



EVENT CALENDAR:

November

19th - Management Group Meeting - Omaha

December

No Meeting

January

14th - Water Resources Meeting (With UNL Student Chapter)

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS:

From The President

Future City Competition
Volunteers Needed

Pre-College Outreach
Program Taps into Social
Media to Bolster Outreach
Efforts

ASCE Consulting
Engineering Practice
Survey 2008-2009

PRESENTING

November 2009

The Management Group Presents:

"Panel Discussion on the Nebraska Section"

Thursday, November 19th

This month's meeting will be of a different format from that of previous meetings. Since it has been difficult to find a champion for this year's Management/Government Technical Group Chair, and thus no speaker, we have decided to do an informal panel discussion of the Nebraska Section. Some of the attendees of the ASCE Annual Conference will report on the Sessions they attended as well as be open to questions about the Nebraska Section, its structure, and how you can be involved with ASCE. Do you want to know more about how your Section works and what is going on behind the scenes? Now is your chance to learn and ask questions.

Location: **Barley's Omaha Tip Top**
1510 Cumming Street, Omaha 68102

Times: Social Hour 6:00
Dinner 7:00
Panel Discussion 7:45

Menu: **-Pasta Entree** - (Choice of either Spaghetti and Meatballs or Chicken Alfredo. Vegetarian option available for substitution.)
-Chicken Dinner Entree - (Choice of smothered chicken breast pesto, Cajun, or sun dried tomato basil, served with wild rice pilaf and steamed vegetable medley.)
-NY Strip - (NY Strip cooked to medium, served with cheddar garlic smashed potatoes, steamed vegetable medley.)
-Grilled Chicken Salad - (Grilled chicken breast with mixed salad greens and your choice of salad dressing.)
-Fish Entree - (Choice of grilled teriyaki glazed ahi tuna, lemon dill salmon, or lemon pepper walleye, served with wild rice pilaf, steamed vegetable medley.)

Spouses and guests are welcome. All meals are \$20. Student meals are FREE. Price is \$10 without a meal. RSVP by 12 PM Tuesday, November 17th to vp@neasce.org. Include your meal choice in the RSVP. Subject line: ASCE RSVP.

Deadline for articles to be published in the January newsletter will be January 4th. Email articles to Aaron Grote at editor@neasce.org

2008-2009
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From the President

- John Hill, P.E.



John Hill, P.E. President of ASCE

Hello Nebraska Section! Things are changing within your Section and your National Society. Several members of NE-ASCE have attended the 139th Annual Civil Engineering Conference, including myself. With over 150 years of ASCE behind us, one Conference speaker said "...it's not the beginning of the end, it's the end of the beginning...". This having been my first Annual Civil Engineering Conference, I am unable to compare it with past conferences, but appeared to be well attended. Some snap shots include: one of the first speakers at the Conference was Omaha's Mayor, Jim Suttle, P.E., and some of the hottest topics this year are "sustainability" and achieving the "Vision" for Civil Engineering in 2025, and closing Session with Ben Stein. Related to this Conference is the topic for our upcoming November Meeting.

This month's meeting will be of a different format from that of previous meetings. This month's topic is of Management/Government. Since it has been difficult to find a champion for this year's Management/Government Technical Group Chair, and thus no speaker, we have decided to do a networking session and panel discussion of the Nebraska Section. Some of us that attended the Conference will take time to

report on the Sessions we attended as well as be open to questions about the Nebraska Section, its structure, and how you can be involved with ASCE. Do you want to know more about how your Section works and what is going on behind the scenes? Come to the November meeting!

We've been having discussion at the board meeting about changes to the newsletter. This had been a boiling topic at one time but has seemed to have cooled. I'm referring to the delivery of the newsletters and how it may be changing. The newsletter, on average, costs the Section over \$500.00 per month to print and distribute, or upwards of \$4,000.00 over the course of the year. We will look at electronic distribution of the newsletters, but likely still deliver via regular mail to our life members. Do you have an opinion on this? Would you like

(Continued Page 3)

(Continued from Page 2 : From the President)

to be a part of the decision? Come to the November meeting!

