



## President's Message

By: Kiel Johnson, P.E.

February has come and gone as the green flash at sunset on the sea. There has been a flurry of activity in the past month, both literally and figuratively. With our first real measurable snow occurring this past Saturday, I hope everyone got to enjoy some sledding or other outdoor activity. My labs love this type of weather and want to do nothing more than rough house in the snow. When they see me pull out the snow shovel to attack the driveway, they watch me like hawks because as soon as I'm finished, it's game on!

February could be considered KSPE EC's busy season with little argument. Within a span of one month, we had our Harvesters community service event, Model Bridge Building competition, Mathcounts Competition, E-week Luncheon and let's not forget our standard monthly joint meeting with ASCE. Admittedly, Harvesters and Model Bridge building were on Saturday January 31<sup>st</sup>, but they definitely get the ball rolling into February.

The Model Bridge building event went well again this year thanks to Mark Johnston, his volunteers and Terracon for providing some materials and volunteers. We had just under 100 students slated to participate and the winning student had a bridge weight ratio of 2996!

The Harvester's event was on the same day as the Model Bridge Building competition, but we still managed to get 10-12 folks out to the Harvesters facility and help sort donated food. If you have never helped out at the Harvesters facility, you should check it out next

time. They run a really well-oiled machine and I had a great time.

Our monthly joint meeting with ASCE in February was a real treat. We had Brent, Bill and Sol from the Skywalk Memorial fund give a presentation on why the skywalk failed and the lessons learned from it. I know many of us had heard previous presentations on the subject but it was a more eye opening experience with this presentation with Sol's personal experiences mixed in with the technical discussion. It's a humble reminder that what we do every day affects peoples' lives.

Finally, we had the E-week Luncheon on February 26th at the Marriott downtown. Deb Miller with the Surface Transportation Board came and spoke on the rail systems in the US and how they have seen a major revitalization in recent years. She crammed a lot of information in a small timeframe but we are definitely thankful she could come and give a presentation on a topic we don't hear about every day. Thanks to the entire E-week Luncheon Committee for your hard work to make this a successful event.

In March we have our March Madness meeting on Thursday March 19<sup>th</sup> at the Barley's in Shawnee. It's always a great social event so be sure to invite a potential member!

## Inside This Issue:

President's Message	1
Event Information	2
Treasurers Report	5
Meeting Minutes	6
Professional Directory	8

### KSPE EC Website

The website will be updated on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month or as needed should there be time sensitive information.

Check it out...

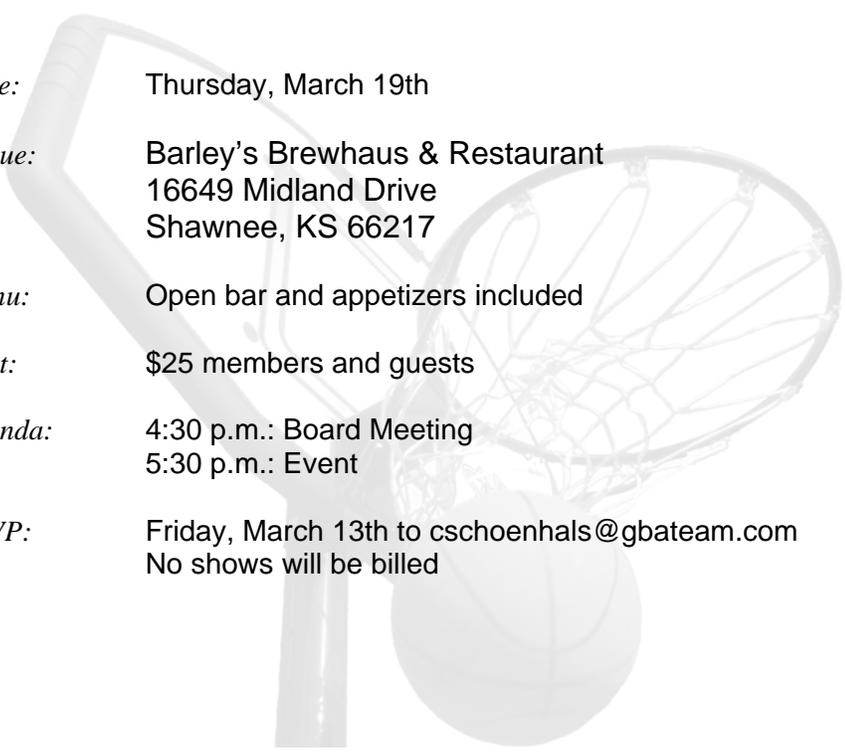
[www.kansasengineer.org/Chapters/Eastern.aspx](http://www.kansasengineer.org/Chapters/Eastern.aspx)

