



KSPE

Eastern Chapter News

Volume 11 Issue 6

February 2010

President's Message

By: Adam Stodola, P.E.

Welcome, Ladies and Gentlemen, to the heart of the KSPE year. We are currently smack dab in the middle of a whole lot of KSPE activities that are extremely valuable to both KSPE and to the community as well.

On January 23rd, several KSPE members attended the Future City competition at KU in Lawrence. I was pleased to see that we were well represented with both mentors and judges this year. It was a great event and I feel that KSPE should continue to support Future City so strongly.

As you will read later in this edition of the newsletter, the Chapter held its annual visit with the Johnson County Delegation on January 26th in Topeka. You will find that we are in the midst of establishing increased visibility with the Legislators and this will only help in our efforts to become a valuable resource for them in the future.

The KSPE Eastern Chapter Model Bridge Building Competition took place January 30th at KU Edwards Campus in Overland Park. Yet again, the event was well attended and well publicized. Rod Holcomb, P.E. and Mark Johnston, P.E. did another fantastic job in organizing the event.

I am also pleased to see that we have a long list of Chapter members who have volunteered their time for this year's MATHCOUNTS competition that will be taking place February 2nd at the Jewish Community Center in Overland Park on February 2nd. I'm excited to be helping with this year's event because, as I've said in the past, it's incredible what these students can do with math.

Further, I enjoy spending the morning with fellow KSPE members.

While we have been busy, we still have more on the horizon. Our February meeting will be taking place a bit earlier than usual on February 9th (which is a TUESDAY). It is a joint meeting with ASCE and will focus on Public Policy and will also include a presentation from the folks at Project-Lead-the-Way.

The E-Week festivities will be taking place during the week of February 14-20. The main event will be the E-Week Luncheon to be held on Wednesday, February 18th.

There are also many things going on at the state level. You will see later on a report from our State Director, Stephanie Hale, P.E., that highlights items discussed at the most recent State Board meeting.

Thanks to all of the members who have given their time to help out in our many activities this year. We've got plenty still to come so I encourage you to get involved wherever and whenever you can.



Bernardo Garcia speaking at the January chapter meeting.

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Welcome

New members to KSPE:
Natasha Clausell
Cole Shippy

KSPE EC Website

The website will be updated on the 1st and 15th of each month or as needed should there be time sensitive information.

Check it out...

www.kansasengineer.org/Chapters/Eastern/Eastern.htm

If you have photos taken at KSPE events, please submit them to Cheri Schoenhals, cschoenhals@gbateam.com, for inclusion in the newsletter.

Event Information

Upcoming Chapter Meeting Announcement

February Breakfast Meeting

Joint Meeting with ASCE

Brian Pallasch, CAE

Managing Director of Governmental Relations &
Infrastructure Initiatives for National ASCE

- Date:** Tuesday, February 9, 2010
- Time:**
- | | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| 7:00-7:30 AM | Social/Registration |
| 7:30-8:00 AM | Breakfast |
| 8:00-9:00 AM | Program |
| 9:00 | Board Meeting |
- Location:** Overland Park Marriott
10800 Metcalf Ave.
- Cost:** \$25.00
- Menu:** Freshly Baked Breakfast Breads
Assorted Pastries with Fruit Preserves and Butter
Fluffy Scrambled Eggs
Seasoned Breakfast Potatoes
Crisp Bacon
Orange Juice, Coffee, and Tea
- RSVP:** Deadline - Noon Thursday, Feb. 4th
No-shows will be billed
- RSVP to Cheri Schoenhals
E-Mail: cschoenhals@gbateam.com
Online: www.kansasengineer.org/Chapters/Eastern/Eastern.htm
- Program:** ASCE issues update for engineers as well as basic information on how individual members can get involved in public policy activities that affect the profession of civil engineering.

Also this month...

