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Quarterly Newsletter - September 2024

President's Message – Matt Dahlem



I hope everyone had a great summer, and like the last newsletter message, I hope that the rest of you fellow anglers had a great summer as well! Had some luck on the Bay of Green Bay this summer and loving life..... and fish fries!

With that, moving onto the ASCE side of things, the biggest thing in the last quarter in my opinion was the 1st Annual Northwest Branch Golf Tournament. What a great time! It was great to meet some of you, participate in it and give back not only to ASCE but a great charity in Family Promise of the Chippewa Valley, which is a local non-profit organization addressing the issue of family homelessness

(<https://www.familypromisecv.org/>).

The golf outing was also one of the strategic priorities to get done in 2023-2024, laid out by me at the 2023 Annual Meeting, and heading these efforts was Director-at-Large Travis Pickering. So I want to congratulate him for taking the initiative to pull this all together, which is not an easy task, and hope we see this event annually for years to come! Congratulations and so many thanks to Travis and the rest of the Northwest Branch for this great event.

I also want to give a shout-out to Ken Mika who continues to champion the ASCE Wisconsin Infrastructure Report Card Committee and serve as the ASCE Region Director. I just want everyone to know about his countless hours of volunteerism for ASCE Wisconsin does not go unnoticed. Keep up the great work for the Section Ken, you make us all very proud of you representing Wisconsin ASCE!

And I also want to congratulate the outgoing Section Board Members:

- Section Director-At-Large - Joe Zellmer
- Section Director-At-Large - Travis Pickering
- Section Past President - Danny Xiao

- Northwest Branch Director - Kristopher Roppe
- Southeast Branch Director - Josh Mitchell
- Southwest Branch Director - Ann Thielmann

In the next newsletter we will welcome the new Section Board Members. Thank you all for your dedication to ASCE Wisconsin, the Section and all of us are all better thanks to your service.

And just like that, this will be my last newsletter as President of your ASCE Wisconsin Section. I've enjoyed leading the Section this past year, develop even more relationships with all of you and hopefully bettered the ASCE Wisconsin Section. I want to thank all of you who continue to volunteer your time to this great organization. I want to echo again that it's us and our firms that support the engineering cause, help to shape our future, hire our graduates and apply our engineering skills in countless ways for a better Wisconsin. Let's continue to truly be our most enthusiastic ambassadors of our craft and continue to keep this motto top of mind looking forward for the growth of the Wisconsin Section - "Every engineer should be a member of ASCE."

I want to welcome in and congratulate Brad Severson on becoming your next President. Brad and I have gone back many years within the Fox River Valley Branch, as conference planning committee colleagues and have sat together on the Section Board of Directors. I consider him not only a fellow member, but a friend. I wish Brad the best in his new Presidential role and I know he will be one of the best President's the Section has ever had. Please welcome Brad Severson as your new 2024-2025 ASCE Wisconsin Section President!

See everyone at the Annual Meeting in Brookfield, WI on September 20! If you haven't registered, you have until September 10. We are also still accepting sponsor registrations. More information, [here](#).

News from ASCE Region Director Ken Mika

The ASCE Board of Direction endorsed a path toward streamlining member categories to make the profession more welcoming to the entire engineering team. Currently, individuals in the member, associate, and affiliate grades pay the same dues and have the same benefits and voting rights. Consolidating these three grades into one would simplify the "join" process while saving the Society money to provide a greater value to our Members.



The Society would retain distinguished member, fellow, life, and student member grades.

"Consolidating member grades is an important step for ASCE's alignment with both our strategic plan and our code of ethics," said ASCE President Marsia Geldert-Murphey.

"We state in our strategic plan: 'Amplify our collective impact through a vibrant, engaged, and growing membership.' In our code of ethics, we state, 'Promote, and exhibit inclusive, equitable, and ethical behavior in all engagements with colleagues.'

"We know professional engineers as leaders of the civil engineering team are already distinguished by their P.E. Consolidating membership grades is about both inclusion and amplification. Over the last 50 years, we have witnessed a remarkable acceleration in technological innovation, with breakthroughs in various fields shaping the way we live, work, and interact, and that will only accelerate in the next 50 years. Civil engineers are systems

integrators, and we must strive to improve our pathways to attract new members from the broader infrastructure community.”

Because the change would require updates to the ASCE governing documents—along with separate criteria related to service on the board—the specific language of the new membership grades and criteria must be approved by the board later this year before being included on the Society election ballot in 2025.

Please get in touch with Ken Mika (ken.mika@tetrattech.com) if you have any questions or comments about the proposed member grade changes.

<https://www.asce.org/publications-and-news/civil-engineering-source/article/2024/02/02/asce-board-of-direction-sets-table-for-future-workforce-solutions>

Strategic Plan Metrics

Strategic Priorities

1. Internal Collaboration
2. Growth
3. Big Branch Events

Goals for this Quarter

1. Attend the golf outings
2. Get an engineer in your firm to join ASCE
3. Enjoy the summer and connect with some fellow ASCE members – be proactive!

Now take a moment to reflect back on yourself, your membership and your affiliated branch. Did you meet any of the goals?

ASCE Wisconsin is only as good as its members, and we can only sustain ourselves or grow if we are proactive about it. And its not too late either, please keep these strategic priorities and goals top of mind in 2024-2025 and beyond in order for us to keep ASCE Wisconsin a strong and proud society. Remember, its not what ASCE can do for you, but its what you can do for ASCE.

