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The Engineering Informer

March 2021

MEMBERS OF THE

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

SDES EASTERN CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

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WebEx: Our upcoming monthly presentations will be broadcast on WebEx so please plan on tuning in on the web to socially distance. See the instructions for how to use WebEx on page 11 of this newsletter.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Vanessa Victor Isaac Schreurs Paris Marcy



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

BY BEN SCHOLTZ, PE

Well, in typical South Dakota fashion, March weather exhibited its usual rollercoaster of temperature and precipitation fluctuations. The absence of the usual St. Patrick's Day events was certainly a letdown, but hopefully you all found a way to celebrate your inner Irish heritage with a Guinness or some Riverdancing! Fortunately with the fair (ish) weather, some have gotten an early start on our favorite "season" - Construction! I'm sure many of us hope this Construction season can be as favorable as the last.

Thank you to everyone that attended our February virtual meeting and awards ceremony. Congrats to the well deserved award winners! You can read more about the winners later in the newsletter. Thank you to Shannon Ausen and Harry Johnston for the presenting at the meeting.

Welcome to our newest members: Vanessa Victor, Isaac Schreurs, and Paris Marcy.

The next event is the Annual Conference and it is approaching us soon. It will again be virtual and hosted by the Black Hills Chapter. If you haven't, I strongly encourage registration as the lineup for presenters looks excellent AND they're giving away SWAG BAGS!...who doesn't want a SWAG Bag, honestly? Although our typical meeting operations often go on hiatus over the summer, I do hope we could consider offering a couple more virtual presentations yet this spring or into the summer in hopes to "make-up" for our lack of meetings in 2020.

TREASURER'S REPORT

BY SCOTT LAVOY, PE

Previous General Fund Balance 2/11/2021 \$ 22,201.38

Deposits:

Interest Payment \$ 0.21

Total: \$ 0.21

Expenses:

Awards Plaques \$ (246.43)

Total: \$ (246.43)

Total General Fund Balance: \$ 21,955.16

Previous Scholarship Fund Balance 2/11/2021 \$ 5,860.19

Deposits: None

Total: \$

Expenses: None

Total: \$ -

Total Scholarship Fund Balance: \$ 5,860.19

Total Account Balance 3/18/2021 \$ 27,815.35



UPCOMING EVENTS

- The 2021 Annual Conference will be held virtually on April 15th

 16th, 2021. The conference will be hosted by the Black Hills Chapter.
- Early registration ends April 1st
- Online registration is available at: <u>South Dakota Engineering Society 2021 SDES 60th Annual Conference</u>
- Contact Nancy Hoines for any questions.

April 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Thank you for renewing your newsletter sponsorships. **Newsletter advertise-ments** are available throughout the entire year, so if you don't see your company listed, Contact Nancy Hoines for more information. Phone: 605-951-1004,

2021 SDES 60TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE



The South Dakota Engineering Society Annual Conference Is Going Virtual!

SDES is pleased to announce our second virtual conference! We're excited to connect our members, colleagues and partners with an exceptional line up of educational opportunities, industry presentations and even all the conference 'swag' you would get at our in-person conference! SDES is committed to offering you the same outstanding conference experience the South Dakota engineering industry has come to expect from SDES over the last 60 years.

Visit the Conference website by clicking here.

With over 11 hours of interactive PDH and 23 educational sessions, Two-Minute Teasers by industry partners, Keynote Speakers, an Awards Ceremony and more -- it's going to be an action packed couple of days! And, if you can't make all the sessions, most will be recorded and available for viewing after the live conference.

See the complete schedule by clicking here.

One of the biggest benefits of attending the SDES Annual Conference is the opportunity to interact with our many industry partners, including suppliers, equipment experts, firm and agency staff and the many other industry experts. With the virtual format, SDES is offering a variety of new opportunities for vendors, sponsors and partners.

Visit the Vendor, Sponsor and Partner page by clicking here.

