



# The Engineering Informer

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**WebEx:** this month's presentation will be broadcast on WebEx so please plan on tuning in on the web if you can't be here in person! See the instructions on how to use WebEx on page 6 of this newsletter.

## IMPORTANT NEWS

### NEXT MEETING:

October 13, 11:30 AM @ Pizza Ranch on 41st Street

- Jerry Jongeling with the City of Sioux Falls and he will be presenting on the LED Traffic Light study

### NEW MEMBERS:

- Dexter Mahrt
- Dustin Posten
- Daniel Ostrem
- Brittany Brickman
- Adam Haberman
- Delvin DeBoer
- Chuck Cox

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN BY RAY PIERSON—PE

Hello to all SDES Eastern Chapter Members! Where has our summer gone? How many times have you heard that statement in past few weeks? Each year the time flies faster as we all get involved in various activities and our world seems to demand things faster and faster. Hopefully the end of a busy construction season means that things will slow down a little bit.

I am honored to be your Chapter President for 2015-2016. I want to thank Ryan Johnson and his board members for their efforts in the last year. A big thank you also goes out to the members that have volunteered to be on our Board this year. As we move into a new year there are going to be many opportunities for you to get involved with our local chapter so please consider helping whenever you can.

Our golf outing in August was a huge success again this year and that is a result of the dedication of the volunteers and the Golf Outing Chairman, Gabe Laber. The fall PDH Conference is coming up on October 15, 2015 and I encourage all to attend this one day event. The Chairman, Jon Wiegand and

other volunteers have put together a great lineup of presenters that touch many different Engineering disciplines. As we look forward, our Chapter is hosting the Annual Conference in Sioux Falls at the Holiday Inn on April 6-7, 2016. We are currently looking for a chairperson for this event and will be starting the planning for that event in November.

Our next chapter meeting will be on October 13, 2015 at Pizza Ranch on 41<sup>st</sup> Street. Our speaker is Jerry Jongeling with the City of Sioux Falls and he will be presenting on the LED Traffic Light study as well as other updated standards that the City of Sioux Falls has for private developments. Hope to see many of you at our first meeting of the year.

Finally, I ask that you join me in welcoming our newest members to our chapter. Dexter Mahrt, Dustin Posten, Daniel Ostrem, Brittany Brickman, Adam Haberman, Delvin DeBoer and Chuck Cox. If you see these new members around, thank them for becoming members of SDES.

SDES Eastern Chapter President,  
Ray Pierson

## TREASURER'S REPORT BY LANCE WEATHERLY, PE

	Balance as of	10/10/2015	
<b>Previous General Fund Balance</b>	<b>4/9/2015</b>		<b>\$ 16,183.06</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>			
PE Exam lunches	\$	(209.00)	
Patrick Henry Middle School donation	\$	(200.00)	
WebEx (April)	\$	(51.94)	
Stampede social raffle prize	\$	(50.00)	
2016 Banquet entertainment deposit	\$	(600.00)	
WebEx (May)	\$	(51.94)	
Harrisburg Tiger Robotics donation	\$	(250.00)	
WebEx (June)	\$	(51.94)	
Habitat for Humanity social	\$	(50.00)	
WebEx (July)	\$	(51.94)	
Postmaster (PO Box Fee)	\$	(98.00)	
WebEx (August)	\$	(51.94)	
WebEx (September)	\$	(51.94)	
Board Planning	\$	(66.98)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(1,835.62)</b>	
<b>Deposits:</b>			
Informer Ads	\$	75.00	
Stampede Social ticket reimb.	\$	79.00	
Interest (April)	\$	1.98	
Interest (May)	\$	1.86	
Interest (June)	\$	2.01	
Dues Revenue	\$	2,089.63	
Interest (July)	\$	2.08	
Informer Ads	\$	95.00	
Interest (August)	\$	2.28	
Interest (September)	\$	1.97	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,350.81</b>	
<b>Total General Fund</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>16,698.25</b>	
<b>Previous Scholarship Fund Balance</b>	<b>4/9/2015</b>		<b>\$ 7,911.45</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>			
Golf sponsor signs - gift card	\$	(219.42)	
Golf Outing petty cash	\$	(200.00)	
SDSU scholarship (Jamison French)	\$	(2,000.00)	
SDSU scholarship (Nicholas Zolnowsky)	\$	(2,000.00)	
SDSM&T scholarship (Alex Spies)	\$	(2,000.00)	
Golf Outing -foodroom	\$	(1,195.00)	
Golf Outing -golfcart	\$	(2,281.50)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(9,895.92)</b>	
<b>Deposits:</b>			
Golf deposit 1	\$	7,000.00	
Golf deposit 2	\$	675.00	
Golf Outing petty cash deposit	\$	200.00	
Golf deposit 3	\$	75.00	
Golf deposit 4	\$	250.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>8,200.00</b>	
<b>Total Scholarship Fund</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>6,215.53</b>	
<b>Total Account Balance</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>22,913.78</b>	

