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## February Technical Conference

The SAME / ASCE Technical Conference is going to happen! Thanks to the hard work of several volunteers, excellent programming has been pulled together and scheduled.

The Technical conference will be held on February 25, 2022, from 8:00 AM until 5:00 PM. Fees are \$85 for members of ASCE or SAME, \$120 for non-members, \$60 for retirees, and \$25 for students.

Scheduled programming includes the following:

Pavement Management and Forensics, Instrumentation Case Study and inSar, Roadway/Infrastructure Improvements Enhancing the Amazon Development, Fargo Moorhead Project, Design of the US's Newest and Largest Cement Dome (Buffalo, IA!), Design and Detaining of Concrete Diaphragms in Buildings, Davenport Flood Study, Climate Change, Water Levels, and Dam Safety: Post Failure Analysis of Two Michigan Dams, I-74 Foundation and Mass Concrete, and so forth. In other words, the scheduled programming is comprehensive and suitably geared towards Civil and Structural Engineers. But, please note there will be additional programming for Mechanical and Electrical Engineers.

The Conference will be virtual. The Keynote Address will be on 100 years of Engineering in the Quad Cities.

The evening before the event there will be an in-person event for networking and socializing. How that will be safely managed will be announced.

This is an excellent opportunity to gain a significant number of those needed Professional Development Hours (PDH). Seriously, mark this on your calendar and make provisions in your schedule so that you can attend.

This year we are also teaming up with QCESC! Join us the night before the conference for networking and socializing. Also, upon registering for QCESC's STEM Celebration (<https://qcesc.org/stem-celebration/>), you'll receive a discount code for our Technical Seminar. Hope to see you there!

Here is the link to register:

<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=4tjqan5ab&oeidk=a07ej04pu363c928e7c>

New President’s Message

Engineer’s Week, celebrating how engineers make a difference in our world, the week of February 20 – 26. This year’s theme is Reimagining the Possible. engineering profession strives to relate to the public and bring engineering life especially for children, parents, and educators. See ASCE.org for additional information and various E-week kits. This year we are partnering SAME and the Quad City Engineering and Science Council (QCESC) for a whole slate of Engineer’s Week activities including the QCESC awards social and dinner on the eve of our virtual ASCE-SAME Technical Conference. We hope see you participating in these activities. This is your profession – get involved!



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Calendar and Upcoming Events

The Quad City Section leadership is working on a full slate of section meetings and tours to advance our members and the profession. The following Section calendar indicates activities currently in planning.

Date	Time	Topic	Speakers	Location
Feb. 25, 2022	8:00 AM to 5:00 PM	Virtual Engineering Conference	Many	Virtual
March 10, 2022	12 Noon to 1:00 PM	Climate change and Flood Risk	Ray Wolf	Virtual
April 2022	12 Noon to 1:15 PM	Area Capital Improvement Projects	Associated City Engineers	Virtual
May 18, 2022	12 Noon to 1:00 PM	Partners of Scott County Watersheds- What Does the Data tell us?		Virtual

In order to reduce expenses, the Quad City Section sends its newsletters in electronic format only. If you are aware of a fellow Quad City Section Member that does not receive the newsletter, it means that ASCE National does not have their email address. To receive the newsletter, members must keep their email information current by contacting ASCE at 800.548.2723 or by visiting the Members Only section of the ASCE website at <http://www.asce.org/membersonly>. The Quad City Section does not sell email information to anyone. ASCE’s Privacy Statement is available on the ASCE website.

## SSSBA Continues to Highlight Valmont Bridge Systems in Illinois A Valmont Case History.

This newsletter is being published after the Quad Cities Chapter of ASCE held our educational event for the month. The event was a presentation by Valmont on their pre-fabricated PCC bridge beams. As a recap of that presentation, we have included here a Valmont Case History of one of their projects:

*At the end of 2021, we constructed another Valmont Bridge System in the state of Illinois. Faced with a backlog of structurally deficient bridges and limited funding, Peoria County has turned to the innovative technology of press-brake formed steel tub girders. This bridge is the second Valmont Bridge System built in the state of Illinois, but the first one constructed under the direct supervision of the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT).*

*Evans Mill Road crosses Hickory Run Creek with an Average Daily Traffic of 200 cars per day, 12 percent of this being large truck traffic. The previous concrete structure could no longer support the loads of farm equipment used by many residents, nor could it be widened or reinforced in its current state. This, along with numerous other issues, pushed the county to search for replacement options to better serve the rural community's needs. Check out all of these details and more in the full [Short Span Steel Bridge Alliance \(SSSBA\) Article](#).*

*The Valmont Bridge System provided an economical alternative to the standard bridge replacement option, concrete box beams. Not only does it save time and resources during the installation process, but the U-BEAM™ bridge technology also has a proven service life of 100+ years with little required maintenance. An image of the completed bridge can be seen below.*



*Photograph Number 1: New bridge carrying Evans Mill Road over Hickory Run Creek*

Since this is one of the initial Valmont Bridge Systems constructed in Illinois, IDOT was directly involved with the approval process for the product. They personally came to Valmont's Valley manufacturing plant to inspect the fabrication process. After observing our processes and inspecting our U-BEAM™ bridge technology, IDOT gave their approval for the Valmont Bridge System in Illinois.

Once a local qualified pre-caster manufactured the concrete deck, the Complete Bridge System product was delivered and installed in one day. This Valmont Bridge System accommodated for a 40-degree skew of the supporting abutments AND the sag vertical curve profile of the roadway, reducing adjacent roadway replacement. See an image of the completed bridge below.



*Photograph Number 2: Installed Pre-cast Deck*