



# ASCE American Society of Civil Engineers

## WISCONSIN SECTION NEWSLETTER May/June 2004

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### President's Message

Before previewing the important issues and events that are before us this summer, I want to thank the Spring Technical Conference (STC) organizing committee and especially co-chairs Cliff Menting and Joel Ehrfurth for their work in hosting a very successful STC at the EAA AirVenture museum in Oshkosh on March 18<sup>th</sup>. As you know, National President-elect Bill Henry was the General Session speaker, and also attended the Section Board meeting and the STC dinner banquet. All who had the pleasure to hear Bill speak acknowledge that he will continue the heritage of excellent leadership at the National level. I'd also like to thank our Section Technical Committees for their assistance in providing a great lineup of speakers and topics for the technical sessions. Fourteen new Life Members and eight Outstanding Senior Civil Engineering students were honored at the dinner. We congratulate all of these individuals on their accomplishments.

I'd like to also thank Jennifer Shelton, Senior Environmental Engineer with Leggette, Brashears & Graham, Inc. in Madison. Not only did she answer the call to volunteer to serve on a technical committee, she took the next step by volunteering to be the Environmental Technical Committee Chair. If you're



an attentive reader of this column, you know I've been pleading for someone to step forward to accept this responsibility since last September. Thank you, Jen, for your service to the society. As I mentioned last month, I would like at least four committee members, one from each Branch, plus a chairperson for each technical committee. This level of involvement insures that projects from all over the state are featured at our technical conferences. I believe I

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said the list of Section Technical committees, the committee chairperson and the Section Board contact member to the committee appeared in the March newsletter and it did not. Assuming communications with our newsletter editor (Vice President Steve Peterson) goes well, this listing should appear elsewhere in this edition. Please contact the chairperson, the Board contact or me (tbate@mmsd.com) and volunteer to serve your profession and society on one of these committees. Even if you think you are already on one of these committees, make a call to let the chair or contact know that you're still active and want to help. It's not time-consuming, it's fun and you have an opportunity to get to know many peers from across the state that you would otherwise never meet.

Also in this issue are brief biographies and a ballot of nominees for various positions on the Section Board. Even though these positions are usually uncontested, your vote is an important acknowledgement of your Section leadership. Speaking of voting, there are important decisions to be made by the membership on a National level this summer. First, there will be a contested election for National President-elect between Dennis Martenson of the Minnesota Section and Conrad Keyes of the New Mexico Section. And while the Wisconsin Section Board has endorsed Dennis, both candidates are extremely well qualified to lead the society. The 2004 Ballot Alert appears on p.11 of the April edition of ASCE News. Also on the National ballot this June will be an amendment to the Society's constitution to change the governance structure of the Society. The amendment reflects more than four years of study by the National Board of Direction. The past four issues of ASCE News contained information about the governance restructuring amendment. Regardless of who you vote for or how you vote, I encourage all of you to simply --- VOTE!

Every month I ask members to become more active and volunteer for leadership positions in ASCE. This month, I want to call your attention to an article in this edition by Ernie Peterson, ASCE WI Section Director and Utility/Access Management Engineer for WisDOT. Ernie has been active on the Dane County planning board and has written an excellent article about the need for engineers input into the planning process. I encourage each of you to consider taking an active role on planning boards, commissions and other technical boards to provide balance and appropriate technical input on decisions that affect the future of Wisconsin's citizens.

The Section Board has revisited the issue of implementing an electronic newsletter. The general impression is that the electronic age has progressed to the point where the vast majority of our membership may prefer receiving this publica-

tion electronically. In the near future, our newsletter editor will distribute a survey in this regard. Please give some thought to the possible advantages and disadvantages of such a change and make the effort to respond to the survey when you receive it.

Two other quick items:

- Don't forget to mark your calendars for **Friday, September 24, 2004** for the fall **Annual Conference** at **Chula Vista in Wisconsin Dells.**
- Nominations for **Engineering Achievement Awards** and **Individual Merit Awards** are due **June 1** to Section Secretary Jim Buggs.

Have an outstanding summer!

