

April 2018

NSPE-KS

# KSPE TOPEKA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Topeka Chapter, Kansas Society of Professional Engineers  
825 S. Kansas Ave., Suite 500, Topeka, KS 66612

NSPE-KS™ TOPEKA CHAPTER  
KANSAS SOCIETY OF  
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

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## 2017-18 Topeka Chapter Officers

State Director: Scott Uhl  
Past President: Robert Koopman  
Membership  
President: Lynn Berges  
Vice President: Dan Scherschligt  
Treasurer: Jason Hoskinson  
Secretary: Troy Bandy

## APRIL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

### ***Kansas Section Legislative Update Joint KSPE/ASCE Meeting Presenter – Travis Lowe***

***Lake Shawnee - Shelter #2  
Topeka, Kansas***

**Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>**

**5:30 pm  
Evening Meeting - HHB BBQ  
\$15 per person**

**(Beer \$1, soda \$0.50 each, and bottled water \$0.25 each)**

Please make your reservation with Troy Bandy via  
e-mail at [troy.bandy@terracon.com](mailto:troy.bandy@terracon.com) no later than  
**Noon on Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup>.**

Has your e-mail address changed? Please visit the NSPE or KSPE website, [www.nspe.org/membership/join-now](http://www.nspe.org/membership/join-now) or <http://www.kansasengineer.org/Membership/MembershipInformation.aspx> and update your contact information. To login, have your e-mail address and membership number handy.

If you have any questions, contact Troy Bandy by phone at (913) 998-7418,  
or by e-mail at [troy.bandy@terracon.com](mailto:troy.bandy@terracon.com).

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## Lynn's Lowdown - A Note From The President

Murphy's Law: Anything that can go wrong will go wrong. Have you ever had the feeling that Murphy was an engineer? If so, then it might not surprise you that he actually was. Edward A. Murphy, Jr. was an aerospace engineer involved in testing the human tolerance for G-forces during rapid deceleration in 1948 when the quote was attributed to him. He went on to work on escape systems for some of the most famous aircraft and other safety and life support systems. Although the adage is attributed to him, there is no evidence to support he ever said those words. Murphy's Law could probably be stated more accurately as "consider what can go wrong and act to prevent it."



As I was working on this article, the thought occurred to me about how it was starting to focus on the negative. As I was thinking about this, it occurred to me that it is the negative getting attention because the positive was supposed to happen, so it gets ignored. As engineers, it often affects us on a personal level if something does not go according to plan, especially if something disastrous occurs. I have found myself assessing situations that could have had better outcomes and agonizing over what could have been done differently, even if the outcome was beyond my control. However, once I expand my evaluation to encompass the entire data set, it is easier to determine a clearer understanding of the overall situation. I still learn from the negatives, but I am also able to use the positives, too. So when something does not go according to plan, I encourage you to be an accountant and sum up the positive balance with the negative and learn from the net result.

**Lynn Berges**  
**KSPE Topeka Chapter President**

### Officer Contact Information:

**State Director:** Scott Uhl – [scott.uhl@bartwest.com](mailto:scott.uhl@bartwest.com)

**Past President/Membership:** Bob Koopman – [bob.koopman@pec1.com](mailto:bob.koopman@pec1.com)

**President:** Lynn Berges – [Lynn.Berges@ks.gov](mailto:Lynn.Berges@ks.gov)

**Vice President:** Dan Scherschligt – [danskapa@gmail.com](mailto:danskapa@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Jason Hoskinson – [jason.hoskinson@bgcons.com](mailto:jason.hoskinson@bgcons.com)

**Secretary:** Troy Bandy – [troy.bandy@terracon.com](mailto:troy.bandy@terracon.com)

## 2018 E-Week Luncheon

This year's E-Week Luncheon/Awards was held at the Topeka office of Bartlett & West. Congratulations to all of the E-Week Award recipients and a big THANK YOU goes out to Bartlett & West for hosting.



**Presentation by the Southwest Middle School (Lawrence) Future Cities Team**



**KSPE Award: Jason Duncan, P.E.**



**Engineer of the Year: Travis Stryker, P.E.**





**Government Engineer of the Year:  
Thomas Vlach, P.E.  
(Shawnee County Public Works)**



**Outstanding Teacher:  
Danielle Lotton-Barker  
Southwest Middle School**



**Engineering Achievement: Willard Bridge  
(Shawnee County/Finney & Turnipseed)**



**Outstanding Teacher:  
Ryan Ritchey  
Shawnee Heights Elementary School**



**Outstanding Citizen:  
Representative Brenda Dietrich**



**Outstanding Teacher:  
Dean Gerlach  
Washburn Rural High School**

We have a number of meetings and activities planned for the remainder of the 2018 year. We look forward to seeing you at future meetings. Please invite a friend and/or co-worker to an event to help us increase attendance and potentially increase the membership of the Topeka Chapter.

### KSPE TOPEKA CHAPTER 2017 – 2018 CALENDAR

Date	Speaker/Topic	Member Host	Time	Location
May 9, 2018	<b>Joint Meeting with Kansas Section of ASCE</b>		5:30 pm	Lake Shawnee Topeka, Kansas
June 6-8, 2018	<b>KSPE Annual Conference</b>	Tri-Valley Chapter	TBD	Hilton Garden Inn Manhattan, Kansas
June 14, 2018	<b>Topeka Chapter BBQ</b>		5:30 p.m.	Lake Shawnee

