



# WISCONSIN SECTION CIVIL ENGINEERING NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 1998

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Another year in the life of ASCE has almost gone by and it is customary for presidents to review and reflect in their last message. I will follow the tradition. When I reflect back, I see a fine organization running with the hard work that various members constantly put forth. We not only take care of our time-proven standard activities, i.e., annual meetings, technical conferences, scholarship programs, etc., but each year add new ideas and activities. This has been the case in my three years tenure on the Board. Let me mention a few of these activities that were implemented this year

I think one of the most effective undertakings we are engaged in is the enhanced level of involvement in governmental relations. We were already on our way with the leadership role we had been playing in the Legislative Cabinet when the importance of state-level governmental relations was recognized by ASCE National and funding was made available through State Public Affairs Grants (SPAG). We were successful in taking full advantage of these grants in this area to strengthen our efforts. As you may recall we stopped a bill provision for creating a Certified Remediation Professional program and effected significant positive changes in the Geoscience Registry Bill (SB 420) which is now signed by the governor into law. There are other issues we are constantly working on. I would like to thank Fred Groth for his leadership in this area; however, Fred needs some volunteers and I hope some of you will step forward and contact him. It is a fascinating activity for a civil engineer to get involved. Wisconsin Section is considered a model by ASCE National in public and governmental affairs and other sections are looking at us for ideas. I hope we continue to be effective in coming years in our governmental activities.

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***(Continued)*

Such activities require rapid and effective communication among the members. Our web page started this year thanks to the efforts of Tom Walther and Marty Hanson, I believe, in time will be an effective means for communicating relevant information between the Board and the members as well as among the members. In particular we need to mobilize our membership in expressing their views on important legislative activities involving public works. We can play a role in implementing this program. I hope we will develop it in coming years in a way to assist you in getting informed about issues and having the opportunity to impact them as informed and concerned citizens by contacting your legislative representatives. As professionals, we have a greater responsibility in undertaking our civic duties as citizens on matters that relate to our area of expertise.

This year as a Board we adopted a strategic plan for our section. It contains many objectives that can only be realized by sustained effort and vigilance over the years. Our future Boards will be continually reviewing the strategic plan and implementing the strategies. They will need support in these efforts and I am sure some of you will step forward.

While I highlighted above the new activities that were initiated or enhanced this past year, it is the on-going activities that provide the backbone of our section. I want to thank my fellow Board members for their many hours on the road to attend our meetings and for their humor which makes these meetings a fun activity among other things. I will cherish their friendship in years to come. Especially Tom Bate, Secretary and Carl Sutter, Treasurer, carried a heavy burden in assuring the smooth functioning of the Section. Chairs of Annual Meeting and Spring Technical Conference organized these big affairs putting many hours. Our student chapter contacts and technical committee chairs provide service impacting many of our future members and us. Many thanks to Younger Members Forum President Mark Balconi for reviving and invigorating the forum this year. Also they participated in organizing the Zone III

Younger Member Conference held in conjunction with the Zone III Management Conference in March in Milwaukee.

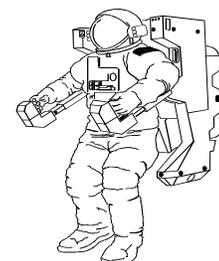
I am looking forward to working with John Goette, our incoming president. We feel our technical committees need to be invigorated and John wants to effect some changes to bring this about. I hope we all give him a hand in this most important function of our section.

I have appreciated the opportunity to serve as President. I consider it a distinct honor and privilege because his/her peers who really know the individual for many years bestow this privilege on the person. Thanks for the opportunity I hope to see many of you in our Annual Meeting to be held for the first time in beautiful Monona Terrace Convention Center in Madison. An excellent program is prepared for you.

Sincerely  
Tuncer Edil

## **ANNUAL MEETING - SEPTEMBER 18th - MADISON**

Don't forget to set aside September 18th for the Wisconsin Section Annual Meeting. A hard-working committee in the Southwest Branch have been making final arrangements for what promises to be a great program. Speakers from across the country have been scheduled. The main dinner speaker will be a NASA astronaut from Wisconsin who will tell us about the space station planned for the very near future. The meeting will be held at the beautiful Monona Terrace Convention Center in downtown Madison. Look for a complete program and registration form in a separate mailing coming in August.

