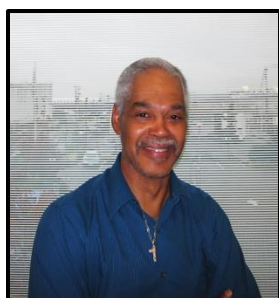


### President's Message

By R. Michael Hale



Happy fall to all of you! We're still having some pretty nice weather as we move into the new season. The Pacific Northwest always offers us some of the best autumns.

We had a successful joint meeting with Structural Engineers Association of Washington last month. The Presentation by Hayward Baker on foundations and ground improvement techniques was interesting and educational. We thank the presenters for doing a great job!

We also had the Induction of our 2015-2016 section officers at the joint meeting. Ms. Kristina Swallow, the Region 8 Director, was here in Tacoma from Las Vegas to perform the induction ceremony. Thank You Kristina! We have shared some photos of this occasion on page 6.

We have an interesting program on management and psychology scheduled for our October section meeting on Tuesday, October 27, 2015. Please join us! It's a great way to meet and interact with other members. Speaker bio and presentation information may be found on page 2. Hope to see you there!

Our section board is preparing the programs for our upcoming section meetings. If you are involved in or know someone that is working on a project that is a candidate for a presentation to our members, please let us know!

We are looking for our section to have an exciting and beneficial year for our members. For this to happen, we need your input, your involvement, your assistance, and most of all – YOU! We would like our section be able to participate in various community events such as career fairs, college days, job fairs, and other events that provide us the opportunity to share our profession with others. We also want to give awards for outstanding leaders and projects in our community. If you are interested in serving on our awards committee, contact us!

#### In This Issue

- **Details on our October Program**
- **October 2015 Announcements**
- **The Importance of Community**  
*By Frank Marescalco*
- **Call to Members**
- **Recent Events Recap**
- **Calendar of Events**

*Now is a great time to get involved!*

*Downtown Tacoma as seen from the 11<sup>th</sup> Street bridge – photo credit to Ken of Razor Sharp Insights – see our back page for more info!*

## October 2015 Monthly Program

---

This month's program is presented by Mr. Samad Aidane with NeuroFrontier.com. Samad is a cross-cultural leadership consultant and coach with over two decades of experience in leading Information Technology change initiatives. He holds a Post-Graduate Degree in the Neuroscience of Leadership from Middlesex University, U.K. His research draws from cutting edge scientific findings from neuroscience, social science, and behavioral science on the effects of culture on emotions, cognition, and behavior and their application to cross-cultural leadership development.

In today's increasingly diverse and multicultural business environment, organizations require leaders who can effectively work and lead in a diverse, multicultural, international workplace. More than ever before, the capacity to manage and leverage cultural differences plays a significant role in achieving success.

Cultural intelligence, which is the ability to quickly, comfortably, and successfully adapt to new cultural contexts, is becoming an important skill for individuals at all levels of the organization and especially for information technology professionals.

Samad will provide an understanding of the key insights emerging from the latest research on cultural intelligence and their application to leading and working in multicultural teams. The presentation draws from evidence-based insights from the growing body of research in cognitive and social neuroscience demonstrating the substantial degree to which culture influences how our brains process information.

---

<b>Speaker</b>	Mr. Samad Aidane
<b>Date and Time</b>	October 27, 2015
<b>Location</b>	The Poodle Dog Restaurant 1522 54 <sup>th</sup> Avenue East Fife, WA 98424 (253) 922-6161
<b>Schedule</b>	5:30 pm – Social gathering 6:00 pm – Announcements and business 6:15 pm – Dinner 6:40 pm – Presentation
<b>Cost</b>	There is no cost to attend the meeting, but dinner will be paid for individually by members.
<b>Menu</b>	<a href="http://poodledogrestaurant.com/menu/dinner/">http://poodledogrestaurant.com/menu/dinner/</a>
<b>Reservations</b>	Reservations may be made electronically through the invitation sent by Constant Contact or by contacting Michael Hale or Jessie Chen.  Michael Hale – (253) 591-5766 or <a href="mailto:mhale@cityoftacoma.org">mhale@cityoftacoma.org</a> Jessie Chen – (253) 310-6046 or <a href="mailto:Jessie.asce@hotmail.com">Jessie.asce@hotmail.com</a>

---

## October 2015 Announcements

---

There are a lot of exciting things in store for our section! In the coming months, your new leadership team will be focused on getting our section going, and we could use your help! Check out our call to members in this issue to see how you can get involved!

