

*ASCE's mission is to provide essential value to our members, their careers, our partners and the public by developing leadership, advancing technology, advocating lifelong learning and promoting the profession.*

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**Interested in submitting an article for the ASCE newsletter or becoming a Board Member?**

**Contact Rose Henkel (newsletter editor) for information at 218.249.1558 or [rhenkel@sehinc.com](mailto:rhenkel@sehinc.com). Thanks.**

Hello Duluth Section Membership,

I hope this May issue of the Duluth ASCE Section newsletter finds you quite busy and ramping up to the summer construction season. The University of Minnesota – Duluth finishes finals week as I write this on Friday May 10<sup>th</sup>. And personally, on Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> I accept 4 student co-ops (6 month interns) into my office. I look forward to providing our future engineers the opportunity to gain real world experience.

In local ASCE business, I am happy to announce that Joshua Comstock and Joshua Tomczak were selected for the 2019 Scholarships. Both gentlemen were present at the awards dinner to accept their checks and provide a brief biography. You will find thank you letters later in this newsletter.

Also, this month, I am pleased to announce that the UMD Concrete Canoe team has been selected to go to Nationals. There is a flyer later in the newsletter with details. The team asked our section for support and I am happy to announce that we were able to present them with a check for \$850.

May for the section board is a time to take the time to be sure we are wrapped up with everything for the season as we are about to have two months off before re-grouping at the end of August. I am pleased to note that we had an efficient (short) April meeting, and I expect another one in May; this is because we have a well-functioning board. There really isn't much to clean up. I'd like to thank the board members and all of the membership for your hard work this season that made that possible.

That said, we will be losing Tom DesMarais in September, and we have yet to identify a new board member. Please talk to myself or any board member with ideas for interested or volunteered parties.

Thanks.

Joe Butler  
Duluth Section President

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2018-2019

### President

Joseph Butler, PE  
Braun Intertec  
(218) 624-4967  
jbutler@braunintertec.com

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Minnesota Power  
(218) 355-2437  
akilpo@mnpower.com

### Vice President

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(218) 249-1558  
rhenkel@sehinc.com

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(218) 393-4085  
bballavance@wenck.com

### Secretary

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(218) 499-3174  
abarnebey@msa-ps.com

### Past President

Tom DesMarais, PE  
Northland Consulting Engineers  
(218) 727-5995  
tomd@nce-duluth.com

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2018-2019

### Younger Member Chair

Peter Demshar  
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(218) 788-6309  
pdemshar@barr.com

### Membership Chair

Tom Donofrio, PE  
Minnesota Power  
(218) 355-3313  
tdonofrio@mnpower.com

### Government Relations Chair

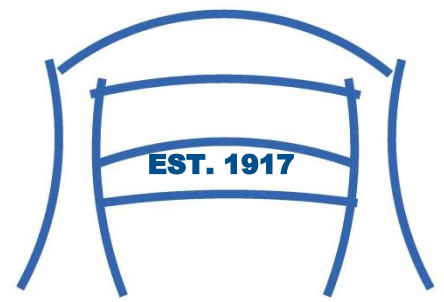
Craig Bursch, PE  
TKDA  
(218) 491-7365  
craig.bursch@tkda.com

### Toothpick Bridge Chair

Chris Morris  
Minnesota DOT  
(218) 725-2734  
christopher.morris@state.mn.us

### Web Updates

Lisa Karlgaard, PE  
LHB, Inc.  
(218) 279-2486  
Lisa.Karlgaard@lhbcorp.com



Please join us for  
a Unique Presentation  
May 21, 2019 at 12:00 pm  
Radisson Hotel



## “Special Inspections with Braun Intertec”

Chris Kehl, PE from Braun Intertec’s Minneapolis office will be presenting on Special Inspections.

Discussion topics will include why we have them, what is included, an engineer’s responsibilities, and some suggestions to have a more effective Special Inspection program. Chris has been at Braun Intertec for 19 years with roles ranging from a special inspector to engineer in charge of special inspections on Target Field and US Bank Stadium.

Please RSVP by responding directly to the electronic invitation you will receive via e-mail.

**Professional rate is \$20. Student rate is \$10.**

Costs will be collected at the door or in advance.

ASCE Duluth Section will issue a PDH certificate to members in good standing. It is the responsibility of the individual to determine whether or not the presentation is applicable to his/her career.

