



Kansas Professional Engineer

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The KSPE Fall Professional Development Conference is scheduled for November 19 in Emporia. Registration is available on the KSPE website.

EFK Golf Event Has Record Turnout

Bright sunshine, mild winds and great golf welcomed a record 104 KSPE members and sponsors who participated in the 2004 Engineers Foundation of Kansas Fundraiser at Colbert Hills on Friday, September 24. Approximately \$9,500 was raised to support Foundation activities during the Manhattan event, which also featured presentation of \$2,500 checks to each of the three Kansas engineering colleges to support student and faculty professional development.



For the second consecutive year, Kansas Gas Service sponsored the golf event lunch and refreshments on the course. And for the first time the event had a double-hole sponsor, Baughman Company of Wichita, whose contribution of \$2,000 represents the largest gift to the EFK since the Colbert Hills golf event began five

years ago. Baughman principal and EFK golf event chairman Brent Wooten said following the event, "This has become the premier engineering profession related fundraiser of the year. It is tons of fun and the dollars go to a great purpose, in support of our engineering schools. We thank our luncheon and refreshments sponsor, Kansas Gas Service, and our hole sponsors for participating this year and encourage everyone to plan on coming back in 2005."

Make plans now to attend next year's event at Colbert Hills on Friday, September 16th.



"A special thanks to all of the sponsors and golfers who make these Foundation grants possible," said Dean Stuart Bell after accepting the EFK check for the KU engineering school. "I greatly appreciate the support of KSPE members and the EFK event sponsors. Discretionary funds provide us the flexibility to support student programs that would go unfunded without your assistance."



President's Message:

By: Tim Austin, P.E.

In a recent editorial, ENR avowed that it was time for *"design firms to redefine themselves not simply as engineers or architects, but as problem solvers or solution finders."* A problem that they see in the design industry is that customers are being allowed to define the service *"as a commodity where the lowest price rules."*

I agree with the foregoing. Perhaps more importantly, however, is that if our services are perceived as a com-

modity, then too, we may be perceived to be less "professional." The trend towards "specialization" such as fire protection will likely continue. Various organizations will continue to promote "standard codes" that make engineering less of a science and more of a vocation.

Recently, there have been a number of articles in various trade magazines about this and related issues. A similar issue that is coming to the forefront

is "outsourcing" of engineering services to workers in foreign countries. The political debate will not easily solve the realistic pressures of time, competition, and service.

As engineers, we are trained to think critically and to find solutions. I encourage all of you to apply critical thinking to help find solutions that face your industry.

October 10th is Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day®

October 10 will mark the fourth year of a nationwide program to heighten consciousness about what people can do – and what official steps they should support – to reduce transportation fatalities. Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day® is commemorated on October 10th to unite the country in achieving one full day of zero traffic deaths by encouraging the public to reduce the tragic toll of motor vehicle crashes by taking pro-active steps such as:

- Driving assertively, as if your life depends on it - that means courteously and defensively;
- Don't drive while impaired, distracted or in an aggressive manner;
- Buckling up on every trip - every time;
- Using properly-installed child safety seats for children age 8 and under;
- Don't speed, and slow down to posted speed limits in construction zones;
- Keeping vehicles and tires properly maintained;
- Wearing appropriate protective gear

when bicycling, skating or riding a motorcycle or scooter;

- Always stopping, and looking left, right, left before crossing streets; and
- Working with local officials to remove hazards and improve roadway safety.

Kansas activities in support of Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day® include:

- Safety booth at the Kansas Speedway October 8-10
- Mock crash events at high schools throughout the state
- Regional safety events at Wal-Mart Stores on October 9th in Topeka, Salina, Goodland, Chanute, Wichita and Garden City including safety seat check lanes
- Poster Contest for kids
- Presentation of Awards
- Public Service Announcement in Wal-Mart Stores across the country from September 20 – October 10th

Kansas DOT staffer, Larry Emig, P.E., conceived the idea for Put the Brakes

on Fatalities Day® with the support of NSPE. Nearly 40 national organizations now co-sponsor the day with NSPE including; the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Roadway Safety Foundation, AAA, the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators, the National Association of County Engineers and the Governors Highway Safety Association.

For additional information about Kansas Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day activities, please visit www.ksdot.org/burtrafficsaf/PtBoF.htm.



Fall Conference Offers Essential Skills for Personal and Chapter Success

KSPE continues its efforts to offer our members outstanding continuing education opportunities with the 2004 Fall Professional Development Seminar planned for Friday, November 19th in Emporia. Planning is nearly complete and speakers are being confirmed as this newsletter is being distributed. This year's seminar will focus on three topics: project management, public speaking and essential chapter development tools.

Project management presenters will include Chris Price, PE of HNTB; Mike Hafling, PE of CAS Construction; and Shawn O'Leary, PE of the City of Sa-

lina. Attendees will review project management basics and receive advanced tips from top professionals about how to ensure your projects are on time, within budget and fully satisfy the expectations of your client.