- ***Younger Members Forum***

Attention all ASCE members 35 years old and younger! The Tacoma/Olympia section is happy to announce that its Younger Member Group is active again! The Younger Member Group plans to meet every month for networking events at fun locations throughout the section's area. If you are interested in getting to know other young, local civil engineers, ***THE SECTION NEEDS YOUR FEEDBACK!*** A questionnaire will be going out through Constant Contact within the next few days concerning your personal preferences for events, locations, and times for the Younger Member Group's get-togethers! If you have any questions about the Younger Member Group or upcoming event, feel free to email Carlyn Harlow at [carlynharlow@gmail.com](mailto:carlynharlow@gmail.com).

- ***PE Study Sessions***

We are starting a new tradition here in our south sound engineering community – PE Exam study sessions! The study sessions are a standing calendar item that will happen every month, at least once per month, although we won't hold any study sessions for the months of November and December. We'd really like to get our members from all over involved, so if you'd like to host a study session in Olympia or somewhere out on the peninsula or the coast, let us know! We'll get you on the calendar and get the word out! This is a great way to build on each other's positive energy for the upcoming exam and keep our minds sharp. You'll also meet other up and coming engineers in the community. Check out our calendar of events for the date, time, and place each month. Frank Marescalco will be your contact for this item.

- ***Evening Social in Puyallup***

ASCE Tacoma-Olympia will be holding a social gathering in November! This gathering is meant to be a low-key, informal event with dinner and drinks at a local favorite, the Powerhouse Restaurant and Brewery in downtown Puyallup! The venue is great, having been converted from an old electrical substation to a restaurant. Legend has it the architect who designed the substation also designed the conversion, much later in his life! The restaurant is full of fascinating decommissioned electrical equipment. This event is a great opportunity for everyone, new and veteran status, to come out and meet our other members. If you've got ideas to share or you're interested in getting involved, it's a great way to do it! Feel free to bring friends, family, and business cards in order to make our social an entertaining and enjoyable event for everyone! Our gathering will be held on November 5 at 5:30. RSVP via email or by calling Frank Marescalco at (253) 591-5423!

- ***Newsletter Name***

I bet you noticed that our newsletter is looking a little different these days – and you're right! To celebrate, we're trying to settle on a fitting name for the newsletter. We are now accepting suggestions for the newsletter title! Next month, we'll put all of our suggestions together in a little voting ballot and we'll see who wins. The person or firm submitting the winning entry will be featured!

- ***Feature Articles***

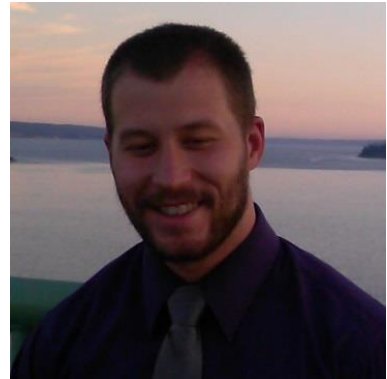
Got something you'd like to share in our newsletter? We accept guest articles! You can write about anything such as a neat project, a community issue, local civil engineering history, or an event or conference recap! Just let us know! Contact Frank Marescalco if you're interested.

# The Importance of Community

By Frank Marescalco

When I was a child, not too long ago, I remember things being different. No, this isn't one of those stories about carrying my deaf brother to school through 8 feet of snow, uphill both ways. I'm not that old – not yet, anyway. But I do remember something I don't see in our world today: a sense of community.

