

State News for NSPE Members

President's Message

By Keith R. Nikolay, P.E.

My initial message was going to be one of thanks and how much of a pleasure it was being your president over the past year. But... now I am excited to continue in this role for the 2023 – 2024 season! We have started several initiatives as an organization, and we are just getting our toes wet. This coming year will be very exciting and productive.

Our Annual Meeting is scheduled for

Wednesday, June 28 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Similar to last year, this will be held via Zoom to give the opportunity for everyone to attend. There will be quite a bit of information shared at this meeting, so I



am hoping for high attendance. Some of the items we will highlight include the following:

- Accomplishments from the past year.
- Highlights from our Chapters.
- Strategic Plan review.Activities for the upcoming year.
- Reminder: Summer is finally upon us, along with the warmerweather. FINALLY!!!

Remember to take your family on summer vacations. Or in my case, to their baseball tournaments. It may seem daunting now but the next thing you know, they will be graduating high school and will be off on their own.



NSPE Vision: A world where the public can be confident that engineering decisions affecting their lives are made by qualified and ethically accountable professionals.

NSPE Mission: To foster licensed professional engineers in service to society

Executive Committee Election Results

Thank you to all who voted in this year's election! After the votes were tallied, here is your 2023 – 2024 NSPE-WI Executive Committee:

President – **Keith Nikolay** VP Education – **Phil O'Leary** President Elect – **Fred Groth** VP Government – **Glen Schwalbach** Treasurer – **John Mika** VP Membership – **Norm Arendt** Secretary (by appointment) – **Colleen Scholl** National Delegate – **John Brome** Young Engineer Representative – **John Mika**

NSPE-WI Strategic Plan Update

The Strategic Planning Committee has been hard at work updating our Strategic Plan. It has been several years since this has been looked at, let alone revised. Over a course of several weeks, a general outline has been



created with approximately a dozen categories, along with several key action items under each category have been identified. This draft outline has been sent to Chapter presidents to get their input to ensure all Chapter ideas are identified and included. We are hoping to get this plan finalized within the next month or two so we can complete those action items. This will be a living document and will be reviewed at the monthly Executive Committee meetings to ensure we remain on task.

If anyone would like to review the Strategic Plan, please reach out to your Chapter president. As with all Strategic Plans, the more active participants we have involved in the process, the better chance of success we will have as an organization!

NSPE-WI Virtual Discovery Conference 2023

What began in 2020, because of the recent pandemic, is now an annual event and our most recent virtual Discovery Conference was a big success (having just concluded on Tuesday, April 4).

This year's theme was "New Roads Traveled," which focused on how engineers have found innovative solutions to solve challenges related to energy sources, the COVID pandemic and environmental concerns with the common goal of improving everyday quality of life for our world. Presented topics were wide ranging in technology and included mechanical, civil, biomolecular, computer, environmental, and architectural engineering challenges as well as two ethics presentations. We sincerely thank all contributors as each gave a very interesting and well-planned presentation.

There were, however, a couple of changes that were made to the conference from 2022:

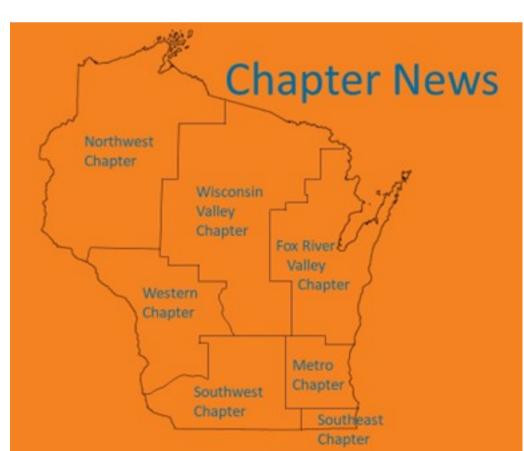
- 1. The conference offered 12 PDHs, not the 16 previously offered.
- 2. The price dropped from \$150 to \$115 (full conference).
- 3. Attendees were only offered the full conference, not the option to select single conference sessions only.
- 4. Attendees used the same credentials to attend all presentations rather than a new credential for each presentation.

