



## WSPE eNews

**A monthly publication from the Wisconsin Society of Professional Engineers**

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#### 1. Hands-On Ag Education at the USA Science and Engineering Festival

By USDA Deputy Under Secretary Ann Bartuska for Research, Education, and Economics mission area

How do you get tent caterpillars and termites to follow a circle on a piece of paper? Paint the circle with pheromones.

This was one of the many cool facts that kids and adults learned perusing the USDA exhibits at the USA Science & Engineering Festival this past weekend. I joined thousands of people during this three-day event designed to revive interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) and promote careers in those fields.

Innovation is the foundation for new products and processes in agriculture and relies heavily on a solid knowledge base of STEM subjects. For USDA, educating our next generation of innovators is a top priority. Supporting the Administration's goal to invest in our youth, USDA contributed about \$92.5 M in 2010 towards the federal STEM investment. There have been great achievements made in agriculture science, but many challenges remain, including food security, helping farmers adapt to variable weather conditions and maintaining a clean, safe water supply. In order to meet our future food and agricultural challenges, we need to train more students in the STEM subjects to keep up with our scientific needs.

USDA employees from the [Agricultural Research Service \(ARS\)](#), [Food Safety and Inspection Service \(FSIS\)](#), [Forest Service](#) and [National Institute of Food and Agriculture \(NIFA\)](#) enthusiastically volunteered their time at the festival. Many participants visited the USDA exhibits — answering trivia questions, learning about termites, inquiring about careers at USDA and getting to see how well someone *really* washes their hands.



Deputy Under Secretary Ann Bartuska talks with kids and parents about the value of Ag Education.

Whatever the motivation, observing thousands of kids and adults getting “into” science, makes me confident that we are science strong in Washington, D.C. USDA science agencies are committed to delivering on their mission to help ensure a healthy, productive, safe and sustainable food and agricultural system, while protecting our healthy and our precious natural resources.

Whether it’s developing our youth in programs like 4-H or empowering students through higher education by providing scholarships and post-doctoral fellowships, USDA will continue to encourage students to pursue careers in science. Now more than ever we cannot relent in our support for food and agricultural science, nor neglect to educate and train the future scientists who will take the advances made today to new heights.

To find out more about USDA’s internship and scholarship programs, click [here](#)

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## 2. 2012 Raytheon MATHCOUNTS® National Competition Wisconsin Results

By D. D. Behlke, P.E.

For the Wisconsin Team and Coach, this year’s National Competition started more like a fire drill with a 4 a.m. wakeup call to Coach John Lemke to see if the team and he could make it to the Dane County Airport before 6 a.m. Their flight was moved up to an earlier flight from Madison to Twin Cities instead of the booked flight from Madison to Cincinnati. The plan was that I would meet them in Cincinnati and then we would take the same flight to Orlando. I arrived at Cincinnati and no sign of the coach or team. After I boarded the plane, they still were not there. I asked the flight attendant, but she said they did not have access to any computers on the plane. I figured that either Delta changed their flight or that political unrest in Madison had delayed the flight. About fifteen minutes after I arrived at the Walt Disney World Swan®, the phone rang and Coach Lemke filled me in on the details.

In the individual written rounds, Christopher Xu, (Figure 1) a seventh grader from Thomas Jefferson Middle School in Madison, finished third. Since he was in the top four, along with Sean Shi, eighth grader from Redwood Middle School in CA (first place written round) and Alec Sun, seventh grader from Jonas Clarke Middle School in MA (second place written round), they received a bye for the first round of the Countdown Round. All three of them had a disheartening loss in their first round of the Countdown Round competition. The round was over before they were ready to compete. Things happen fast in the Countdown Round, where the Mathletes® typically answer the problem before the moderator can read it. Luckily Xu and Sun are seventh graders and may have another opportunity to make it to the Countdown Round in 2013.



Figure 1: Christopher Xu in the Hot Seat against Kevin Sun from IL.