## IMPORTANT CALENDAR ITEMS



### EASTERN CHAPTER MEETINGS:

- October 13, 11:30 @ Pizza Ranch on 41st Street
- November 10, 11:30 @ Pizza Ranch on 41st Street
- December ? Winter Social
- January 12, 11:30 @ Pizza Ranch on 41st Street
- February 9, 11:30 @ Pizza Ranch on 41st Street
- March 8, 11:30 @ Pizza Ranch on 41st Street
- April 12, 11:30 @ Pizza Ranch on 41st Street

### FALL PDH CONFERENCE

October 15, 2015

7:30 AM—4:50 PM

Days Inn

Brookings, SD

To add a calendar item, please contact Josh Peterson at [JPeterson@siouxfalls.org](mailto:JPeterson@siouxfalls.org)

**RECORD TURNOUT AT EASTERN CHAPTER GOLF OUTING  
BY GABE LABER—PE**

The annual Eastern Chapter Golf Outing was held at the Brandon Municipal Golf Course on August 6<sup>th</sup>. This year produced a record turnout with 54 golfers participating. We also set a record with 46 hole sponsors. I would like to thank all of the sponsors because the success of the golf outing is due to your continued support. I would also like to thank the volunteers who help put this event on. This event continues to be our Chapter's largest fundraiser for a great cause and would not be possible without the participation of many of our members. This year's volunteers who deserves special thanks was Scott Hofer, Andy Berg, Paul Sanow, Ray Pierson, Trent Bruce, Beth Kassing and Kristen Gundvaldson. The following are the results of the 2-person scramble. Congratulations to all the winners and I hope to see you next year!



**RESULTS**

**2 Person Scramble**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Flight – 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Darin Ligtenburg/DJ Buthe
- 1<sup>st</sup> Flight – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Jared Haskins/Joe Munson
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Flight – 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Tory Miedema/Rod Harms
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Flight – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Shannon Schultz/Myron Adam

**PIN PRIZES:**

- #1: Longest Putt – Lance Mayer
- #4: Closest to the pin – Josh Storm
- #7: Longest in the fairway – Scott LaVoy
- #10: Longest Putt – Erin Steever
- #12: Closest to the pin in two – Kurt Peppel
- #13: Closest to the pin – Tom Hurd
- #15: Longest in the fairway – Kent Johnson
- #18: Longest putt – Al Murra



**HOT DAY VOLUNTEERING FOR HABITAT FOR HUMANITY  
BY RYAN JOHNSON—PE**



inch backers as many scrap pieces could be recycled and used towards LEED certification. Again, the team completed the task with amazing speed and efficiency!

The next task, hanging the all-important door garage header, was heaved into place by hand and completed in about 20 minutes. To round out the day, the Habitat manager asked us to move lumber, which was stored outside, inside the garage. About two pallets of lumber was moved as requested and stacked neatly according to size and length.

Impressed by our work we were allowed to go home early. With the spare time, team member went to the Red Eye Bar to show off our new calluses and people watch. We fit right in.

Surprisingly the home is still standing! Please take a moment to thank the volunteers and consider volunteering for the 2016 build. You'll find it's a rewarding experience and a great benefit to our community.

The 2015 Habitat for Humanity build was held the afternoon of June 16 at 1208 East 69th Street North on a muggy 95 degree day! The sweaty team members included Ben Scholtz, Dawn Horner, Lance Weatherly, Kent Johnson, Myron Adam, Dawn Horner, Ralph Linder, Kari Drake and myself.

The crew began by hanging cross bracing in the roof joists with precision and speed seldom seen in the construction world! The initial task was completed with ease and our attention was turned to the important task of hanging sheetrock backers. Placing backers are generally left to seasoned craftsman and women. Prior to beginning, a detailed analysis was performed on whether to use full length 8 foot backers or shorter, more economical 18 inch backers. Ultimately the decision was made to use the 18



THANK YOU LETTERS



Jerome J. Lohr College of Engineering  
 Civil and Environmental  
 Engineering Department  
 Crothers Engineering Hall 120, Box 2219  
 South Dakota State University  
 Brookings, SD 57007-0485  
 Phone: 605-688-5427  
 Fax: 605-688-6478

June 18, 2015

Eastern Chapter South Dakota Engineering Society  
 P.O. Box 1512  
 Sioux Falls, SD 57101

Dear Eastern Chapter South Dakota Engineering Society,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department at South Dakota State University to express my sincere thanks and gratitude for your generous gift which you recently designated for the Civil Engineering program.