Not an SDES/NSPE Member? Join SDES/NSPE today and receive \$105 off your registration! Find out more about membership and join https://example.com/here.

Questions?

If you have any other questions, please contact Nancy at the SDES office at 605.951.1004 or sde-arigin-seciety@gmail.com.

ENGINEERING AWARDS WES PHILIPS, PE

Eastern Chapter Award Winners were recognized during the Monthly Meeting and Virtual

Awards Ceremony on Friday, February 26, 2021:

The **Young Engineer of the Year** award was presented to **Jesse Morris**, **PE**. Jesse graduated from SDSM&T with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering in 2011. Within SDES, Jesse has been a member of the scholarship committee and served as the South Dakota State Coordinator for MATHCOUNTS since 2014. Jesse is a Project Manager in the Sioux Falls office of DGR Engineering and works on a variety of private and municipal projects throughout design and construction. He is a certified remote pilot and his drone pictures have been included in several winning project nominations.



Wes Philips (City of Sioux Falls), Jesse Morris (DGR)

The **Engineer of the Year** award was presented to **Phil Gundvaldson**, **PE**. Phil graduated from SDSU with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil & Environmental Engineering. Within SDES, Phil has served as State Secretary/Treasurer, Eastern Chapter



Chad Hanisch (IDG), Phil Gundvalson (IDG)

Vice President as well as President and Past President of both the Eastern Chapter and State Society. He has been very involved with the MATHCOUNTS competition and served as the chair from 2008-2016. Phil has also been active with NSPE, serving in the House of Delegates, Candidate Screening Committee for Vice President and Membership Subcommittee. Phil is a Project Manager and Vice President of Infrastructure Design Group, Inc. with extensive experience in design/ management of transportation and utility public and private projects.

ENGINEERING AWARDS WES PHILIPS, PE

The Outstanding Engineering Achievement awards were presented to HDR and teams for the Brandon Core Area Reconstruction Phase 1 and I-229/26th Street/ Southeastern Avenue/Rotary Park projects. See below for more information on the projects.

The \$6.2M Brandon Core Area Reconstruction Phase 1 project consisted of a 17-block complete roadway and infrastructure reconstruction project that included addition of sidewalk, new water main, sanitary sewer, LED street lighting, site work and water quality improvements through infiltration. The project involved a great amount of communication with homeowners to discuss utility connections, water service outages and new sidewalk installation. The COVID-19 pandemic required new strategies for communication, including use of text messaging, City website, You Tube, Facebook, mailings and newspaper articles instead of traditional public meeting presentations and in-person meetings. The project incorporated Low Impact Development strategies, such as use of infiltration basins to capture and infiltrate overland flow from the street and adjacent properties. The overall width of the street was reduced without changing the overall function, which reduced construction and maintenance costs in addition to promoting reduced speeds. This project updated the City of Brandon's neighborhood infrastructure in a sustainable way, while improving connectivity and community through addition of sidewalks.

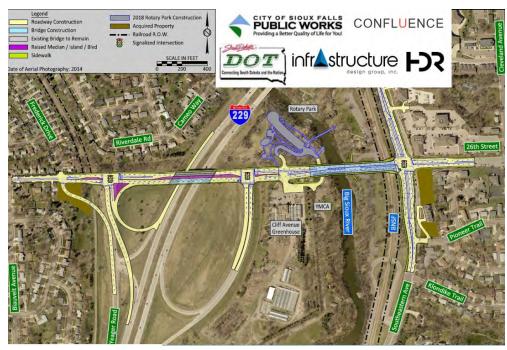


Lyle Pudwill (Confluence)

From Left: Todd Mergen (HDR), Tami Jansma (Brandon), Christina Smith (Brandon), Paul Sanow (HDR)

ENGINEERING AWARDS (CONTINUED) WES PHILIPS, PE

Construction of the I-229/26th Street/Southeastern Avenue/Rotary Park project is one of the largest roadway projects in Sioux Falls' history. The project was a solution to safety and congestion issues related to an at-grade railroad crossing and a nonstandard interchange configuration. The team used innovative design-based renderings and animations to illustrate the finished project, which was especially helpful to communicate the dramatic changes being proposed. Maintaining traffic on 26th Street while the new 650' long, 95' wide bridge over the Big Sioux River and railroad tracks made the pro-



ject especially complex. The project also reconfigured and improved the adjacent Rotary Park and connection to the Sioux Falls bike trail system. This exciting project will help keep the east side of Sioux Falls moving and growing!