2010 E-Week Luncheon

Speaker:

Joe D. Manous, Jr., P.E., Ph.D.,
D.WRE, U.S. Army Corps of
Engineers, Alexandria, VA

Date:

Thursday, Feb. 18

Time:

11:00 Exhibits Open
11:45 Luncheon
12:15 Awards
12:45 Program: "The 21st
Century Engineer – A Leader for
A New Age"

Location:

KC Downtown Marriott
(Muehlebach Tower), 200 W.
12th St.

Cost:

\$40 individual, \$380 table of ten
Reservations are due by Feb. 8th

Menu:

Tossed Green Salad
Roast Sirloin
Oven Browned Potatoes
Green Beans with Almonds
Rolls & Butter
New York Cheesecake or Red
Velvet Cake
Coffee & Tea

Event Information



Advocate for Your Profession

Intensive Key Contact Training for Civil Engineers

Tuesday, February 9, 2010

9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Location: Overland Park Marriott
10800 Metcalf Avenue
Overland Park, KS 66210

Reserve your spot today: email govwash@asce.org

Our elected and appointed officials make decisions every day that affect the civil engineering profession. As a U.S. citizen, you are obligated to participate in the process and as an engineer you have a unique perspective that can benefit society as a whole.

Join ASCE Government Relations staff to learn the basics of public policy involvement for civil engineers, including why it's important to your career and how to take full advantage of Key Contact resources and activities. We will explore case studies of successful and unsuccessful advocates and develop advocacy strategies for interacting with your elected and appointed leaders.

Reserve your spot today - email govwash@asce.org and include "Kansas City Key Contact Training" in the subject line.

The program runs three and a half hours, including breaks and lunch, and includes 3.5 PDHs.

Registration is \$25 for ASCE members, \$30 for non-ASCE members. If you register without cancelling at least two business days in advance, you will be billed for the full registration fee.

Come early for the ASCE/KSPE February Meeting & Breakfast: Policy Update for Civil Engineers. Brian Pallasch, CAE, ASCE's managing director of government relations and infrastructure initiatives will present an issues update for engineers as well as basic information on how individual members can get involved in public policy activities that affect the profession of civil engineering. Cost is \$25. (0.5 PDH)

7:30 - 8:30am

Registration starts at 7am

In the Future...

MO/KS Chapter, ACPA 30th Portland Cement Concrete Pavement Conference

The Conference will be held on March 4th & 5th, 2010 at the Downtown Marriott, KCMO.

This two day workshop will focus on Sustainable Pavement and Overlay Solutions. The Speakers will present a wide spectrum of topics to include concrete sustainability, overlays, roller compacted, pervious, stringless paving, new and emerging technology, several case studies and much more.

Contact Cindy Allen at 913-381-2251 (cindy@moksacpa.com) or visit www.moksacpa.com for additional information.

Continuing Education Certificates will be provided: 9.5 PDH's for Engineers and 9.5 AIA-HSW Credits for Architects.

Past Events

Statehouse Visit

By: Steve Bachenberg, P.E.

Twelve Chapter members travelled to Topeka on Tuesday, January 26 for our annual Luncheon with the Johnson County Delegation. The itinerary for this year was different once again, due to Statehouse renovation.

We first met at Ron Gaches' office for his briefing on the Legislature's progress. The 2010 Session has been dominated with budget issues so far, and it seems that little substantial new public policy or new programs will survive the budget knife this session. The first few weeks of the Session have been spent on discussing spending reductions to accommodate the looming shortfall in projected FY 2011 revenue, and attention is now turning to possible sources of additional income. Kansas has experienced four consecutive years of declining revenues for the first time in its history. With all House members up for re-election this fall, there is reluctance to raise taxes, but it seems increasingly difficult to balance the budget only thru cuts in spending. Ron Gaches observed that there are strong ideological differences between those Legislators favoring spending cuts and those suggesting new revenues, with neither camp willing to compromise. This will get very interesting later in the session, since the Legislature is obligated to pass a balanced budget before they adjourn.

