



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:

No December Meeting.

January 10, 11:30 AM @ 41st Street Pizza Ranch

- SDSU Engineers Without Borders will provide an update.

NEW MEMBERS:

- Eric Olson
- Allie Simons

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN BY KURT PEPPER—PE

Cold... Warm... Snow... Warm... Rain... Ice... Make up your mind Mother Nature! Sunday, November 13 I golfed 20 holes in shorts and a T-shirt on the golf course I can see from my front steps. Five days later it was a blizzard and I couldn't see the golf course. Summer can't come soon enough! Sorry to digress but I hate cold and scooping snow; suns out guns out for this guy.

First I would like to thank Shelia Stanley with OSHA who presented at our last monthly meeting. She provided good information on OSHA's increased presence in South Dakota. Hopefully OSHA is not required to visit any of our sites/projects for an investigation.

I would also like to thank Gabe Laber for once again organizing a great Winter Social. I was only able to stay for a little while but it was good to see everyone outside of our day-to-day work environment.

Our next membership meeting will be Tuesday, January 10 at the Pizza Ranch on 41st Street; there will not be a December meeting. Come early for pizza and the opportunity to socialize with your peers. SDSU Engineers Without Borders will provide information on their endeavors. Our chapter has been fortunate enough to donate to their cause and enable them to help others in need.

Lastly, I would like to remind everyone our membership meetings can be watched via WebEx, if you are unable to attend in person. WebEx instructions can be found within this newsletter.

Have a fun and safe holiday season. Careful you don't shoot your eye out. See you on January 10!

See you on November 8!

SDES Eastern Chapter President,
Kurt Peppel

**TREASURER'S REPORT
BY BRETT LOVRO, PE**

Balance as of 12/1/2016

Previous General Fund Balance 11/1/2016 \$ 29,608.02

Expenses:

Board Planning (Reimbursement from prior meetings) \$ (113.81)
 Board Planning (November Meeting) \$ (55.00)
 Stamps \$ (94.00)
Total \$ (262.81)

Deposits:

Interest (November) \$ 2.75
Total \$ 2.75

Total General Fund \$ 29,347.96

Previous Scholarship Fund Balance 11/1/2016 \$ 6,637.80

Expenses:

N/A \$ -
Total \$ -

Deposits:

N/A \$ -
Total \$ -

Total Scholarship Fund \$ 6,637.80

Total Account Balance \$35,985.76

**IMPORTANT
CALENDAR
ITEMS**



EASTERN CHAPTER

MEETINGS:

- December—No Meeting
- January 10, 11:30 @ Pizza Ranch on 41st Street
- February 14, 11:30 @ Pizza Ranch on 41st Street
- March 14, 11:30 @ Pizza Ranch on 41st Street
- April 11, 11:30 @ Pizza Ranch on 41st Street
- May 9, 11:30 @ Pizza Ranch on 41st Street

E-Week

February 19—25

Eastern Chapter MathCounts

February 23 @ 2:00
 Southeast Technical Institute

Eastern Chapter Awards

Banquet

February 25
 Sioux Falls Holiday Inn
 City Centre

2017 Annual Conference

April 26—28
 @ Spearfish Holiday Inn
 Convention Center

2017 Fall PDH Conference

Date and Location TBD
 Hosted by the Central Chapter

**To add a calendar item,
 please contact Josh Peterson
 at JPeterson@siouxfalls.org**



**SDS DONATION HELPS BRING “JOURNEY TO SPACE” TO THE CINEDOME
BY ERIN STEEVER, PE**

SDS donated to the Kirby Science Center to bring the film Journey to Space to the Wells Fargo CineDome. The film is now playing!

Check out the website <https://www.washingtonpavilion.org/online/> for show times.



**SECOND SCIENCE SATURDAYS!
BY ERIN STEEVER, PE**

SDS is continuing our E - week community out reach through the Washington Pavilion's Kirby Science and Discovery Center in 2017. Second Science Saturdays is a new program gaining momentum at the Kirby Science and Discovery Center, and we're excited to be part of it in February. We plan to provide two engineering activities to celebrate engineering. If you are interested in helping plan these activities, would like to volunteer at the event, or would like some more information about it, please contact Erin Steever (erins@bannerassociates.com<<mailto:erins@bannerassociates.com>>).



**SAVE THE DATE - UPCOMING ENGINEERING AWARDS BANQUET
BY WES PHILIPS, PE**

Mark your calendars for this year’s SDS/ASCE Awards Banquet, which will be held on the evening of Saturday, February 25, 2017 in the Starlite Ballroom at the top of the Holiday Inn Sioux Falls-City Centre. We will have great food, entertainment and the opportunity to enjoy an evening with others in the Engineering profession. More information coming soon!