The WI Team (Figure 2), consisting of Xu and Peter Yang of Thomas Jefferson Middle School, Madison; Stephen Wasielewski of Roosevelt School of the Arts, Milwaukee; and Bryan Jin of Velma Hamilton Middle School, Madison, finished 13th among 57 teams.

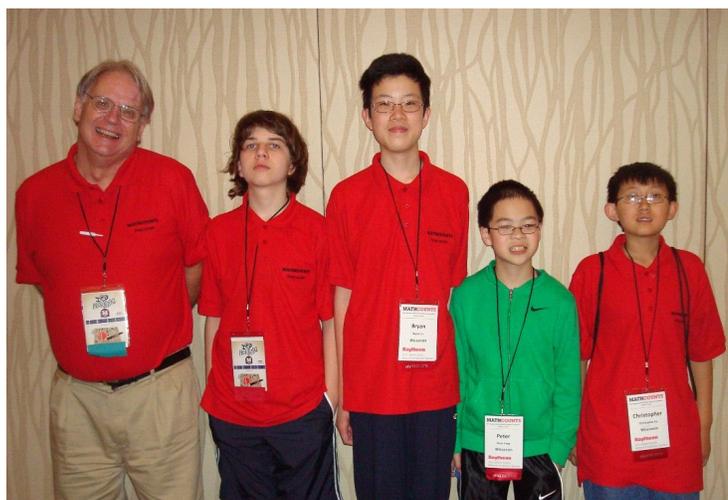


Figure 2: 2012 Wisconsin MATHCOUNTS team: Coach Lemke and Mathletes Wasielewski, Jin, Yang, and Xu.

Another award received was a Three-peat Award to Wasielewski for qualifying for Nationals all three of his eligible years. Xu received the Repeat Award for making Nationals for two years, with the opportunity of a Three-peat award next year.

After the Countdown Round, they had the rest of Friday afternoon and most of Saturday to go to Disney World.

The winner of the 2012 Raytheon MATHCOUNTS® National Competition was Chad Qian, an eighth grader from Sycamore School in Indiana who moved up from seventh place in the written round. The winning team was from Massachusetts and consisted of Niket Gowravaram, an 8th grader from Raymond J. Grey Junior High School; James Lin, a 7th grader from McCall Middle School; Matt Lipman, a 7th grader from Meadowbrook School; and Alec Sun, a 7th grader from Jonas Clarke Middle School. They were coached by Josh Frost from Jonas Clarke Middle School.

For more details, visit <http://mathcounts.org/document.doc?id=859>. To see a ranking of the top 56 Mathletes® and the top 23 teams, [see article #4 below](#).

A special thanks to Raytheon for sponsoring the 2012 Raytheon MATHCOUNTS® National Competition.

### 3. Buying or Selling a Business: Asset Purchase or Entity Purchase

By Attorney Randall J. Andersen

When consulting with an attorney regarding the purchase or sale of a business, one of the first questions which will be asked is: What is the form of the purchase? Is it an "entity purchase" or an "asset purchase?"

With an entity purchase, the buyer purchases the business entity itself. If the business is organized as a corporation, the buyer purchases the actual shares of stock owned by the shareholders of the corporation. If the business is structured as a limited liability company, the buyer purchases the membership units. If, on the other hand, the transaction is structured as an asset purchase, the buyer purchases the actual assets of the selling business. In other words, the buyer purchases the equipment, inventory, etc., and takes an assignment from the seller of the contracts for the projects or work in progress. The buyer does not purchase the shares of stock or membership units of the selling corporation. With an asset purchase, the buyer typically assumes only certain liabilities of the seller, and in some cases no liabilities of the seller.

The buyer will usually be quite concerned about assuming the seller's liabilities, particularly contingent or unknown liabilities. Therefore, buyers often prefer to structure the deal as an asset purchase transaction, with the seller or the seller's shareholders agreeing to be responsible for the seller's debts and liabilities.

