



The Nebraska Civil Engineer

Official Publication of the Nebraska Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers

March 2017

Event Calendar:

- April 5—SEI Conference
- April 7 - NE-ASCE and LOCATE Transportation Conference

March Meeting

Date: Wednesday, March 29th, 2017

Host: Nebraska Environmental Technical Group

Spouses and Guests Welcome

Location: Scott Conference Center
6450 Pine Street
Omaha, NE 68106

Program: "Biological Treatment of Odors"

Presenters: Dr. Ashraf Aly Hassan - University of Nebraska—Lincoln

Inside this issue:

March Meeting **1**

The presentation summarizes the design criteria of biotrickling filters for the treatment of odors. It highlights the advantages of this system vs traditional biofilters and the challenges faced if the same system needs to be designed to treat VOCs. An innovative hybrid system including 2 bed adsorption combined with biofiltration will be illustrated.

From the President **2**

February Meeting **3**
Summary

Times: 11:30 am Registration / Lunch
12:00 pm Meeting / Presentation

April Meeting Save the **4**
Date

Menu/Price: Buffet Style Lunch

2017 E-Week Banquet **4**

ASCE Members \$15.00 with meal, \$10.00 without meal, Guests \$20.00
Payable to NEASCE at the door (cash, check, or credit card).

Life Members and Students are FREE....but you must register.

NEASCE/LOCATE **5**
Transportation Conference

Registration/Deadline: Register [HERE](#)

Sign up by 11:00 pm Thursday, March 23, 2017.

CRYMC and WSLB **6**
Conferences

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and Workshops



John Smith, PE, M.ASCE

From the President

Greetings Nebraska Section!

I often get asked about the benefits of ASCE membership and while reviewing information on the Student Transition Activity (STAY) Grant NEASCE was awarded, I discovered some great resources that help answer that question. While we are well into the new year, you can still renew your membership, and if you are student member, now is a good time to think about professional membership after graduation. So below is some ASCE provided resources along with my own thoughts on membership.

- > As an ASCE member, you have access to training that builds skills critical to your career. Whether its team building (staff management), presenting to a student section (public speaking), planning an event (project management), consensus building (decision making), or managing a budget, you can develop and practice your leadership skills in an informal, low-risk environment, something especially useful for Younger Members. You also have access to conferences such as the Workshop for Section & Branch Leaders and the Younger Member Leadership Symposium, both providing in-person leadership and management training.
- > This short [video](#) shows how you can advance your career and shape the profession at ASCE.
- > Here are some ways to maximize your membership, whatever your career stage: Career Stages [Brochure](#)
- > NEASCE's monthly section meetings and technical conferences allow you to network with other industry professionals and to earn PDHs. Members receive discounted pricing at these events.
- > If you are interested in legislative affairs, become an [ASCE Key Contact](#). As a Key Contact, ASCE provides you updates on public policy issues and you have access to briefings and talking points to better advocate for the civil engineering profession and infrastructure. You can also attend the [Legislative Fly-In](#) where you receive training and meet with Nebraska representatives.

The items above are just a few of the ASCE member benefits. For even more information, browse the [ASCE Member Resource Guide](#). If you are a member looking to be more involved, know someone looking to join a professional organization, or considering joining yourself, I hope this is helpful and you can always contact me or another NEASCE board member.

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February Meeting Summary

The Nebraska Structural Group hosted dinner and presentation from Dan Fricke from JEO Consulting Group and Matt Cox from the City of Council Bluffs. They spoke about the Council Bluffs Levee system. The list below can be considered official documentation of attendance at the February 9th, 2017 meeting and presentation worth one (1) PDH credit.

Gopala Allam	Mike Ringler	Leland Rupp	Brian Havens	Patrick Kinsella
Steven Saye	Mike Skelnar	Seunghee Kim	John Smith	Bryan Kumm
Richard Donovan	Thomas Strauss	Bret Budd	Jeremy Steenhoek	Phillip Gallet
Loras Klostermann	Sheryl Gallagher	Jacob Sellin	Chung Song	Brandon Gardels
Amelia Ganze	Mark Nelson	William Arneson	Jason Herr	Ray Hajek
Eli Green	Taylor Reinsch	Andrew Eisenbraun	Elizabeth Kreher	Tyler Klusaw
Jeffery McClenathan	John Hill	Jacob Canniff	Ronald Ganze	James Hite
Alex Johnson	Joshua Dodson	Jongwan Eun	Vicki Twerdochlib	Tim Bendall
Stephen Matychuk	Samuel Nelson	Michael Barna	Matt Cox	



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April Meeting Save the Date!

