



KSPE

Eastern Chapter News

Volume 17 Issue 6

March 2016

President's Message

By: Ryan DaMetz, P.E.

Our mild winter is winding down as spring is just around the corner (although it feels like it is here already), and we are in the home stretch of our KSPE year. I hope everyone that attended our E-Week luncheon last Thursday had an enjoyable time. It is always fun to see the students interact with professionals and be acknowledged for their achievements. Special thanks to everyone on the E-Week Committee who helped plan the event. There is a lot of hard work and coordination that goes into organizing an event for 500 people, and your efforts are sincerely appreciated. Congratulations to Kiel Johnson for being named this year's Engineer of the Year for the Eastern Chapter. It is a much deserving award for Kiel, and we are very fortunate to have him as a member of our Chapter. Thank you for all that you do at both the Chapter and State levels of KSPE, Kiel.

Tim Austin, NSPE President (and KSPE member), was the keynote speaker at the luncheon. Tim emphasized the importance of Engineers to speak up and get involved as we continue to see advances in technology. As Engineers, we pledge (among other things) "to place service before profit, the honor and standing of the profession before personal advantage, and the public welfare above all other considerations." It is our duty to give our input as professionals for the betterment of



society. No one understands engineering better than us, and it is important that we participate in policymaking as the world changes. As we are witnessing in our own back yard with the recent State audit (performed by Alvarez and Marsal), our involvement with policymakers is crucial to the future and direction of the profession.

On March 17th, we will host our annual March Madness meeting. This is a great opportunity to bring non-members to learn about KSPE while relaxing with an overload of college basketball. So, I encourage you to invite (or drag) your colleagues to this event where they can get to know our organization and its leaders on a more personal level.

The Eastern Chapter held its annual MATHCOUNTS competition at the Jewish Community Center on February 2nd. Approximately 200 students from 20 middle schools competed at the event. Chinmay Krishna from Aubrey Bend Middle School won the individual portion of the competition, and Lakewood Middle School won the team portion (their four team members finished 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 8th individually). Overall, 17 students advanced to the State competition which will be held March 5th in Topeka. Special thanks to Tony Rome for organizing another terrific MATHCOUNTS competition, the JCC for being such welcoming hosts, and all of the volunteers who made it possible.

On February 7th, KSPE members participated in the "Souper Bowl of Caring" at Harvesters' Kansas City warehouse. Roughly 15 volunteers packed 800 BackSnacks, of which Harvesters gives out 25,000 each week. BackSnacks are given out on Fridays to children in need so they may have nutritious food over the weekend. Thank you to Anne Schroer for organizing this

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event. It is truly a humbling experience to see how much hunger there is in the Kansas City metro area.

Finally, 9 members of the Eastern Chapter visited the Statehouse on February 10th to meet with the Johnson County Delegation. Unfortunately, the House was in session and unable to meet. However, the Senate was available, and 4 Senators from Johnson County met with KSPE to get our opinion on many topics, including the State audit. This was a great opportunity for us to get personal time with our elected officials. Much appreciation to Charlie Love for organizing the event and to everyone who took time out of their day to attend.

I truly appreciate everyone's involvement during these busy months after the holidays. You all volunteer a lot of your time, and it does not go unnoticed. Thank you.

Event Information

March Madness

Informal meeting to get new members to join KSPE - please spread the word to prospective members.

Date:

Thursday, March 17, 2016



Time:

5:30 p.m. - ??

Location:

Coach's Bar & Grill
9089 W 135th St.
Overland Park, KS 66221

Cost:

\$25 members
\$10 prospective members
Pay at door with Cash or Check

Menu:

Open Bar and appetizers included

RSVP:

Deadline - Monday March 14, 2016
No-shows will be billed

RSVP to Cheri Schoenhals at cschoenhals@gbateam.com



Event Information

Eastern Chapter Visits the Statehouse

By: Charlie Love, P.E.

Nine Chapter members travelled to Topeka on Wednesday, February 10th for our annual luncheon with the Johnson County Delegation. First, we met at Gaches Braden & Associates (GBA) office with Travis Lowe where he provided us a briefing on the Legislature's progress.

Travis updated us on the state government efficiency audit completed by the Alvarez & Marsal(A&M) team. In particular, we discussed the KDOT recommendations from the A&M study. Of great importance to KSPE, is a recommendation regarding QBS. Travis provided us an update on the work they are doing to which included meeting and discussing KSPE's stance about QBS with various legislators sitting on committees assigned to discuss the KDOT recommendations.

After Travis' briefing, we walked from the KSPE office to the Statehouse. Unfortunately, we ran into some bad luck as the House was in session over the lunch hour. However, this was better than our previous year when both the House and Senate remained in session.

We were able to have a great discussion with four senators over lunch about the A&M KDOT recommendations and also give them greater understanding of who KSPE is and what we represent. Of great importance to KSPE issues, two of the attendees, were Senators Jim Denning and Kay Wolf, who serve as the vice chair of the Senate Ways & Means committee and vice chair of the Senate Transportation committee, respectively. These are the two committees that will first consider the KDOT section of the A&M study this session.

Eastern Chapter continues to build political capital with our State Legislators, and events like this and our October breakfast enhance our profile in their minds. We continue to build name and face recognition with many of our Legislators, and this visit was a valuable opportunity for members to meet and greet our elected officials. I would personally like to thank all those who attended this year and I strongly encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity next year.

Harvesters Event

By: Anne Schroer, P.E.

