

# ASCE *American Society of Civil Engineers*

## WISCONSIN SECTION NEWSLETTER February 2008

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A belated welcome to 2008! As I am writing this I occasionally peek outside my kitchen window – lots of snow, and it looks (and is!) very, very cold. I hope you're all finding ways to enjoy our winter.

I'm happy to report the Board continues to move forward on achieving its goals:

- Replacing committee chairs. Several members have stepped forward to help:

Awards: Larry Ryan

Engineering Education: Mark Meyers

Environmental: Michael Keleman and Roy Wittenburg

Water Resources and Hydraulics: Mike DePue

Construction: Dean LaFleur and Mike Mutziger

We continue to work to fill vacancies in Public Affairs, Public Relations and Management committees. Many thanks to these individuals for volunteering to help.

- Support of Younger Member Group. The YMG continues their efforts to expand and reorganize the group. The Board continues to support their efforts.
- Financial issues: The Board is working on identifying the need for additional financial support for students and branches, along with the Report Card. The Board has not made any decisions at this time.

The Board has been monitoring several pieces of legislation:

- Rule Petition 07-09 – Matter of the Definition of the Practice of Law and the Administration of a Rule Defining the Practice of Law. The State Bar has petitioned the Supreme Court to address the definition of the practice of law. The Board has come out against this petition. The Board feels the change would improperly infringe upon the activities engineers perform in the normal course of business and that existing statutes address the concerns of the Bar. Fred Groth is assisting the Board in presenting its concerns.

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- Governor Doyle recently signed Act 47. This act started as Assembly Bill 181. The Act allows the Examining Board of Architects, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers and Land Surveyors to establish continuing education requirements that a person must satisfy in order to renew his or her credential.
- The Board is assisting ACEC WI in their attempt to bring AB553 into law. This bill supports the use of Qualification Based Selection in Wisconsin.
- The Board has supported individuals in their quest to receive awards or nominations. Tim Bate has been nominated for ASCE Region 3 Governor. Brian Udovich has been nominated for the Edmund Friedman Young Engineer. The Younger Member Group has applied for a national ASCE award. We are proud to have members that are worthy of this recognition.

The Section was pleased to learn that we have been awarded a State Public Affairs Grant for three activities:

Redesign Southeast Branch Website: \$1,475  
Alliance of Technical Professionals Membership: \$950  
Wisconsin Report Card: \$4,500

Congratulations to the Northwest Branch for receiving the 2007 National Outstanding Newsletter Award for small Branches! The award was presented at the Region Leadership Conference on January 25<sup>th</sup>.

Please feel free to call me or any Board member with questions or suggestions.



David Mongan, P.E., F.ASCE, 2008 President (front row, 5th from left) with the University of Wisconsin Concrete Canoe team

## I'M AT HOME SERVING MY SOCIETY. I'M HOME AT ASCE.

I have made ASCE my home for 36 years. As your 2008 president, I believe being a member of ASCE gives us the opportunities to be more than better civil engineers—it helps us to be better people, too. ASCE ensures that you have the tools to create a sustainable future, from inventing innovative infrastructure, to raising the quality of life for underdeveloped communities, to building the future of engineering in today's students and those yet to begin their professional journey. How can you get involved and find your home at ASCE? **Develop** a personal relationship with your local ASCE section or branch. **Share** your expertise through ASCE's newest relationship with Engineers Without Borders – USA (EWB) and help implement sustainable engineering projects in underdeveloped communities. **Excite** the next generations of civil engineers by sharing your talents in ASCE's K-12 outreach programs. **Influence** the future of sustainable infrastructure by becoming a Key Contact.