## Membership and Board Meetings for 2018-2019

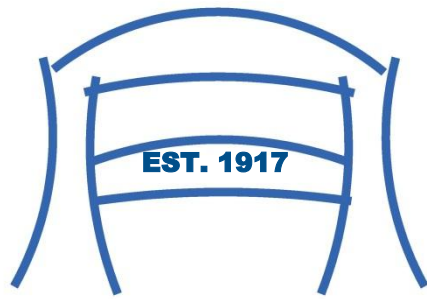
### Membership Meetings

May 21, 2019

### Board Meetings

May 22, 2019

August 14, 2019



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## **ASCE Duluth Section Board Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Date:** April 24, 2019

**Attendees:** Joe Butler, President  
Rose Henkel, Vice President  
Andrew Kilpo, President Elect  
Tom DesMarais, Past President  
Andrew Barnebey, Secretary  
Pete Demshar, Younger Member Group Chair  
Randy Paul, Younger Member Group Vice Chair  
Ben Helmer, Younger Member Group

### **Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 pm. A quorum was present.

### **Approval of March Meeting Minutes:**

A motion was made by Tom DesMarais and seconded by Andrew Kilpo to approve March meeting minutes. Minutes were approved unanimously.

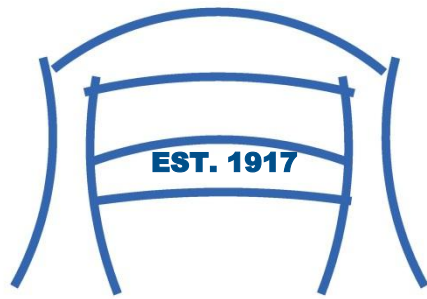
### **UMD Student Update:**

The UMD group has been selected for national competition in June for concrete canoe. A request was made by Karth Whiteside for support from the Duluth Section to help cover costs for this trip. Our understanding is that total costs for this tripe are expected to be in excess of \$8,000.

The board discussed this matter and it was agreed that we would like to support the student group but that we need additional information as to the specifics of the costs, and the amount of support requested. It was agreed that we could agree at this meeting to support this trip and determine the dollar amount of support in an e-mail vote to be conducted after we get further documentation and a support amount is settled on. It was agreed that according to our bylaws an e-mail vote would require 100% support from the board to pass.

Andrew Kilpo made a motion to support the UMD group's trip to the national competition for concrete canoe with a financial contribution that would be agreed upon later by an e-mail vote of the board. Andrew Barnebey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Student road cleanup sponsorship is coming up shortly. This was briefly discussed.



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## **ASCE Duluth Section Board Meeting Minutes - continued**

### **Younger Member Group:**

Thompson Hydro tour on Monday went well. There is a May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting coming up. Randy Paul's departure from the Younger Member Group was discussed. Ed Welch will be stepping into Randy's position to help out.

\$750 of the Younger Member Group's budget has been spent since September. Also, the payment for the ethics presentation still needs to be made and is not included in that \$750.

It was noted that apparel has been ordered.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Account balances as of February 27, 2019 are:

1. Business Checking - \$7,631.54
2. Business Market Rate Savings - \$6,976.43

There was discussion about a requested reimbursement for the Toothpick Bridge Luncheon for \$55.36. It was agreed that this has been done in the past and should continue. Andrew Kilpo motioned that this expense be reimbursed. The motion was seconded by Randy Paul. The motion passed unanimously.

### **2018 – 2019 Speakers:**

May 21 Luncheon Meeting	Speaker Chris Kehl (Braun Intertec, special inspections)
August Luncheon Meeting	There will be no August Luncheon

### **Newsletter Update:**

Submissions due by May 6<sup>th</sup> for May newsletter. It was agreed that the scholarship winners will be presented at the awards luncheon and announced in the May newsletter.

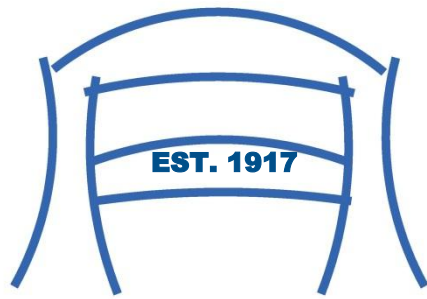
Items to include are: Tomczak letter, Amy Thorson photos, EWB fundraiser, legislative fly in.

### **Membership Update:**

No update.

### **Ongoing Business:**

1. Radisson contract – No contract yet. Andrew Kilpo continues to work on this.
2. Mentoring – this item was tabled until the May meeting.