I'd like to take this opportunity to address the elephant in the room. The Tacoma-Olympia section of ASCE has had some challenges in its past. We have had challenges with leadership, membership activity, and activity in general. You could even say our section has experienced inactivity over the last few years. We are going to change all of that.



The first step to solving any problem is admitting there's a problem. But this is the point at which I began drawing parallels between our section of ASCE and other things – things like Sunday school, student groups, volunteer groups in the community, the Boy Scouts and the Girl Scouts, and outreach programs of all types. Things like that – where did they go? This problem is not unique to the Tacoma-Olympia section of ASCE – this problem is endemic! And it goes well beyond Tacoma's borders.

I can only speculate at the reasons why our sense of community has been lost. I live in Tacoma, a city of over 200,000 people and part of a greater metropolitan area with almost 4 million people. Why in the world do we live in communities of strangers with that many people around? Why don't we know our neighbors? Why don't we care about that? Is it because it takes time and effort? Do we gain something by being strangers in our communities? Without jumping off the deep end philosophically, I speculate that many of us do feel somewhat isolated in that way.

Maybe it's because being involved can be difficult sometimes. Maybe it's because people think that community is something that just happens – it isn't intentional. That's definitely not true. It takes time and resources. It takes effort and commitment. It takes someone saying, "I know I'm tired when I go home from work every day, and I work hard. And now I'm going to sacrifice some of my personal time and resources to give it to someone else – someone who needs it. Without expecting anything in return." Maybe that's why people choose not to participate in volunteer activities. Like ASCE. Like Habitat for Humanity. Like Sunday school. Like STEM, or tutoring at your local school, or even going into a classroom and talking about your job to children.

I'm not here to tell you that you owe that to anybody. But I am here to say that when you choose to give your personal time and resources and commitment to a greater cause, you *do* get something back. It's called fulfillment. There is no greater feeling than knowing that you had a positive impact on someone else's life. If you chose to spend just one evening of your month with a local college student struggling with math, for example, you could change that student's life. And if you don't think there is a need for that, you're wrong.

If you think I'm painting a falsely welcoming picture or some type of hyperbole, then try it and see for yourself. Because I can tell you that it does change lives. It most certainly changed mine – and maybe that's why I care so much. Now is the time to get involved. ASCE and programs like ours offer members plenty of opportunities to be involved and create a sense of community. And if you choose to put that kind of positive energy out in to the world, it *will* come back to you. *That* is why things like this are important, and *that* is why we need you to make our collective future brighter! There are numerous opportunities to get involved! Contact me or any one of our officers.

## Call to Members – Get Involved!

---

The Tacoma-Olympia section of ASCE needs all of its members to make our section all that it can be! We are currently searching for members to serve on committees, get involved with our Younger Members Forum, and help coordinate events or give presentations. We also have volunteer opportunities for community-minded individuals. Here is just a partial list of ways you can get involved:

- Nominate a project or a local engineer you know for recognition
- Give a presentation at our monthly program
- Tutor math for students K-12 or college
- Give a presentation at a local school about civil engineering
- Study for your PE Exam with other soon-to-be professional engineers
- Serve on our Younger Member Forum leadership team
- Serve on or start your own committee on anything – topics range from technical matters to government relations to history
- Start a volunteer crew for Habitat or Paint Tacoma-Pierce Beautiful
- Start a coed recreational sports team
- Start a team for Sound to Narrows, or a color run team
- Start a team for a benefit event, such as a walk for cancer research
- Anything else you can think of!

Our section is also in need of someone to help us get our website off the ground. If you or anyone you know would be interested, contact us!

If you're looking for ways to get your firm involved with our section, we have those, too! Here are a few ideas:

- Host a presentation on a technical subject relevant to your firm
- Give a presentation on a project your firm has done
- Host a PE exam study session

Did you know that you can post a job opening in our newsletter as well?

We also offer advertising in our newsletter. It's a great way to reach hundreds of local subscribers in the engineering community! If you are interested in purchasing space in our newsletter, contact us! See our back page for details.

