

Iranian American Society of Civil Engineers

Engineers, Contractors, Architects & Developers



IASCE Newsletter

Fall 2007

In this issue you will read:

Society news, announcements, meeting reports, and the noteworthy news of community and profession

CHAIR'S MESSAGE: Get involved. Nominate yourself.

The IASCE Board of Directors' election is coming in March 2008. There are two seats available. I encourage all the members of the society to consider running for these two positions on the board. It is the time and effort of the IASCE Board and its members that make the organization to grow, become strong and successful. If you have a particular vision for this organization, want to keep IASCE the kind of organization that is meaningful, you need to get involved and run for a Director's seat. Do you have the ability and desire to see the big picture—to envision where IASCE can be in the long term? Do you want to help establish the plans to get there? You may be the right person to assist the organization through this transition from old to new. Do you enjoy strategic thinking with passion and commitment? This is an exciting time and a new opportunity to lead the organization into the future under a new structure. New blood, new ideas, new dialogue and challenges, are you up for it? It is time to take ACTION and be counted upon. This organization will be better because of YOUR involvement.

GENERAL MEETINGS: The first Wednesday of each month at the Irvine Ranch Water District Office located at 15600 Sand Canyon Avenue in the City of Irvine, 7:00 pm.

December: Mr. Bruce Schell, PG, CEG, will present the earthquake faulting in the Los Angeles and Orange Counties. Mr. Schell is the Associate Geologist for Hushmand Associates, Inc in Irvine.

SOCIETY NEWS

Constitution & By-laws Committee: Since the soft copy of the By-laws was not available, Ben Hushmand one of the committee members kindly typed the by-laws.

Membership Committee: In the past quarter, approximately 15 new members have joined the Society. By an initiative of the Committee the first annual roster will be published in early 2008. All members were asked to fill out the application form in order to authorize IASCE to publish their desired information.

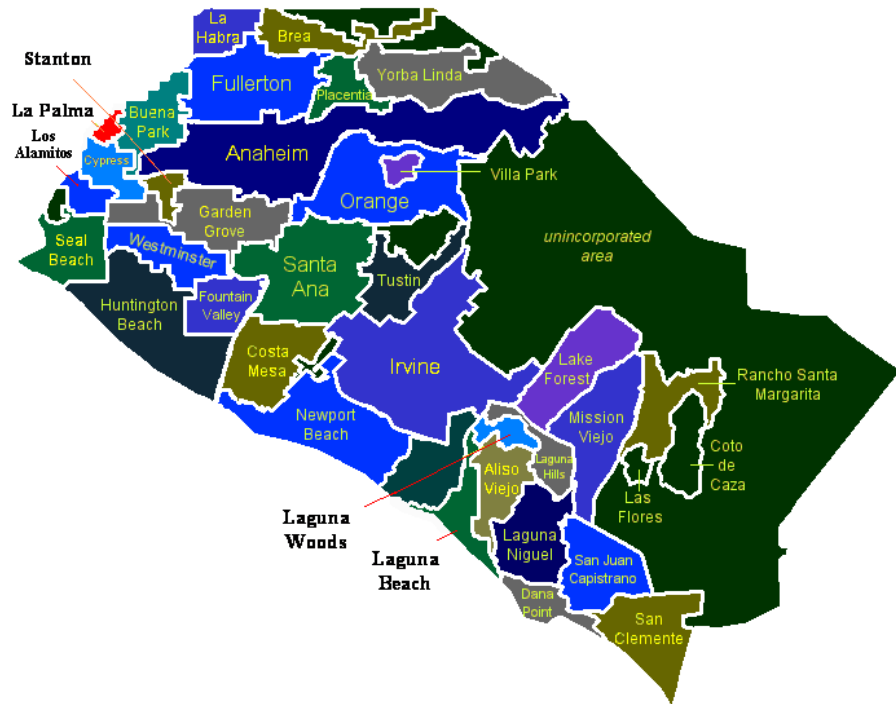
Web Committee: IASCE website has the Society information including newsletter, the membership/renewal application form, meeting notices including location and date. The official website address of the Society is **www.IASCE.org**; however, **www.IASCE.com** also works. Please give your feedback on the website to the Web Committee.

Donations: (1) An InFocus IN36 Projector was purchased jointly with Hushmand and Associates, Inc (HAI), a geotechnical engineering firm in Orange County. The projector will be used by both entities for the following year until the Society can buy the projector back from HAI. (2) Hobas, a manufacturer of polymer pipes, generously donated 100 lanyard bands to IASCE. (3) A \$50 donation was received anonymously.

Elections: The elections for two positions in the Board of Directors will be held in the March meeting right before the Norooz program. New board members will assume office in July 2008. Please submit your nomination of any active member to any of the board members. Self-nominations are welcome before or at the Elections Meeting.

