

THE NEBRASKA CIVIL ENGINEER



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NEBRASKA SECTION OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

Volume XLVIII

May 2001

Number 8

2000-2001 Nebraska Section Officers

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Rick Kaufmann

Section Annual Meeting and Banquet

(Spouses and Guests Welcome)

- DATE: Thursday, May 24, 2001
- LOCATION: Lee and Helene Sapp Riverview Lodge
Eugene T. Mahoney State Park
28500 W. Park Hwy. • Ashland, Nebraska
Phone: 402 944-2523 (*see map Page 4*)
- GUEST SPEAKER: Senator David Landis
Nebraska State Senator, District 46 (*see Page 4*)
- ENTERTAINMENT: Jazz by Jim Mertz
- TIMES: 5:30-6:30.....Social Hour
6:30-7:15.....Dinner
7:15-8:30.....Annual Meeting Program
8:30-9:30.....Entertainment
- MENU: Italian Pasta Buffet with choice of Sirloin Steak or
Boneless Chicken Breast
- PRICE: \$16.00 per person (includes cost for park access)

**RSVP by Friday May 18 to Bob Kalinski at 402/894-2678 or
rkalinski@rdgge.com**

Sixth Annual Golf Outing

Friday, June 1, 2001
12:00 to 5:30 P.M..

Fontenelle Hills Country Club
1102 Country Club Court
Bellevue, Nebraska
(See map Page 6)
4-Player Scramble

\$27.50 per person

(includes 18 holes of golf, carts, and flag prizes)

Contact Joe Waxse at 402/330-2202 by May 30 to register.



President's Comments

- It was a Rewarding, Fulfilling, and Fun Experience!
- Nebraska Section Board Proposes Section Dues Increase



Daryoush Razavian, President
Nebraska Section, ASCE

Greetings fellow ASCE members. This is my last article as the Nebraska Section President, and I would like to take the opportunity to leave you with a couple of challenges. However, I would first like to express my gratitude to Massoum Moussavi, Transportation Technical Group chair, for organizing the April meeting and delivering a thought-provoking and intriguing presentation on the Small Aircraft Transportation System (SATS).

The SATS concept promises to revolutionize transportation systems as we know them. Through intermodal (air and ground) transportation systems, SATS utilizes new transportation systems to operate both on the ground and in the air. The end results are higher-speed mobility, safer traffic, and increased accessibility, among other benefits. Massoum is conducting research on SATS in collaboration with several universities and a number of federal, state, and local agencies, which include NASA and FAA. We wish him and his partners success in developing and implementing the SATS, and we hope that we are able to use the system in our lifetime.

I have visited with you on several occasions during my term about the importance of continuing and expanding our programs and activities. Traditionally, our programs and activities have been developed to serve our members' needs, to support student activities at the high school and university levels, to connect practicing professionals with aspiring civil engineers, to recruit and retain new members, and to encourage involvement in the public policy arenas. We must continue this proud tradition, and we must also look forward to the emerging needs of our members and issues facing our Society.

Through their volunteer efforts, the Nebraska Section Board members provide a significant portion of the Section's activities. Despite these efforts, financial support is needed to maintain a high level of service. For these reasons and others, the Board and I would like to propose an increase in Section dues from the current \$7.50 to \$15 per year. As I have stated in the past, we have not had an increase of Section dues for

more than 10 years. This proposal will be acted on by the subscribing members who are present at the Annual Meeting. Along with this proposal, I would also like to challenge every one of our members to support the Nebraska Section by electing to pay the annual Section dues when renewing the national membership. Currently, the rate of Nebraska Section members who pay Section dues is less than 65 percent. I thank those members who have supported the Nebraska Section in the past, and I challenge others to provide financial support through Section dues. We can succeed if a larger portion of our members see Section dues as an opportunity to contribute back to the profession that has provided so much. I have the utmost confidence in our members' continued support.

The Annual Meeting promises to be a fun event. It is specifically planned to be non-technical and to provide enjoyment for our members, as well as their spouses or significant others. With a talented musical group, the incomparable storytelling skills of State Senator Dave Landis, and great food, it should be an enjoyable evening. I am looking forward to greeting and visiting with you and your guest at the Annual Meeting.

Within the next two years, ASCE will launch its 150th Anniversary celebrations. This monumental milestone provides a tremendous opportunity for us to enhance the image and stature of civil engineers in our communities. It also allows us to recruit future civil engineers. Although the Nebraska Section has a strong presence in the Omaha/Lincoln area — several events will be planned within these areas to commemorate the occasion — the 150th Anniversary also offers an opportunity to reach out to communities in different parts of the state.

