

# The Nebraska

# Civil

# Engineer



Official Publication of the Nebraska Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers

## ANNUAL MEETING & BANQUET

LOCATION: CHAMPIONS CLUB, 13800 EAGLE RUN DRIVE, OMAHA

DATE: Thursday, May 19th

TIMES:	COCKTAILS	5:30-6:30 pm
	DINNER	6:30-7:30 pm
	PROGRAM	7:45-8:30 pm

MENU: Chicken Marsala, New York Strip, Grilled Salmon, or Chicken Alfredo  
Dessert will be Tiramisu *\*Free Drink Ticket\**

PRICE: \$10.00 per Person. Spouses and Guests Welcome

DIRECTIONS: Located a few blocks south of 138th and Maple St.

**RSVP to [vp@neasce.org](mailto:vp@neasce.org) by Monday May 16th**

Subject Line: ASCE RSVP

Or to Crystal at 402.496.2498

Please indicate names and meal choice in *RSVP*

The Nebraska Civil Engineer  
May 1 2005

### White List NE-ASCE

To ensure up to date information for NE-ASCE meetings and events make sure to add us to your company's e-mail white list

### Highlights of this Issue:

- Leadership Conference Awards
- Senate Begins Debate of Transportation Bills
- ASCE Award Nominations

# From the President

- Loras A Klostermann, P.E.



Loras Klostermann, P.E.  
NE-ASCE President

As my term as your President comes to an end, I wish to comment on the activities of the past year. The Nebraska Section has had some great successes this past year. Events occurred that have changed the way we think of the world.

The Transportation Committee coordinated the first annual transportation conference this past month. This conference can only be called a "great success". The 125 engineers and planners attending this event were provided an exceptional program. Congratulations to **Dave Ayala** for assembling the planning committee and to the transportation committee for providing such a good program. A special thanks is also due to **Suzanne Johnson**, administrative assistant at HWS, for all of her assistance in conference setup, paperwork, and coordination. The transportation conference follows in the successful footsteps of the structural and geotechnical conferences also sponsored by ASCE Nebraska Section.

National elections were held on November 2, 2004. ASCE thanks every member that participated in this important process.

**Kirby Woods** led the Future City competition to another successful program. Our area junior high school teams came up with some very interesting city concepts again this year. However, after coordinating this program for numerous years, Kirby is stepping down. ASCE needs another individual to step forward and take the reins. I am sure there is one or a couple of our members out there that are able to coordinate this program.

**Bruce Harris** initiated the Balsa-Wood Truss contest in the Omaha area about 17 years ago. Since that time, this contest has become a fixture within the community and within the high schools that regularly send contestants. Sadly, Bruce is also stepping down. ASCE also needs an individual to step forward to provide continued leadership of this program. I would think a structural engineer would be preferred, but any ASCE member would be able to coordinate this program. Bruce will be available to assist the new coordinator during the first year. I truly believe our members are generous and will find the time to fill these vacated seats.

I also challenge our members to become more involved within the section. Due to apparent lack of interest from others, some of our board members now hold two positions on the board. Contact one of the Section officers to provide help on your Section board. Time commitments are generally minimal but the time provided is rewarding.

Wars in Afghanistan and Iraq continue without any end in site. Our troops and the citizens of these countries continue to suffer and be killed. All of us know of someone who has been called to serve. Our thoughts and prayers continue to go out to our friends and neighbors.

After a lengthy period of failing health, Pope John Paul II passed away. Over the past 26 years he provided leadership to a worldwide church. We all hope his successor will have the same level of insight and diplomacy.

Nature once again showed how powerless the human masses can be in its wake. A massive tsunami caused catastrophic destruction on coastal areas around the Indian Ocean in December. A tremendous loss of life, unheard of in the modern age, occurred as whole coastal areas were swept out to sea. We hope that engineers and governments of the affected countries may soon work together to provide early warning of future tsunamis.

