



ASCE American Society of Civil Engineers

WISCONSIN SECTION NEWSLETTER January 2006

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – JANUARY 2006

Greetings from your Wisconsin Section President! Hopefully, everyone had a great Christmas season and a happy start to the New Year. This winter season sure has been weird. I enjoy the winter season but I would like some snow to use.

Welcome to the first ASCE WI Section electronic newsletter. This is an achievement for our Section to implement. Thank you's need to be given to **Mark Mathu, Marty Hanson and John Burgan** for this achievement. Two (2) years ago when I was the vice-president and newsletter publisher, the WI Section surveyed the members to gauge your interest of transferring to an electronic newsletter. The annual cost of mailing the newsletter is approximately \$4,000 or 11% of our annual budget. In addition, the newsletter would be delivered at different times to the members. The results of the survey overwhelming voted to switch to an electronic newsletter. Since, that time, **Mark Mathu** has been developing the process to produce the electronic newsletter. This is the first so enjoy. I would like to receive any feedback you may have regarding this format.

Mark your calendars for the Spring Technical Conference which will be held in Madison on March 23, 2006. A separate mailing will be forwarded to you, which will detail the day's conference. The STC committee has done a wonderful job of preparing a great program and I look forward to the conference.

At the STC, the WI Section has the great honor of presenting ASCE's Life Member certificates to **Paul Feller, Dave Groblewski, Larry Kaplan, Dave Rudig, Joe Spang, Victor Tejada, Gerald Bizjak, Richard Adams, Dan Bauer, Ken Koscik, William Lane, Dennis McMillen, Charles Stoll and Richard Strauss**. Achieving Life Membership in ASCE requires a career of service to ASCE and the Civil Engineering profession. To be eligible for Life Member, individuals in the grade of Fellow, Member, Associate member, or Affiliate a) shall have reached the age of 65 years AND b) shall have paid dues for at least 30 years AND c) shall have had 10 years continuous



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membership immediately preceding the attainment of Life Member. In addition, the WI Section will honor the Outstanding Senior Civil Engineering Students, as selected by the students, from the Civil Engineering Colleges in Wisconsin.

Also, mark your calendars for the morning of March 23, 2006. A FREE, yes it is free, mini-management seminar will be provided from **Nancy Berson**, ASCE National. The Mini-Management Conference to be held the morning of the Spring Technical Conference is a comprehensive overview of services, products and resources available from ASCE National Headquarters. Current Student Chapter, YMF, Branch and Section leaders, committee chairs and directors, as well as anyone considering such a position in the future, are encouraged to attend this FREE leadership workshop. Learn about ASCE History, Budget, Reporting Structure, Educational Outreach, Younger Member Activities and Student Membership. This is an opportunity to see how your national dues are spent and to learn how to take advantage of the valuable resources available through ASCE National Headquarters. The conference will start at 8:30 and run until 11:30 AM.

Congratulations go out to our Younger Member Group. They have been selected by ASCE to receive the 2005 ASCE Zone III Public Service Award. This award will be given to them at the Zone III Leadership Conference in Houston, TX the weekend of February 18, 2006. Please see a separate write-up in the newsletter regarding the details of the award. To all of the YMG - Great job and keep up the good work!

Many of you may be surprised to hear that two years ago the bar association tried to have the State of Wisconsin Supreme Court approve a rule that would allow a lawyer to be the only competent person to read and interpret WI State Statutes. I know we can all fill in a ton of lawyer jokes but if this would have been passed, we as engineers could not have been allowed to interpret the State Statutes which we work with everyday dealing with the health and welfare of our society. The reason I point this is out is to highlight the works of our **Public Affairs and Legislative Committee** which is chaired by **Chris Mallon**. Chris was very involved with our responses and presentations to the Supreme Court. Ultimately, this rule was denied. His committee should be commended for their efforts. One element of this committee is that the ASCE WI Section belongs to a group called the Alliance for Technical Professionals which tracks and monitors legislation which effects our organizations. As we go to press, we have just been made aware that the landscape architects have introduced a revision to their practice act in the Wisconsin Legislature. This bill, AB 946, will seriously erode the practice of civil engineering in the state. The text of this bill is at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/2005/data/AB-946.pdf>. I would like to send out an alert to all members in Wisconsin asking them to oppose this bill and to contact your state assembly representatives and senators. The WI Section will continue to follow this bill and will be prepared to respond at the appropriate time.