The Eastern Chapter will nominate all award winners to the State SDES competition. State award winners will be presented virtually at the SDES Annual Conference April 14-16, 2021. Good luck to our Eastern Chapter winners!



SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS LANCE MAYER, P.E.

As part of the 2020-2021 scholarship program, the SDES-Eastern Chapter awarded three \$2000 Engineering Scholarships out of 34 applicants to the following high school seniors:

Annaliese Braucht, from Beaver Creek, MN is ranked 1st in her class at Brandon Valley High School and participates in several extracurricular activities including ballet, teaching dance, lead roles in productions, BSA Scouts for females, school clubs, National Honor Society, band, and choir. Annaliese's most satisfying achievement is her time spent as a professional ballet dancer for which she spent time with ballet companies such as the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, the Kansas City Ballet, and the CCA International Summer Program. She has put thousands of hours and forfeited many other experiences in order to pursue ballet. Through dance, she has been able to travel and develop friendships with teachers and fellow dancers all around the world. As a student driven by an ever-



present curiosity, she plans to use her creative, out-of-the-box thinking and analytical application of mathematics and science to pursue a career in engineering. Annaliese plans on attending South Dakota School of Mines and Technology to study Biomedical Engineering.



Chloe Hass, from Chester, SD, attends Chester Area High School where she participates in several activities, including plays, drama club, band, orchestra, chorus, and yearbook along with several hours volunteering with her church and peer mentoring. Chloe has enjoyed building things from the time she was a little girl which included taking her toys apart and putting them back together. When she was in middle school, Chloe purchased an antique Maytag washing machine motor from the 1930's. After making repairs to the motor (fixing a cylinder that was stuck to free up the flywheel), she had it professionally painted pink and added an exhaust stack like that of an old tractor. Now she brings it to Prairie Village Jamboree where anyone can see it and enjoy it as much as she does. Whenever Chloe sees a working machine, she likes to visualize the mechanics of the machine to fig-

ure out how and why it works. Chloe plans on attending South Dakota State University to study Mechanical Engineering.

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS, CONTINUED LANCE MAYER, P.E.

Rana Hegg, from Webster, SD, has excelled academically as a senior at Webster Area High School and is 1st in her class. She has been involved in cross country, track, key club, 4-H, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), student council, robotics, church council and National Honor Society. Rana's achievement that she is most proud of is completing a full marathon. She proved to herself that with her determination she could do anything she set her mind to no matter how difficult the task. Rana's interest in engineering stemmed from her love for building things. While most of her friends wanted to play with their dolls, Rana would rather build her dolls something to live in. Today she is always looking for solutions to everyday problems as she finds the challenge



enjoyable and rewarding. Rose will be pursuing a Civil Engineering degree at the South Dakota School State University.

Also, in 2020, the Eastern Chapter sponsored a \$450 Engineering Scholarship which was made available through a permanent endowed fund held within the South Dakota Community Foundation. **Eliza McCallum** was the recipient selected by the Scholarship Committee and she presently attends South Dakota School of Mines and Technology planning to major in Civil Engineering.

Congratulations to all of this year's SDES Eastern Chapter Scholarship Recipients!

