June 2013 Volume 20 Number 5



# QUAD CITIES SECTION

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#### **Board of Directors**

2012-2013

#### President

Christian Hawkinson, P.E. Rock Island Arsenal Public Works (309) 782 0689 christian.hawkinson@us.army.mil

#### **Vice President**

Matthew Zager, P.E. Corps of Engineers (309) 794-5218 matthew.s.zager@usace.army.mil

#### Treasurer

Candice Bark, P.E.
Stanley Consultants, Inc.
(563) 264-6656
barkcandice@stanleygroup.com

#### Secretary

Justin Johnson, P.E.
City of Rock Island
(309) 732-2225
johnson.justin@rigov.org

## At-Large Representative

Greg Shuger, P.E. Stanley Consultants, Inc. (563) 264-6753 shugergreg@stanleygroup.com

## **Summer Social: Quad-City River Bandits Game**





For this summer's ASCE event, we once again are returning to Modern Woodman Park for a Quad City River Bandits game. Quad City section members are welcome to bring family members and significant others to enjoy a night of food, baseball, and fun.

Cuisine will be typical American summer fare served as a picnic buffet (see event details below). The meal will be served at the Party Plaza (field level, down the right field line next to the Kids Zone). The group will enjoy preferred seating for the game. The River Bandit's opponent will be the Bowling Green Hot Rods. Post-game fireworks are also scheduled and included.

For ticket distribution, Christian Hawkinson will pass out tickets outside the Stadium between 5:30 and 5:40pm. If you need to pick-up tickets outside of this time please Contact Christian to make other arrangements.

#### **EVENT DATE:**

Friday, 2013 July 12

#### LOCATION:

Modern Woodman Park 209 S Gaines St Davenport, IA

#### AGENDA:

5:30 Gates open and picnic buffet begins 7:00 Game begins

#### **DINNER INFORMATION:**

We expect most if not all of the following: hamburgers, hot dogs, brats, baked beans, kernel corn, potato salad, cole slaw, cookies, ice cream sandwich, assorted drinks

#### COST:

Food and the baseball game are free with the exception of alcoholic drinks

#### **RESERVATIONS:**

RSVP by COB Friday 2013 July 5 with Christian Hawkinson at: <a href="mailto:christian.hawkinson@us.army.mil">christian.hawkinson@us.army.mil</a>. Include the number of tickets requested for family.

# **Quad City Section Scholarship Winner**

The Quad City Section scholarship committee met recently and selected two outstanding high school seniors with an interest in civil engineering to receive scholarships. The committee was especially impressed by the ACT scores and essays of the winners. One student wrote how he likes to draw maps and plan transportation systems. We definitely like awarding scholarships to students with this type of interest. Both scholarships were in the amount of \$1500.

# **QCESC Engineering Camp**

Registration is now open for the 5th annual QCESC Engineering Kids Camp will be held on July 22 - July 26, 2013 at the Putnam Museum in Davenport. The camp is a collaboration between the QCESC, the Putnam Museum and the Iowa State University College of Engineering who designed and lead the camp. Each one day camp will include three, fun educational hand-on activities including LEGO robotics (NXT) with challenges for various student experience levels and will include 3D movie along with a camp t-shirt and lunch. Link to Flyer with Registration Form Link to Pre-Register Online via the Putnam Website Link to Register to be a Volunteer for the Camp. Everyone that registers to be a volunteer will be notified by no later than July 9 providing them details on their assignment. Depending on the number of people that register to be volunteers, not all people that register may be able to be utilized. Your chances of being selected are best if you register early to be a volunteer.

# **Letter from US Sen Chuck Grassley**

See US Senator Chuck Grassley's letter to the section regarding the recent senate passing of the Water Resources Development Act. In the past he has been a supporter of our profession and section's efforts and is definitely an advocate in the legislature.

# **Call for Nominations for 2013-2014 Board of Directors**

The Quad-City Section is now taking nominations for the 2013-2014 board of directors. If interested in submitting a nomination please contact Mr. Greg Shuger, At-Large Representative, at <a href="mailto:shugergreg@stanleygroup.com">shugergreg@stanleygroup.com</a>.

#### **SAME JETS 2013 Fall Conference**

Our SAME Rock Island Post partners are this year committed to running an SAME Regional training conference. ASCE will assist in arranging a three topic "technical track" at the JETS conference. Further, ASCE will forgo their share of the proceeds from the conference this fall year. And finally, QC ASCE members will be given the same rate to the 2013 JETS Conference as if they were SAME members. So the conference differs in that there is a planned vendor area, and will pull speakers from a larger area. Though the topics will be more focused to the river and environment than usual, the overall benefits will be worthwhile.