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

### March Madness Meeting



<i>Date:</i>	Thursday, March 19th
<i>Venue:</i>	Barley's Brewhaus & Restaurant 16649 Midland Drive Shawnee, KS 66217
<i>Menu:</i>	Open bar and appetizers included
<i>Cost:</i>	\$25 members and guests
<i>Agenda:</i>	4:30 p.m.: Board Meeting 5:30 p.m.: Event
<i>RSVP:</i>	Friday, March 13th to <a href="mailto:cschoenhals@gbateam.com">cschoenhals@gbateam.com</a> No shows will be billed

## Nominations Needed!!

The KSPE Eastern Chapter award nominations are due no later than March 18, 2015. Nomination forms can be found at the KSPE website <http://www.kansasengineer.org>. Please submit your nomination to Cliff Speegle at [cspeegle@affinis.us](mailto:cspeegle@affinis.us). The Eastern Chapter award recipients will also be submitted on April 3rd to KSPE for state awards.

### Award Categories

- Outstanding Citizen
- Outstanding Engineering Achievement
- Government Engineer of the Year
- Intern Engineer of the Year
- KSPE Award
- Professional Development
- Outstanding Teacher
- Young Engineer of the Year

## Annual Legislative Luncheon at the Kansas State Capital

Eastern Chapter will have their Annual Lunch Meeting with the Johnson County Legislative Delegation on Wednesday, March 25, 2015. The lunch will be at the State Capital Building in Topeka, and will be preceded by a briefing in Ron Gaches' office.

It is vital for us to let our concerns and priorities be known to our Senators and Representatives. We can meet our Representatives and Senators one-on-one and enjoy valuable 'face-time' with many of the people who represent us in Topeka.

Please put March 25<sup>th</sup> on your calendar and plan to take advantage of this opportunity to talk with our lawmakers.

<i>Date:</i>	Wednesday, March 25, 2015
<i>Itinerary:</i>	10:30 – 11:30 Legislative briefing in Ron Gaches' office, 825 S. Kansas Ave., Ste. 500 11:30 – 11:45 Walk to Capital 11:45 – 1:00 Johnson Co. Delegation, Rm. TBD, Capital Bldg. for networking and luncheon 1:00 Adjourn
<i>Cost:</i>	\$20 per person Catered lunch TBD
<i>RSVP for Luncheon:</i>	Cheri Schoenhals, <a href="mailto:cschoenhals@gbateam.com">cschoenhals@gbateam.com</a> by Wednesday, March 18 at 5 p.m.
<i>Carpooling:</i>	To Be Determined. If interested, please contact Charlie Love at 913-895-6193 or <a href="mailto:charlie.love@opkansas.org">charlie.love@opkansas.org</a> .

## Bridge Building

By: Mark Johnston, P.E.

The KSPE Eastern Chapter's 32<sup>nd</sup> annual model bridge building contest was held on January 31<sup>st</sup> at the University of Kansas Edwards Campus in Overland Park, Kansas. There were 60 students from 5 area high schools that participated in the event. The event results were:

- 1<sup>st</sup> = Carter Sehon, St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Efficiency=2996.6
- 2<sup>nd</sup> = Luke Kutey, St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Efficiency=2347.9
- 3<sup>rd</sup> = Alex Gill, St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Efficiency=2295.8

Carter Sehon and Luke Kutey both plan to compete in the 2015 International Bridge Building Contest in Portland, OR in April of 2015 and will receive travel assistance from the KSPE Eastern Chapter.

Thanks to Steve Hileman, Rod Holcomb and Terracon who helped make this a successful event.



## Community Service Event at Harvesters

On January 31<sup>st</sup>, several KSPE members, friends, and family donned their favorite football (and baseball) team's jerseys and joined forces for Harvester's Nationwide Souper Bowl of Caring event.



Our job was to sort food. We were bound and determined to sort everything in front of us (which we came close) but were eventually kicked out to make room for the next crew.

After volunteering and doing our part to end hunger, we participated in a short activity, learned a little about Harvester's and had a bowl of soup to symbolize what may be the only meal a food insecure person would receive in a day.

Thank you to all who were able to make it for this fun event!!



