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Upcoming Events

42nd Annual Structural Conference

Friday, September 15th, 2023

7:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Scott Engineering Center at UNO

Conference Agenda and Registration are [here](#).



**Andrew Eisenbraun,
P.E., M.ASCE**

From the President

Greetings ASCE Nebraska Section members,

The summer has once again flown by, and it is time to start another year of ASCE events. Before we get to the coming year though, I would like to take one more opportunity to congratulate our award winners and new life members that we recognized at our annual banquet last fall. Watch the newsletters as we highlight these individuals and their contributions to both our organization and the engineering profession as a whole.

As I mentioned above, September kicks off the year of activities with our structural technical meeting and the annual structural conference. The Structural meeting will be September 14th in Omaha. We are still working out the details, so be sure to watch your emails and our website for more information. The following day, September 16th, will be the 42nd structural conference hosted by SEAON. Visit the [SEAON Website](#) to register.

As always be sure your contact information is up to date at asce.org so you will be receiving our emails with future events. I'm excited for the upcoming year and looking forward to seeing you all.

Sincerely,

Andrew Eisenbraun

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Nebraska ASCE Annual Banquet

The Nebraska ASCE section held their annual banquet on the evening of June 20th to celebrate and reflect on another successful year. Several members were recognized for their involvements within the organization including students, life members, and officers that will be highlighted on the succeeding pages. Erin Steever, Region 7 Director, led the installation of new officers for the 2023-24 year. The event wrapped-up with past president, Garrett Martindale, passing his role onto Andrew Eisenbraun. Nebraska ASCE is looking forward to another eventful year of providing professional development and industry networking opportunities.



Outstanding Seniors

The ASCE Outstanding Senior Award is presented annually to students from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln or at Omaha campuses. They are being recognized for their exceptional involvement in their ASCE student chapter and performance in the classroom.

- Katrina Meier - University of Nebraska at Omaha

Katrina has recently started working in Corpus Christi, Texas as a field engineer with PLC Construction on a solar field project. She is from Pierce, Nebraska and chose to study civil engineering due to an interest in structures and sustainability. Katrina joined ASCE her freshman year and has served as treasurer, vice president, and president of UNO's student chapter. Katrina said her student chapter involvement has been a highlight of her time at UNO, and seeing increased engagement and competition success has been very rewarding. A highlight of her senior year was winning the concrete bowling competition at the Mid-America Student Symposium at K-State.

- Ben Goeman - University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Ben has started working in Kansas City at Burns and McDonnell in their Transmission and Distribution Group. He is from Omaha and has been active with UNL's student ASCE Chapter since his freshman year. He has served on the executive board since his sophomore year as both the ESAB representative and student chapter president. While president he worked to expand the competition teams and increase club involvement, and also lead fundraising efforts for a new trailer and canoe carts. Ben said the highlight of his senior year was the Mid-America Student Symposium at K-State where UNL was able to finish 3rd overall, and he was able to get into the concrete canoe for the first time.

Outstanding Service in Section Award

The Outstanding Service to Section Award is presented annually to a Nebraska ASCE member who went above and beyond their duties and responsibilities. They are being recognized for their exceptional service and volunteering of their time.

- Mike Sklenar

Mike is being awarded this honor for his constant attention to the Nebraska ASCE website and also bringing back the in-person Truss Bustin' competition for high schoolers. Throughout the year and currently ongoing, we have been reviewing and cleaning up our website with Mike's help. He is always making sure the current newsletter and event registration is being displayed. With Mike's lead, the Truss Bustin' competition this year was hosted at PKI rather than a pandemic virtual broadcast from his house. The high schoolers enjoyed watching their bridges get loading and touring the engineering facilities at PKI. Mike nearly had perfect attendance at our Nebraska ASCE events this year.



Mike Sklenar accepting his award from past president Garrett Martindale and current president Andrew Eisenbraun.

Special Achievement for Long Term Service

The Special Achievement for Long Term Service recognizes a Nebraska ASCE member who has served the section diligently for numerous years. They are being recognized for their exceptional and long lasting work and volunteering.

- Dave Nielsen

Dave is being awarded this honor for his past 15 years as the Future City Competition Chair for the Nebraska Region. Future City is a nationwide competition for middle schoolers who write a paper, develop a model, create a presentation, and answer questions to showcase their solutions to a citywide sustainability issue. The Nebraska Region had 7 teams compete this year, and Dave organized and brought together a group of 12 volunteers to judge the event. This was Dave's last year of being the competition chair as he trained and transitioned the role to Morgan McCullough and Chris Podany. However, Dave plans on continuing to be a judge for the competition for upcoming years.

Student Scholarships

Nebraska ASCE awards several scholarships through the donations and profits we make from hosting technical conferences and from being an ASCE member. The ASCE Nebraska Section Scholarship/Fellowship Fund is a self-sustaining fund and at least one \$1000 scholarship is awarded yearly. The scholarship will be added to the student's account and a certificate will be presented at the University of Nebraska- Lincoln College of Engineering Scholarship Banquet.

- Alison Fricke

New ASCE Life Member Recognition

Advancement to Life Membership in the American Society of Civil Engineers is an honor and unique accomplishment reserved for individuals who have made a long-time contribution and commitment to the Society and the profession. Furthermore, these members have reached the age of 65 years and shall have paid dues in any membership grade except Student Member for at least thirty-five (35) years and shall have had at least ten (10) years continuous membership immediately preceding the attainment of Life Member. From now on, the dues are waived with the exception of the life member service fee to cover mailing of publications. Nebraska ASCE had ten individuals achieve Life Member status this year.

