

WSPE eNews

A monthly publication from the Wisconsin Society of Professional Engineers

December 2013 Edition

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1. President's Message: November - December

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

Thanksgiving is here and gone and now Christmas is right around the corner. I hope you are all enjoying this holiday time with family.

The school year is already nearly halfway over. And, of course, my favorite sport football is getting down to crunch time. Badgers are looking great. They just seem to be getting better and better.



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

The Packers, on the other hand, are really doing terrible with all these injuries and losing Rodgers. After the Lions game, at least we know it can't get any worse.

As I noted in the October President's message, we have been having some interesting discussions on how to increase membership and give value back for belonging to WSPE/NSPE. I am excited about what we all worked hard to come up with. Here's an outline of what we are proposing. First, as a member of WSPE/NSPE, you will be able to get the following:

- 1 15 PDH's from NSPE online. This will be free for joining WSPE/NSPE.
- 1 Live presentations online so you can get part of 15 PDH's required live with questions and follow up. These speaker presentations will be live for persons going to local chapter meetings and will be available online at time of the presentation. We are planning on offering this at minimal cost to WSPE members. You will be able ask questions to speakers by being online.
- 1 We will be also offering enterprise membership to firms who join and enroll members in WSPE/NSPE. Firms will be able to take advantage of these continuing education PDH's thru this enterprise membership. We'll include more about this soon.
- 1 The WSPE Discovery Conference will continue to have live speakers and you will be able to get more than 7 to 10 PDH's by attending one Discovery Conference. By being a WSPE member you will be able to attend this WSPE Discovery Conference at a reduced rate.

I am excited because this brings value to you for being a member of WSPE/NSPE by giving you continuing education PDH's at a reduced cost. We'll include more information about this in the coming months as we finalize and get

this launched.

Our 2014 WSPE Discovery Conference will be held in May 2014. See [announcement in this eNews](#) for information. If you have interesting topics or speakers in mind, or if you want to be on the 2014 WSPE Discovery Conference Program Committee, please contact Ed Rodden, WSPE Executive Director, at ExecDir@wspe.org or (414) 531-1129.

WSPE has been and will continue to monitor key legislature and budget bills being sponsored that will affect our engineering profession. As these bills move through the legislature this fall and spring, WSPE will be proactive in reviewing and providing engineering input. If you are interested in being a member of our WSPE legislative cabinet, please call me at (608) 335-2978 or email me at fred.groth@graef-usa.com.

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 or give me a call at (608) 335-2978. You can also email our WSPE Executive Director, Ed Rodden, at ExecDir@wspe.org.

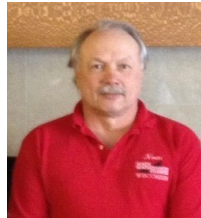
I wish you and your family Happy Holidays.

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2. Dedicated MATHCOUNTS Volunteers Recognized, Share Their Stories

By Clayton Grow, P.E.

As a token of gratitude for their **decades of service** to the MATHCOUNTS® program, Norm and Darwin each received a pin featuring a small **diamond** at the MATHCOUNTS State & Chapter Coordinator Meeting in Chicago a couple of months ago.



Norm Arendt, P.E., MATHCOUNTS Southwest Chapter Coordinator and Wisconsin State Coordinator



Darwin Behlke, P.E., MATHCOUNTS Southeast Chapter Coordinator

Norm Arendt, P.E., and Darwin Behlke, P.E., have been volunteering for MATHCOUNTS for a long, long time. (Longer than some WSPE members have been alive, in fact.) Darwin has been helping to facilitate this middle school math competition since its inception in **1982**; Norm since **1983**. It doesn't take a Mathlete® to figure out it has been 31 and 30 years for Darwin and Norm, respectively.

Norm became the **Southwest Chapter Coordinator** in about 1984 and by about 1987 he was also the Wisconsin **State Coordinator**. He's been guiding Wisconsin MATHCOUNTS events to success almost every year since then.