Should you have any suggestions and ideas for our society, please feel free to contact me (**phone 920-451-2536 or e-mail steve.peterson@earthtech.com**) or any of the board members listed on the first page. We are always open to dialogue with you and your input is appreciated. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

I am proud to be a civil engineer and proud to be your President for this upcoming year.

Sincerely,

Steven L. Peterson, P.E.
President, Wisconsin Section ASCE



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Mark Your Calendars – Wisconsin Section Award Submittals

All Section members are encouraged to submit for the numerous Wisconsin Section awards. Nominations for Project Awards and Individual Merit Awards are due by June 1, 2006. Nominations for the Journalism Award are due by April 10, 2006. Award submittal forms can be found on the Section web site at http://sections.asce.org/wisconsin/wi_asce.html. Please contact John Curtis, the Section's Awards Chair at john_curtis@msn.com if you have questions on award submittals.

VISIT THE WEBSITE

The ASCE Wisconsin Section website offers a wealth of information about our section. 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

Mark your calendars for the

2006 Spring Technical Conference

*Thursday afternoon, March 23, 2006
Madison, Wis.*

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Mini-Management Conference

The Mini-Management Conference to be held the morning of the Spring Technical Conference is a comprehensive overview of services, products and resources available from ASCE National Headquarters. Current Student Chapter, YMF, Branch and Section leaders, committee chairs and directors, as well as anyone considering such a position in the future, are encouraged to attend this FREE leadership workshop. Learn about ASCE History, Budget, Reporting Structure, Educational Outreach, Younger Member Activities and Student Membership. This is an opportunity to see how your national dues are spent and to learn how to take advantage of the valuable resources available through ASCE National Headquarters. The conference will start at 8:30 and run until 11:30 AM.

Younger Member Group Wins Award!

The Younger Member Group (YMG) of the Wisconsin Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) was awarded the 2005 ASCE Zone III Public Service Award at a recent conference in Houston, Texas. The award is presented annually to an ASCE group in the central United States and Mexico who has demonstrated excellence in public service and outreach to the general community.

The award was bestowed based primarily on the group's significant interaction with K-12 students in southeastern Wisconsin. In the last year, YMG organized and conducted presentations in twelve Milwaukee-area public schools, encouraging students to consider engineering careers through "hands on" classroom activities. YMG members had additional interaction with area middle school students through the Future City Competition, serving as both professional liaisons to school teams as well as judges at the regional competition. YMG also played a vital role in the organization and execution of the regional Mathcounts competition. Participation at the Elm Dale Elementary School Discovery Day in Greenfield and at a Girl Scout Survivor camp also encouraged young students to think about careers in engineering.

The award was presented to members of the Young Member Group at the President's Luncheon at the Zone Leadership Conference of the American Society of Civil Engineers on February 18, 2006 at the Sheraton Houston Brookhollow Hotel in Houston, Texas. See the announcement letter on page 5!

Volunteer Judge Opportunity

Amy Roth and Linda Vanevenhoven are co-chairs of the ASCE Great Lakes Regional Conference which will be hosted at UW-Madison this Spring (Thursday April 27 - Sunday April 30). They are in the process of selecting judges for the competitions.

The competitions that will need judges include Concrete Canoe, Steel Bridge, Concrete Shoes, Balsa Bridge, Environmental Competition, and Technical Paper. The Concrete Canoe and Steel Bridge judges will need to commit the majority of the weekend to the competition. The other events will only be 1 day, and will be a smaller time commitment.

If you can help, please contact Amy or Linda at:

Amy Roth & Linda Vanevenhoven
University of Wisconsin-Madison
2006 Great Lakes Regional Conference Co-Chairs
asceregionals06@cae.wisc.edu



American Society of Civil Engineers

December 20, 2005

Ms Laura A. Gerold, P.E.
Wisconsin Southeast Branch Director-at-Large
Tetra Tech MPS
735 W. Wisconsin Ave. Suite 600
Milwaukee, WI 53233
Laura.gerold@ttmps.com

Dear Ms Gerold:

On behalf of the Committee on Volunteer Community Service I am pleased to notify you that the Younger Member Forum of the Wisconsin Section of ASCE has been selected as the recipient of the 2005 ASCE Public Service Award in Zone III.

This award is given separately in each of the four ASCE Zones. It is presented to organized components within the American Society of Civil Engineers who have contributed significant energy to enhance the recognition of civil engineering as a respected profession through their involvement in public-serving activities and who have improved the image of ASCE and civil engineering in their community through public relations and media coverage.