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## **ASCE Duluth Section Board Meeting Minutes - continued**

### **Matrix:**

The Matrix was reviewed and it was agreed that we are on track.

### **New Business:**

1. Past President gift was discussed. It was agreed that different Past Presidents have wanted different gifts. Some possible gifts include a commemorative plaque, apparel, and a gift certificate to the place of the past presidents choosing.

It was agreed that the board should determine the amount of the gift currently under consideration for Past President Tom DesMarais, and that the board should set a precedent for the dollar amount and type of past presidents gifts.

A motion was made by Andrew Barnebey that the Presidents gift value should be set, nominally at \$100, in any combination of: commemorative plaques or similar items, apparel, and gift certificates of the Past Presidents choosing. This would be for the current gift for Tom DesMarais and for future Past Presidents. Gift value to be increased due to inflation at the Board's discretion. \$100 to be considered a nominal, and guiding value, such that the Board could for example, at their discretion, make a gift of a plaque with a total value of \$53.00 and a gift certificate of \$50.00 to the Past President, and these gifts would be considered to meet the nominal \$100 value. Motion was seconded by Andrew Kilpo. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Region assembly – July 19 – 20<sup>th</sup> (Green Bay). It was agreed that the Board should encourage Brett Ballavance to attend. It was also discussed that Andrew Kilpo and Tom DesMarais could possibly attend.

Craig Bursch's request for partial reimbursement of travel expense to Washington DC for ASCE Lobbying event was discussed. It was noted that in the past ASCE reimbursed these expenses. It was also noted that the work that Craig did in this trip was very valuable to ASCE and infrastructure improvements in the Duluth area. It was noted that the total reimbursement amount requested was approximately \$547, of which \$440 was for airfare. It was agreed that this amount likely did not cover the entire cost of

**Next Board Meetings:** 4:30 Wednesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> , 2019 – Bent Paddle  
4:30 Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - Bent Paddle

**Meeting adjourned:** Motion was made by Andrew Kilpo and seconded by Tom DesMarias to adjourn the meeting. The motion was passed unanimously.



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jbutler@braunintertec.com

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**Toothpick Bridge Chair**

Chris Morris  
Minnesota DOT  
(218) 725-2734  
christopher.morris@state.mn.us

**Web Updates**

Lisa Karlgaard, PE  
LHB, Inc.  
(218) 279-2486  
Lisa.Karlgaard@lhbcorp.com



*American Society of Civil Engineer's Mission is to provide essential value to our members, their careers, our partners and the public by developing leadership, advancing technology and advocating lifelong learning and promoting the profession*

We want to thank you for supporting The Duluth Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers in the past. Your sponsorship helps fund several programs that are specific to the Duluth Section. The first being our toothpick bridge competition. This program helps promote civil engineering at a young age, which is vital to the future of our profession. The second program is our annual scholarships to civil engineering and civil engineering technology students. Your sponsorship helps our local ASCE section to promote these valuable activities. That is why it is time again for us to ask you to renew your sponsorship, or consider a new sponsorship for 2019-2020. Our membership is comprised of engineers from a diverse range of companies (engineering, construction and geotechnical, etc.). We are very proud to showcase your company logo on our sponsor page.

With a contribution of \$200, your company's logo will be displayed in each section newsletter from September 2019 through August of 2020. Our newsletter is produced 9 months of the year and reaches all of our 250+ members. Your support also aids the Duluth ASCE Section's efforts to keep the civil engineering community actively involved through technical presentations and networking luncheons, social activities, and student outreach activities.

If you would like to renew your sponsorship or become a sponsor, please send a check payable to **ASCE - Duluth Section** to the section treasurer:

Brett Ballavance, PE  
Wenck Associates  
11 E. Superior Street, Suite 230  
Duluth, MN 55802

New sponsors, email your company logo to the Vice President and newsletter editor, Rose Henkel, PE, at: [rhenkel@sehinc.com](mailto:rhenkel@sehinc.com)

Sincerely,  
The Duluth Section Board of Directors

### Calling all Mentors!

The UMD Mentor Program is looking for mentors to be paired with UMD students. If you are interested in being a mentor, fill out an application here: <http://d.umn.edu/umd-mentor-program/mentors>  
Applications will be reviewed and students will be matched in July or August for the upcoming school year.