COMING SOON - NOMINATIONS FOR SDES ENGINEERING AWARDS**BY WES PHILIPS, PE**

Nomination forms for SDES Engineering Awards will be e-mailed out to the membership list in the next month. Please begin to consider nominees for one of our annual awards: Engineer of the Year, Young Engineer of the Year and Project of the Year. As a chapter, we have many talented Engineers doing important and interesting projects. Recognize our collective contributions to making our community better by submitting a nomination!

MATHCOUNTS®**Save the Date****When: Thursday, February 23, 2017 at 2pm****Where: Southeast Technical Institute**

Volunteer Sign-up sheet will be available at January's and February's lunch meetings.

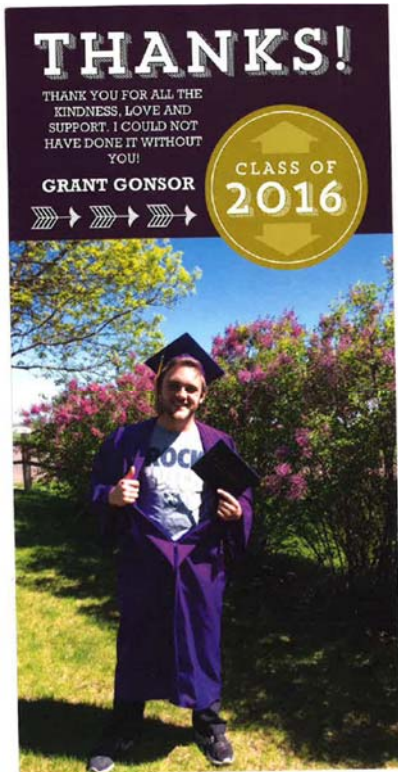
Contact Krista May at

kristam@infrastructuredg.com with questions.

**EASTERN CHAPTER WINTER SOCIAL
BY GABE LABER, PE**

The annual Eastern Chapter Winter Social was held at Cherry Creek Grill on Thursday December 1st. The turnout was down a little from last year but we still had 30-35 people attend. This time of year is always busy with various family and work commitments but it is good to see that our attendance remains strong. This event is a great opportunity to enjoy good food, a cold beverage and to visit with your colleagues. Thanks to everyone that was able to attend. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year – Gabe Laber, SDES Eastern Chapter Event Coordinator.

SCHOLARSHIP THANK YOU



*Eastern Chapter of South
Dakota Engineering Society*
Thank you so much for choosing
me as a scholarship recipient!



GO HARDROCKERS!
It's a great honor and
I assure you it will be
used solely for furthering my
education! Thanks Again!

Sincerely,
-Grant Gonsor
photo: *Stinson*

Grant Gonsor
303 28th Street NW
Watertown, SD 57201
605.880.9607
Grant_Gonsor@hotmail.com

June 7th, 2016

Eastern Chapter of the South Dakota Engineering Society
Lance Mayer, P.E.
Scholarship Chair - SDES/EC
2909 East 57th Street Suite 101
Sioux Falls, SD, 57108

Eastern Chapter of South Dakota Engineering Society: Lance Mayer,
My name is Grant Gonsor and I am an 18 year-old graduate from Watertown High School. For the past couple of years, I have had my sights absolutely set on attending South Dakota School of Mines and Technology. I plan to pursue an Engineering degree. With a firm love for discovering and understanding how things work, along with a solid background in both mathematics and electrical workings, I knew SDSM&T would offer me the best opportunity to pursue my Electrical Engineering degree. However, it is common knowledge that this higher education doesn't come free.

Thanks to the generous scholarship I received from you, the \$400 Engineering Scholarship, my dream of attaining an engineering degree is that much closer to realization. I would like to thank you personally for the wonderful gift you have given me and to all organizations such as yours who are generous to myself and the many other students who have received your support. I assure you that the money gifted to me will be allocated and used properly. Because of your financial assistance, I can carry out my dream of pursuing an Electrical Engineering degree at the highest quality university in South Dakota! Thank you again!

