

Kansas Professional Engineer News

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE KANSAS SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2022

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MESSAGE**

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SPOTLIGHT: REX
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KANSAS PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER NEWS

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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR KSPE PRESIDENT

Brian Coomes, P.E.

“Learn from yesterday, live for today, and hope for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning.”

Happy New Year, KSPE Friends! This newsletter’s quote comes to us courtesy of Albert Einstein. I felt it summarized my feelings about moving into 2022 quite well. I’m working to have intentional feelings of optimism in all areas of my life as we proceed into another exciting year! 2022 is already showing us, though, that it will not be a year without adversity. We’re already seeing that we’ll continue to be challenged to execute our work and live our life, as we’ve experienced in recent years.

2021 brought great joy and fulfillment to me, in terms of KSPE activity and success. I can’t believe I’m already over halfway through my term! The KSPE year started out with a great conference in Manhattan. The fall brought even more excitement, as I was able to visit all chapters with the exception of Topeka! The Southeast Chapter had a small, but great, group that provided fantastic discussion. The Wichita chapter brought out excellent attendance from both membership and legislators for a great breakfast session. High Plains showed some fantastic western Kansas hospitality and even had a prospective new member at the meeting (plus the BBQ was amazing!). Eastern Chapter had a great turnout, awesome dinner,

and even better discussion. Smoky Valley’s chapter lunch provided an excellent opportunity for us to educate the local legislators on issues important to KSPE, along with enjoying some pizza! And finally, the Tri-Valley chapter visit included even more intentional discussion with legislators while enjoying a fascinating venue at the Midwest Dream Car Collection. Overall, I continue to be impressed and amazed by the engagement of our local chapters, the activities we are able to organize, and the excitement of our membership. What a great fall it was!

Looking forward, we have a lot of exciting opportunities to support KSPE as we move into 2022. We just announced our northeast [Kansas PEG \(Professional Engineers in Government\)](#) event for February 9, 2022. This will build on the success and excitement of the event we have traditionally hosted in Wichita. It’s a great opportunity to gain some valuable PDHs while also supporting the success of our statewide organization. Please consider signing up and attending, if you haven’t already, and help us spread the word. The event will be virtual this year, to allow members to attend under changing circumstances.

In March, we will continue to offer our popular [KDHE Water Quality Seminar](#), as a partnership with ACEC. More details will be



coming out on that soon, but we hope to once again offer a great and informative session. The event will be virtual this year, and we plan to slightly modify the format to better serve our membership. Stay tuned, and plan to support us in that initiative.

We have continued engagement from our student chapters throughout the state. Our friends at Kansas State University have reached out to KSPE for a partnership/mentoring opportunity surrounding the Milton F. Lunch ethics contest. This is a great chance for our society to engage future professionals by sharing our own experiences regarding practical ethics. KSU student chapter is seeking 5-10 mentors to assist with this initiative during the spring semester. Reach out to [Travis Stryker](#) if you have an interest!

Furthermore, Mike Berry at Benedictine University has been working with our state society to start a student chapter. We are still working out the details, but I want to extend a huge thank you to the Eastern Chapter members who have supported this effort. It’s a tremendous opportunity to continue to engage young and future professionals about the importance of licensure and engineering.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3>

These are just a couple of great examples of our members across the state raising their hands and saying 'Yes' to KSPE. I have never been more proud to be a part of the engineering profession than I am right now, as we enter 2022. I've thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to network with all of you as I've visited the state, and I'm looking forward to even greater activity and conversation as we embark on the New Year together. Cheers!

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Travis Lowe, CAE

KSPE members,

Hello from Topeka and Happy New Year! As our calendars turn to 2022, we are excited about the opportunities for KSPE and licensed professional engineers. Before we go into more detail, we want to thank our members for their continued support that keeps KSPE strong.

One of the first signs of the new year will be the return of legislators to Topeka. The 2022 Legislative Session officially kicked off on January 10 and will meet through May. KSPE is already reviewing new legislation introduced, as well as the hundreds of bills that are alive from last year. Additionally, our Government Relations Committee, chaired by Adam Stodola, P.E., F.NSPE, meets monthly during session to provide feedback to KSPE lobbyists. Please

watch for our KSPE legislative updates that will be released each Friday while the Legislature is in session.

We have several events coming up soon that we hope you can attend. February will see our Kansas City PEG Seminar on February 9 with a lineup of great sessions. February also hosts E-Week and we know several of our chapters have exciting plans at the local level. Our Water Quality Seminar is set for the mornings of March 2 and 3 and will be held virtually to provide access across the state.