The Younger Member Forum's significant public-service accomplishments are indeed praise-worthy. Your Younger Member Forum was selected for their public service efforts in helping students learn about engineering through programs such as: the Elm Dale Elementary Discovery Day – where they discussed careers in engineering, the Future City Competition – where they encouraged 7th and 8th grade students to participate in the planning and modeling of a future city, and the Girl Scouts' Survivor Camp – where, in cooperation with the Milwaukee Girl Scout Council, they made presentations to the young ladies about careers in civil engineering. Your contributions to society as civil engineers and, more importantly, its contributions to society as individuals who happen to be civil engineers is a credit to all of you. We are privileged to have the members of the Forum as part of the civil engineering profession..

Your Younger Member Forum's efforts have truly been exemplary and fully deserving of the 2005 ASCE Public Service Award for Zone III. The award will be announced at the Zone Leadership Conference of the American Society of Civil Engineers for Zone III, which will be held at the Sheraton Houston Brookhollow Hotel in Houston, Texas. The presentation will be made at the President's Luncheon on Saturday, February 18, 2006. We would be especially pleased to have members of your Younger Members Forum attend that luncheon and receive the award in person.

Again, congratulations. Your Younger Member Forum's public service efforts are very much appreciated by the entire civil engineering profession.

Sincerely,

Kent B. Anderson, PE M.ASCE
Chair, ASCE Committee on Volunteer Community Service
Nevada By Design
3515 East Harmon Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89121
kanderson@nvbydesign.com

Wisconsin Section ASCE Student Scholarship Summary

By: Darrell J. Berry, Region 3 Governor

Date: January 14, 2006

Following is a summary of the student scholarship program for the Wisconsin Section ASCE, and the four Branches within the Section.

Section:

The Section has a \$2,500 line item annual budget for student scholarships. This amount is allocated annually to each of the four Branches, based on Branch membership. In 2005, the student scholarship allocations were as follows:

Fox River Valley Branch:	\$416.95
Southwest Branch:	\$689.18
Northwest Branch:	\$196.42
Southeast Branch:	\$1,197.45

Southwest Branch:

This Branch awards four - \$700 to \$900 annual scholarships to students from the following colleges:

- Two for University of Wisconsin-Platteville
- Two for University of Wisconsin-Madison

The Branch has programs and events in which the scholarship funds are raised. The Branch has a committee that reviews applications for the awards, and makes recommendations to the Branch Board for approval.

Contact person is Mr. Jan Kucher, email Jan.Kucher@rmtinc.com

Northwest Branch:

This Branch awards one - \$500 annual scholarship for a student at an ABET accredited engineering institution: University of Wisconsin-Madison; University of Wisconsin-Platteville; University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Milwaukee School of Engineering; Marquette University; University of Minnesota and Michigan Technological University.

The Branch has a committee and various fundraising events, similar to the Southwest Branch.

Contact person is Ms. Staci Mick, email micks@AyresAssociates.com

Fox River Valley Branch:

This Branch awards one - \$1,000 annual scholarship for high school seniors in the Fox River Valley area, who plan to enroll in a civil engineering curriculum. It is desirable for the students to attend a college located within Wisconsin, but that is not a requirement. The Branch has a committee and various fundraising events, similar to the Southwest Branch.

Contact person is Mr. Gary Amel, email gamel@foth.com

(Continued from page 6)

Southeast Branch:

This Branch awards three - \$1,500 annual scholarships to students attending the following colleges, typically one student from each college per year:

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Marquette University

Milwaukee School of Engineering

The Branch has an annual scholarship dinner meeting in January, in which the cost of the dinner includes a contribution to the scholarship program. Companies and organizations in southeast Wisconsin are solicited to sponsor this event, with Newsletter recognition given to those who provide sponsorship. This Branch also has a formal scholarship application process, and a committee that reviews and makes recommendations to the Branch Board for award of the scholarships.

Contact person is Dr. Richard A. DeVries, email devries@msoe.edu

In summary, the Wisconsin Section and the Branches within the Section have a great scholarship program, with the amounts of the scholarships increasing every year.

This report is respectfully submitted by:

Darrell J. Berry, P.E., F. ASCE

Region 3 Governor

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January 2006 Newsletter

Addressed to an Important ASCE Member

c/o: Mark P. Mathu, P.E.
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