The Section is currently looking into ways to make the registration of our seminars easier. Several members of the board are looking at ways for registering and paying for the seminars online. This can include the availability to take credit cards, have nametags filled automatically, generate attendee lists and generate lists for the printing of PDH certificates. This can also take away a lot of the cash/money exchanging responsibility from the Conference organizer and Section Treasurer. Eventually we may be able to accept registration and payment to the monthly meetings. Do you have an opinion on this? Would you like to be a part of the decision? Come to the November meeting!

Want to know more of Future City and Truss Bustin? Want more information on Outreach opportunities or available materials and kits? Want to help with Habitat for Humanity or with an upcoming Section Conference? Want to design an advertisement for NE-ASCE for the E-Week Supplement of the Omaha World Herald? Want to attend a conference yourself on behalf of NE-ASCE? Want to know about the scholarships NE-ASCE sponsors? Do you have questions of the Section Board? Do you want to be a member of the Board? Is the Section coming on hard economic times and do we need to raise dues? Come to the November meeting! We will provide answers to your questions and will be receptive to suggestions.

I'm not by any means suggesting that the Section is enduring rough times, in fact, the Sections seems to keep a steady funding year to year thanks to our Conferences. Years ago I remember attending monthly meetings but didn't really know what went on with the rest of the Section or how much involvement from me would be needed to help out with an activity. I want to give each of you an opportunity to find out more about your Section at the November meeting and hope to see you there. You can even submit questions in advance by e-mailing them to: President@neasce.org

In conclusion, I would point out that the Nebraska Section will not have a monthly meeting or newsletter for the month of December. Therefore for those whom I will not be seeing at the meeting, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warmest wishes to all of you and your immediate families for a wonderful and joyous Holiday Season. I look forward to the start of the New Year with renewed enthusiasm for helping one another and for reaching common resolutions and goals.

John M. Hill, P.E.

Pre-College Outreach Program Taps into Social Media to Bolster Outreach Efforts

Interested in helping kids learn about civil engineering? The new school year is just ahead and ASCE's Pre-College Outreach program invites you to check out the new online volunteer center for civil engineers. It is set up to help people learn about pre-college outreach and get connected with others engaged in this fun and important educational initiative. Links to ASCE's Pre-College Outreach Facebook group, and FlickrR page are located at the site so visitors can use these tools to bolster their pre-college outreach efforts.

In addition, profiles of pre-college outreach champions and events around the country give visitors a glimpse of outreach in action. Volunteers are encouraged to upload photos and share their events and lessons learned through the discussion boards.

Pre-College Outreach page: <http://www.asce.org/outreach/index.html>

Future City Competition Volunteers Needed

The Nebraska Section of ASCE is looking for volunteers for the 2009-10 Future City Competition. Future City (www.futurecity.org) is a national competition whose main objective is to educate and teach middle school students about engineering. Each team (3 Students + 1 teacher) is required to have an Engineer Mentor whose role is to provide guidance and help the students understand some basic engineering skills. The presence of an engineer mentor in a team provides a unique opportunity for the students to learn more about engineering and the important role of engineers in our society. The volunteer efforts are not extensive. Mentors would meet with the students and teacher 1 to 3 times per month from October until the Regional Competition on January 16, 2010.

For this competition, students are required to create a city model using SimCity, construct a three dimensional model to scale, write an essay and give a presentation before a panel of engineer judges. The winning team along with the teacher and the engineer mentor would join teams from other regions in the Future City National Finals in Washington D.C next February.

I have been an Engineer Mentor in the past and this is an activity that would like to recommend to anyone interested in volunteering. It is just amazing to see how much the students enjoy working with an engineer and discovering the world of engineering.