When MATHCOUNTS began in 1982, Darwin was asked by the WSPE Southeast Chapter President to be the **Coordinator of the Southeast Regional Competition** hosted by UW-Parkside. Motivated by his love of mathematics, Darwin has been the coordinator for this regional competition ever since, except for two years when he was Chapter President and when he help coach his son's team. He still help with the competition with registration.

One way that MATHCOUNTS has changed over the years has been the addition of different classifications of MATHCOUNTS events: the **MATHCOUNTS Competition Series**, the **Math Video Challenge** (formerly known as the Reel Math Challenge), and the **National Math Club** (formerly known as the MATHCOUNTS Club Program). Another way MATHCOUNTS has changed, according to Norm, is that originally, most of the volunteers in the Wisconsin events were affiliated with WSPE. Regrettably, WSPE participation in these events has declined drastically over the years.

Darwin described one unique aspect of the competition in the early days: The Master's Round. **The Master's Round** used to give the truly elite Mathletes an opportunity to not only use their problem-solving ability, but to also demonstrate their "big-picture" thinking and presentation skills. Mathletes participating in the Master's Round could use up to 30 minutes to solve a multi-step math problem and then use up to 11 minutes (as well as a 4-minute question-and-answer session) to present the various stages of their solution to

the panel of judges.

Some of Norm's most memorable MATHCOUNTS moments are watching various Wisconsin Mathletes excel in the National MATHCOUNTS Competition, including **3 kids from one family** at Madison's Jefferson Middle School that have placed in the top 3 over the years. Norm also noted that watching a child from **Shorewood** (near Milwaukee) win the **Individual National Champion** award was very fulfilling.

Darwin said the Wisconsin team being cheered on by the students at several schools before embarking on a ride in a **stretch limo from Madison down to Chicago** for the 20th Annual National Competition was especially memorable. He said one girl on the team could often be found tickling the ivories on a grand piano on the second floor of the MATHCOUNTS venue that year.

Darwin said he has especially enjoyed all of the trips to Washington, D.C. he has made with the Wisconsin teams. He said they typically have most of the Saturday off, so they get to go sightseeing, often at the **National Mall**, which is packed with beautiful monuments and memorials. Having the event in Washington "makes it feel like more of a **'National' event**", according to Darwin. The sightseeing aspect makes it feel like a "win" for the whole team, even if the kids don't do particularly well in the competition. The kids develop a special bond with each other and get to see parts of the country they might not get to see otherwise.

The evaluation committee for the WSPE Scholarships credits applicants that have MATHCOUNTS participation experience; Norm said he always finds it rewarding to see **a former Mathlete receive a WSPE Scholarship**. Norm noted that many former Mathletes serve as volunteers at the various Regional competitions. These former Mathletes often get to participate in demonstrating how different portions of the competition will work.

Darwin and Norm both cite a **love of math** as the main motivator for continuing to volunteer and help run the show for Wisconsin MATHCOUNTS competitions. Darwin says he really appreciates the opportunity for kids to create a **unique bond outside the classroom** while strengthening their **academic** skills. Norm says that seeing the **interaction between the kids** during the various competitions is uplifting; experiencing this firsthand is a real treat.

Norm says he would really like to see a **resurgence of WSPE member volunteers** and participation in the Regional and State MATHCOUNTS Competitions. While volunteering for MATHCOUNTS may be hard work, Norm says it is always very rewarding work.

MATHCOUNTS always **needs more volunteers**. Help WSPE continue to make the MATHCOUNTS competitions successful and rewarding. To find out how **you can help** with a Regional or the State MATHCOUNTS competitions, email Norm Arendt or Darwin Behlke at njarendt@tds.net or behlke3700@sbcglobal.net.

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3. NW Chapter MATHCOUNTS Competition

By Brad B. Volker, P.E.