The NASA logo, consisting of the word "NASA" in a bold, sans-serif font.

## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Board of Directors have been discussing ways to enhance the technical committee activity in the Wisconsin Section. One of the ideas that we thought was worth a try would be to assign one member in each branch to each technical committee. This committee would meet - for now - on a semi-annual basis and have as its assignment to develop ideas, topics, and speakers for our Annual Meeting and Spring Technical Conference.

If you would be interested in helping out on such a committee, please give me a call (414-259-1500) or drop me an e-mail at [john.goetter@gasai.com](mailto:john.goetter@gasai.com).

Remember this would be only two meetings per year

### WISCONSIN SECTION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS 1997-1998

<i>Construction</i>	<i>Jeff Kellner</i>
<i>Environmental</i>	<i>Suzanne Murawski</i>
<i>Geotechnical</i>	<i>Paul A. Tvin</i>
<i>Management</i>	<i>Kenneth R. Graham</i>
<i>Structures</i>	<i>Bob Schumacher</i>
<i>Urban Planning &amp; Transportation</i>	<i>John Norwell</i>
<i>Water Resources &amp; Hydraulics</i>	<i>Robert Carr</i>

### CONFERENCE ON COLD REGIONS

*"Conference on Cold Regions Engineering Provides Practical Solutions to Challenges in the Snowbelt States"*

You don't have to be in Alaska to deal with the effects of cold. Civil engineers throughout the snowbelt states - as well as the traditional cold regions of Alaska, Scandinavia, Canada, Russia, and the Far East - face the challenges extended cold weather presents. Snow and the cold weather

### CONFERENCE ON COLD REGIONS (Continued)

that accompanies it have huge socio-economic effects over a wide range of sectors from hydroelectric power generators, water supply wastewater treatment, highway construction and maintenance, building design and construction, and virtually every other aspect of civil engineering. Fortunately these high costs attract the funds for research and development of new technologies to overcome the challenges cold climates present.

The 9th International Conference on Cold Regions Engineering, to be held September 27-30 in Duluth, Minnesota, is designed to present the latest developments in this important specialty to help civil engineers meet the challenges of extended cold weather. This powerful, three-day conference for cold regions engineers and professionals, will explore "Cold Regions' Impact on Civil Works" and encompass all fields and sectors of engineering. In fact, it is the only known venue that brings together all aspects of cold regions engineering from both the research and applied engineering points of view.

The multidisciplinary program is designed to promote the exchange of information to advance economic and technical progress in cold region engineering. The 1998 conference features technical sessions on utilities, structures, pavement, geosynthetics, concrete, transportation, buildings, hydraulics, soil and ice mechanics, permafrost, and environmental issues.

With its Midwestern location, the conference is an ideal arena to explore the latest in cold regions engineering technology. Cold Regions '98 is sponsored by the American Society of Civil Engineers' Technical Council on Cold Regions Engineering, Duluth Section. For more information or to register call 1-800-548-2723. Also visit the conference web site at [www.asce.org/confconted/cold.html](http://www.asce.org/confconted/cold.html).

## IN MEMORIAM

(Madison) - Peter J. Witte, ~~E.~~, 37, passed away Tuesday June 23 from complications arising from a previous spinal cord injury

Witte worked for 15 years in the civil engineering field, spending the past 12 years as a highway engineer with Mead & Hunt. While with Mead & Hunt, Witte designed and managed projects ranging from four-lane divided state trunk highways (STH 29) to municipal streets (Wright Street, Madison) and bike paths (Starkweather Creek Bike Path, Madison). Through his project experience, Witte developed professional relationships with ~~W~~SDOT staff members, County Highway Departments, and communities throughout the State of ~~W~~sconsin. He was a leader in the implementation of automated design at Mead & Hunt and also expanded his expertise to the field of traffic engineering.

During his career Witte was active in the American Society of Civil Engineers, ~~W~~sconsin Automation Users Group, ~~W~~sconsin Association of Consulting Engineers and ~~W~~sconsin Society of Professional Engineers (WSPE). Witte also served on the Verona Park Commission Board and was a member of the Madison Optimist Club.

