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# MODESTO ENGINEERS CLUB



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**Volume 2007 Issue 11**

**November 6, 2007**

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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### FORMAL LUNCH MEETINGS

November 6/ December 4/ January 8\*/  
February 5

\*: Skip 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday due to holiday conflicts

Meeting Times: 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Formal Meeting Location: **S.O.S. Club, 819  
Sunset Ave.** (near Dryden Golf Course)

Click here for a [Map to S.O.S. Club](#)

### INFORMAL MEETINGS

Members regularly meet on Tuesdays,  
11:30a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Old Mill Café,  
corner of 9<sup>th</sup> & F Street in Modesto for  
camaraderie. No formal program is presented.

### BOARD MEETINGS

(7–8:15am, Old Mill Café) [Click for Map](#)

Next Meeting: August 7, 2007

### FREE LOADER for November:

Bill Stevens

### 2007-08 OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

Mike Rieben                      President 526-4214

[mriebe@mve.net](mailto:mriebe@mve.net)

David Castro                    Vice President 522-6273

[davidc@blackburnconsulting.com](mailto:davidc@blackburnconsulting.com)

Jennifer Pratt                    Sec./Treas. 571-5860

[jpratt@modestogov.com](mailto:jpratt@modestogov.com)

Steve Davis, Earl Kleinfelder, Ryan Carrel, Doug  
Samski, Rapunzel Lewis, David Leamon

**ATTENDANCE:** Last Meeting...

15 members, 5 guests, 20 total

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Did you feel it?  
[http://earthquake.usgs.gov/eqcenter/shakemap/n\\_c/shake/40204628/](http://earthquake.usgs.gov/eqcenter/shakemap/n_c/shake/40204628/) I live in Turlock and I barely felt it. My pull strings for my fans and blinds swayed about an inch side to side. One of my friends was in San Francisco on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of a hotel looking out and seen quite a spectacle of rolling movement.

Magnitude	5.6
Date - Time	Tuesday, October 30, 2007 at 08:04:54 PM at epicenter
Location	37.432° N, 121.776° W
Depth	9.2 km (5.7 miles)
Region	SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA, CALIFORNIA
Distances	8 km (5 miles) NNE (31°) from Alum Rock, CA 11 km (7 miles) E (91°) from Milpitas, CA 15 km (9 miles) NE (45°) from San Jose City Hall, CA

If you missed the Officer Installation Dinner then you missed out on a special event that will be remembered for many years to come. Our next meeting is Nov. 6 and Rapunzel is going to show the "MEC's History Slide Show" starting at 11:50am while we finish up eating. It will be approximately 20 minutes long. There were

about 50 people in attendance for our event. Thank you all for coming!

I would like to see our club commit to resurrecting the Project of the Year for '07~'08. I'm seeking committee volunteers to assist with this venture. If you're interested in being a committee member please contact me. Phone: (209) 526-4214 , Email: mriebe@mve.net

Stan Adkins approached me at our event and made a great suggestion. Those of you who are now lifetime members, I would like to encourage you to donate your yearly dues to the scholarship fund. Many of you donate above and beyond year after year. Thank you for your support!

Good luck to those of you who took the Engineering Exams this past month!

Mike Rieben - President

## **FUTURE PRESENTATIONS**

Have some ideas of who should be presenting or what you would like presented during our lunch meeting? If so, please submit your ideas to David Castro as he is coordinating the speakers. Remember, our guest speakers have included the gamut from planners, engineers, politicians, to local community businesses and organizational leaders. We have also included on-site tours of manufacturing and new facilities in and around Modesto.

**PRESENTATIONS** that are scheduled and confirmed are as follows:

### **November 6, 2007 –**

Topic: CONTECH Bridge Systems will be speaking about options bridge projects. In particular they will be showing us both local and national projects and how the design community has incorporated these pre-fabricated bridges into their projects. They will discuss how CONTECH can save projects both time and money.

Presented By: Jason Gregory and Bruce Lawton of CONTECH

### **December 4, 2007 –**

Topic: The California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley, which addresses the economic, social and environmental challenges facing the rapidly growing eight county region stretching from Stockton to Bakersfield; also the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Planning Process, the goal of which is to develop a regional vision for land use and transportation.

Presented By: Carol Whiteside, the President of the Great Valley Center, an organization she founded in August 1997 to promote the economic, social and environmental well-being of California's Central Valley.

Whiteside served as the Director of Intergovernmental Affairs for Governor Pete Wilson on issues of land use, finance and restructuring and economic development. She was Assistant Secretary at the California Resources Agency and specialized in resource conservation, land use and growth management issues. Whiteside also served on the Modesto City Schools Board of Education, the Modesto City Council, and was elected Mayor in 1987. Whiteside is a graduate of the University of CA at Davis.