There has been discussion of a new transportation plan and Transportation Secretary Miller has provided testimony to both the House and Senate Transportation Committees outlining the needs of the transportation system and the possible structure of a new program. Most Legislators acknowledge the importance of a good system, but no one has come up with an acceptable method for funding a program.

We walked from the KSPE office to the Statehouse to observe the House in session, but they had already adjourned for the day. Ron took us on a brief tour of recently completed portions of the Capitol building renovations. The work is a combination of renovation and restoration to the original condition of the building, as it was constructed in the 1920's. The work is truly impressive, and I encourage you to stop by to see the work on a future trip to Topeka. We walked from the Capitol to the Docking State Office Building for our luncheon with the Johnson County Delegation. Their temporary meeting room was arranged in a format that forced us to intermingle with the Senators and Representatives, and allowed us to visit with them informally during lunch. Ron Gaches served as moderator, and described the general interests of KSPE. Each Eastern Chapter member introduced themselves and talked about issues of interest to them. The Delegation asked several questions, and their primary interest focused on possible sources of revenue. They acknowledged the problems with charging sales taxes on services, but they asked us to consider the concept of removing exemptions, then charging sales tax at reduced rates as a method to increase overall revenues. We sympathized with their problem of reconciling revenues and expenditures, and offered to provide information on impacts to the design and construction industries for various tax scenarios.

The Eastern Chapter continues to build political capital with our Representatives and Senators. Events like this enhance our profile in their minds. We are building name and face recognition with many of our Legislators, and this visit was a valuable opportunity for members to meet and greet our elected officials. You are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity next year.

Thanks Volunteers

Future City



Model Bridge Building

Volunteers included:

Rod Holcomb, Mark Johnson, Bill Anthony, Don Allison, Mary Hansen, Steve Nelson, Mohammed Ibrawish, Erik Troy, Adam Stodola, Steve Hileman, Grace Hileman, Cheri Schoenhals and Stephanie Hale.



Award Nominations

KSPE EASTERN CHAPTER SEEKS AWARD NOMINATIONS

The KSPE Eastern Chapter asks that you take a moment and review the activities of your fellow members, firms, and friends of the profession over the past year so we may recognize those who have given so much to the advancement of the profession, and to society as a whole. Chapter nominations are due by February 26, 2010, with the award recipients recognized at the May Chapter meeting.

As in previous years, we are pursuing nominations for the following awards:

- **Engineer of the Year**
Nominations are now closed. Recipient will be named at the Engineer's Week Luncheon
- **KSPE Award**
- **Outstanding Citizen**
- **Outstanding Engineering Achievement**
- **Outstanding Young Engineer**
- **Outstanding Engineering Intern**
- **Outstanding Teacher**
- **Professional Development**
- **Special Recognition**
- **Government Engineer of the Year**

The deadline for nominations is February 26, 2010. Chapter award recipients are expected to submit a complete award application by April 1, 2010 for the statewide KSPE awards consideration.

Awards information and nomination forms are available on the KSPE website at <http://www.kansasengineer.org/Awards/Awards.htm> or upon request. For submitting candidates, you may either complete the one-page nomination form, or send a letter outlining the reasons why you feel an individual is a particularly worthy candidate for a certain award.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the Awards Chair – Brian Scovill at (913) 895-6052 or via email at Brian.Scovill@opkansas.org. There are many worthy candidates out there. Please give them the recognition they deserve and enhance the image of our profession.

Email nominations to Brian.Scovill@opkansas.org or Mail Nominations to:

KSPE Eastern Chapter Awards
C/O Brian Scovill
City of Overland Park
8500 E Santa Fe Drive
Overland Park, Kansas 66212

Chapter Director's Report

By: Stephanie Hale, P.E.

The KSPE Board met on January 8. The meeting was conducted via conference call due to inclement weather. The following highlights some of the discussions and initiatives from the meeting.