Witte was an active advocate for persons with disabilities and served on a number of committees dealing with handicap accessibility issues. Most recently he was appointed to serve on the *Means of Egress and Accessibility Specialty Council* representing WSPE.

Witte will be remembered by co-workers for his dedication, friends for his easy-going nature, and all who knew him for his strength and determination. Witte is survived by his wife, Jody and son, Dusty of Verona; parents, Dick and Peggy Witte; a brother Tom (Dawn); and a sister, Alison, all of Wauwatosa; and a sister, Charlotte (Bob) Geiger of Cedarburg. Witte was the son-in-law of Lincoln and Phebe Tillefson of Fennimore.

Mead & Hunt extends its deepest sympathy to the many people whose lives Witte touched. He will be greatly missed by all.

## LEGISLATIVE CABINET UPDATE

The legislative cabinet has been very active lately on a number of issues. The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), ~~W~~sconsin Society of Professional Engineers (WSPE), ~~W~~sconsin Association of Consulting Engineers (~~W~~CE), and the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG) has been very active in amending and supporting the SB420 Geologist Bill. The bill passed and was signed into law last June. Congratulations and thanks to all who helped on this bill.

Presently we are working and meeting with DNR, COMM., Senator Mary Penz, and with representatives from ~~W~~CE, WSPE, and AIPG to help review and resolve if a certified remediation professional program is needed. ASCE is looking for a new ASCE representative to tackle and attend meetings.

We are presently finished with this session. Our fall session will begin in September and October

ASCE is presently looking for new members on the legislative cabinet. We need three or more new members, especially younger members. We meet on the fourth Wednesday of every month at noon (meetings twice a month when legislative sessions are in session). The sessions meet on east of Madison near East Towne Mall. If anyone is interested, please contact Fred Groth at address below

*Fred Groth, E.*  
*Chairman of Legislative Cabinet*  
*and Chairman of ASCE Public Affairs Committee*  
*@ Graef Anhalt Schloemer & Associates*  
*2317 International Lane*  
*Madison, WI 53704*  
*Ph: 608-242-1550    Fx: 608-242-0787*  
*E-mail ~~fr~~d.groth@gasai.com*

As chairman of the legislative cabinet, I will be stepping down in September 1998, but I will remain active in the legislative cabinet. I will further update you on my future plans in our next newsletter. I do wish to thank everyone who worked and helped on the Legislative Cabinet for the last two years of my term. I believe we have had a very successful two years and look forward to our continued success on future legislative issues. *We are making a difference.*

**LETTER OF THE EDITOR,  
BY DARRELL BERRY  
1998 WISCONSIN SECTION ASCE  
AWARDS PROGRAM**

The Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Section ASCE is very disappointed with the small number of entries in this year's engineering projects awards program. Only two projects were nominated in Category B (cost \$1 million to \$10 million), and only one project in Category C (cost over \$10 million). No nominations were received in Category A (cost less than \$1 million). The Board is particularly disappointed, because nearly two dozen projects were nominated by consultants in the Wisconsin Association of Consulting Engineers (WACE) 1998 awards program. Many of those projects could also have been nominated for the ASCE awards program, by simply changing the cover page and preparing our two page nomination form. Also, there is no entry cost for nominating projects in our ASCE program.

One possible reason for the small number of nominations is the new requirement for including a 3 to 5 minute VHS format video of the project with the nomination form. Was this why more projects were not nominated? The Board instituted this criteria last year to aid the jury of judges in reviewing the projects without necessarily having to personally visit each project site. The Board also felt that the video would be something nice to have available for viewing at the annual meeting. The video was not, and is not, intended to be a high cost "professional" quality video, but was intended to be more of a "home video" quality

The Board is considering some revisions to the criteria for the annual awards program for next year to stimulate more interest in nominations of more projects. Please call me at 414-359-2300, X2038; send me a fax at 414-359-2310; or send me an e-mail note at [dberry@hntb.com](mailto:dberry@hntb.com) with your thoughts and comments for how we can improve our annual awards program. I'm particularly interested in hearing from ASCE members whose firms submitted projects in the WACE awards program, but not in the ASCE awards program. Your comments will be greatly appreciated!  
Thanks!

