

ENGINEERS CLUB OF THE WEST VALLEY

MAY 2013 NEWSLETTER

www.engineersaz.com

The Engineers Club is a social organization which meets regularly for lunch with a speaker on a technical topic. Spouses are invited and many attend regularly. Short field trips are occasionally scheduled. Membership is open to anyone who has worked in or had close ties to the engineering or scientific fields. Meetings are held at 11:30am on the first Friday of each month, October through June, at Briarwood Country Club, 135th and Meeker in Sun City West, Arizona.

Visitors are always welcome -- Reservations are required -- Just call (623)544-0942 to let us know you are coming.

MAY 3 PROGRAM

**The Phoenix Valley
Light Rail System**
*Benjamin Limmer, Mgr
Phoenix Valley Metro*



Benjamin Limmer is the Corridor & Facility Development Manager for the Phoenix Valley Metro. He leads the team responsible for developing Valley Metro's capital program including light rail extensions, bus improvement projects, transit centers, park-and-rides and other facilities. Ben received his Bachelor's degree in Public Administration from the University of Northern Iowa and a Master's in Urban Planning, Design and Development from Cleveland State University in Cleveland Ohio.

Ben will present an update on the analysis of future routes and modes of the 37 mile plan that involves Mesa, Tempe, Phoenix and Glendale.

JUNE 7 PROGRAM

Meeting Our Water Demand
*Shawn Bradford
Director of Operations
EPCOR Water, Phoenix, AZ*



Shawn Bradford has over 26 years of experience in the water and wastewater fields, with experience at all levels, including management, operations and maintenance. He currently serves as the Director of Operations for the Central Division with EPCOR Water and is responsible for over 79,000 service connections in Sun City, Sun City West and the Aqua Fria District. He oversees a staff of 80 people and is responsible for annual revenues in excess of \$72 million.

Prior to coming to EPCOR Water, Shawn was the Public Works and Water Resources Director for the City of Good-year. While in that capacity, he led a staff of 105 and was responsible for managing an annual administrative budget of \$31 million.

Shawn has an M.B.A. in Strategic Leadership from Amberton University and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Management from Becker College. He also has an Associates Degree in Environmental Engineering from Northeastern University.

The expansive growth and demand for water places an ever increasing strain on the limited supplies in the Southwestern United States. The delivery and use of surface water remains a critical component for Arizona's long-term growth. Shawn will describe how EPCOR Water has positioned itself to meet these demands through progressive planning and a diverse water resource portfolio that utilizes surface, ground, and reclaimed water supplies.

NOTES FROM...

President Don Block



It seems like the MIT Technology Review is a great source of information for me to write about. The April issue has an article "A Cheap and Easy Plan to Stop Global Warming". This plan suggests the following plan of action.

Customize several Gulfstream business jets with some military engines and with equipment to produce and disperse fine droplets of sulfuric acid. Fly the jets up around 20 kilometers. The planes then spray the sulfuric acid, carefully controlling its rate of release. The sulfur combines with water vapor to form sulfate aerosols, fine particles less than a micrometer in diameter. These get swept upward by natural wind patterns and are dispersed over the globe. Once spread across the stratosphere, the aerosols will reflect about 1% of the sunlight hitting Earth back into space.

Will it work? It is too soon to tell but what is known is that after the eruption of volcano Mount Pinatubo on an island in the Philippines in 1991 which spewed some 10 million metric tons of sulfur into the stratosphere, the world's temperature decreased by an average 0.5 degrees C for a couple of years.

There is major concern about this geoengineering idea however. Sulfate aerosol particles can facilitate the chemical reactions that lead to ozone loss. The biggest opposition to continuing geoengineering research as a realistic option is that it would take attention away from the urgency of cutting greenhouse gas emissions.