#### **Events Calendar**

Event	Date
QCESC Monthly Meeting	6/19
QC Section River Bandits Family Outing	7/12
ASCE Region 3 Assembly (Chicago)	8/16 - 8/17
SAME JETS Conference	10/16 – 10/18

111 7TH AVENUE, SE, BOX 13 SUITE 6800 CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52401-2101 (319) 363-6832

United States Senate
CHARLES E. GRASSLEY
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1501

721 FEDERAL BUILDING 210 WALNUT STREET DES MOINES, IA 50309-2140 (515) 288-1145

120 FEDERAL BUILDING 320 6TH STREET SIOUX CITY, IA 51101-1244 (712) 233-1860

210 WATERLOO BUILDING 531 COMMERCIAL STREET WATERLOO, IA 50701-5497 (319) 232-6657

201 WEST 2ND STREET SUITE 720 DAVENPORT, IA 52801-1817 (563) 322-4331

307 FEDERAL BUILDING 8 SOUTH 6TH STREET COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA 51501-4204 (712) 322-7103

Thank you for taking the time to contact me regarding the Water Resources Development Act. As your Senator, it is important for me to hear from you. Please accept my apology for the delay in this response.

Earlier this year, the Senate considered the Water Resources Development Act on the floor of the Senate. This bill, which was unanimously passed out of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works and went through an open amendment process on the floor of the Senate, was passed on May 15, 2013 with bipartisan support by a vote of 83-14.

While I understand that there are concerns about this legislation, overall the bill moved in the right direction by authorizing port and harbor improvements, flood protection, dam and levee projects, and environmental restoration, as well as starting to implement much needed Corps reform.

For Iowans, it is critical to maintain the flow of commerce by improving and updating our nation's water infrastructure. I have long been a strong advocate for our nation's Inland waterways and our ports. Shippers and consumers depend on the ability to move around one billion tons of cargo valued at over \$380 billion annually on these waterways.

Our nation's inland waterways system also provides a cost effective, fuel efficient, and environmentally friendly way to move our bulk products. It is estimated that it is about \$11 cheaper to send goods on our waterways compared to other modes of transportation. That adds up to significant transportation savings, which contributes to America's economy.

Our international competitors are making major investments in their transportation systems. Therefore, we must invest in major improvements to our river infrastructure. If we don't, U.S. industry, agriculture, and labor will pay the price.

I have seen firsthand the investments Brazil has made to their infrastructure. Also, the improvements being made to the Panama Canal doubles the canal's capacity. In recent years, the containerized segment of traffic at the canal has grown significantly and these modernizations will allow this growth to continue.

To enhance United States infrastructure and the movement of goods to and from Iowa, I worked for many years to get the initial authorization for lock and dam modernization and enhanced environmental restoration on the Upper Mississippi and Illinois Rivers signed into law. I am pleased that this important modernization authorization was included in the last Water Resources Development Act. However, funding and timing of these improvements, like many navigation projects across the nation, continues to be a challenge.

The Inland Waterways User Board and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have worked together to put together a proposal that would provide more efficiency and move vital navigation projects across the entire inland waterways system forward. This proposal was put into legislative language through the RIVER Act. I believe it is important that these efficiencies are put into place so we can start making some meaningful progress. I was pleased that many of the provisions were included in the Senate passed bill.

While this bill does not include all of the reforms we have been trying to implement, I will continue to work with my colleagues on additional improvements and advocate for the needs of the Inland Waterways System and our ports in the future. It is vital that we

maintain a vital inland waterways network to keep America working and move critical commodities.

At this time, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee will need to move its version of the Water Resources Development Act through the committee and then it will need to be debated by the full House of Representatives. After a bill is passed in the House, a conference committee of select members of Congress will meet to reconcile the differences between the two bills. Your thoughts and concerns will be helpful to me as the legislative process continues.

Thank you again for contacting me. I hope you will continue to keep me informed of federal matters that are important to you. My offices in Iowa, as well as in Washington, D.C., are here to serve you.

Sincerely, Chuck

#### **COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

RANKING MEMBER, JUDICIARY AGRICULTURE BUDGET FINANCE CO-CHAIRMAN, INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL CAUCUS

# **Society of American Military Engineers**

2013 Great Lakes and Ohio Valley

Joint Engineer Training Symposium



http://www.visitquadcities.com/sites/same/ http://posts.same.org/rockisland/



Hosted by: Rock Island Post Illini Post Davenport, Iowa October 16-18, 2013