# YMG Update

Duluth Section Younger Member Group

May 2019

## The YMG Rundown

The YMG was fortunate to have Chris Rousseau with Minnesota Power provide a tour of the Thomson Hydro Facility. This tour/presentation focused on the incredible reconstruction efforts that were required following the Duluth Flood of 2012. The tour began at the main dam, progressing downstream with the tour concluding in the main powerhouse. Chris and his team did a great job describing the various projects that were involved in the reconstruction process. Thanks again to Chris for a great opportunity!!



Above: Tour group in front of one of the massive generator units

## YMG Board Announcements

Starting this month, Randy Paul has stepped down from his role as Vice Chair of the YMG Board. Randy took a job outside of the Duluth area. Thank you to Randy for all his efforts! In his place, we are welcoming Ed Welch to the YMG Board. Ed will be serving as the Membership Chair. Welcome to Ed! Also, a belated welcome to Rose Henkel (sorry Rose!). Rose joined the YMG Board in November of 2018 and is serving as the YMG Community Relations Chair.

## Upcoming Events

...

Tour of Superior St Reconstruction

- June (date to follow)

YMG Barbeque

- Summer (date/location to follow)

## Like the YMG FB Page!

...

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1574852259492720/>

## Current YMG Board

...

Chair – Pete Demshar

Barr Engineering Co.

([PDemshar@barr.com](mailto:PDemshar@barr.com))

Vice Chair – Ben Helmer

Meyer Borgman Johnson (MBJ)

([bhelmer@mbjeng.com](mailto:bhelmer@mbjeng.com))

Membership Chair – Ed Welch

Minnesota Dept of Transportation

([edward.welch@state.mn.us](mailto:edward.welch@state.mn.us))

Community Relations Chair –

Rose Henkel

Short Elliott Hendrickson (SEH)

([rhenkel@sehinc.com](mailto:rhenkel@sehinc.com))



# April Awards Dinner

## Scholarship Recipients



Pictured Left to Right: Joshua Comstock (Scholarship Recipient), Joshua Tomczak (Scholarship Recipient), and Joe Butler

## Past President's



Pictured Left to Right: Bill Croke (1983), John Hinzmann, Jr. (2001), Amy Thorson (2002), Chris Rousseau (2007), Art Johnston (2012), Cindy Voigt (2014), Tom DesMarais (2017), and Joe Butler (2018)

Joshua Tomczak  
2496 E Town Line Rd  
Foxboro, WI 54836  
04/11/2019

ASCE Duluth Scholarship Committee,

I am honored to be a recipient for the ASCE Duluth Scholarship. Thanks to your generous support, I can continue my involvement in clubs and to continue furthering my education!

I am currently a junior at UMD majoring in Civil Engineering. I am most interested in structural engineering. I will be set to graduate with my undergraduate degree in December 2019. I will be starting my graduate degree in January 2019 at UMD.

For the past two summers I've worked for Saint Louis County as an Engineering Aide Trainee. My duties were performing sign inventory and deploying traffic counters. During my second summer, I performed preliminary road surveys, construction staking and inspection. These internships were a great experience learning how roads are built. Currently I am still looking for an internship for this summer, my goal was to get an internship with a private firm, but I may have to expand my search to include the public sector as well.

Scholarships like this allow me to continue my education while also being involved in clubs and the community. Throughout school, I have been actively involved in engineering clubs on campus, American Concrete Institute (ACI), American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC). I have been involved in these clubs since I was a freshman and I have been able to advance into leadership roles. I am the President of the UMD ASCE Student Chapter and the Vice President for UMD ACI chapter. I am in these clubs because they are actually a great way to get exposed to the civil engineering field. I am able to apply the concepts I have learned in class. I wouldn't be able to participate in these clubs if I did not receive scholarships like this.

Again, I would like to say thank you for supporting engineering students. Scholarships help students like me to get involved in the school and community. Words cannot express my gratitude!

Sincerely,

Joshua Tomczak

Dear Joseph C. Butler and ASCE Duluth Section,

I greatly appreciate being chosen as a recipient of the 2019 ASCE Duluth Scholarship - thank you! I am a Junior at University of Minnesota Duluth and expect to graduate in spring of 2021. I am currently involved in the following organizations at the university:

- American Society of Civil Engineers Concrete Canoe Team (Member 2017 - Present)
- Chemistry & Biochemistry Club (Chemical Coordinator 2018 - 2019; Member 2016 - Present)
- American Fisheries Society Student Chapter (Secretary 2017 - Present; Member 2016 - Present)

With ASCE I helped to complete our team's concrete canoe last year and participated in highway cleanup this fall. This year I helped with finishing the canoe and paper and I also attended the competition in Iowa City. With Chemistry Club I have helped with the Congdon Park Family Science Night for the last two years. This event is a great way to get kids interested in science and it is cool to see how much fun they have. I have also helped with some other outreach events on the weekends. As part of the AFS student chapter, I helped with a beach cleanup on Park Point in cooperation with Minnesota Sea Grant. Outside of school I am involved in the Boy Scouts of America as an Assistant Scoutmaster (I myself am an Eagle Scout). I am also a member of the advising committee for my local Order of the Arrow Lodge.

