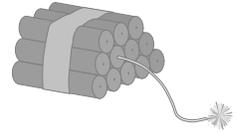


The Primer



Newsletter of the Golden West Chapter, International Society of Explosives Engineers
23633 Brewster Drive, Columbia, CA 95310

Volume 19

Summer 2008

Issue 2

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Golden West Chapter - ISEE
23633 Brewster Drive
Columbia, CA 95310

President's Message...

Last Thursday (August 21st) I was able to attend the Beaverdilly in Napa. For those of you unfamiliar with the Beavers, it is an industry group which was founded 45 years ago to promote the interests of the major construction companies, engineering firms and suppliers active in the dam building industry. It was a great event and a chance to get reacquainted with many friends. It allowed me to reflect on the changes that have occurred in our industry. It was not too many years ago where a large part of the members list was made up of blasters and drillers involved in this heavy construction industry. Those members who I visited with all wished that they were still out there on those big jobs, tricky shots or having the job they could design. The heart of the Golden West Chapter is still beating.

As we wind down to the end of another year I am looking forward to turning the gavel over to someone new. This is my third term as President, though the first one was 11 years ago. As I said when I agreed to continue on this year I needed an active Vice President and Board. I knew that my schedule was not going to allow me to spend the time necessary but with help we could get the job done. Unfortunately everyone has been equally busy and we have not been able to do the things we wanted. Jon Hill worked at getting a work shop organized but as I told him, it is not his job to do alone, this is a Professional Society and he has to get help from the other members to get the job done. Jon too, has run into problems of support.

The Primer

President's Message (cont.) ...

The Board Members who we have been able to count on are Carey Haughy and Gerald Fulghum. Randy Messer has volunteered his office and facilities in support during his absence. I can't say how much this support has meant to me. Wes Bender has put off his full retirement to put out the Primer and work on the website. It goes without saying how valuable he has been to the Chapter.

I believe that the Golden West Chapter of the ISEE is a valuable asset to the industry, its members and the blasting community in general. I would like all members who care as much as I do to help fill the officers and Board positions for the coming year. WE need you to step forward and put your name in nomination. Not all positions or offices are open, those which are available can be found on the next page. I am afraid that unless we get some volunteers we will have to consider putting the Chapter on hold. I do not want to see this happen and I am sure that you don't either.

I will work with those Board Members who I can reach to decide on what we will do for a year end meeting. It has been intended to be a social affair and we may just get together to decide what the future of the Golden West Chapter is going to be. Please step forward and get involved. It is not going to happen if you wait for someone else to do it.

Best regards,

Bill Warfield

(Ed: We all owe Bill a huge vote of thanks for continuing as President for 2008, especially in light of the time demands that his position at Atlas Copco brings. If everyone in the Chapter donated only 10% of the time that the active participants do, we'd be in much better shape.)

The Golden West Chapter needs Volunteers for 2009

It's time to start thinking about next year's Officer and Board Member nominations. Per the By-Laws, the current VP, Mike McNulty moves up to President next year. We will then need a new VP. The Secretary's spot is up for re-election and we are hopeful that Carey will continue in that role. Bill Warfield will become the Past President. Wes Bender's Board seat will be eliminated. (It had taken the place of the Past President which, in 2008, did not exist because Bill continued in the capacity of President.) Randy Messer's and Joe Johnson's seats are up for reelection as Board Members. Jon Hill and Tom Wright have one year remaining in their Board Member terms. If you, or someone you know, would be interested in serving in some capacity, please contact our Secretary, Carey Haughy, and let her know of your/their interest. Carey can be reached via e-mail at: carey@bluementnmin.com, or by regular mail at the Chapter address on the cover page of The Primer. Bear in mind that we are also seeking a newsletter editor and a webmaster.

