projects. Early action projects are just one component of the new program and include such projects as I-15 Managed Lanes, Mid Coast Light Rail, SR-52 extension. An independent taxpayer oversight committee is another element of the TransNet program. After the presentation, Muggs answered questions about SANDAG and TransNet. One interesting discussion centered on the program's mitigation efforts; SANDAG hopes to set aside a large track of land to address the program as a whole rather than on a project-by-project basis, the current practice, which often results in small areas separated by development. It's clear that TransNet will have a significant impact on this region for the next four decades.

-Submitted by Kimberly Hakola

In September, YMF members met after the long summer break for the last meeting of the 2006-2007 term. Twenty-two young engineers attended and enjoyed a selection of appetizers at Karl Strauss Brewery in Sorrento Mesa. A fun icebreaker event helped everyone get to know each other better and have some good laughs. Each member had a sign stuck to their back after registering at the meeting with the name of a "celebrity" such as Arnold Schwarzenegger or Oprah. Using only "yes" or "no" questions, and only asking one question from any one person, the goal was to guess what celebrity you had stuck to your back. After the last mystery was solved, Kimberly Hakola, YMF's outgoing president, introduced the incoming officers for the 2007-2008 term. The new officers officially take office on October 1st of each year.

-Submitted by Angela Juran



Left to right: Leanne & Angela at the ASCE YMF social. Picture courtesy of Benjamin Espiritu 9/18/07



Panama canal presentation CH2MHill. Picture courtesy of Benjamin Espiritu. 11/20/07



Get ready for The Mammoth snowboarding and ski trip at the end of January! We join the other southern California YMF sections for fun on the slopes. See the events section on page 1

A new website for the San Diego YMF group is currently in the works! If you have any comments, ideas, or suggestions that you would like to see on the new site, please contact the webmaster, Don Peters, at dpeters@ninyoandmoore.com



Professional Societies: The Easiest Way to Enhance Your Career

When I was in college, my classmates and I were all student members of ASCE. However, we did not have a local chapter or any contact with the society itself. I think one of our professors told us to sign up, but neglected to explain what the society was, what it promoted, how to be involved, the benefits, etc.

As a young engineer right out of college, I upgraded to a "real" member. How this upgrade came about, I cannot remember. Either ASCE sent me information encouraging me to upgrade, or maybe I received the first year free, I do not recall. The point is that I was a member more by default than anything else.

Over time I obtained better knowledge of what the society is and what they promote by skimming the free magazine that comes with membership and the newsletter. However, all of it seemed very far removed with my involvement in civil engineering.

I came to learn that there was an active local chapter that held monthly lunch meetings. There was no encouragement from my office to become involved, but luckily I had a fellow classmate who I worked with and we decided to go to one of the meetings. It was quite intimidating...most everyone there seemed years older, to know each other, and were mostly men. My co-worker/classmate and I sat at a table like a deer caught in headlights and I have to admit, we never went back to another meeting that year.

Somehow we heard of the YMF section of the San Diego ASCE section. For some reason we were still being persistent on trying to get more involved with the society. We went to one of the YMF meetings; a lot less daunting and much more enjoyable than the general section meeting.

After the YMF meeting, I attended more meetings, functions, and activities; I would say I was slightly involved. The time then came for me to take the PE exam and I signed up for the ASCE YMF review course. I did not expect to get anymore out of it than a review course for an important exam, but it ended up being a great networking opportunity.

Through being more involved in YMF and the review course, I slowly came to know many faces and names of young engineers in the area and I started to feel connected to a community. This connected feeling kept me interested and going to meetings over the next few years. I also started attending the general ASCE chapter meetings since I could usually find one person that I knew to sit with.

At last came a time when I started obtaining more responsibility at work. I went to more meetings, had more contact with architects and sub consultants, and spent more time with public agencies. All of the sudden at one of the general meetings, it hit me that I no longer didn't know anyone or feel like an outsider. It took a while but I had finally made connections and not only felt part of the San Diego engineering community, but was actually part of what made it tick.

