

Newsletter of the Birmingham Branch/Alabama Section

March 2005

P.O. Box 190366, Birmingham, AL 35219

<http://branches.asce.org/birmingham>

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No March Meeting!

Due to the Alabama Section Meeting there will be no meeting this month. Although, I am fairly certain that the Golden Corral will be open and would still appreciate the business.

Alabama Section Meeting

The Dothan Branch and Auburn Chapters are hosting the Spring Meeting. It will be a joint ASCE/Institute of Traffic Engineers, Alabama Section Meeting on Thursday March 10th at the Talladega Superspeedway.

Local arrangements are being coordinated by Ken Cush, of Alabama DOT in Alexander City. The late registration fee for this meeting is \$80. To register, send name, address and phone number by fax to (256) 234-8514 or by email to cushk@dot.state.al.us. Checks should be made payable to: "Alabama Section ITE" and brought to the registration table at the meeting.

Everyone will be required to sign in before entering the Superspeedway. Enter at the North Tunnel and proceed to the Media Center Parking areas. Afternoon activities include an opportunity to ride as a passenger around the track.

Also, don't forget the upcoming Summer Meeting. The Mobile Branch will be hosting it the 27th-29th of July. It will be held at the Riverview Plaza Hotel in Mobile.

Newsletter Advertising

If you or your company is interested in purchasing advertising space in a future newsletter, please contact one of the officers. The price is \$50 per issue for a business card size space. With over 500 newsletters being distributed each month, your company could be exposed to more than 500 of your peers!

April Meeting: Golden Corral, Lorna Rd, Hoover

Next month's meeting will be held on Thursday, April 7, 2004 at the Golden Corral, which is located at 3117 Lorna Road behind the Bill Byrd Kia Dealership and Burlington Coat Factory approximately 1.25 miles north of the Galleria. Lorna Road runs parallel to and behind Hwy. 31 until it intersects with Hwy. 31 until it intersects with Hwy. 31 at the I-65 Interchange. The phone number is 822-1314. Call the restaurant if you need directions or contact any Branch officer. The business meeting will start at 12:15, the speaker at 12:45, but come early to visit with your fellow members.

Branch Dues Update

Your Branch dues are still only \$10! Remember that Branch dues are not included in your National or Section dues. Our Branch budget is supported by branch dues with a small allotment from the Alabama Section so please support your Branch by paying your dues at the meeting or by mailing them to the Branch post office address listed in the newsletter. We are edging closer to our budgeted goal of 100 paid members. Are you one of the 42 that have paid already or can you help us reach our goal, too?

Membership Drive

A membership drive was announced at the December meeting. The member who brings in the most new members to ASCE by the May contest deadline will receive a \$50 prize and recognition. Any new members you bring in will qualify you for both this prize and for national prizes that are drawn quarterly.

For information or Membership Forms, contact the Secretary with the contact information in the header of the newsletter or go to www.ascedrive.org for details.

Free Shirt, Free Meal and a Smile That Lasts for Weeks

Now who would not want any of those? Here is your chance to get all three in one fell swoop. The University of Alabama will be hosting the Southeastern Region ASCE Student Chapter Conference on April 8-9 (Friday-Saturday). It is the biggest regional conference in the nation, and the preliminary registrations indicate that the attendance will be 22 or 23 universities and 700-750 people. A BIG Conference!

More than 50 judges are needed for the competitions. The Conference will include thirteen events (see below). Because of the number of schools and total participants, some of the events must have multiple, simultaneous sessions so that they can finish at a decent hour. To remove even the slightest hint of bias, UA faculty prefer not to act as judges, and are asking the Alabama Civil Engineering family to step forward and provide the judges.

Most of the events are on Friday, and only one event (Canoe) occurs on both Friday and Saturday. That is not much time, and participation as a judge is sure to get you what you are looking for - that nice golf shirt, great dinner, and broad smile that will last for weeks. If you are able to help, contact Dr. Turner at dturner@coe.eng.ua.edu. Thanks in advance for your help.

Events include: Concrete canoe, Steel bridge, Technical Paper, Balsa Tower, Surveying, Environmental, Plan Reading, Visual Display, Geotechnical, Concrete Cylinder, Concrete Horseshoes, Concrete Frisbee, and Tee shirt design.

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