



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.

## In This Issue

President's Message	1
Meeting Announcement's	2
Board of Directors	3
Meeting Minutes	4-6
Treasurer's Report	7
YMG updates	8-9
Student Section	10
Thank you Sponsors!	11-14

Greetings Duluth Section!

I hope you all took some time to enjoy a spring break and prepare yourselves for the construction season and busy summer to come. It's always good to take a step away and refresh.

Thank you for attending our monthly presentation luncheons! Our next luncheon is on April 16<sup>th</sup> at noon at LHB downtown on Superior Street.

Lisa Karlgaard and Jon Siiter (LHB) and Amber Blanchard (MnDOT) will be speaking on the Stone Arch Bridge Preservation project. Please use the collaborate link to RSVP so we can be sure to have LHB prepared and so we can plan an accurate lunch head count. If unable to use collaborate, please send me a message. The cost of this is \$20 dollars at the door for professionals.

[ASCE Duluth Section April Luncheon RSVP.](#)

We are pleased to provide 3 scholarships for students in our area. And thank you for sending to your contacts as there were several great candidates. We will be announcing them at the April luncheon and hope to have them attend the Section Celebration in May.

Speaking of our annual year end appreciation dinner, it will be held in May on 21<sup>st</sup> at Pier B in Duluth. Would love to see all of you there to reflect on another year of collaborating. Please keep an eye out for an invitation and RSVP.

Any Ideas or interests you would like our board to pursue, please reach out to us and let us know.

See you on the 16<sup>th</sup> for our monthly Luncheon please don't forget to RSVP.

Andrew Lund

Duluth Section President

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

**Contact Ryan Swanson (newsletter editor) for information at 218.966.9822 or [rswanson@ulland.com](mailto:rswanson@ulland.com) Thanks.**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2023-2024

### President

Andrew Lund, PE  
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(218) 308-3077  
[alund@barr.com](mailto:alund@barr.com)

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## BOARD CHAIRS

2023-2024

### Younger Member Chair

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### Membership Chair

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[apiirainen@jppeng.com](mailto:apiirainen@jppeng.com)

### Government Relations Chair

*Vacant*

### Toothpick Bridge Chair

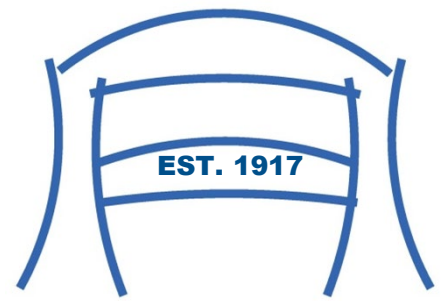
Travis Jensen  
(612) 730-0580  
[jens1073@d.umn.edu](mailto:jens1073@d.umn.edu)

### Web Updates

*Vacant*

### Membership Outreach Chair

Rose Kopecky  
SEH  
(218)-249-1558  
[rkopecky@sehinc.com](mailto:rkopecky@sehinc.com)



Please join us for  
a Unique Presentation at the LHB Duluth office  
April 16, 2024 at 12:00 pm



Lisa Karlgaard and Jon Siiter (LHB) and Amber Blanchard (MnDOT) will be providing an inside look on the Stone Arch Bridge Preservation Project.

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.

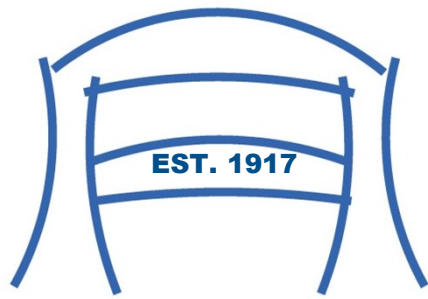
## Membership and Board Meetings for 2023-2024

### Membership Meetings

April 16, 2024  
May 21, 2024

### Board Meetings

April 23, 2024  
May 28, 2024



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## **2023-2024 Duluth Section Board of Directors:**

**Past President: Jason Fisher**

**The following positions highlighted in red are vacant positions that we need filled. Please consider taking a position to help us out.**