Respectfully,

Tim Bate

### HAS YOUR ADDRESS CHANGED?

Our ASCE Wisconsin section has about 1,986 members. And, in a given year, about 100 of these mailing addresses tend to be in flux (was that a term from fluid mechanics.. ?) Please keep ASCE informed of your current address. You can do-it-yourself at [www.asce.org/myprofile](http://www.asce.org/myprofile). Or call (800) 548-2723. Thanks.

### Wisconsin Section Board Meetings

May 27, 2004	Milwaukee
June 24, 2004	Milwaukee
July 2004	No Meeting
August, 2004	Sheboygan
Sep. 24, 2004	Wisconsin Dells @ Annual Meeting

### Visit The Website

The ASCE Wisconsin Section website offers a wealth of information about our section. Our thanks to Mr. Martin Hanson, webmaster extraordinaire, for volunteering his time and talents. Current events, newsletters, contacts, email addresses, board meeting minutes, and much more are waiting for you. Check us out at:

[http://sections.asce.org/wisconsin/wi\\_asce.html](http://sections.asce.org/wisconsin/wi_asce.html)

**WISCONSIN SECTION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2003-2004**

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University of Wisconsin - Platteville  
Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering  
Platteville, WI 53818  
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Board Contact—Darrell Berry

**Urban Planning & Transportation** Julie Hoppe  
Heartland Engineering  
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Brookfield, WI  
(262) 790-0232

Board Contact—Ernie Peterson

**Water Resources & Hydraulics** Tom Chapman  
Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District  
260 West Seeboth Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53204  
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( ) (Fax)  
Tchapman@mmsd.com

Board Contact—Bill Meyer

**NEWSMAKERS**

Did you recognize a few familiar faces in the March 2004 Edition of ASCE NEWS? On page 9, two Wisconsinites were highlighted for their accomplishments:

Tuncer B. Edil, UW-Madison, recently received the Outstanding Achievement Award from the Industrial Fabrics Association International for his work in Wisconsin with the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District. Serving as a consultant and design engineer, Edil helped to cap a lagoon system which the District filled with a very soft sludge contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls. The capping project was recognized last year with an award from the WI Section.

Tim Anderson, an engineering technician and computer-aided design supervisor from Ruekert/Mielke, of Waukesha has been inducted into the National Commission on Cooperative Education's hall of fame. That distinction recognizes outstanding professional achievement by those who began their careers as co-op students. Anderson started out at Ruekert/Mielke in 1992 as an architectural drafting co-op student while attending Waukesha County Technical College.

Congratulations on your achievements.

## PLANNING

Submitted by Ernie Peterson, ASCE WI Section Director & Utility/Access Management Engineer WDOT



What have you done for your community lately? Now is an excellent time to get involved in the future of your community by participating in the development of its comprehensive plan. The comprehensive plan, which is mandated by State Statute 66.1001, requires that every County, City, Village and Township in Wisconsin develop a comprehensive plan by 2010. Also, as of that date every land use decision made by the local government must be compatible with the comprehensive plan. A comprehensive plan must include the following elements: issues and opportunities; housing; transportation; utilities and community facilities; agricultural, natural and cultural resources; economic development; intergovernmental cooperation; land use; and implementation.

Beginning on January 1, 2010, any program or action of a local governmental unit that affects land use shall be consistent with its comprehensive plan. This includes zoning, transportation improvements, land acquisition for recreational lands and parks, land use ordinances, construction site erosion controls, and storm water management plans. The development of the comprehensive plan requires extensive public involvement. So, help out your community and contribute your civil engineering knowledge by getting active in the development of your communities comprehensive plan. Contact your local planning office for more information on how to get involved. If your community has not started the process yet, help get the ball rolling. For more information, a good starting place is this website: <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/land/comprehensive.htm>

For additional information on the various programs associated with the comprehensive planning efforts, or for requests for a speaker on the topic, please contact Mike Blaska, Department of Administration, 608-261-6605.

