

2008-2009 Calendar

Board of Directors

Meets second Wednesday of every other month (January, March, May, July, September, November). The meeting is a sandwich and soda working lunch hosted by a Director.

Mentor Team Leaders

There is a half-day workshop twice a year for all team leaders and team coordinators. The next meeting will be Saturday morning, August 2, 2008 in the offices of John A Martin & Associates Consulting Engineers, Los Angeles.

All-Schools Day

Teams gather on a Saturday morning to design and build simple structures in a timed and tested competition. Structural materials have included pasta, popsicle sticks, paper and glue. Loads applied have been both lateral (a seismic shaking table) and vertical (lead weights and bricks). Food and prizes for all.

Trades Day

Last March, student teams visited apprenticeship training schools in Whittier and Santa Ana, California operated by the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners. One hundred students working in teams of ten students each performed actual framing work for a small building, under the guidance of carpenter journeymen instructors. They enjoyed lunch as guests of The Carpenters. Parents, teachers and mentors are welcome.

In fall 2008, a Saturday visit to the Electrical Training Institute is planned. This school is operated jointly by the National Electrical Contractors Association and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

Student Design Project

During the academic year ending in May 2008, the "ACE High School Revitalization Authority" invited each team to identify a substandard condition or new need on its own school campus, and to propose a solution. The designs were for either new buildings and for adaptive re-uses of existing facilities. They fit to scale on the existing school site.

Solutions were presented at the Awards Reception for our Riverside County school on April 24 in Palm Desert, and at the Sixth Annual Awards Banquet on June 9 in Los Angeles. The project for 2008-9 will be announced in November.

Annual Award Ceremonies

These events cap our work at the end of each academic year. Students display their design projects and we award scholarships for post-high school study in the design and construction professions, and in the skilled building trades. In recent years, there has been an evening reception for our Riverside County teams, on the Palm Desert campus of California State University San Bernardino. Los Angeles and Orange County teams have celebrated at a banquet in the Los Angeles Convention Center.

Dates and locations for spring 2009 will be announced as soon as they are set.