January 2006

The 4th dimension

Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC
Victoria Branch Newsletter
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Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC
www.apeg.bc.ca

Volume 6, Issue 1

January 2006

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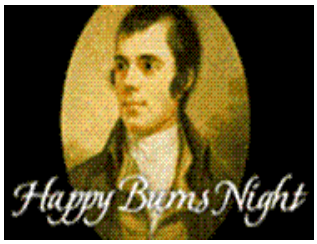
You are cordially invited to a special party to honor Robbie Burns. Join us for a special Scottish celebration at the Arbutus/Queenswood Room at the Cadboro Commons Building, University of Victoria on Thursday, January 26, 2006! This evening will be filled with exciting events: our traditional annual Robbie Burns celebration, several awards presentations, and last but not least, a featured presentation entitled "Engineering Temperament" by Prof. Del Fredlund, University of Saskatchewan.



Dress up for Robbie Burns Night!
Come to the celebration in style – Kilts, plaid shirts, bagpipes are welcome – to honor the celebrated Scottish poet and songwriter, Robbie Burns. The evening is a special occasion, complete with the piping in of steaming haggis (a pudding of sheep organs, oat meals and savory spices), addressing it with the reading of the poet's brash Ode to a Haggis, and additional poetry reading with audience participation.

Speaker of the Month:

Professor Del Fredlund will be the speaker in this month's APEG Dinner Meeting on January 26th. The title of his talk will be: "Engineering Temperament". As a geotechnical engineer and past Dean of Engineering at the University of Saskatchewan, his international recognized expertise has been on arid soil. But when he lectures on another of his favorite subject – temperament and engineering – he "fills the room" with graduate students, engineering faculty members, even spouses of engineers seeking some insights.
Prof. Fredlund will discuss the four archetypes of engineering temperament, namely sanguine, melancholy, choleric and phlegmatic. He will expound on the strength and weaknesses of each archetype. It has been his belief that an engineer has to understand himself/herself particularly in view of the fact that most engineers cannot exclusively stay within the confined framework of problem-solving. Sooner or later, he/she needs to interact with the public and to sell ideas to society as a whole. You want to learn more about engineering temperament ….. Come to our Dinner Meeting.

Events Details

When: **Thursday, January 26, 2006:** Social at 5:30 pm; Dinner at 6:30 pm.

Where: **Arbutus/Queenswood Room,** Cadboro Commons Building, University of Victoria
For directions and maps to the University of Victoria, link to http://www.uvic.ca/maps/index.html.
To find out where University Club is on campus, link to http://www.uvic.ca/buildings/ucl.html.
Parking is free of charge after 6:00 pm Monday through Friday and all day on Saturday.
Parking permits may be purchased during the day from vending machines located at most Campus Entrances; also there is a limited number of metered spaces available in Lot 1, which is located close to the building.

Cost: **Cost (dinner included except where noted):** Registered members and guests $20.00 ea., Students $10.00 ea., Admission at the Door: $25.00 ea., Presentation-only $5.00 ea. (dinner not included).

RSVP: Please register in advance via the telephone answering service at **721-8896 by Tuesday, January 24**. Provide the name of those who you are registering and your telephone number. If register but can not attend, please call **477-0151 by NOON** the day before the meeting and give notice of cancellation on the answering service (please note that the branch may have to pay for dinners that are not cancelled). To register on the web: Visit http://www.me.uvic.ca/APEG.htm. Friends, associates and partners are always welcome (pre-registration is recommended). If you cannot join us for dinner, please come and join us for the presentation.

Upcoming Events

APEGBC, Victoria Branch
Victoria Branch dinner meetings are held the last Thursday night of every month from September to May excluding December. Meetings are usually held in the Cadboro Commons Building, University of Victoria and start at 5:30 p.m.
The next dinner meeting is at the Arbutus/Queenswood Room, Cadboro Commons Building,, University of Victoria.
Everyone is welcome to attend the Branch Executive meetings held every month at the restaurant of the Cedar Hill Golf Course. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday February 1, 2006.

Events
Jan 31/06. 59th Canadian Geotechnical Conference – Call for abstracts. Details available at www.apeg.bc.ca/news/documents/geotechnique_CfA.pdf. *Information*: www.seatoskygeo.ca.
Jan 23-26/06. Mineral Exploration Roundup – Theme: "Striving for excellence in Exploration," The BC & Yukon Chamber of Mines hosts one of the world's premier mineral exploration events. *Information/registration*: www.chamberofmines.bc.ca.
Feb 17-19-06. Vancouver Structural Engineers Group Society - Seismic design seminar on "Understanding the Seismic Load Provisions for Buildings in the New National Building Code of Canada." *Information*: www.structeng.bc.ca.

