



ASCE American Society of Civil Engineers

WISCONSIN SECTION NEWSLETTER

March 2005

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Making the Grade

Greetings to the 2,000 Wisconsin Section members of the American Society of Civil Engineers!

I just returned from a trip to Atlanta. Along the way, as with all travelers, I was treated to a smorgasbord of our nation's infrastructure. After an early morning drive through the streets of Madison, a long term parking slot in a newly expanded ramp, a visit to three bustling airports, and a shuttle bus traveling the freeways of Atlanta, I arrived at my destination, a nicely designed and engineered 10-story hotel.

Without thinking twice, I had just utilized the airports, bridges, freeways, water systems, power supplies, and safe structures of three different metropolitan areas. And all of these systems basically operated as intended. I will admit that a last minute gate change from E33 to T7 in Atlanta gave me firsthand knowledge of the true size of the Hartsfield International Airport - but that story must wait for another time.

Our twenty-first century world is like an overlapping Venn Diagram of business, health, safety, travel, shelter, recreation and security - and all of these functions are fundamentally linked to the quality of our infrastructure.

So how is our infrastructure doing? ASCE National and the ASCE Wisconsin Section have undertaken substantial studies to answer that very question. ASCE National is presently releasing its updated "Report Card" evaluating the status of our nation's infrastructure. And your Wisconsin Section is further publicizing our own Wisconsin Infrastructure Report Card, completed in 2003 by an all-star Wisconsin committee chaired by Mr. John Goetter.

Take a few minutes to peruse the Wisconsin report card summary and cover letter enclosed in this newsletter. As a technical resource, ASCE is providing copies of the report card to interested parties throughout our state. Wisconsin can be very proud that our infrastructure systems were graded above the national average. On the other hand, we must recognize that due to age, deterioration, and increasing demands, some



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President's Message

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components of our systems are reaching the ends of their useful lives. As shown on the report card, the grades in Wisconsin overall range from a D to a B+. Our encouragement to our membership, decision makers and officials is to keep in mind the tremendous value that these systems provide to the citizens of our state, and the need to regularly invest in these long-lived systems to keep them in top condition.

Sincerely,

Ned W. Paschke
President, Wisconsin Section ASCE

IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP CURRENT?

March is the last month of Civil Engineering magazine and ASCE News for members who have not paid their 2005 dues. These members will be placed in "arrears" status and will no longer receive any of the benefits of ASCE membership. Members who have not paid their 2004 dues will be completely dropped from the membership roll this month.

To renew, call (800) 548-ASCE(2723).

2005 ANNUAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 23, 2005 GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN

Please mark your calendars for Friday, September 23, 2005 for the ASCE WI Section Annual Conference at the KI Conference Center in Green Bay. The Fox River Valley branch is planning a memorable event this year. Highlights of the conference will include a keynote address by the national ASCE president-elect, Dennis Martenson, as well as outstanding technical sessions, awards and the installation of the new WI Section Board.

LIFE MEMBERS

The following Wisconsin Section members have earned Life Membership status in our Society this year. Life Membership is awarded to members that have made a lifetime commitment to ASCE and the civil engineering profession by remaining ASCE members for the full length of their professional career.

Kenneth Coffeen, P.E. Richard Dietz, P.E.
Madison, Wis. Burlington, Wis.

James Shaw Tarun Naik, Ph.D., P.E.
Brown Deer, Wis. Milwaukee, Wis.

Larry Soltis, Ph.D., P.E. Leon Schuchardt, P.E.
Mount Horeb, Wis. Madison, Wis.

Rodney Hassett, P.E. James Vierbicher, P.E.
Middleton, Wis. Reedsburg, Wis.

James Murphy, P.E. Myron Silberman, P.E.
River Falls, Wis. Marshfield, Wis.

William Leisso, P.E. Paul Carmichael
Onalaska, Wis. Fond du Lac, Wis.

Ashok Rajpal, P.E.
Madison, Wis.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The **2005 "Member-Get-A-Member" Drive** is open to all ASCE members in good standing. The member who recruits the most new members during the contest receives a trip to the **2005 Civil Engineering Conference & Exposition in Los Angeles, October 27-29, or \$1000 cash.** The trip includes round-trip airfare, four-night hotel stay, conference registration and per diem for food.

To receive credit for each new member, the sponsor's name and ASCE member identification number must appear in the "Sponsor" section of the application; the recruitment of Student Members will not be counted in this contest. Members are officially credited to the sponsor when the candidate is accepted for membership and dues have been received. All applications and membership dues must be received between October 1, 2004, and September 30, 2005, to be counted.

Got questions about participating in the ASCE 2005 "Member-Get-A-Member" Drive? Need Membership Recruiting Materials? **Call 1-800-548-ASCE.**

ASCE WISCONSIN SECTION AWARDS COMPETITION

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 2005)

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, JimBuggs, by June 1, 2005.

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, contact the awards chairman John Burgan at (414) 359-2300 or jburgan@hntb.com, or log on to our section website at http://sections.asce.org/wisconsin/wi_asce.html.

THE ELECTRONIC ASCE NEWSLETTER IS HERE!

The ASCE Wisconsin Section is converting the bi-monthly newsletter to an electronic format delivered via e-mail to the e-mail address on file at ASCE headquarters. To update your address (or any other membership information) go to www.asce.org/myprofile or call (800)548-2723.

The implementation schedule is as follows:

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| March, May 2005 | Members with an e-mail address on file will receive an e-mail message with a link to the electronic newsletter; a printed newsletter will still be sent to all members. |
| June 2005 | Evaluate the method of e-newsletter delivery based on responses from membership. |
| August 2005 | Delivery of the e-newsletter refined based on membership response. A printed newsletter will still be sent to all members. |
| November 2005 | Full conversion to an e-newsletter system. Printed newsletters will only be sent to those without an e-mail address on file at ASCE headquarters. |

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March 2005 Newsletter

Addressed to an Important ASCE Member

c/o: Mark P. Mathu, P.E.
HNTB Corporation
11414 W. Park Place, Suite 300
Milwaukee, WI 53224

Southeast Branch Meetings

- April 21 lunch meeting with ESM
- May 19 lunch meeting
(geotechnical topic)
- June 16 dinner meeting
(spouses / past presidents night)
- July 21* field trip

Southwest Branch Meetings

- April meeting
- May meeting with ACI
- September 23 Wis. Section Annual Meeting, Fox River Valley Branch

Fox River Valley Branch Meetings

- April 20 tour and dinner meeting, Manitowoc
(Tenth Avenue Bridge)
- May 24 golf outing
- September 23 Wis. Section Annual Meeting, hosted by Fox River Valley Branch

Northwest Branch Meetings

- April 21 dinner meeting, Wausau
(Snake Bridge Project)
- May dinner meeting
- September 23 Wis. Section Annual Meeting, hosted by Fox River Valley Branch

* tentative date