



EVENT CALENDAR:

February

12th - Geotechnical Group Meeting - Caniglia's Venice Inn - Omaha

13th - Annual Geotechnical Conference - Scott Conference Center - Omaha

19th - E-Week Banquet

21st - Truss Bustin' Competition and Engineering Displays - Qwest Center Omaha

March

Environmental Group Meeting

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS:

From The President

Civil Engineers and Public Policy - ASCE Policy Statements (Part 5)

Civil Engineers and Public Policy - ASCE Priority Issues

Civil Engineers and Public Policy - Infrastruce Stimulus Investment

Outreach Kits Available

February 2009

PRESENTING

The Geotechnical Group Presents:

"Applications for Drilled Shafts"

Thursday, February 12th

Featuring: Dan A. Brown, P.E., Ph.D. - Dan Brown and Associates, PLLC

EXPERIENCE AND EMPLOYMENT RECORD

- 1987-present: Civil Engineering Faculty, Auburn Univ. and Principal, Dan Brown and Assoc.
- 1977-86: Project and Chief Engineer, Soil Testing Engineers, Baton Rouge, LA

Dr. Dan Brown has a distinguished career of practice, research, and instruction in the field of deep foundations. He is particularly known for his expertise in design, load testing, and construction of deep foundations. He is an instructor and co-developer of the National Highway Institute courses in drilled shaft design and construction and driven pile inspection. He is currently revising the FHWA manual on the design and construction of drilled shafts, and recently completed the FHWA guide manual on construction and design of continuous flight auger piles. He is an active consultant on many large projects involving deep foundations, and known for his research work in pile group behavior and in construction and testing of deep foundations.

Location: **Caniglia's Venice Inn**
6920 Pacific Street, Omaha 68106

Times:

Social Hour	5:30
Dinner	6:30
Presentation	7:30

Menu:

Grilled Salmon Filet with Bernaise Sauce	\$23
Rib Eye (9-10 oz)	\$24
Chicken Parmesan	\$21

Spouses and guests are welcome meal prices as listed per person. Student meals FREE. RSVP by 12 PM Tuesday, February 10th to rsvp@neasce.org. Subject Line: ASCE RSVP

Deadline for articles to be published in the March newsletter will be February 24th. Email articles to Aaron Grote at editor@neasce.org

2008-2009
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From the President

- Marie Maly, P.E.



Marie Maly, P.E., President of ASCE

Is it cold enough for you? Thanks to those of you who braved the sub-zero temperatures to attend our January Section meeting. We enjoyed the opportunity to share the evening with the UNL Student Chapter and listen to Chad Smith's presentation about the Platte River. Kudos to Paul Dierking (Water Resources Technical Chair) and the UNL Chapter for planning and hosting the meeting.

Also, the Nebraska Section would like to thank Liz Roesler and the rest of the Future City volunteers (judges and mentors alike) for putting together a great outreach event on January 17. The middle school students looked like they had a great time and we wish Illawara team from Elkhorn Ridge lots of luck at the National Competition during E-Week!

As the country is transitioning to a new Presidential Administration, I'd like to bring your attention to a few items in the public policy arena. We have several articles in this newsletter to give you additional information on government relations benefits, becoming a Key Contact, ASCE's Priority Issues, and the stimulus package. Consider taking a look at LB 110, introduced in the Unicameral by Sen. Fischer, too – this bill would provide for specialty (non-profit group) license plates and change motor vehicle

registration fees to distribute some proceeds to the highway trust fund. More information can be found here: <http://www.unicam.state.ne.us/FloorDocs/Current/PDF/Intro/LB110.pdf>

ASCE released the 2009 Report Card for America's Infrastructure on January 28. Over 15 categories, the average grade was a D. The full list of grades can be found on ASCE's website and the complete report will be available this March. I hope you are aware that the Nebraska Section is working on an Infrastructure Report Card for Nebraska – if you'd like to help, please contact Scott Gilliland (structural@neasce.org). If you are interested in seeing what other states have done recently, check out Colorado's report card (<http://sections.asce.org/colorado/index.htm>) and Texas's effort (<http://texasce.org/docs/MediaRelease010508.pdf>).

(Continued Page 3)

(From The President, page 2)

February looks to be a busy month for engineers in Nebraska – we hope to see you at some (or all) of the many events scheduled. The Section meeting will be on Thursday, February 12; the annual Geo-Omaha (geotechnical) conference follows on Friday, February 13. In addition, Engineers Week activities abound! The E-Week Banquet is 2/19, the Truss Bustin' Competition and Engineering Displays will be held 2/21 (at the Qwest Center this year), and various proclamation signings and outreach events will be going on the entire week. More information is included in the newsletter and on our website (www.neasce.org).

See you soon, and let me know if there's a way the Nebraska Section can better serve you!

Civil Engineers and Public Policy - Infrastructure Stimulus Investment

Among the many proposals for assisting economic recovery is a \$700 billion investment in infrastructure. ASCE supports the use of infrastructure investments for economic recovery and is actively participating in the policy negotiations. Last December, ASCE members and staff developed "Principles for Infrastructure Stimulus Investment," a one page document offering suggested criteria for selecting the projects to be supported by a stimulus package. Use of these Principles will help target projects that will not only create jobs, but provide secondary benefits (reduced congestion, improved flow of commerce, environmental restoration). Also, ASCE supports the consideration of long term maintenance and accountability to ensure the stated goals are met. The Principles have been presented to the Presidential transition team, Congressional leaders, and other industry groups.

For more information...