**HONORARY MEMBER NOMINATIONS**

The Wisconsin Section Board is looking for nominations for election to the grade of Honorary Member

An Honorary Member shall be a person who shall have attained acknowledged eminence in some branch of engineering or in the arts and sciences related thereto. Whether elected from the membership of the Society or from outside its rolls, Honorary Members shall be entitled to all of the privileges of the Society and shall be exempt from the payment of entrance fees and annual dues. The total number of Honorary Members elected in any year shall not exceed one for every 7,500 members. Members of the Board of Direction shall be ineligible for election to honorary membership during their terms of active membership on the Board of Direction.

Any person who possesses the qualifications for membership as described in this Article shall be eligible for such membership, whether or not the person is practicing professionally at the time of making the application.

Please contact a section board member with any suggestions for nominees.



**Newsletter Deadline:**

Submit your articles for the November newsletter by October 9, 1998. Articles can be sent to:

Darrell Berry at:  
HNTB Corporation  
One Park Plaza, Suite 500  
11270 West Park Plaza  
Milwaukee, WI 53224  
Phone 414-359-2300  
Fax 414-359-2310  
E-mail at [dberry@hntb.com](mailto:dberry@hntb.com)



## CONCRETE CANOE RESULTS

The UW Madison ASCE  
student chapter concrete canoe

team made a strong showing placing 12th in the national competition in Rapid City SD. UW Madison's best showing came in the woman's sprint where they placed 4th in the nation.

UW Madison and six other schools received a damaging penalty on a rule interpretation concerning the canoe design that penalized the design paper and pushed them back several places. The University of Alabama-Huntsville won the competition with their 50-lb concrete canoe. It is no surprise that the spirit and numbers of the UW Madison crowd made a definite impression with the other schools at the races and especially at the awards banquet. They had over 30 students and 3 faculty members attending. Congratulations to Tony Wills and Brent Wenger (team captains) and the rest of the team for their outstanding performance.

## COLLEEN HORAN AWARDED 1998 PRESIDENT'S DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD FROM ENGINEERS & SCIENTISTS OF MILWAUKEE

Colleen Horan, P.E., (Southeast Branch) has been designated the recipient of the Engineers & Scientists of Milwaukee 1998 President's Distinguished Service Award. During the last five years, Ms. Horan has contributed extensive volunteer efforts for the National Engineers' Week Future City Competition. Among Ms. Horan's volunteer contributions: she served as a member of the original organizing committee responsible for bringing the competition to Milwaukee, has maintained active membership on the Future City Steering Committee, organizes competition schedules and judging, participates in volunteer and school recruitment, and assists with orientation sessions for the program participants.

## WISCONSIN SECTION STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS 1997-1998

*Awards*  
*Finance and Budget*  
*Engineering Education/  
Professional Development*  
*History and Heritage*  
*Jury of Judges*  
*Membership*  
*Newsletter*  
*Nominations*  
*Past Presidents Council*  
*Public Affairs*  
*Public Relations*  
*Yearbook*  
*Annual Meeting*  
*Spring Technical Conference*

*Phil LeClair*  
*Wayne Schumm*  
  
*Rolf Killingstad*  
*Tom Wither*  
*Tom Wither*  
*Bill Butler*  
*Peggy Hawley*  
*Earl Holzman*  
*Ken Kosciak*  
*Fred Gorth*  
*Harold Farhman*  
*Vacant*  
*Vacant*  
*Bill Butler/*  
*Steve Peterson*

 **MARK YOUR CALENDER...** 

It's never too early to begin planning how the  
Wisconsin Section can take advantage of  
ASCE's *State Public Affairs Grants Program!*

Over the past two years, ASCE National has provided nearly \$400,000  
to the Sections and Branches to promote civil engineering  
through public & government relations activities.

Because the SAG Program is intended as a resource for the entire Society, the  
State Public Affairs Grants Committee encourages every Section to  
solicit program ideas from all members. . . including Branches,  
Younger Member and Student Chapters.