Volunteers worked on the Back Snack assembly line and put together and boxed up 800 Back Snacks in less than an hour and a half. During that weekend, Harvesters volunteers helped to sort and repack donated items and get them ready to go out to those in need. Totalling 107,259 pounds of food! This included the Back Snack kits for kids.

Afterwards the volunteers got to enjoy some soup and were humbled by the discussion of hunger in the region. The following is some information regarding food insecurity and hunger in the region:

- Food insecurity means that a person or household may have food today, but does not know if there will be food tomorrow or enough food for everyone in the household.
- 15.3 percent of people in our region, or **one in seven**, is food insecure.
- 20 percent of children under age 18 in our region, or **one in five**, is food insecure.
- More than **100,000 children** in Harvesters' service area receive free and reduced-price school meals during the week, and many of those are at risk of hunger on weekends.



Back: Ron, Dustin, Christy, Kiel, Jon, Tim, Ryan
Front: Shari, Katelynn, Anne, Amanda, Kara Gene, Nikki, Ozzy



Treasurer's Report

Eastern Chapter
Kansas Society of Professional Engineers (KSPE)
Treasurer's Report for January 2016
 February 16, 2016

Cash on Hand

Beginning Balance as of January 21, 2016	\$410.00	
Additions	\$0.00	
Reductions	\$0.00	
Ending Balance as of February 16, 2016		\$410.00

Checking Account

Beginning Balance as of January 21, 2016 \$2,835.80

Deposits

<i>Bridge Building Income</i>	\$780.00
<i>January Meeting Income</i>	\$975.00
<i>February Statehouse Legislative Lunch</i>	\$180.00
Total Deposits	<u>\$1,935.00</u>

Payments

<i>January Meeting Expenses @ Manny's</i>	\$715.95
<i>January Exec Sec Salary</i>	\$150.00
<i>Bridge Building Expenses</i>	\$610.55
<i>Hyman Brand, Mathcounts expense</i>	\$256.46
Total Payments	<u>\$1,732.96</u>

Transfers to/from Money Market

<i>Deposits</i>	\$0.00
<i>Withdrawals</i>	\$0.00

Ending Balance as of February 16, 2016 **\$3,037.84**

Money Market Account

Beginning Balance as of January 21, 2016	\$5,410.88	
<i>Deposits</i>	\$0.00	
<i>Withdrawals</i>	\$0.00	
<i>Dividend Reinvest</i>	\$0.07	
Ending Balance as of February 16, 2016		\$5,410.95

Engineers Foundation of Kansas

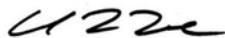
Beginning Balance as of January 21, 2016	\$1,928.25	
<i>Deposits</i>	\$1,100.00	
<i>Withdrawals</i>	\$0.00	
Ending Balance as of February 16, 2016		\$3,028.25

PEPP Dispersal CD

Beginning Balance as of January 21, 2016	\$14,185.77	
<i>Deposits</i>	\$0.00	
<i>Withdrawals</i>	\$0.00	
Ending Balance as of February 16, 2016		\$14,185.77

Respectfully Submitted,

Total **\$26,072.81**



Charles L. Love, P.E.
Treasurer

February 2016 Meeting Minutes

Monthly Board Meeting

Date: 2/29/16

Time: 8:30 am Location: Conference Call

Attendees: Kiel Johnson, Ryan DaMetz, Tony Rome, Charlie Love, Cindy McCann, Cliff Speegle, Anne Schroer, Brett Holt, Kent Dvorak

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Ryan DaMetz at 8:30 a.m.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report:

It was a busy month for KSPE with lots of money moving for MathCounts, Bridge Building, and the Legislative visit.

Committee Reports

Legislative

- o There were 9 attendees to the Statehouse visit.
 - o Travis Lowe gave a good update at the GBA office. The A&M study and its QBS recommendation are the biggest threats to KDOT.
- The House was in session but the group met with 4 Senators.

MathCounts

2016 event is done and the 2017 event is set for Feb. 7.

Model Bridge Building

- o 2 winners broke the efficiency record.
- Scholarships will be offered to two students to compete at the international competition.
- #### Fundraising Holcomb
- A few more checks are coming in.

Membership

No Report

Awards

- o Kiel Johnson was the Engineer of the Year (presented at the E-week lunch).
- Need nominees for the rest of the awards by the March meeting, to allow time to complete nomination forms for submittal to State.

Young Engineers

- o Looking at a T-Bones game, perhaps May 12 or 19.
 - o There was a discussion about what to charge, who to charge.
- There was a discussion of insurance needs.

Engineering Prep

There were 3 spring requests.

Meeting Minutes continued

Engineer's week

The event was held with about 500 attendees at the luncheon. Thanks to all who helped make it possible.

Advertising

No Report

State Director

The next State board meeting is Saturday March 5 in Topeka.

Community Service

o The Harvesters event on Feb. 7 had about 15 people help (from KSPE, GBA, and family.) Considering combining Harvesters with a stadium tour next year.

o Considering at Stream Clean event for spring.

Discussion of making a donation with the community service event. Decided to hold the budgeted money for now to be used for supplies associated with a future event.

Chapter Meetings

Next meeting will be at Coach's on March 17. A discussion was held about charging less for potential members at the March Madness meeting.

April meeting is not yet set, but is joint with MSPE and SAME.

The May Awards meeting is looking at 5/12 or 5/19 at Deer Creek.

Old Business – Think of award nominees.

New Business-

Meeting Adjourned at: 9:15 a.m.

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