Shortly after my revelation, I started looking for a new job. It was at this time that I truly began to understand the power of being involved in a professional society and using it for net-

working and connections. Almost every job lead and contact that I received was through someone I knew or had met through ASCE. I congratulated myself on being persistent about getting involved when I was a "newbie" to the profession. It certainly paid off when it seemed almost too easy to find a new job.

Even after finding and starting a new job, the benefits of professional societies continue. I attended a professional society dinner with my new boss, ran into one of my old bosses, who then proceeded to talk about how he had enjoyed working with me and what a good engineer and person I was. You can't beat that your second week on the job!

My new job is in a different area of engineering than I have been exposed to before (transportation compared to land development) and my knowledge in this field of civil engineering is very limited, as well as my contacts and resources. Since I have had such a positive experience with ASCE, the first thing I did when finding myself out of my comfort zone, was to seek out a professional society that was more orientated towards my new career. Through it I have already started making contacts and learning about the new field. Only 3 months into the new job and I do not feel like an outsider, a much quicker transition time than the first time around.

In ending this rambling article...I have been surprised by how much being active in professional societies has benefited my career. It is something you do not notice and it just creeps up on you. I think it is very important for young engineers (all of us reading this article) to understand how beneficial it can be. If the meetings and functions are filled with older engineers, then that should tell us young engineers something, it is worth it!

-Submitted by Keri Heuberger

ASCE YMF Prizes

The Collingwood Prize was instituted and endowed in 1894 by Francis Collingwood, a past secretary of ASCE. It is a national ASCE award, presented to members of the Society who are 35 years of age or younger who have authored a paper describing an engineering work with which the author has been directly connected; recording investigations toward an engineering knowledge in which the author has contributed an essential part; and containing a rational digest of results. Accuracy and style are also factors that play into the selection process. The 2007 Award goes to Luis Piek (Parsons) of the San Diego ASCE YMF for his paper titled "Lake Hodges to Olivenhain Pipeline - Tunnel, Shaft and Site Development". Congratulations Luis!

-Submitted by Jennifer Bileck

ASCE YMF Resume Workshop

For many years now, the San Diego YMF group has hosted an Interview and Resume Workshop for local college students to help them polish their interview skills and spruce up their resumes. This time we joined forces with the Chi Epsilon Alumni Association to get more involvement from initiating students. On October 9th, PBS&J offered their conference room space and pizza and soda was provided by YMF. The seminar format consisted of a powerpoint presentation by John Prince and Kyle McCarty on interview and resume tips and tricks with input provided by professionals that offered their time to help out the students. After the presentation, the professionals in attendance offer some advice of their own and told about their background and experiences. Then time was available for the students to freely meet with professionals one-on-one for resume and career advice. Thank you to Shannon Lehman, Benjamin Espiritu, Greg Kump, Glen Parker, Tyson Lamp, Leanne Abe, Brian Briones, Kimberly Hakola, Scott Ketcham, and Eric Johnson for helping us.



Happy Hour!

On October 26th and 27th, at the lunch time hour, Shannon Lehman, Kimberly Hakola, and Greg Kump camped out in front of the PE Testing site which was held down at the San Diego Concourse. The group talked with both PE and EIT test takers and encouraged joining and continuing of the ASCE experience. The booth was very enticing to many because there was candy, ASCE applications, and of course old newsletters. The students and professionals that came to the booth had many interesting questions. Over the course of the two days a dozen or so people came by that seem interested in joining the club. Interested people left their emails and phone numbers for further information and they have been added to the project partners email list for future meeting, events, and party.