David Castro – Vice-President

## **SECRETARY'S NOTES**



Greetings from your new Modesto Engineer's Club Secretary/Treasurer. It is probably about time that I stepped up to the plate and take on this role. I have been a member of the club since Ryan Carrel's reign as club

President in 2001 – though I probably didn't come to more than two meetings until I graduated college. I'll be the first to admit that it was the fear of being able to fill the shoes of my predecessors that caused me to delay taking on this challenge. Well, it was Eleanor Roosevelt who said, "We gain strength, courage, and confidence by each experience in which we really stop to look fear in the face...we must do that in which we think we cannot." That's a pretty serious statement to make about this role but I believe

I will make those gains...plus a little fun, friendships, and engineering knowledge!

With that said, I'd like to thank the club for entrusting your votes to me (in a very tight race of course)! This will be a great year and hopefully I can be your club Vice President next year.

Before I start sounding like a politician, I also want to send my gratitude to Rapunzel Lewis for a wonderful Installation Dinner this year. As Ryan Carrel put it, "What an incredible effort you made to put together such a comprehensive and well-organized event. All of the details were well planned: trivia, programs, slideshow, party favors, presentations, speaker – what an event. Everyone agreed that you hosted a great Modesto Engineers Club event that will be remembered for another 75 years! I know I speak for my colleagues on the Board of Directors by commending your leadership and Friday's event in particular. Very well done." Thank you Rapunzel!

Well I certainly look forward to getting to know you all better this year! See you November 6<sup>th</sup>!

(Please see the attached By-laws)

Jennifer Pratt – Secretary/Treasurer

## **STANDBY AGENDAS**

The Board would like three standby speakers for the monthly meetings. The standby presentations should be from the existing membership. These presentations would be in case the guest speaker has an emergency or is sick and cannot make it. Standby speakers would receive as little as 2 hours of notification (A real Toastmaster challenge). If you would consider being a standby speaker, please contact Rapunzel L, Mike R, or Stefanie M.

## **MEETING LOCATION**

Our formal meetings are at the SOS Club, 819 Sunset Avenue (near Dryden Golf Course),

ph. 578-5801. Tuesday's menu features a buffet style meal. Please pay the \$9.00 to the treasurer, Jennifer Pratt, (half off for Students). The beverage, tax and tip are included. We have the Mellis Room reserved. The main courses will vary each week. Please park in the street or at Dryden Golf Course. The club parking lot is for SOS Club members only.

Click here for a [Map to S.O.S. Club](#)

## **OUTREACH EFFORTS FOR NEW MEMBERS**

The Outreach committee is designed to market the Club to potential new members. Every member can be a part of this effort by forwarding along our monthly newsletter and talking about the club. Please extend offers to join the club to your colleagues.

## **ABOUT THE ENGINEERS CLUB**

### **AN INVITATION**

The Modesto Engineers Club is pleased to invite you to join its membership.

### **PURPOSE OF THE CLUB**

The preamble of the club by-laws is quoted: "The object of this club, primarily, is to provide an organization in which Engineers of all branches of the profession may come together, and through which they may cooperate and foster fellowship and the development of the engineering profession in public affairs and community welfare".

### **WHO MAY JOIN**

The by-laws are further quoted: "The membership shall consist of those who are or have been engaged in the direction or prosecution of engineering or architecture, or teachers of students of engineering or other allied sciences".

### **CLUB ACTIVITIES**

The Club meets once a month on the first Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the SOS club. The program usually consists of a

speaker on technical subjects and local affairs of interest to engineers. There are several social affairs during the year, which include the annual President's Steak Fry, A Valentines Day luncheon, the annual trip to Woolgrowers restaurant in Los Banos (3-year hiatus on this event), the annual Officers Installation Dinner and the Christmas Stag Party (how many year hiatus?). Spouses and guests are welcome at most functions, when appropriate.

### **THE COST**

A \$25.00 initiation fee and first years dues of \$20.00, \$45.00 total is payable with the submission of application. Thereafter the dues are \$20.00 per year to renew. New members will receive a certificate of membership and a nametag will be provided for our formal lunch meetings. Members pay for their own lunches, and for meals at other events.

### **SIZE OF CLUB**

The club, having been founded in 1932 enjoys a wealth of former members, and approximately 67 active members. They represent many of the public works engineers, consultants, utility companies, and suppliers of construction and engineering materials.

### **THE APPLICATION**

We would be pleased if you complete the application. Please obtain the signatures of two active members. After submittal of your application, it will be read at the meeting. At the next meeting at which the applicant is present, membership will be based on a two-thirds affirmative vote of members present. You will then be inducted. The ceremony is simple, but dignified. Applicants are welcome to attend weekly meetings while their applications are pending.

### **PROGRAM EXAMPLES**

Engineering Excellence – Project of the Year, Technology, Travel, Health Care, Politics, Finance, Engineering.