I would like to encourage our members to plan events that will heighten the awareness of civil engineering in Nebraska. For example, many people are not aware of the fact that a significant portion of the improvements in the quality of life and life expectancy in this country can be attributed to the civil engineers who design and develop water/wastewater treatment and solid waste management systems. While those who practice medicine are usually given credit and recognition in these areas, our roles in advancing civilization are not recognized or rewarded equally. We must be proud of our accomplishments and strive for higher places in our communities. The Nebraska Section champion for the 150th Anniversary celebrations is our past-President, Joe Waxse. You can contact him to coordinate appropriate events throughout Nebraska at jawaxse@terracon.com.

...Continued from Page 2

Finally, I would like to thank everyone for giving me the opportunity to lead the Nebraska Section over the last year. It was tremendously rewarding and fulfilling, and most of all, it was a fun experience. I am proud of the Nebraska Section's accomplishments during my tenure. However, I could not have done it without a terrific group of individuals who served on the Section Board so admirably. My sincere appreciation goes to Rick Kaufmann, our newsletter editor, for diligently and patiently preparing an outstanding product every month; Mark Stark for representing the Nebraska Section with pride and consistency at the Professional Engineers Coalition (PEC) meetings; Tom Marnik for setting a new benchmark for preparation of meeting minutes; Ben Higgins for excellent fund-raising; and Brad Chambers for maintaining our website. I am also grateful to the rest of our Board members for serving in various committees, planning monthly meetings and student activities, and supporting Section programs and activities. The individuals deserving recognition include (in no particular order) Bob Kalinski, Brad Levich, Joe Waxse, Steve Kathol, Ed Prost, Dave Sinsheimer, Gary Krause, Loras Klostermann, Reed Schwartzkopf, Massoum Mousavi, Mark Wagner, Ryan Paradis, Dick Taylor, Scott Gilliland, Phil Rossbach, Bruce Harris, Al Nelson, Dave Admiraal, Steve Nickel, and Kirby Woods. I apologize in advance for any omissions.

Best Regards,



VOLUNTEERS WANTED!!!

The "BUILDING BIG" series which aired last fall on PBS is now being presented to local schools as an educational outreach program sponsored in part by ASCE. The series focuses on five major types of construction in civil engineering: bridges, domes, skyscrapers, dams and tunnels. The Younger Member Committee of the Nebraska Section is looking for individuals to assist with these presentations. All Nebraska Section members are welcome to participate. If you would be interested in helping 5th to 8th grade students learn more about engineering, contact Ryan Paradis (HDR Engineering, Omaha) at 399-1482 or rparadis@hdrinc.com.

For more information about the program go to www.asce.org/public/bldg_big.cfm.

2001-2002 Officers Nominated

According to the Bylaws of the Nebraska Section, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee of not less than three members, at least 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting. The Nominating Committee was comprised of the President (Daryoush Razavian), President-elect (Bob Kalinski), Vice President (Brad Levich), and Past President (Joe Waxse). The Bylaws state that the Nominating Committee shall choose one or more candidates for election to the offices of President-elect, Vice President, and each of two Directors prescribed by the constitution; and obtain the consent of the Nominees to serve, if elected. In addition, candidates may be nominated by written petition containing at least ten signatures of subscribing members. The election of Officers will be held at the Annual Meeting, and the nominee receiving the highest number of votes cast for each office will be elected. All subscribing members present at the Annual Meeting shall be allowed to vote. The President-elect, Bob Kalinski, shall succeed to the Office of President at the close of the Annual Meeting. The slate of Officers selected by the Nominating Committee on 15 March 2001 for approval of the subscribing members at the Annual Meeting are:

For President-Elect: *Brad Levich*

For Vice President: *Mark Stark*

For Directors: *Loras Klostermann*
Ed Prost

Congratulations and good luck to the nominees.



Nebraska Section Website:
www.radiks.net/~neasce

Newly Redesigned ASCE Website:
www.asce.org

Senator David Landis



David Landis is a Nebraska state senator, an award-winning teacher and a skilled negotiator in the public arena. He currently chairs the Banking Commerce and Insurance Committee for the Nebraska Unicameral.

Many of the 300 bills he has passed in twenty-three years in the Unicameral have been consensus measures forged by negotiation that brought contesting parties to agreement. Senator Landis has brokered legislative agreements between labor and management, utilities and ratepayers, big banks and small banks, insurance companies and trial attorneys and other seemingly intractable foes.

Senator Landis has passed legislation to create a statewide network of mediation centers, to establish a system for negotiated administrative rulemaking in state government, extend the use of arbitration to resolve disputes and create the state labor-management collective bargaining system.