Date: Thursday, April 6th, 2017

Host: Nebraska Transportation Committee

Spouses and Guests Welcome

Location: Anthony's Steakhouse
7220 F Street
Omaha, NE 681027

Program: TBD

Presenters: TBD

Times: TBD

Menu/Price: Menu TBD

ASCE Members \$15.00 with meal, \$10.00 without meal, Guests \$20.00
Payable to NEASCE at the door (cash, check, or credit card).

Life Members and Students are FREE....but you must register.

Registration/Deadline: Check the NEASCE website later in March

2017 E-Week Banquet

On February 16th, NEASCE hosted the 2017 Engineer's Roundtable E-Week Banquet. This event included a brief on ASCE, an announcement of the Nebraska Section's Centennial, and a viewing of the Dream Big trailer. Organizations such as SAME, SWEE, ACEC and IEEE presented awards and Kyle Garret with Synesis Partners LLC presented on Connected and Autonomous Vehicles. NEASCE was well represented so thanks to those members that attended, and we look forward to participating next year.

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NEASCE/LOCATE Conference Transportation Conference

The banner features a stylized silhouette of a city skyline against a dark blue background. The skyline includes various building shapes, from tall skyscrapers to shorter office buildings. The overall design is modern and professional.

The logo for LAMP RYNEARSON is displayed on a blue background. It features a circular emblem on the left side composed of several vertical bars of varying heights, some with horizontal lines extending from them. To the right of the emblem, the company name "LAMP RYNEARSON" is written in large, bold, white, sans-serif capital letters. Below the company name, the words "ENGINEERS | SURVEYORS | PLANNERS" are written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. At the bottom of the card, the phone number "402.496.2498" and the website "LRA-inc.com" are listed in white. Social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn are located at the bottom left.

2017 MRLC Conference

The 2017 ASCE Workshop for Section, Branch and Institute Leaders (WSBL) conference was held February 3rd through 4th in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Two members from the NEASCE chapter went to represent Nebraska during the WSBL conference, Elizabeth Kreher and Tyler Schmidt. The conference consisted of seminars on what makes great leaders and how to strengthen your leadership skills, activities to meet people and figure out your strengths, learning more about ASCE, and breakout sessions. All of the sessions ultimately focused on ways to help the attendees learn more about ASCE, meet higher officials within ASCE, and receive information and techniques to apply them to our local chapter.

Networking was also present throughout the conference in both formal and informal events. During the breakout sessions and the roundtable event, we got the chance to meet with other members of Region 7, as well as with our ASCE governor to learn what other chapters were actively doing. This gave us resources to help plan future events, plan younger member activities and try and get involved with our student chapters more.

All of the younger member chairs were present for the ASCE Central Region Younger Member Council (CRYMC) conference that took place during the same time as the WSBL conference. The younger member chairs who attended were: Chris Podany, Brandon Gardels, Mark Egger, and Isabella Walsh. The younger members participated in some of the same events dealing with the round table and breakout sessions but they also had further activities. One of the other activities was to meet the students that were attending the student chapter conference to teach and practice active networking skills. Another separate event was the business meeting, which Nebraska ran due to the fact that the WSBL and CRYMC conferences are coming to Omaha, NE next year. It was also decided that Dallas, Texas would be the host of the 2019 conference. Along with the both conferences, there were social events that the Younger Members and Section Leaders were able to participate in. Two of the highlights included seeing a sneak peak of the civil engineering movie Dream Big and learning how to curl at the US Olympic Curling training center. Both of the events were great networking opportunities along with having a fun time.

Overall, the conference provided all of the NEASCE members who attended useful leadership skills, and potentially new events to attempt to engage back in Nebraska. This in turn will allow us to grow and strengthen our chapter.



2018 MRLC Conference

The Nebraska Section is excited to host Regions 3, 6, and 7 for the 2018 Multi-Region Leadership Conference. The MRLC (Workshop for Section & Branch Leaders, Central Region Younger Member Council, and Workshop for Student Chapter Leaders) will be held January 26-27, 2018 at the Ramada Plaza Omaha Hotel & Convention Center.

The website with more information can be found [HERE](#).

NEASCE Centennial Year—Overview

The Nebraska Section of ASCE was founded in 1917. For 100 years, we have been providing our members, their employers, and the public with an array of benefits. We give our members resources to build their careers, advance their profession, and enrich their lives. ASCE offers leadership training, continuing education programs, PE licensing courses, professional publications and certifications, mentoring, and community volunteer opportunities. Firms and other employers see the development of future leaders and ongoing education opportunities. ASCE also actively advocates for issues such as improving our infrastructure and increasing sustainability. The Nebraska Section also provides a number of scholarships to college students pursuing a career in Civil Engineering and host outreach events to primary and secondary student each year. To celebrate 100 years of Civil Engineering excellence, the Nebraska Section is planning events within three broad themes: celebrating our members, connecting with engineering students, and communicating with the public.

