



# Inland Empire Section

## Section Report-June 2017

### Section Officers

#### 2016-2017

Aaron Brady  
*Director*

Ruben Reza  
*President*

Omar Perez  
*President-Elect*

Denise Craig  
*VP Supervisory*

Joya Gilster-Nava  
*VP Rank & File*

Keith Elliott  
*VP at Large*

Sylvia Rivas  
*Secretary*

Tariq Jouzi  
*Treasurer*

### Inside this issue:

Science & Engineering Fairs 1-5

"Engaging Girls in Stem" 6-7

Innovation Day 8-9

Employee Appreciation Day 10

Upcoming Events 11

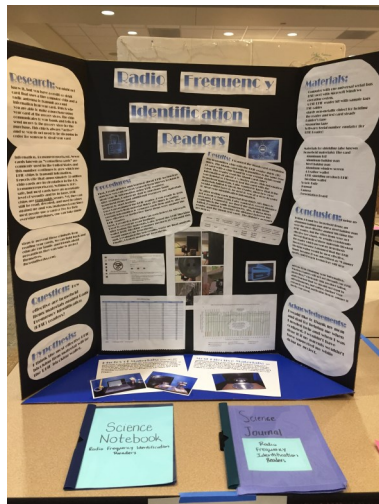
IE Twitter Page 12

This is the first year that both San Bernardino Inyo Mono Science Fair (SIM) and Riverside County Science Fairs are completely separate. The Riverside County Science was held first, on March 28th and the SIM was held a week later on April 4th. Also, because of this, the Awards Ceremonies were held a week apart. Fortunately, we were able to gather over 30 members to serve as Judges, who did a fantastic job at evaluating close to 900 Science and Engineering projects from four different Counties-Riverside, San Bernardino, Inyo and Mono. A big "thank you" to Past President Reyna Baeza-Oregel for organizing our efforts for both Science Fairs.



# Riverside County Science & Engineering Fair

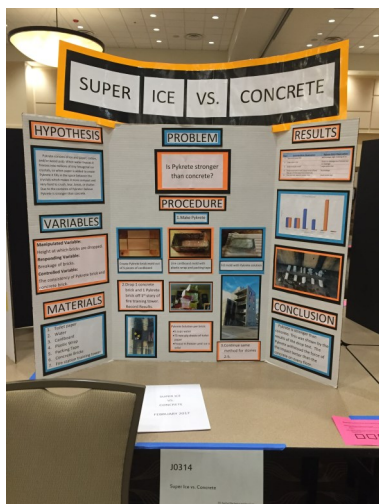
## (Held at the Riverside Convention Center)



**Left:** The Elementary Division Winner- "RFID Reader" by Aiden Alvarez



**Above:** Aiden Alvarez (Elementary), Mackai Anderstrom (Junior) and Sadaf Kadir (Senior, for her project titled "The Effect of Urban Runoff on the Salinity and Water Quality of Lake Elsinore")

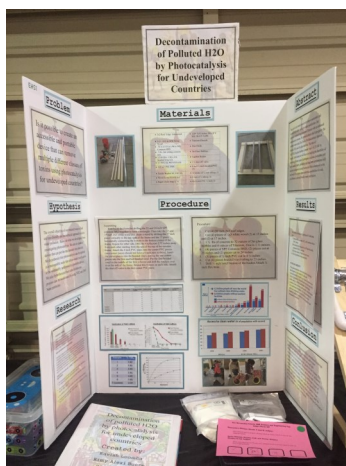
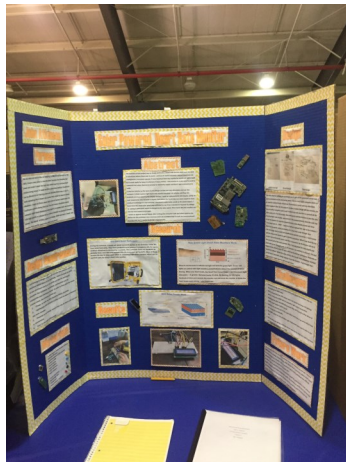
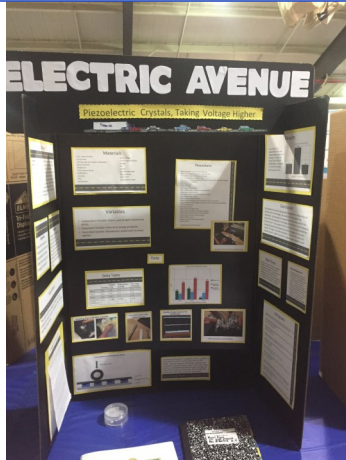