ASCE and the Nebraska Section have been experiencing reduced memberships. It appears that fewer younger members are participating and more older members are leaving. I encourage all young

*continued on page 3*

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engineers to become active in the Society, especially at the local level. I also encourage all older members to continue to remain active. We need all the help we can get. Current members and employers are called upon to sponsor and encourage the participation of all Civil Engineers, whether older, younger, or middle aged. Only with this encouragement can the Society remain strong and continue to provide education assistance for area schools, colleges, and continuing education to our fellow engineers.

The new slate of officers will again be elected at the Annual Meeting. The official nomination committee of the Nebraska Section of ASCE has placed the following slate of officers before you: **Tom Marnik** for President-Elect, **Ed Prost** for Vice President, and for Directors we have **Ryan Paradis** and **Mike Naccarato**. Plan to attend the Annual Meeting and exercise your right to vote.

I finally wish to thank all of the board members, committee members, and active members of the Section that have made this past year a success. Your assistance was greatly appreciated.

Loras A. Klostermann, P.E.  
ASCE Nebraska Section President

## National Employer Recognition Awards. Nominate Your Company

The Committee on Younger Members (CYM) is seeking nominations for the 2005 Employer Recognition Award. The award is to recognize those employers who encourage ASCE membership, allow time off for professional development, support and encourage professional and technical growth, encourage young engineers to prepare articles for publication, and/or assist in the payment of dues. Several companies will be recognized for their support of YMs; in addition, one company will be singled out for the Superior Employer Recognition Award. Last year, **Lamp Rynearson and Associates** was selected for this honor.

The national submission deadline is August 1, 2005, but nominations must be submitted through the Nebraska Section, so please send them (no email since you have to sign the form) to **Marie Maly** by **July 15, 2005!** Please consider nominating your employer - we would love the opportunity to recognize employer support for ASCE in Nebraska.

Nomination forms are available on the Nebraska ASCE website [www.neasce.org](http://www.neasce.org) in the younger members section.

# NE-ASCE News

## Officer Election Thursday, May 19th

The Bylaws of the Nebraska Section provide for the selection and election of the Officers of the Section.

The Bylaws state that the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee of not less than three members at least sixty (60) days prior to the Annual Meeting.

The Nominating Committee was comprised of the President, **Loras Klostermann**; President Elect, **Steve Kathol**; and Past President, **Mark Stark**

The Bylaws further state that the Nominating Committee shall choose one or more candidates for election to the offices of President-Elect, Vice-President, and each of two Directors prescribed by the Constitution and obtain the consent of the Nominees to serve it elected. In addition, candidates may be nominated by written petition containing ten signatures of subscribing members.

The Election of Officers will be held at the Annual Meeting, Thursday, May 19th. The Nominee receiving the highest number of votes cast for each office will be elected. All subscribing members of Nebraska Section of ASCE present at the Annual Meeting shall be allowed to vote.

The President Elect, **Steve Kathol**; shall succeed to the Office of President at the close of the Annual Meeting.

The slate of Officers selected by the Nominating Committee for your approval are:

For President-Elect	<b>Tom Marnik</b>
For Vice President	<b>Ed Prost</b>
For Directors	<b>Ryan Paradis and Mike Naccarato</b>



Keep your membership  
records up-to-date:

Members remember to update your mailing address, phone number or e-mail address by going to [www.asce.org/myprofile](http://www.asce.org/myprofile) or by calling 1-800-548-ASCE (2723) or 703-295-6300.

## Senate Begins Debate of Transportation Bill

The Senate has begun debate on transportation reauthorization legislation, after a 94-6 cloture vote to proceed to consideration of the bill.

The Senate voted 51-49 to table an amendment offered by Sen. Christopher Bond (R-MO), Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure, that would remove a requirement that states spend at least 2 percent of highway funds on stormwater mitigation programs. Bond argued that states are already free to spend Surface Transportation Program funds on stormwater mitigation and the requirement reduces the flexibility of the program. The vote effectively kills the amendment and leaves the 2 percent requirement in the bill.

The most anticipated amendment, one by Sens. Charles Grassley (R-IA) and Max Baucus (D-MT), Chairman and Ranking member of the Finance Committee, respectively, to increase the funding amount for the highway and transit programs, will not be offered until the week of May 9. The amendment is expected to increase the total funding level somewhere between \$8 billion and \$16 billion. Grassley and Baucus have made it clear that any increase in funding would be paid for by savings in other areas and therefore deficit neutral.

