Message from the President

I know everyone is ready for Spring Break, I know I am. This newsletter has been sent before break in the hopes that you all will have time to read it and actually enjoy the games on the last page over break. Most importantly we have an upcoming general meeting. This meeting is explained in more detail below, but should be a great help in becoming involved in ASCE. You’re all members, but how much time do you actually spend participating in ASCE. There are so many opportunities that we have and are continuing to put together to bring forth more involvement from all the members.

If any of you have an idea, any idea, please email me, Kristi Gemperline kgemp@rams.colostate.edu, and we will do our best to incorporate your ideas. Member interaction is critical in putting together meetings and ASCE events. Want more information on the latest happenings and activity opportunities; check your emails from CSU ASCE, don’t just send them straight to the trash. Another way to look at upcoming events is to go to the new website www.engr.colostate.edu/asce/ and look in the calendar section. If you’re not a member and would like to become one, grab a membership form in the staircase next to Laurie Alburn’s office or email us at csu.asce.mem@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events and Dates

- General Meeting March 22nd Time and Location: TBD
- ASCE Regional Conference: March 29 – 31

General Meeting

What a success! On Thursday, February 16th, ASCE had its general meeting (joint meeting with the Northern Colorado Branch) with a presentation from AECOM’s Ray Nickle and Mike Bouchard about the Denver RTD Transit System and its new central station. The presentation produced a fantastic turnout from both student and professional members resulting in approximately 80 members in the audience. Mike Bouchard presented about the funding and history of the project before passing on to Ray Nickle to speak about the engineering and construction phases that were implemented in such a large endeavor. Plans, photos, and budget sheets assisted in the presentation allowing the audience to picture the phases of development of the project.
The next general meeting will be held on Thursday, March 22nd. Want to see what ASCE has been working on for competition? We will be presenting the Concrete Canoe and the Steel Bridge that we have been working on for regionals, discussing the ASCE Report Card, as well as answering questions and helping people become involved for next year. As always, there will be free food for all attendees. Please look for an ASCE email providing a Time and Location for the meeting.

Website gets a facelift

Have you heard... thanks to our new webmaster, Kirsten Sargent, the CSU ASCE student chapter’s website has been renovated. This website links to events via the calendar, newsletters, event information, regional competitions and more. Want to know when ASCE events are coming up or when we are holding office hours, check out the new website at www.engr.colostate.edu/asce/.

Regionals are almost here!

After almost a year of preparation we are finally dawning on another annual regional competition. This year’s competition will take place Thursday March 29 – Saturday March 31 at the University of Wyoming in Laramie, Wyoming. We plan on having a much better showing than last year seeing as we will compete in steel bridge and concrete canoe competitions as well as CAN-struction, mystery design and the Daniel Mead non-technical paper. The steel bridge competition will take place on Friday March 30 at 1:30 PM at the armory on the University of Wyoming’s Armory. The concrete canoe competition will take place the following day, Saturday March 31, at 11:00 AM at Curt Gordy Lake. Please come and support your ramies at any of the events.
Steel Bridge

The CSU Steel Bridge and Design Team has been working tirelessly since September of 2011 to design and build a bridge to take to regional competition. Regional competition this year is located at the University of Wyoming in Laramie Wyoming from March 29-31. Steel Bridge will be competing specifically on Friday March 30th, please come and represent your CSU ASCE student chapter. We can’t let Wyoming have all the fun.

Our Steel Bridge will be judged based on 6 different categories: Display, Construction Speed, Construction Economy (how many builders do you have), Lightness, Stiffness, and Structural Efficiency (weight and deflection of bridge). The bridge has been designed by lowering the weight, by cutting out and eliminating steel, without jeopardizing the structural integrity of the bridge.

We are currently constructing our bridge. The bridge is almost complete, with respect to the required cuts; but not to worry welding will be the task over spring break. Bridge team has been using the Machine Instructional Laboratory at the Engineering Research Center, the foothills campus.

When we all return from spring break, the team will put together a poster, to present our bridge at competition, as well as have submitted our T-shirt designs to be printed.

