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January, 2013
NEWSLETTER



Monday, January 21, 2013

**Hydrodynamic Modeling for Minnesota River Crossing Feasibility Study
Laura Rozumalski, Water Resources Engineer, W.F. Baird & Associates**

In the Minnesota River valley, Highways 41 and 101 are important transportation arteries, with an average daily traffic of 12,500 and 20,400 vehicles, respectively. They also are vulnerable to frequent flooding, which threatens human safety and is very disruptive to communities that depend on the roads for their livelihood. S.E.H. Inc. and W.F. Baird & Associates Ltd. were retained by The Minnesota Department of Transportation to develop a two-dimensional hydrodynamic model of the Minnesota River. The software package used in this study is the depth-averaged Flow and Sediment Transport Model (FST2DH). This presentation will summarize the results of a feasibility analysis to investigate possible bridge and highway alternatives that may reduce the frequency and duration of flooding related road closures on Highways 41 and 101.

NOTE: Professional Development Hour (PDH) credit will be available for attending the presentation. Certificates will be available at the end of the meeting.

Click [here](#) for the event website and to **RSVP**.

Schedule

11:30 am - Social
12:00 pm - Lunch
12:15 - Presentation

Menu

1. **Grilled Fish Tacos** (*Chipotle mayo, fresh pico de gallo, served with black bean salad as side*),
2. **California Turkey Burger** (*Avocado, tomato, lettuce, alfalfa sprouts, lemon pepper*

mayo, served with shoestring potatoes),

3. **Bonfyre Chicken Wrap** (Bacon, tomato, caramelized onions, gouda, field greens, balsamic vinaigrette, served with Asian slaw), or

4. **Chopped Salad** (Chopped iceberg and romaine tossed with radishes, red onions, feta cheese, cucumbers, tomatoes, corn, jicama, hearts of palm, scallions, kalamata olives and ranch dressing).

Please make your lunch selection when registering for the event.

Meal Price

Professionals: \$16.00 (please bring check/cash to the event)

Students: Free (However, if you register and do not show up, you will be invoiced \$16)

Please [RSVP](#) by January 17, 2013 on the event website (preferred) or email prog_arr1@ascewisw.org. Those who RSVP and do not attend will be expected to cover their meal.

Address

Bonfyre American Grille
2601 West Beltline Highway
Madison, WI 53713

Directions

From HWY 12/14 exit at Todd Drive. Bonfyre is in the west end of the new Arbor Gate development on the Beltline Frontage Road just east of Todd Drive.

Parking

Arbor Gate has ample on-site parking in their lot and parking ramp south of the building.

Younger Member Update

New Co-Chairs!

We have two new YM Committee Co-Chairs, Ann Thielmann and Terry Armstrong! I am very excited to have these two on board and thank them for contributing their time to this great group!

Our 2nd Annual Ugly Sweater Bar Crawl in December was a huge success! Thanks to all who joined in the holiday cheer!

Spare some time to Strike up some fun at **YM Bowling Night!**

Lace up those bowling shoes, grab a rental ball and let's knock over some pins.

Our next event has been rescheduled from January 8th to **January 15th** to give everyone (including myself) a chance to recover from the holidays! Please join us at **Ten Pin Alley** in Fitchburg from 6 pm - 8 pm for some bowling and networking fun!

Click [here](#) to Register.

The next few YM events are still being planned, please email if you have any suggestions or ideas.

While events organized by the YMC are geared towards those members 35 and younger, all are welcome at our events!

If you have any questions about YM activities or would like to become more involved, please email me.

Theresa Possley Nelson, PE
Younger Member Committee Co-Chair
ymc@ascewisw.org

January President's Message

I hope that you enjoyed your holidays. I know that I enjoyed them a bit too much and must now pay the price - shedding the six pounds gained over the last four weeks. They were worth it!

Not everything that occurred over these past four weeks was in the spirit of the holidays. The brinkmanship that our political leaders on both sides of the aisle played with the "fiscal cliff" was not particularly enjoyable. And now, onto more brinkmanship - the debt limit. However, there was some good news. The deal on the fiscal cliff irritates both sides, but is still predicted to loosen the pocket strings of those waiting to see what would happen. That should have a positive effect upon Civil Engineers.

Further good news came in the form of passage of a portion of the Hurricane Sandy relief program. Further action is expected - hopefully with passage of the remainder of the package. That is good news for the unfortunate many who suffered directly. Many of us probably have stories connecting us to those who suffered directly. The Staten Island neighborhood once called home by my wife's aunt and uncle, and visited by us many times, was totally destroyed. And, just a week ago, my wife, Marilyn, and I met a woman whose family suffered extensive damage to their home in New Jersey, and had only a few weeks earlier suffered severe damage to their Florida home during Tropical Storm Debbie. Tropical Storm Debbie also included a rare Florida tornado.

Passage of the remainder of the proposed relief program is a necessity for those who have suffered. It is also beneficial to the rest of us. It's an unfortunate truth, but, as Civil Engineers, relief programs such as those helping the direct victims of disaster also help us. A significant portion of the monies dedicated to disaster relief is used to restore infrastructure beneficial to all of us and disasters serve as an important reminder of how critically important our infrastructure is to all of us. In our daily lives, we often take it for granted. As Civil Engineers, we must not lose sight of the fact that the ongoing restoration of our infrastructure nationwide will require even greater participation from the public sector and we must continue to pressure Congress for that support. We will all benefit.

On a more upbeat note, I hope to see you at the January meeting.

Larry Ryan, P.E.
ASCE WI Southwest Branch President

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