

THE NEBRASKA CIVIL ENGINEER



NEWSLETTER OF THE NEBRASKA SECTION OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

Volume XLVIII

November 2000

Number 3

2000-2001 Nebraska Section Officers

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November Meeting Information

DATE:

Thursday, November 16, 2000

HOST:

Management Group
Nebraska Section ASCE

TOPIC:

"Nebraska's Proposed
Design/Build Legislation"

SPEAKER:

James H. Suttle, P.E.
Executive Vice President
Corporate Development
HDR, Inc.

Before Mr. Suttle's presentation, Gordon Kissel, P.E.C. lobbyist, will give a brief update on issues in this year's Unicameral.

TIMES:

5:30-6:30.....Social Hour
6:30-7:30.....Dinner
7:30-9:00.....Meeting and Program

LOCATION:

Lee's Restaurant
1940 West Van Dorn
Lincoln, NE

(Corner of West Van Dorn and
Coddington Avenue near
Pioneers Park in S.W. Lincoln)

Casual Dress

PRICE:

\$12.00 (including tax and gratuity)

Attendees choose from the menu
(Lee's is recognized for fried
chicken & onion rings)

DINNER RESERVATIONS

RSVP by noon on Monday 11/13/00

In Omaha and Eastern Nebraska:
contact Bob Kalinski at (402) 894-2678
or rkalinski@rdgge.com

In Lincoln and Central/Western Nebraska:
contact Brad Levich at (402) 466-3911
or balevich@terracon.com

James H. Suttle, P.E.

As Executive Vice President, Corporate Development, for HDR, Inc., Mr. Suttle directs HDR's entry into the "new delivery" systems (design-build; privatization; program management; and development) in all engineering and architecture business classes, both domestically and internationally. HDR is an Omaha-based firm with 2,800 employees in more than 50 offices nationally.

Previously he served as Executive Vice President/National Director Transportation for HDR Engineering, Inc., expanding the national presence of the firm in all modes of transportation planning, engineering, design-build, privatization, international, and program management.

With a BS and MS in Civil Engineering from West Virginia University, Mr. Suttle has 30 years of experience in transportation planning, engineering and public works. He is the former Public Works Director for the City of Omaha and has held transportation planning positions with local governments in Albuquerque and Wichita.

He is a licensed professional engineer in Nebraska, Missouri, New Mexico and Massachusetts, and currently serves on the Nebraska Board of Examiners for Professional Engineers and Architects.

President's Comments

New Board Members and Random Thoughts



Daryoush Razavian, President
Nebraska Section, ASCE

Cheers fellow ASCE members! The October meeting was a huge success thanks to host Dave Sinsheimer, Chair of the Construction Group, and featured speaker Ms. Dee Ciatti. Dee provided a well-received site tour of the Henry Doorly Zoo's Desert/Nocturnal Dome, which was followed by an excellent presentation of the project design and construction activities. This is the Henry Doorly Zoo's newest attraction, and upon completion, will be

the world's largest glazed geodesic dome and desert exhibit featuring three desert regions. It is truly a fascinating project with a multitude of technical, construction, and management challenges. We also heard from the leaders of the University of Nebraska at Omaha's Student Chapter. With several planned activities, they are off to an exciting school year. If you are interested in getting involved with the Student Chapters at UNO or UNL, please contact Dr. Gary Krause at gkrause@unomaha.edu or Dr. Dave Admiraal at dadmiraal@unlnotes.unl.edu.

The UNO and UNL Student Chapters are looking for speakers and mentors for their activities. Mentors are also needed for next spring's Future City competition. If you are interested in taking aspiring civil engineers under your wing, please contact Dr. Gary Krause or Dr. Dave Admiraal at their respective e-mail addresses listed above. Contact Kirby Woods at kdwoods@oppd.com to get involved with Future City.

I am pleased to announce that the Nebraska Section Board has three new members. They are Mr. Ben Higgins with the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District, Mr. Richard "Dick" Taylor with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Omaha District, and Mr. Reed Schwartzkopf of Ross Engineering, Inc. Please join me in welcoming Ben, Dick, and Reed to the Nebraska Section Board, and in wishing them well in their Board activities.

