

The Nebraska Civil

Engineer



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

Calendar of Events:

November:

16 - Management Group Meeting, Johnny's Italian Steakhouse, Omaha

December:

NO MEETING

January:

- Water Resources co-meeting with UNL Student chapter

Highlights of this Issue:

ASCE Testifies Before Senate: Releases Preliminary Report on Levee System Failure During Hurricane Katrina

NE-ASCE Member, ASCE Annual Conference in Los Angeles

Nominations for Young Government Civil Engineer of the Year Award

Deadline for articles to be published in the January Newsletter will be Friday, January 6th. Email articles to Aaron Grote at editor@neasce.org

The Management Group Presents:

"Seven Rules For Good Management in the Engineering Profession"
Wednesday, November 16th

Featuring: Jim Linderholm,
Chairman of HWS Consulting Group

Jim will present a program on Managing Engineering Organizations. His 40 years in the profession and 20 years as CEO of HWS provide the background for his views on different management styles and cultures. In addition to his experiences with HWS, Jim served on the ACEC Peer Review Committee for eight years, and was national Chair for two years. He participated in the Peer Reviews of more than 20 engineering firms across the United States, adding to his understanding of successful organizations. Jim's program is structured to pertain to both public and private engineering organizations.

The presentation will be an informal talk with handout materials to help the audience understand presentation points.

Location: Johnny's Italian Steakhouse
305 N 170th Street, Omaha

(Village Point Shopping Center)

| | | |
|--------|----------------------|------|
| Times: | Social Hour | 5:30 |
| | Dinner/Announcements | 6:30 |
| | Presentation | 7:30 |

Menu: Chubby Cut Top Sirloin, Lasagna with Meat Sauce, Pesce Piccata

Spouses and guests welcome
\$22 price includes a meal.

RSVP by 12 PM Monday, November 14 th
TO DEB 402.330.2202 OR
VP@NEASCE.ORG SUBJECT LINE: ASCE RSVP

*Prices include tax and gratuity.
Portions of the proceeds will go towards hosting our speaker.*

From the President

- Steve Kathol, P.E., S.E.

Greetings ASCE Nebraska Section members! I hope everyone is having a wonderful fall and enjoying the great weather.

Thank you to Aaron Buettner and the Construction Group for hosting the October meeting in Lincoln. Mr. Boyd Epley, Associate Athletic Director for the University of Nebraska gave an interesting presentation on the Memorial Stadium expansion project. He described the various new exciting spaces and facilities that will help the Nebraska football program compete nationally and return to a championship level. The project will also add approximately 8,000 new seats to the north stadium. The multi-million dollar endeavor is a design-build project designed by Clark Enersen Partners and constructed by Sampson Construction. The project is scheduled for completion next year.

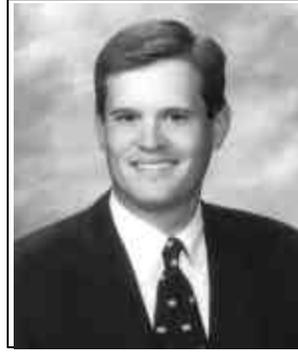
The Zone III Management Conference will be held in Houston, Texas in February 2006. This 2-day conference is packed with useful information and working sessions designed to improve various aspects of our ASCE Section. It also provides a great opportunity to network with other ASCE officers from Zone III and share ideas. Tom Marnik, President Elect, Aaron Buettner, Construction Group Technical Chair, and Marie Maly, Younger Member Chair will attend the conference.

The November meeting will be hosted by the Management Group and will be the last meeting of the calendar year. Please note the date of the meeting is **Wednesday, November 16** - not the usual Thursday meeting. Mr. Jim Linderholm, Chairman of HWS Consulting Group, will be the speaker and will present "seven rules for good management in the engineering profession". This promises to be a very insightful and interesting meeting. I hope to see you all there.

We have submitted three State Public Affairs Grant (SPAG) applications. One application is in the Large Grant category. This grant, if awarded, will cover the cost of the Section's membership in the Professional Engineers Coalition (PEC). This vital organization is dedicated to protecting public safety through legislation and raising state legislators awareness of the role engineers play in society. The money is used to pay a lobbyist to help reach this goal. The other two grants are in the Small Grant category and, if awarded, will cover costs for E-Week advertising and costs associated with the Future City Competition. I would like to thank Bill Arneson, John Hill, and Brad Chambers who spearheaded this effort and submitted the grant applications.

Finally, since this is the last newsletter of the year and there will be no December meeting, I would like to wish everyone a happy holiday season.

Steve D. Kathol, P.E., S.E.
President, ASCE- Nebraska Section



Steve Kathol, P.E., S.E.
NE-ASCE President

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Member Spotlight:

NE-ASCE Member, Aaron Grote, Attends ASCE Annual Conference

-Aaron Grote, E.I.

The last week in October, I had the opportunity to participate in the 2005 ASCE Annual Civil Engineering Conference held in Los Angeles. The conference was a three day event with a Younger Member Pre-Conference Program held on the first day.

The Younger Member Program consisted of four presenters and an open forum discussion. The presentations varied in subject matter from the increased use of technology in engineering today, to the importance of communication skills in young engineers, to keys to developing strong leadership skills for the future. The focus was on how to ensure that young engineers will be prepared for the changing role of the civil engineer in the future.

The open forum consisted of a four engineer panel who were CEO's of their respective companies. The setting allowed the panel to give their background stories and share some of their experiences with the younger crowd. The panel then took questions from the audience. This was one of the most interesting parts of the conference for myself because it really gave me an idea of the drive and ambition of these highly successful men.

