

MEMBERS OF THE

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS
SDES EASTERN CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

PO BOX 1512 SIOUX FALLS, SD 57101 | WWW.SDES.ORG

NSPE-SD EASTERN CHAPTER
SOUTH DAKOTA
ENGINEERING SOCIETY

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN	1
TREASURER'S REPORT	2
UPCOMING EVENTS	3
MONTHLY MEETING	4
MINI-GOLF HOLES	5
MATHCOUNTS	6
SERVE AT BANQUET	7
AWARDS BANQUET	8
ANNUAL CONFERENCE	9
NEW MEMBERS	10-11
WEBEX LOGIN	12
ADVERTISEMENTS	13-14

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

BY GABE LABER, PE

I hope everyone is surviving this rollercoaster of temperatures we are experiencing in the great state of South Dakota in February.

Please join us next week for our monthly meeting. We will have Shannon Ausen (City of Sioux Falls) and Harry Johnston (SDDOT) with their fan favorite discussion on this year's CIP and STIP projects in the area. Come early to secure your spot and network with colleagues.

We celebrate Engineers Week (E-Week) at the end of this month and we have a lot of activities. Our Chapter has a long history of several people volunteering for the many activities that allow us to have such an eventful E-Week. I encourage you to get involved - Many hands make light work. This year, we have a new event – The Mini-Golf Challenge at the Empire Mall on Saturday, Feb 19. Whether you are building a golf hole or not, be sure to visit the course, bring some friends, and support our Chapter. There will be a MathCounts competition on Thursday, Feb 24 and the opportunity to serve breakfast at the Banquet on Friday, Feb 25. To end the week with a bang – we will hold our Annual Engineering Awards Banquet on Saturday night, Feb 26th at the Holiday Inn City Center. We look forward to presenting our Engineering awards to deserving people and projects, as well announcing our scholarship winners. More information on all of these events is located within this newsletter.

Welcome to our newest members: Jacob Humburg, Siana Murphy, Anthony Ondricek, Alysa Patterson, James Robertson and Luke Rogers. We hope to see you at an upcoming meeting or event.

The Annual Conference is being hosted by the Eastern Chapter on April 6-7 in Sioux Falls. Registration will be opening soon. Watch for more details.

Hope to see you at next week's membership meeting.

WebEx: In addition to our monthly in-person presentation, the meetings will also be broadcast on WebEx. See pages 4 and 12 of this newsletter for the WebEx log-in information.

WebEx Information will now remain the same from November to May.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS:

Jacob Humburg
Siana Murphy
Anthony Ondricek
Alysa Patterson
James Robertson
Luke Rogers

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Eastern Chapter September Monthly Meeting IN PERSON Tuesday, February 8th at Pizza Ranch (41st Street Location)**
 - Lunch at 11:30; Meeting starts at noon
- **Saturday, February 19th — Engineering Mini Golf at Empire Mall (holes made by you! See more details later in the newsletter)**
- **Engineers Week will be celebrated the week of February 20th**
- **Thursday, February 24th — MathCounts Competition**
- **Friday, February 25th—Serve breakfast at the Banquet**
- **Saturday February 26th— eWeek Awards Banquet will be held this year — More details to come!**
- **Tuesday, March 8th— March Monthly Meeting**
- **SAVE THE DATE—SDES Annual Conference, April 5-7 in Sioux Falls**

February 2022

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					

MONTHLY MEETING

Please join us **in-person** for the monthly Eastern Chapter SDES Meeting at the Pizza Ranch Meeting Room on 41st Street.

Tuesday, February 8th

Lunch starts at 11:30 am and the meeting begins at noon

Shannon Ausen with the City of Sioux Falls and Harry Johnston with the SDDOT will be presenting on Upcoming Area Construction Projects

We look forward to seeing you in person, but if you'd like to join us virtually via WebEx, please see the information below.

We have set up a recurring meeting for the rest of the year, so the meeting information will stay the same until the end of the year (May 2022). Members can also find the link if they log in to the website and click on Membership Meeting Information under the Members Only item in the left hand menu.

Join from the meeting link: [Click Here](#)

Join by meeting number:

Meeting number (access code): 2464 774 4807

Meeting password: ERt323BNuYv

Tap to join from a mobile device (attendees only)

+1-650-479-3208,,24647744807## Call-in toll number (US/Canada)

Join by phone

1-650-479-3208 Call-in toll number (US/Canada)



South Dakota's National Society of Professional Engineers and The Empire Mall invite you to the

2022 Mini-Golf Challenge

Saturday, February 19, 2022

Empire Mall – Center Court

11:00 am – 3:00 pm

We're Celebrating!