**Left:** The Junior Division Winner- "Super Ice vs Concrete" by Mackai Anderstrom





# SIMS Science & Engineering Fair (Held at the California Speedway)



**Left and Below:** Mason Rogers (Elementary-Piezo Electric Crystals), John Atkinson (Junior-Solar Powered Heart Rate Monitor) and Kavish Loomba, Kimy Alexi Buere & Sierra Franco (Senior, for their project titled “Decontamination of Polluted H2O by Photocatalysis for Underdeveloped Countries”)



# Awards Ceremony

The Ceremonies were held at two locations, one in San Bernardino and one in Riverside, to accommodate all four Counties.



The SIMS Award Ceremony was held at the National Orange Show on April 5th



San Bernardino County Superintendent Ted Alejandre poses with PECG members Roy Flores, Chelsea Merrill from PECG Staff, Aaron Brady & Ferdinand de la Cruz



The Riverside County Award Ceremony was held at the Riverside Convention Center on March 29th



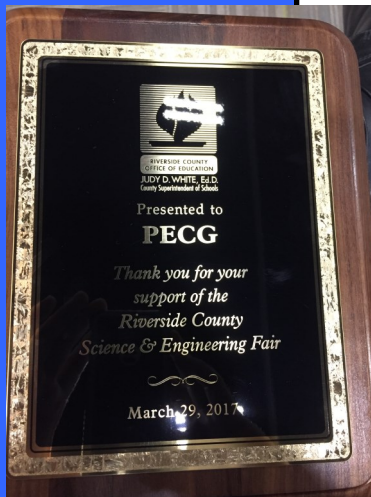
Chelsea Merrill from PECG Staff, talks about PECG's commitment to the Science Fairs statewide and also gave information on PREP & STEM



## Awards Ceremony

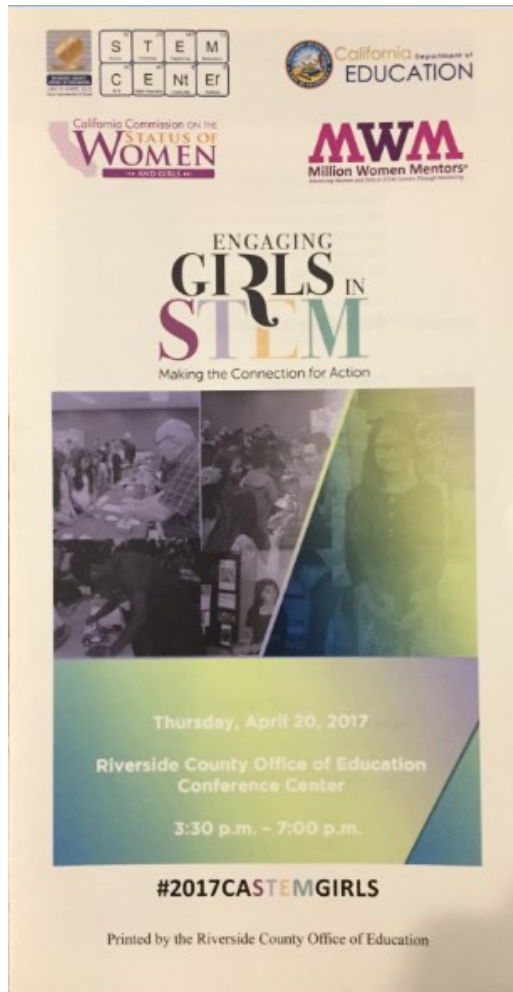


**Above:** Ted Alejandre, San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, presented the IE Section a plaque to thank us and recognize PECG's contribution to the annual Science and Engineering Fairs



**Above:** Judy D. White, Riverside County Superintendent of Schools, presents their plaque to IE Section members Ferdinand de la Cruz, Jane Pham, Joya Gilster-Nava, Aaron Brady and Keith Elliott

# "Engaging Girls in STEM" Conference



Reyna hosted our booth, handing out various PREP items.



On April 20th, we attended the "Engaging Girls in Stem" Conference hosted by our Science Fair partners, Riverside County of Education. We set up a table to hand out PREP newsletters and brochures and PECG pens and lanyards. The PECG DVD's and our new pop up banner were also on display. We were very well received with many educators interested in our PREP foundation.