Cody Woessner

HDR

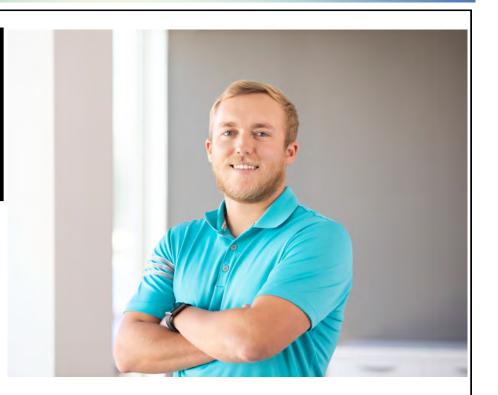
101 S Phillips Ave Suite 401, Sioux Falls, SD cody.woessner@hdrinc.com

College and Major:

South Dakota State

Civil Engineering





Born in Sioux Falls, SD. Graduated from Brandon Valley High School in 2014. Graduated from South Dakota State University in 2018. Interned at American Engineering Testing in summer of 2017. Worked at KLJ in Sioux Falls from June 2018 to January 2020. Now works at HDR in Sioux Falls since January 2020.

Family: Mom, Dad, 1 younger brother and 1

younger sister

Hometown: Brandon, SD

Job Title and Years With Firm: Transportation

EIT, 1 yr 2 mo

My Normal Breakfast: None

Hobbies: Golf, Pickleball, Videogames, Snow-

board, Wakeboard

My Best Personality Trait: Friendly

Pets: 1 yellow lab, Bailey
Favorite beverage: Water
Favorite TV Show: Ozark
Favorite Season: Summer

People may not know about me... I love ketchup

What made you want to be an engineer? I was good at math and science

What do you like best about being an engineer? Seeing a designed project be built

Describe an achievement from the past year you are proud of. Hole-in-one at Spring Creek

What are you looking forward to in the next year? A long golf season

I hate it when... I miss my birdie putts

Favorite Place to Visit and Why: Boot Lake, MN. We have our annual family vacation there, and it is always so fun.



2020-2021 OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS

Officers

President Ben Scholtz, PE
President Elect Gabe Laber, PE

Vice President Josh Peterson, PE

Secretary/Treasurer Scott LaVoy, PE
Chapter Director(1st term) Kari Johnson PE

Chapter Director(2nd term) Riley Rinehart, PE State Director Devin Clay, PE

Past President Krista May, PE

Committees

Nominating Committee Lee Kaffar, BA

Mathcounts Krista May, PE

Scholarship Lance Mayer, PE

Events Coordinators

E-Week Erin Steever, PE

Winter Social Gabe Laber, PE

Golf Outing Gabe Laber, PE

Awards Banquet Jedidiah Reimnitz, PE

Awards Wes Philips, PE

Audio/Visual IT Chad Stensland, PE

Newsletter Abby Nelson, PE

Membership List Myron Adam, PE

Eastern Chapter of SDES Goals

To promote the licensed practice of engineering and to provide learning opportunities that enable licensed engineers to maintain practice competency;

To maintain high ethical standards for the practice of engineering and lead the profession in adhering to these principles:

To protect the public health, safety, and welfare; while being good stewards of the environment;

To incorporate engineering principles and perspectives in government decisions that protect the public; and

To consider community service a professional obligation.

SDES Mission Statement

SDES is the state society of engineers from all disciplines that promotes the ethical and competent practice of engineering, advocates licensure, enhances the image of its members, and advocates legislation and public policy for the betterment of human welfare and the profession.

Webex Login Instructions

Next meeting will be the Annual Conference hosted by the Black Hills
Chapter on Thursday April 15th and
Friday April 16th. Once you are registered, watch for more information on how to log on.

For any and all newsletter articles, additions, edits, corrections, and important dates contact:

Abby Nelson, PE HDR 101 S. Phillips Avenue, Suite 401 Sioux Falls, SD 57104 605-977-7753 Abby.Nelson@hdrinc.com

For all *State Society* membership information and other business, contact:

Nancy Hoines SDES Executive Director PO Box 1076 Pierre, SD 57501 605-951-1004 sdengineeringsociety@gmail.com

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