Gifts from friends and alumni to the CE program continue to play a key role in sustaining the success of our program. The support that we receive from you enhances the experience of our students, upgrades the laboratory equipment, and keeps our professors current in their field. During the past academic year we made investments to support our students' regional and national activities and participation in ASCE's International Conference in Panama, improve our surveying, geotechnical, and material laboratories, and sponsor CEE faculty to attend conferences on effective teaching methods. The CEE faculty are highly motivated to continuously improve our program as is evident in the self-study which we have just completed in preparation for the upcoming ABET reaccreditation visit in September 2015.

I am also thrilled to inform you that the CEE department has embarked on a landmark space remodeling and reconfiguration project that will serve the department's current needs and future demands for many decades to come. The first phase of the project, which is nearing completion, was made possible through generous corporate and individual sponsorships. The second, and larger, phase will commence once the funding for that phase is secured. This project gets me excited about the bright future of our department. I will be happy to share additional information with you should you be interested in learning more about this vital project.

Please stop and see us if you are here on campus, and do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

*N. I. Wehbe*  
 Dr. Nadim I. Wehbe, PE, FACS, FSEI  
 John M. Hanson Professor and Department Head  
 Civil and Environmental Engineering

*SDS / Eastern Chapter  
 your continued and generous  
 support is much appreciated -  
 Thank you!  
 - Nadim*



July 30, 2015

South Dakota Engineering Society – Eastern Chapter  
 Attn: Ray Pierson, President  
 PO Box 1512  
 Sioux Falls, SD 57101

Dear Engineering Society Members,

***As you can see, your gift is making a difference in the lives of students in Harrisburg, South Dakota!***

Your \$250 gift helped supply the robot materials so we could continue to host competitive robotics teams in Harrisburg at the middle school and also start a new high school team.

We could not afford to participate without your help.

*Because of you*, we're preparing for real life challenges like public speaking and interviewing. We're learning computer programming skills, troubleshooting, and to problem solve together. We're learning to build with tools and make repairs when needed.

Thank you. This would not be possible without your help.

Sincerely,



*Cole Titze*  
 Cole Titze - Tiger Robotics Student  
<https://tigerroboticssd.shutterfly.com>



***"Like" our Facebook page - Tiger Robotics - for more information about our upcoming competitions, camps, and to watch our progress.***

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU Member Bio

### BEN SCHOLTZ

HDR Engineering  
6300 S. Old Village Place, Suite 100  
Sioux Falls, SD  
Phone: 605-977-7759  
Fax: 605-977-7747

Degree:  
SDSU—Civil Engineering

Favorite Quote:  
"Never mistake motion for action." - Ernest Hemingway

**A brief history...** My parents lived in rural, western Colorado and I was born in the nearest hospital across the state line in Vernal, UT (and no, I am not Mormon). My entire family is from Illinois, so we moved back near the Chicago area for about 12 years when I was young. In 1994, my father took a job in Yankton, SD and we stayed there until I graduated high school in 2002. I went to SDSU and was originally going to be a science teacher; I changed my major three times and stuck with Civil Engineering following my 2nd year. After graduation, I followed my (now wife) to Minnesota where she was there getting her degree as a Dentist. While in Minnesota, I worked for a small consulting firm called Progressive Consulting Engineers and designed utilities for the Central Corridor (aka Blue Line) Light Rail Project. While in MN, I was an active member with the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) and was elected president of both the Emerging Professionals and Golf Scholarship Committees. We lived in the Twin Cities until 2012. Following her graduation from dental school, my wife took a dental job with Horizon Health Care (Howard, SD) and I pursued my current position with HDR.



## A LITTLE BIT MORE ABOUT OUR MEMBER OF THE MONTH:

**Family:** Wife: Michelle, Son: Jasper

**Hometown:** Yankton, SD / Rockford, IL

**Job Title and Years With Firm:** Transportation Engineer, 3 years

**Favorite Room in Your House:** We currently rent a small townhome, but in my former house, I'd say my basement - it's where I had my workshop... and a bar.

