

February 2008 Director's Report

Greetings from foggy/sunny/rainy/cloudy Sacramento! I recently attended the most recent State Board meeting in Fresno, where the State Board made great progress in making decisions that push us forward in meeting the needs of all of our respective members. Here are some of the meeting highlights:

- AEP is looking ahead at how we're going to approach legislative business for the next several years to increase AEP's name recognition, puts forth a consolidated platform so we can take clear stances on a variety of focused issues. Gene Talmadge is spearheading this effort: jngtalmadge@msn.com
- AEP's "Emerging Issues" and "Professional Practices" Committees seek interested parties who can help AEP continue to develop our professional reputation, respond to issues as they arise, develop curricula and programs in response to changing regulations, and help circulate the most up-to-date information to our members in real-time. For a recent example, refer to Kent Norton's response to the Sacramento Bee editorial on "Hijacking CEQA." Please contact Kent or Chris Enyedy if you would like to be involved! KNorton@brandman.com / CEnyedy@kleinfelder.com
- Mel Willis, from our Channel Counties Chapter, is coordinating an eco-tourism / sustainability / international business outreach trip to southeast Asia. If you would like to provide input on the curricula / outreach activities or are interested in further involvement, contact Mel Willis: melwillis@earthlink.net

In Chapter news, our January mixer with The Wildlife Society (TWS) at Brew It Up! was very successful; we received glowing feedback from attendees. We look forward to scheduling more activities and co-sponsored events with TWS in 2008.

Exciting upcoming events:

- March 25 – 28 – State Conference in San Diego
- Summer 2008 – NEPA Workshop, co-sponsored by the Superior California and the San Francisco Bay Chapters of AEP

That's all the news I have room for this time. Please, as always, your feedback on how we can improve our outreach and services to our members is greatly appreciated.

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