Here's a simple quiz for you:

1. Do they have a 4th of July in England?
2. How many birthdays does the average man have?
3. Some months have 31 days; how many have 28?
4. A woman gives a beggar 50 cents; the woman is the beggar's sister, but the beggar is not the woman's brother. How come?
5. Why can't a man living in the USA be buried in Canada?
6. How many outs are there in an inning?
7. Is it legal for a man in California to marry his widow's sister? Why or why not?
8. Two men play five games of checkers. Each man wins the same number of games. There are no ties. Explain this.
9. Divide 30 by 1/2 and add 10. What is the answer?
10. A man builds a house rectangular in shape. All sides have southern exposure. A big bear walks by. What color is the bear?
11. If there are 3 apples and you take away 2, how many do you have?
12. I have two US coins totaling 55 cents. One is not a nickel. What are the coins?
13. If you have only one match and you walk into a room where there are an oil burner, a kerosene lamp, and a wood burning stove, which one would you light first?
14. How far can a dog run into the woods?
15. A doctor gives you three pills telling you to take one every half hour. How long would the pills last?
16. A farmer has 17 sheep, and all but 9 die. How many are left?
17. How many animals of each sex did Moses take on the ark?
18. A clerk in the butcher shop is 5'10" tall. What does he weigh?
19. How many two-cent stamps are there in a dozen?
20. What was the President's name in 1950?

(The answers can be found on page 9.)

The Primer

→ Help Wanted ←

The Golden West Chapter still has an urgent need for an editor for the chapter newsletter, *The Primer*. No literary experience is necessary. The job entails a few hours per issue, four times per year. The only requirement is that you have access to a computer. If you decide to take it on, the job will NOT just be dumped in your lap. Free training will be provided. Have you been wanting to contribute to the success of the chapter, but don't know how? This could be your chance. Contact the Chapter Secretary, Carey Haughey, and volunteer today.

For further details on what the job entails, or if you have any questions, contact:

Wes Bender at: wbender@earthlink.net
or at P.O. Box 887, Alpine, AZ 85920

Online Workshop Continues

The online workshop, **Basic Blast Design**, continues as a **Supplement** to this newsletter, in lieu of a formal workshop which had been our standard practice in previous years.

The sections included in the supplement for this issue include: Considerations for Blast Design and Blast Design Basic Parameters.

Future supplements will include: Initiation Timing, Effects of Geology, Cautious Blasting Techniques and Design, Impedance Matching, and other similar topics.

To access the supplement to *The Primer* that contains the workshop, go to the chapter website, www.iseegoldenwest.org, and click on the "Primer Supplement" button. For those members of the chapter who lack Internet access, the supplement is being mailed with this issue of *The Primer*.

We hope that the on-line workshop is of benefit to you and look forward to your feedback.



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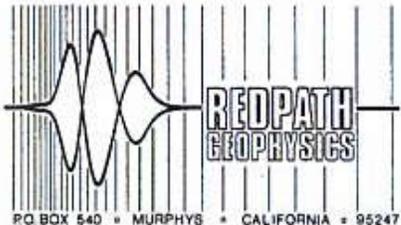


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Randy Messer, Board Member	(530) 741-0873	Tom Wright, Board Member	(530) 740-1105
Wes Bender, Board Member	(520) 648-3581		

InstanTel Acquired by The Stanley Works

“On July 18, 2008 The Stanley Works completed the purchase of the outstanding shares of Xmark Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of VeriChip Corporation. **InstanTel**, a division of Xmark, and a world-leader in the design, manufacturing and supply of vibration and overpressure monitors, was included in the acquisition.

“Under Stanley, InstanTel will have increased opportunity to focus on its core competencies, to further enhance its market leader position, to continue with its plans for increased international market penetration and to explore expansion into other instrumentation markets. Stanley brings to InstanTel a financially sound ownership structure, an affiliation with world-recognized brands and a broad family of companies with potential for synergies. A core value, shared by Stanley and InstanTel, is to be best-in-class in the delivery of products and services. The InstanTel name shall be retained.