Principles for Infrastructure Stimulus Investment – <http://content.asce.org/files/pdf/ASCEPrinciplesforInfrastructureInvestment-Dec2008.pdf>

To become a Key Contact to learn how/when to interact with legislators and receive *This Week in Washington* – www.asce.org/keycontacts

Send a message to Congress – <http://www.asce.org/pressroom/publicpolicy/advocacy.cfm>

Read the Government Relations blog *Our Failing Infrastructure* – <http://blogs.asce.org/govrel/>

January Meeting Hosted by the Water Resources Group

Thanks to Paul Dierking for planning the January Meeting. The list below can be considered official documentation of attendances at the November meeting worth 1 PDH credit.

Bob Meinzer
Randy Graham
Denis Gilbert
Paul Dierking
Sarah Schroeder
Larine Camette
Damon Birkley
Travis Figard
Brad Levich

Marie Maly
Pat Engelbert
Andres Torres
Michael Henry
John Cambridge
Daryoush Ruzavian
Mike Sklenar
Aaron Buettner
Carter Hubbard

Civil Engineers and Public Policy – ASCE Priority Issues

Each year, ASCE surveys their membership and takes a look at conditions in general to develop priority issues.

The 2009 Federal Priority Issues are:

- Clean Water, Drinking Water, & Wastewater issues
- Math & Science Education
- Natural Hazards Mitigation & Infrastructure Security
- Qualifications Based Selection for Engineering Services
- Sustainable Development & Sustainable Energy Use
- Transportation Infrastructure

The 2009 State Priority Issues are:

- Licensing
- Math & Science Education (K-12)
- Qualifications Based Selection for Engineering Services
- Smart Growth
- Transportation & Infrastructure Issues

For more information on each issue, including references to specific legislation and ASCE policy statements, see: <http://content.asce.org/gr/>

January ASCE Water Resource Technical Group Meeting Recap

Over 50 people attended a dinner meeting co-hosted by the Nebraska Section's Water Resources Technical Group and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's ASCE Student Chapter on January 15, 2009. A great mixture of professionals, guests, and students braved the cold on a frigid January evening for the opportunity to network and learn about the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program. Chad Smith, Director of Natural Resources for Headwaters Corporation, discussed the efforts he is leading to implement the Program's Adaptive Management Plan, a systematic process to test hypotheses and apply the information learned to improve management decisions related to river restoration activities. The meeting was held at Othmer Hall on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus. Thanks to all who attended!



Civil Engineers and Public Policy – ASCE Policy Statements (Part 5)

A policy statement is a broad overview of policy on a topic of continuing concern to the civil engineering profession. ASCE has 165 policy statements on a variety of topics. For more information and the full text of ASCE's policy statements, see: <https://www.asce.org/pressroom/news/policy.cfm>.

Research

PS 471: Aviation Infrastructure Research
PS 319: Building and Fire Research and the National Institutes and Standards and Technology
PS 456: Incentives for Implementing Construction Innovations
PS 313: Infrastructure Research and Innovations
PS 336: National Science Foundation
PS 455: Research and Development Tax Credits
PS 187: Research in Civil Engineering
PS 444: The Role of the Federal Government in Civil Engineering Research and Development

Energy

PS 442: The Advanced Hydro Turbine
PS 484: Electricity Generation and Transmission Infrastructure
PS 144: Energy Policy
PS 379: Hydropower
PS 490: Nuclear Power
PS 489: Research for Clean Energy

Public Involvement

PS 101: Appointment of Engineers to Policy Positions in Government
PS 139: Public Involvement in the Decision Making Process
PS 460: The Role of Non-Profit Educational Organizations in the Public Sector

Quality / Standards

PS 365: International Codes and Standards
PS 525: Model Building Codes
PS 431: Quality Management Systems Standards

Save the Date - 139th Annual ASCE Conference

What professional activities have you scheduled for October of this year? The Kansas City Section will be hosting the 139th Annual ASCE Conference this year on October 29 – 31, 2009. Please mark your calendars to attend. If you've considered attending an Annual Conference in the past, but were concerned about the time and cost for travel, this will be your opportunity.

For more information, see <http://content.asce.org/conferences/annual2009/index.html>

Engineering 101: Outreach Kits Available

Outreach kits are available for your use. See www.neasce.org for more information (including flyers for engineers and teachers/ troop leaders) and email outreach@neasce.org if you can volunteer your time to a teacher requesting a kit or would like to check one out for a group of youngsters you already know.

Help Guide the Future of Our Nation's Infrastructure - Renew Today!

Have you renewed your 2009 ASCE membership? ASCE dues were due on Dec. 31, 2008, which means if you haven't renewed, you run the risk of losing your valuable ASCE benefits, such as membership in the Nebraska Section. Plus, 2009 has the potential to be a significant year for ASCE and civil engineers. As we welcome a new President who has promised to place infrastructure renewal at the forefront of domestic issues, the Obama administration has already tapped ASCE to play a leading role in deciding where money from the stimulus package would best be spent.

Take pride in your role in educating the public and policy leaders about the importance of infrastructure to our nation's safety and economic security. Support the fight to renew our nation's infrastructure by renewing your 2009 ASCE membership at www.asce.org/renewal.



Be a Leader...

... in your job, in your profession, and in your community

Be a Key Contact!

ASCE's Key Contact Program is the Society's grassroots advocacy program. Through the Key Contact Program, members can learn about public policy issues important to the civil engineering profession and help advance the priorities of the profession through interaction with elected leaders.

Learn more and join!

Any ASCE member can join the Key Contact Program. Visit <http://www.asce.org/keycontacts>.

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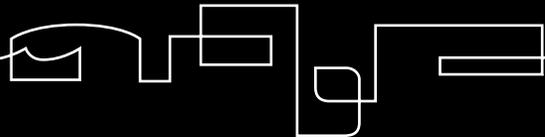
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