Obituary

GIBBS, David John
May 29, 1944 – December 25, 2005

It is with deep and overwhelming sadness that we mourn the passing of David who died suddenly in a motor vehicle crash. Predeceased by father Victor Gibbs, he leaves behind his wife Renate, son Jason and daughter Alexa, mother Heather Gibbs, sister Anne (Dick) Kaye, brother Andrew (Tina) Gibbs, mother-in-law Senta Hormes, brother-in-law Peter (Roberta) Hormes, a newborn grandson Max Gibbs and numerous relatives in England.

David was an outstanding professional with over 30 years in information technology and telecommunications. He began his education at Southampton University, completing degrees in 1965 and 1967, and at Dalhousie University with a M.B.A. in 1982. He held Professional Engineering Certifications in the UK, and in the provinces of Nova Scotia and British Columbia. After years in the roles of business manager, senior analyst, and senior engineer, he combined technical and analytical skills with a sincere interest in people to work as the president of his own consulting company specializing in project management and business process analysis in the information technology and telecommunications industry.

His passion for the Engineering profession extended to his involvement in various boards (PMI, APEGBC, APENS) and committees throughout his career. Experiences as a Ham Radio operator, pilot and outdoorsman led him to explore and appreciate his world. With a zest for life, he travelled throughout the world and made friends wherever he stayed. His optimistic, selfless, generous and good-humoured approach to life brought him countless friends. He loved God and modelled Christ's love and compassion where he could. David loved his family, he treasured both his children and was a model husband. His legacy of love, wit and joy of life will always be remembered.

A service and celebration of his life will be held at Saanich Community Church, 4566 West Saanich Rd, January 7 at 11:00 am. Reception to follow. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Heart & Stroke Foundation may be made in David's memory.

What is new?

The Biggest Undersea Observatory ever conceived is taking shape off North America's Pacific coast - In this article, Peter Fairly stated that Dr. Richard Dewey at the University of Victoria, B.C. and his colleagues at a consortium of Canadian and U.S. universities and research labs are in the vanguard of a growing movement to push ocean science towards the kind of 24/7 observation that scientists on dry land take for granted. They literally will be wiring the deep, seeding thousands of kilometers of the ocean bottom with hundreds of sensors, cameras, and instruments power from shore via an undersea 100-kilowatt grid. Linked together, the instruments are part of a multigigabit-per-second data network designed to continuously pour information onto the internet, where scientists on land can access it. It is called the North-East Pacific Time-Series Undersea Networked Experiments, or NEPTUNE.
Source: IEEE *Spectrum*, November 2005 issue, pp.38-43.

Earthquake Prediction - In an article by Tom Bleier, CEO of QuakeFinder in Palo Alto, Calif., and Friedemann Freund, a senior researcher at NASA Ames Research center, in Mountain View, Calif., the authors suggested that: "Accurate earthquake warnings are, at last within reach. They will come not from the mechanical phenomena ….. And, remarkably, these predictions will come from signals gathered not only from the earth's surface but also far above it, in the ionosphere." The lights and the radio waves frequently observed in the sky prior to an earthquake appear to be electromagnetic disturbances that happen when crystalline rocks are deformed –or even broken - by the slow grinding of the earth just before the dramatic slip that is an earthquake. Using a network of ground-based sensors, the forecasters predict that warning systems can be installed as early as 2015 in active earthquake areas.
Source: IEEE *Spectrum*, December 2005 issue, pp.22-27.

APEGBC Election Results – 2005/2006 Council

The results of the APEGBC Council election ballot were announced at the Annual General Meeting held on October 15, 2005 in Richmond, B.C. The 2005/2006 Council consists of the following elected members and appointees:
President: M.R. (Bob) Ito PEng PhD;
Vice President: T M (Tim) Smith PGeo.
Councillors: (2 years) J L (Janet) Benjamin PEng; L A (Lee) Failing PEng; J H (Jeff) Holm PEng; R H (Russ) Kinghorn PEng; P B (Philippe) Kruchten PEng PhD; (1 year) L R (Lindsay) Bottomer PGeo; D S (Steve) Graham PEng/PGeo PhD; M K (Margaret) Li PEng PhD; A J (Andy) Mill PEng StructEng; G S (George) Prince PEng.
Past President: D K (Dennis) McJunkin PEng
Government Appointees: R (Roy) Emperingham MPA CHRP; J (Joan) Hansen OD; M(Marilyn) Patterson PhD; L (Lawrence) Woo CA.
Source: *Innovation, Journal of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC*, *Nov-Dec 2005* issue.

Have Your Say!

Do you like our format? Do you have concerns or comments you like to voice? We love to hear from you and welcome any contributions to this newsletter, humorous or otherwise. The deadline for submissions to the next newsletter is Jan.27, 2006. Please send them to Harry Kwok, University of Victoria at hlkwok@ece.uvic.ca.

Advertisements
While APEGBC – Victoria Branch is not in a position to endorse advertisements, we do provide them as a service to our members. The advertising rates are $200 for eight continuous advertisements and $30 for a single advertisement.

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Publication agreement Number: 40032101
Published September to May, except December, in Victoria, BC by the Victoria Branch of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of B.C.