“About InstanTel - Since 1982, InstanTel® vibration monitors have earned their position as the world’s most trusted monitor for regulated vibration control. InstanTel vibration monitors are used in over 100 countries in various mining, construction, and geotechnical applications. InstanTel offers the industry’s largest global independent dealer network, providing equipment sales and rentals, as well as professional consulting and monitoring services for any project. In addition, InstanTel offers an international network of factory authorized calibration and service sites, with locations in Australia, Canada, France, Hong Kong, India, Korea, Singapore, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States. To learn more about InstanTel, visit www.instanTel.com.”

Editor’s Notes....

In the most recent issue of *The Primer*, I asked if anyone knew which of our founding members had blasted a bank vault. No one guessed correctly that it was Geof Gordon. The vault wasn’t still part of the bank, however. The rest of the building had been demolished, leaving a hollow, reinforced concrete cube in the middle of an empty lot. Geof gave a very interesting presentation on the technical and practical aspects of the project at one of our bi-monthly dinner meetings in the early years of the Chapter. (Yes, we met bi-monthly back in those days. That was before we found out that blasters tend to be quite busy during the summer construction season.)

Recently, I had the opportunity to do a little salmon fishing up in B.C. Had a great time, even though the weather and the fishing weren’t that good. Didn’t get skunked, though. Brought back some salmon and a halibut. We went to a floating camp. No e-mail, no internet, no phones, no newspapers. Everything had to be either flown in or barged in. The highlight of the trip was riding in the co-pilot’s seat in a Grumman Goose from Port Hardy to the floating fishing camp. It was noisy, lots of vibration, and an overall blast to fly in an airplane that was only 3 years younger than me. Modern airline pilots don’t get to enjoy such exotic things as pitch control, mixture, carburetor heat and mag drop.

By the time you are reading this, I’ll be pursuing finny creatures in the high country of the Sierras, on my annual trek up there. Beats the heck out of the AZ fishing.

Cheers, Wes Bender

How Come???

the AMA has announced the following new drugs for Women.....

D A M N I T O L - Take 2 and the rest of the world can go to hell for up to 8 full hours.

E M P T Y N E S T R O G E N - Suppository that eliminates melancholy and loneliness by reminding you of how awful they were as teenagers and how you couldn't wait 'til they moved out.

S T . M O M M A ' S W O R T - Plant extract that treats mom's depression by rendering preschoolers unconscious for up to two days.

P E P T O B I M B O - Liquid silicone drink for single women. Two full cups swallowed before an evening out increases breast size, decreases intelligence, and prevents conception.

D U M B E R O L - When taken with Peptobimbo, can cause dangerously low IQ, resulting in enjoyment of country music and pickup trucks.

F L I P I T O R - Increases life expectancy of commuters by controlling road rage and the urge to flip off other drivers.

M E N I C I L L I N - Potent anti-boy-otic for older women. Increases resistance to such lethal lines as, "You make me want to be a better person. Can we get naked now?"

B U Y A G R A - Injectable stimulant taken prior to shopping. Increases potency, duration, and credit limit of spending spree.

J A C K A S S P I R I N - Relieves headache caused by a man who can't remember your birthday, anniversary, phone number, or to lift the toilet seat.

A N T I - T A L K S I D E N T - A spray carried in a purse or wallet to be used on anyone too eager to share their life stories with total strangers in elevators.

N A G A M E N T - When administered to a boyfriend or husband, provides the same irritation level as nagging him.

Answers to the quiz on page 3:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Yes | 11. Two |
| 2. One | 12. A half dollar and a nickel. (The half dollar is the one that is not a nickel) |
| 3. All of them. | 13. The match |
| 4. They're sisters | 14. Half way. Then he is running out. |
| 5. Because he's still alive. | 15. One hour. |
| 6. Six | 16. Nine. |
| 7. He's dead | 17. None. It was Noah that took animals on the ark. |
| 8. Not the same men in each game | 18. Meat. |
| 9. 70 | 19. 12 |
| 10. White. He built the home at the North Pole. | 20. He hasn't changed it since 1950. It's still George. |