

Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch Younger Member Forum FY2010 ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY



Web Site Address: www.mlab-ymf.org

**YM Group
President:**

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2009-2010 OFFICERS:

Amber Girard	President-Elect
Diana Symanski	Vice-President
George Huang, P.E.	Secretary
Jinny Huang, P.E.	Treasurer
Marlon Calderon, P.E.	Past President/LA Section YMF Liaison

GENERAL MEETING STRUCTURE:

Monthly Meeting: Per our Bylaws, monthly board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the City of Los Angeles, Bureau of Engineering in Downtown Los Angeles. The purpose of these meetings is to conduct the official business of the Forum.

Quarterly Meeting: To accommodate the diverse needs of our membership, General Meetings are held quarterly on a weekday or weekend throughout the Los Angeles area. The formats of the General Meetings vary between formal dinner settings to outdoor cocktail & appetizer social settings. The purpose is to promote active participation of the general membership in Forum activities, and to encourage interaction and networking among members, social function, and to conduct official business.

Yearly Meeting: Per our bylaws, a yearly meeting will be held in Palm Springs from October 8 and 10 to train and educate the incoming and existing Board of Directors with the objectives of the forum, policies and procedures, and expected duties of each board position for the upcoming year.

MOST SUCCESSFUL MEETING:

Our most successful meeting was our third and final General Membership meeting of the year. It was a picnic at the park theme, held at the Griffith Park in Los Angeles, CA on Saturday, June 19th. The picnic included a fully catered buffet style meal, followed by a tug-o-war contest, soccer and football game. This event was a true success as we were able to bring members from all generations to come out, interact with each other and have a great time. This event was organized by Herendira Molina heren.molina@ppcco.net and Francisco Aragon francisco.aragon@lausd.net.

GROUP ACTIVITIES:

- Joint MLAB YMF & Student Bonfire
- Popsicle Stick Bridge Contest
- Elementary Visit – Sugar Cubes & Peanut Butter Structures
- Walt Disney Concert Hall Technical Tour
- Student Night & Job Fair

IMPROVEMENTS FOR NEXT YEAR:

Two major areas where we can improve on are fundraising and increasing the number of dues paying members. The dedication, leadership and professionalism of our Board of Directors and the committee chairs have helped Los Angeles YMF further its goals in K-12 outreach, community service, technical presentations, social and sporting activities, etc. However, hosting such events without having the financial means and the members to attend them can be difficult. This is why we definitely need to improve on fundraising and increasing the number of active members so that we can focus on delivering great programs to our members.

FUNDING INFORMATION:

Our funding comes from budget allocations from the Los Angeles Section and Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch, and fundraising activities such as our bi-yearly PE Review Course Seminars, corporate sponsorships of events such as our Job Fair & Student Night, and fees paid by our members for participation in social events and general membership meetings

NEW MEMBER RECRUITMENT:

This past year we recruited about 15 new active members who helped out throughout the year as committee members on major events. Out of these new members, five of them have become part of the board of Directors for the upcoming fiscal year. We found that the best way to attract and retain new members is to keep the events mixed between technical, social and sports and relevant to their age group. Once they become active we asked them to help out as committee members to plan, coordinate and host major events for our Younger Member Group.

Also, at the end of each general membership meeting we provide a survey to the attendees for input on what can be improved and what they would like to participate in. This helps us plan events accordingly to active members' interest.

SECTION/BRANCH INTERACTION:

Our communication with the Los Angeles Section is mainly channeled through our LA Section YMF Liaison which is a past-president appointed from one of the YMF's within the LA Section. Both our Section and Branch are very supportive of our activities and initiatives. One of the steps we've taken to improve communications with our Branch is to schedule our Board meeting right after the Branch Board meeting, at the same location. This allows Branch and YMF members to attend each others Board meetings, so that we can brief on upcoming activities. We have also made every effort to personally invite our Branch and Section members to most of our YMF events. In addition, our LA YMF executive board will try to send at least one member to all Branch and Section events, such as installation dinners, technical presentations, trainings, etc.

STUDENT INTERACTION:

Our group is actively involved with the student chapters from USC, UCLA, Cal State Los Angeles, Cal State Northridge, and Loyola Mary Mount throughout the year. We host a series of mixers at each University, actively participate in events hosted by student chapters (i.e. softball tournaments, Pacific Southwest Regional Conference (judging, etc.), and invite them to participate in our activities. We found that student members are a great resource for K-12 outreach events. In addition, we provided the Universities with a resume workshop and interview skills in preparation for their graduations. We have also found that one of the best methods for ensuring that we maintain this close relationship is having a university outreach coordinator as a point of contact between the students and our YMF group.