The Nebraska Section is gearing up for our 150th Anniversary celebration. This is an opportunity for all of our Section members to be involved in creating a syn-

ergy to improve the image and stature of civil engineers in our communities. If you are involved in any professional and/or civic activities, or would like to participate in this worthy cause, please let us know. There are some programs underway or planned in the Lincoln and Omaha areas, however, we would like to hear from voices outside Lincoln and Omaha. It is vitally important for the Nebraska Section to have a state-wide representation during the 150th Anniversary event.

Ryan Paradis, Younger Member Committee Chair, hosted a site visit to the Tower at First National Center in Omaha on October 24. Project engineers from Kiewit Construction Company and Davis Erection provided a description of the project and construction activities. Despite the threat of rain, several younger members including UNO students attended this educational and interesting tour. One of the Younger Member Committee's goals is to reach out to a broad spectrum of members under the age of 35 to develop programs specifically suited to their professional interests. I encourage and challenge our Section's younger members to contact Ryan at rparadis@hdrinc.com to broaden the committee's membership and activities.

This month's program is focused on the Professional Engineers Coalition, which includes ASCE, and the impending design-build legislation in Nebraska. This is a great opportunity for our members to hear issues surrounding this legislation and to voice their questions and concerns. I am hopeful for a great turnout for this meeting.

The Nebraska Section will not have a program meeting or newsletter for December. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warmest wishes (with this weather, I cannot think of any other adjective!) to all of you and your respective families for a joyous Holiday Season. I hope that we will start the new year with renewed strides toward achieving our common goals and interests.

Best wishes,
Daryoush

2001 Meeting Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Organizer</u>
Jan 18	Water Resources/ UNL Student Chapter	Lincoln	Mark Wagner
Feb 15	Geotechnical	Omaha	Loras Klostermann
Mar 15	Environmental	Lincoln	John Hartwell
Apr 19	Transportation/ UNO Student Chapter	Omaha	Massoum Moussavi
May	(Annual Meeting)	TBA	Bob Kalinski

National Engineers Week Future City Competition™

article courtesy of www.futurecity.org

A potential shortage of qualified engineers. A troublesome lack of women and minority engineers. Fewer and fewer young people drawn to the field. Professional engineering faces many challenges, and now there is something every engineer can do: Become a mentor in the National Engineers Week Future City Competition™.

Since 1993, Future City — one of the most successful and widely recognized events of National Engineers Week — has introduced tens of thousands of students to the art of engineering.

Using SimCity 2000 software, donated free to every participating school by Maxis, a software firm based in Walnut Creek, California, the Future City Competition asks middle school students from around the nation to create — first on computer and then in large, three-dimensional models — their visions of the city of tomorrow. The computer design, on disk, and a printout map of the city are due by the end of November. The 3-D models and an essay on solving a practical engineering problem are presented at regional competitions in January, where students explain and defend the design and function of their city before a panel of engineer judges.

Though the concept of a “city of tomorrow” conjures monorails and limitless cheap power from cold fusion (and, indeed, many of the student designs use those very ideas), the real work involves building and operating a city efficiently and within budget. For most young people, it’s a hurdle that requires all the help they can get.

And that’s where the volunteer engineer mentors come in. Working with the students and their teacher, the volunteer engineer guides the team through the intricacies of what makes a town tick (and, after all, making things work is the essence of engineering).

What does the engineer get out of it? Plenty, according to the thousands of volunteers from the competition’s first eight years. Mentors credit the competition with sharpening their communication skills, since getting through to adolescents (a notoriously tough audience) means being at the top of your game.

Volunteering as a Future City Competition engineer mentor is also a great opportunity to prepare young people for careers in engineering because of the teamwork it inspires and the way it brings engineering to life.

Further, many involved with the competition say it helps encourage young women and minorities to consider a career in engineering. Carol Rieg, the program’s national coordinator, says that in the 2000 competition, half of the 18,000 students participating were girls.

