

Southwest Chapter

Wisconsin Society of Professional Engineers – April 2020

WI State MATHCOUNTS 2020

1) Top 4 Teams

- a. Kromrey
- b. Wisconsin Hills
- c. Eagle
- d. DePere

2) Top 10 individuals participating in the countdown round

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| a. Kartik Ramachandrula (WI Hills) | f. Sammy Ross (Eagle) |
| b. Joshua Wang (WI Hills) | g. Geoffrey Huang (Eagle) |
| c. Grace Wu (Kromrey) | h. Angelina Chang (Velma Hamilton) |
| d. Kevin Wan (Seffen) | i. Jeremy Li (DePere) |
| e. Kevin Wu (Glacier Creek) | j. Arnov Gupta (Richmond) |
| k. Alexa Garber of Kromrey | m. Amritha Mavuri of Kromrey |
| l. Ellen Jin of Eagle | |

3) National Competition 2020

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 National MATHCOUNTS competition has been cancelled. This is truly unfortunate as Middleton dominated the State competition representing 2 of the 4 top schools and 5 of the top 10 top individuals.

Congratulations to all of the 2020 MATHCOUNTS competition and we wish you the best of luck for 2021!

2020 Scholarship Recipients

This year (February awards dinner), both Isabel Bowers (Plattetville) and Rachel Runzheimer (Madison West) each received a \$1000 scholarship award. Subsequently, BOTH Isabel and Rachel submitted THANK YOU letters to the SW Chapter. Normally, we do not receive thank you letters from the scholarship recipients but when we do we really appreciate it!

Thanks to Isabel and Rachel for being so appreciative of our efforts in making their education a little more affordable!

Discovery Conference 2020

Recently, WSPE had decided to postpone the Discovery Conference until October 21 and 22. However, for several reasons WSPE has since decided to instead offer a VIRTUAL ONLY discovery conference.

Since our PDH deadline for this biennium remains as July 31 - even though we have tried to get an extension – our virtual conference will offer those interested in attending a live-streaming, online conference for a very nominal fee. The conference would be offered as a series of presentations, probably 2 per week, either at mid-day or early evening times, starting in the 3rd week of May and continuing until the end of July.

More details such as cost, specific access times and brief descriptions of subject matter (which again will represent a diverse engineering platform) will be forthcoming in the next few days. Registration will be online, payment will be by credit card and details for each course will be found at our WSPE website “WSPE.org”.

This change in “venue” should keep everyone safe, offer a means of conforming to PDH mandates, provide a schedule that most if not all can meet and do so at a very reasonable price.

Metro Chapter Update

For many months, the Metro chapter has been largely inactive as there have been no volunteers for chapter officer-ship.

Last fall and winter, the WSPE executive committee has come up with a plan to get inactive chapters “turned around” and back to actively participating in NSPE-WI. The plan, in its simplest of terms, offers to reimburse officer volunteers of a given chapter up to a maximum of 100% of their NSPE membership dues.

This offer seems to be with some Metro Chapter members as some have volunteered to participate in the program. The Metro chapter is not yet active but we are a couple of steps closer to making that a reality. Once re-activated, the EC can move on to working with other chapters that may have become inactive to breathe new life back into our organization.

We simply cannot afford to have WSPE lose its chapters as membership in WSPE and NSPE is vital if we, as a technical society, want to maintain PE licensure. We have no other political advocates for our profession other than NSPE and when we choose not to support our state society by volunteering we are providing a means for lobbyists and misinformed politicians to wreak havoc on our profession by allowing technically incompetent or undereducated persons to assume responsible engineering roles that ultimately have proven to be disastrous.

Thank you to those that do volunteer and are willing to support WSPE with a few hours of their time each month!