

## WSPE eNews

A monthly publication from the Wisconsin Society of Professional Engineers

### September 2013 Edition

1. [President's Message](#)  
By Frederick W. Groth, P.E., S.E.
2. [I Scream, You Scream, Engineers Scream for Ice Cream!](#)  
Submitted by Angela Hanz, P.E.
3. [MSOE PEAK Mini-Conference, Sat., Sept. 28](#)  
Submitted by Brittney Lynn, MSOE Graduate Program Specialist
4. [Engineers Foundation of WI Board Members Needed](#)  
Submitted by Steve Berg, P.E.
5. [Western Chapter Update](#)  
By James Kochie, P.E., Western Chapter President
6. [WI Valley Chapter Update](#)  
By Angela Hanz, P.E., Western Chapter State Director

#### 1. President's Message

By Frederick W. Groth, P.E., S.E.

Well, it's Labor Day, so summer is officially over. School begins for most kids tomorrow already. As I am writing this President's Message we are vacationing in a cabin just east of Stevens Point. It is turning out to be a great family vacation, so I will keep this President's Message brief.

But the good news: with the beginning of school comes the beginning of football season! Next Sunday is the first game of the year for the Packers. They are looking better after the second pre-season game. Go Packers!!!



*Fred Groth, P.E., S.E.  
WSPE President, 2012 - 2013*

And of course our beloved Badgers. I am looking forward to seeing how our new coach handles his first season. Go Badgers!!

In my August President's Message I mentioned my goals as WSPE President for 2013 to 2014. One of my first priorities is to visit the local WSPE chapters and find out how we can better serve our local chapters and membership. So please be thinking about this and tell me your ideas when I visit. I will be trying to book meetings with local chapters in the near future. **We need your input** to make changes that benefit the local chapters.

Our next WSPE Board of Directors meeting will be on September 11, 2013, 10:00-11:30 am at the GRAEF Milwaukee office. All WSPE members are invited to attend this meeting. We will send out an agenda at least one week before the meeting. You are invited to attend in person or use the [GoToMeeting](#) web service. We will post the agenda and the information regarding the GoToMeeting web service on the WSPE website. If you have important issues to discuss, please call or send me an email or contact Ed Rodden, WSPE's Executive Director ([ExecDir@wspe.org](mailto:ExecDir@wspe.org)).

We are just starting to look at our next 2014 WSPE Discovery Conference to be held in April or early May 2014. If you have some interesting topics and speakers in mind, please contact Ed Rodden. We are also discussing where we should hold the 2014 WSPE Discovery Conference. Preferably somewhere in Madison, Milwaukee, or the Fox River Valley. If you want to be on the 2014 WSPE Discovery Conference Program committee please contact Ed Rodden.

**Please help by getting involved in WSPE so we can become your valued organization again.** If you have questions about how to get involved, please email me at [fred.groth@graef-usa.com](mailto:fred.groth@graef-usa.com) or give me a call at (608) 335-2978. You can also email our WSPE Executive Director, Ed Rodden, at [ExecDir@wspe.org](mailto:ExecDir@wspe.org).

[TOP](#)

#### 2. **I Scream, You Scream, Engineers Scream for Ice Cream!**

Submitted by Angela Hanz, P.E.

## Volunteer Opportunity!

Mr. Jon Albee, 7th Grade Science Teacher at John Muir Middle School in Wausau, is looking for area engineers that are available during school hours for one day to volunteer as speakers and to help judge a project where his students design and build prototypes of portable coolers for ice cream.

Please contact Jon directly at [jalbee@wausauschools.org](mailto:jalbee@wausauschools.org) if you are interested in helping out. The event will be held sometime in October.

[TOP](#)

### 3. MSOE PEAK Mini-Conference, Sat., Sept. 28

Submitted by Brittney Lynn, MSOE Graduate Program Specialist



Register now for MSOE's next PEAK Mini-Conference on Saturday, September 28!

A [PEAK Mini-Conference](#) is a collaborative knowledge exchange among engineering and technical professionals facilitated by MSOE, with the goal of providing a cost-effective way for engineers and technical professionals to learn about new topics. In addition, PEs can earn the professional development hours (PDHs) now required for maintaining licensure in Wisconsin by attending PEAK sessions.

