

Inside this issue:

Truss Bustin'	1
From the President	2
February Meeting Summary	3
Life Member Spotlight	5
Calendar	6

Truss Bustin'

Date: Saturday, February 27, 2021

Host: Mike Sklenar

Location:

ZOOM Video Conferencing

10:00 AM—2:00 PM

Each year students from the Omaha metro at participating high schools design trusses under certain specifications. Then we gather on a Saturday at University of Nebraska-Omaha to break each truss under a special machine and record the data to see who built the strongest truss. This year, due to COVID-19, the breaking of the trusses will happen virtually at this [zoom link](#).

The meeting ID is: 772 6242 0443

The passcode is: AbYy5K



**Brandon Gardels, PE,
M.ASCE**

From the President

Dear Nebraska ASCE Members,

We were excited to hold the Geotechnical Section Meeting and the 2021 GEO-Omaha Conference on February 4th and 5th at the Scott Conference Center in Omaha. The events were held partially in-person and virtually and were a great success. A big 'thank you' to the planning committee for all your work putting those events together! We had a great group of presenters with presentations on topics ranging from emergency repairs of levees, geophysics, litigation caused by expansive soils, grouting operations at Mosul Dam, and many more. Stay tuned for other events in the coming months!

I also wanted to remind everyone that E-Week is from February 21-27, 2021. It is important take time to celebrate our profession during this time and reflect on the importance of the work we do. Bringing in treats for your co-workers during this time is also a good practice!

As always, let us know how we can help improve the civil engineering profession.

Sincerely,

Brandon Gardels

Brandon Gardels, President, ASCE Nebraska Section

February Meeting Summary

The 2021 GEO-Omaha Conference was held on February 4th and 5th virtually and in-person at the University of Nebraska-Omaha and it was a great success! Stay tuned for information on the March meeting.

On April 17, 2020, the Board voted to modify continuing education requirements for licenses expiring on December 31, 2020, and December 31, 2021, as follows:

- Regarding Rule 9.2.1 and 9.2.2, the required number of actual CE hours is 20 (in lieu of 30) for professional engineers and 16 (in lieu of 24) for architects. For architects, 8 of the hours must address the safeguarding of life, health, and property.
- Regarding Rule 9.3.1 (5), the limit on restricted online, non-live CE activities is raised to no more than one-half (in lieu of one-fourth).
- Regarding Rule 9.3.2, the minimum number of required ethics hours is unchanged at 1 hour.
- Regarding Rule 9.3.5, self-guided activities may constitute no more than five hours for architects or six hours for professional engineers.
- Regarding Rule 9.4.3, the maximum number of carryover hours is unchanged and remains at half the biennial requirement (15 for professional engineers and 12 for architects).

You can also view this on the State of Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects [here](#).



6910 Pacific Street Suite 310
Omaha NE 68106-1046

Ofc: 402.553.0234
Fax: 402.553.0201

Providing Structural Engineering (and related) Solutions

InfraStructure: IS Bridges IS Buildings IS Precast Detailing
IS Construction/Value Engineering IS Field Inspection/Observation
IS Information/Technology Solutions & Asset Management Support

SCHEMMER.COM | 402.493.4800

Tri-Faith Bridge / Omaha, Nebraska

We designed a bridge
to unite people of
different religious faiths.

A HIGHER CALLING.



olsson[®]

We're **Olsson**, engineers who understand that where there's a project, there's a purpose. We're proud of the role we played in connecting members of the Tri-Faith initiative. olsson.com

LIFE MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Danny Pudenz

Every year, members of the NE ASCE Section reach Life Member status. This means this individual has made a lifetime commitment to ASCE and the civil engineering profession by remaining a member for the full length of their professional career. This year, we are happy to announce that five members reached this status. To commemorate this achievement, we will be highlighting each member in our newsletter. This month we congratulate Danny L. Pudenz!

Danny received his Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering at Iowa State University. He joined ASCE in 1977 and has been a member ever since! He joined to pursue professional affiliation and professional contacts while utilizing technical resources and found these to be invaluable throughout his career. He has served on the Nebraska Section Board as a member. Mr. Pudenz pursued a job in engineering because he is passionate about creating things. From construction jobs to woodworking and home projects, Dan enjoys it all. He enjoyed being a civil engineer and sharing this passion of innovation within our communities.

Upon graduation Danny worked at Lincoln Electric Systems as a transmission engineer. He married Cathy Snyder in 1978 and had three children; Kristen, Laruen and Alex. He worked his entire career at LES and eventually received a promotion to be the Vice President of Energy Delivery until he retired last June. His most memorable experience at LES was leading a team of to repair the damage to the system after the 1997 October snowstorm. It took eight days and a large workforce from Lincoln and surrounding communities to make all the repairs.

Congratulations to Danny on this great honor!

To learn more about how to become a life member, visit this [site](#).

Upcoming Events and Seminars

Program	Full Dates	City/State
E-Week	Feb 21-27, 2021	Omaha, NE/ Virtual
Transportation Conference	April 2021	Omaha, NE/ Virtual

ASCE Continuing Education

ASCE currently holds more than 300 live webinars annually and has available more than 400 on-demand webinars covering a wide variety of technical and management topics. To access these webinars, see the following links below:

ASCE's [live webinars](#) provide cost-effective training for large and small groups. Use Promo Code **WEBNEBSEC** to secure your preferred rate.

ASCE's [on-demand webinars](#) provide real-world knowledge and convenient delivery to fit your demanding schedule. Use Promo Code **WEBNEBSEC** to secure your preferred rate.

Bringing ground improvement out of the Stone Column Age.



Let us tailor a Geopier® solution to your unique, local soil conditions. Contact your local geotechnical engineer.

Deanna Chambers, P.E.
 email: dchambers@groundimprovementeng.com
 call: 402.651.1673 web: groundimprovementeng.com

**American Society of Civil
Engineers Nebraska Section**

www.neasce.org

**The Nebraska Section of ASCE
is an active organization of over
600 members who are diverse
in practice & geography. ASCE
represents more than 150,000
civil engineers nationwide and
is America's oldest national
engineering society.**



2020-2021 NEASCE Officers

President

Brandon Gardels, P.E., M.ASCE
HDR
402-399-1361
Brandon.gardels@hdrinc.com

President-Elect

Brandon Vacek, P.E., M.ASCE
Felsburg Holt & Ullevig
402-455-4405
Brandan.Vacek@fhueng.com

Vice President

Garret Martindale, EI, M.ASCE
HDR
Garrett.Martindale@hdrinc.com

Past President

Elizabeth Vacek, E.I., A.M.ASCE
Lamp Rynearson
Elizabeth.Vacek@LampRynearson.com

Treasurer

Greta Ehrhorn, E.I., A.M.ASCE
Olsson
gehrhorn@olsson.com

Secretary

Isabella Walsh, E.I., A.M.ASCE
HDR
402-392-8600
Isabella.walsh@hdrinc.com

Director

Marie Stamm, P.E., M.ASCE
The Schemmer Associates, Inc.
402-493-4800
marie.asce@gmail.com

Director

Mike Sklenar, PE, M.ASCE

The Nebraska Civil Engineer

c/o Sarah Ostrander
Olsson
601 P St, #200
Lincoln, NE 68508

Thank you to the businesses that support this
newsletter through their contributions.

For underwriting information, contact Sarah
Ostrander, Newsletter Editor, at 531-365-4629
or sostrander@olsson.com

Email articles to Sarah Hruby at shruby@olsson.com