Concrete Canoe

Come support us at regionals! Special thanks to the following volunteers that helped during casting day:

- Paul Chubirka
- Tony Grasso
- Tyler Rossow
- Kyle Swaving
- Scott Turner
- Eric Wilkins
National Leadership Conference

Every year there is a National Leadership Conference intended for ASCE student chapter officers. This year the conference, for ours and two other regions, was in Kansas City, Missouri. The CSU ASCE student chapter was able to send two officers to this conference to bring back ideas on how to make our student chapter that much better. This year Kristi Gemperline, President, and Sean Franklin, Vice President, attended the conference and brought back ideas for meetings, fundraising, member involvement, and much more. This conference narrowed down what we can do better as an organization. Our goal, for this 2012-year, is to increase the member involvement, starting with active monthly meetings and providing numerous events. We hope include our members in reaching these goals as we continue into the 2012-year.

Shepardson Elementary

On February 21st, a group of us assisted 3rd graders in exploring geometry and structures. The plan was to provide gumdrops and toothpicks for the students and to divide them into groups and let them use geometry to build structures to place into a city. We incorporated the teachers lesson plans in, and discussed the types of geometry that were most stable, so that the students’ structures had the best chance of standing up. The students were exposed to “real life” situations like a budgeted amount of resources and working under a team manager. We let the students pick which type of structure they wanted to build for the city, and were surprised by their ingenuity including a Starbucks, a gym, a mall, office buildings, and more. After transporting the buildings to the floor and constructing the city, we split them into 5 groups and divided the resources among the groups and challenged the students to build the largest structure that they could in 15 minutes while recycling the gumdrop and toothpick resources. The teachers enjoyed our presentation and group activities, as well as how engaged we kept the students, and sent us a thank you note.
National Engineers Week at the Institute of Science and Technology

On February 23rd, we were invited to participate in the Engineering Career Symposium at the Institute of Science and Technology in Cherry Creek. We brought supplies to make water filters (plastic water bottles, cotton balls, sand, gravel, rocks) and gave a presentation on Civil Engineering, with an emphasis on water filtration that was streamed live to other schools in the district. We also brought student volunteers on stage to help us run water through our homemade water filters. The students loved the presentation and asked engaging questions such as “What happens if you run the cleaned water through the filter again?” and “Can we drink the water?” and “What happens if we clean the filter and run new dirty water through it?” In every plausible instance, we tested the students’ hypotheses. Overall, the faculty was very impressed with our presentation, and said that they had never had an interactive presentation like ours. Great job guys!

Happy Saint Patrick’s Day!

Crossword

| Down | 1. Body covering?  
|      | 2. Heal  
|      | 3. 3 leafed clover  
|      | 4. St. Patrick was a missionary there  
|      | 6. Mystical being  
|      | 6. Short form for corporal  
|      | 11. Actor’s part  
|      | 12. Patrick  
|      | 13. X marks the  
|      | 15. Poels of fruits  
|      | 19. Layer  
|      | 20. Procession or march  
|      | 22. To arrive at a final destination  
|      | 23. Walkway  
|      | 25. Wrist or ankle injury  
|      | 28. Household task  
|      | 29. Measurement  
|      | 31. Dismantle  
|      | 32. Valuable stone  

| Across | 2. Loose change  
| 4. Pens need this  
| 5. Good  
| 6. Conditional release  
| 7. King’s son  
| 9. Mistakes  
| 10. Taste  
| 11. Saint  
| 16. Last fall, rain  
| 17. Give aid  
| 18. Number less than 10  
| 19. Leprechaun’s headwear  
| 20. ______ of gold  
| 21. St. Patrick rid Ireland of these  
| 24. Hearing organ  
| 25. Opposite of good  
| 26. One of the food groups  
| 27. Drink container  
| 30. God’s house  
| 31. St. Patrick’s Day colour  
| 33. Fatigue  
| 34. St. Patrick’s month  
| 35. St. Patrick’s day