The home for civil engineers and the civil engineering profession

**ASCE** American Society  
of Civil Engineers®

[www.asce.org](http://www.asce.org)

## 2008 Wisconsin Section Awards Competition

With winter almost behind us, it is time to think about the Wisconsin Section awards. The awards fall into the following categories:

- Distinguished Service Award
- Individual Merit Awards
  - Engineer in Education
  - Engineer in Consulting Practice
  - Engineer in Government
  - Engineer in Private Practice (Utility, Industry, etc.)
- Young Civil Engineer of the Year Award
- Engineering Achievement Awards
  - Category A: Under \$2 million construction cost
  - Category B: \$2 million - \$10 million construction cost
  - Category C: \$10 million - \$20 million construction cost
  - Category D: Over \$20 million construction cost
  - Excellence in Journalism Award
- Outstanding Senior Civil Engineering Student Awards
  - Marquette University
  - Milwaukee School of Engineering
  - University of Wisconsin - Madison
  - University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee
  - University of Wisconsin - Platteville



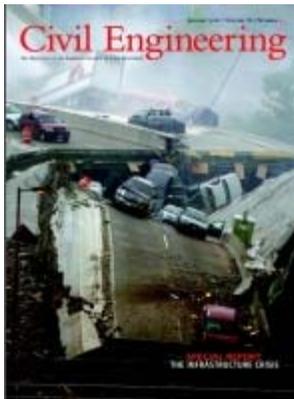
The Journalism and Outstanding Student Award nominations are due April 10, 2008 and the remaining award nominations are not due until June 1, 2008, but now is a good time to begin thinking about individuals and projects that are suitable for nomination. There is no fee required to enter the competition.

The awards are authorized by the Board of Directors, based on the recommendation of a Jury of Judges, and are presented at the Annual Meeting held in September.

For descriptions of the awards and nomination forms, visit the Wisconsin Section website at [http://sections.asce.org/wisconsin/wi\\_asce.html](http://sections.asce.org/wisconsin/wi_asce.html)

***“ Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying when there seemed to be no help at all.” - Dale Carnegie***

## Civil Engineering magazine and ASCE News now online



ASCE's premier magazine and newspaper are now online each month. With the new digital *Civil Engineering* magazine and *ASCE News* members may:

- Turn each page with a simple click of your mouse
- Search key terms and click directly to the sections and articles that interest them most
- Address environmental concerns by enabling us to eliminate the printing of thousands of copies

Monthly issues of each publication will be posted to the Members Only portion of the ASCE Web site.

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## Participate in ASCE's Salary Survey

ASCE members have the opportunity to become one of the more than 20,000 engineers who have participated in the *Engineering Income and Salary Survey*. Member participation is essential to the *Survey's* continued success because it ensures the compensation database continues offering official and robust civil engineering data across the country.

Participating members not only receive a free report with the current salary information for their engineering grade and region, but they will be entered to win one of 10 \$100 Visa Gift Cards. Plus, ASCE members can download a copy of the updated [ASCE Guidelines for Engineering Grades](#) at no cost.



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## ASCE National Awards - Call for Nominations Your Opportunity to Recognize Distinguished Civil Engineers

ASCE is seeking recommendations for professional practice awards to honor distinguished civil engineers and be presented at the 2008 Annual Conference in Pittsburgh. This is an opportunity for one of our local members to be nationally recognized. The due date is March 1, for the following awards.

- **John I. Parcel-Leif J. Sverdrup Civil Engineering Management Award**
- **Edmund Friedman Professional Recognition Award**
- **Civil Government Award**
- **Government Civil Engineer of the Year Award**

For further information and downloadable forms, visit [www.asce.org/awards](http://www.asce.org/awards).

## New Design Squad Activity Guide!



Design Squad, the PBS reality engineering competition series for kids, is returning for a second season with a new activity guide. The guide includes five new hands-on challenges, leader notes, and discussion Q&As! Help inspire kids to start thinking like engineers by emailing [outreach@asce.org](mailto:outreach@asce.org) for your free copy!

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## Video Game Teaches Civil Engineering



Time Engineers ([www.timeengineers.com](http://www.timeengineers.com)) is an award-winning, PC-based educational video game that teaches civil, mechanical, and electrical engineering principles to middle and high school students in grades 6-10. Students travel in a cool time machine to three different time periods and encounter engineering problems to be solved in order to build pyramids, irrigate farm land, command a WWII submarine, raise and lower medieval drawbridges, and much more.

