



Southwest Chapter

Wisconsin Society of Professional Engineers

November 2016

Forestry Lab Tour on November 15!
All attendees will earn 1 PDH!

Annual Technical Tour

Our Fall Technical Tour will be held at the Forestry Lab, 1 Gifford Pinchot Drive, at the UW Madison campus. Angela Hanz has graciously offered to host our tour, and it should be a very interesting one! Please plan to attend:

- Time: 5:30 pm
- Date: Tuesday, November 15
- Place: Lobby of building at 1 Gifford Pinchot Drive, Madison (west end of Gifford Pinchot drive; look for flag pole)

The tour is free, and all attendees will earn 1 PDH. Please RSVP to John Brome bromej@yahoo.com by Friday November 11, so we can get a head count. ASSE, ASIS and ASCE members welcome!

Webinar - "Making Enough Money"

We recently conducted our first webinar, dealing with the topic of making enough money for your present and future needs. Unfortunately, only six people registered and participated in the event, and apparently there were some audio difficulties according to one of the participants.

The technical issue(s) will be resolved, but if there are other topics that you would like addressed via webinar, please let us know by email or phone call (refer list of officers on right side column). Also please indicate what day of week and time of day you would prefer for such an event.

Many thanks to the Aji Network organization for hosting the webinar, and we hope that they will consider hosting other topics of interest for our benefit.

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We need volunteers.

Please help if you can.



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Annual Meet and Greet

Our annual meet and greet was held at the Mid-Town Pub in Middleton, as it was last year. Some new faces attended, along with members and their spouses. While the weather wasn't appropriate for outside dining, we had a great time socializing over a free beverage or two, some popcorn, all followed by a delicious meal that the Mid Town Pub is very capable of preparing. Thanks to our VP Norm Arendt for making this year's M&G a great success!

If you didn't have a chance to attend this year's "Meet and Greet", make it a point to be there next year for a relaxing evening with some great company and delicious food!

Deposition Process Presentation

Recently, the SW Chapter received an invitation from a retired judge who is also a registered professional engineer and who has many years of experience as a trial attorney. Attorney David Flanagan (a retired judge of 17 years and a professional engineer) of WSPE has generously offered to make a presentation about the deposition process and how litigation may sometime affect you as a professional engineer.

Attorney Flanagan has considerable experience... "working with potential witnesses including engineers and physicians to prepare for formal deposition interviews" (from David's letter to the SW Chapter). This would be a great opportunity to learn about this process, understand what questions you may be faced with as an expert witness or even as a defendant in a law suit.

We welcome attorney David's offer and will provide the presentation time, date and place details in our December newsletter!

New Fiskars Building, 2nd Tour

As you may recall, last November the SW Chapter provided a tour of the new Fiskars Building (Deming Way, Middleton) while it was under construction. The tour was primarily aimed at seeing how the Newcomb Construction Company used large panels made of concrete and steel reinforcement to expedite construction while decreasing cost.

In addition to the building, Newcomb also made an elevated walkway from the parking structure to the building, really enhancing the entire project making it a very beautiful building as seen from the exterior. We are considering arranging another tour of the building, showing the completed project both inside and out.

If you are interested in attending such a tour, please contact VP Norm Arendt by the end of November so that we can get an idea of how many might be interested in attending.



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Mathcounts Volunteers Needed

As the interim Regional Mathcounts coordinator for the SW Chapter, I am well aware of the Saturday, February 4, 2017 Mathcounts competition date.

Currently, there are 50 students, among five schools, that are registered to participate, and we need your help. The work isn't hard at all, and you'll find that it's actually fun. It only lasts for some 4 hours, you get a free coffee and continental breakfast when you arrive, and you'll see some very smart middle school kids compete to attend the State Mathcounts competition.

Please email me, John Brome (bromej@yahoo.com) to volunteer part of your day. All participating students receive a trophy and prize; watch their faces light up when they receive them by helping us out. Make the 2017 regional Mathcounts a great success by letting me know you'll be there; I could really use your help!