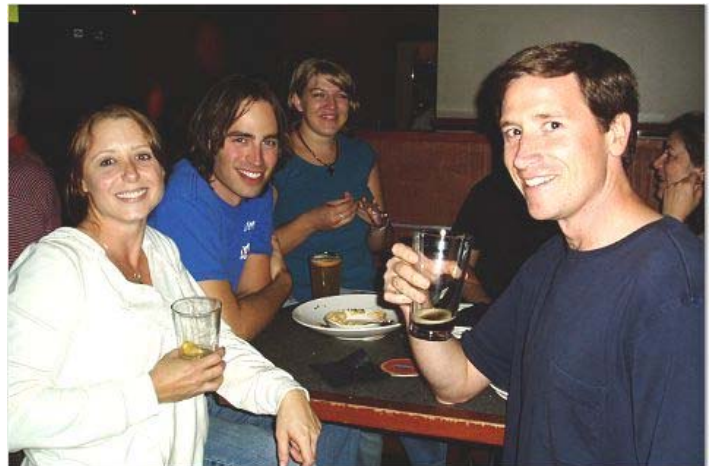
-Submitted by Greg Kump

Lower right picture. Post PE happy hour. Picture courtesy Travis Hammond

Tee Time!

This year's ASCE annual golf tournament was held at the beautiful Rancho Bernardo Inn golf course. We had an exceptional registration of 140 players with just a few less than that showing up the day of the event. Local companies and vendors came through with plenty of sponsorships to help make the event successful and a whole lot of fun. YMF provided several volunteers to help with the morning rush as people arrived for the event. As always we had longest drive and closest-to-the-pin competitions. YMF's treasurer, Brett Makley, walked home with both longest drive prizes. Nice job Brett! We added a hole-in-one opportunity this year and one player came within 10 feet of driving home a new Toyota Tundra truck. The foursome from DBM Contractors shot an impressive 59 to win the "Low Net" competition and the foursome from the Coombs-Hopkins Company posted a score of 61 to take home the "Low Gross" prize. The weather was great and the Mexican buffet lunch was delicious. There were a ton of raffle prizes given out to conclude the event including a brand new Callaway Driver. Thanks again to all of the companies who sponsored the event and all of the gracious volunteers!

-Submitted by Craig Shannon



P.E. Civil Exam Changes

The National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) develops exams used for engineering licensure in the United States, the PE Civil Exam being one of them. Periodically the council surveys licensed engineers in industry, government and academia to gather information about the knowledge and skills that an engineer-in-training with qualifying experience be expected to know. With these survey results several major changes will apply starting with the April 2008 exam.

The first major change is the addition of a new Construction Engineering section. Construction topics will include earthwork construction and layout, estimating quantities and costs, scheduling, material quality control and production, and temporary structures among others. According to David Johnston, Ph.D., P.E., the NCEES construction engineering subcommittee chair and a professor at North Carolina State University, "At least a quarter of graduating civil engineering students choose careers in construction. There are also a growing number of ABET-accredited construction engineering degree programs producing construction engineers", thus justifying the addition of a construction component to the PE Civil Exam.

The second major change is the merging of the Water Resources and Environmental sections into one. The reasoning for the merge stems from the great deal of overlap between these two disciplines.

The third major change is the scaling back of Transportation topics from the breadth portion of the exam. Traffic planning questions have been removed and only geometric design questions will be seen in the morning.

The last major change is the use of newer design codes. The PE Civil Exam will refer to new transportation, structural and construction design codes. As one major example, the 8-hour exam will now refer to the 2006 International Building Code. Another important note is the use of the 2007 California Building Code for reference in the California Seismic Principles Exam.

More information on these changes can be found on the NCEES website at <http://www.ncees.org/> and on the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors website at <http://www.dca.ca.gov/pels/>

If you are planning on taking the PE Exam this April, the ASCE-YMF PE Review Course is a great way to prepare for the exam, especially with all the new changes. Contact either Joe Mailander or Pete Diaz jwm@cornerstoneeng.com; pete.diaz@tetrattech.com

-Submitted by Pete Diaz

YMF Travels

Civil engineers from all over the country, young and old, students and professionals, gathered in Orlando, FL from November 1 to 4, 2007 for the ASCE 137th Annual Civil Engineering Conference. This annual conference covers topics from personal finance to natural disaster cleanup to focusing on building for the future. Over the course of conference, attendees have the option of sitting in on presentations and panels, joining a technical tour (this year the popular tour was going behind the scenes of the Magic Kingdom!), or focusing on the separate student or Younger Member programs.

