Hello Southeast Wisconsin Engineers,

The holiday season came and went quickly this year, and I can’t believe that it is already 2021. I hope that everyone was able to spend some quality time with their family during the holiday season. I was fortunate enough to spend a few days enjoying the fresh snow we received with my 4-year-old daughter. I think we went sledding more times in the last few weeks than I have in the last decade!

Speaking of outdoor winter fun, for our December Member Meeting we were treated with a presentation from John McCarthy on the snowmaking system at Lapham Peak. Hopefully it inspired some of you to check out the freshly groomed trails.

If all this talk of skiing and sledding has piqued your interest, you are in luck as the YMG will be hosting a social event of tubing at the Rock Sports complex in Franklin. See below for more details.

If winter sports aren’t your thing (we are engineers), we also have some other upcoming activities that might interest you. In early February the YMG will be having a virtual game night with the SW Branch YMG. Also, we are still looking for volunteers for the Future City competition in a few weeks. Again, see below for more details on both events.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate fellow branch members John McCarthy and Nick Bobinski for being named STEM Forward’s Engineer of the Year and Young Engineer of the Year, respectively. This is a great honor and very well deserved for the two of them. I encourage everyone to congratulate both the next time you see them.

As always, if you have an idea for an event, speaker, meeting topic, or anything else for our branch, do not hesitate to contact me or any other board member.

Regards,

Tony Castle, P.E., M.ASCE
Wisconsin Section, Southeast Branch, President
tony.castle@aecom.com
December Meeting Recap

Our December Monthly meeting was held on Thursday, December 17th with a presentation by John McCarthy of Graef on the design and construction of the snowmaking system for the cross-country ski trails at the Lapham Peak Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest in Delafield, WI. John also provided information on how attendees can get outside this winter and enjoy our State Parks. Thank you again to John for the interesting presentation!

Also thank you to the more than 80 attendees at the meeting that helped to make the event a success! Attendees earned 1.0 PDH.

January Scholarship Meeting

Article by: Aaron Bubb

Please join the Southeast Branch for our virtual January Meeting and Scholarship Award Event being held on Wednesday, January 27th at 4:30 PM. We will award our annual scholarships to Michael Pook of Marquette, Zach Binversie of MSOE, and John Bowen of UW-Milwaukee.

After congratulating our winners, Kevin Muhs of the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) will be speaking about their VISION 2050 plan. The seven-county Southeastern Wisconsin area has reached a pivotal moment in our Region’s development, and more than ever we will need to compete with other areas to attract residents and businesses. To increase our competitiveness, VISION 2050 builds on our strengths as a Region and seeks to improve areas where we do not compete well with our peers.

Registration will be required to receive credit for 1.0 PDH. Registration will be limited, so be sure to reserve your spot today! Deadline to register is Monday, January 25th.

Register Now
Congratulations to STEM Forward’s 2020 Engineer of the Year John McCarthy and Young Engineer of the Year Nick Bobinski

Stem Forward has selected Southeast Branch member John McCarthy as the 2020 Engineer of the Year and our current Past President Nick Bobinski as the 2020 Young Engineer of the Year!

John and Nick will accept their awards at the 68th Annual Engineer’s Week Banquet on Wednesday February 17. The event this year will be virtual. Special Guest Presentation on STEM Talent and the Future Workforce will feature Scott McLees, Founder, Pendio Group.

If interested, you can get more information and register here.

Congratulations to John and Nick on these well-deserved honors!

Future City Competition 2021 (Volunteers Needed)

Article by: Neal Styka

The 2021 Future City Competition is coming up at the end of this month! The ASCE WI SE Branch is sponsoring four special awards for "Exemplary Model." Judging will be done on Zoom on the morning of Saturday, January 30th, 2021 and in the upcoming weeks to narrow our selection.

Judges will be meeting with each of the Future City teams to review and discuss their future city model and design. Then judges will then score each team accordingly. This year’s challenge, Living on the Moon, asks teams to design a futuristic lunar city and provide examples of how the city uses two Moon resources to keep its residents safe and healthy.