The Section has been planning to do many activities to denote this milestone. The Section would ask all of its members to consider volunteering for a Section planned event. Some volunteering opportunities are:

[Lincoln Children's Museum Outreach Event—Sign up HERE](#)

We also have a little information about the Section's founding and history which can be [found here](#). If you know anything about the history, please contact Matt Hubel at: mhubel@schemmer.com or Marie Stamm: marie.asce@gmail.com



NEASCE Centennial Year—Recap

Governor Ricketts Signs Proclamation

Wednesday, February 8, 2017, Governor Pete Ricketts signed a Proclamation recognizing 2017 as the Centennial year of the Nebraska Section. John Smith, P.E., M.ASCE, spoke on behalf of the Section during the signing in the Warner Chamber of the Nebraska State Capitol. He was joined by Bill Arneson, P.E., M.ASCE (Legislative Affairs, Section President 1990); Greg Seib, P.E., M.ASCE (Vice President); and Marie Stamm, P.E., M.ASCE (Director, Section President, 2008-2009).

Read the Proclamation [HERE](#)

Outreach Event at Omaha Children's Museum

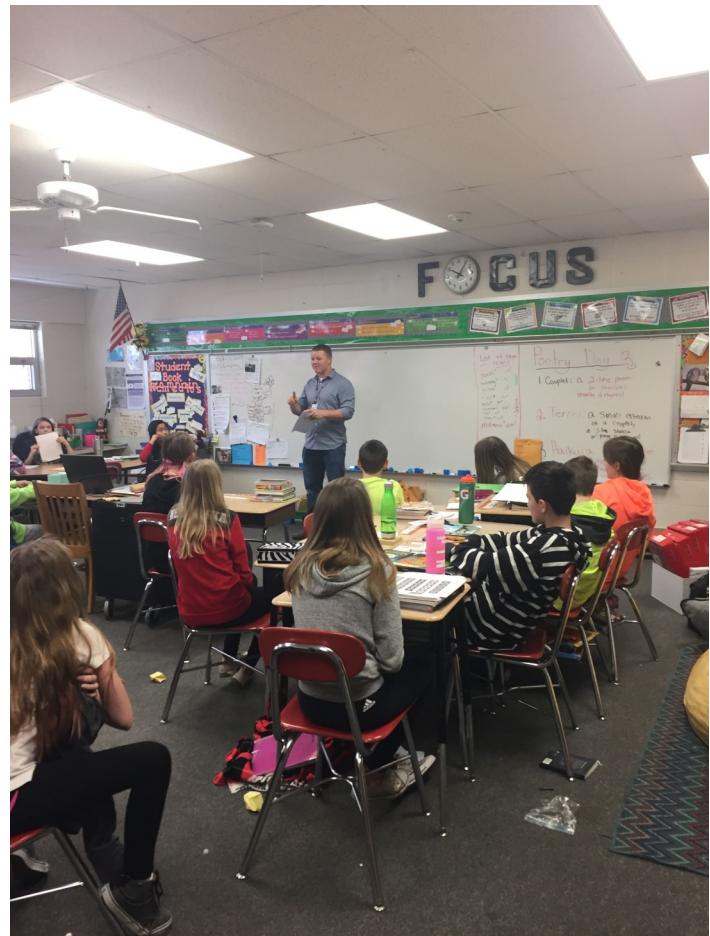
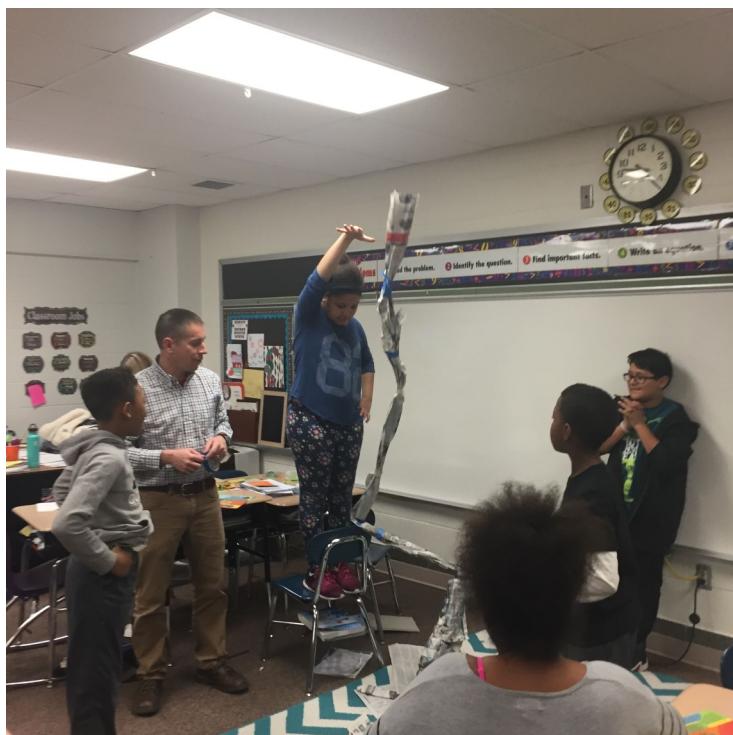
Saturday, January 28, 2017, the Nebraska Section hosted an outreach event at the Omaha Children's Museum. Between 9am and 5pm, over 400 kids and their families participated. They made gumdrop domes (toothpicks and gumdrops or marshmallows), played with Keva Planks, and used paper to make towers. NEASCE distributed drawstring backpacks with handouts on Civil Engineering, stickers, building blocks (Duplo and Lego type), and more. Thanks to all those who attended (volunteers and participants), with special thanks to Shannon DeVivo, P.E., M.ASCE (Section President 2012-2013) for coordinating. Mark your calendar for our next Centennial-specific outreach event will be at the Lincoln Childrens Museum on April 2.



