

PE

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

CG

**IN CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT
RIVER CITY SECTION**



WINTER 2023 NEWSLETTER

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PECG Updates

General Salary Increase

As reported in previous [Weekly Updates](#), the State has issued multiple pay letters to provide the 2.5% General Salary Increase (GSI) to all Unit 9 members – rank and file employees and supervisors and managers – effective July 1, 2022, and to implement the many new and improved pay differentials that are part of PECG’s 2022-25 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

The vast majority of PECG members report having received the GSI and the related back pay. Unfortunately, we continue to hear from members that have yet to receive the differential increases and the associated back pay.

If you have yet to receive your GSI, a differential increase, or the back pay associated with them – please notify your Personnel Specialist immediately. Please also share your circumstance with PECG by emailing us at pecg@pecg.org. We continue to follow up with departments to urge that they take the necessary steps to ensure that Unit 9 employees receive the pay increases they are due as soon as is possible.



Member Appreciation - Santa Rosa Regional Water Board Office and Energy Commission



What's Been Happening

43rd Annual Sacramento County Academic Decathlon

The 43rd Annual Sacramento County Academic Decathlon was held earlier this month, with over 200 students from 15 high schools competing in 10 different events. PEGC River City Members Payman Alemi (left), Brandon Roosenboom (middle), and Jacques Lord (right) spent their Saturday volunteering as judges for the interview and speech events. Although Brandon is a seasoned judge, this was Jacques and Payman's first time participating. Both were impressed by the high schoolers' interview skills and are looking forward to serving as judges again next year.

As always, please reach out your River City Section Officers if you have a philanthropic cause to support and stay tuned for future opportunities to volunteer with colleagues!



Water Resources – Transitional Kindergarten

PEGC Member Marilyn Petruescu recently visited the transitional kindergarten (TK) class at Saint John Vianney School in Rancho Cordova. Marilyn visited during a week when the school recognized various vocations and shared the importance of keeping water resources clean and useable with the students. The presentation included a demonstration with water bottles filled with clean water and old cooking oil. The children were able to shake them up, watch the oil separate, and make observations about something “yucky” in the water. Next, they read a book titled “What Does It Mean to Be Green?” by Rana DiOrio which gave age-appropriate explanations and suggestions for conserving resources (i.e. color on both sides of a paper). Finally, the children enjoyed the last “experiment” of colored water being drawn up into celery stalks. The colored water represented water with various “yucky” components (and favorite colors) and the celery represented clean happy plants. The children predicted what the celery might do if it drank this water and then they were presented with celery that had been left for 24 hours. They learned that the quality of water that plants and people are exposed to can effect health and it's a good idea to keep it clean! At the end of the activity, the children were given PEGC notepads and pens which they used to document their understanding of the experiment and draw their own flowers and plants enduring various kinds of



water. The two classroom teachers were presented with PECG tumblers to remember our outreach. Classroom visits are a fun way to share the role of engineers in state service.

Member Spotlight

Jacques Lord has been an Engineering Geologist with the Water Board Office of Enforcement since 2017. He is an investigator with the Fraud Waste and Abuse Prevention Unit and uses his skills as a former professional magician, as well as his 30+ years of private sector environmental consulting and construction management experience to ferret out the deceivers and cheats in Water Board grant and reimbursement programs. “Takes one to know one,” according to Jacques. Jacques commutes from West Sacramento to his office downtown by bicycle and enjoys participating in a 525-mile bike ride from SF to LA, fund-raising for the Arthritis Foundation. He appreciates Caltrans PECG-member work especially on Highway 1 very much!



River City with the Sacramento Kings

The PECG Fort Sutter Section will be joining the PECG River City Section at the Sacramento Kings vs Utah Jazz game on March 25. Your River City Officers are currently coordinating with our Sacramento Kings’ contact on special group attraction at the game. Ticket sales have recently ended for members. Ticket holders stay tuned for more event information!!



PE and PG Stamps

The path towards professional licensing requires several years of qualifying experience and critical steps involving multiple agencies. The process is regularly updated which compounds the level of complexity. The Learning Resources Committee aims to help by providing simplified charts, connecting members together, and provide incentives for obtaining your License. Visit our [Learning Resources Committee](#) page to find resources on how to apply, network with fellow test-takers via our Google Sheet, and take advantage of our Stamp Reimbursement Program.



The River City Section is now covering the cost of your professional stamp. You can find more information on our website or by contacting Lang Khang at Lang.Khang@waterboards.ca.gov