Endless modeling and computer simulations have been accomplished. Some scientists are now anxious to conduct field experiments. Some critics of geoengineering tend to believe field testing would be the first step in a move toward full-scale deployment. However, one scientist says "The uncertainties are substantial. You could get very bad ozone outcomes, but there are also ways where you could have no impact, or even a positive impact, on ozone. In any case it is crazy not to begin conducting experiments on solar engineering to find out."

Save the earth..... It's the only planet with chocolate

2013 OFFICERS

President	Don Block	623-546-0557
Vice President	Dave Campbell	623-518-4871
Secretary	Lee Roach	623-810-7413
Treasurer	Bob Latvalla	623-546-7801

COMMITTEES

Programs	Daryl Lund	608-250-0659
Programs	Bob Farrell	623-810-5095
Membership	Bob Kessler	623-910-7054
Reservations	Dave Whitehouse	623-544-0942
Luncheons	Tom Watkins	623-584-5811
Scholarship	Len Cohen	623-546-3741
Scholarship	Don Johnson	623-975-1657
Scholarship	Gerry Montag	623-546-7963
Member at Large	Fred Scheske	623-556-2892
Newsletter	Bill Harrison	623-546-4943
Event Support	Dick Stout	623-815-0985
Web Site	Dave Campbell	623-518-4871
Publicity	Maurice Hoyt	623-533-4213
Field Trips	Lanny Barnes	623-546-3364
Past President	Les Sherry	623-975-9081

BOARD EMAIL ADDRESS: board@engineersaz.com

CLUB SURVEY RESULTS

by Les Sherry

While compiling the results of our club survey, I found a ton of things that were very interesting. I will provide some interesting facts with more detailed statistics in the future. Today I will provide just a brief overview of our most significant findings.

We now have about 137 paid members (about average for this time of the year) and 105 of them have participated in the survey. The survey results show we have 57 members who are willing to participate in some way in support of the various activities of the club. Thirty four indicated they will consider assuming a Board position and the others indicated they will consider providing support for one or more of the Board positions.

Over 15 of these members have been contacted so far and have stepped up to take on a position on the board.

The survey has helped to identify those willing and able to serve or assist the club in some way as well as obtain some suggestions regarding future programs and possible field trips. Many have served the club in various capacities over the years but we are always in need of additional volunteers.

Stay tuned for "member's level of satisfaction" and "most recommended club improvement" comments that were also included in the survey results.

TREASURER'S REPORT 4/15/2013

General Fund Balance:	\$4,848.49
Scholarship Fund Balance:	\$3,122.95

RAFFLE RESULTS AND DONATIONS

The winner of the April raffle was Elizabeth Dustman who received \$116 and \$115 was also added to the Scholarship Fund.

LUNCHEON MENUS

May 3 Entrée #1: Chicken Pot Pie. All-white chicken with peas and carrots in a creamy sauce and baked in a pie to a crisp golden brown.

Entrée #2: Baked Cod.

Both include Salad, Saffron Rice, Peas and Carrots with Peppermint Ice Cream and a cookie.

(Entrée Option: Fruit Plate or Grilled Vegetable Plate)

June 7 Entrée #1: Pork Cordon Bleu

Entrée #2: Grilled Salmon

Both include Salad, Au Gratin Potatoes, Broccoli with Vanilla Ice Cream and a Cookie.

(Entrée Option: Fruit Plate or Grilled Vegetable Plate)

RESERVATION POLICY

The cost of the monthly luncheon is \$18.00 per person.

The reservation deadline is 5 PM Monday before the meeting.

Late reservations cannot be guaranteed the regular meal.

Call Dave Whitehouse if you cannot keep your reservation.

The full luncheon cost is due for "no-shows" and cancellations after 5PM on the Wednesday before the meeting.

RESERVATIONS Dave Whitehouse (623)544-0942

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Neil Christianson and Jackie Rice

Club Membership is 138



Dr. Marco Santello receives a certificate of appreciation from Bob Farrell for his presentation on neural control of movement of the human hand during the April luncheon meeting.