Younger Member programs include speakers and topics designed to help young engineers hone their career path, improve their confidence with group speaking, and effectively handle professional conflicts. Each year, the program also merges with the student program so students have the opportunity to interact with professionals who may only be a few years ahead of them in the work force. This allows for a more relaxed atmosphere and generates some lively conversation and brainstorming.

This year, Younger Members spent a day with Valerie Tutor (www.valerietutor.com), who owns a small consulting firm that provides management and leadership coaching, training, and human resource services for larger firms. She impressed the importance of proper communication – not just getting your message across correctly, but also checking that you are listening to other people's messages properly. Our second day was spent with Solange Dao, a young engineer who now operates her own consulting firm (www.daoconsultants.com). While she listed the benefits of being your own boss, she also presented the many responsibilities and management tasks that go along with it. Ms. Dao provided some helpful insight on how to set your life goals in a way that they become attainable.

Of course, I would be remiss if I left out the most obvious perk to attending ASCE conferences – sightseeing! Conference sessions start at 8:00 AM each morning, so it's not all fun and games, but you are usually left with a day to explore the host city. Last year's conference was in Chicago, IL and next year it will be hosted in Pittsburgh, PA.

If you have the opportunity to attend an ASCE conference, I highly recommend you go. Not only do you have the chance to talk to other engineers from across the country, but you also get to interact with ASCE directors and staff, letting them know how ASCE is working for you or what they can do to improve the service. If you think you'd like to check ASCE out, we have the Western Regional Younger Member Council (WRYMC) in February 8-9, 2008 in Las Vegas, NV. WRYMC is open to all Younger Members and Angela Juran can get you the registration information.

-Submitted by Leanne Abe

Have a Green Holiday Season

As civil engineers, we have a responsibility to preserve our natural resources, conserve energy and reduce waste. During the upcoming chaotic season of gift buying, it might seem difficult to adhere to this. But this doesn't have to be the case. Even though holiday spending generates an extra 5 million tons of trash between Thanksgiving and New Years Day, there are things that can be done to help. Try saving energy, resources, and your sanity with gifts, wrapping and greetings that are more environmentally-friendly. Try some of these following suggestions, and pass the word:

- Send greeting cards printed on recycled paper or e-cards.
- Use wrapping paper made from recycled paper.
- Make your own recycled gift tags by cutting up last year's Christmas cards.
- Wrap your gifts in items that can be re-used, such as a canvas shopping bag.
- For the foodie: give organic wines, jams/jellies, chocolates, cheeses, etc. or floral arrangements (www.organicbouquet.com)
- For the cook: give ecofriendly cookware (<http://www.organicrush.com/cooking.html>)

- For the fashionista: give clothing made of organic cotton or recycled material. (<http://www.patagonia.com/web/us/patagonia.go?assetid=10097>)
- For the tech junkie: give electronics that are solar powered (<http://www.gaiam.com/retail/2/EcoTools>)
- For the spa lover: give organic, cruelty-free body products (www.origins.com)
- For the new parents: give items made from organic products and chemical-free paints and dyes (www.organicgiftshop.com)
- For the grandparents: give fair trade organic coffee (http://www.strictlyorganic.com/retail_coffee.htm)
- And finally, for the Civil Engineer: give a book on green engineering, such as Sustainable Engineering Practice, An Introduction, written by ASCE's Committee on Sustainable Engineering (<https://www.asce.org/bookstore/book.cfm?book=4701>)

Look for more green tips in the next newsletter.
 -Submitted by Brett and Kelly Makley
 References: <http://www.idealbite.com/>



2007-2008 San Diego ASCE YMF Officers

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E-Day at the Mall Chair	Jennifer Barrett	CH2M Hill	jennifer.barrett@ch2m.com
VP-Community Service	Shannon Lehman	Nasland Engineering	shannonl@nasland.com
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