

PE MATTERS

STATE
NEWS**NSPE-WI**™ WISCONSIN SOCIETY OF
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

>>>> JUNE 2022

State News for NSPE Members

President's Message

By Andy Meyers, P.E.

Thank you to all of the 2021-2022 NSPE-WI (WSPE) volunteers for your time and dedication to NSPE-WI and the engineering profession. The summer is nearing upon us which is why I will keep this message short and sweet.

NSPE-WI's Annual Meeting will be held on **Thursday, June 30**, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. If you have not already received an invitation, please reach out to us.

Again, we have started running advertisements to promote NSPE-WI on LinkedIn and Facebook. We believe this helped increase our attendees at the Virtual Discovery Conference and if you (or your chapter) have an idea for an advertisement, please send it in our direction. Speaking of the Discovery Conference, be sure to read about our upcoming in-person, mini-conference under the Virtual Discovery Conference 2022 Recap heading.

Lastly, please join us in congratulating Keith Nikolay for stepping up to the plate and accepting his state presidential role a season early!

Contact information: ameyers@feeco.com and/or bromej@yahoo.com

Registration Open: Annual Golf Classic

The **Annual Golf Classic** will be held on **Thursday, September 15**, at the Bridges Golf Course. Check-in will start at 11:30 a.m. with the tee-off at noon. A box lunch and dinner sandwich/drinks will be provided. A prize raffle will take place after the

golfing.

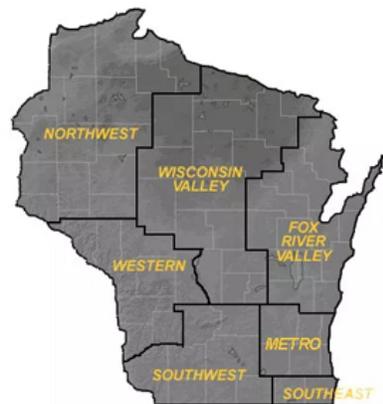
The advanced registration deadline is August 15. Email confirmation of golfers must be sent by September 7. Please direct all pre-paid reservations to: Norm Arendt, Treasurer ASSP, 49 Danks Road, Stoughton, WI 53589. Access more information and the registration form [here](#).

WI Chapter Activation Revisited and WSPE & NSPE Long-Term Goals

By John Brome, P.E.

Chapter Level Actions

Back in July of 2020, under the leadership of John Kustka, we started to look at what could be done to get our inactive chapters back to active status. At that time, there were five (5!) inactive chapters. All but Fox River Valley and Southwest were inactive. Jim Buggs was instrumental at getting the Metro Chapter back to active status but that still left 4 inactive chapters. The state board agreed to offer incentives for those willing to volunteer as chapter officers and the incentives paid off after making many phone calls. Thanks to the hard work of John Kustka, Eric Schlevensky, Norm Arendt, Angela Hanz, Kevin Fry, and John Brome we found volunteers to get all four inactive chapters back to active status, thus once again making all 7 WSPE chapters active.



Fast forward to today—we do still have all seven chapters active, but we need a volunteer for SouthEast Chapter secretary and a volunteer for Northwest Chapter secretary. Please let Robert Latter (SE Chapter) or Justin Musser (NW Chapter) know if you are able to volunteer for those positions. By volunteering, you can receive back 50% of your annual dues for helping WSPE (see WSPE.org for details).

State Level Actions

But what are we doing for long-term membership growth? This past year, under Andy Meyers' leadership, the WSPE executive committee (EC) has formed the "Young Engineers Committee" which is lead by our President-Elect Fred Groth.

Fred and his committee members (Andy Meyers, Phil O'Leary, Norm Arendt, John Mika, Kevin Fry, and John Brome) have concluded that the best way for WSPE to grow is to recruit younger engineers. So far, this has shown to be easier said than done.

