

THE

INFORMANT

NEWSLETTER OF THE MAINE SECTION ASCE

MARCH 2026



From the Editor:

On Sunday we spring forward, a few more hours of daylight should cure those winter blues!

Are you working on an interesting or challenging engineering or construction project that you would like to share at our Technical Seminar? We are still looking for presenter so please reach out ASAP.

If you have been interested in getting involved come to YMG Bowling Night or Industry Mini-Golf Night, or please reach out and learn more about what we do and how you can help.

We hope to see you soon!

Heather

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MAINE SECTION ASCE – SAVE THE DATE(S)

March 2026

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 MBTA Cumberland MTG	13 YMG Bowling	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 WTS Lunch & Learn	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Maine Section:

March is upon us and we're finally seeing some warmer weather! As much as I love the snow and winter, I'm welcoming the warmer weather. Even more exciting is that we'll be getting an extra hour of daylight!

Last month I was finally able to make it to a monthly meeting! It was a great turnout and the presentation was great. Charlie Hebson did a great job with presenting fish passages. If you weren't able to attend, Charlie said he will share the presentation so reach out to the Board if you would like a copy.



Last month I was also able to attend the Maine Engineering Promotion Council's annual Engineering Expo at USM Gorham. It is a free event that is mainly focused around kids. The ASCE Students came down from UMaine Orono and were a huge help with making concrete hands and toothpick/gumdrop structures with the kids.

To echo last month's message, we are still looking for a couple more presentations for the Technical Seminar and there is still time to submit nominations for the annual awards.

- Technical Seminar – scheduled for April 20th, we are looking for presenters and sponsors, as a non-PE renewal year, this is a great chance to get a jump start on PDHs! If you'd like to present, or know someone that would, please contact Mathew Orr at morr@sebagotechnics.com , David Horne at dhorne@acorn-engineering.com , or Marco Manfra at mmanfra@reed-reed.com
- This Spring will be here before we know it and we want to recognize those that have excelled within our engineering community. We plan to award an Engineer of the Year, a Young Engineer of the Year, and a Citizen Engineer, but we need your help for nominations. Please refer your colleagues, work acquaintances or any others that you feel deserve the recognition. Also, we need nominations for the Kitty Breskin Project Award, which is selected for a project using innovative technology and important contributions to infrastructure in Maine.

Enjoy the Spring and I hope to see you at the Technical Seminar!

Justin Yaitanes, P.E.

Maine Section ASCE President

IN MEMORIAM



The Maine Section is sharing the unfortunate news that two of our members have passed away recently. Our condolences go out to their families, friends, and engineering colleagues. John Hodgkins passed away on January 19, 2026 in Yarmouth at 90 years old. John was well known in our industry and was a civil engineer, educator, farmer, father, grandfather, writer, and volunteer. He was President of the Maine Section in 1992, served on the national Board of Direction of ASCE for several years, and was heavily involved in our inaugural 2008 Infrastructure Report Card as peer reviewer and trusted advisor.

John worked at MaineDOT for 47 years, from the time he worked summers there while attending UMaine until his retirement in 1999. He headed up construction activities as a manager early on and held the positions of State Traffic Engineer, Director of the Bureau of Project Development, and Deputy Chief Engineer. John also served as adjunct faculty in civil engineering at the UMaine where he taught highway design and construction. John was known best for his integrity, grounding wisdom, wanting to help others, and his passion for civil engineering.

His full obituary, which discusses his engineering career, can be viewed at: [John Hodgkins obituary](#). Funeral services will be held on Friday, March 27 at Lindquist Funeral Home, Yarmouth. The Maine Section has made a donation to the Temple Historical Society in John's honor.

Scott Atkinson passed away on January 17, 2026 in Brunswick at 70 years old. He was inducted as a Life Member of the Maine Section in 2020 and frequented our meetings. Scott graduated from the UMaine with a Bachelor of Science (Civil Engineering) in 1977 and went on to obtain his Professional Engineering license. He was an active member of Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Scott enjoyed working for LL Bean for almost 30 years and was Manager of Retail Store Planning, building new stores, renovations and corporate facilities. He went on to earn his MBA while working there. Scott also enjoyed "Wilderness Days" on the Allagash River, hunting in Rangeley, and boating.

