



KSPE

Eastern Chapter News

Volume 17 Issue 4

December 2015

President's Message

By: Ryan DaMetz, P.E.

Welcome back from a short Thanksgiving respite. Hopefully everyone had more joy than stress and managed to travel safely over the holiday. I did learn that I have a threshold for how long I'm willing to attempt to hang Christmas lights in the near-freezing rain. Let's just say it's not nearly as long as my ability to decorate indoors with a cup of hot chocolate within arm's reach. It's hard to believe that it's already December and 2015 is coming to an end.

We were extremely fortunate to have KSPE President Adam Stodola speak to us at our November meeting about the state of the State – both legislatively and within KSPE itself. The annual legislative session will begin soon, and obviously the focus this year will be tax policy and school finance. State revenue seems to continually fall short of projections, so it is particularly important for us to keep an eye on (and protect) transportation funds as much as we can. If you haven't done so already, I urge you to introduce yourself to your district's legislators. Establishing a relationship now helps your voice to be heard when it matters down the line.

Mr. Stodola informed us that KSPE is rebranding itself, and some of the key points they are trying to establish include what members feel is the value of KSPE as well as areas where KSPE is lacking. If you have any input for either or both of those areas, please feel free to contact Adam or me with your opinions and suggestions. Personally, the value I see with a KSPE membership has evolved throughout my career. Initially, I saw KSPE as a networking tool where I could meet and learn from other engineers in the state, and more specifically Kansas City. Then, as I earned my license, it was a tool for me to acquire continuing education. And now I have come to see

how important it is to have an organization that looks out for Professional Engineers and the welfare of the public.

There will be no December meeting, but please keep an eye out for some key events coming up in 2016. Our annual Bridge Building event will take place on Saturday, January 30th at the Museum at Prairiefire. Our Chair, Mark Johnston, sent out mailers to high schools and expects a great turnout again this year. Also, the Eastern Chapter MATHCOUNTS competition will take place on Tuesday, February 2nd at the Jewish Community Center. Tony Rome, Chair, is finalizing details for that event for middle school students. Our chapter consistently has the largest competition in the state (it's typically even larger than the state competition). Finally, the E-Week luncheon has been set for Thursday, February 25th at the Downtown Marriott. You should expect to receive a Save The Date email and postcard very soon.

Lastly, we are looking for nominations for our annual awards. If you know of an engineer, project, teacher, etc. that deserves recognition from this past year or throughout a career, please consider recommending them to the Board. There is not a requirement for an award recipient to be a KSPE member, but it is encouraged.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the joint meeting with MSPE in January. There will be a January newsletter with more details about that event. I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season. Travel safely and enjoy time with family and friends. See you in 2016!

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Happy Holidays!

If you have photos taken at KSPE events, please submit them to Cheri Schoenhals, cschoenhals@gbateam.com, for inclusion in the newsletter.

Event Information

SAVE the DATE

January Chapter Meeting - January 21
Joint Breakfast meeting with MSPE

Bridge Building - January 30
Museum at Prairiefire

MATHCOUNTS - February 2
Jewish Community Center in Overland Park, KS

E-Week Luncheon - February 25
Downtown Marriott

Annual Conference 2016 in Kansas

KSPE Eastern Chapter will be hosting the KSPE Annual Conference in 2016 from June 8th to the 10th. If you are interested in getting involved or assisting in any way, shape or form, please contact Kiel Johnson at kjohnson@waterone.org We're looking forward to hosting another great conference this coming year with your help!

Volunteers Needed

Bridge Building

By: Mark Johnston, P.E.

The Eastern Chapter's 33rd Annual Model Bridge Building Contest will be held at 10:00 AM on Saturday, January 30, 2016 at the Museum at Prairiefire in Overland Park, Kansas. Students in grades 9 through 12 within the Eastern Chapter's region are eligible to compete in the Model Bridge Contest.

The contest encourages students to get involved in a challenging and fun engineering project. The students each design and construct their own model bridge made entirely of basswood sticks and glue. The model bridges are then loaded to failure to determine the bridge's structural efficiency (total mass supported divided by the mass of the bridge). The bridge with the highest structural efficiency wins. The top three finishers will be recognized at the Engineers Week luncheon in Kansas City, MO. The first and second place contestants are eligible to win an expense assisted trip to compete at the 2016 International Bridge Building Contest in Chicago, IL.

Volunteers are always needed to assist students with testing of their bridges. If you are interested in helping with the contest, contact Mark Johnston at 816.945.5898 (mjohnston@hwlochner.com).



MATHCOUNTS 2016

By: Tony Rome, P.E.

We are once again coming up on that time of year when we hold our annual MATHCOUNTS competition for the Eastern Chapter of KSPE. This year's competition will be on **Tuesday, February 2, 2016**. Like before, it will be held at the **Jewish Community Center of Greater Kansas City (5801 W. 115th Street, Overland Park, KS 66211)**.