The Northwest Chapter is hosting its chapter MATHCOUNTS competition at **Delong Middle School** in Eau Claire on **Thursday, February 6th**, from **11 am to 5 pm**.

Volunteers are still needed!

Please contact Brad Volker at bvolker@cooperengineering.net or [715-234-7008](tel:715-234-7008).

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4. Save the Date: 2014 Discovery Conference

By Ed Rodden

2014 Discovery Conference
Kalahari Resort – Wisconsin Dells
May 29 & May 30, 2014

Save the date for this two-day Discovery Conference in Wisconsin Dells on the last Thursday and Friday of May.

We are now calling on speakers to help us fill the discussion sessions for this conference. If you are interested in presenting a topic, please contact Ed Rodden our Executive Director at ExecDir@wspe.org or (414) 531-1129. Your presentation may be applicable for double PDHs if you have not previously presented on this topic.

Conference Highlights include:

- 1 2 General Sessions and 3 Breakout Sessions each day,
- 1 The Breakout Sessions will cover a variety of topics including civil, electrical, mechanical and engineering topics.

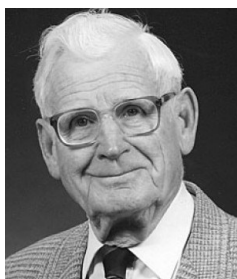
Attending this conference can help you earn 15.0 Professional Development Hours (PDHs), including the 13 "Live/Interactive" PDH requirement. You can also earn the 2 required Ethics PDHs by attending these sessions.

Lunchtime awards will be given out, including Engineering of the Year, Young Engineer of the Year, MATHCOUNTS Teams advancing to Nationals, the WSPE Fellow Award, and others.

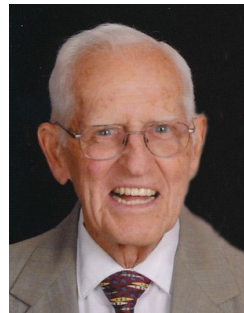
Additional details will follow in future issues of the eNews.

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5. Willard Warzyn and Bob Storm Pass Away



Willard Warzyn, 1918-2013



Bob Storm, 1927-2013

Willard Warzyn, prominent Madison consulting engineer in the late 1940s to 1980s, died on Thursday, Sept. 19, 2013. Willard graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a degree in Civil Engineering. He worked at Dravo Corporation and Rust Engineering Co. of Pittsburgh, Pa., and then for Mead & Hunt, Inc. of Madison, and then in 1955, Willard established Warzyn Engineering, Inc.

Willard was active in his professional organizations for more than 30 years where he held numerous committee assignments and offices, culminating in the Presidency of the Wisconsin Society of Professional Engineers and the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Read more of Willard's obituary here:

http://host.madison.com/news/local/obituaries/warzyn-willard/article_c2600c48-d155-534d-a762-aba03498f2ea.html#ixzz2lyTX3CnZ

Robert W. Storm, WSPE member, age 86, of Monona, passed away on Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2013. Bob served in the U.S. Army during WWII, graduated from Michigan Technological University with a bachelor's in Civil Engineering and attended the University of Wisconsin in a graduate program. Bob worked as a Chief Contract Engineer at WisDOT.

Click here to read Bob's obituary:

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/stevenspointjournal/obituary.aspx?n=robert-storm&pid=167017556&fhid=3683#sthash.Tn840rFm.dpuf>

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6. Earn PDHs at MSOE's PEAK Mini-Conference

Submitted by Brittney Lynn, MSOE Graduate Program Specialist

Earn PDHs at MSOE's PEAK Mini-Conference on Saturday, December 14!

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

- * Communicating with Indian Engineering Culture
- * Improving Performance & Existing Work Teams: The Challenge in Engineering
- * Project Management for Engineers
- * Line Losses in Hydraulic Systems
- * Hydraulic Systems and Components Modeling Approaches
- * LinkedIn For Professional Engineers: Leveraging Your Personal Brand
- * Hands on Additive Manufacturing Labs

* ...and more!