However, if the buyer has been a longtime employee of the seller, the buyer may be more comfortable with assuming responsibility for the seller's liabilities, and more willing to structure the transaction as an entity purchase, meaning that the buyer purchases the shares of stock or membership units of the seller.

Structuring the transaction as an entity purchase often means that the seller will pay less income tax on the transaction. Therefore, the seller will often be willing to accept a lower price if the buyer is willing to structure the transaction as an entity purchase.

Structuring the transaction as an entity purchase may have the additional benefit of avoiding the need to seek consent of third parties for the assignment of contracts for work in progress and the assignment of leases to which the seller is a party and which will be assumed by the buyer.

The tax implications are often one of the most important considerations in determining whether to structure the transaction as an asset sale or an entity sale. Therefore, it is critical to consult with a CPA who deals with business sales early on in the negotiation process.

Obviously, there are many other factors to be considered from a legal perspective when purchasing or selling a business. Selecting the form of the transaction (asset purchase vs. entity purchase) is just the beginning.



*Attorney Randall J. Andersen represents professional engineers, architects, contractors, materials suppliers and owners of construction projects, and is with the law firm of Kay & Andersen, LLC. Please feel free to contact him at (608) 833-0077 or visit [www.kayandandersen.com](http://www.kayandandersen.com).*

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### 4. 2012 Raytheon MATHCOUNTS National Competition Individual and Team Results Summary

From MATHCOUNTS

Rank	Name	State	Grade	Rank	Name	State	Grade
1	Chad Qian	IN	8	29	Stephen Price	TX	8
2	Ashwin Sah	OR	7	30	Jeffrey Huang	TX	7
S	Kevin Sun	IL	8	31	William Jiao	NJ	8
S	Allen Liu	NY	8	32	Shenghao Liu	NC	7
Q	Sean Shi	CA	8	33	Elvin Gu	LA	8
Q	Alec Sun	MA	7	34	Tony Ding	TN	8
Q	Christopher Xu	WI	7	35	Spencer Chen	MO	8
Q	James Lin	MA	7	36	Eric Lu	MD	8
P	Justin Xu	MI	8	37	Jeremy Dy	MD	7
P	Celine Liang	CA	8	38	Sahaj Garg	NJ	8
P	Robin Park	VA	8	39	Abhinand Sivaprasad	WA	8
P	Dylan Hendrickson	NM	8	40	Sloan Kanaski	AZ	8
13	Lazar, Ilic	TX	8	41	Alexander Li	MD	8
14	Niket Gowravaram	MA	8	42	Rachel Zhang	MO	8

15	Andrew Bai	OR	8	43	Mihir Singhal	CA	6
16	Patrick Wang	WA	7	44	Kathleen Yang	KY	8
17	Michael Ma	TX	6	45	Calvin Lee	NY	8
18	Alexander Wei	NY	8	46	Angela Deng	NC	7
19	Caleb Ji	WA	8	47	Elizabeth Han	IA	8
20	Clive Chan	OH	8	48	Matthew Zheng	NC	8
21	Sarvasva Raghuvanshi	IL	8	49	Kevin Lin	VA	8
22	Albert Xu	WA	8	50	Junghyun Hwang	IL	8
23	Matthew Lipman	MA	7	51	Peter Mizes	NY	8
24	Brice Wang	IL	8	52	Thatcher Chonka	OK	8
25	Michael Kural	CT	8	53	Yogeshwar Velingker	PA	7
26	Roy Navid	PA	8	54	Matthew Hambacher	NV	7
27	Dhruv Medarametla	MI	8	55	Anthony Cheng	UT	8
28	Yue Zhang	KY	8	56	Aradhya Kasera	FL	8

**Rank Team**

1	Massachusetts
2	Illinois
3	Washington
4	New York
5	Virginia
6	Maryland
7	Texas
8	California
9	Michigan
10	New Jersey
11	North Carolina
12	Pennsylvania

**Rank Team**

13	Wisconsin
14	Oregon
15	Connecticut
16	Missouri
17	Arizona
18	Indiana
19	New Mexico
20	Nevada
21	Ohio
22	Florida
23	Louisiana

Written Competition Champion - Sean Shi, California  
 Written Competition Runner-Up - Alec Sun, Massachusetts

S - Semifinalist; Q - Quarterfinalist; P - Countdown Round Participant

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**5. WSPE Officer Position Openings**

By Ed Rodden, II

The upcoming elections are around the corner and the Executive Board would like to give you an advanced notice on the openings that will be available in the upcoming term. Below outlines the duties of the open positions, which include the Executive Board and Practice Divisions.