The advantages of these changes proved to be popular based on the survey responses, and as always, attendees appreciated the diversity of topics provided. The average attendance number was between 45 and 55. All presentations were kept on track by Marty Hanson (a former NSPE member) - who all agreed did a great job hosting our annual event. Thanks Marty!

But our annual job of offering a Discovery Conference for 2023 is not done yet. We are again offering a 4 PDH, in-person conference this fall in Milwaukee. While our primary venue has not yet been chosen as of this writing, our tour location is will be at the Wisconsin Center in downtown Milwaukee. This center is currently under renovation with some major changes being made. We will again offer a lunch, a 90-minute presentation, a tour of the Wisconsin Center construction changes underway. After the tour there will be an opportunity to network back at the luncheon/presentation location.

More details will come this summer, please watch for them!

Chapter News



Northwest Chapter President: Justin Musser

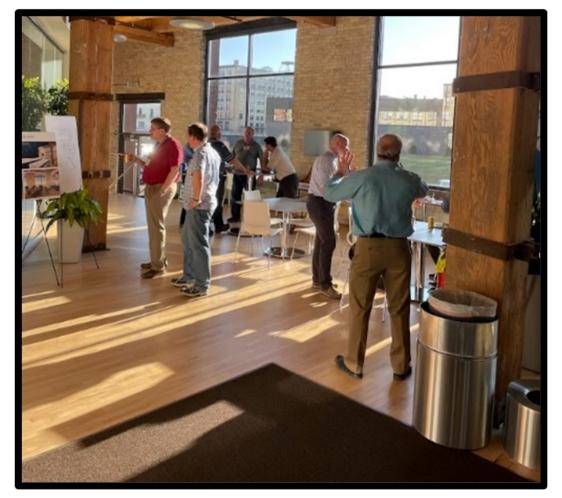
Wisconsin Valley Chapter President: **Archie Becher** Fox River Valley Chapter President: **Glen Schwalbach** Western Chapter President: **Tim Stockman** Southwest Chapter President: **Angela Hanz** Metro Chapter President: **Michael Mitchell** Southeast Chapter President: **Robert Latta**

Metro Chapter

By Mike Mitchell, P.E.

On April 13, the Metro Chapter held a meeting and presentation at the Global Water Council building in downtown Milwaukee. Bill Mohr (WisDOT SE Freeways Supervisor) and Jeff Bauer (Jacobs Project Manager) provided an update on the I-94 East-West Freeway study, including status of environmental document approval, alternatives considered, utility coordination (major impacts to electrical substation, transmission, and distribution facilities), public involvement activities, and more. Approximately 15 attendees took advantage of this very informative and PDH earning opportunity, with food and beverages served!







Fox River Valley Chapter

By Todd Kinney, P.E.

The 40th annual Wisconsin State MATHCOUNTS event, a math competition for 6-8 grade students, was held at ACUITY in Sheboygan on March 4. This state competition showcased 105 students from 35 schools as they advanced from their respective regions throughout the state. The top four individuals from the event represented the State of Wisconsin at the Raytheon MATHCOUNTS National Competition in Orlando, Florida, May 14-15.