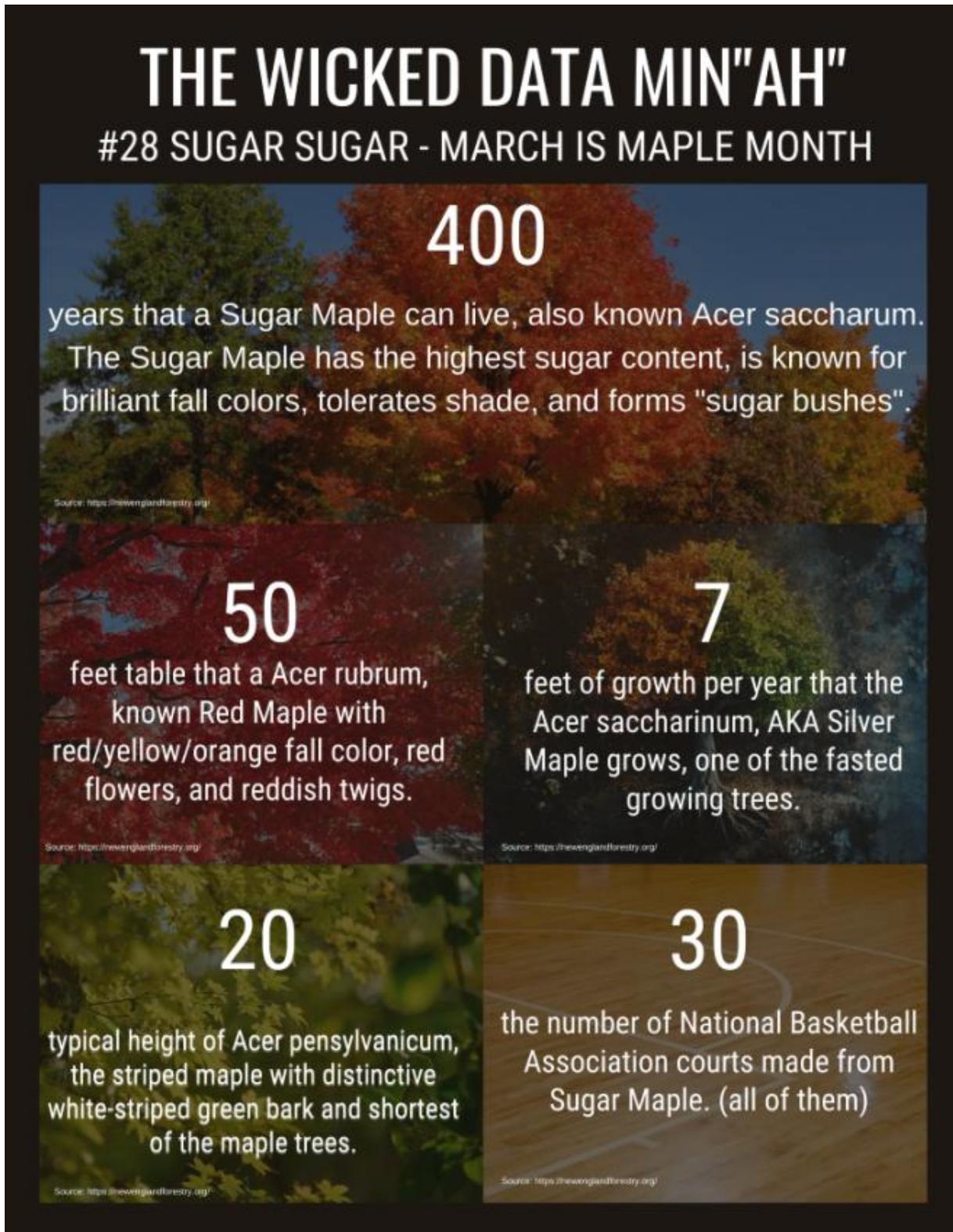
His full obituary, which discusses his engineering career, can be viewed at: [Obituary: Scott E. Atkinson](#). Funeral services were held on January 31st in Portland. The Maine Section has made a donation to the Manley Reed Scholarship Fund via Boothbay Region Student Aid Fund in Scott's honor.



THE WICKED DATA MIN"AH"

THE WICKED DATA MIN"AH"

#28 SUGAR SUGAR - MARCH IS MAPLE MONTH



400
years that a Sugar Maple can live, also known Acer saccharum. The Sugar Maple has the highest sugar content, is known for brilliant fall colors, tolerates shade, and forms "sugar bushes".
Source: <https://newenglandforestry.org/>

50
feet table that a Acer rubrum, known Red Maple with red/yellow/orange fall color, red flowers, and reddish twigs.
Source: <https://newenglandforestry.org/>

7
feet of growth per year that the Acer saccharinum, AKA Silver Maple grows, one of the fastest growing trees.
Source: <https://newenglandforestry.org/>

20
typical height of Acer pensylvanicum, the striped maple with distinctive white-striped green bark and shortest of the maple trees.
Source: <https://newenglandforestry.org/>

30
the number of National Basketball Association courts made from Sugar Maple. (all of them)
Source: <https://newenglandforestry.org/>

YM GROUP – BOWLING NIGHT!



**MAINE SECTION
YOUNGER MEMBERS
BOWLING AT
BAYSIDE BOWL**



Come join your fellow younger members for an hour of bowling! Optional happy hour afterwards at a local brewery TBD.

