

NOVEMBER 2007 MEETING: APPLICATION OF SCADA SYSTEMS FOR ENGINEERS

Imagine this: It's 6 AM, families across town are waking up and getting ready to take their morning showers. Water demand in the city is about to increase three-fold. There's a problem: Water level in the tank on the hill is too low to accommodate the upcoming demand. The tank's water level sensor sends a signal to the control center calling for a well to come on-line and supply water to the tank, but the well doesn't turn on. The control center "sounds an alarm." The on-call City employee receives the alarm and immediately assesses and fixes the situation. When the desired water level in the tank is reached, the control center turns off the well and regular water flow resumes. Throughout this process, people in town do not hear the alarm nor do they experience any change to their daily routine. This process is made possible through the use of Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition – better known as SCADA.

This month's presentation, Jeff Spannbauer, Professional Engineer and Vice President of ASCE-SLO, and Juan Anderson, Director of Instrumentation and Electrical Engineering, of Cannon Associates will discuss SCADA and what it should mean to Civil Engineers. Don't miss this opportunity to learn what SCADA is, how it is applied, who uses it, why we need it, and about SCADA's hidden value. Be sure that the ASCE luncheon at Marie Callender's is on your calendar!

NOVEMBER 2007 MEETING

LOCATION:

Marie Callender's
2131 Price Street
Pismo Beach, CA

DATE & TIME:

Thursday, Nov. 15th
12:00 pm (Noon)



MENU:

Buffet including cornbread, fountain drink, slice of pie, and choice of lemon chicken with rice pilaf or fettuccine alfredo.

RESERVATIONS:

Please sign up by 1:00 pm Friday, Nov. 9th, at the Branch web site www.ASCESLO.org. For questions, contact Erin Westmoreland at (805) 544-7407 or by email at erinw@cannonassoc.com. The cost is \$20 for members or guests and \$10 for student members.

PRESIDENTS PERSPECTIVE:

Goals

As I stepped into the role of President, I evaluated WHY I wanted to be President. How am I going to make an impact that will better the organization? So I decided to set some goals for myself. I needed to be realistic with these goals and understand that I may not be able to accomplish everything I set out to do, but I will do my best. I am energetic and love to take on challenges. With that understanding, I wanted to present these goals to you, the members of ASCE-SLO.

My first goal is to provide the support that is needed to individuals who are willing to take on an activity that will benefit the civil engineering profession as a whole. Fortunately, I see an opportunity to meet this goal with the start of the San Luis Obispo County Report Card. We have several active members who are willing to take on the coordination for the preparing this Report Card and I believe that it is my responsibility as ASCE President to support this endeavor. ASCE-SLO just submitted a grant application to the LA Section for \$1,500 to help pay for the printed material that will ultimately be generated to present the results of the Report Card. We are excited about this project and strive to assist those that are willing to give up some of their free time for this great project.

My second goal pertains to the interaction between the SCE students at Cal Poly and the professionals of this organization. Over the past few years we have seen a decline in the number of students that attend the monthly ASCE meetings. I think this is unfortunate and I am going to work hard to change this occurrence. As Practitioner Advisor of SCE, I will emphasize to the students at their meetings the importance of coming to our monthly meetings and the opportunities that may arise by coming to meetings on a regular basis. In addition, I want to emphasize to the professionals that if a student does come to a meeting, to help them feel welcome. This step for each student will ultimately better prepare them for the real world.