[An official ballot is available for download HERE.](#) These openings should be considered for those who would like to fulfill some education credits for your PE renewal.

Questions or interests should be forwarded to Ed Rodden II at [ExecDir@wspe.org](mailto:ExecDir@wspe.org).

**WSPE Executive Board Openings**

*(2012 – 2013 Term)*

Only those members who are current members of National and their State Society(ies) shall be eligible to serve in the position of President, President-Elect and Vice President of either NSPE or their State Society. Duties and responsibilities for each Officer are defined as follows:

**President-Elect**

The President-Elect shall act as president in the president's absence, and shall undertake assignments at the request of the president, the Executive Committee, or the Board. The principle activity of the president-elect shall be an examination of the Society and the development of plans for the following year.

**Vice President – Membership Portfolio**

In the absence of, or in the case of the inability of the president and president-elect, it shall be the duty of one of the three vice presidents, in order of precedence, to perform all the duties of president. Each vice president shall serve as chair of a portfolio and liaison to a group of chapters as determined by the president.

**Vice President – Governmental Affairs Portfolio**

In the absence of, or in the case of the inability of the president and president-elect, it shall be the duty of one of the three vice presidents, in order of precedence, to perform all the duties of president. Each vice president shall serve as chair of a portfolio and liaison to a group of chapters as determined by the president.

#### **Treasurer**

It shall be the duty of the treasurer to protect all funds and records of accounts of the Society, making an annual report of receipts and disbursements to the Society; give such bond, to secure the faithful discharge of duties as may be determined from time to time by the Board. The fee for this bond shall be paid by the Society. At the expiration of the term of office, all books, papers, and money belonging to the Society shall be turned over to the successor treasurer, who shall give the preceding treasurer a receipt therefore.

#### **WSPE Practice Divisions Openings**

*(2012 – 2013 Term)*

Practice divisions, comprised of members having common professional concerns and interest, shall operate under the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society. The American Council of Engineering Companies of Wisconsin (ACEC WI) shall be the designated practice division for professional engineers in private practice (PEPP). Operating rules of the practice divisions, and any changes thereto, must have the approval of the Board before becoming effective. The Board may dissolve a practice division after conducting a hearing on the need for such action.

#### **Professional Engineers In Private Practice Professional Engineers In Government**

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## **6. WSPE 2012 Election Ballot**

[Download an official 2012 WSPE Election ballot by clicking HERE.](#)

Complete and return this ballot to WPSE Headquarters by FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 2012.

#### **By Mail:**

Attn: WSPE Elections  
WSPE Headquarters  
PO Box 430  
Pewaukee, WI 53072-0430

#### **By Fax:**

414-454-8729

#### **By Email:**

[execdir@wspe.org](mailto:execdir@wspe.org)

#### **On-Line:**

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/3BDRX62>

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## **7. Joseph Warren Dresser, Long-time WSPE Member, Passes Away**

Joseph Warren Dresser, age 75, passed away peacefully at home on Saturday, May 26, 2012.

Joe was born in Black River Falls on Oct. 25, 1936, and lived almost his entire life in Madison. Joe graduated from Madison East High School in 1954, and the University of Wisconsin-Platteville in 1961 with a degree in civil engineering. He married his wife, Eileen M. (Mohlman) Dresser, in 1961; they celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary on May 13.