**President: Andrew Lund**

**President Elect/Vice President: Ryan Swanson**

**Treasurer: Pete Demshar**

**Secretary: Tyler Yngsdal**

## **Chair Positions**

**Younger Member Chair: Dalton Scharmer**

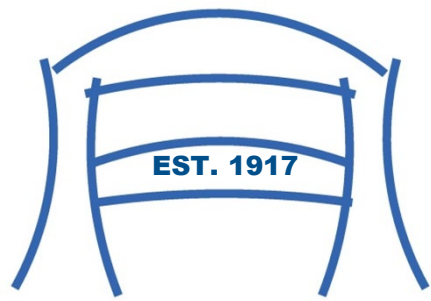
**Membership Chair: Andrea Piirainen**

**Government Relations Chair: (Vacant )please reach out if you are interested in this position!**

**Toothpick Bridge Chair: Travis Jensen**

**Web Updates: (Vacant )please reach out if you are interested in this position!**

**Membership Outreach Chair: Rose Kopecky**



**ASCE DULUTH SECTION BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
March 5, 2024, 5:00 PM  
**Tavern on the Hill, Duluth**

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

- Meeting called to order at 5:09 p.m.
- Attendance:
  - Andrew Lund – President
  - Ryan Swanson – Vice President
  - Peter Demshar – Treasurer
  - Tyler Yngsdal – Secretary
  - Andrea Piirainen – YMG Chair
  - Rose Kopecky – Outreach Chair

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- A motion was made by Andrea Piirainen, seconded by Ryan Swanson, to approve the agenda. The motion carried by the following vote: All in Favor.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES (TYLER)**

- A motion was made by Ryan Swanson, seconded by Andrea Piirainen, to approve the January meeting minutes. The motion carried by the following vote: All in Favor.

**GOVERNMENT RELATIONS (PETE)**

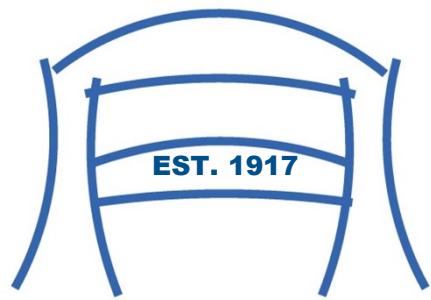
- NATIONAL FLY IN SESSIONS ARE COMING UP IN FEBRUARY – Pete was unable to attend but heard that the event went well.
- MINNESOTA ADVOCACIES ONGOING
- St. Louis County Days March 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>
- Pete to vacate the Government Relations seat.

**STUDENT SECTION UPDATE (JOSH E / PAUL B / ZACH H / HANK M) – No updates, student section not present.**

- New Board
  - Josh Egle - President – [egle0010@d.umn.edu](mailto:egle0010@d.umn.edu)
  - Paul Bartusek - Secretary – [bartu053@d.umn.edu](mailto:bartu053@d.umn.edu)
  - Zach Huffaker - Treasurer – [huffa017@d.umn.edu](mailto:huffa017@d.umn.edu)
  - Hank Miller – Vice President – [mill9507@d.umn.edu](mailto:mill9507@d.umn.edu)
- Concrete Canoe, Steel Bridge, symposium
- Career Fair
- BBQ

**YOUNGER MEMBER DISCUSSION (ANDREA/DALTON)**

- Dalton and Andrea met last week and discussed Dalton taking over as the new YMG Chair.
  - A motion was made by Andrew Lund, seconded by Pete Demshar, to approve Dalton as the new YMG Chair. The motion carried by the following vote: All in favor.
- The YMG is currently looking for new members to join and assist with YMG roles.
- Recent Updates
  - Happy hour hosted at Hoops Brewing
  - YMG plans to continue with monthly happy hours to promote networking.
  - Pete is going to assist with the combined ASCE and ACEC Mock Career Fair.
- Upcoming Tours
  - Dalton is working on tour ideas.
  - YMG has reached out to Chase from AMI to tour the Vista Fleet Docking project. Currently waiting to hear back. YMG is waiting on confirmation of dates for the event. Rose is going to reach out to try and get this scheduled.
- Ethics PDH



- The presentation is scheduled for March 12<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Clyde Ironworks.
- Invites have been sent out through the online mailing system.
- Members will be charged \$50, and non-members will be charged \$75 to attend the event.
- YMG will pay the presenter with the YMG checkbook.
- Pete will send Andrea the PDH template to prepare PDH certificates to be handed out at the event.
- Andrea is keeping a list of registrants for attendance and payment at the event.
- Andrea requested that the Duluth Section lends petty cash for the event to provide change for attendee payment at the door.
  - \$150 petty cash was transferred from the Section Treasurer to the YMG for the Ethics event.
  - Pete will send the receipt template to Andrea.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT (RYAN/PETE)**

- January Report
- Main Checking \$4,875.78
- Younger Member Checking \$7,456.84
- Savings \$7,308.82
- Petty Cash \$100.00
- **A motion was made by Tyler Yngsdal, seconded by Ryan Swanson to approve the January Treasurer's report. The motion carried by the following vote: All in favor.**

