The planning committee will be preparing the preliminary program next month. Information should be forthcoming in February as to the Program Overview, Travel and Lodging, Major Sponsors, Workshop Descriptions, and Field Trips. There were about 150 abstracts submitted with about 87% being oral presentations. The deadline for submitting the draft papers for review is January 12.

The Technical Division Chairs will need your help in reviewing papers. Very few volunteered as a result of the last newsletter. This year the three largest groups of papers are in the Ecology, Water Management, and Soils and Overburden technical divisions. If you are willing to help, send your name via email to either the TD Chair or me so papers can be directed to you to review. These reviews need to be returned to the author through the TD Chair who will email them to me by March 1. This is so I can track the progress of the reviews as well as determine if the authors addressed the points submitted by the individual reviewer. Unless the reviewer wishes the author to know who the person was who did the review, this will not be known by the authors. Final papers are due to me no later than April 20.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The response of Membership Renewals has been very good so far. If you haven’t sent in your renewal do it prior to the end of February as on March 1, I will be removing the email addresses of those who have not paid their dues from the ASMR List Serve and you will no longer receive emails as to Newsletters, position announcements, etc.

Very few Corporate Members have renewed for 2009. Remember the names listed on the web page as Corporate Members are in order received.

If you have misplaced the renewal form which I sent by bulk mail around December 1, either go to the ASMR web page for this form or email me and I will send you one.

WILLIAM Plass ENDOWMENT FUND

The National Executive Council (NEC) has approved the establishment of the William Plass Endowment Fund. Interest from this fund will provide a $500 monetary award to the annual recipient of the William T. Plass Award. There was a new line placed on the renewal form for 2009, but you may have missed seeing it. Please send your contribution to the ASMR office in Lexington. A receipt will be sent to you for tax deduction purposes for this charitable donation. We need approximately $10,000 to insure that this award will be made for the years to come.
AWARDS NOMINATIONS

Jerry Schuman has told me he hasn’t received any nominations for the Society’s awards. Nomination details as to procedures and requirements are on the ASMR web page, and the information for the three major awards has been updated recently. Please consider nominating one or more of your deserving colleagues for one of the Society’s national awards: The William T. Plass Award, the Richard I. and Lela M. Barnhisel Reclamation Researcher of the Year Award, and/or the Reclamationist of the Year Award. Note that both the William T. Plass Award and the Richard I. and Lela M. Barnhisel Reclamation Researcher of the Year Award have $500 monetary prizes in addition to the usual plaques.

Nominations and support letters are due to Jerry Schuman, Chair of the Awards Committee, by January 30, 2009. Please submit the nominations to Jerry electronically at jerryschuman2@msn.com as Word documents. Please submit them as Word 2003 versions. If you have Word 2007 simply save your document as a “doc” rather than a “docx” document; many of us have not upgraded to the newest version of Word and are unable to open documents saved as “docx” files. Let’s make 2009 a record year for nominations!!!!!! We will give a stainless steel coffee cup to each of the first 5 people to submit nominations.

I anticipate receiving the announcement regarding nominations for the three ASMR Memorial Scholarship Awards in January. If you have or know of a deserving student, information of the procedures are on the ASMR web page and will not likely change that much, if any, from those of last year. When Robert Nairn sends me this material, I will forward it on to you. The usual delay in making these nominations is so the various Colleges and Universities have time to post grades for the Fall semester in their data bases so that a current transcript is available for the nomination materials.

RECLAMATION MATTERS

The editor of Reclamation Matters who has worked with Jeff Skousen the past three years has resigned with the current publisher, Lester Publishing. To date a new person has not been assigned to assist Jeff in producing the exceptional quality that the magazine has enjoyed the past 10 issues. This is a recent happening and not enough time has passed to have a new person identified.

Advertising in the magazine is handled by a different person so if contacted assume that our magazine Reclamation Matters will continue to be published by Lester Publishing. If your company would consider advertising or wishes to continue advertising, or if you know of a company you think would advertise in the magazine, please contact me at one of the email addresses in the letterhead of this newsletter. The Rate Schedule may be found on the ASMR web page under Publications. The current mailing list has been increased this past year to about 4600, with 4500 from the U.S and the remainder from Canada and several other countries.

