



**California/Nevada Section
Bimonthly Update
January 2, 2009
Eighteenth Edition**

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* **CA/NV Section Meeting**

Mark your calendars for February 11th, 2009 for our next CA/NV Section Meeting. It will be held after the World Ag Expo/Tulare Farm Show in the Edison AgTAC Center in Tulare, CA. A hardcopy flyer and RSVP form is in the mail to the entire section membership. You can also visit www.asabecanv.org to download and mail in the form. Keep an eye out for your fellow ASABE members and their booths at the Farm Show! Don't forget your ASABE Centennial pin provided at last year's section meeting.

* **2008 Section Meeting Sponsors**

On behalf of the Section, we thank our generous members who directly, or through their companies, supported our programs last year. Their support has been vital in sponsoring the poster competition, assistance to ¼ Scale Tractor teams, and reduced-cost student dinners.

Ag Industrial Manufacturing

Claude Brown, PE & Paul Burkner, PE, Lodi, CA
www.agindustrialmanufacturing.com

Bently Agrowdynamics

Donald E. Bently, PE & Jim Usher, PE, Minden, NV
www.bentlyagrowdynamics.com

Concepts In Controls

Doug & May Stevens, Visalia, CA
www.conceptsincontrols.com

Hydratec

Fred Hamisch, PE, Delano, CA
www.hydratec.com

Irrigation Design and Construction

Michael Conrad, Patterson, CA

Rain for Rent

Mike Grundvig, PE, Bakersfield, CA
www.rainforrent.com

John Deere Water Tech. (Roberts Irrig)

Paul McFadden, Patterson, CA
www.johndeerewater.com

Valley Irrigation Service

Patrick Murray, Madera, CA

* **Engineer of the Year Nominations**

The nomination form for California/Nevada Section Engineer of the Year can be downloaded from www.asabecanv.org. Submissions must be postmarked or e-mailed by January 23, 2007. To request a hard copy of the form or for any Award related questions, please contact Richard Cavaletto at rcavalet@calpoly.edu or 805-756-2383.

* **Section Officer Nominations**

Would you like to help run the Section? Do you know someone who may be interested? Please submit nominee names, a brief qualifications statement, and contact information to Past Chair Victor Duraj at vduraj@ucdavis.edu who in that capacity also serves as nominating committee chair. If you

have any difficulties, feel free to contact other officers. Please e-mail nominations by February 6th, and additional nominations may be made at the meeting.

*** E-Week, February 15-21, 2009**

Our future colleagues are currently in grade school and they don't even know it yet. And how exciting would it be to be the one that opened their eyes to the opportunities to change their lives and the world as an Agricultural and Biological Engineer! National Engineers' Week is a chance for engineers to share with students the interesting and beneficial things we do to protect the life, safety, and health of the public. ASABE, being a sponsor of E-Week, will have a number of tools coming out soon. If you'd like to talk to some students during E-Week, call your local high school counselor, 4-H leader, or FFA advisor and ask them if they'd like you to speak to their class or group about Ag & Bio Engineering! Or take a look at www.eweek.org to find out what events are already happening in your community.

*** Improving Energy Efficiency in Drip Irrigation Class at AgTAC, February 11, 2009**

The morning before the CA/NV Meeting, Stuart Styles will be teaching a free class titled "Improving Energy Efficiency in Drip Irrigation" from 9am to 12pm at the AgTAC facility. This popular class focuses on drip irrigation operation and its effect on overall energy use. The recently updated Cal Poly ITRC Drip and Micro Irrigation book will be utilized to target specific improvements that can lower on-farm energy requirements. The class will tie together critical topics including distribution uniformity, pump efficiency, irrigation scheduling, and utilizing time-of-use schedules. The class will break down the components that are involved in the calculation of the annual energy cost. Recommendations will be made on specific cases where growers can impact their overall energy use.

*** January is Mentoring Month and National Soup Month**

January is Mentoring Month. Mentoring can be a great benefit to both mentor and mentee. ASABE has an innovative online mentoring program, available to all student and young professional (aged 34 and under) members of the Society as a benefit of membership. Consider becoming a mentor or mentee today and check out <http://www.asabe.org/membership/ementee.htm> to learn more about the program!

January is also National Soup Month and the safety of canned soup is partially thanks to ASABE CA/NV Section Historic Landmark #27 The FMC Sterilizer. Take a moment with a warm bowl of your favorite soup and read more about it at <http://www.asabe.org/awards/historic2/27.html>.

- Bimonthly Update contributors: Carolyn M. Jones, Victor Duraj, and Dolores Landeck of ASABE
- For previous editions of the Update, please visit www.asabecanv.org.
- If you have questions or comments, feel free to contact Carolyn at 707-252-4189x114 or carolyn.jones@ca.usda.gov.
- If you have ideas for Update items or would like to get involved in the leadership group, please let us know.