Joe spent most of his career with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, working in many different roles. He also spent two years on the staff of Donahue and Associates in Sheboygan. He was proud to be an engineer, and was a longtime member of the Wisconsin Society of Professional Engineers (WSPE). Among numerous other honors and awards, he served as the WSPE state president in 1983, and was named the group's "Engineer of the Year" in 1998.

As a young man, Joe served for several years in the Wisconsin Air National Guard. As an adult he was a longtime member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, assisting its congregation in a wide variety of roles. Joe was active in the alumni association at UW-Platteville, and was named its president in 1998. He was a longtime fan and follower of UW-Madison Athletics (the Badgers), the Green Bay Packers, and the Milwaukee Brewers. He also enjoyed many years of

camaraderie as a member of the Madison-area PGA (Poorest Golfers Available).

In his retirement, Joe was heavily involved with Madison West Kiwanis and served as president of the group in 2002. He was a Master Mason in Madison Lodge 5. He assisted at the Allied Drive Food Pantry, and volunteered at The Road Home. He also served for several holiday seasons as a bell-ringer for the Salvation Army.

Joe loved his family, and let everyone know that the thing he was most proud of in his life was "his girls." He and Eileen enjoyed an active lifestyle and traveled extensively around North America, both with their family and as a couple after their daughters were grown. He was an avid amateur golfer and poker player, enjoying the company and fellowship of many friends during these pursuits.

Joe is survived by his wife, Eileen; his daughters, Michelle L. Dresser (Deerfield), Patricia E. Dresser (Milwaukee), Kathryn M. Dresser (Damascus, Md.), and Nancy E. Dresser (Charles Town, W.Va.); his brother, Jon R. (Phyllis) Dresser; many nephews, nieces and cousins; and his faithful canine companion, Bogey. He was preceded in death by his sister, Mary L. (Dresser) Holanda; his niece, Karen D. Holanda; his father, Russell E. Dresser; and his mother, Fern B. (Ross) Dresser.

A Memorial Service will be held Saturday, June 2, 2012, at 1 p.m. at GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH, 5701 Raymond Road, Madison, WI 53711. A Celebration of Life and Ice Cream Social will be held in the fellowship hall following the service from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Joe requested that in lieu of flowers, memorials be made to either the Good Shepherd Foundation, or the Madison West Kiwanis Foundation.

The family wishes to thank Dr. Daniel Mulkerin of UW Hospital's Carbone Cancer Center, and the staff and volunteers of Agrace HospiceCare, for their care and compassion.

Cress Funeral and Cremation Service  
3610 Speedway Road, Madison  
[\(608\) 238-3434](tel:6082383434)

Read more: [http://host.madison.com/news/local/obituaries/article\\_13398978-a99d-11e1-9e3e-0019bb2963f4.html#ixzz1wPI9dtf6](http://host.madison.com/news/local/obituaries/article_13398978-a99d-11e1-9e3e-0019bb2963f4.html#ixzz1wPI9dtf6)

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### **Free 6-Month Trial Membership!**

Interested in WSPE but not sure if you want to join? Try a 6-month FREE trial membership, courtesy of WSPE. Contact Ed Rodden, WSPE Executive Director, at [ExecDir@wspe.org](mailto:ExecDir@wspe.org) for details.

### **We Need Your Email Address!**

If you are reading a paper copy of the WSPE eNews, you're missing out! Send your email address to Ed Rodden, WSPE Executive Director, at [ExecDir@wspe.org](mailto:ExecDir@wspe.org) or call him at (414) 531-1129 to receive electronic eNews.

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### **Update Your Information with WSPE**

Did you...  
...get a new job?  
...get promoted?  
...get a new phone number or email address?  
...get your PE license?

**Tell us about it!** Send your new information to Ed Rodden, WSPE Executive Director, at [ExecDir@wspe.org](mailto:ExecDir@wspe.org) or call him at (414) 531-1129 and he'll make sure your information is updated in both the WSPE and NSPE databases. We'd also like to include an article in the next eNews summarizing your recent change or accomplishment to inform your fellow WSPE members.



Join the discussion at [WSPE's LinkedIn Group](#).

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