Team representing Wisconsin at the National Competition

1st Place: Jeffrey Xu, Pilgrim Park Middle School (Elm Grove)

2nd Place: Sami El-Hajjar, University School of Milwaukee (Milwaukee)

3rd Place: Augie Reeder, Eagle School (Madison)

4th Place: Sanjay Dagam, Brookfield Academy (Brookfield)

Coach Dan Xu, Pilgrim Park Middle School (Elm Grove)

At the national competition, the Wisconsin team ranked 11th place out of 56 teams. This is a great accomplishment competing against the top mathletes throughout the country. At the individual level, Sami El-Hajjar ranked the highest of the Wisconsin team members at 22nd place out of 224 mathletes. The head-to-head countdown round at the national competition is amazing. You can watch it on-line at mathcounts.org, I highly recommend it! As a reward for all their hard work, all the mathletes were treated to a private showing of Guardians of the Galaxy Volume 3 at the theater in Disney Springs. This provided some destress time for the competitors after the written competition. It was a great event and a lifetime experience for all the mathletes.



Please support this great program by volunteering in future Chapter or State competitions next year.

Calendar of Events

June 28 NSPE-WI Annual Meeting Via Zoom (5:00 – 6:30)

July 4 Independence Day

August 2 Professional Engineers Day

August 2-4 2023 NSPE Professional Engineers Conference Louisville, KY

September 15 World Engineers Day

September 20 Discovery Conference Maders Restaurant Lunch / Wisconsin Center Tour

September 20 Metro Chapter – Scholarship / MATHCOUNTS Fundraiser Western Lakes Golf Club, Pewaukee

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Stay up to date on legislative issues through the <u>NSPE Advocacy Center</u>.

Connect with Your Colleagues at #NSPECon23



Register now for NSPECon23 and connect with your colleagues in Louisville, Kentucky, August 2-4. The conference features multiple education tracks in leadership, trends in the industry, and career development with the opportunity to earn up to 10 PDHs. Also stay tuned for information on engineering-related tours. **Register by June 29 to take advantage of discounted rates**.

Register Now!

Keynote Speakers

Bill Samuels, Jr., Chairman Emeritus of Maker's Mark Distillery, will open the NSPECon 23 meeting. Samuels, who helped design both the Gemini and Polaris missiles and became friends with the founding administrator of NASA, will talk about the, "Trials and Tribulations of a Failed Aerospace Engineer."



Megan Bendtzen, the CEO and founder of

TheDoctorofFun.com, will give a keynote presentation on -Beyond the Blueprint: Mastering the Most Important Project of Your Life . In this clever and entertaining presentation, Bendtzen will completely shift your perspective, debunking the myth of work-life balance and revealing the single biggest lie surrounding the pursuit of happiness.



- Ethical Obligations and Engineering Through a DEI Lens
- The Engineer's Blueprint: Success Principles for Winning at Work and at Home
- Lithium: The Race for North American EV Dominance But at What Cost to the Industry?
- Finding the Funds for Your Infrastructure Project
- Leaders Leading Leaders
- We Need YOU to Protect the License!
- Meeting the Challenges and Needs of The Engineering Workforce
- Speculative Technology and Exploratory Engineering for Designing the Future

Access the full conference program.

Sponsor and Exhibitor Opportunities

NSPECon23 offers sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities to put your company or organization in front of senior executives and other decision-makers from across the industry. Access the Sponsor and Exhibitor Prospectus for more information.



New Webinar: Racing Towards Excellence

A new webinar will get you ready for NSPECon23 — Racing Towards Excellence: Enhancing Customer Experience and Improving Safety at Churchill Downs .

Neil Crawford, P.E., an accomplished engineer and project manager at Qk4 Inc., offers insight into the history of Churchill Downs and the Kentucky Derby and its economic impacts on Kentucky. Learn about recent improvement projects to enhance the customer experience and also projects to improve equine/horseman safety and expand the racing operations.

The webinar is FREE for members and offers 1 PDH. Register and watch now .



ARPL Offers New Advocacy Resources

ARPL has released two new advocacy resources. A video, Universal Licensing: A Closer Look , (featuring Rebecca Bowman, Senior Director of Ethics and Professional Practice) and an advocacy document, *The Critical Role of Licensing in Business Success* , based on recent research. As a sponsoring member of ARPL, NSPE has access to these resources and others on the ARPL website .

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