His skill has been developed at training seminars at Harvard, MIT and the University of Illinois. Currently he teaches lawyers and graduate public administrators to negotiate at the University of Nebraska College of Law and the Department of Public Administration. Senator Landis has three times been the Best Teacher award winner at Doane College. His workshop clients include: Internal Revenue Service, Pacific Public Policy Program, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, State Farm Insurance Co., Western Fire Chiefs Association, Rocky Mountain Public Policy Program, California League of Cities and the Southwest Leadership Program.

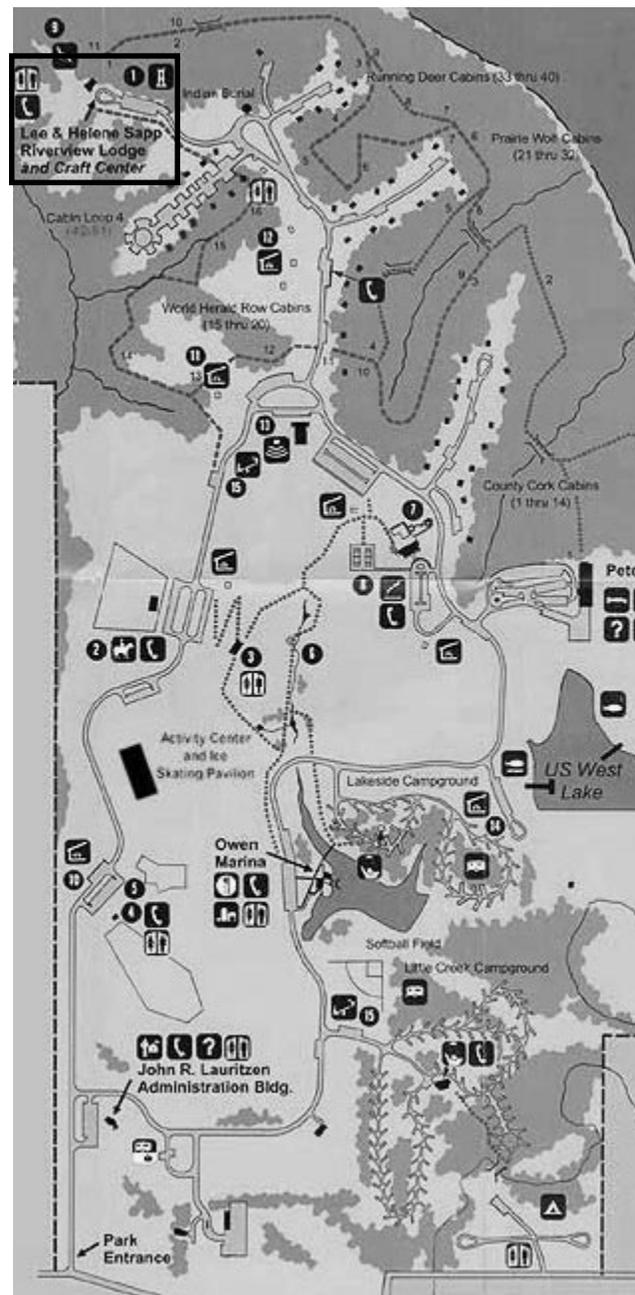
David is married to Melodee Ann McPherson, has two children, Matthew and Melissa, and enjoys music, theater and doing a radio show on the weekends. He graduated from the University of Nebraska with a B.A. (1970), *Juris Doctor* (1971), a Masters of Public Administration (1984) and a Masters in Regional and Community Planning (1995).

Mahoney State Park

A Park for All Seasons

Eugene T. Mahoney State Park overlooks the picturesque valley of the Platte River near Ashland. Managed by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, this premier 700-acre park is open year-round, and its location on I-80 between Nebraska's two largest cities makes it readily accessible for all-season outdoor recreation.

A map of the park is shown. The location of the Lee and Helene Sapp Riverview Lodge, site of the Section Annual Meeting and Banquet, is boxed.



ASCE National News

HELP SPREAD THE NEWS

The ASCE E-Newsletter is your gateway to the latest information about the American Society of Civil Engineers as well as news from the world of Civil Engineering. And now it is available to everyone.

Many have written with praise about the ASCE E-Newsletter and the usefulness this new service provides. The subscription process is open to anyone interested in receiving the e-newsletter. Please note that you can take control of your subscription as well. If at any time you want the e-newsletter sent to a different email address you can unsubscribe from one address and resubscribe from another. Comments and questions can be e-mailed to enewsletter@asce.org. Tell other members and co-workers about this new service. There are two different ways you can subscribe (or unsubscribe if you choose).