Lastly, save the date for our 2022 Annual Conference in Wichita on June 15-17. We are excited to build on the great attendance we saw in Manhattan last year. Our Conference Planning Committee is working

KSPE PAC CONTRIBUTORS

Thank you to the following who have made a KSPE PAC contribution since the last issue.

BRIAN COOMES

WILLIAM HEATHERMAN



hard with staff to put together an interesting agenda.

On a closing note, we want to welcome again our new members that joined in the last few months. Please visit with us about why you joined. Whether its for local engagement, PDH opportunities or to support our society's mission on licensure, we are proud to have you aboard!

Thank you for your continued support!

See you soon,

Travis Lowe, CAE

KRAMER ELECTED CHAIR OF KANSAS STATE BOARD OF TECHNICAL PROFESSIONS COMMITTEE

Kimberly Kramer has been elected Chair of the Kansas State Board of Technical Professions. Kramer received her bachelor's degree in architectural engineering from the [Carl R. Ice College of Engineering](#) at Kansas State University before earning a master's in civil engineering with an emphasis in structures and applied mechanics from the University of Texas, Arlington. She accepted a position in the architectural engineering and construction science department in 2003 and earned her doctorate in civil engineering while working full time at K-State.



Kramer is a licensed professional engineer in 13 states and in 2015 was named a Fellow of the American Concrete Institute. She recently [won the ACI Concrete Sustainability Award](#) for providing outstanding leadership and contributions to the field. She is currently active in NCEES at a national level by serving on the Committee on Examinations for Professional Engineers and regionally on the Leadership Development Committee.

The [Kansas State Board of Technical Professions](#) is a combined board that represents professional engineering, architecture, landscape architecture, surveying, and geology.

The mission of the Board is to provide maximum protection of the health, safety, property, and welfare of the people of Kansas by assuring that the practice of architecture, engineering, geology, landscape architecture and land surveying in the state is carried out only by those persons who are proven to be qualified as prescribed by the statutes and rules and regulations of the Board of Technical Professions.

Kramer stated, "I am very honored by being selected to serve the state of Kansas and our profession. As a professor, I encourage our future engineers to be involved in organizations that promote and protect the engineering profession. Typically, engineers are humble, and society is only reminded of engineers' feats when failures occur. We need to gracefully remind society the importance of the engineering profession and the accomplishment of the engineers who serve our world. More people enter a commercial building than see a doctor in a day - people rarely thank the engineers that the structure did not collapse, but often thank a doctor. It is the engineers' education and experience that made it possible. Lastly, we need to remind ourselves, as engineers, of the Engineer's Creed. I often give this to students when they graduate from KSU and enter the engineering profession."

Engineer's Creed:

As a Professional Engineer, I dedicate my professional knowledge to the advancement and betterment of public health, safety, and welfare.

I pledge:

To give the utmost of performance;

To participate in none but honest enterprise;

To live and work according to the highest standards of professional conduct;

To place service before profit, the honor and standing of my profession before personal advantage, and the public welfare above all other considerations.

In humility, I make this pledge

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

Rex Ritter, P.E.

Current employer: H.W. Lochner
KSPE Chapter: Smoky Valley
Chapter
KSPE leadership roles: SVC
Vice President

How did you get interested/ involved in engineering?

By my senior year in high school, I already had finished all the required math and science courses needed for graduation, and I had no desire to take any additional classes in either of those subjects. I was set on pursuing a career as a musician/educator, but I ended up needing to add one more class to my schedule and reluctantly chose Physics. I ended up loving the class which ultimately led me to pursue a career in engineering.

What is your current role and what type of work are you doing?

I'm currently a civil engineer working mainly in roadway design.

What are some of the opportunities you see in your job and the engineering profession?

There are countless opportunities for roadway designers, but I am especially amazed by the opportunities that engineers have to utilize data/technology daily on projects. I personally enjoy the 3D roadway modeling portion of my job because these models show a project in a digital form revealing

conflicts and inconsistencies that are often overlooked in 2D plans and profiles. I'm excited for the future of model-based design, paperless plans and other future opportunities technology will provide the engineering profession.

How does KSPE help or provide benefit to your profession or current role?

KSPE provides a place to make connections at a local and state level. It has also provided me a place to volunteer at the local chapter level.

What do you like to do with your free time?

I enjoy spending time with my wife and two sons, riding my bicycle, grilling, listening to music and playing drums.

If you weren't an engineer, what would you be?