Sponsorship and Company Profile: Board of directors approved dinner sponsorships for \$250 per meeting rather than dinner fees for non-members. The benefits of sponsoring a dinner at IASCE includes: a brief presentation of their company, services and/or products, passing around company brochures and catalogues, and acknowledgement in the Society Newsletter.

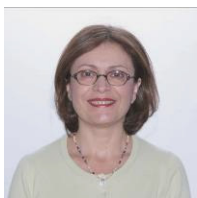
Orange County with a total area of 948 mi² (2,455 km²) and 3 million residents has 34 cities and some unincorporated land. The City of Santa Ana with approximately 350,000 residents has the largest population and the City of Irvine with approximately 200,000 residents is the fastest growing city. Orange County's population increased by approximately ½ million from 1990 to 2000. From 2000 to 2030, County's population is expected to grow by 24 percent, employment by 27 percent, and housing by 15 percent.



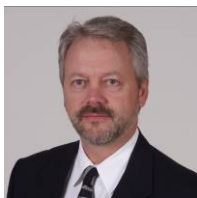
IASCE September Presentation Report: On September 5th, 2007, Mr. Kia Mortazavi, PE, the Executive Director of the Development Division at Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), gave a presentation on Measure-M2 in Orange County to an audience of 30. Measure M2 is a 30-year plan that is intended to improve and/or maintain the transportation systems in Orange County.

As Orange County is growing, Measure M2 will allow the transportation systems to keep pace. OCTA's goal is to deliver the 30-year plan on an expedited schedule by relying on the private sector. The \$11.86B (2005 figure) budget for this plan is generated from ½¢ sales tax during a 30 year period starting 2011 where 43percent of the budget will go to freeways, 32 percent to roads, and 25percent to mass transit. The distribution of budget within The County depends on the population (50 percent), the street speed (25 percent), and the sales tax generation (25 percent). In conclusion, Kia handed out a summary of OC freeway projects of current year with their construction values ranging from \$2M to \$550M.

IASCE October Presentation Report: On the October 3rd meeting, Mrs. Zhila Yedidsion Ross, Architect, LEED AP, gave a presentation to an audience of approximately 40 entitled 'Greening of America.' She presented the concept of green building design, sustainability, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), and the role of architects and civil engineers in green design. According to World Commission on Environment and Development a development is *sustainable* when it meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. A project is a viable candidate for LEED certification if it can meet all prerequisites and achieve the minimum number of points to earn the certified level of LEED project certification according to US Green Building Council (USGBC). Zhila highlighted the pioneer role of President Bill Clinton in conducting the energy saving research program in White House in 1993 which resulted in over \$300,000 energy and water savings, landscaping expenses and solid waste costs per year. Due to the interest of the audience, she focused a major portion of her presentation to the financial incentives: grants, rebates, tax incentives, property tax exemptions for solar systems, loans, expedited permit processing, building permit waiver, and density bonus. Zhila concluded her presentation by introducing some completed green (certified LEED) buildings in California to the audience including the Ford Center in Orange County.



IASCE November Presentation Report: On November 7th, 2007, Mr. Thomas A. Love, Executive Manager of Engineering and Planning for Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) presented the regional recycled water program in Chino to an audience of approximately 50. Chino basin with 0.8 million residents (1.5 million in 2030) has a water demand of approximately 425,000 acre feet per year (AFY) from which 360,000 is provided from ground-, storm-, and recycled-water, and 65,000 AFY is imported from the Colorado River and Northern California. IEUA has a 3-year plan with \$120M budget to utilize drought groundwater storage account, and increase the recycled water by 50,000 AFY by 2010. Recycled water is intended for non-drinking uses such as landscape irrigation, industrial processing, recreation lakes, ponds and fountains.



PROFESSIONAL NEWS

Asian American Architects and Engineers Association (AAa/e) held its 30th annual banquet in Omni Los Angeles Hotel at October 4, 2007 with attendance of 580 people. The theme of the 2007 banquet was "Transformation." AAa/e in Southern California has approximately 400 active members and 21 board members. AAa/e presented the Lifetime Achievement Award to Norman Mineta, the Japanese-born former US Secretary of Transportation. The website of S. California Chapter is <http://www.aaesc.org>



International Student Paper Competition: Fanni Reunion Foundation, Inc. (FRF) announced its first international graduate student paper competition in honor of Professor Mehdi Ghalibafian, PhD, SE. The theme of this competition is 'seismic retrofit of structures.' The winner of the competition will receive a \$1,000 cash award and a plaque, and will be invited to present the paper at one of the FRF lecture series in Los Angeles, California. Two runners-up will be recognized with honorable mentions and certificates. The winning paper will be published in the FRF newsletter and on its website. The deadline for abstract submission is June 1, 2008; full papers are due by September 1, 2008. For further details, please visit www.FanniReunion.org



IRANIAN COMMUNITY NEWS

Farzad Naeim, PhD, SE, Esq. Is the recipient of the 2007 Fazlur Rahman Khan Medal Award from Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat. This award recognizes that Farzad has demonstrated excellence in design and research with significant contribution to the design of tall buildings and the built urban environment. The award also acknowledges his high professional integrity. The past recipients of this award are Leslie E. Robertson (2004), Professor Werner Sobek (2005), and Srinivasa 'Hal' Iyengar (2006).