Branch Updates



Northwest Branch

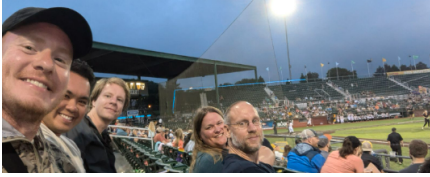
Northwest Branch’s 1st Annual Charity Golf Tournament, supporting Family Promise of the Chippewa Valley / Beacon House, was held on Friday, August 9th, 2024. Our sponsors and golfers were able to raise \$2,500 to help provide short-term shelter and case management services to families of the Chippewa Valley.



Fox River Valley Branch

New Branch Leadership will be announced soon!

This year's 40 golfers enjoyed mild weather and 18 holes of golf at Mill Run in Eau Claire, WI. Lunch and door prize giveaway followed, and door prizes included \$50 gift cards and several donated boozy baskets and other golfer gifts. Congratulations to team ISG who won this year's tournament!



Southwest Branch

The Southwest Branch recently hosted an ethics PDH opportunity (presentation by Jeffery Russell on Ethical Engineering Practices) and a bowling social, both of which were well attended. This summer we have several events in the works.

Save the date, Friday June 21st, to see Madison's new softball team, the Night Mares, in action (more information to follow). Save the date, Thursday Aug. 29th to cheer on Madison's soccer team, Forward Madison (more information to follow).



Southeast Branch

Southeast Branch hosted our annual Scholarship Golf Outing at Ironwood Golf Course on June 7th. It was a great day to be on the course, sunny warm. We had 181 golfers and raised \$11,293.62 for our scholarship fund that goes to civil engineering students at MSOE, UWM and Marquette. Mark your calendars for next year's event on June 6, 2025.

Awards Updates

Thank you for all those that submitted nominations. We will announce the award winners at the 2024 ASCE WI Section Annual Meeting.



Report Card Update



Co-Chairs Ken Mika and Zoey Meyers

The 2024 ASCE Wisconsin Infrastructure Report Card Committee is in the home stretch on drafting the 2024 ASCE Wisconsin Infrastructure Report Card. Volunteers are working hard to meet our current deadlines for release on September 17th! Thank you to our volunteers for your efforts!

The release will occur at 11 am on September 17 at the Capitol in Madison. This year we will have 17 chapters reported on with the new chapters being broadband, parks, rail, and schools. To attend virtually or in person, click [here](#).

We are planning a social event for the evening of the release in Madison to inform our members of the grades, to thank our volunteers, and to further advocate for Wisconsin's infrastructure. We will be at Steenbock's on Orchard on September 17 at 5:30 pm. To attend or sponsor the social event, click [here](#).

Lastly, the ASCE Wisconsin Section has teamed up again with the League of Women Voters Wisconsin to further advocate for infrastructure.

Thank you to all of our volunteers for making this happen!

Bob Bryson, Brian Udovich, Bruce Ramme, Carl Sutter, Carol Diggelman, Craig Harley, Crystal Strait, Darrell Barry, David Sonne, Greg Shroeder, Jake Brunoehler, Jen Hurlebaus, Jesse Jefferson, Joanna Bush, John McCarthy, Josh Mitchell, Justin Bliskemper, Ken Mika, Laura Gerold, Madison Anderson, Martin Hanson, Michael Schwar, Ryan Betker, Seth Johnson, Tony Castle, Uriah Monday, Vik Verma, Warren Hayden, William Kraji, Zoey Meyers

Student Symposia

Recently the 2024 ASCE Civil Engineering Student Championships were hosted at Brigham Young University in June, 2024 with UW-Madison competing in the concrete canoe. Also hosted in June, 2024 was the Student Steel Bridge Competition in Louisiana with UW-Platteville taking 6th place overall. Congratulations to both UW-Madison and UW-Platteville for competing at the National level!

Forward Thinking

The future of ASCE Wisconsin is the students. We have six student chapters in Wisconsin:

- UW- Platteville
- UW-Madison
- UW-Milwaukee
- UW-Green Bay
- Marquette University
- Milwaukee School of Engineering

We want to hear from you! As student chapters, please find a way to get involved! Please contact our Director at Large Zoey Meyers at zoeym@jt-engineering.com for engagement opportunities.

Younger Members

Not only are our students the future of ASCE Wisconsin, but so are the younger members. If you are a recent graduate, and haven't done so already, I encourage you to transition your student membership to an associate / affiliate membership.

The YMG is dedicated to providing opportunities for those 35 and younger to socialize, network, learn, and volunteer.

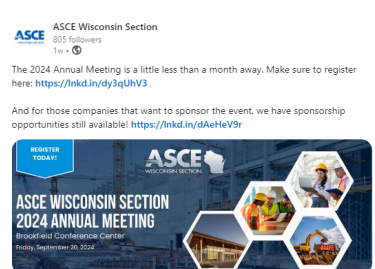
If you are interested in a YMG or even joining a YMG board, please contact your branch YMG so you can be proactive in coming up with ideas, plan events, and be engaged in the ASCE Wisconsin branches at a level your comfy with. Contacts are:

- Northwest YMG Contacts: <https://www.ascewinw.org/board-officers/>
- Fox River Valley YMG Contacts: <https://branches.asce.org/fox-river-valley/contacts>
- Southwest YMG Contacts: https://ascewisw.org/?page_id=381
- Southeast YMG Contacts: <https://www.ascewise.org/ymg-board/>

Social Media Updates

Follow Wisconsin Section on **LinkedIn**

Below are some highlights since the last Newsletter in 2024. Our mission with this page is connect our members, share our successes, and keep our members informed. Please reach out to us so we can share your news too at contact@ascewi.org!



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