To that end, the overall strategy is as follows:

1. Get all inactive WSPE chapters back to active status.
 2. Make arrangements with two publishers/distributors of PE licensure study guide materials for those engineers pursuing their PE license, offering a discounted price for study materials once a member of NSPE/WSPE. Discount price is typically 17%-20% lower than retail price.
 3. Advertise on WSPE.org, Facebook and LinkedIn, reminding full time engineering students that NSPE/WSPE membership is free to them and is discounted up to 5 years for first time members.
 4. Work with UW Platteville, Madison, and Green Bay to promote PE licensure and for those near graduation to take the FE exam as well as those that may have recently graduated.
 5. Create a power point presentation for engineering firms to explain why it is beneficial for them to a) hire licensed engineers, b) put licensed engineers in charge of unlicensed engineers and c) encourage their unlicensed engineers to acquire PE licensure through the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services process and d) show the benefits of NSPE membership regardless of engineering discipline.
- As of this writing, the Young Engineers Committee (YEC) has completed #1-4 and is well along on completing #5. We should be starting presentations to engineering organizations in the June-July timeframe.

In combination with the YEC objectives, Norm Arendt has also been addressing our current WSPE membership and has identified some membership retention issues that need attention:

1. Members don't always update their contact information once they take on a new job, move to a new address, change their phone number and/or email address, etc. We need for each member to update their contact information annually, please!!
2. NSPE doesn't seem to have the latest contact information either for the same reasons as mentioned in above. Please log onto NSPE.org to update your contact information when it changes!
3. WSPE members (and NSPE members as a whole) sometimes seem to forget

to renew annually. Please renew your annual membership when due; IT'S IMPORTANT!

All professional organizations are experiencing these same issues, it's not just NSPE or WSPE. If protecting public safety and PE licensure integrity is important to you, then please 1) renew when due and 2) update your contact information if/when it changes.

National Level Actions

NSPE has also been working to this end but on a much larger scale. They have taken a two-pronged approach:

1. Identify means to provide a "leadership pipeline" of people willing to serve on a national level:

- a. House of Delegates (HoD) representatives
- b. Regional leaders (representing many states)
- c. NSPE board members
- d. Representative for "Member-at-Large"

2. Conducting a national survey, asking engineers why they haven't joined or rejoined NSPE

This June 30, NSPE's HoD will be meeting virtually to discuss both of these topics; the leadership pipeline and the results of the recently conducted national survey. Although NSPE has a strong membership and is financially sound, its membership has been receding for some time as has all professional organizations in the US. Based on the outcome of the HoD meeting in June, the NSPE Board of Directors will be reviewing approaches that may be taken to improve NSPE membership to once again return it to a thriving, national organization.

If you are interested in learning more about the NSPE survey, please contact me at bromej@yahoo.com, and I will be happy to send you the survey results. I would particularly appreciate any comments you have regarding the survey so that I can take those comments back to the HoD in June.

Thanks and I look forward to hearing from you in the near future!

2022 NSPE-WI MATHCOUNTS Results

By Todd Kinney, P.E., NSPE-WI State MATHCOUNTS Coordinator

The Chapter competitions were held virtually on February 17. The competitions were administered by the MATHCOUNTS staff through the AoPS (Art of Problem Solving) contest platform. There were 541 students registered from 62 schools throughout the state of Wisconsin and practiced at the school level. 468 students competed in the eight Chapter competitions.

The Wisconsin State Competition sponsored by Acuity Insurance was held at Acuity in Sheboygan on March 12 —102 students from 38 schools qualified for the state competition with 100 students competing in the state competition (16 teams and 36 individuals).

The top 5 teams and the top 10 individuals from the State competition:

Team-School (City)

1. Brookfield Academy (Brookfield)
2. Pilgram Park (Elm Grove)
3. Wisconsin Hills (Brookfield)
4. Hamilton (Madison)
5. Steffen (Mequon)

Individual / School

1. Sami El-Hajjar from Maryland Ave Montessori (Milwaukee)
2. Siddharth Kosaraju from Steffen (Mequon)
3. Maya Jadhav from Vishva Home (Fitchburg)
4. Vaidehi Ramachandrupa from Wisconsin Hills (Brookfield)
5. Jeffrey Xu from Pilgrim Park (Elm Grove)
6. Angelina Chang from Hamilton (Madison)
7. Victoria Zheng from Brookfield Academy (Brookfield)
8. Sanjay Dagam from Brookfield Academy (Brookfield)
9. Louis Liu from Wisconsin Hills (Brookfield)
10. Aditya Behara from Glacier Creek (Cross Plains)

At the state competition, the average individual score was 17.90 with a standard deviation of 6.83. 10 points separated the top 10 individuals.