13 March 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM

At Bayside Bowl

58 Alder Street, Portland, ME 04101

Please RSVP by March 10th

[REGISTER HERE](#)

ASCE YOUNGER MEMBERS

JOINT EVENT MINI GOLF!



MAINE ASCE AWARDS

Our Section continues to win national awards because of all our great members! To help say thank you, each year, the Maine Section ASCE recognizes an Engineer of the Year, a Young Engineer of the Year, and a Citizen Engineer. Many of our colleagues often go unrecognized for their contributions, and this is the opportunity to express gratitude for the good work and service to the community that they provide. Please consider submitting a nomination for one or more of the awards this year.

Civil Engineer of the Year – presented annually to an individual who is a P.E. in Maine, has demonstrated noteworthy engineering skills, and commendable contribution of their time to the betterment of society.

Young Civil Engineer of the Year – recognize the professional contributions of younger civil engineers. The recognition is made to an engineer who is an EIT or PE in Maine and is 35 years of age or less on May 1st of the year of the award and has attained professional achievement.

Maine Section Citizen Engineer – This award is to recognize Civil Engineers who are known for volunteering their expertise to help in their community or at a national level. These individuals have contributed significant personal energy to enhance the recognition of civil engineering as a respected profession through their involvement.

Submit your nomination forms and supporting information to the chair of the awards committee chair, Philip Dunn at the following mailing address: University of Maine, School of Engineering Technology, 5711 Boardman Hall, Room 119, Orono, ME 04469-5711 or through email at philip.dunnjr@maine.edu.

Kitty Breskin Project Award –

Maine ASCE has instituted the project award in honor of the late Kitty Breskin, P.E., a Maine Department of Transportation engineer and a past-president of Maine ASCE. The inaugural winner of the Kitty Breskin Project Award, presented at the May 14, 2015 annual meeting, was in fact the MaineDOT's Kitty Breskin-Muscongonus Bridge Project. The project was honored for its innovative use of technology and important contribution to infrastructure in Maine.

For projects to be considered for the award they will have to show the same innovation and contribution to the community as the inaugural award. The Maine Section Award committee will review nominations and notify the winner by May 15th. The award presentation will be made and the project will be featured at the Maine Section annual meeting typically held the third week in May. Nominations are to be submitted via mail to the ASCE President and received by 5 p.m on April 30. This year's projects will be submitted to Justin Yataines, Maine Section ASCE President, 2025-2026. jyaitanes@HNTB.com

The nomination material should provide information on the project and its features. Examples to include would be how the project provided safety improvements, environmental benefits, was cost effective, had a shortened schedule, charitable aspect, unique design for Maine, or was first of its kind in Maine. Every project nomination does not need to have all of these mentioned but should showcase if applicable as they will be weighed heavily. Nominations should be limited to 6 pages total not including pictures (3 pages double sided or 6 single sided pages). Pictures need to be provided on a sharefile and become the property of Maine Section ASCE to display as part of the award process. The project must be substantially built by April 15th of the year being nominated for and the design team and/or the project must be based in Maine.

Nominations will be received until **April 24, 2026**. Please email Heather Hayes, hhayes@vhb.com, for applications!

ASCE GOLF SCRAMBLE



MAINE SECTION ASCE - - 33ND ANNUAL

SCHOLARSHIP **GOLF** TOURNAMENT

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- Raffles & Prizes

FRIDAY
JUNE 19TH, 2026
**AT TURNER HIGHLANDS
GOLF COURSE**

Check-in: 7:30am
Shotgun start 9:00am

.....
\$125- Single Player
\$400 - Foursome
.....

All proceeds go to supporting students attending college in the A/E/C industry!

Register today via Eventbrite or Email Heather Hayes - hhayes@vhb.com

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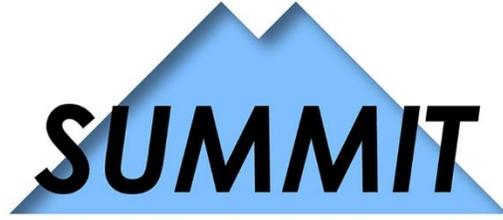
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Do you run your own consulting firm, or have a business that the Maine engineering community should know about? Advertise with a business card! Business card listings run for 1 year, including 9 issues of the Informant and full time on the website. Cost: \$150.00
Discounts Available: Purchase a 1-year Business Card ad and receive a \$25 discount on a Job advertisement!

Job Listings

Advertise for new employees at any level – students, EITs, and PEs will all see your ad.
Job advertisements are posted in one issue of the Informant and on our Facebook page.

Cost: Quarter Page (3.75"x5") - \$35
Half Page (7.5"x5") - \$75 for 1 month
- \$500 for 1 year (9 issues)
Full Page (7.5"x10") - \$150 for 1 month
- \$1000 for 1 year (9 issues)

The deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month prior to publication.