- Eric Keen, David Meier, Edward Thiele, David Svingen, Wayne Woldt, Wesley Wahlgren, George Little, Reed Schwartzkopf, Daryoush Razavian, Edward Prost

New ASCE Life Member Recognition



- **Edward Prost**

Ed graduated from University of Missouri-Rolla (now known as Missouri S&T) in 1979 and did graduate courses and research from 1979-1981. He joined ASCE as a student in 1977 for networking and continuing education opportunities as well as career advancement, while also holding several positions including Director, Vice President, President, Geotech committee chair and legislative representative. Ed first worked as a Geotechnical Project Engineer with Southwestern Laboratories in Houston and ended his career as a Geotech Department Manager at Terracon Consultants in Omaha until retiring in April 2021. He says the design process and ability to see fruits of efforts in a physical structure is what he enjoys most. Some of his favorite projects include First Natl Bank Tower, Union Pacific headquarters, Council Bluffs Interstate system and the Smith Tower in Houston, Texas. Ed has been married since 1982 and has 3 children and 6 grandchildren (soon to be 7) and enjoys boating, guitar, Kairos Prison Ministry and bicycling.

- **Eric Keen**

Eric graduated with BSCE from the University of Iowa in 1979. He joined ASCE around 1977 on recommendation from the student chapter president. Eric began his career as a bridge engineer for HNTB and is now the Chairman & CEO for HDR, inc. He says the positive impact the profession has on our communities is what he cherishes most. Eric has been married since 1984 with 1 son and 1 daughter. His son is a professional civil engineer with a PhD from USC.

- Wayne Woldt

Wayne graduated with a B.S. from CSU in 1978, M.S. from UNL in 1986 and a PhD from UNL in 1990. He joined ASCE in 1984 and stayed as a member for professional affiliation. Wayne first worked with solar & renewable energy and retired in 2020 as a professor in the Biological Systems engineering dept at UNL. He worked heavily with the National Science Foundation on a project called "WATERS Network", seeking to envision the next generation of labs across multiple space/time to gain insights into solving large scale challenges in the water environment. Wayne has been married since 1985 and enjoys flying, skiing & fishing with his 3 children and grandchildren.

- David Meier

David graduated with BSCE from the University of Nebraska in 1979. He joined ASCE in as a student and continued due to friendships & networking opportunities and has held multiple positions within the ASCE NE section, including: Newsletter editor, Vice President, President, District representative, & History/Heritage Chair. David first started as a Traffic Engineering EI at HDR and retired in September 2021 as the Transportation Senior Project Manager & Vice President at HDR. His favorite part of being a civil engineer is the process of identifying, evaluating and developing engineering solutions. Two projects he is most proud of is the West dodge Expressway in Omaha and I-29 reconstruction in Sioux City for Iowa DOT. David has been married since 1985 and enjoys landscape photography, travel & companionship of his 2 children, 2 grandchildren and dog.

- George Little

George graduated from Trine University in Angola, Indiana in May 1979 and joined ASCE to stay connected with the profession. He first worked for an engineering firm in Columbus, Ohio and is now a senior engineer at Olsson in Omaha. George enjoys working with clients to turn concepts into a reality. He has been married since 1984 and has 4 children with 3 grandchildren. In his spare time George enjoys woodworking and gardening.

- Reed Schwartzkopf

Reed graduated as an architectural tech from SCC Milford in June 1979 and later graduated with a BSCE from UNL in August 1987 and a Masters from UNO in May 1993. He joined ASCE around 1985 and stayed for camaraderie away from work and networking purposes to where also held multiple local chairs & director positions. Reed first worked for Midwest Lumber Company and now happily works for Speece Lewis Engineers Inc. He has enjoyed the conveying the challenges of learning the various areas of



- Daryoush Razavian

Daryoush graduated from UNL with a BSCE in 1979 and a MS focusing in Water Resources Engineering in 1981. He joined ASCE in 1988 for the opportunity to give back to the profession as well as staying up to date on technical developments and personal and professional development. Daryoush has also held various positions within the Nebraska section, serving as president in 2000-01. His first job was as Research assistant engineer at UNL's Nebraska Water Resources Center and finished his career as Senior Vice President of Olsson in Lincoln until retiring in January 2021. He says the challenge of determining the root causes of problems and developing prudent solutions has always intrigued him and considers it a privilege to have conducted, manage and direct over 3,000 bridge/culvert hydrologic and hydraulic evaluations across 27 states. Daryoush has been married since 1977 with 1 son and 2 granddaughters. In his spare time, Daryoush enjoys reading, travelling, following college & pro sports, and biking.

Installation of Officers for 2023-24

Outgoing President

President

- Garrett Martindale, P.E., S.E., M.ASCE
- Andrew Eisenbraun, P.E., M.ASCE



Installation of officers by Erin Steever, Region 7 Director.

President Elect

- Sam Allen, P.E., M.ASCE

Secretary

- James Johnson, A.M.ASCE

Treasurer

- Pavel Karamshin, E.I., A.M.ASCE

Younger Member Chairs

- Joshua Keithley, P.E., M.ASCE
- Chris Podany, P.E., M.ASCE

Directors

- Marie Stamm, P.E., M.ASCE
- Mike Sklenar, P.E., M.ASCE



Outgoing president, Garrett Martindale, and 2023-24 President, Andrew Eisenbraun.

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aeisenbraun@jeo.com

President-Elect

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Clark Enersen
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Vice President

Open Position

Past President

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The Nebraska Civil Engineer

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