[View session schedule and register here!](#)

Location: MSOE campus, Rosenberg Hall, 1235 N Milwaukee, Milwaukee WI 53202

Price: \$395

Please contact Brittney Lynn if you have any questions: lynn@msoe.edu

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7. Wisconsin Ready Mixed Concrete Association Technical Workshop

By Cherish Schwenn, Executive Director,
Wisconsin Ready Mixed Concrete Association

***14th Annual Wisconsin Ready Mixed Concrete Association
Technical Workshop January 9-10, 2014!***

The 2014 Concrete Technical Workshop will be held January 9th-10th at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells.

Topics for the 14th Annual Workshop include:

- Teaming up to Increase Profits – Rocky Geans, L.L. Geans Construction ([featured as one of the five most influential in the January 2013 issue of Concrete Construction](#)) and Jeff Young, Buckeye Ready Mix
- WisDOT/QMP Update
- Supplemental Cementitious Material – Tom Adams, American Coal Ash Association
- Alkali-Silica Reaction – Alf Gardiner, Braun Intertec
- Portland Cement Limestone – Al Innis, Holcim
- Polished Floors – John Abrahamson, Sase Company

A social hour sponsored by We're Partners will be followed by dinner on January 9th and will provide an excellent opportunity to network with your fellow industry members.

The workshop has a total of 8 hours of class time and certificates will be given by request for continuing education credits.

Please note you are encouraged to make your hotel reservation as soon as possible to ensure you get the \$104 discount rate. The hotel cutoff date is December 9th. The Kalahari Resort reservation number is [877-253-5466](tel:877-253-5466), please make sure to ask for the WRMCA room block. A registration form is available to download on our website at www.wrmca.com, go to the events calendar and click on January 9th.

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8. NSPE Award Nominations

By Ed Rodden II, E.I.T.

NSPE Award Nominations
Deadline: January 31, 2014

The deadline to apply for NSPE Honor Awards is January 31, 2014.

WSPE urges you to participate in this initiative to honor the best and most

committed members of NSPE and ensures that engineers get the recognition they deserve.

NSPE Honor Awards promote the engineering profession's contributions to society and recognize the achievements of the profession's very best.

There are three awards for which we are seeking nominations:

- 1 NSPE Award-The NSPE Award is the highest award given to an individual by the Society. It is presented to an engineer who has made outstanding contributions to the engineering profession, the public welfare, and/or humankind.
<http://www.nspe.org/AboutNSPE/Awards/nspe.html>
- 1 Young Engineer of the Year Award-This award recognizes young NSPE members who have made outstanding contributions to the engineering profession and their communities during the early years of their careers.
http://www.nspe.org/AboutNSPE/Awards/young_eng.html
- 1 NSPE Distinguished Service Award-This award was established to recognize NSPE's members for their exceptional technical contributions to the engineering profession, their contributions to their communities, and to NSPE.
<http://www.nspe.org/AboutNSPE/Awards/distserv.html>

Questions regarding these awards should be directed to Ed Rodden II, our Executive Director at execdir@wspe.org or (414) 531-1129.

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9. Do You Want an Audience of Engineers?

If you would like to submit an article that promotes your company, product, or service to be published in an issue of the WSPE eNews, please contact Ed Rodden, WSPE's Executive Director at ExecDir@wspe.org or (414) 531-1129.

You can also submit text and images to be sent in an eBlast email directly to all WSPE members that are on the eBlast email distribution list.

The cost for submitting an **article** to be included in the eNews is **\$25** per article, per issue.

An eBlast email to the WSPE eBlast mailing list is **\$75** per **eBlast**.

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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.

Go to www.wspe.org/WI%206%20months%20Free%20Membership%20Application.pdf to download an application.

Contact Ed Rodden, WSPE Executive Director, at 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.

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 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 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 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.

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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.