To learn more about the game including a video demo, lesson plans, specifications and game play or for complete order information, visit <http://www.software-kids.com/html/teachers.html>

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## ASCE Key Vote Scorecard

Have you ever wondered if all those emails you send to your legislator about ASCE priority issues are having an effect? Is your legislator listening to you on issues important to civil engineers? Do you want to find out if a particular legislator supports ASCE positions? Then you need to check out ASCE's Key Vote Scorecard – the answer to all your questions.



The scorecard lists votes of importance on ASCE issues and explains each measure. For easy reference, there are four different versions of the score card: every member of the House of Representatives listed alphabetically, every House member listed by state and district, every member of the Senate listed alphabetically, and every member of the Senate listed by state.

As a 501(c)(3) organization, ASCE cannot and does not support or oppose candidates for public office. This document does not endorse any specific candidate, but instead presents a list of votes on ASCE-supported issues and how individual legislators voted.

To view the scorecard simply login to the Members Only area of the ASCE website at [www.asce.org](http://www.asce.org) and browse to the *What's New* area.

## From the Archives—News and events from past issues of Civil Engineering Magazine and ASCE Transactions

### **Local Sections Meet Unemployment Problem Civil Engineering Magazine, March 1932**

One of the duties of the Local section committees is to keep up the morale of unemployed engineers...In a number of the Sections, loan funds have been set up and small loans have been made to needy engineers...The principle work of the Local Section committees has been to find and superintend "made-work" projects that will furnish employment not only to engineers but also to the general class of needy in the community...In Milwaukee unemployed engineers were given the task of relocating and reestablishing section corner markings throughout the state.

### **Thoughts of a Civil Engineer -Letter to the Editor, Civil Engineering Magazine, June 1946**

To the Editor: I presume that ever so often all of us have some thoughts about engineers and engineering, but very seldom do we put such thoughts on paper. I felt an inclination to do something of the sort the other day and this is the result. Enoch R. Needles, M. ASCE, New York, N.Y.

*The Civil Engineer - An Appreciation -*

Knowing the true tests of the true professions -

To learn and to serve first,  
to receive and consider self last;  
To follow highest ideals and the true  
without swerve or fear of hurt;  
To be strong and firm and bold,  
while understanding, considerate and deeply sensitive;  
To possess sympathy, loyalty and integrity and  
to dispossess the heart of arrogance, conceit and hate;  
To know the worth of experience  
and to share fully with youth;



The Civil Engineer

Opens the way to new lands,  
Smooths the road,  
Bridges the depths,  
Speeds the traveler,  
Quenches the thirst,  
Dissipates the foul and unclean,  
Conquers the torrent,  
Brings to life the waste and inert,  
Spends with thrift,  
Builds for good,  
Knows beauty and strength in that which works and serves,  
Makes tools of arts and science and honored words,  
Graces the banquet as well as the humble table,  
Is strong with the mighty, mild with the meek,  
Gives all for war but more for peace  
Wants nothing but that which follows opportunity and the thrill of accomplishment.  
And in so striving and doing,  
He measures true to his profession old  
But ever new.

**(Editor's Note: Enoch Needles was one of the founders of HNTB corporation, served as ARTBA chairman in 1949 and as President of ASCE in 1956 among his many accomplishments. I didn't know this at the time I stumbled across the above letter to the editor. Amazing!)**

# **ASCE** *American Society of Civil Engineers*

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**February 2008 Newsletter**

**Addressed to an Important ASCE Member**

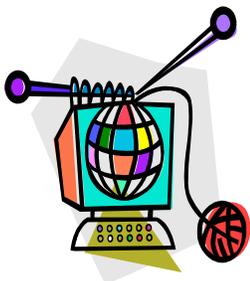
Wisconsin Section - ASCE  
c/o: Richard A Schneider, P.E.  
Madison Area Technical College  
3550 Anderson St  
Madison, WI 53704



Your articles, comments, photos and letters for publication in the ASCE Wisconsin Section newsletter. Anything civil, interesting and primarily factual may be submitted to

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Deadline for next issue is March 15, 2008



## Visit the Website

Current events, newsletters, contacts, email addresses, board meeting minutes, and much more are waiting for you on the ASCE Wisconsin Section website. Our thanks to Mr. Martin Hanson, webmaster, for volunteering his time and efforts. Check it out at

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