# E-Week Luncheon Photos

Photos taken by: Kristan Daily and Jesse Miguel, both of HNTB



Brian Scovill was awarded KSPE Eastern Chapter Engineer of the Year



# Treasurer's Report

*Eastern Chapter  
Kansas Society of Professional Engineers (KSPE)  
Treasurer's Report for February 2015  
February 24, 2015*

## Cash on Hand

Beginning Balance as of January 15, 2015	\$485.00	
Additions	\$0.00	
Reductions		
Ending Balance as of February 24, 2015		<b>\$485.00</b>

## Checking Account

Beginning Balance as of January 15, 2015	\$2,394.50	
<i>Deposits</i>		
Jan Mtg Income	\$280.00	
NSPE dues	\$1,179.00	
Total Deposits	<b>\$1,459.00</b>	
<i>Payments</i>		
Jan Exec Sec Salary	\$150.00	
Jan Mtg Expense	\$245.00	
Hyman Brand, Mathcounts expense	\$245.52	
Cindy McCann, Mathcounts table rental	\$180.00	
Total Payments	<b>\$820.52</b>	
<i>Transfers to/from Money Market</i>		
Deposits	\$0.00	
Withdrawals	\$0.00	
Ending Balance as of February 24, 2015		<b>\$3,032.98</b>

## Money Market Account

Beginning Balance as of January 15, 2015	\$5,409.74	
Deposits	\$0.08	
Withdrawals	\$0.00	
Dividend Reinvest	\$0.00	
Ending Balance as of February 24, 2015		<b>\$5,409.82</b>

## Engineers Foundation of Kansas

Beginning Balance as of January 15, 2015	\$550.00	
Deposits	\$1,700.00	
Withdrawals	\$400.00	
Ending Balance as of February 24, 2015		<b>\$1,850.00</b>

## PEPP Dispersal CD

Beginning Balance as of January 15, 2015	\$14,185.77	
Deposits	\$0.00	
Withdrawals	\$0.00	
Ending Balance as of February 24, 2015		<b>\$14,185.77</b>

Respectfully Submitted,



Cindy McCann, P.E.  
Treasurer

Total **\$24,963.57**

# February 2015 Meeting Minutes

## Monthly Board Meeting

Date: 2/24/2015

Time: 1:00 p.m. Location: Cinzetti's Italian Buffet

**Attendees:** Kiel Johnson, Brian Scovill, Cindy McCann, Todd Black, Ryan DaMetz, Mark Johnston, Charlie Love, Tony Rome

### Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Johnson at 1:10 p.m.

### Reports:

The minutes from the January meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Revenue included income from the January meeting as well as the chapter portion of NSPE dues. Expenses included the Executive Secretary's salary, January meeting expenses, and MATHCOUNTS expenses for table rental and food for volunteers. The money market account earned \$0.08 in interest, and \$1,700.00 was deposited into the EFK account bringing the current total to \$1,850.00.

### Committee Reports

#### Legislative

The Statehouse visit is scheduled for Wednesday, March 25, 2015. The cost will remain at \$20 per person to help offset the cost of lunch.

#### MathCounts

The event was a success. The State competition is set for Saturday, March 7, 2015 in Topeka. Contact Don Taylor if you'd like to help out with that event.

#### Model Bridge Building

The event was a success. There has been a request from the 1<sup>st</sup> place winner for additional financial support to attend the National contest in Portland, OR (beyond the initial \$300 the Eastern Chapter offers). It was discussed that if the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner does not want to attend, we could offer the additional \$300 to the 1<sup>st</sup> place winner. An official motion will be made once Mark inquires with the 2<sup>nd</sup> and/or 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners.

#### Fundraising

No report.

#### Membership

Mark is trying to contact delinquent members to make sure they know they are delinquent.

#### Awards

Nominations for awards are due by March 18<sup>th</sup>.

#### Young Engineers

No report.

#### Engineering Prep

No requests at this time.

# ***Meeting Minutes continued***

## Engineer's week

We need help with the registration table and KSPE booth during the E-Week luncheon. Anyone who is available to help needs to get in touch with Kiel. Times range from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Kiel and Cindy will have a debrief with MSPE after the event to determine who performed which roles and the breakdown of the profits.

## Advertising

No report.

## State Director

There has been no State meeting since the last Eastern Chapter Board meeting. No official word yet on the new Executive Director.\*

\* After the meeting, Todd learned that Eric Stafford (who recently joined GBA and was a potential replacement for the KSPE ED position) has decided to return to his previous employment at the Kansas Chamber. In the meantime, Ron Gaches will continue to serve as KSPE ED.

## Community Service

The Harvesters event was a success, and members are interested in participating again in the future.

## Chapter Meetings

March Meeting – Barley's Brewhaus in Shawnee possibly on March 19, 2015. Ryan will finalize details for the March newsletter.

April Meeting – Joint meeting with SAME and MSPE. More information to follow.

May Meeting – Award meeting at Deer Creek. More information to follow.

## Old Business

## New Business

Deadline for the newsletter will be Monday, March 2, 2015.

**Meeting Adjourned at: 1:55 p.m.**

# Professional Directory



**Todd M. LaTorella, P.E.**  
*Executive Director*

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Home: (913) 390-8104  
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