There are already schools looking for Mentors, so if you are interested or know someone who may be interested, please let me know and we will connect you with the schools looking for a Mentor. Also, if you're not interested in mentoring, but may be interested in helping us organize the competition (i.e. judges, essay reviewers); we can also use your help.

If you have any questions about volunteering or the Future City program, you can go to the website listed above or contact Andres Torres at (402) 359-6158.



Become a Key Contact

Are you interested in knowing what the 111th Congress is up to? Join the Key Contacts Program - ASCE's grassroots advocacy program. You will receive email about public policy issues important to our profession and learn how to interact with our elected leaders. See www.asce.org/keycontacts for more information and to sign up.

Learn more and join!

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

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.

ASCE Consulting Engineering Practice Survey 2008-2009

This is a reminder that ASCE needs your help to finish improving Manual No. 45, *How to Work Effectively With Consulting Engineers*, which provides guidance on procuring engineering services for a quality project. In order to provide the most accurate information on compensation for engineering services, it is critical that we obtain a broad response of actual project data. We are asking principals and project managers to submit one survey per office, but to provide information on several of your projects. The survey is available at <http://www.asce.org/m45>. Please share this link with others in your office who may need to provide information to complete this survey.

The survey is completely confidential and only ASCE staff will have access to individual survey responses and contact information. **Each respondent who submits a completed survey before November 30, 2009 will receive a \$10 discount on the purchase of any ASCE publication.**

If you have any questions or would like information on an alternate method to submit the survey, you may call Becky Waldrup, Manager, Professional Practice at 800-548-2723, ext. 6281 or send an e-mail to rwaldrup@asce.org.

Thank you for your help,

and thank you to all of you who have already submitted your completed surveys. Previous respondents were entered into a drawing for an iPod Nano, which was awarded to ASCE member Timothy Granata.

For more information on the current edition of Manual 45 and other ASCE Manuals of Practice visit **ASCE Publications - Manuals of Practice**.

September Meeting Hosted by the Structural Group

Thanks to Scott Gilliland for planning the September Meeting. The list below can be considered official documentation of attendances at the September meeting worth 1 PDH credit.

Gary Krause	Joe Dethlees
Mike Sklenar	Jeff Stevens
Scott Gilliland	John Hill
Troy Nissen	Brandon Lundborg
Mike Naccarato	Andrew Klein
David Klostemon	Ed Prost
Mike Baumert	Andres Torres
Daren Konda	Rick Kotan
Duane Miller	Nancy Mellay
Ron Botterst	Jeff Kopocis
Aaron Buettner	Travis Schafer
Lindsay Madsen	Joshua Storm
Marie Maly	Steven Bottum
Helen Bottum	Jeff Ehler
Tom Jizba	Lara Syrocki
Matia Radovic	Jennifer Dimig
Richard Lindenberg	Mark Holland

October Meeting Hosted by the Structural Group

Thanks to Wayne Jensen for planning the October Meeting. The list below can be considered official documentation of attendances at the October meeting worth 1 PDH credit.

Mike Sklenar	Aaron Buettner
Wayne Jensen	Roger Figard
Nick Spencer	Bill Arneson
John Coburn	John Hill
Paul Harmon	Daren Konda
Loras Klostermann	

Save the Date!

ANNUAL E-WEEK BANQUET THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2010

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Banquet Location:

Strategic Air and Space Museum
28210 West Park Highway
Ashland, NE 68003

6:00 PM – Social Hour (Cash Bar)
7:00 PM – Banquet & Speaker

**LOOK FOR THE SIGN-UP FLYER WITH
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SOON!**

Engineers Roundtable website:
<http://www.eroundtable.unomaha.edu>

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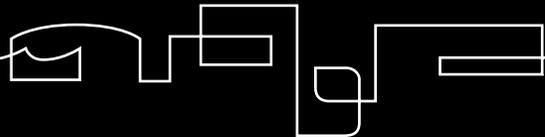
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