# "Engaging Girls in STEM" Conference

## Panelists



**Kenneth Wesson,**  
Educational Consultant,  
Neuroscience



**Alisha Wilkins,**  
Commissioner Representative,  
California Commission on the Status  
of Women and Girls



**Sharon Walker,**  
Interim Dean,  
Bourne College of Engineering,  
MWM-CA Representative



**Lea Deesing,**  
Chief Innovation Officer,  
City of Riverside



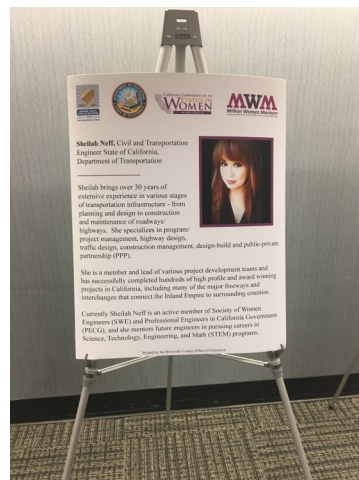
**Sheilah Neff,**  
Transportation/Civil Engineer and  
Highway Design Engineer,  
State of CA, Department of  
Transportation (Caltrans)



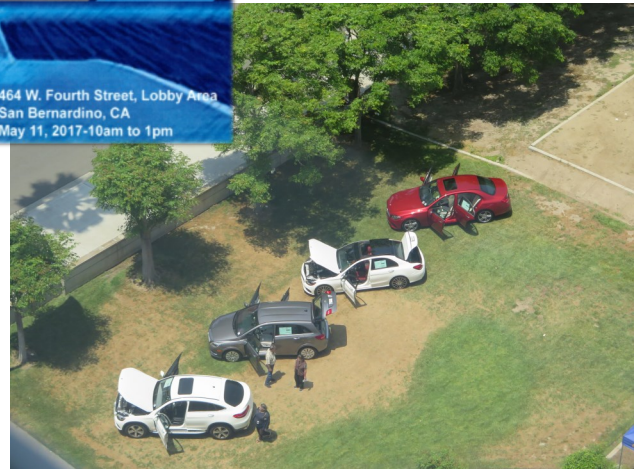
**Lyzandra Ortega,**  
Sixth Grade Student,  
Val Verde Elementary,  
Val Verde USD



Also, part of this Conference was a Panel Discussion with the women on the left and was hosted by Kenneth Wesson. They spoke for close to an hour, which included a question and answer period. Sheila Neff, a Civil Transportation Engineer in our District, represented our Section and did such a good job that she was invited to give the Keynote address at a local college!



# Caltrans District 8 Innovation Day



On May 11th, our Section participated in District 8's first "**Innovation Fair**" here in the District Office in San Bernardino. There were close to fifty vendors including Microsoft, BMW, Mercedes Benz, 3M, US DOT, CHP, Stihl, local colleges and governments and Consultants. We set up a booth which gave us a chance to further promote PECG as we handed out PREP information and showed the "California Bridge Building Contest" and our Science Fair videos.



# Caltrans District 8 Innovation Day





# Caltrans District 8 Employee Appreciation Day May 17th, 2017



Above: D8 Employees showing "Innov8ion" with our group picture

We also participated in the District's **Employee Appreciation Day** on Thursday May 17th. Joya Gilster-Nava and Juan Carlos Alvarez were at our booth, handing out over 500 drinks.



# Upcoming Events



Inland Empire Section

## **Inland Empire Section Meeting** **May 2017**

### **Guest Speaker:**

### **Matt Austin**

Matt Austin is the PECG Staff Director of Representation. He will discuss SBI, MOU, Retirement and any other PECG related issues or questions.



