

State News for NSPE Members

President's Message

By Keith R. Nikolay, P.E.



Has Spring finally arrived? I saw my first robin on March 6, so I certainly hope so! But Mother Nature likes to throw curveballs at us Wisconsinites so I guess only time will tell.

We are entering the final quarter of our professional year, and we have several items in the works:

- The Virtual Discovery Conference kicks off this month and presentations will be held every Tuesday and Thursday until April 23rd. If you have not signed up, you can by [clicking here](#).

- Reviewing our current bylaws and update them as necessary. Proposed updates will be provided and discussed for implementation.
- Monitoring Southeast Chapter status and helping them maintain chapter status. The key component now is identifying someone to take on the Treasurer Position.
- Increasing our membership. This includes multiple components, including our the Membership Committee and assistance from the Chapters and is critical for our growth.

Final Thoughts: It's that time of year where state and chapter officer elections need to be finalized. If you have never held an officer position, starting at the chapter level is a fantastic way to start. You get a firsthand opportunity to understand how everything operates at the local level and see the great things we do as a professional organization. You will also have several opportunities to interact with the state officers to see how they operate.

We Need Your News!



Is your Chapter hosting an event? Did your Chapter gain new members? Have you started your own business? Is your company taking on a really challenging project? If you said yes to any of these questions, or would like to share extracurricular activities, please email these articles to Keith Nikolay (knikolay@coleman-engineering.com) and we will post these on the website and in PE Matters. We look forward to including your news in our quarterly updates!

NSPE-WI Mission Statement: NSPE-WI is an organization of licensed Professional Engineers (PEs) and Engineering Interns/Engineers in Training (EIs/EITs). NSPE-WI enhances the image of its members and their ability to ethically and professionally practice engineering through education, licensure advocacy, leadership training, multi-disciplinary networking, and outreach.

Personal Contact Information



Is your personal contact information with NSPE up-to-date? We review and use the NSPE database on a monthly basis to keep our members abreast of important state and chapter news, events, and important member notifications. Please log into your account at www.nspe.org to verify your contact information is current. This will be greatly appreciated!

If you are a member of the Metro or Southeast Chapter, please also send an email to nspe-wi-metro@wspe.org if you have not already confirmed you are receiving their emails. In a recent postcard campaign, they only received 12 responses of the 90 postcards that were mailed. In addition, they received 6 “Return to Sender” responses.

SW Chapter EWeek Celebration – BIG Success!

By John Brome, P.E.

Since 2020, the Southwest Chapter has not held an in-person Engineers Week

celebration, initially due to the pandemic, and participated only in the All Chapters and state virtual EWeek celebration.

But this year, our chapter decided to also hold an in-person EWeek celebration at the Imperial Garden Restaurant in Middleton, Wisconsin. on Wednesday, February 25. Twenty-Seven people were in attendance: SW officers and NSPE-WI members, their spouses and of course, the scholarship recipients and their families as well as our presenter, Aaron Steger P.E., of KL Engineering.

Registration began at 5:30 p.m. and the dinner started at 6:00 p.m. The Chinese food was delicious and included 5 different entrees for everyone to sample. Promptly at 7:00 p.m. our Chapter President Angela Hanz, welcomed all who attended and the Governors Proclamation of Engineers Week was read, followed by an update of the chapter MATHCOUNTS competition held only 11 days prior, also very successful.

Scholarship awards were presented to Isabella Ayres-Wilhelm of Madison East, Aubrey Halverson of Middleton, Liesl Judge of Sauk Prairie, and Nathan Scarmon of Evansville. Each received a certificate, a congratulatory letter and a check for \$1,000 for their outstanding achievement. Our VP Scholarships Chapter officer, Chad Halverson, also received our chapter's 2026 "Engineer of the Year" award for his outstanding contributions to our chapter's annual scholarship solicitation, scoring and applicant communication activities. Congratulations to all scholarship recipients and our chapter's Engineer of the Year recipient, Chad Halverson!

Aaron Seger, P.E., provided a very interesting presentation on the upgrade of Madison's John Nolen Drive. Aaron described the current condition of the road segment, the requirements identified in the specification for renovation and a very detailed explanation of how each of these improvements were to be implemented over three stages. When completed, the John Nolen Drive will definitely be a much more functional and beautiful road for everyone to enjoy for many years to come.

Angela Hanz concluded the evening's discourse by thanking everyone for attending. It was a very successful celebration of Engineers Week that not only provided an in-person get together for our chapter but also helped "pave the way" for our youth to achieve their goal in becoming an engineer.

2026 Virtual Discovery Conference is Underway

It's spring again and our annual virtual Discovery Conference is started on **Tuesday, March 17 and runs through Thursday, April 23**. As in the past, there are planned presentations covering a broad range of engineering disciplines to include civil, electrical, computer, AI, mechanical, education, biomedical, and of course ethics.