## 2004 ANNUAL MEETING

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2004

CHULA VISTA, WISCONSIN DELLS



Please mark your calendars for Friday, September 24, 2004 for the ASCE WI Section Annual Conference at the Chula Vista in Wisconsin Dells. The Southwest and Northwest branches are combining to bring another outstanding Annual Conference. Highlights of the conference will include outstanding technical sessions to broaden your engineering knowledge, announcements of the Engineering Achievement Awards and Individual Merit Awards and the installation of the new board for the WI Section.

## WISCONSIN SECTION DUES

ASCE National now allows renewal of your membership on-line, as well as the traditional hard copy method. The Section board would like to remind all of our Wisconsin Section members to include the \$15 dues for the Wisconsin Section. Your \$15 dues allows the Wisconsin Section to continue to provide valuable services to each of our members. Some of these services include supporting the Daniel Mead Contest, Branch Scholarship Requests, Branch Allotments, Student Chapter Allotments, Younger Member Forum Group, Legislative Cabinet, Public Affairs and others. So when you are completing your renewal of membership, please make sure that you check the box (if completing the hard copy) or "click" the box when completing on-line. The Section Board thanks each of you for your assistance in this endeavor.

## NOMINATED CANDIDATES FOR ASCE WISCONSIN SECTION BOARD POSITIONS



**President-Elect: Steven L. Peterson, P.E.**

Steve Peterson is a Senior Project Manager and Department Manager in the National Design Center for Global Water and Environment Services Division in Sheboygan. Mr. Peterson received his BSCE from UW-Platteville and is registered as a professional engineer in Wisconsin and Kentucky. He has served as a Director at Large, Branch Director and chair of the Environmental Technical Committee for the ASCE Wisconsin Section. In addition, Mr. Peterson served as Director, Secretary/Treasurer and President of the Fox River Valley Branch. While attending UW-Platteville, he served as co-chair of the speaker committee for the ASCE UWP Student Chapter. Mr. Peterson is also a member of the Water Environment Federation, American Water Works Association (AWWA), and Technical Association of the Pulp & Paper Industry (TAPPI). He is active in his local community with the Sheboygan Chamber of Commerce and Sheboygan Elks Lodge.

**Vice President: Mark P. Mathu, P.E.**

Mark Mathu is a Senior Structural Engineer with HNTB Corporation in Milwaukee. He has twenty years of Wisconsin engineering experience, mainly on transportation projects but also on some architectural and environmental engineering projects. Mark received both a B.S. Civil Engineering and a M.S. in Engineering from Marquette University. He is a registered profession engineer in Wisconsin and Minnesota. Mark has been active in ASCE for much of the past twenty years. He was president of the Southeast Branch in 1998-99 and prior to that had been a Director-at-Large and a long-serving newsletter editor for the branch. He is the current chair of the Southeast Branch's public information committee. Earlier he has served as president of the Wisconsin Section Younger Members Group, chaired the 1994 Wisconsin Section Annual Meeting, and was the 1995 Wisconsin Section Young Civil Engineer of the Year. Mark and his wife Karen live in Whitefish Bay with their three children. Besides being an engineer in real life, Mark has also been known to play "engineer" at home, where is working on a model railroad in his basement.

**Director at Large: William J. Meyer, P.E.**

Bill Meyer manages the Engineering Department at REI, a 35-person civil engineering, surveying, and environmental consulting firm in Wausau. He grew up in Merrill and graduated from the University of Wisconsin- Madison with a Bachelors degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering in 1981. He worked in Rockford, Illinois for 16 years before returning to Central Wisconsin. He has been active in ASCE at the Branch and Section levels and is currently completing an appointment as a vacancy director-at-large.

**Director at Large: Elizabeth Lorentz**

Ms. Lorentz graduated with a B.S. in Civil Engineering from UW-Platteville in December, 1996. While in Platteville, she was a member of the American Society of Mining Engineers, contributing to the team effort in the nationwide mining competitions. She also was a member of American Society of Civil Engineers, Chi Epsilon, and acted as a student mentor for underclass women in engineering. Ms. Lorentz worked in the Jacksonville, Florida area after graduation for over a year before moving back to the Midwest and working in Minneapolis, Minnesota. In 1999, she finally settled in the Milwaukee area and worked for Earth Tech, Inc. She now working at Brown and Caldwell as a design engineer for the Milwaukee office.