ASCE strongly encourages members to contact their Senators in support of the Grassley/Baucus effort to increase the funding level. More information, including a sample message to send to your Senators, is available on the "Six Clicks" Advocacy Website at [www.asce.org/advocacy.html](http://www.asce.org/advocacy.html).

The Bush Administration issued a Statement of Administration Policy (SAP) reiterating its opposition to a funding level of more than \$283.9 billion, the amount approved by the House of Representatives in March.

## ASCE Citizen Engineer Awards

The ASCE Citizen Engineer Awards were re-established by the American Society of Civil Engineers on July 1, 2000, and are awarded to civil engineers based on their contributions to their communities through public involvement, public awareness, or public service. Awards will be given separately in each of the four ASCE Zones; they may also be given to civil engineers residing outside of the United States.

The purpose of these awards is to recognize individuals who are known by the community as civil engineers. The awards recognize civil engineers who have volunteered their time to help others in their community, have influenced local policy or legislative affairs, or have improved the image of civil engineers. These individuals will have contributed significant personal energy to enhance the recognition of civil engineering as a respected profession through their involvement and have improved the image of ASCE and civil engineering in their community through public relations and media coverage.

Nominations are due October 1, 2005. Additional information and nomination forms are on the Nebraska ASCE website: [www.neasce.org](http://www.neasce.org).

## ASCE Public Service Awards

The ASCE Public Service Awards were re-established by the American Society of Civil Engineers on July 1, 2000, and are awarded to organized components within ASCE based on their contributions to their communities through public involvement, public awareness, or a single community service project. Awards will be given separately in each of the four ASCE Zones; they may also be given to International Sections or Groups.

The purpose of these awards is to recognize organized components within ASCE that have volunteered their time to help others in their community, have influenced local policy or legislative affairs, or have improved the image of civil engineers. These groups will have contributed significant energy to enhance the recognition of civil engineering as a respected profession through their involvement, and have improved the image of ASCE and civil engineering in their community through public relations and media coverage.

Nominations are due October 1, 2005. Additional information and nomination forms are on the Nebraska ASCE website: [www.neasce.org](http://www.neasce.org).

## Awards Presented at the 2005 Zone III Leadership Conference



### Kudos to Marie Maly

The Outstanding Web Site Award for a Small Section was bestowed upon the Nebraska Section. Peggy Meyers accepted this award for Marie.



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# NE-ASCE News

## April Meeting Hosted by the Transportation Group

Thanks to Dave Ayala for hosting the April Meeting. Christopher Poe, Ph.D., P.E. gave an excellent presentation on Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Implementation.

The names listed below can be considered official documentation of attendance at the March meeting worth 1 PDH credit.

Dave Ayala	Marie Maly
Helen Bottum	Tom Marnik
Steve Bottum	Terry McCarl
Brad Chambers	Jeff McClenathan
Kyle Duitsman	Ray Moore
Brian Jasnoch	Randy Perkingson
Libby Jones	Chris Poe
Sorin Juster	Ed Prost
Loras Klostermann	Joe Waxse
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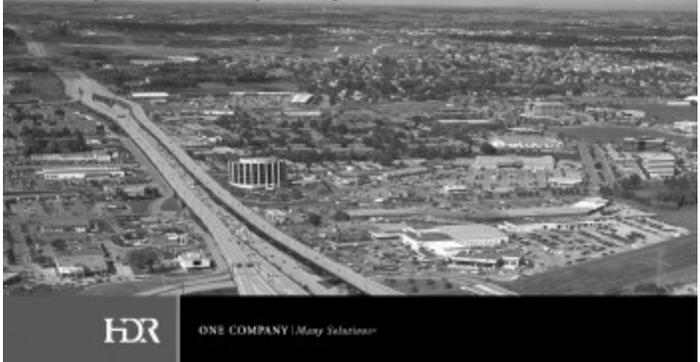
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