I plan to take the Fundamentals of Engineering exam during my final semester of college. After I graduate and complete the prerequisites, I will take the Practices of Engineering exam. I want to take both exams so that I can become a certified civil engineer. I like living in Minnesota and I plan to continue to live here. Ideally, I would like to find a job in Duluth.

I really appreciate receiving this scholarship. By receiving this very generous scholarship I will have less financial stress in the upcoming semester. This allows me to have more time to focus on my schooling and less time worrying about how I will pay for school. This scholarship also will allow me to have more time to be involved in on-campus clubs, which I really enjoy. I have attended some of the Civil Engineering Department seminars and they have helped me become more interested in the civil engineering program.

Thank you very much for gifting me this scholarship. I am glad that you decided that my academic goals are worth supporting. I appreciate that you want me to succeed and I am sure that

future recipients of the ASCE Duluth Scholarship will be just as grateful as I am. It was wonderful to attend the ASCE annual awards reception. Again, thank you for the scholarship and best of luck in your future.

Sincerely,

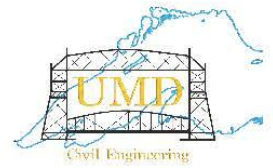
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J Comstock', written in a cursive style.

Joshua Comstock, Civil Engineering Student  
University of Minnesota Duluth





## University of Minnesota Duluth- Concrete Canoe Team



The University of Minnesota Duluth Concrete Canoe team competed in the Midwest Regional Student Conference over April 12th-13th with the 2019 canoe, *North Star*.



The canoe measures at 18'-6" and weighs 265lbs. With a black design, the canoe reflects the night sky with constellations placed around. The team finished fourth overall in the conference with first place finishes in the rowing and display categories.



For the first time in school history the team was selected via wildcard to compete in the 2019 ASCE National Concrete Canoe Competition in Melbourne, Florida. The competition is June 6th-8th and hosted by Florida Institute of Technology. Twenty four teams from across the nation and globe will be competing. The team is looking for donations to help with travel costs. If you or your company are interested in sponsoring the team please contact Karth Whiteside (UMD Concrete Canoe Captain) at [whit2129@d.umn.edu](mailto:whit2129@d.umn.edu) for more information.





April, 2019

Dear ASCE- Duluth Section,

I am writing this letter to you on behalf of the American Society of Civil Engineer's (ASCE) Concrete Canoe Team at the University of Minnesota Duluth. Our canoe team was established in September 2012 which began with the creation of *Icebreaker* and the team has been progressively growing since.

This year our canoe *North Star* and team was selected via wildcard drawing to compete in the 32nd Annual ASCE National Concrete Canoe Competition. The competition is hosted by Florida Institute of Technology in Melbourne, Florida between June 6th to June 8th. This is the first year that Duluth has been invited to compete at the national competition. By participating in these events, we not only gain knowledge and experience that may help us in our future, but we will continue our recognition as a Civil Engineering program in Minnesota at this competition. Any monetary contributions would be greatly appreciated. Donations will be put toward travel expenses for the team. The team has set a goal of \$8,500 in order to cover the expenses.

A donation to our organization would help us greatly with our forthcoming needs. Attached below is a pledge form which contains various methods of contribution. It will be an investment that would see returns in the community and the quality of civil engineers that graduate from UMD. Your gift will be considered a charitable contribution to the University of Minnesota Duluth. The benefactors will be recognized on the team's trailer during future competitions.

Thank you for your time and cooperation. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karth Whiteside', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Karth Whiteside  
UMD Concrete Canoe Team Captain

Please send donations to:

Bekki Babineau, Associate Development Officer  
Office of Development  
University of Minnesota Duluth  
Darland Administration Building 104  
1049 University Drive  
Duluth, MN 55812-3011

Thanks to Our 2017-2018 Sponsors!  
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