The chapter leadership and public speaking programs will be presented by KSPE Executive Director Ron Gaches and members of the KSPE leadership team. Topics will include:

- How to improve the impact of public presentations
- How to improve chapter communications and meetings

- How to access and utilize the NSPE membership database
- How to use NSPE membership recruitment and retention tools
- How to become an effective grassroots advocate on behalf of your engineering profession

Registration fees for a total of six Professional Development Hours and lunch will be \$75 for KSPE members and \$100 for non-members. Registration is available on the KSPE website at www.kansasengineer.org.

NSPE Annual Conference Highlights

By: Ron Gaches, KSPE Executive Director

The beaches of Waikiki were an unlikely place to see a group of mainland engineers, but the 2004 NSPE Annual Conference offered beaches and much more to the several hundred NSPE members who met together in July. For starters, there were dozens of outstanding continuing education programs available, both technical development and personal development in nature. Various top-flight speakers offered humor and challenges to conventional thinking, and there was awe-inspiring golf at a mist-covered mountain-side course.

New officer terms begin with each Annual Conference. This year's NSPE President is Bobby Price, PE, Ph'D. of Louisiana. Like most NSPE leaders, Price is a veteran of several state and national Professional Soci-

ety offices. He assumes leadership of the Society in the midst of great challenge, change and controversy. At the top of Price's agenda, according to his conference comments, is leading NSPE through the current Future Directions Task Force activity. Price is joined on the Task Force by Past President Terri Helmlinger, PE and President-Elect Kathryn Gray, PE.

Breaking from the tradition of past conventions, there was no tradeshow or vendor showcase accompanying the conference. Instead, NSPE has launched a "virtual tradeshow" on the NSPE website that will run through October. Check it out at www.nspe.org. This is a great idea because it creates a vehicle for our industry partners, vendors and suppliers to reach all NSPE members in-

stead of the few who are able to attend the Annual Conference.

Next year's NSPE Annual Conference will be held in Chicago from July 7th to 10th. This excellent meeting probably won't be more conveniently located to KSPE members for several years and I encourage all members to consider attending. The Illinois State Society had several planning committee members in attendance at the Hawaii Conference, all charged with gathering ideas to create the biggest and best conference ever for 2005. I was impressed with their enthusiasm and ideas. Chicago will be convenient and affordable. It is one of my favorite cities; a family friendly, safe and clean venue and you should plan to attend.



Thank You to the Following for Their Support of the 2004 EFK Golf Event

Lunch Sponsor

Kansas Gas Service

\$2,000 Double Hole Sponsor

Baughman Company

\$1,000 Hole Sponsor

CAS Construction, Inc.

George Butler Associates, Inc.

HNTB Corporation

MKEC Engineering Consultants, Inc.

Professional Engineering Consultants, Inc.

Terracon, Inc.

Wilson & Company Engineers & Architects

\$500 Half Hole Sponsor

Cretex Concrete Products Midwest
Gaches, Braden, Barbee & Associates, Inc.

McPherson Concrete Products

Ruggles & Bohm, P.A.

URS Corporation

\$250 Sponsor

Capstone Insurors, Inc.

TranSystems Corporation

Wildcat Construction Company, Inc.

Gift Bag Items

Brungardt Honomichl & Company

Engineers Foundation of Kansas

Kansas Asphalt Pavement Association

Terracon, Inc.

Congratulations to the EFK Golf Event Team Winners

First Flight

First Place

Wilson & Company

Jerry May

Mike May

Don Donaldson

Kevin Strahm

Second Flight

First Place

MKEC Engineering Consultants

Doug Allison

Brian Wozniak

Glen Nilsen

Travis Soloman

Third Flight

First Place

Kansas Gas Service

Ed Koehler

Mike Pruitt

Sean Postlethwait

Tim Chadd

Second Place

McPherson Concrete Products

Steve Rowland

Bob Felt

Danny Hett

Rob Roudybush

Second Place

HWS Consulting Group

Brad Waller

Jack Messer

Jerry Petty

John Walters

Second Place

Brungardt Honomichl & Company

Brent Johnson

Hal Munger

Phil Poe

Steve Bachenberg

Third Place

Cook, Flatt & Strobel Engineers

Mel Chapman

David Spears

Jeff Hunt

Mike Lindebak

Third Place

Kansas Gas Service

Mick Urban

Bill Eliason

Brad Dixon

Mike Olson

Third Place

Kansas Asphalt Pavement Assn

Wade Culwell

Dan Harden

Rob Lauer

Steve Woolington

Recognition of New Members

Please welcome the following new members who have joined KSPE since May 1, 2004:

Bethany Anderson-Eastern

Tim Aziere-Wichita

Paul Cater, PE-Wichita

Slade Engstrom-Southeast

Andrew Hess-Topeka

Jim Katzer-Topeka

Alex Lane, PE-Wichita

Glenn Larson, PE-Topeka

James Latimer, PE-Topeka

Bretton Overholtzer, PE-Eastern

Harold Phelps, PE-Eastern

Joshua Schroeder-Tri Valley

Shelley Schupp, PE-Eastern

Michael Selm, PE-Topeka

James Uberty-Wichita