



**California/Nevada Section
Bimonthly Update
July 1, 2008
Fifteenth Edition**

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* **Annual International Meeting, Providence, RI, Recap**

At the AIM in Providence, Rhode Island is going well. At this point, over 1,500 registrants have participated. Monday morning, Keynote Speaker, Patrick Hanlon spoke on topics covered in his book *Primal Branding*. He noted that every successful brand has a creation story, a creed, icons, rituals, sacred words, non-believers, and a leader. Can you identify each of those elements in ASABE or ASABE CA/NV? Today, ASABE President Donald C. Erbach and President-Elect James Dooley will preside over the society's update and business meeting. There were a number of student focused events including the Fountain Wars highlighted by a pedal tractor race between ASABE Technical Services Support Engineer Travis Tsunemori, ASABE Director of Membership Mark Crossley, Jonathan "Chuck" Roth of IPC, and ASABE Fellow Mary Leigh Wolfe that raised money for the Young Professionals Community's (YPC) All in Good Fun Fundraiser. Also held this morning was the new Robotics Competition that challenges students to develop a small timber harvesting system. Winners will be announced soon! The top three entrants of the ASABE^100 High School Multimedia Competition gave their presentations Monday morning including entrant Shruti Shrivastav of Fremont, California who will learn her placing tomorrow. Good job, Shruti! Next year's meeting will be in out section in Reno, Nevada. Let's start planning so we can really show ASABE a good time!

* **2008 AE50 Product Highlight**

CTM out of Madera, CA, was recognized for their CTM Star No-Turn-Design (NTD) Tomato Harvester that gathers, separates, shakes, cleans, and sorts processing tomatoes. For more information, check out the June 2008 issue of Resource Magazine or contact CTM at 559-577-1800 or info@tomatoharvester.com. Congratulations to CTM!

* **Veterans Month Highlight (July) - ASAE Fellow Jimmy Butt**

In honor of Veterans Month, we honor Jimmy Butt, 1965 ASAE Fellow, for his service to our country and our profession.

When ASAE Fellow Jimmy Butt graduated from Auburn University in February of 1943, the United States was in the midst of World War II. Being an ROTC member, he was inducted and sent to Officer Candidate School (OCS) to prepare to serve in the war. He was assigned in Field Artillery to the 63rd Infantry Division that went to Europe in Christmas of 1944 where they breached the famous Siegfried Line and "rat raced" into Germany down toward Austria. When the atom bomb dropped and the war ended, he transferred into U.S. Military Government to help re-build the German government and then returned to Auburn University to pursue his Masters Degree. After graduation, Jimmy worked as a research engineer for the Agricultural Engineering Department at Auburn University for ten years. In 1956, he was chosen as the Executive Vice President of ASAE in St. Joseph, Michigan, the position that he retired from after thirty years. Along the way he was honored to serve as the President of ASAE (now ASABE, President of the National Council of Engineering and Scientific Society

Executives, President of both the Auburn and St. Joseph Lions Clubs, and he received Auburn's outstanding Alumni Award from the College of Engineering in 1968. If you would like to contact Jimmy, he can be e-mailed at jimmybutt@webtv.net.

*** Butte College and the Butte County Fires – by Bruce Enyeart**

During the recent Butte County fires, Butte College's Heavy Equipment Operation program, in coordination with facilities management, maintains firebreaks around the campus. It primarily involves bulldozing a path around the campus perimeters. The campus was not in too much danger. The two staging areas in Butte County were the Silver Dollar Fairgrounds in Chico, and Butte College where 1,300 firefighters and emergency vehicles (including bulldozers, transports, mobile kitchens, fuel depots, and fire trucks) were staged. In anticipation of the fire danger and the need to clear the space for staging, the campus was closed on the morning of Day 2, Thursday.

Our busy project schedule precluded student involvement, so Ag/Heavy Equipment support technician, Salen Lor, was a great help. On Day 2 of the Humboldt Fire, as 30-40mph winds whipped the fire toward campus from the northwest origin very near Chico, we were asked to widen the breaks at some critical points. Salen kindly dressed the breaks around our solar panel installations, water wells, and outlying structures and they worked as designed, preventing the fires from reaching the buildings and campus proper. They also enabled the firefighters to backfire some areas to remove fuels ahead of the fast-moving flames.

By Day 8 (Wednesday, June 18), staff and students were informed that work and classes on the main campus resumed (while classes at our remote sites were unaffected). A few emergency vehicles and personnel were still on-site.

Neither structures nor facilities were damaged by the fires but, tragically, our beautiful oak and gray pine woodlands and grasslands suffered heavily. I hope that some of the oaks survive on our primarily wild 928 acre campus. Also, though many of the staff were displaced by evacuations, only a few of their homes were lost and there were no fatalities. We realize the extraordinary efforts of the fire teams that pitched in from California, Oregon, and Nevada. We (the Ag & Heavy Equipment staff) are happy to have made any contribution we could to the successful outcome.

*** ¼ Scale Tractor Results**

Cal Poly SLO and Modesto Junior College entered machines into this 11th Anniversary competition. Both teams did quite well among 27 schools, as the following rankings suggest. Look forward to seeing their reports at the February CA/NV Section Meeting in Tulare.

Overall:	Cal Poly	13 th	Modesto	17 th
Written Design:	Modesto	15 th	Cal Poly	17 th
Team Presentation:	Cal Poly	1 st	Modesto	17 th
Tractor Pull:	Cal Poly	12 th	Modesto	22 nd

For more info about the teams, check out <http://www.quarterscale.calpoly.edu> and <http://virtual.yosemite.cc.ca.us/agens/clubs/AgMech/scale.htm>.

*** Ag Engineering Exam Review**

Help is available for candidates preparing to sit for the Ag PE exam. A web-based Ag PE Exam Review will be held May-September to prepare examinees for the annual October exam. Registration is now open at <http://www.bae.ncsu.edu/www3/pe/index.htm>. If you have any webinar questions, contact Rod Huffman at rod_huffman@ncsu.edu. Examination application information for California is at <http://www.dca.ca.gov/pels/> and for Nevada is at <http://boe.state.nv.us/>.

- Bimonthly Update contributors: Carolyn M. Jones, Victor Duraj, Traeger Cotten, Bruce Enyeart, and Rod Huffman.
- For previous editions of the Update, please visit www.asabecanv.org.
- If you have questions or comments, feel free to contact Carolyn at 707-252-4189x114 or carolyn.jones@ca.usda.gov.
- If you have ideas for Update items or would like to get involved in the leadership group, let us know.