MEETINGS FOR 2010

The meeting site for the 2010 meetings will be in the Pittsburgh area (Green Tree). The date that the Radisson Hotel had available was June 5-12, 2010. This Radisson is about 3 miles from downtown Pittsburgh and has a lot to offer such as: available space, relatively low room rates, free parking, and free transportation to and from the airport. At least two other groups will be joining us and thus the meetings should be large and well attended. Planning for the Field Trips, Workshops, etc. begin in March 2009, ideas and suggestions are welcome.
DIRECTORY

New Student Members since the last Newsletter and the Directory was printed.
Angelique Herman, 1205 Snyder Lane 1100G, Blacksburg, VA 24060, Phone: (570) 977-4149; Email: micki26@vt.edu
Kristy Hogsden, School of Biological Sciences, University of Canterbury, Private Bag 4800, Christchurch, New Zealand; Phone: +64 (3) 364 2987 ext 7033; Fax: +64 (3) 364 2590; Email: klh93@student.canterbury.ac.nz
Whitney L. Nash, 148 Crow Hollow Ln, Nickelsville, VA 24271, Phone: (423) 360-2312; Email: wlnash@vt.edu

Regular Members Returning as ASMR members since the Directory was printed.
George R. Carter, Jr., MineVironment Inc., 329 Havers Hill Road Jefferson, PA 15344, Phone: (724) 225-7714; Email: minevir@windstream.net
William Moreo, 11 Terrace Drive, Port Washington, NY 11050; Phone: (516) 944-8944; Fax: (516) 944-6995
Mindy Wheeler, Box 520604, Salt Lake City, UT 84152; Phone: (801) 699-5459; Email: wheelermindy@yahoo.com

UP-COMING EVENTS

If you have meetings that you would like to list, send the information to ASMR.

GEOMORPHIC RECLAMATION AND NATURAL STREAM DESIGN AT COAL MINES: A TECHNICAL INTERACTIVE FORUM; HOLIDAY INN & CONFERENCE CENTER 3005 Linden Drive, Bristol, Virginia 24202; April 28-30, 2009; Registration Questions to Lana Campbell (618) 453-5674; E-MAIL lanac@siu.edu; Questions on Content of Forum to Kimery Vories (618) 463-6463 extension 5103, kvories@osmre.gov; Web site is below.


ASMR 26th Annual Meetings and the 11th Billings Land Reclamation Symposium, May 30 – June 5, 2009, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Billings, MT. Dennis Neuman is the host, dneuman@reclamationresearch.net and additional information will be added here when it is nearer the meetings.

24th International Applied Geochemistry Symposium, June 1st to 4th, 2009. Hosted by the Univ. of New Brunswick Fredericton, NB. For information: http://www.unb.ca/conferences/IAGS2009/ David Lentz, IAGS’09 Chair Tel: (506) 447-3190 FAX: (506) 453-5055 email: dlentz@unb.ca

Canadian Land Reclamation Association (CLRA) First Announcement – Call for papers CLRA 2009 Annual Meeting and Conference August 23 - 25, 2009 Québec City Québec, Canada www.clra.ca

IMWA Symposium 2009: Pretoria (South Africa), 19 - 23 October, 2009, CSIR Conference Centre, Pretoria


The 3rd National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration (NCER '09) to be held: July 20-24, 2009 in Los Angeles, CA at the Westin Bonaventure. Web site for additional information concerning this meeting; go to: http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/NCER2009

ASMR 27th Annual Meetings will be in Pittsburgh with Lois Uranowski (OSM) and Margaret Dunn (Stream Restoration, Inc.) as co-hosts. The Radisson will be the hotel for the meetings which will be June 5-12, 2010. The Radisson is actually located in Green Tree a suburb of Pittsburgh in the vicinity of the OSM office.

ASMR 28th Annual Meetings will be in Bismarck, ND at the Ramkoda Hotel with Steve Schroeder the host. Additional information will be added here when it is nearer the meetings. The date has been set for June 12-16, 2011.