In the past, the Wisconsin Section has used their grant money to help fund several projects including  
setting up the web page, Future Cities Competition, and Legislative Cabinet. If you have any sug-  
gestions for next years' grant money please contact one of the  
Section Board Members.



5th ANNUAL UW-Platteville ASCE Student Chapter

**BENCHMARK OPEN**

Four Person Best Ball Golf Tournament

Friday September 1, 1998

At The Platteville Golf & Country Club



Open To All Civil Engineering Professionals  
Fun With College Of Engineering Alumni, Faculty And  
Civil Engineering Students  
Prizes, Contests, And Drawings

\$55.00 Per Person Includes:

18 Holes Of Golf

Golf Cart

Steak Dinner

For More Information Call The UW-Platteville  
Civil And Environmental Engineering Department

At

(608) 342-1543

## Meeting Schedule for 1997 - 1998 (Tentative)

### ASCE - Wisconsin Section and Branches

	Fox River Branch	Southwest Branch	Northwest Branch	Southeast Branch
<b>1997</b>				
September	19 Milwaukee	19 Milwaukee 26 Eau Claire <sup>3</sup>	20 Appleton	19 Milwaukee
October	29 Appleton <sup>4</sup>	16 Madison <sup>12</sup>	--	16 Milwaukee
November	19 Green Bay <sup>3,10</sup>	11 Dodgeville <sup>8</sup>	21 Eau Claire <sup>3</sup>	18 Milwaukee <sup>2</sup>
December	11 Green Bay <sup>3,10</sup>	4 Madison	--	18 Milwaukee <sup>N</sup>
<b>1998</b>				
January	29 Manitowish <sup>6</sup>	13 Madison	24 Eau Claire	29 Milwaukee <sup>9</sup>
February	Sheboygan <sup>4</sup>	19 Madison <sup>4</sup>	24 Eau Claire <sup>3</sup>	26 Milwaukee
March	26 Oshkosh	26 Oshkosh	26 Oshkosh	26 Oshkosh
April	20 Appleton	14 Madison	14 Eau Claire <sup>#</sup>	23 Milwaukee <sup>N</sup>
May	14 Green Bay <sup>3,13,#</sup>	21 Madison	19 Eau Claire <sup>3</sup>	21 Milwaukee <sup>8</sup>
June	--	--	--	18 Milwaukee <sup>6,13</sup>
July	--	--	--	16 Milwaukee <sup>5</sup>
August	--	--	--	--
September	18 Madison	18 Madison	18 Madison	18 Madison

### Scheduled Section Board Meetings

09-19-97	Milwaukee	10-16-97	Madison	11-18-97	Milwaukee	12-1-97	Green Bay
01-26-98	Milwaukee	No February Meeting		03-00-98	Fond du Lac	04-14-98	Eau Claire
05-14-98	Green Bay	06-18-98	Madison	08-14-98	Milwaukee	09-18-98	Madison

#### NOTES:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| # Joint Section Board and Branch Meeting             | 9 Joint Mtg. w/Student Chap. of Marquette, MSOE, & UW-Milw |
| N Noon Luncheon Meeting                              | 10 Joint Meeting with Green Bay Engineers Club             |
| 1 Wis. Section Annual Mtg. at Appleton               | 11 Joint Meeting with Student Chapter at UW-Platteville    |
| 2 Joint Meeting with American Concrete Inst. (ACI)   | 12 Joint Meeting with Student Chapter at UW-Madison        |
| 3 Joint Meeting with WSPE (Wis. Soc. of Prof. Engrs) | 13 Guest/Spouses Night                                     |
| 4 Engineers Week Meeting                             | 14 Joint Meeting with ITE (Institute of Trans. Engrs.)     |
| 6 Wisconsin Section Spring Technical Conference      | 15 Field Trip  |
| 7 Joint Mtg. with ESM (Engrs. & Scientists of Milw)  | 16 Past Presidents Night                                   |
| 8 Wisconsin Section Annual Meeting                   | 17 Joint Meeting w/same                                    |

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One Systems Drive  
Appleton, WI 54914  
c/o Peggy Hawley

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