Not only do I want to increase the attendance from the students, I also want to increase the attendance from the professionals, which is my third goal. I find that attending the ASCE meetings provides me the opportunity to interact with other professionals that I normally may not see or work with. Over the years, I have developed a rapport with individuals strictly from these ASCE meetings and now I am able to put faces to names. I encourage all professionals in the civil engineering profession to take advantage of this. Regardless if you are new to the area or if you have been around for 30 years, there are always new faces, new

MEET THE MEMBER - ASCE-SLO VICE PRESIDENT: JEFF SPANNBAUER

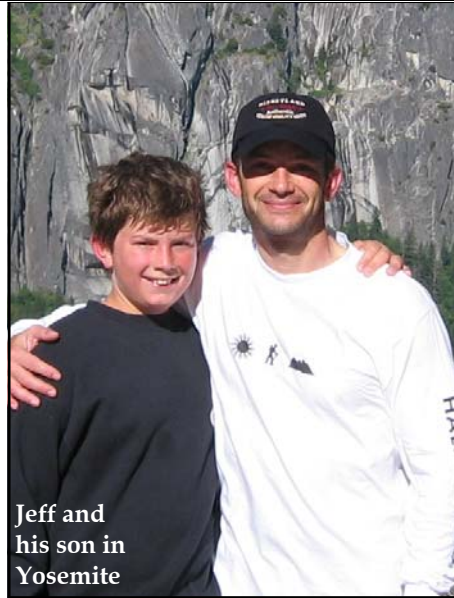
My interview with Jeff Spannbauer went with no difficulty, and Mike Cannon was happy to explain why, "It takes Jeff Spannbauer an hour to cough!" Jeff takes Mike's joke with ease as he and his coworkers sit laughing around a couple of pints.

Jeff came from New York to California when he was thirteen. He lived in Sacramento until he moved to San Luis Obispo to attend Cal Poly. At Poly, he studied Agricultural Engineering and worked for three years as an Ag E. Fortunately, he saw the light and began his career with Cannon Associates as a Civil Engineer. The transfer went smoothly. He is now a Professional Civil Engineer and has just completed his 9th year with Cannon.

Currently, Jeff is involved with preparing an update to the Water and Sewer Master Plan for the NCSO. The plan is coming along well and should be adopted this December. Jeff said he finds the work exciting; to calculate and calibrate, to take numerous factors into consideration and then provide a solution. Most importantly, he enjoys seeing that solution built, providing the benefit as planned.

Being a professional Civil Engineer carries a lot of responsibility: an inch of pipeline on a piece of paper can represent thousands of dollars in construction costs. Jeff felt the weight of this responsibility first hand while working on the SLO Water Reuse Project. While designing over 8 miles of waterline, a small portion of an existing "irrigation line" was planned to be "moved aside." After discovering this was a 36" irrigation line the design was quickly modified. This experience is now one that Jeff can share with other engineers: understanding the constructability of a design and the potential cost of that construction.

Jeff stresses the importance of continued education through others experience and mentorship. "No



Jeff and his son in Yosemite

matter what you end up doing, first you must find a company with the culture you enjoy and then identify a mentor within who can teach you. After that you can spend the rest of your career learning."

This is Jeff's first year in office as Vice President. He joined ASCE six years ago in order to become more familiar with local professionals and current civil engineering projects. Jeff notes that, "ASCE provides a great forum for understanding what happens in the real world. It is also a great way to network and meet leaders in the community."

Outside of work, Jeff has a 13 year old son and is engaged to be married next

August. He is currently working on the daunting task of constructing a telescope from scratch and has thus far completed the lens.

If you are looking for Jeff in 10 years, you'll probably find him at Cannon. "I'll be CEO," he laughs looking over at Mike Cannon.

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR ASCE MEMBERSHIP FOR 2008!

If you have, thanks! If you haven't, please remember that 2007 calendar dues are due by January 1, 2008. So, renew today! It's quick, easy and convenient. And fast if you charge your dues to Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or Discover. Just:

- 1) Call 1-800-548-ASCE (2723) or (703) 295-6300 and renew over the phone, or
- 2) Renew online at ASCE's secure renewal website:

www.asce.org/renewal

If you don't already have an ASCE online account, you'll have to take a minute or two to create one using your last name and member ID#. You may also take this opportunity to update your address and other ASCE database records by choosing the site's "Update Your Record" link and going to www.asce.org/my_profile.