Respectfully yours,

Grant Gonsor

Grant Gonsor

GETTING TO
KNOW YOU
Member Bio

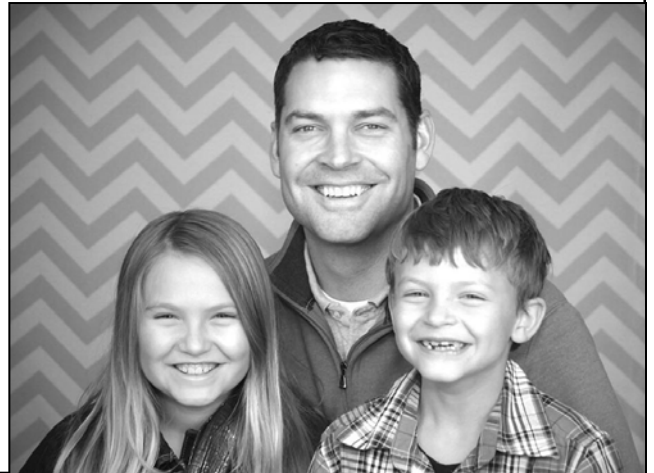
KENT JOHNSON

Banner Associates, Inc.
2307 W. 57th St, Suite 102
Sioux Falls, SD 57108
Phone: (605) 692-6342

Degree:
SDSU—BS Civil, MS Engineering

Favorite Quote:
"You can't polish a turd."

A brief history... I grew up on a farm near Parker. My mom was an elementary school teacher in Parker; she was the most patient person I knew. I have an older and younger sister. I graduated from SDSU, was hired by Banner, and stayed in Brookings till 2013 when I transferred down to Sioux Falls. I've got two great kids, Sam and Avery. I met Kari when we volunteered to help out at the Washington Pavilion during the Free First Friday's SDES Engineering Week event.



A LITTLE BIT MORE ABOUT OUR MEMBER OF THE MONTH:

Family: Avery (12), Sam (10), girlfriend Kari (robbed from the cradle) and her daughter Dylan (6)
Hometown: Parker, SD
Job Title and Years With Firm: Project Manager, 17 years
Favorite Room in My House and Why: Kitchen/ Dining Room
My Normal Breakfast: Peanut butter toast, a banana, and coffee
Last CD Purchased: Eric Church (online), I think?
Last DVD (movie or game) Purchased: Black Hawk Down
Hobbies: Golfing, Fishing, Hunting, Farming
What do you collect? I collected baseball cards as a kid.
My Best Personality Trait: Patience
Pets: A 9 week old black lab puppy named Tater
Pet peeves: This is pretty specific - people not knowing how to weave in (take turns merging) when at an Interstate on-ramp
Favorite beverage: Lemonade (n/a drink) and beer
Favorite TV Show: Breaking Bad
Favorite Season: Spring
People may not know about me... I bartended for a couple years at the Ram Pub in Brookings while in grad school...it was my favorite job ever. I'm also a CoCo-RAHS volunteer - a.k.a. rain gage weather nerd who reports rainfall amounts online at our house. The last few years I've helped my dad farm. It's drained my PTO, but I've enjoyed being home.
What made you want to be an engineer? Growing up, I wanted to take over the family farm. Dad told me

to get a different degree and make farming a fallback career. The SDSU CE Dept Dean Duane Rollag, gave one hell of a sales pitch on my senior day visit, so... here I am.
What do you like best about being an engineer? Technology is always improving the way we do our job! I'm writing this bio while at a HEC-RAS 2D training course in Champaign, Illinois. I've only had experience with 1D modeling up till now, so 2D river modeling will change how we analyze some floodplain situations.
Describe a significant event in your career. Moving down to Banner's Sioux Falls office was a big move for me. Although I miss people in Brookings, it's been great meeting and working with new people here.
Describe a significant event in your personal life. My mom and two of our family friends died in a car accident about a year ago. They touched many lives in the community and are missed tremendously!
Describe an achievement from the past year you are proud of. Kari and I bought a house in April and put some time into remodeling it the way we want it.
What are you looking forward to in the next year? We're all are going skiing at Terry Peak in a couple weeks. I also can't wait to go pheasant hunting with our new puppy.
I hate it when... I binge watch a Netflix series and end up going to bed way too late.
Favorite Place to Visit and Why: We went to Fort Meyers, FL last spring and caught a Twins spring training game in March. The weather was awesome and we played some golf, went to the beach, and relaxed.

2015-2016 OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS

Officers

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

Committees

Nominating Committee	Lee Kaffar
Mathcounts	Krista May, PE
Scholarship	Lance Mayer, PE
Events Coordinators	
eWeek	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 SDS website for members to use for PDH documentation. Go to 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,
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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
SDS
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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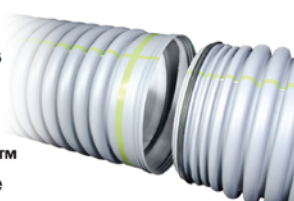
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