## NOMINATED CANDIDATES FOR ASCE WISCONSIN SECTION YOUNGER MEMBER GROUP



### **President-Elect: Nahid Afsari**

Ms. Afsari graduated with a B.S. in Civil Engineering from UW - Madison in December of 1998. While at Madison she was active with the student chapter of ASCE and was a member of the 1997 Concrete Canoe team. Ms. Afsari went on to receive her Masters Degree in Civil Engineering from Purdue University in December of 2000. She is a registered Engineer - In - Training in the state of Wisconsin, and has worked for CH2M Hill for three years with the transportation group as a structural engineer. Ms. Afsari was named to ASCE's "2004 New Faces in Civil Engineering". She is currently the Vice President of YMG after serving as Treasurer the previous year.

### **Vice President: Elizabeth Lorentz**

Ms. Lorentz graduated with a B.S. in Civil Engineering from UW-Platteville in December, 1996. While in Platteville, she was a member of the American Society of Mining Engineers, contributing to the team effort in the nation-wide mining competitions. She also was a member of American Society of Civil Engineers, Chi Epsilon, and acted as a student mentor for underclass women in engineering. Ms. Lorentz worked in the Jacksonville, Florida area after graduation for over a year before moving back to the Midwest and working in Minneapolis, Minnesota. In 1999, she finally settled in the Milwaukee area and worked for Earth Tech, Inc. She now working at Brown and Caldwell as a design engineer for the Milwaukee office.

### **Treasurer: Justin Arndt**

Mr. Arndt graduated from UW - Madison in December 2000 with a B.S. in Civil Engineering. While a student in Madison, Justin was active in the ASCE student chapter, serving as concrete canoe co-chair two semesters, and vice-president and treasurer for one semester each. He was also co-chair of the effort to bring the ASCE 150th Anniversary National Student Conference to Madison. Justin has worked as an engineer at Kapur & Associates, Inc. for over three years. He currently serves as a Director on the YMG Board as Activities Chair.

### **Secretary: Ryan Callahan**

Mr. Callahan graduated with a B.S./M.S. in Civil/Structural Engineering from the University of North Dakota (UND), 2001. While enrolled at UND, Ryan was an active member of the ASCE student chapter for 3 years, while serving as President during the 2000-2001 school year. For the past two years, Ryan has been working for American Transmission Company (ATC) as a transmission line design engineer in Pewaukee, WI. ATC currently owns, plans, maintains, monitors, and operates over 9,000 miles of high voltage transmission lines and 450 substation sites.

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**NOMINATED CANDIDATES FOR ASCE WISCONSIN  
SECTION YOUNGER MEMBER GROUP**



*(Continued from page 6)*

**Director/Outreach Chair: Laura Gerold**

Mrs. Gerold is currently a Water Resources Engineer at Tetra Tech MPS in Milwaukee. She has over two years of engineering experience since leaving Michigan Technological University where she earned a B.S. and M.S. in Environmental Engineering - Water Resources in May 2000 and May 2002 respectively. Mrs. Gerold is also currently working toward her Ph.D. part-time at Marquette University. She became an Engineer-In-Training in May of 2000. While at Michigan Tech, she was active with the student chapter of ASCE serving as the Regionals fundraising chair for two years. She was also an officer for the Society for Environmental Engineering and the student chapter of the Michigan Water Environment Association. Mrs. Gerold is currently the Director of Outreach Activities for the Younger Member Group of ASCE.

**Director/Social Activities Chair: Paul Tadda**

Mr. Tadda graduated with a B.S. in Civil Engineering from UW-Platteville in December 1996. While at Platteville, he was a member of the American Society of Mining Engineers and the American Society of Civil Engineers. He has been working for Applied Technologies, Inc. for the past three years as a Structural Engineer, and is currently attending Marquette University part-time, in pursuit of his Masters in Structural Engineering.