#### **2023-2024 Speakers (Ryan)**

- March 19<sup>th</sup> – David Bolf (NCE) – Hermantown Trunk Sewer System - Barr office
  - Pete will be gone for the event. Tyler will be acting treasurer.
- April 16<sup>th</sup> – LHB Presentation and Host. Ryan will contact LHB to confirm the speaker and topic and to provide a headcount for ordering food.
- May 21<sup>st</sup>- Presidents Meeting – Pier B
  - **A motion was made by Andrea Piirainen, seconded by Andrew Lund to approve a \$35 maximum plated dinner for attendees with appetizers and a cash bar. The motion carried by the following vote: All in favor.**
  - Pete will send the past presidents list to Ryan.
  - Ryan will email letters to the past presidents.

#### **2022-2023 BOARD MEETING / LUNCHEON SCHEDULE (ALL MEETINGS SCHEDULED AT 12:00 PM EACH DAY)**

##### **LUNCHEONS**

Mar 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Apr 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024

##### **BOARD MEETINGS**

Mar 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 @ Dublin's  
Apr 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 @ The Buffalo House  
May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (Final meeting of the season)

#### **NEWSLETTER UPDATE (RYAN)**

##### **Feb Newsletter**

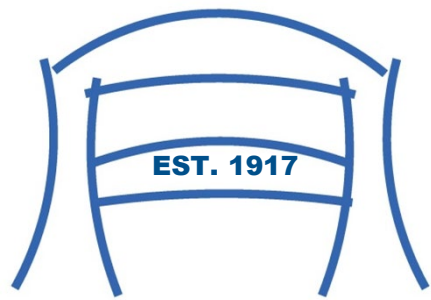
- President's message (Andrew), meeting minutes (Tyler), YMG (Dalton), Student Section introduction (Josh/Paul/Zach/Hank)
- **Submissions Due: March 7<sup>th</sup>, Send March 8<sup>th</sup>.**

#### **MEMBERSHIP (ANDREA)**

- Working on cleaning up email and contact list
- 20 overdue memberships in 2024
- 10 overdue memberships between 2022/2023

#### **OUTREACH CHAIR (ROSE)**

- Rose attended a training to develop STEM packets.



- This week the movie "Cities of the Future" debuts. The board discussed possible future events to view the movie and promote the movie and STEM to the surrounding school districts.
- Rose will provide information for upcoming Engineer's Week. (LinkedIn post)
- Rose will provide information for Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day (LinkedIn post)

#### **ONGOING BUSINESS:**

- ASCE Archival documents
  - With Rose K. (SEH)
- Board Seat Email platform – Group discussed options for email accounts. The group liked the idea of moving to MS 365 and having a main Duluth Section account and a YMG account. The account includes 1-terabyte of storage.
  - Pete will create an email account for the Duluth Section and the YMG.
- Board seat Cut sheet for positions.
  - Rose sent out member roles. All members will review the document and suggest updates for their positions.
  - The board will set a meeting to discuss cut sheets prior to role transfers for next season.
- Website updates
  - Where does contact go? No updates.
- Tyler will review the Section Bylaws in comparison with the National Template for updates.
- ASCE/ACEC joint Career Fair Fall 2024 UMD – Andrew and Pete are coordinating a joint event with Emily and Eddy with ACEC. It was suggested to hold the event a week before E-fest.
- Future UMD Luncheons events. Possibly move to April for the Student Section to provide updates on Concrete Canoe and Steel Bridge competitions. Tabled.
- Scholarships – None received to date.
- Increase Luncheon Cost
  - Virtual option with cost.

**MATRIX AND BYLAW REVIEW** - Reviewed

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Dave Prusak, PE Alaska Engineer of the Year in 2023. Ryan will call Dave to interview him to provide content for the newsletter.
- Area Section Awards – Tabled (June Submission)

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:** Mar 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 5:00 p.m. at Dublin's.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting was adjourned @ 6:52 p.m.

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

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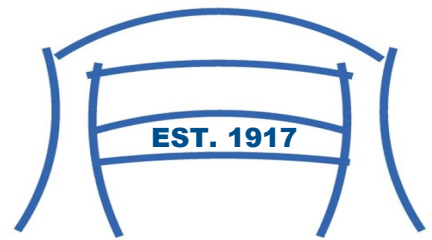
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*Vacant*

### Membership Outreach

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(218) 249-1558  
[rkopecky@sehinc.com](mailto:rkopecky@sehinc.com)



## National Bank of Commerce

Main Checking	\$ 4,875.78
Younger Member Checking	\$ 7,456.84
Savings	\$ 7,308.82

## Other Assets

PayPal **\$ 0.00**

Other cash/checks \$ 0.00  
Petty Cash \$ 100.00

**January 2024' Total Assets: \$19,641.44**

**December 2023' Total Assets: \$19,237.14**

**Increase/ (Decrease) in Assets: \$404.30**

\*Increase is from ASCE National deposit, and January luncheon fees and decrease from food for the December luncheon, YMG Happy Hour, and annual dinner Pier B Deposit.





