Hello Southeast Wisconsin Engineers,

Summer is in full swing in Wisconsin. Hopefully all of you are taking advantage of the beautiful weather and enjoying some personal and/or family time outdoors. For me, it seems like every other weekend I’m splashing around with my daughter in our blow-up pool in the backyard with all the dry warm weather we’ve been having.

Speaking of big splashes, we have continued to see awesome attendance at our recent virtual monthly member meetings. See below for details on the May and June meetings. Information for the August member meeting will be coming out soon, so be on the lookout for that.

Another one of my favorite summer activities is hitting the links and for those of you who haven’t heard, we have moved our Annual Scholarship Golf Outing from June to August 27th this year. See below for some general event information. Registration is still open but filling up fast so make sure you register soon! As always, the funds raised from the event go towards our annual scholarships for local civil engineering students, so be sure to support this event any way that you can.

As the summer winds down the ASCE year is also winding down, which means board elections are right around the corner. We have a few positions that are up for election so if you are interested in getting more involved, please reach out to me. If a board position seems more of a commitment then you can give right now, we are also looking for planning committee members for the 2022 Spring Technical Conference. Again, if you have interest please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

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
May Monthly Member Meeting

Article By: Nick Bobinski

The Southeast Branch held our May member meeting virtually on Wednesday, May 12th. Nearly 80 attendees learned about the unique partnership formed by the Wisconsin DOT and Light the Hoan Foundation to bring aesthetic lighting to the Hoan Bridge. After successfully raising over $3.5M in private funds, Milwaukee’s iconic Hoan Bridge was lit with thousands of programmable LED lights. WisDOT’s lead project engineer, Chris Hager, and Light the Hoan co-founder, Michael Hostad, shared their insights on what it took to make this project a reality and the impact it has already had on Milwaukee. Attendees earned one PDH. Learn more about the effort at [https://www.lightthehoan.com/](https://www.lightthehoan.com/)

June Monthly Member Meeting and Past Presidents Event

In lieu of the traditional Southeast Branch Past Presidents Dinner, our June Monthly meeting and Past Presidents event was held virtually on Tuesday, June 29th with a presentation by John McCarthy from GRAEF on the background, design approach, and construction of the concrete channel removal and streambank re-naturalization of the Kinnickinnic River in Pulsaki Park in Milwaukee.

We also took a moment during the meeting to honor all our Branch Past Presidents, especially our current Past President Nick Bobinski for his years of dedication to the Southeast Branch.
John Kissinger Receives the 2021 Edmund Friedman National Award

Article By: Nick Bobinski

John Kissinger, P.E., S.E., M.ASCE, President and CEO of GRAEF, was selected by ASCE as the 2021 Edmund Friedman Professional Recognition Award recipient.

This prestigious award is presented annually to only one individual in the country who has substantially contributed to the science and profession of engineering.

Kissinger is being recognized for his exemplary professional conduct and service in the field of civil engineering, delivering vital and enduring projects, his commitment to engineering education, helping young engineers from diverse backgrounds, and his outstanding community leadership and philanthropy.

“I am honored to receive this recognition. This honor is as much for the team at GRAEF as it is for me, and I want to thank all of my teammates,” said Kissinger. “I also want to thank the ASCE WI SE Branch and Wisconsin Section for co-nominating me for this award. It is humbling to see my name listed with the many distinguished past recipients. This is a great highlight in my career,” he added.

Kissinger will be presented with the award during the annual ASCE convention in October.

Southeast Branch 2021 Scholarship Golf Outing

Mark your calendar! The ASCE WI Southeast Branch Scholarship Golf outing is scheduled for Friday, August 27th at Ironwood Golf Course in Sussex. We can’t wait to hit the links to support scholarships for local Civil Engineering students!

Golfer registration: Sponsorship opportunities are still available:
Register Now Sponsor Now

Contact Steve Weyda if you have any questions
sweyda@groundimprovementeng.com
262-957-7243
ASCE Historic Landmark Database

Article By: Jake Brunoehler

Members of the ASCE WISE Board visited Jones Island this past month to take a few photographs for the ASCE Historic Landmarks database. Jones Island is one of two landmarks in Milwaukee, with the other being the Marshall Building. Site visit to the Marshall Building and associated photos will be in the coming months. The total list can be found here: https://www.asce.org/landmarks/#/e6ea0cd2d528ba2f3cdec3a624404fef
**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 Neal Styka our Director at Large - Education

**Tell us about yourself:**
I am currently a Project Engineer in the transportation group at Kapur & Associates. I design projects ranging in size from a local bike path to the Zoo Interchange with an emphasis on 3D Modelling. I also have experience doing traffic modeling and am active in the Institute of Transportation Engineers. When I’m not at work, I enjoy spending time with my wife and two boys in the outdoors and biking as much as possible.

**Where did you go to School?**
I grew up in Addison, IL and went to Driscoll Catholic High School and from there I went to Marquette University to study Engineering.

**Do you have any hobbies?**
Baking bread, hiking and biking with my family

**What is your favorite television show(s)?**
I hardly watch any TV, but I seem to be able to pull away from watching the Great British Baking Show, Queer Eye, or the Repair Shop if my wife has them on.

**What is the highlight of the past year?**
Professionally it would have to be passing the Road Safety Professional Level 1 exam. Personally, it would be a trip my family took to the Red River Gorge area in Kentucky. It was a hidden gem to find and visit.

**What did you want to be when you grew up?**
I wanted to be a plumber or possibly a firefighter.

**A place you would like to visit before you die?**
Iceland

**How did you get involved in ASCE?**
I was involved in College and then took a long break only attending meetings sporadically. I then got involved as a mentor and from there my coworker, Nick Bobinski, asked me to consider joining the board.

**What advice do you have for ASCE members?**
Seek out mentors and expand your network with people from outside your own company.
Membership Update

Article By: Caleb Manske

Can you believe that we’re halfway through 2021 already?! Hopefully you’ve had an opportunity to take advantage of the great benefits ASCE membership has to offer. If not, there’s still plenty of time. Maybe you’re falling behind on PDH’s for next year’s license renewal. Don’t worry, ASCE has a plethora of Continuing Education and eLearning opportunities to help with that. Or maybe you have a summer vacation coming up and want to save a little money on your car rental (what engineer doesn’t like to save a little cash?). ASCE Membership Advantages has some awesome savings opportunities for members to save on things like insurance, travel, student loans, entertainment, appliances, computers, and more!

Student Chapter Updates

Article By: Collin Smith

As the school year has drawn to a close and many students are working at internships and enjoying some much-needed rest from their rigorous studies, we want to extend our congratulations to the engineers in the class of 2021! You’ve all worked incredibly hard and persevered through unprecedented challenges.

Congratulations to the ASCE Student Chapters on hosting many successful events throughout the year, and for your triumphs at the 2021 Great Lakes Student Competition. Enjoy your summer and some well-earned rest, we look forward to your bright futures!