#### Featured sessions include:

- Ethics in Engineering
- What Engineers Need to Know About Marketing
- Running Effective Meetings
- Additive Manufacturing
- Project Management for Engineers
- Moving from Engineering Management to Leadership
- Envision Infrastructure Rating System
- Hydraulic Systems
- What Non-Software Engineers Should Know About Software Engineering
- Statistical Hypothesis Testing Using Excel
- Overview of the Envision Infrastructure Rating System

One PDH is awarded for each one hour of session completion, which means participants can earn up to 8 hours for attending the PEAK Mini-Conference! [Register now!](#)

Contact Brittney Lynn at [\(414\) 277-2345](tel:414-277-2345) or [lynn@msoe.edu](mailto:lynn@msoe.edu) if you have any questions.

[TOP](#)

### 4. Engineers Foundation of WI Board Members Needed

Submitted by Steve Berg, P.E.

The Engineers Foundation of Wisconsin (EFW) is sponsored by WSPE and is a separate 501 (c) (3) corporation organized for charitable, educational and scientific purposes. We are seeking a few new board members to help us serve our mission. We meet about 3 times per year and our main focus is providing scholarships for engineering students.

If you are interested in being an EFW Board Member, please contact Steve Berg, EFW President, at [steve.berg@rasmithnational.com](mailto:steve.berg@rasmithnational.com).

[TOP](#)

## 5. Western Chapter Update

By James Kochie, P.E., Western Chapter President

The Western Chapter sponsored a local MATHCOUNTS competition in February. Kevin Fry and Jarrod Holter did a good job again planning and hosting the competition. Dean Olson was instrumental in organizing the Scholarship program again.

With the support of the local Coulee Region Engineering Society (ASHRAE, ASME, SME, IEEE, WSPE) we were able to award a local scholarship as well as submit a candidate to the State competition. Plans are in the works to hold a Chapter meeting in September.

[TOP](#)

## 6. WI Valley Chapter Update

By Angela Hanz, P.E., Western Chapter State Director

Here is a summary of activities for the year (July 2012-July 2013) for the WI Valley Chapter:

1. We hosted four Professional Development Hour sessions over the lunch hour which included sessions on: Concrete Waterproofing and Repair, Business Performance Coaching, Permeable Pavers, Roadway Design Applications using Geogrid.
2. We toured the We Energies and Domtar Biomass Energy Project in Rothschild with ASCE which was under construction at the time of the tour. We also toured the City of Wausau Wastewater Treatment Plant and attended the Stevens Point Downtown Renovation Tour with ASCE.
3. During the winter, ASCE and WSPE-WI Valley Chapter held a family outing: Tubing at Sylvan Hills.
4. We awarded a \$500 local WSPE scholarship to Collyn Heier of Medford High School (awarded from local WI Valley Chapter member donations – [see Collyn's thank-you card here](#)). Also, Tanner Glaza from Lincoln High School in WI Rapids was awarded a \$1,500 WSPE Past Presidents Scholarship at the state level.
5. MathCOUNTS continues to be held every February. Our chapter was awarded a grant from 3M last year to help offset costs for the MathCOUNTS competition. These 3M funds were used in addition to the continued donations from members and local businesses.

We will continue to hold Professional Development Hour sessions starting this fall again (No PDH sessions were held in July and August).

[TOP](#)

### 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.

Go to [www.wspe.org/WI%206%20months%20Free%20Membership%20Application.pdf](http://www.wspe.org/WI%206%20months%20Free%20Membership%20Application.pdf) to download an application.

Contact Ed Rodden, WSPE Executive Director, at [ExecDir@wspe.org](mailto:ExecDir@wspe.org) for details.

### We Need Your News!

- 1 Is your chapter hosting an event?
- 1 Did your chapter get some new members?
- 1 Have you started your own business?
- 1 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 WSPE, please send your articles to Clayton Grow, WSPE eNews Editor, [clayton@thewritingengineer.com](mailto:clayton@thewritingengineer.com).

We look forward to including your news in our monthly updates!



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



["Like" us on Facebook.](#)

### 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.

### **Advertisers Wanted**

Help us offset the costs of producing this eNews by placing an advertisement here! There is a nominal fee of \$25 per issue per article/advertisement. If you are interested in advertising your company here, please contact Ed Rodden, WSPE Executive Director, at [ExecDir@wspe.org](mailto:ExecDir@wspe.org) or [\(414\) 531-1129](tel:4145311129).

Thanks for your help.

### **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?

You can update your information yourself on the NSPE website!  
[Click this link to update your membership information.](#)

Alternatively, you can 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.

[TOP](#)

### **WSPE Mission Statement**

*WSPE is an organization of licensed Professional Engineers (PEs) and Engineering Interns/Engineers in Training (EIs/EITs).*

*Through education, licensure advocacy, leadership training, multi-disciplinary networking, and outreach, WSPE enhances the image of its members and their ability to ethically and professionally practice engineering.*