The average team score was 25.50 with a standard deviation of 7.27. 6.5 points separated the top five teams.

Highlights from the State Competition

- Maya was seeded 8th after the written competition and moved up to 3rd

place during the Countdown round.

- Acuity provided fleece blankets and t-shirts for all the student competitors.
- The students enjoyed riding the charity wheel (an inside Ferris wheel) during lunch time at the competition.

The MATHCOUNTS National Competition, sponsored by Raytheon Technologies, was held in Washington, DC, on May 8-9. The top 4 students (Sami El-Hajjar, Siddharth Kosaraju, Maya Jadhav, & Vaidehi Ramachandrula) represented Wisconsin and were coached by Daniel Geu of Brookfield Academy.

NSPE-WI 2022-2023 Election Results

(Assembled by Norm Arendt, Ph.D., and John Brome, P.E)

Here are the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Election Results

State Board

President: Keith Nikolay, P.E.

President-Elect: Fred Groth, P.E.

Past President: Andy Meyers, P.E. VP Education: Phil O'Leary, P.E.

VP Membership: Norm Arendt, Ph.D.

Secretary: Harry Farchmin, P.E.

Treasurer: Kevin Fry, P.E.

National Delegate: John Brome, P.E.

Young Engineer Representative: John Mika, P.E.

Metro Chapter

President: Mike Mitchell, P.E.

Secretary: Melinda Dejewski, P.E.

Treasurer: Randy Johanning, P.E.

VP Membership: Daniel Jaske, P.E.

VP Member-at-Large: Michael Zelinsky, P.E.

State Director: James Buggs, P.E.

MATHCOUNTS Program Director: James Hardin, P.E.

SouthEast Chapter

President: Robert Latta, P.E.

Past President: Jeff Watry, P.E.

Secretary: TBA

Treasurer: Mark Madsen, P.E.

SouthWest Chapter

President: Angela Hanz, P.E.
Past President/State Director: John Brome, P.E.
VP Student Affairs, Madison: Phil O'Leary, P.E.
VP Student Affairs, Platteville: Norm Arendt, Ph.D.
VP Education/Membership: Dave McDermid, P.E.
VP Programming: Dave Shore, P.E.
Secretary: Andy Graham, P.E.
Treasurer: Ron Voss, P.E.

Western Chapter

President: Alex Jaromin, E.I.T.
Past President: Tim Stockman, P.E.
Treasurer: Jeremy Tomesh, P.E.
Secretary: Carson Hackett, P.E.

NW Chapter

President: Justin Musser, P.E.
Past President: Teresa Anderson, P.E.
Treasurer: Jon Strand, P.E.
Secretary: Nick Nelson, P.E.
VP Scholarships & MATHCOUNTS: Brad Volker, P.E.

Wisconsin Valley Chapter

President: Archie Becher, P.E.
Past President: Archie Becher, P.E.
Secretary: Stephanie Christensen, P.E.
Treasurer: Michael Koss, P.E.

Fox Valley Chapter

President: Glen Schwalbach, P.E., F. NSPE
Past President: Glen Schwalbach, P.E., F. NSPE
Secretary: Mike Gigl, P.E. – Retired
Treasurer: Mike Gigl, P.E. – Retired
VP Membership: John Davel, P.E.
VP MATHCOUNTS: Todd Kinney, P.E.
VP Scholarships: James Crawford, P.E.
State Director: Andy Meyers, P.E.
Chapter Planning Committee: All officers listed above
Chapter Planning Committee: Dale Cherney, P.E.

We would like to thank all state and chapter officers for serving this past year. We also wish to congratulate all newly elected and re-elected state and chapter officers and look forward to your leadership in the coming year!

Virtual Discovery Conference 2022 ReCap

By John Brome, P.E.