To subscribe—send an email to majordomo@lists.asce.org with “subscribe enewsletter” in the message body (without the quotation marks). Or subscribe from the ASCE Web site at www.asce.org/enews/professional_enewsletter.cfm.



Section Members Awarded Life Membership

ASCE National has awarded Life Membership to seven distinguished members of the Nebraska Section. Our congratulations goes to:

Tsong Wei
Ronald Morrison
Frederick Henry
Raymond Hajek
Robert Dreessen
Harvey Funk
Larry Briggs

These Life Members will be recognized at the Annual Meeting and Banquet on May 24, 2001.

VOTE YES on CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION

The June issue of ASCE News will contain the national election ballot. In addition to voting for a new President-elect and other Board officers, the Society's members will be asked to adopt a revised Constitution. Full text of the proposed revision will be carried in the June issue; the full text of both the proposed Constitution and proposed Bylaws are also available on ASCE's web site.

The ASCE Board of Direction three years ago created a Task Committee on Governing Documents (TCGD) to clean up the Society's governing documents, collectively the Certificate of Incorporation, the Constitution, the Bylaws, and the Rules of Policy and Procedure. The Board felt this revision was needed due to the significant growth and change the Society has experienced in the 150 years since the first drafts of these documents were first prepared. Task Committee chair and past ASCE Vice President, Dr. Walt LeFevre, P.E., notes "The Society has amended its Constitutional language hundreds of times in our history and many of these changes were proposed without a thorough determination of their effect on the overall document." A lack of clear language and an old-fashioned format are just two of the other problems that necessitated the revision.

The most important point for members to remember as they fill out their election ballot is that the Task Committee made no changes to the intent of the original document. While language was clarified, format revised, and content relocated to more appropriate locations, none of the direction and guidance in the original document was changed. According to Dr. LeFevre, "The Task Committee was charged only to clean up and streamline the content of the documents. We have been very careful not to change any of the policies and guidelines contained in those documents during our work."

Membership input was sought many times during the revision process. In addition to many working sessions with the Board, Task Committee members made presentations at each of the 2000 Zone Conferences. Input was also sought through articles in ASCE News and postings on the ASCE web site.

For more information on the Constitutional revision, or if you have any questions, please contact Wendy Cowan, ASCE's Parliamentarian and a member of the Task Committee, at wcowan@asce.org.

Last Month's Meeting

Twenty-nine people attended the April meeting at House of Hunan in Omaha, hosted by the Transportation Group and the UNO Student Chapter.

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Daryoush Razavian | Scott Schram (Student) |
| Ryan Paradis | Dan Owens |
| Todd McLochlin (Student) | Virgil Oligmueller |
| Sherry McLochlin (Guest) | Jeff Kopocis |
| Gary Krause | John Stansbury (Guest) |
| Joe Waxse | Brad Chambers |
| Mark Stark | Scott Gilliland |
| Ray Moore | Ed Prost |
| John Hill | Dan Mahrt |
| Aaron Buettner | Nathan Dickerson |
| Brian Erickson | Thomas Strauss |
| Steve Kathol | Massoum Moussavi |
| Bob Kalinski | Mark Duey |
| Mark Meisinger (Student) | Thomas Marnik |
| | Jaime Vargas (Student) |

A Note from the Editor

I'd like to thank the following people for another successful term: Joe Waxse, Ed Prost, Brad Chambers, Daryoush Razavian, Bob Kalinski, Ben Higgins, the meeting organizers, and our underwriters. I hope you find this newsletter informative and interesting, and I welcome any suggestions to improve it. I can be reached at the following address:

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 c/o Rick Kaufmann
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 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 <http://www.asce.org>. Address changes made at the national ASCE office are updated monthly at your local Nebraska section.

We Need Your Email Address

In order to better serve our members, the Section will email the newsletter to all members who wish to receive it. If you did not get an email with this newsletter attached prior to receiving it in the mail, we do not have your current email address. Please send your updated email address to Brad Chambers at neasce@radiks.net.

6th Annual Golf Outing Fontenelle Hills Country Club 1102 Country Club Court Bellevue, Nebraska

Directions: From Kennedy Expwy/Hwy 75 exit at Cornhusker Rd. Travel east about 1-1/2 mi. Turn east on Harvell Rd. and travel about 1/2 mi. Go north on Lincoln Rd. about a mile, then make a right at Gregg Rd. This turns to the north and becomes Martin Dr. Make a left on Country Club Ct. Golf course is at 1102 Country Club Ct.



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