UPCOMING ASCE CONTINUING EDUCATION SEMINARS

In our continuing effort to enhance communications between ASCE's Regions, Sections, Branches and ASCE National, we are pleased to advise you of the following seminars:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Management for the Professional Engineer
November 8-9 ~ San Francisco • Seismic Design of Liquid Storage Tanks
November 16 ~ Palm Springs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Probabilistic Methods in Geotechnical Engineering
December 6-7 ~ San Francisco • Pipe Selection for Municipal Facilities
January 10-11 ~ San Diego |
|--|---|

A complete list of upcoming seminars and detailed descriptions of the seminars (by title) are available on ASCE's national website at: www.ASCE.org/conted/seminars.

MEMBER CORNER

Do you know of a Branch member's recent accomplishments worthy of mentioning in next month's newsletter? If so, contact Sylas Cranor at (805) 781-5260 or e-mail at scrantor@co.slo.ca.us.

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY CLEANUP

Those of you that were at the trash pickup event last Saturday are a lean mean orange-vest wearing machine! Thanks go to Michael Linn, Andrew Descary, Courtney Howard, Jeff Werst, and Sylas Cranor for their commitment to this branch and to their ongoing service to the community.

For 2 1/2 hours, they labored, working all sorts of muscles, and filled up those bright orange CalTrans garbage bags with scratched CDs, dirty towels, and all sorts of roadside junk. Even though the workforce was smaller than ideal, that didn't stop them from having a great time! Thanks again for going all-out in the fight against highway litter!

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD IN CONGRESS

Connect with Elected Officials! Its easy when you join ASCE's Key Contact Program.

Key Contacts are the first to know important information from Washington and the state capitals through:

- *This Week in Washington*, an e-mail newsletter delivered every week to Key Contacts.
- *Key Alerts* when specific action is needed at the state or federal level.

ASCE's Members-Only "Six Clicks" advocacy web site makes it easy to write your elected officials directly from the web. In just six clicks of your mouse, you can let them know where you stand on the issues at www.ASCE.org/keycontacts.

PRESIDENTS PERSPECTIVE (CONT)

(Continued from page 1)

individuals that are, or could be, making an impact on something that your are currently working on, and the ASCE monthly meetings are a great place to make these connections. Bringing in new attendees will partly be based on having great meeting topics, which is always a goal for our Chapter. If you know of a project that you would like to hear more about or are working on a project that you think everyone might be interested in hearing, please let myself or another officer know so we can get it scheduled.

I will work hard this year to bring these three goals to fruition. However, I am just one person and will need the efforts of all members of this organization to help me succeed with my goals. Thank you!!

~ Kari Wagner

OTHER LOCAL EVENTS

If you have an event you would like posted at no cost, contact Sylas Cranor at 781-5260 or at scrantor@co.slo.ca.us.

The local chapter of the **American Public Works Association** meets on the second Wednesday of the month, every other month. For details, contact Jay Walter at jwalter@slocity.org.

The Central Coast Branch of the **Institute of Transportation Engineers** holds monthly meetings throughout the tri-county area. Contact Richard Marshall at 781-5252 or rmarshall@co.slo.ca.us for details.

The Central Coast Branch of the **California Land Surveyors Association** usually meets the second Thursday of each month. Contact Rochelle Vierra at 549-3461 or Rochelle_Vierra@dot.ca.gov for more information.

Cal Poly's **Society of Civil Engineers (SCE)** welcomes local professionals to its regular meetings held alternate Wednesdays at 7:00 pm in Room 13-118. For further information, contact Kari Wagner (kariw@WallaceGroup.us) or Jeff Spannbaauer (jeffs@cannonassoc.com).

The Central Coast Chapter of the **International Code Council** meets the first Thursday of the month at Margie's Dinner. Contact Sylvia Aldana at 781-4671 or saldana@co.slo.ca.us for information.


The **American Institute of Architects** meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at Vista Grande Restaurant (Cal Poly). For information, call Jeff Emrick at 549-8658.

The **Central Coast Geological Society** meets every second Tuesday. For information, contact Lou Blanck at 542-4626.

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