Legislative Preview: Budget is at the forefront of all issues. December state revenues were only slightly low, but \$40 million of revenue was one time income from delinquent taxes. This has created uncertainty for the legislature and they may need to enact additional cuts. The projected shortfall for 2011 is \$300-\$400 million. The coalition of school districts has petitioned the KS Supreme Court to reopen the case on spending requirements for students. They are hoping to reclaim all cuts in the last 15 months in excess of \$100 million.

The KSPE PAC has brought in \$4200, but because of set up expenses, we have \$3000. More money is needed to have a greater impact. Mike Crow will continue to promote PAC by sending mailings to the membership, advertising at golf tournaments, and setting up lunches and meetings with legislators.

KSPE has been asked to formally communicate with the Ks Board of Technical Professions regarding QBS. The motion was approved by the board to formally draft a letter supporting QBS legislation.

Tom Roberts reported on the Licensure Task Force, which met in December. NCEES set up this task force to increase licensure among faculty at universities. Some questions that were raised were: (1) why is faculty not licensed, and (2) should all faculty be licensed? From a university standpoint, most of the staff is in research and teaching and there is no incentive or benefit to being licensed.

The Minnesota membership growth model was discussed. Minnesota has taken the position as the #1 source for providing continuing education. Dues were increased, but they offer members enough free PDH's to more than cover the cost of membership. They offer half to full day conferences and they are conducted in offices of members.

The State Membership Board met in September and December, 2009. The next conference call is scheduled for March 11, 2010. The Topeka, Smoky Valley, and Eastern chapters have been contacting those on the delinquent/drop lists. The Tri Valley chapter had a membership recruitment meeting in November and gained two new members. The Eastern chapter scheduled fall and spring young engineer recruitment meetings. The Smoky Valley invited via email 40 registered PE's to a meeting and two showed up. There were discussions of student chapters in Topeka (Lawrence), Smoky Valley (Salina – Dennis Kuhlman) and Tri Valley (Manhattan). There were discussions of large firm recruitment strategies (B&V, B&M, HNTB, and HDR). The PE Lunch in October was again well received. There has been more discussion on how to reach the FE examinees.

The PE License Recognition Ceremony was held Friday, January 22 at Memorial Auditorium in Topeka. Surveyors and geologists will be included this year. They will reimburse KSPE for expenses on a pro-rata basis. KSPE will consider asking for company sponsorships to offset costs.

The KSPE Annual Conference will be held June 16-18 in Topeka. Planning sessions are under way. The golf tournament will be held at Shawnee Country Club.

Doug Danaher and Ron Gaches have visited almost all the KSPE chapters, and will try to reach the remaining ones this spring. It is a goal of KSPE to provide continuing education opportunities better than any other entity in Kansas. One suggestion was to offer a 1.5 hour webinar on current legislative issues (transportation, budget, etc.) and how to contact legislators.

The board nominated and approved Tom Roberts as our NSPE Fellow candidate.

Ron encouraged the state directors to send chapter news and photos for inclusion in the KPE newsletter. A stronger flow of information between chapters and state is needed. Information should be sent to Amy Schlink.

December Board Meeting Minutes

**December 10, 2009
Ritz Charles**

Attendees: Adam Stodola ,Steven Hileman, Brent Johnson, Andy Maysent, Kristen Leathers, Tawn Nugent, Kiel Johnson, Mark Johnston, Stephanie Hale, and Don Allison.

Agenda: Adam called the meeting to order and the agenda was distributed and approved.

Reports:

Previous meeting minutes

Previous meeting minutes from November will be distributed through email and approved at the meeting

Treasurer's report

Andy Maysent distributed the treasurer's report. The report was approved at the meeting.

Committee Reports:

Legislative

PAC contributions are being accepted. January 26 will be the statehouse visit. For the statehouse visit, we will be visiting Rob Gaches' office first for a briefing and then eat lunch with the state legislators. More information will be sent out at a later date.