### **When:**

Wednesday  
May 31, 2017

### **Time:**

11:30 AM

### **Where:**

Norman Feldheym  
Public Library  
555 W. 6th Street  
San Bernardino

**Lunch will be  
provided**

**FREE Panera Sandwich (Your choice of Turkey, Ham & Cheese or Vegetarian)**  
**Provided for MEMBERS with a Meal Ticket ONLY (One per Member)!**

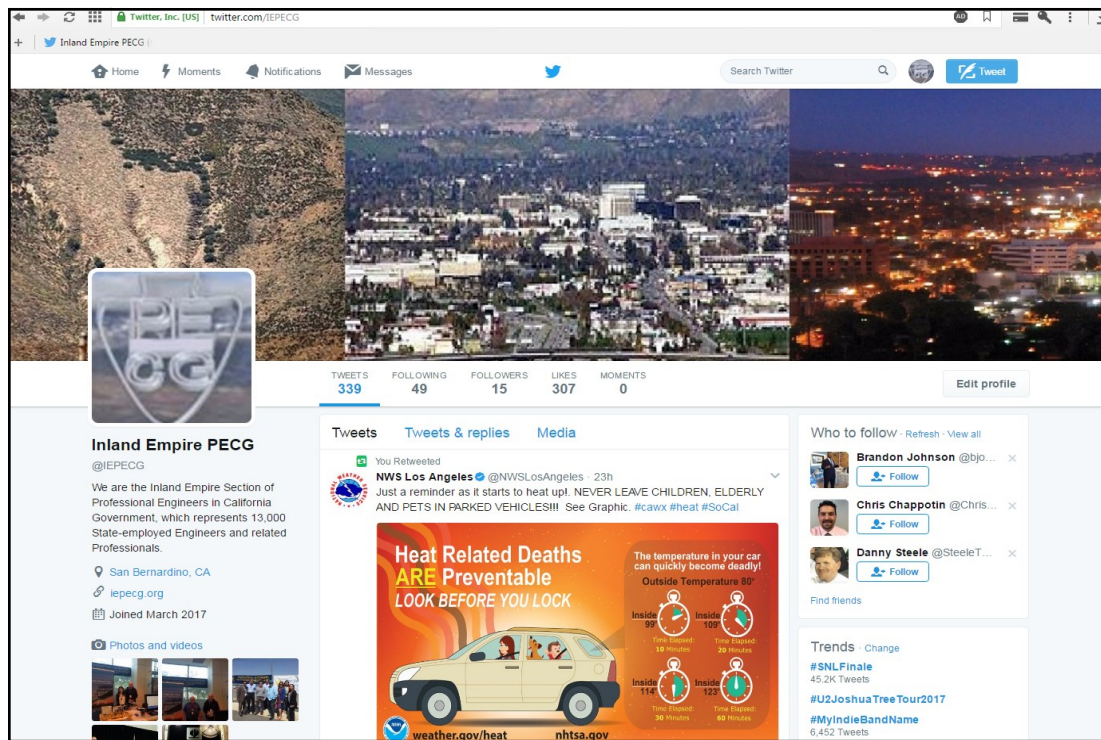


### **Obtain a Meal Ticket by May 26th from:**

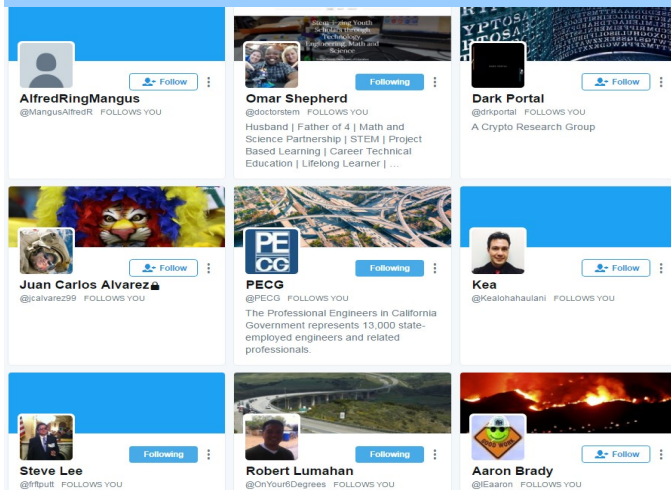
Denise Craig	12th floor	(909) 383-4068
Aaron Brady	11th floor	(909) 388-7304
Joya Gilster-Nava	10th floor	(909) 383-1027
Reyna Baeza	8th floor	(909) 383-4307
Jane Pham	7th floor	(909) 806-3961
Omar Perez	TMC/SRL	(909) 356-3729
Keith Elliot	Riverside	(951) 782-4925

# IE PECG Twitter

After the March Quarterly Meeting, we decided to start an IE Section Twitter page. Our Section Director, Aaron Brady, got our page up and running quickly and below is how it looks today. We will soon be over 400 tweets which is not bad for just a couple of months! We also try to keep our page current, usually updating the page daily.



## Some of Our Followers



## People & Organizations we follow