“In the first couple of years it was rare to have any girls on a team. But, each year the schools see more professional women as mentors and judges. I think it’s made a difference.”

Would you like to make a difference? In 1999-2000, the competition was held in 19 regions — including Omaha — and is sponsored by the National Engineers Week Committee, a consortium of engineering societies and major U.S. corporations. Co-chairs of National Engineers Week 2001, February 18-24, are the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) and IBM. Next year’s competition is expected to expand to 8 new metropolitan areas.

Regional first place teams (including the engineer mentor) receive a free trip to Washington, D.C. for the national finals during National Engineers Week. The national champion team receives a free trip to U.S. Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama. The second-place team receives \$1,000 for their school’s technology program, donated by the Society of Manufacturing Engineers. A \$500 scholarship for the third-place team’s school technology curriculum is provided by The National Society of Professional Engineers. Other prizes are awarded at the regional competitions. More than 750 schools participated in the 2000 competition.

For more information on volunteering as an engineer mentor for the 2001 Future City Competition, please contact Kirby Woods, Omaha regional coordinator, via email at kdwoods@oppd.com. Visit www.futurecity.org for additional information.

Last Month’s Meeting



Dee Ciatti, Project Manager for Kiewit Construction Company, made an outstanding presentation at the October meeting. Her topic was the construction of the new Desert/Nocturnal Dome at Omaha’s Henry Doorly Zoo. Pictured left to right, Daryoush Razavian, Section President; Ms. Ciatti; and Dave Sinsheimer, Construction

Technical Committee Chair, who organized the meeting and preceding site tour. The attendees of the October 2000 meeting at Cascio’s Steak House in Omaha were:

Dan Mahrt
Daryoush Razavian
Brian Havens
Steve Bottum
Helen Bottum
Kirby Woods
Gary Krause
Virgil Oligmueller
John Hill
Ed Theile
Bob Kalinski
Brad Levich
Susie Jorgensen

Rick Kaufmann
Aaron Buettner
Matt Kralik
Sandi Keehn
Kristi Nohavec
Mark Kuhlengel
Brad Chambers
Dave Sinsheimer
Joseph Rhater
Jose Janer
Tom Strauss
David Klostermeyer
Ben Higgins
Steve Kathol

Joe Waxse
Dean Connett
Ryan Paradis
Brian Wahl
Scott Gilliland
Tony Krause
Audra Hansen
Dana Svendsen
Brian Guy
Andrew Barry
Mandy Schwedhelm
Reed Schwartzkopf
Dee Ciatti (speaker)

ASCE National News

The Future is Here!

The new Strategic Plan, “Building ASCE’s Future,” was reviewed and approved by the Board of Direction in July. The input received from members and staff for during the past year helped the Strategic Planning Committee set the course for the Society for the next five years with the creation of the new Strategic Plan. The new Plan was officially released at the Annual Conference in Seattle. Action Plans will be produced each year of the Plan’s run that will include activities for the Committees and Staff to work on in order to accomplish the Objectives of the Plan. The first year’s Action Plan was presented to the Board of Direction for approval at its October meeting in Seattle.

To celebrate the debut of this new Strategic Plan, the Board Leadership Team will be sponsoring a contest for the Sections and Branches in 2001. The contest will ask each Section and Branch to describe how they have effectively implemented an activity that accomplished one of the four Strategic Goals (the Goals are: Develop Leadership, Advance Technology, Advocate Lifelong Learning, and Promote the Profession). An example of an activity to accomplish the “Develop Leadership” Goal might be to organize a leadership series that invites speakers to Section/Branch meetings to talk about leadership topics (i.e., communication skills, persuasive writing). The deadline for the contest will be September 1, 2001. The winner of the contest will be announced in the November 2001 issue of *ASCE News*. The contest winner will receive \$1000.00 to sponsor a similar program in 2002. The two runners-up will each receive \$500.00 for the same purpose. Contest entry forms with complete rules will be mailed to all Sections and Branches in February 2001 and available on the Society’s web site beginning in February.