**Director/Student Chapter Liason: Matt Laufer**

Matt Laufer graduated with a B.S. in Civil Engineering from UW-Platteville in December of 1995. While in Platteville, he became a member of ASCE. After graduation he worked for a small bridge building contractor and gained some practical experience in construction operations. In 1998 he joined Kapur and Associates, Inc. and has worked in the Milwaukee area since. Currently he works for the Rust/Harza Joint Venture and has been involved in many MMSD projects, including the rehabilitation of the area's Central Metropolitan Interceptor Sewer System. Matt is a registered professional engineer in Wisconsin.

**Director/Membership Chair: Jeff Gerbensky**

Jeff Gerbensky is currently the Assistant Development Manager for Pabst Farms Development LLC in Oconomowoc, WI. He has spent the last two years working in the land development field in Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota & Illinois. Prior to that he spent 4 years designing bridges in Milwaukee. Jeff has been involved with YMG since 2001 and he was the Wisconsin Section YMG Vice President in 2002. Jeff also helped lead the charge, along with Uriah Wolfe and Brian Udovich, to reinvigorate the WI Section YMG and get it funded by the State Section. Jeff has also served as a Zone III Corresponding Member to the ASCE National Committee of Younger Members. Jeff is a 1998 graduate of UW – Madison and holds a B.S. Degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering.

## ASCE National News

### RUSSELL NAMED FELLOW

ASCE announced on March 8, 2004 that Jeffery S. Russell, Ph. D., P.E., F. ASCE has advanced to the grade of Fellow. Attaining the grade of Fellow represents a significant achievement. The basic requirements are that ASCE Fellows must be legally registered engineers or land surveyors who have held active Member grade for not less than 10 cumulative years, and must be nominated by their Section or Branch. The Fellow has demonstrated, while at the Member grade, notable outstanding achievement in responsible charge of engineering work and professional attainment, and has exhibited distinction in upholding the Fundamental Principles and Canons of the Society. As of July 1, 2003, Fellows represented just over 5 percent of the ASCE Membership.



Congratulations Jeff on this significant achievement.

### ASCE WEBSEminars

ASCE offers WEBSEminars which are available to all members. These WEBSEminars provide a great way to train several staff at one site with one connection to the internet. The following is a listing of upcoming WEBSEminars offered by ASCE. You can access the information at [http://www.asce.org/conted/distancelearning/online\\_webseminars.cfm](http://www.asce.org/conted/distancelearning/online_webseminars.cfm)

**Wednesday, June 2, 2004 ~ 12 Noon - 1pm EST TEAM: Together Everyone Achieves More**

**Wednesday, June 9, 2004 ~ 12 Noon - 1pm EST Communication Skills for Engineers: Listening**

**Wednesday, June 30, 2004 ~ 12 Noon - 1pm EST Delegation: Why Put Off Until Tomorrow What Someone Else Can Do Today?**

**Wednesday, July 7, 2004 ~ 12 Noon - 1:30pm EST Negotiating Better Engineering and Architectural Contracts**

**Wednesday, July 14, 2004 ~ 12 Noon - 1pm EST Project Work Plans: Why and How?**

**Wednesday, July 28, 2004 ~ 12 Noon - 1pm EST Marketing 101**

**Wednesday, August 18, 2004 ~ 12 Noon - 1pm EST Project Communications**

**Wednesday, August 25, 2004 ~ 12 Noon - 1pm EST Monitoring and Project Budgets and Schedule: Earned Value Method**

### WANTED

Your Articles, Comments, Photos, and Letters for publication in this ASCE Newsletter. Anything civil, interesting and primarily factual may be submitted to:

Steven L. Peterson, P.E., Editor  
steve.peterson@earthtech.com  
Earth Tech, Inc.  
4135 Technology Parkway  
Sheboygan, WI 53083  
Phone: (920) 451-2536  
Fax: (920) 458-0537





## INDY 500 Trivia

1. Name the drivers with the most victories.
2. Fastest Race Lap.
3. Name the oldest and youngest winners.

## 2004 ASCE WISCONSIN SECTION AWARD PROGRAM

Do you know of a fellow Wisconsin civil engineer who has made outstanding contributions to his/her field? Or a successful engineering project that deserves recognition? Consider making a nomination for one of our ASCE Wisconsin Section Awards:

### Individual Merit Awards:

- *Distinguished Service Award*
- *Engineer in Education*
- *Engineer in Consulting Practice*
- *Engineer in Government Service*
- *Engineer in Private Practice (Utility, Industry)*
- *Excellence in Journalism Award*
- *Young Civil Engineer of the Year Award (must be less than age 35 during 2003)*

### Engineering Achievement Awards:

The Engineering Achievement Awards recognize outstanding civil engineering projects located in the Wisconsin Section's geographical area. Project nominations are considered in four categories:

Category A: Construction cost under \$2 million

Category B: Construction cost \$2 million to \$10 million

Category C: Construction cost \$10 million to \$20 million

Category D: Construction cost over \$20 million

**Award nominations are due to the section secretary, Jim Buggs, by June 1, 2004.**

Awards are made by the Board of Directors, based on the recommendation of a selected Jury of Judges. One project, regardless of category or size, may then be designated the Wisconsin Section ASCE Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement of the Year.

Award winners will be given the opportunity to provide a poster and presentation at the Annual Meeting in September.

There is a \$100 entrance fee for the Engineering Project Achievement Awards. There is no fee entrance fee for the Individual Merit Awards. For more information, log on to our section website at [http://sections.asce.org/wisconsin/wi\\_asce.html](http://sections.asce.org/wisconsin/wi_asce.html).

Indy 500 Trivia Answer: 1. A.J. Foyt Jr., Al Unser, Rick Mears 4 each. 2. 236.103 Eddie Cheever Jr. 1996. 3. Youngest Troy Ruttman (1952) - 22 years, 80 days—Oldest Al Unser (1987) - 47 years, 360 days.

# WISCONSIN SECTION

# **ASCE** American Society of Civil Engineers

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**May/June 2004 Newsletter**

**Addressed to an Important ASCE Member**

c/o: Steven L. Peterson, P.E.  
Earth Tech  
4135 Technology Parkway  
Sheboygan, WI 53083

### **Southeast Branch Meetings**

Nov. 13, 2003 Joint w/ ACT Field Trip WE Energies Pleasant Prairie Generating Plant  
Dec. 18, 2003 Marquette Univ., Lunch w/ ESM  
Jan. 22, 2004 MSOE, scholarship fundraiser dinner  
Feb. 12, 2004 Milwaukee, Engr.-of-Year banquet, with ESM  
Mar. 18, 2004 Oshkosh Spring Tech. Conf. @ EAA  
Apr. 15, 2004 Marquette Univ., lunch w/ ESM  
May 20, 2004 Lunch, location TBA  
Jun. 17, 2004 Dinner, location TBA, past-presidents and spouses night  
July 15, 2004 Field trip, TBA  
Aug., 2004 No meeting

### **Fox River Valley Branch Meetings**

Nov. 20, 2003 Green Bay, with WSPE  
Dec. 2003 No meeting this month  
Jan. 21, 2004 Manitowoc Past Presidents Mtg  
Feb. 17, 2004 Sheboygan Joint with ACI  
Mar. 18, 2004 Oshkosh Spring Tech. Conf. @ EAA  
Apr. 21, 2004 To be announced  
May 18, 2004 Golf Outing

### **Southwest Branch Meetings**

Nov. 2003 Dodgeville, with UW-Platteville  
Dec. 18, 2003 Essen Haus lunch mtg. Jeff Russell Policy 465  
Jan. 2004 Essen Haus lunch mtg.  
Feb. 2004 Joint w/ WSPE  
Mar. 18, 2004 Oshkosh Spring Tech. Conf. @ EAA  
April 2004 To be announced  
May 2004 To be announced

### **NW Branch Meetings**

Nov. 18, 2003 Eau Claire STH 53 Bi-pass  
Jan. 24, 2004 Marshfield Vulnerability Assessment  
Feb. 17, 2004 Chippewa Falls  
Mar. 20, 2004 Rhinelander  
Mar. 18, 2004 Oshkosh Spring Tech. Conf. @ EAA  
Apr. 20, 2004 Eau Claire with Wis. Sect. Board  
May 18, 2004 Wausau, Tour of East High School