I wanted to be a high school Physics teacher. My beautiful and intelligent wife (girlfriend at the time) asked me, "Do you really want to do that? Teachers don't make a lot of money..." Flash forward a few years later and my wife became a TEACHER! I give her a hard time every summer making countless remarks about how I could be spending all summer break with her and our boys if she hadn't asked me that.



FAVORITES

Restaurant: Any pizza place

Vacation Spot: Eureka Springs, Arkansas

Sports Team: Green Bay Packers

Song or Music Artist: Gustav Holst's 'The Planets'

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Eastern Chapter

Trent Dansel, P.E.
Olsson
Kansas City

Erick Parke, P.E.

TranSystems
Paola

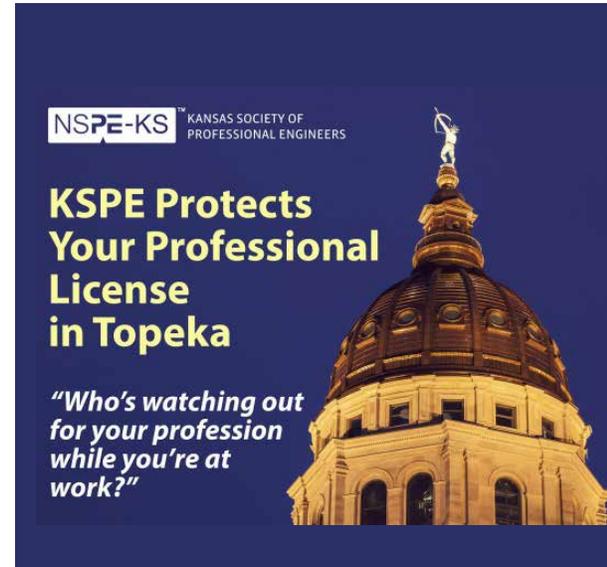
Daniel Arbogast, P.E.
TREKK Design Group
Kansas City

Topeka Chapter

David Barfield, P.E.
Kansas Water Resources Consulting
Lawrence

Wichita Chapter

Sangar Shanthanam
Wichita State University
Wichita



PRACTICE DIVISION UPDATE

Professional Engineers in Industry (PEI)



Amy Martens, P.E.

Professional Engineers in Industry (PEI) volunteers each year during the annual Engineering Expo at the Kansas Children’s Discovery Center (KCDC) in Topeka. This is always a great event to encourage local youth to consider engineering as a future career. This event is typically held on a Saturday in late March and the specific date will be posted in the March newsletter. Please contact Amy Martens, PEI Chair, at amy.martens@bcbsks.com if you are interested in assisting.

PEI provides value to members in industry through the promotion of professional practices and policies, including support of the licensure process for engineers in Industry. Our mission includes offerings of educational and professional development opportunities and actions to increase the public awareness of the contribution of professional engineers in Industry.



Professional Engineers in Government

KSPE/MSPE Joint Session #2
Virtual Seminar

February 9
2022



MATHCOUNTS UPDATE **MATHCOUNTS®**

OF KANSAS

Honoring Don & Lynne Rathbone

Hard to believe but MATHCOUNTS 2022 is almost here! Unless there is a last-minute change from the national office, MATHCOUNTS this year will include a mandatory online test for each of the individual registered students on Thursday, February 17. In addition, “BONUS” in-person MATHCOUNTS chapter competitions are planned to be held across the state in our typical five locations. These additional bonus competitions will be similar to pre-COVID years and will include both individual and team competitions with countdown rounds at the end. These contests will provide additional opportunities for the students to qualify for the state competition and will also be in-person to be a bit more fun. Following is a list for these bonus chapter competitions including the dates and locations for each of the events, along with the name of the respective MATHCOUNTS coordinators.

- Tues, Feb 1 – Jewish Community Center - Eastern Chapter – [Rachel Henkhaus](#)
- Sat, Feb 5 – Pittsburg State University - Southeast Chapter – [Robin Philipp](#)
- Sat, Feb 5 – Washburn University - Topeka Chapter – [Kevin Holland](#)
- Sat, Feb 5 – Wichita Collegiate School - Wichita Chapter – [Jessica Rhein](#)
- Sat, Feb 12 – Kansas State University - Smoky & Tri Valley Chapters – [Jarred Green](#) & [Greg Fief](#)
- Sat, Mar 5 – Washburn University - State Contest – [David Johnson](#)

Note that all Chapter Coordinators are looking for volunteers, so contact your local coordinator TODAY!

As noted in the last MATHCOUNTS newsletter article, this will also be the first year that the state event will be held in honor of Don & Lynne Rathbone. This was decided to honor the many accomplishments of the Rathbones and also kick off the Foundation to support MATHCOUNTS and other STEM-related projects. If interested, please consider making a donation to the Foundation this year.