### **ASCE Younger Member Happy Hour**

Enjoy some free food and network with working professionals in the TwinPorts Area. **No RSVP** required, just show up!

**Who:** All working professionals, regardless of age!

**What:** Happy Hour sponsored by ASCE Younger Member Group

**Where:** Hoops Brewing (325 S Lake Ave, Duluth, MN 55802)

**When:** 4-7 pm on the following dates:

April 18th

Questions? Email [Dalton.Scharmer@tkda.com](mailto:Dalton.Scharmer@tkda.com) with questions.





# ASCE Duluth Section YMG Update



Dear Fellow ASCE Duluth Section Members,

I am writing to all of you today to provide an update regarding the ASCE Duluth Section Younger Member Group (YMG) status as well as a look ahead to what is in store for the section after summer of 2024.

**Recap:** The Duluth Section YMG has had a busy year getting back up and running after a brief hiatus from COVID. Our section wanted to prioritize providing an opportunity for engineers to socialize and network with new and old friends alike. The result from this was the decisions to sponsor monthly happy hours with free food for all those who attended. Our last happy hour this year will be **April 18th from 4:30-6:30 at Hoops Brewing** in Canal Park with free pizza provided for all those who attend! No RSVP necessary, please come and bring your coworkers!

The YMG section also sponsored an ethics presentation this year for those needing the required two PDH's for Minnesota PE licenses. This event was well attended with over fifty people! The YMG is committed to providing this valuable resource to our area and will plan to have an ethics presentation in 2026 again.

**Upcoming:** The YMG is currently working on finalizing a site tour locally within Duluth for mid April. The site tour will be followed by a lunch/dinner for those who attend. Additionally, the YMG will be collaborating with the UMD student section to help with the students' end-of-the-year BBQ in April! Keep an eye out for details via email for both events over the next few weeks.

Finally, YMG is planning to continue monthly happy hours as well as providing a few site tours and/or social events in the future. YMG is committed to providing networking and social opportunities for **ALL** local engineers, regardless of age and experience. Although remote work is more popular now, it can never replace meeting someone in person, looking them in the eye, and shaking their hand as you talk to them.

If you have any questions, or would like to get involved, please reach out to me at my contact information below.

Regards,  
Dalton Scharmer  
YMG Chair  
[dalton.scharmer@tkda.com](mailto:dalton.scharmer@tkda.com)  
(507)458-1088

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### Web Updates

*Vacant*

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## Student Section Update

Steel Bridge finished painting the bridge a matte black and maroon color scheme this weekend after their last-minute modifications. Their build time is hovering around 10 minutes, but they are hoping to achieve sub 10 minutes before they leave for competition on Thursday. They have high expectations after a first-place finish at last year's regionals and would love to make another trip to the Student Steel Bridge National Competition, being held at Louisiana Tech University this June.

Concrete Canoe has been hard at work casting and constructing the canoe itself, their efforts culminating in the successful removal of the canoe from its mold without incident just a few weeks ago. They followed the removal of the canoe by painting it in preparation for the competition. Concrete Canoe believes they are fully prepared for the upcoming symposium competition and are optimistic that the canoe will endure the journey to Chicago without any complications.

Meanwhile, Geowall is equally primed for the symposium. They have carefully finalized their technical report for the geowall competition, while their wall design stands fully completed, showcasing their readiness for the upcoming event.

**Josh Egle**  
**Student President**

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## 2023-2024 Sponsorship Request

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 2023-2024. 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 \$ 250, your company's logo will be displayed in each section newsletter from September 2023 through August 2024. 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:

BARR Engineering, Attn: Pete Demshar

325 S. Lake Ave., Suite 700

Duluth, MN 55802

New sponsors, or to update logos, email your company logo to Pete Demshar at:

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

Sincerely,

The Duluth Section Board of Directors

Thanks to Our 2023-2024 Sponsors!  
(Consider being a sponsor!)



**LHB**<sup>SM</sup>



Thanks to Our 2023-2024 Sponsors!  
(Consider being a sponsor!)



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