If you are interested in participating as a special award judge, please contact Neal Styka (nstyka@kapurinc.com) by Friday, January 22nd, 2021 to sign up. Thank you to all who have volunteered to help with the Future City Competition in the past and to STEM Forward for hosting this amazing event each year!
Membership Update

Article by: Caleb Manske

IT’S NOT TOO LATE! Be sure to renew your ASCE Membership for 2021 if you forgot with all the craziness of 2020. You don’t want to miss out on all the great benefits membership has to offer.

Did you know, it pays to get your friends involved with ASCE? You could earn a $50 Amazon gift card for every referral you make through the ASCE Member-Get-a-Member (MGAM) program. New referrals could also save up to 50% off their initial membership dues.

YMG Update

Article By: Josh Mitchell

Game Night with YMG

The YMG is hosting a virtual Game Night with the Southwest Branch YMG on Thursday February 4th. The Game night will take place over Zoom. More information will be sent out later this week with the invite to the game night.

YMG Sledding at The Rock Snowpark

The YMG will be having a Sledding event at The Rock Snowpark on February 19th details and an invite email will be sent out shortly. Food and Beverages will be available to purchase. We hope everyone can Join for a fun time at The Rock!

Get to Know Your Board!

To help our members get to know our Branch board better, we will be highlighting board members each newsletter in this series. This month we are spotlighting Nick Bobinski our Past President and recipient of the 2020 STEM Forward Young Engineer of the Year award!

Tell us about yourself:

I grew up in South Milwaukee and currently live in Brookfield with my wife and 2 daughters. I’m an Associate and Senior Project Engineer at Kapur, where I primarily work on WisDOT roadway projects. I enjoy working on meaningful projects and seeing a project take shape from concept through construction. Like all engineers, I love pointing out to my family any and all projects that I worked on if we happen to be passing by!
Where did you go to School?
I graduated from UW-Madison. Go Badgers!

Do you have any hobbies?
I try to get out and enjoy the outdoors, either on foot or by bike. Many weekends involve trips to
the Zoo or in search of new playgrounds for my daughters to explore. When the kids are sleeping
I take on home improvement projects.

What is your favorite television show(s)?
Current favorites are Blue Bloods and The Amazing Race (wondering if it will return??)

What is the highlight of the past year?
Oooh, tough question! Our trip to Florida in January might top the list. I even convinced the
group to visit the Kennedy Space Center.

What did you want to be when you grew up?
I recall astronaut and fire fighter being on the list, but engineer was in the cards starting around
middle school.

What is the best place that you have visited?
I spent a semester in Brisbane, Australia during college. I’d love to go back some day and explore
even more.

A place you would like to visit before you die?
I’ve always wanted to see Venice.

How did you get involved in ASCE?
I joined at UW-Madison and got involved in the Concrete Canoe competition. It was an awesome
experience to attend the Student Conferences and National Competitions.

What do you like best about ASCE?
I like the opportunity to meet other Civil Engineers, including those in other disciplines. It’s a
great way to build a broader network.

What advice do you have for ASCE members?
Think of a way to make ASCE better, and make it happen! Active members are the heart of ASCE.

*Deadline for next issue is the first of the month.*
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WE are Pinnacle Engineering Group.

CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES: This is a paid advertisement and is not affiliated with ASCE.

We are currently seeking multiple members to join our team in any of our three (Brookfield, WI | Kenosha, WI | East Dundee, IL) offices.

Civil Sr. Project Manager (Milwaukee, Kenosha & Chicago Offices)
Civil Project Manager (Milwaukee, Kenosha & Chicago Offices)
Civil Project Engineer (Milwaukee, Kenosha & Chicago Offices)
Civil CAD Drafter (Milwaukee, Kenosha & Chicago Offices)
Professional Land Surveyor (Milwaukee, Kenosha & Chicago Offices)

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