

State News for NSPE Members

### President's Message



These past few months have been extremely busy with all the activities that have been happening: 80th Anniversary Celebrations, Chapter and State MATHCOUNTS, Virtual Discovery Conference planning, and so much more! With winter in our rearview mirror (fingers crossed), we can start looking forward to spring and the many activities that come with the outdoors.

The NSPE-WI Executive Committee elections are just around the corner! You should receive an email in the near future, please take the time to vote. Even though we vote once a year, we are always looking for new faces and fresh ideas to keep everyone engaged with our association. This does not take a lot of your time and it can be very rewarding, both personally and professionally.

My tenure as your President is winding down. Over these past two years, our organization has taken some great strides forward and your Executive Committee has put into place a solid foundation for continued success. Some of these include updating our by-laws for our current professional environment, reviewing and updating our strategic plan, and continuing to hold our Discovery Conference so we all can grow professionally. I am excited to continue to be active over the next year serving as your Past President, and look forward to working with our new President to keep us moving forward.

#### 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 one of these questions, or would like to share anything even remotely newsworthy with the rest of NSPE-WI, let us know! We'd also like to include an article in the next *PE Matters* summarizing any recent changes or accomplishments to inform your fellow NSPE-WI members. Please contact Keith Nikolay at knikolay@coleman-engineering.com to share any news. We look forward to including your news in our monthly updates!

#### NSPE-WI WISCONSIN SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

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, multidisciplinary networking, and outreach.

#### **NSPE-WI Virtual Discovery Conference 2024**

The 2024 Virtual Discovery Conference registration is underway and the first presentation of the six-week event kicked off on March 19. While our brochure outlining the details of the conference is shown on our website www.wspe.org, the following is a brief summary of what is planned for this year's virtual conference.

First up is one of two ethics presentations, "Michigan's Cascading Dams." Following, is a presentation on critical thinking by physicist John Droz, who will be discussing how our educational system is systematically eliminating science and math studies from our public school system which could have a major impact on the future of the engineering profession.

Other presentations include many ways to reduce the carbon footprint of buildings, what an EMP event is and potential effects it could have on our world, civil engineering projects and the challenges that they presented during design and construction of buildings and highway section as well as the importance of soft skills for engineers and how to acquire them.

Presentations pertaining to other engineering disciplines include a biomedical presentation on the design, development and importance of pulse oximeters, an electrical and mechanical systems engineering project, a mass timber structural project, and finally a second ethics presentation "East Ohio Fire of 1944." All presentations are 60 minutes except for the ethics presentations, which are 90 minutes each.

And all of that for just \$80 (full NSPE-WI or ASCE-WI member). Retired NSPE/ASCE members and WI engineering students have a reduced rate. The conference started on March 19 and will last through April 25. Presentations will be given each Tuesday and Thursday at 12:00 pm noon CST. For more information and to register, please visit www.wspe.org. We hope to see you at our virtual conference this spring!

#### NSPE-WI Celebrates 80th Anniversary – Essay and Video Challenges

Last fall, NSPE-WI was considering how to celebrate 2024, our state society's 80 anniversary. Two of the eight ways that were proposed were for high school students in WI to provide a 1-page or less essay on "What It Means to Be a Professional Engineer." College engineering students in WI were also challenged with creating a video to answer the question, "Why Join NSPE?"

The winning essay and the winning video will receive \$800 from NSPE-WI shortly after the NSPE-WI State Board approves the recommendation from Phil Oleary, the judge of each challenge. The contests officially began on February 1, and concluded on March 1. Phil Oleary oversaw the competition and determined the winners. He submitted his findings to the State Board during the March meeting.

Essay Challenge: "What It Means to Be a Professional Engineer" by Nathan Schoenebeck, Peshtigo WI

"Choosing to study Mechanical Engineering is more than just choosing a career; it's a journey to do your best, be honest, and find better ways to do things. Being a

good engineer isn't just about knowing a lot, but also knowing what's right. Since I was young, I've been fascinated by machines. Figuring out how they work has always been fun for me. Not only do I understand mechanics quickly, but I also love teaching others about it. That's why I want to pursue a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Being a professional engineer means you always learn new things. In a world where technology is always changing, keeping up is necessary. Professional engineers keep learning by going to workshops, seeking more education, and doing activities that help them get better at what they do. However, it's not just about personal growth. It's also about helping society. Engineers are crucial in solving big problems, such as making things that last and finding clean ways to use energy. Being a professional engineer is about doing things right, always learning, and making the world a better place. It's not just about what you know, but how you use your knowledge to do things efficiently and care for the world around you. Beyond the technical and ethical aspects, becoming a professional engineer is about becoming a part of a community that shares the same passion for innovation and to make things better. It involves collaborating with fellow engineers, learning from their experiences, and contributing to a collective pool of knowledge. The challenges and problem-solving nature of engineering create an environment where every project is an opportunity to grow, learn, and make a meaningful impact. This collaboration and the continuous pursuit of improvement are the driving forces that make being a professional engineer a fulfilling and evolving journey. These are just a few of the traits I hope to reflect when I become a professional engineer."

\*The two runners-up were Mya Mueller and Sara Mlodik.

## Video Challenge – "Why Join NSPE?" - Won by Adam Swedlund, Schofield WI

There was only one video received which provided a very professional looking and sounding presentation that shows exciting engineering challenges that engineers are faced with and invites engineers to join the ranks of those that make up NSPE, the National Society of Professional Engineers. Access the YouTube video.

On behalf of NSPE-WI, I would like to congratulate all of the essay and video challenge participants and would especially like to congratulate the winners of both challenges. Very well done, and we at NSPE-WI Thank You!

