



# THE FORGE

Newsletter of the Birmingham Branch of ASCE

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May, 2007  
Volume 1 Issue 3

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## May Meeting Information

For the May meeting, 5/5/2007, we will have Professor Ken Fridley of the University of Alabama to discuss ASCE's initiative, *Raising the Bar*.

Please see *Meeting* on page 4

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## Coloring Book Competition a Success

By Kerry Henneberger

The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Fourth Grade Coloring Competition is winding down. This year we had 23 schools participate from the Bessemer, Birmingham, Homewood, Hoover, Jefferson County, Shelby County, and Vestavia Hills school systems. Our ASCE ambassadors reached out to nearly 1700 fourth graders by introducing them to civil engineering. The books have been judged and the winners are as follows:

### Best Overall Book

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Snow Rogers Elementary
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Edgewood Elementary
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Snow Rogers Elementary

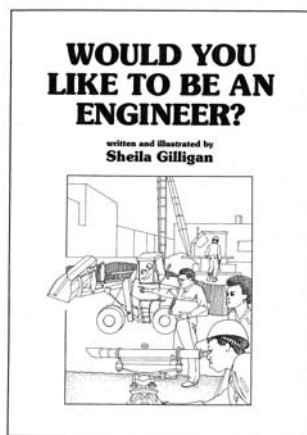
### Most Colorful Book

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Irondale Community School
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - South Hampton Elementary
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Vestavia Hills Central

### Best Overall Sheet

- Ty Janyaem - South Shades Crest Elementary
- Marwa Mekdad - Islamic Academy of Alabama
- Caroline Cook - Snow Rogers Elementary

Please see *Competition* on page 3



Cover Page,  
Coloring Book



*“a spirit of pride  
and  
responsibility in  
the engineering  
profession.”*

## A Message from the President

*By Jonathan Byrd*

As most of you know, the Birmingham Branch is tasked with putting on the Summer Meeting of the Alabama Section. There has been a request for us to include an induction ceremony for The Order of the Engineer. While the Order is not exactly new, the ASCE's role in the Order has been rather recent. Former National President Patricia Galloway began an Order link during her time at the helm, and it has grown since then.

The Order of the Engineer was initiated to foster a spirit of pride and responsibility in the engineering profession. In addition to bridging the gap between training and experience, the Order tries to present a visible symbol identifying engineers to the public. For more information check out their website: <http://www.order-of-the-engineer.org>.

While the exact cost of induction has yet to be determined, it will be a small fee to simply pay for the stainless steel ring. There are no dues, but there is an oath similar to the oath attributed to Hippocrates for medical graduates. I hope that several of you decide to join, or if you are already members I hope that you use this opportunity to recruit others as I am.

## Modern Marvels

*From Nationals*

Guess What Lava Lamps, NASA and Snack Food Have in Common?

Modern Marvels: Great Inventions Week

May 15-17 on The History Channel®:

From tape cassettes to lava lamps, *60's Tech* tells stories of modern marvels that changed the world. Stay tuned for *It Came From Outer Space*, our look at NASA technology in everyday products. Hungry for more? *Snack food Tech* showcases the science behind your favorite munchies! To top things off, watch as we reveal the outstanding innovators of 2007 - the winners of the Modern Marvels Invent Now Challenge!

Check your local listings for broadcast times.

This year we have a new t-shirt design. The design was provided

## Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament

*By Andrew Faulk*

The annual golf tournament is approaching and we are getting ready for another swing'n time at the Meadows Golf club. I hope everyone can come again this year. Let's see if we can break last year's record for attendance.

This year John Gordon of Wiser Company has volunteered to head the tournament committee and I'm sure he will be looking for volunteers to help with the planning and setup. You can contact him at 205.942.2822 or [jrgordon@wiserco.com](mailto:jrgordon@wiserco.com).



*Competition continued from page 1*

#### Most Colorful Sheet

Kailyn Dembo - Irondale Community School  
Abby Bals - Edgewood Elementary  
Austin Rowe - South Shades Crest Elementary

#### Best Original Work

John McCall - Princeton Elementary  
Tanner Carter - Elvin Hill Elementary  
Elexia Coleman - Princeton Elementary

The class winners will receive t-shirts and field trips to the Logan Martin Hydroelectric Dam, Cahaba Pump Station Museum, Village Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant, and the Cahaba River Wastewater Treatment Plant. The individual winners will each receive a t-shirt and a \$300, \$200, or \$100 savings bond. We would like to thank all of the ambassadors who participated, and Alabama Power Company, Birmingham Water Works and Jefferson County Environmental Services for conducting field trips. A special thanks also goes to Dick Woodruff for arranging the trip to the Logan Martin Dam. We would also like to thank those firms who have made donations to date; Alabama Power Company, Brasfield & Gorrie, Nolen Engineering Group, Sain Associates, Vulcan Material Company, and Wiser Company. It is the support of the engineering community that makes this



*Logan Martin Dam on the Coosa River.*

competition possible. As part of the competition, the Branch pays for the coloring books, t-shirts, savings bonds and the transportation fees for the field trips. We have received \$2500 to date but are still short of our goal of \$4000. If your firm would still like to make a donation, please send a check to ASCE - Birmingham Branch, P.O. Box 190366, Birmingham, Alabama 35219. Should you have any questions, please call Kerry Henneberger at 970-1889.

## 2007 T-Shirt Design

The design is by Kelly Frechette, a local high school student. She gave her time and talents for the kids and we want to thank her for all her efforts. If you would like to purchase a shirt contact Kerry Henneberger at 205.970.1889.




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*“Children Building our  
Future,  
One Color at a Time”*

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*Meeting from page 1*

This month's meeting will be held 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 at the I-65 Interchange. The phone number is 822-1314. Call the restaurant if you need directions or contact any Branch officer.

**Meeting Agenda**

Renew Acquaintances/Meal*	11:30 - 12:15
Business Meeting	12:15 - 12:45
Speaker	12:45 - 1:15

Please get your meal as soon as you arrive and proceed to the meeting room located at the rear restaurant.

\*Attendees will be eligible for a drawing to receive a free meal at this month's meeting. The drawing will be held before the business meeting. Please sign the attendance register to enter the drawing.

Branch meetings are the first Thursday of each month, September through May. Each month's meeting includes a presentation by a guest speaker. If you have an idea for a speaker or topic, please contact Andrew Faulk.



## The Whole Nine Yards

### Upcoming Events

- 2007 SEI Structures Conference is to be held in Long Beach, California on May 16<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>.
- 2007 Summer Conference at the Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach, AL. - July 25<sup>th</sup> through the 27<sup>th</sup>. See the website for details on registration and booking hotel rooms.

### Contact Information

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Do you have something to say? Let's hear it, and maybe you can have your thoughts in the next newsletter.

If you would like to advertise in next month's issue, please contact Andrew Faulk @205.942.2822

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