The theme of this year's conference is **"Is America Regaining Technological Dominance?"** To address this question, presenters from local Universities and business professionals will cover topics about technologies such as data centers, high speed rail, overcoming major structural and utility challenges with a new engineering building project, an AI panel discussion that gets to the heart of what AI is and means for everyone, an in depth view of the F-35 military aircraft, how developments in bio-medical research offers new hope for some disabled, science and math in our schools today and Julia Harrod, NSPE President, speaking on "The PE's Role in Regaining Technological Dominance."

This conference certainly offers something for all engineers and we believe that you will enjoy every moment of each presentation. It's not too late to register, just visit our state website WSPE.org and follow the links to the conference brochure and registration page. The conference offers 15 PDH and presentations will be held each Tuesday and Thursday from March 17–April 23 with an additional presentation on Wednesday, April 15. The admission fee is \$150 for NSPE and ASCE full members, \$175 for nonmembers and \$75 for students and retired engineers.

We would love to have you join is and if you miss a presentation just send a note to bromej@yahoo.com for access to a recording after the conference conclusion (some presentations may not be recorded due to presenter objection). We hope to see you at our spring Discovery Conference!

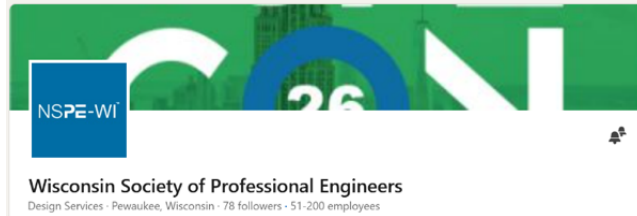
NSPE Enterprise Membership

Employers understand the importance of hiring and retaining high-caliber engineering talent. NSPE helps them create a supportive, growth-focused work

environment through its innovative [Enterprise Membership program](#) – an easy way for an employer to provide NSPE (national, state, and chapter) membership to five or more employees. Your employees will gain access to career advancement resources, professional growth, discounts on continuing education offerings, and meaningful engagement across the profession. A gain for your employee is a gain for your organization! How it works:

- Join with five or more employees by contacting NSPE Membership.
- Add new members to your group at any time.
- Get a single consolidated bill and access to a dedicated Members Service team.

NSPE-WI on LinkedIn



Are you on LinkedIn? Do you want to grow your professional audience? Then search “Wisconsin Society of Professional Engineers”, and click *Follow!* We are actively trying to increase our followers so do your part and share with your co-workers.

Calendar of Events

March 14

MATHCOUNTS State Competition
Sheboygan, WI

March 26

NSPE-WI Board of Directors Meeting
Zoom Meeting (12:00 – 1:00 PM CST)

March 31

2026-2027 State and Chapter Officer Nominations Due
Normm Arendt (normarendt@gmail.com)

April 30

NSPE-WI Executive Committee Meeting
Zoom Meeting (12:00 – 1:00 PM CST)

May 10-11

MATHCOUNTS National Competition
Orlando, FL

May 25

Memorial Day
Thank you, veterans!

May 28

NSPE-WI Executive Committee Meeting
Zoom Meeting (12:00 – 1:00 PM CST)

June 25

NSPE-WI Executive Annual Meeting
Zoom Meeting (3:00 – 5:00 PM CST)

August 5 – 7

NSPECon 2026
New York, NY

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FROM NSPE



The 2026 Student Scholarship Season is Open

The NSPE Education Foundation is now accepting applications for the 2026 scholarship season through an [online submission platform](#). The **application deadline is April 15** for the Steinman Scholarship, the Auxiliary Legacy Scholarship, the William R. Kimel, P.E., Engineering Scholarship, and the George B. Hightower, P.E. Fellowship.

Register Now: 2026 Spring Webinar Series

NSPE offers a live webinar series free to members —“WORKability Wednesdays”— to support their professional development goals. Don't miss out on the upcoming webinar on March 25—[The Intersection of AI and Governance in Engineering](#). If you missed the kickoff webinar on March 11 it's not too late to register and watch at your convenience.



[Registration is now open in NSPE's PE Institute](#) for additional webinars in April and May. *Members are advised to consult their state licensing board to determine requirements for PDH or CPD credits.

Join Us for Bright Lights & Big Opportunities in NSPECon26 (New York)!



[Registration is now open for NSPECon26, August 5-7](#). We will also be celebrating the New York State Society of Professional Engineer's centennial anniversary. The New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge, will serve as the official NSPECon26 headquarters. A special block of rooms has been reserved for NSPECon attendees. Attendees are encouraged to book their rooms early. [Book your room today!](#)

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