MathCounts

The Mathcounts event is scheduled of February 2 and is proceeding as planned. Ryan DaMetz will need volunteers for the event.

Model Bridge Building

30 bridge kits were sent out on December 9. The event is scheduled for January 30. Volunteers will be needed for the event.

Fundraising

Don Allison has received \$300 to date.

Membership

No Report.

Awards

The Engineer of the Year deadline is December 31. The board will vote in January on the candidates.

Young Engineers

No Report

Engineering Preparation

Tawn Nugent is attending a Project Lead the Way meeting next week. To date there has not been any applicants for funding.

Engineer's week

No report.

Meeting Minutes cont'd

Newsletter / PR / Advertising

December 28 is the newsletter deadline.

State Director

Stephanie Hale will be attending the January 8 meeting that will be focused on the budget.

Community Service Project(s)

No report.

Chapter Meetings

January Meeting – January 21st

The January meeting will be a joint dinner meeting with MSPE at Manny's. Bernardo Garcia from KCMO Water Services Dept. will be speaking about the combined sewer overflow project

February Meeting – February 9. The February meeting will be a joint breakfast meeting with ASCE.

The meeting will cover a legislative report card.

March Meeting – March 18 March Madness

April Meeting – hosted by MSPE

May Meeting – Awards meeting

Old Business

Steve Hileman purchased portfolios for speaker gifts at the cost of \$26 a piece.

New Business

Newsletter Article Deadline – Monday, December 28th

Website Update Deadline – Monday, December 28th

Meeting Adjourned

Treasurer's Report

Eastern Chapter
Kansas Society of Professional Engineers (KSPE)
Treasurer's Report
 January 21, 2010

Cash on Hand

Beginning Balance as of December 10, 2009	\$475.00	
Additions	\$0.00	
Reductions	\$0.00	
Ending Balance as of January 21, 2010		\$475.00

Checking Account

Beginning Balance as of December 10, 2009	\$4,812.26	
<i>Deposits</i>		
December Breakfast Meeting Income	\$725.00	
NSPE/KSPE Payments (Sept-Nov)	\$495.00	
Bridge Building Contest Entry Fees	\$270.00	
Total Deposits	\$1,490.00	
<i>Payments</i>		
December Door Prizes	\$50.00	
Executive Secretary Salary-Dec 2009	\$150.00	
December Meeting Expenses	\$634.92	
Trophies for Mathcounts	\$442.20	
Bridge Building Supplies	\$413.06	
Total Payments	\$1,690.18	
<i>Transfers to/from Money Market</i>		
<i>Deposits</i>	\$0.00	
<i>Withdrawals</i>	\$0.00	
Ending Balance as of January 21, 2010		\$4,612.08

Money Market Account

Beginning Balance as of December 10, 2009	\$7,400.85	
<i>Deposits</i>	\$0.00	
<i>Withdrawals</i>	\$0.00	
<i>Dividend Reinvest</i>	\$3.71	
Ending Balance as of January 21, 2010		\$7,404.56

Engineers Foundation of Kansas

Beginning Balance as of December 10, 2009	\$0.00	
<i>Deposits</i>	\$300.00	
<i>Withdrawals</i>	\$0.00	
Ending Balance as of January 21, 2010		\$300.00

PEPP Dispersal CD

Beginning Balance as of December 10, 2009	\$14,185.77	
<i>Deposits</i>	\$0.00	
<i>Withdrawals</i>	\$0.00	
Ending Balance as of January 21, 2010		\$14,185.77

Respectfully Submitted,

Total **\$26,977.41**



Andy Maysent, P.E.
 Treasurer

Professional Directory



Our metro Kansas City offices:

OVERLAND PARK, KANSAS
7401 W. 129th Street, Suite 110
Overland Park, KS 66213

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