If you have an idea that you think could help make our section better or if you want to get involved, feel free to email or call any of your officers. Section officer contact information is available at the end of the newsletter.



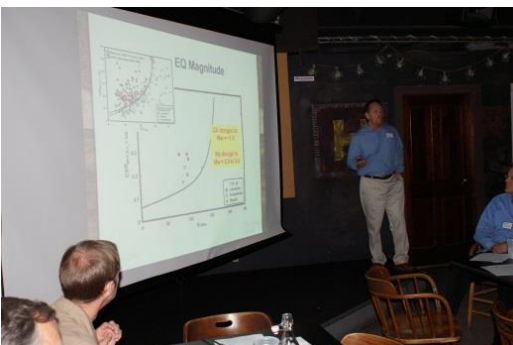
## Recent Events

---

Our summer section outing at the Rainiers baseball game in August was a great success with a tremendous turnout! Thanks to everybody who came!



Our joint section meeting in September with the Structural Engineers Association of Washington was also a success. About thirty members came out for our meeting. ASCE Tacoma-Olympia formally inducted its officers at the meeting. Thanks again to Hayward Baker for a fascinating technical presentation!



## Calendar of Events

### October 2015

<b>13</b>	ASCE Tacoma-Olympia Board Meeting – 6:00 PM Iron Rabbit Restaurant in Olympia
<b>15</b>	PE Exam Study Session – 6:00 PM Tully's Coffee in downtown Tacoma 764 Broadway, Tacoma, WA 98402
<b>20</b>	October Section Meeting – 5:30 PM The Poodle Dog Restaurant 1522 54 <sup>th</sup> Avenue East, Fife, WA 98424
<b>30</b>	Fall 2015 Professional Engineer Licensure Exam – 8:00 AM Puyallup, WA
<b>31</b>	Halloween!

### November 2015

<b>4</b>	ASCE Inland Empire Section Alternative Project Delivery Methods for Construction – All-day Seminar (6 PDHs) Mukogoawa Fort Wright Institute, Spokane, WA Contact Alan Gay at (509) 328-5139 or <a href="mailto:alan.gay@stantec.com">alan.gay@stantec.com</a>
<b>5</b>	Tacoma Evening Social – 5:30 PM The Powerhouse Restaurant and Brewery 454 East Main Avenue, Puyallup, WA 98372
<b>10</b>	ASCE Tacoma-Olympia Board Meeting – 6:00 PM The Harmon Brewery and Eatery 1938 Pacific Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98402
<b>16</b>	November Section Meeting – 11:30 AM City of Tacoma Central Wastewater Treatment Plant 2201 Portland Avenue East
<b>26</b>	Thanksgiving!

### Membership Information

National membership rates may be found at <http://www.asce.org/membership>.

Section membership rates

- Individual: \$25 per year
- Life member: Free

### Advertising Rates

Did you know you can purchase advertising space to promote your business, sponsor the section, and spread the word about job opportunities? Our newsletter is distributed to a growing membership base with about 500 viewers each month. We offer space in our newsletter at the following monthly rates:

- 1/4 page: \$25
- 1/2 page: \$50
- Full page: \$100

If you are interested in purchasing space in our newsletter, contact our treasurer Jessie Chen at (253) 310-6046 or [Jessie.asce@hotmail.com](mailto:Jessie.asce@hotmail.com).

*About the cover photo:*

*Ken is a photographer and blogger from Washington State. You can find more of his work at:*

*<http://razorsharpinsights.blogspot.com/>*

### Branch Contact Information

#### President

R. Michael Hale, P.E.  
City of Tacoma  
(253) 591-5766

[mhale@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:mhale@cityoftacoma.org)

#### President-Elect

Frank Marescalco  
City of Tacoma  
(253) 591-5423

[fmarescalco@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:fmarescalco@cityoftacoma.org)

#### Secretary

Carlyn Harlow  
Apex Engineering, PLLC  
(253) 473-4494

[harlow@apexengineering.net](mailto:harlow@apexengineering.net)