E-Week School Blitz

The NEASCEE-Week School Blitz was a great success. 2017 marked our 3rd year for outreach event to talk with area K-12 grade schools discussing Civil Engineering. Daren Konda, John Smith, Mike Kleffner, Shannon DeVivo, Chad Price, and Tyler Klusaw volunteered to speak with children in the Omaha metropolitan area about civil engineering. Throughout E-Week volunteers talked with over 260 students in 3rd-5th grades from Birchcrest Elementary School in Bellevue to Norris and Morton Elementary Schools in Millard. We talked about our roles as civil engineers and coordinated hands-on activities in each classroom, such as "High Rise", "Gum-Drop Domes", "Paper Bridge", and "Paper Tower" to name a few. It's amazing to have great volunteers to show kids about engineering and take time out of their day to engage with the kids.

E-Week School Blitz is an amazing outreach event for NEASCE and cannot continue without the support of volunteers and teachers. We talk to many students and have visited many schools throughout the 3 years. As we continue to talk to more students and more schools, it never gets old when a class sends thank you cards and talks about how we have inspired them.



2017 GeoOmaha Conference

The Annual 34th Geotechnical Conference Geo-Omaha 2017 was hosted at the Scott Conference Center in Omaha, Nebraska. This year we offered a geotechnical short course "Levee Seepage and Slope Stability Issues" presented by Dr. Timothy Stark, Dr. Navid Jafari, Mr. Glen Bellew, and Mr. Chris Redell. The conference provides a forum for the presentation of a wide variety of geotechnical field, design, and construction related topics. This year we had seven presentations and the topics included:

- Non-invasive monitoring of railway tracks and transitions
- Scour and Erosion of a Floodwall
- Deep bridge foundations
- Airfield Pavements
- Effective Practice in geotechnical projects
- Polystyrene Fills
- Tunneling

The short course and the conference were well attended with approximately 60 and 300 people, respectively in attendance.

Upcoming Events and Seminars

Region	Program	Full Dates	City/ State
NA	CI Summit	March 2-5, 2017	Anaheim, CA
NA	SEI Structure Conference	April 5-8, 2017	Denver, CO
7	12th Annual NEASCE/LOCATE Transportation Conference	April 7, 2017	Omaha, NE

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HDR Engineering, Inc.
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The Schemmer Associates, Inc.
402-493-4800
marie.asce@gmail.com

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Lamp, Rynearson & Associates, Inc.
402-496-2498
joe.flaxbeard@lra-inc.com

Director

Andres Torres, PE, M.ASCE
Valmont Industries
402-359-6158
Torres.asce@gmail.com

The Nebraska Civil Engineer
c/o Tyler Schmidt
Infrastructure, LLC
6910 Pacific Street, Suite 310
Omaha, NE 68106

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Deadline for articles to be published in the March newsletter will be
April 1. Email articles to Tyler Schmidt at tschmidt@is-ecg.com