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## **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 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> 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](#).



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# 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.

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