We need volunteers to help grade, register schools, monitor tests, and help with the awards presentation. Positions are needed for the following times:

Grade & Monitor Tests (majority of people): 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Set up: 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Registration: 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Countdown Round & Awards: 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Lunch will be provided for all volunteers.

If you would like to volunteer for more than one task, please feel free to stick around as much as you like throughout the day.

If you are able and willing to help out with the competition or if you have any questions, please contact Tony Rome at (913) 895-6001 or by email at tony.rome@opkansas.org.

Treasurer's Report

Eastern Chapter
Kansas Society of Professional Engineers (KSPE)
Treasurer's Report for November 2015
 November 18, 2015

Cash on Hand

Beginning Balance as of October 19, 2015	\$410.00	
Additions	\$0.00	
Reductions	\$0.00	
	\$0.00	
Ending Balance as of November 18, 2015		\$410.00

Checking Account

Beginning Balance as of October 19, 2015		\$3,033.89	
<i>Deposits</i>			
<i>October Meeting Income</i>		\$1,020.00	
<i>Newsletter Advertising Income</i>		\$900.00	
Total Deposits		\$1,920.00	
<i>Payments</i>			
<i>October meeting - Ritz Charles deposit</i>		\$296.51	
<i>October meeting - Ritz Charles balance</i>		\$1,437.55	
<i>October Exec Sec Salary</i>		\$150.00	
<i>Oct Meeting expense - postage</i>		\$68.60	
Total Payments		\$1,952.66	

Transfers to/from Money Market

<i>Deposits</i>		\$0.00	
<i>Withdrawals</i>		\$0.00	
Ending Balance as of November 18, 2015			\$3,001.23

Money Market Account

Beginning Balance as of October 19, 2015		\$5,410.58	
<i>Deposits</i>		\$0.00	
<i>Withdrawals</i>		\$0.00	
<i>Dividend Reinvest</i>		\$0.09	
		\$0.09	
Ending Balance as of November 18, 2015			\$5,410.67

Engineers Foundation of Kansas

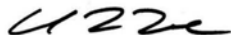
Beginning Balance as of October 19, 2015		\$4,788.25	
<i>Deposits</i>		\$0.00	
<i>Withdrawals</i>			
		\$0.00	
Ending Balance as of November 18, 2015			\$4,788.25

PEPP Dispersal CD

Beginning Balance as of October 19, 2015		\$14,185.77	
<i>Deposits</i>		\$0.00	
<i>Withdrawals</i>		\$0.00	
		\$0.00	
Ending Balance as of November 18, 2015			\$14,185.77

Respectfully Submitted,

Total **\$27,795.92**



Charles L. Love, P.E.
Treasurer

November Meeting Minutes

Monthly Board Meeting

Date: 11/18/15

Time: 4:30 pm Location: Hereford House

Attendees: Adam Stodola, Ryan DaMetz, Cindy McCann, Tony Rome, Rod Holcomb, Brett Holt, Tawn Nugent, Kiel Johnson, Cliff Speegle

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Ryan DaMetz at 4:34pm.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report:

October Legislative meeting lost \$600, which is less than usual. The increase in price was overdue.

Charlie Love provided the treasurer's report and budget to date.

Committee Reports

Legislative

The State call was held, which covered the expected 2016 legislative issues. Those issues are expected to be taxes and school finance.

Charlie Love will begin planning the spring state house visit in December.

MathCounts

Tony is starting to spend money and will order the trophies soon. He is planning to buy trophies only for the teams that will advance to the state competition. February 2, 2016

Model Bridge Building

Event mailers sent. Museum at Prairie Fire is location and will hand out passes to their next event. January 30th, 2016

Fundraising

Rod has updated the list and will mail the letter soon.

Membership

No Report

Awards

It is time to start looking for Engineer of the Year nominations.

Young Engineers

New Chair Brett Holt is making plans for one spring event.

Engineering Prep

A second scholarship request came in just before the meeting, so discussion and voting will be held by e-mail. Thanks go out to Tawn Nugent, Cindy McCann, Todd Black, Steve Hileman, Brian Scovill, and Cliff Speegle for helping at the annual Olathe 8th Grade Career Expo.

Meeting Minutes Continued

Engineer's week

Coordination with MSPE has begun.

The event is booked for Thursday, February 25th, 2016 at the downtown Marriott.

The team is currently finding a speaker and has a few options.

Postcards are under way and will go out early December.

Contact has been made with the KCBJ and deadlines set.

Advertising

No Report

Community Service

No Report

State Director Johnson

Last conference call covered national topics like trying to clean up policy positions.

State looking at rebranding KSPE and advertising ourselves better.

Chapter Meetings

There will be no December meeting.

Next meeting is joint with MSPE and is still working on details.

Old Business – N/A

New Business- N/A

Meeting Adjourned at: 5:22pm

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