

# NSPE-WI Southwest Chapter

<http://www.wspe.org/southwest-chapter>

December 2021

*Have a Happy, Fun, and Safe Holiday Season!*

## Greetings SW Chapter Members

*By Angela Hanz*

The months of November and December have been filled with a lot of chapter activities and planning!

NSPE-WI continues to hold its monthly Tech Info Sharing Webinar Series which our members can attend at no cost and earn 1.0 PDH each. The webinars are held over the lunch hour. The November presentation was titled “*What are PFAS’s and What Do You Need to Know Right Now About Them?*” and was presented by Prof. Michael Holly, PhD, PE. Our December Tech Webinar was titled “*Emerging Trends in Fall Protection*” and presented by Mr. Thom Kramer. Thank you to both of our speakers for presenting the webinars for our group.

The MATHCOUNTS national team decided that the local competitions will be virtual again this year. The local competition is scheduled for Thursday, February 17, 2022. The State Competition will still be in person and is scheduled for March 12, 2022, at Acuity Insurance in Sheboygan, WI. A meeting with the local coaches was held on December 9, 2021. We appreciate all the volunteer time the local coaches devote to this great program.

WSPE Scholarship Applications are due back this month! WSPE will review the applications and announce scholarship winners during Engineer’s Week in February.

The chapter would like to extend our congratulations to all the December Engineering graduates! Looking for that perfect graduation gift for an engineer? Consider sponsoring a membership to NSPE! NSPE offers discounted membership dues (up to 80% off) to recent college graduates. Sign them up at: <https://www.nspe.org/membership/member-benefits>.

We still plan on holding a technical tour of the UW Nuclear Reactor – stay tuned for details!

From all of us at NSPE-WI SW Chapter, we wish you and your families a relaxing, safe, and Happy Holiday Season!

## Chapter Officers

### President

Angela Hanz, P.E.

### Past President

John Brome, P.E.

### President Elect

Vacant

### VP/Student Membership

Phil O’Leary, P.E.

### VP/Gen. Membership/Education

Norm Arendt, Ph.D.

### VP/Programs

David Shore, P.E.

### VP/Secretary

Andy Graham, P.E.

### Treasurer

Ron Voss, P.E.

### Program Arrangements

Dave Shore, P.E.

### State Director

Dave McDermid, P.E.

We need volunteers.

Please help if you can.

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## Award Nominations

We are seeking nominations for our annual awards. Please make your nominations with the link below.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KRHWZF7>

## MATHCOUNTS Program Donation Information

The WSPE SW Chapter sent out letters this month to request support of the MATHCOUNTS program. Each February, middle school students from across the Madison, WI area come together for the WSPE SW Chapter MATHCOUNTS Competition, the only math competition of its kind. These students are some of the most capable and hardworking young mathematicians in our state, and they spend months preparing for this event with the help of dedicated teachers who volunteer as math coaches. The top scoring students advance to the WSPE State MATHCOUNTS Competition and could earn the prestigious honor of representing our state at the national level.

The SW Chapter MATHCOUNTS program strives to make math fun and engaging for students of all ability and interest levels. We believe all children can discover their own path to math—whether they need to cultivate their love of math or overcome their fear of it. The children in our community who participate in MATHCOUNTS could be our future engineers, scientists, doctors, and teachers. They deserve the opportunity to reach their full potential, and we all will benefit from their future success.

Donations to the MATHCOUNTS program will allow us to expand the opportunities we are able to offer to students in our community, both during the Chapter Competition and throughout the program year.

**Donation checks can be made out to the MATHCOUNTS WSPE SW Chapter, and mailed to Mr. Ron Voss, South 5681 Lehman Rd. Baraboo, WI 53913.** You can learn more about MATHCOUNTS and make a donation at [www.mathcounts.org/donate](http://www.mathcounts.org/donate). *For online donations, please be sure to note in the Comments section of the donation form that your donation should be designated exclusively to the MATHCOUNTS WSPE SW Chapter, to ensure funds are allocated locally.*

## MATHCOUNTS Update

*By John Brome*

As of last August, the SW Chapter – and I believe all Chapters nationwide – were advised by the National MATHCOUNTS office that the upcoming MATHCOUNTS competition(s) in February will again be virtual. However, the 2022 State competition will be in-person.