Farzad is the Vice President and General Counsel at John A. Martin & Associates (JAMA) in Los Angeles. He received his PhD from USC in 1982 and his JD from Concord Law School in 2002. Farzad is a member of California bar as well as a patent attorney. He has served as the vice-president of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI) and is currently the editor-in-chief of its professional journal – Earthquake Spectra. Farzad has received numerous prestigious awards including the Outstanding Journal Paper Award from the Los Angeles Tall Buildings Structural Design Council (5 times between 1996-2006) as well as the Outstanding President Award in 1996, and the Structural Engineers Association of California's Superior Structural Engineering Award of Excellence three times. Farzad led the 10-member EERI post-earthquake investigation team to Iran after the Bam earthquake of December 26, 2004 and published the reconnaissance report at the December 2005 Special Issue of Earthquake Spectra.

Mehregan – Persian Harvest Festival – is the celebration of nature in the beginning of autumn. Mehregan was celebrated in an extravagant style by Network of Iranian American Professionals of Orange County (NIPOC) for the 12th year in Orange County Fairground on October 13-14, 2007 with attendance of over 20,000 people. NIPOC organizing committee had approximately 20 staff members and over 300 volunteers. The festival presented many aspects of Persian culture including art exhibits, traditional tea house, folk dances, art crafts, live performances, pop entertainments, movies, children's activities, exotic food and tents for provinces of modern Iran and neighboring countries. Remembering all ethnicities living with each other for over seven millennia, one could conclude that Iran is the oldest melting pot in the world. Mehregan is an ancient Persian tradition celebrated in Iran, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and other neighboring countries of Iran.

Mehregan 2007 was dedicated to Molana Jalale-ddin Mohammad **Rumi** (1207 – 1273), a renowned Persian spiritual master, philosopher and poet for whom the United



Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) declared 2007 'the International Rumi Year' for his 800th birth anniversary. Rumi was born in the City of Balkh in Greater Khorasan (today Afghanistan), travelled through Iran, went to Hajj pilgrimage in Mecca, and passed away in Konya (today Turkey). His poetry is in Persian and very popular in Iran, Afghanistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. The translation of his poems is widely read in Middle East (especially Turkey), Europe and US. Rumi invited humanity to love, peace and unity without discriminating religion, belief, race, nation and class. UNESCO had declared 2006 'the International Mozart Year.'



IASCE ORGANIZATION CHART 2007-2008

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NAME	POSITION	E-MAIL
Mir Fattahi	Chair	mfattahi@ieua.org
Ben Hushmand	Member	ben@hushmand-associates.com
Payam Khashaee	Secretary	PKhashaee@ThorntonTomasetti.com
Kamran Saber	Treasurer	ksaber@norrisrepke.com
Shafi Sharifan	Vice Chair	shafi@idconsultant.com

COMMITTEES

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS	Chair:	Shafi Sharifan
	Members:	Ben Hushmand, Payam Khashaee
HOUSE	Chair:	Bijan Khamanian
MEMBERSHIP	Co-chairs:	Payam Khashaee & Shafi Sharifan
	Members:	Yadi Farhadi, Safa Kamangar
NEWSLETTER	Editor:	Payam Khashaee
	Associate Editor:	Siamak Jafroudi
	Graphics:	Reza Azargin
PROGRAMS	Chair:	Kamran Saber
	Members:	Mir Fattahi, Ben Hushmand, Shafi Sharifan
SCHOLARSHIP & HONORS	Chair:	Mir Fattahi
	Members:	Nasser Abbaszadeh, Ben Hushmand
WEB	Chair:	Payam Khashaee
	Webmaster:	Farzad Tasbihgoo
	Members:	Safa Kamangar

SPONSORSHIP: Interested parties are invited to sponsor IASCE general meetings for \$250.

Sponsor of November Meeting: Hobas



Hobas Pipe USA is a manufacturer of Centrifugally Cast Fiberglass Reinforced Polymer Mortar Pipes in all diameter sizes up to 110 inches per the ASTM D3262 for gravity flow and AWWA C950 and ASTM D3754 for pressure force main services. Hobas has supplied over 5 million linear feet of pipe from its Houston, Texas plant to North, Central and South American markets since 1987. Locally, Hobas products have been approved and used by all major public agencies in Southern California with over 55 miles of pipe in service to date.

INVITATION FOR INVOLVEMENT IN THE SOCIETY

Get involved! Members and interested parties are invited to join an IASCE committee. Contact the chairperson for information on current activities and meeting times, dates, and locations. If you have any idea, suggestion, criticism, or concern, please contact committee chairs or board members. Thank You!

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