#### **Calendar of Events**

NSPE-WI Virtual Discovery Conference Celebrating 80 Years of Engineering Excellence **March 19 – April 25** (Tuesdays and Thursdays)

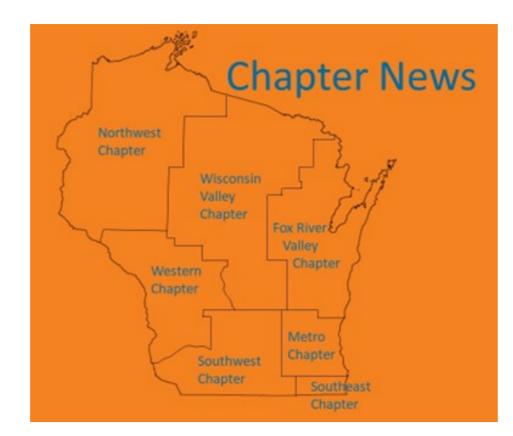
MATHCOUNTS – National Competition Washington, DC May 13 – 14

First day of Summer **June 20** 

Independence Day

July 4

2024 NSPE Professional Engineers Conference (NSPECon24) Raleigh Marriott Crabtree Valley, Raleigh, NC August 7 – 9



Northwest Chapter President Justin Musser

Wisconsin Valley Chapter President Archie Becher

Fox River Valley Chapter President Glen Schwalbach

Western Chapter President Alex Jaromin

Southwest Chapter President Angela Hanz

Metro Chapter President Michael Mitchell

Southeast Chapter President Robert Latta

#### Fox River Valley Chapter By Todd Kinney, P.E.

The MATHCOUNTS competition was held on February 4 at Acuity in Sheboygan. Congratulations to the following winners!



#### Top 4 Teams

- De Pere Middle School (De Pere) consisting of Jackson L., Kyle G., Paige T., and Vincent H.
- West De Pere Middle School (De Pere) consisting of Anthony V., David U., Isaac B., and Isaiah R.
- Sevastopol Middle School (Sturgeon Bay) consisting of Aaron T., Everett L.,
- Lauren G., and Maggie T.Parkview Middle School (Ashwaubenon) consisting of Brennen F., Caleb N.,

Nathan J., and Tyler N.

- Top 4 Individuals (not on a top team)
- Eric Z. (Leonardo da Vinci)
- Prayag D. (West De Pere Intermediate School)
- Kate B. (De Pere Middle School)Megan S. (Thomas Walker Middle School)

#### Western Chapter By Todd Kinney, P.E.

The MATHCOUNTS competition was held on February 2. Congratulations to the following winners!



#### Individual Results

1st Ali A., Onalaska Middle School
2nd Ethan Y., Onalaska Middle School
3rd Evan B., West Salem Middle School
4th Colin H., West Salem Middle School
5th Evie L., Holmen Middle School
6th Asher P., West Salem Middle School
6th Asher P., West Salem Middle School
8th Bronson P., Richland Center Intermediate
9th Aidric S., West Salem Middle School
10th Adam E., N-Gage Academy

Team Competition Qualifying for State Competition in Sheboygan.

1st Onalaska Middle School consisting of Ali A., Ethan Y., Saanvi M., and Shanyu C.
2nd West Salem Middle School consisting of Aidric S., Colin H., Emerson H., and Evan B.
3rd Viroqua Middle School consisting of Adelaide W., Kelsey W., Levi H., and

Logan G.

Individuals Qualifying for State Competition in Sheboygan.

Adam E., N-Gage Academy Asher P., West Salem Middle School Bronson P., Richland Center Intermediate Evie L., Holmen Middle School Fiona X., Onalaska Middle School



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## Ruekert • Mielke

Stay up to date on legislative issues through the **NSPE Advocacy Center**.

NSPE offers a live webinar series free to members—"Workability Wednesdays"—to support members with their professional development goals. The first webinars of the spring season will take place on **April 3**— NSPE's Board of Ethical Review Presents: The Duty to Act ; **April 17**— Second Best Protection Against Risk ; and **May 1**— Enhancing Building Safety: Mitigating Risks of Slip, Trips, and Falls (Celebration of National Building Safety Month).



Additional presentations will take place in May and June. Register now at NSPE's PE Institute and invite a colleague to attend.

**NSPECon24 Sponsorships and Exhibitor Opportunities** 



Put your company or organization in front of senior executives and other decisionmakers from across the engineering industry attending the 2024 Professional Engineers Conference (NSPECon24) August 7-9, in Raleigh, North Carolina.

NSPE offers a variety of sponsorship packages to meet specific goals and budgets. A special exhibitor discount is being offered to Research Triangle-based businesses. Learn more about these opportunities in the Sponsor and Exhibitor section of the conference website.

Welcome to Our 2024 Sponsors!



**Real People. Real Solutions.** 







# **EJCDC® Releases New Teaming and Joint Venture Documents**

The Engineers Joint Contract Documents Committee has released new documents - EJCDC® E-580, Teaming Agreement to Pursue Joint Professional Services Opportunity and EJCDC® E-590, Joint Venture Agreement for Professional Services (2024 editions). NSPE members will receive a 50% discount on the EJCDC documents.

The E-580, Teaming Agreement to Pursue Joint Professional Services Opportunity is intended for a collaboration between two design firms that have decided to join together to pursue an opportunity to obtain work. The E-590, Joint Venture Agreement for Professional Services is a contract document in which two or more design firms agree to join together to provide specific professional services to a third party.

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