For information about the contest or to request a copy of the Strategic Planning video and/or 2001 Action Plan, please send an email to strategicplanning@asce.org, or call Melissa Yekell, Manager, Strategic Planning at 800-548-2723 ext. 6294.

Officer's Spotlight

Brad Chambers, the Section's Webmaster, is featured this month. Brad is the recipient of the Nebraska Section's 1999-2000 Outstanding Service Award.



Brad is a Transportation Planning Engineer at Metropolitan Area Planning Agency (MAPA). The Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration task MAPA with planning activities for transportation projects in the Omaha-Council Bluffs Metropolitan Area. Brad recently completed his 13th year at MAPA. Brad's duties include long-range planning, administration of Surface Transportation Program Funds (STP) dedicated to the metro area, transportation modeling, Intelligence Transportation System (ITS), Incident Management (IM), Federal Functional Classification, and traffic site impact studies. One of the most interesting aspects of his job includes the use of new ITS technologies applied to roadways. Roadways in the future may not be able to be widened; using ITS is a method to add more capacity to the existing transportation network without adding lanes. Other duties have included modeling of traffic impacts to the transportation network during reconstruction of the Interstate system in Omaha; modeling alternatives for the reconstruction of 114th Street and West Dodge Road; and working with the consultant on the Interstate needs study in Council Bluffs.

Brad has worked for MAPA since graduating with a BSCE from University of Nebraska at Omaha in the fall of 1986. Brad grew up in Council Bluffs, after high school Brad attended Iowa State University for a 1½ years before joining the United States Air Force for 4 1/4 years. Stationed at Offutt AFB most of the time, some of the unique duties while in the Air Force include flying as a flight mechanic on VC-135 (Boeing 707) hauling congressmen on Congressional junkets (fact-finding missions overseas), and Strategic Air Command (SAC) Generals and staff. While in the Air Force, Brad visited 46 U.S. States and visited the following countries: France, Spain, Tunisia, Egypt, Israel, Greece, Italy, Ireland, and Panama.

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Brad is a Past President of the Nebraska Section. He became a member of ASCE while in college, but became actively involved in the Nebraska Section in 1992 when he became Newsletter Editor. Brad served on the Board from 1992 through 1999, holding the posts of Editor from 1992 through 1995, Treasurer for the 1995-1996 term, Vice President in 1996-1997, President Elect in 1997-1998, and President in 1998-1999. Brad took over duties as Webmaster in 1999, and currently manages the Section's email database.

Brad is a bachelor and has no children. He is an avid golfer, and enjoys studying military history. His other hobbies include photography.

A Note from the Editor

The deadline for the January 2001 edition of *The Nebraska Civil Engineer* is December 22, 2000. Send ideas for items that could be included in this newsletter, articles, or information to:

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c/o Rick Kaufmann
Terracon
2211 South 156th Circle
Omaha, NE 68130-2506
Office No.: (402)-330-2202
Fax No.: (402)-330-7606
email address: rkaufmann@terracon.com

CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

Please notify ASCE national of any address changes by calling 1-800-548-ASCE (2723) or contact them through their web site at www.asce.org. Address changes made at the national ASCE office are updated monthly at your local Nebraska section.

If you have not been receiving an email version of this newsletter, please send your updated email address. Remember to check the Section's website for additional information, contact information, and useful links. The URL is

www.radiks.net/~neasce

Direct any updated email addresses, items of interest or comments to the Section Webmaster, Brad Chambers, at 444-6866 or neasce@radiks.net. Items for publication can include job position postings, RFP's, corporate news releases, editorials, articles, or photos of ASCE-related events.

Please note: Geotechnical Technical Chair Loras Klostermann's email address was incorrect in the Who's Who Directory published in September. The correct email address is lklostermann@td2co.com.

Please also note President-Elect Bob Kalinski's email has changed to rkalinski@rdgge.com.



Happy Holidays!

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