A year ago, the plan was to hold several practice sessions through mid-January and then hold two virtual February competitions followed by a virtual State competition and then an in-person competition in May. For 2022, the process may be somewhat different although the virtual competition in February will likely be much the same as 2021.

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As of this writing, NSPE-WI MATHCOUNTS coordinators are working together to again have a solidified plan as was done in 2021. Similar awards were presented among all participating chapters for the regional and state competition and coaches will be recognized with door prizes sponsored by local and professional sports teams.

For the virtual competition, only the Sprint and Target rounds will be given, and competitors are to be on their honor to obey competition rules.

Advancing rules have not yet been publicized, but since the regional competition is again virtual, one might expect similar rules to apply; about 10% advanced from regional to the State competition in 2021.

Regardless, I'm sure that the 2022 MATHCOUNTS competitions will be successful, and all competitors will have a great time!

## 2022 Engineers' Week Celebration

*By John Brome*



As you may recall, last year NSPE-WI held its first virtual Engineers' Week Celebration, and I'm guessing that we may do the same thing for 2022. If in-person, each chapter would likely make their own decision to hold or not hold an E-Week dinner but the State could also hold a virtual celebration as well.

Engineers Week will be celebrated from February 20-26. The exact date that a virtual celebration would be held has yet to be determined. Last year's virtual celebration included 1) reading of the Governor's proclamation of Engineers' Week, 2) recognition of all chapters making scholarship donations and the respective recipients of them, 3) recognition of Chapter and State award recipients and 4) a special update by Phil O'Leary of how many of the former scholarship recipients were doing in their engineering career.

All in all, the 2021 virtual EW celebration was very successful and hopefully WSPE will again hold a virtual Engineers' Week celebration for all chapters to attend.

## 2022 Discovery Conference

The WSPE Discovery Conference committee has been planning the 2022 conference since August. This year we plan to make a few larger changes. Perhaps the most significant change is that in 2022, we will be holding BOTH a virtual AND an in-person conference. The virtual portion will again be for 7 weeks – March 8 through April 21 – comprised of two presentations per week (Tuesday and Thursday @ 12 pm noon). Each presentation will last 60 minutes (including Q&A) but a few presentations will last for 90 minutes. The total number of PDHs for the virtual portion will be 16 while the in-person conference will offer 4 PDHs.

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The in-person portion will be held on Friday, October 14, from 11:30 am until 5:00 pm and will include a sit-down lunch, a 60-90 minute presentation, a 2-hour field trip and a social function after the conclusion of the field trip at 5:00 pm. The field trip will be at the Brown County Expo Center, and the social function will also be held at the Brown County Expo Center after the field trip conclusion. Holding the event on a Friday afternoon offers the opportunity for some to drive up to Green Bay on Friday morning and also offers the opportunity to spend more time in Green Bay (at their own expense). Whether for 1 day or the weekend, attending this function offers a great opportunity to see the fall colors in northern Wisconsin next fall (and of course, there are a lot of fun things to do in Green Bay!).

Our theme for 2022 is “Today’s Technology Transforming Tomorrow’s World”. We will look at technologies of diverse engineering disciplines to get a glimpse of how these technologies are and will continue to shape our world of tomorrow. Technologies such as electric cars, their batteries and charging station infrastructure requirements, new 3D printing capabilities and some of the new ways they’re now being utilized, smart magnets that are used in modern manufacturing plants and other interesting applications, civil engineering projects and the technologies used to fabricate them, unique fluid dynamics applications to address the covid-19 virus and much more!

Registration prices for the virtual conference will be the same as last year (\$150 for all 14 presentations) with individual presentation options (there will be an extra charge for the in-person conference). Registration will begin on Monday, February 7, online. Just visit [WSPE.org](http://WSPE.org) and follow the prompts.

NSPE-WI members will be reminded of the DC 2022 registration by email, text or voicemail and social media. Come on out and join us!

## Contact Information

Please remember to update your contact information with your 2022 renewal!