David Johnson, PE, LS

Kansas MATHCOUNTS Coordinator

LIFETIME MEMBER CONTRIBUTORS

Thank you to the following lifetime members who have submitted voluntary dues to KSPE during the last fiscal year!

GLENN ANSCHUTZ

HARRY MANGES

WARREN STANTON

DAVID BRACKEY

HAROLD MUNGER

JAMES STOLTZ

ROBERT JOHNSON

CARL NUZMAN

JAMES KOELLIKER

GARY SCHOCK

UPCOMING STATE EVENTS

FEB

9

KSPE/MSPE Kansas City PEG Seminar

Zoom

February 9

FEB

20-26

Engineers Week 2022

February 20-26, 2022

MARCH

2-3

2022 Virtual Water Quality Seminar

Zoom

March 2-3

JUNE

15-17

2022 KSPE Annual Conference

Drury Plaza Hotel Broadview, Wichita

June 15-17

AUG

1-3

NSPE 2022 Professional Engineers Conference

Philadelphia

August 1-3

AUG

3

P.E. Day

August 3

You can find more details about our events on [our website](#).

UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS

Wichita Chapter

JAN
20

Asset Management Inventory Using AI Presentation

Larkspur Bistro & Bar, Wichita,
Kansas
January 20

JAN
20

Beers with Engineers Social

The Rusty Nail, Wichita, Kansas
January 20

FEB
24

Engineer for a Day

Location TBD
February 24

AUG
12

BBQ Bingo

Location TBD
August 12

Eastern Chapter

JAN
20

January Meeting

St. Andrews Golf Course,
Overland Park
January 20

FEB
1

Mathcounts- Eastern Chapter Competition

Jewish Community Center
February 1

FEB
12

Souper Bowl for Caring

Location TBD
February 12

FEB
24

Engineers Week Luncheon

Downtown Marriot, Kansas City
February 24

MARCH
5

39th Annual Model Bridge Building Contest

Location TBD
March 5

SEPT
29

59th Consecutive Meeting with NSPE President

Grand Street Cafe, Kansas
City, MO
September 29

THANK YOU TO OUR 2021-2022 ANNUAL PARTNER SPONSORS!

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BRONZE SPONSORS



VIRTUAL WATER QUALITY SEMINAR

March 2 and 3, 2022
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, March 2	
CLEAN WATER ACT	
8:55 – 9:00 AM	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thomas Stiles, Director, Bureau of Water, KDHE
9:00 – 9:20 AM	2022 CWA Expectations from EPA (EJ, PFAS, WOTUS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thomas Stiles, Director, Bureau of Water, KDHE
9:20 - 9:40 AM	CWSRF under BIL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> William Carr, Assistant Director, Bureau of Water, KDHE
9:40 - 9:50 AM	e-Reporting (KEIMS, ICIS, ECHO) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shelly Shores-Miller, Chief, Water Permitting and Compliance Section, Bureau of Water, KDHE
9:50 – 10:40 AM	Successes in Nutrient Reduction by Municipalities; Proposal to Revise Minimum Design Standards and Sewer Extension Applications & Reviews <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cara Hendricks, Assistant Director, Municipal Programs Unit, KDHE Ryan Eldridge, Associate Engineer, Municipal Programs Unit, KDHE
10:40 – 11:00 AM	KDHE 2022 CWA Initiatives (Nutrient Trading, Wastewater Reuse, Hillsdale) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thomas Stiles, Director, Bureau of Water, KDHE
Thursday, March 3	
SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT	
9:00 – 9:20 AM	2022 SDWA Expectations from EPA (EJ, PFAS, Cybersecurity) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thomas Stiles, Director, Bureau of Water, KDHE
9:20 – 9:50 AM	DWSRF Under BIL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> William Carr, Assistant Director, Bureau of Water, KDHE
9:50 – 10:20 AM	Lead Service Line Inventories and Replacement (LCRR) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rob Gavin, Unit Chief, PWS Monitoring & Compliance
10:45 – 11:00 AM	PFAS Study and UCMR 5 and KDHE 2022 SDWA Initiatives (Drinking Water Protection, Certified Operators, AWOP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cathy Tucker-Vogel, Chief, Public Water Supply Section, Bureau of Water, KDHE

Annual **CONFERENCE**



Drury Plaza Hotel
Broadview
Wichita, Kansas



KANSAS SOCIETY OF
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

JUNE 15-17, 2022

For questions, contact us at
info@kansasengineer.org or (785) 233-2121