The second and third days were the actual Annual Conference. The conference was broken up into different lectures and open forums that one could attend. Though Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger was invited to the Opening Plenary Session he was not able to attend. A highlight of the conference included Lt. General Robert Van Antwerp of the US Army as the keynote speaker at the visionaries luncheon. The General is the former LA District Commander in the U.S. Corps of Engineers and is presently the head of recruiting for the Army. His stories and insights on a variety of topics from the War in Iraq to continuing education for engineers was interesting and motivational.

The conference also included presentations on water and transportation projects in the LA and Southern California area. The importance on maintaining the ports and transportation to and from those ports was highlighted by local City of Los Angeles Engineers. There were also presentations on the drinking water demand in the Los Angeles area and the projects intended to meet that growing demand for drinking water. The conference was ended with one of three different tours people could go on. The tours were the Transportation Tour featuring the port, Water Tour #1 focusing on the Water Supply to Los Angeles, and the Water Tour #2 focusing on the Orange County water recycling projects.

NE-ASCE News

ASCE Testifies Before Senate; Releases Preliminary Report on Levee System Failure During Hurricane Katrina

On Nov. 2, technical assessment teams from ASCE and University of California, Berkeley jointly released the Preliminary Data Report on the Performance of the New Orleans Levee Systems in Hurricane Katrina. The report details observations made from Oct. 3-14 when the teams conducted onsite inspections and gathered data on the 17th Street Canal, London Avenue Canal and Industrial Canal levee breaches, among others in New Orleans. ASCE assessment team leader Peter G. Nicholson, Ph.D., P.E., M.ASCE, associate professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Graduate Program chair at the University of Hawaii, testified before the U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs concerning the team's observations.

Nicholson recommended preparing the New Orleans levee system for the next hurricane season. He said ASCE believes Congress should enact a National Levee Inspection and Safety Program modeled on the successful National Dam Safety Program. The levee program, he said, "should include a national inventory of levees, particularly those that protect large, heavily populated urban areas." He encouraged Congress to establish an independent advisory panel responsible for envisioning the future of the Gulf Coast and proposing ways to begin the rebuilding efforts. Nicholson addressed commonly observed issues such as: the role construction materials played in the degree of damage caused to different parts of the levee system; the frequent presence of "transitions" between different sections of the levees and the problems they caused; and how soil instabilities appear likely to have been responsible for failure of the wall systems at two of the levee breaches.

Article from www.asce.org

NOMINATIONS BEING ACCEPTED NOW FOR THE 2006 YOUNG GOVERNMENT CIVIL ENGINEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

For Demonstrated Leadership Potential in and for Significant Contributions to Public Service Engineering

This Award is presented annually to a distinguished young civil engineer employed in the public sector. The National Award Winner will receive a plaque at a session to be determined at the 2006 ASCE Annual Conference.

Other outstanding nominees may be recognized with Certificates of Commendations. Certificates of Commendation will be presented at the Younger Member Leadership Symposium at the 2006 ASCE Annual Conference.

Nominees must be a member of ASCE, age thirty-five years or less on December 31, 2005, an engineer of recognized leadership potential, employed full-time in the public sector for a minimum of five (5) years as of December 31, 2005, and presently employed in the U.S. public sector. E.I.T. certification is required of all candidates.

Engineers who have received a Zone Young Government Civil Engineer Award or a Certificate of Commendation in the past may apply for the National Award provided they meet all criteria. However, they will not be eligible to receive a Certificate of Commendation for the current award year.

Qualifications of the award nominees will be judged on the following:

- X Excellent performance that has demonstrated leadership potential in public sector civil engineering
- X Evidence of high character and professional integrity
- X Civic and humanitarian activities (community service)
- X **Outstanding contributions to ASCE**

The form can be found on the Committee on Younger Members (CYM) Awards website at http://www.asce.org/pressroom/honors/cym_awrds.cfm.

Completed nomination forms must be returned to ASCE **NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 1, 2006** in order to be eligible for the award.

Seminars Coming to the Area

In our continuing effort to enhance communications between ASCE's Sections, Branches and ASCE National, Geographic Services is pleased to advise you of the following seminars scheduled in your geographic area from November 2005 through December 2005:

November 30- December 2, 2005
Introduction to the Design & Construction of Tunnels (Geotechnical) Denver, CO

December 8-9, 2005
Financial Management for the Professional Engineer Las Vegas, NV

December 29-30, 2005
Pumping Systems Design Chicago, IL

These in-depth, practice-oriented programs are produced by ASCE's Continuing Educations Department.

Detailed descriptions of the seminars (by title) are available on ASCE's website at www.asce.org/conted/seminars.

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Kelly Jarvis, Continuing Education Registrar at kjarvis@asce.org, or Michael Cook, Manager, Geographic Services at mcook@asce.org.

Put a Spotlight on Your Favorite Project!

If you'd like to see your project in an upcoming NE-ASCE Newsletter, please send articles and pictures to: editor@neasce.org

Spotlights will be 1- 2 pages as space permits. Companies supporting the NE-ASCE Newsletter will be given precedence, but any company with ASCE members may participate.

NE-ASCE News

October Meeting Hosted by the Construction Group

Thanks to Aaron Buettner for hosting the October Meeting. Boyd Epley gave an excellent presentation on The Husker Championship Facility. The names listed below can be considered official documentation of attendances at the October meeting worth 1 PDH credit.

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Bill Arneson | Brad Levich |
| Aaron Buettner | Tom Marnik |
| Sandi (Keehn) Davison | Wayne Martin |
| Eric Dixon | Ray Moore |
| Larry Fischer | Kristi Nohavec |
| John Hill | Mike Rowe Jr. |
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We are currently updating all our advertisements for the new year. All companies should have received a letter detailing how to advertise in the ASCE Newsletter. Please contact Ben Higgins at BHiggins@ci.lincoln.ne.us with any questions. Your support is appreciated!



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