Another year and another Virtual Discovery Conference is in the rearview mirror, making this year our third virtual Discovery Conference. We've made a number of improvements since we started down our virtual path and the recent survey results indicate that we're definitely doing something right! We received many very nice compliments from members both in and out of state.

Thank you to all who attended to make our virtual conference a very big success! And of course, I would be remiss without mentioning a great BIG THANK YOU to all of our DC 2022 committee members for doing a great job in planning and executing our virtual conference—Fred Groth, Larry Steingraber, Angela Hanz, Marty Hanson, Glen Schwalbach, John Kustka, Kevin Fry, and John Brome. Thanks for all of your hard work because without you we would not have a conference.

But I also wanted to remind you—our readers and members—that different from years past, this year we are also offering an **in-person mini-conference on Thursday, October 13** (11:30 am – 5:00 pm CST) in Green Bay near the Packers Stadium. Our DC 2022 committee members are just completing plans for our in-person conference and we expect to have all of the details in the next couple of months. Registration for the event will open after Labor Day (September 5). The event will include a sit-down lunch, a 90-minute presentation, a field trip (very close to luncheon location) and a social/networking function after the field trip. It should be a great time regardless of your schedule (one day or a four-day weekend).

Lastly, what's in store for DC 2023? Our conference will consist of a virtual portion, like 2020-2022, and may or may not include an in-person portion. Many people really like the virtual conference and only some support the in-person only format, but we'll see how things go this fall. The risks involved (getting enough presenters, the financial risk with hotel and meal guarantees, and covid-19/covid-19 variant risks) just makes the two day, in-person only concept a very long-shot for success. Holding a partial day, in-person mini-conference in conjunction with a virtual

conference seems to be a reasonable compromise. Please look for our updates and we hope to see you in Green Bay on October 13!

Stay up to date on legislative issues through the [NSPE Advocacy Center](#).

NSPECon 2022 Open for Registration

Engineers from all disciplines are invited to register for the [2022 Professional Engineers Conference](#) (NSPECon 2022) in Philadelphia, August 1-3. Early-bird registration is available until June 30.

Invited speakers will address sustainability, emerging technology, the post-covid workplace and even, construction on the moon. Licensed professional engineers and those aspiring to be one are invited to join this multi-discipline community to engage with colleagues and hear more about relevant engineering topics.



Sponsorship and Exhibitor Opportunities

Prospective conference sponsors and exhibitors will see [newly created opportunities](#) to highlight their companies and organizations throughout the conference. Sponsors can welcome attendees to the “Feel the Philly Love” opening reception, support a conference education track featuring seven unique sessions, or demonstrate how their solutions help clients overcome specific challenges by exhibiting.

PE Day

On the final day of the conference, attendees can celebrate [PE Day](#) in person and raise awareness about the importance of PEs as qualified and ethical professionals. Before attending, everyone is invited to gear up with [PE Day logo wear](#) to show PE Pride at the conference.

Call for 2022-2023 Volunteers

Volunteers are the [heart of NSPE](#) and essential to helping the Society carry out its [vision and mission and meet the goals of the strategic plan](#) . Volunteer positions begin in mid-August and end at the 2023 Professional Engineers Conference.

There are three types of volunteer opportunities:

- **Level 1 (Highest Engagement)–Standing Boards and Committees**
Often includes attending at least one in-person meeting. Most meetings held via video conference. Terms may be up to three years.
- **Level 2 (Intermediate Engagement)–Ad Hoc Committees and Task Forces**
Activities primarily include online correspondence and video conference meetings.
- **Level 3 (Lowest Engagement)–Ad Hoc Volunteer**
Volunteer on a project-by-project basis.

[Submit an application by July 15 to be considered for a 2022-2023 term.](#)

House of Delegates Virtual General Assembly and Annual Meeting

The House of Delegates Virtual General Assembly will be live streamed on [NSPE's YouTube channel](#) for members on **June 30** (2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. EST). Following the live stream of the General Assembly, NSPE members will have an opportunity to ask questions and talk with President-Elect Britt Smith, P.E., F.NSPE, and CEO Monika Schulz through a Reddit style AMA (Ask Me Anything) format in the [Annual Meeting online community](#) . All members are welcome.

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