**Normal Breakfast:** A strong coffee or espresso, and usually some kind of pastry.

**Last CD Purchased:** "Drive Time Italian" - I learned Italian for a recent trip to Europe.

**Last DVD Purchased:** It's been a while, but probably "The Departed"

**Hobbies:** Traveling, Home Brewing, Woodworking, Home Remodeling, Tennis, Soccer

**What do you collect?** Beer caps & wine corks

**Best Personality Trait:** I love to talk with people (sometimes too much), but I believe I'm a good communicator.

**Pets:** 1 dog, a Maltese named Riley

**Pet peeves:** When someone asks if I will "borrow" them something. The proper term is "lend".

**Favorite beverage:** Bell's Brewery - Two Hearted IPA

**Favorite TV Show:** House of Cards

**Favorite Season:** Fall - sweatshirt weather is ideal

**People may not know...** Two things: 1) Both of my parents are librarians 2) I grow my own hops for my home brewing.

**What made you want to be an engineer?** My aunt. She began her career in computer science in the 60's and worked for all kinds of interesting companies including: Intel, Motorola, Boeing, NASA, and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. She's now "retired" and works as a

private consultant for the US Army on projects that "she can't talk about".

**What do you like best about being an engineer?** As a kid, I always loved Legos and drawing. Being an engineer is basically a grown-up version of those same things. We get to solve problems, be a little creative, and write instructions on how to build stuff.

**Describe a significant event in your career.** Getting my first out-of-college job. The economy was going south in 2007 and finding employment was a little challenging. I was lucky enough to get a job with a small firm in MN and ended up working on a \$1 billion Light Rail Project for 5 years. I learned a lot and met all sorts of interesting and intelligent people. It definitely shaped me as the engineer I am today.

**Describe a significant event in your personal life.** Just a few months ago, my wife had our first child - a little boy. Beginning a family really changed some of my life priorities. I pay a lot more attention to politics, education, and financial planning now that I'm responsible for someone other than myself.

**Describe an achievement from the past year you are proud of.** It was a little more than 3 years ago, but when I found out I passed the PE, that made me pretty happy. Also, about a year or so ago, I was made a Project Manager, and that's been pretty rewarding as well.

**What are you looking forward to in the next year?** I would love to take on some larger projects that involve working with more people. I really enjoy the dynamics of multifaceted projects and team coordination.

**I hate it when...** My wife asks me if I have packed something after we've been on the road for 2 hours...

**Favorite Place to Visit and Why:** My wife and I went to Thailand a couple years ago. We visited the city of Bangkok and the island of Phuket. The food was fantastic, and the culture was really interesting, and it was surprisingly easy to get around (most signs on the roads and mass-transit systems are in English). Aside from the 24 hours it took to get there, it was our favorite trip so far.

**2015-2016 OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS**

**Officers**

President	Ray Pierson, PE
President Elect	Kurt Peppel, PE
Vice President	Jonathan Wiegand, PE
Secretary/Treasurer	Lance Weatherly, PE
Chapter Director(2nd term)	Craig Lauritzen, PE
Chapter Director(1st term)	Joshua VandenBos, EIT
State Director	Ben Scholtz, PE
Past President	Ryan Johnson, PE

**Committees**

Nominating Committee	Paul Korn, PE
Mathcounts	Phil Gundvaldson, PE
Scholarship	Lance Mayer, PE
Events Coordinators	
eWeek	Erin Steever, PE
STEMS Girls	Erin Steever, PE
Free First Fridays	Erin Steever, PE
Winter Social	Gabe Laber, PE
Golf Outing	Gabe Laber, PE
Awards	Wes Philips, PE
Audio/Visual IT	Chad Stensland, PE
Newsletter	Joshua Peterson, PE
Membership List	Myron Adam, PE

Webex Login Instructions

1. Navigate your internet browser to:
2. <https://sdes-eastern.webex.com>
3. Select the meeting date from the calendar in the "Browse Meetings" Window.
4. Click the "Register" link by the monthly meeting.
5. Fill in your first name, last name, email address and hit the "Register Now" button at the bottom.
6. A registration email will be sent with all the information to log into the meeting.

PDH Documentation

Sign-in sheets for Eastern Chapter meetings are posted on the SDES website for members to use for PDH documentation. Go to [www.sdes.org](http://www.sdes.org) to download sign-in sheets.

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

**JOSHUA PETERSON, PE  
CITY OF SIOUX FALLS,  
PUBLIC WORKS  
224 W NINTH STREET  
PO BOX 7402  
SIOUX FALLS, SD 57117-7402  
605-367-8616  
jpeterson@siouxfalls.org**

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

**Gail Boddicker,  
Executive Director  
SDES  
Rapid City, SD 57709  
605-394-6674  
Gail.Boddicker@sdsmt.edu**

**SDS MISSION STATEMENT**

SDS 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.



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To advertise in the Engineering Informer, please contact Joshua Peterson at: [jpeterson@siouxfalls.org](mailto:jpeterson@siouxfalls.org) or 367-8616. The cost for a standard business card-size advertisement for one year is \$75 .

*Thank you to all of you who continue to generously support the Eastern Chapter of SDES.*