Engineers Week 2022 is February 20 to 26. This year's theme — **Reimagining the Possible** — recognizes how engineers create new possibilities from green buildings to fuel-efficient cars to life-saving vaccines. By working together, engineers develop new technologies, products and opportunities that change how we live.

This Engineers Week we hope that you'll take a moment to recognize and celebrate the work of engineers and engage yourself in engineering. Visit DiscoverE.org and get the help you need to focus on the "E" in STEAM.

To kick it off, we're **Reimagining the Possible** with engineering themed mini-golf at Center Court in the Empire Mall on Saturday, February 19th from 11am – 3pm. Join us for this free event! Donations are also being accepted at the event, and we are proudly giving 100% of the donations to Habitat for Humanity. With our support, Habitat homeowners achieve the strength, stability and independence they need to build a better life for themselves and for their families.

**Let's inspire the next generation by celebrating ways
engineers turn dreams into reality by reimagining what seems
impossible to become the Possible!**



MATHCOUNTS KRISTA MAY, PE

MATHCOUNTS®

Save the Date

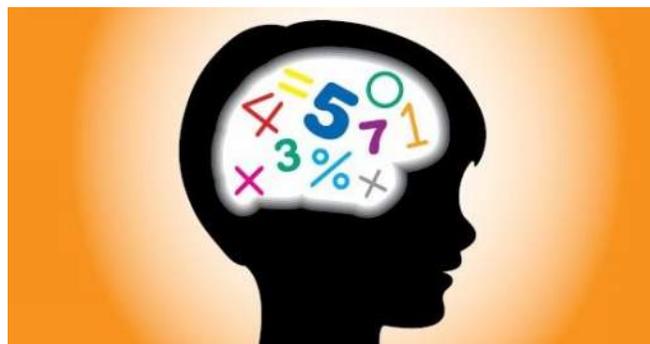
When: Thursday, February 24, 2022 at 1:00pm – 6:00pm

Where: Southeast Technical Institute, Sullivan
Health/Science Center, Room HC 257

Who: Middle Schoolers from SE South Dakota

Volunteers are needed to help with the registration table, hand out tests, watch for cheating, grade tests, and keep time. Volunteer Sign-up sheet will be available at January's and February's lunch meetings.

Contact Krista May at
kristam@infrastructuredg.com or 605.929.0267
with questions.



SERVING BREAKFAST AT THE BANQUET



Save the Date

When: Friday, February 25th

Where: The Banquet 900 E. 8th Street

Who: 5-6 volunteers at 5:30am

20-25 volunteers 6:30-8:30am

Volunteer Sign-up sheet will
be available at the February lunch meeting or
contact Abby Nelson at
abby.nelson@hdrinc.com or 605-977-7753

Free will donation to cover the
cost of the meal (\$400) will be taken
at February's lunch meeting.

JOIN US FOR THE

SDES

Eastern Chapter

&

ASCE South Dakota

Eastern Branch

Annual Engineering Awards Banquet

Saturday, February 26, 2022

Holiday Inn City Center, Sioux Falls

Social Begins @ 5:30

Dinner & Awards Program @ 6:30

Entertainment to Follow

Registration will be online and open the week of

February 7th at sdes.org.

Please RSVP by February 19, 2022

ANNUAL CONFERENCE KRISTA MAY, PE

SAVE THE DATE

We're excited to get back to an in-person Annual Conference in Sioux Falls!

Save the date for April 6th-7th, 2022, to join your colleagues for some great PDH opportunities and social interaction.

More information regarding registration, sponsorship and vendor opportunities, speaker line-up, and tour to come!



Matthew J. Sutton**The Schemmer Associates
Inc.**

Principal, Civil Engineering Manager;
22+ years with firm
msutton@schemmer.com

Favorite Quote: "60% of the time it works every time"

College and Major:

**South Dakota State
B.S. Civil Engineering**



**MBA—University of
Nebraska-Omaha**



I was raised in De Smet, SD and graduated from SDSU in 1998 with a B.S. in Civil Engineering. I lived in Omaha, NE since 1998 and recently relocated to Sioux Falls last summer when our firm acquired a small architecture firm in Sioux Falls.

Family: Wife (Somer)

Hometown: De Smet, SD

Favorite Room in My House and Why: My basement....big tv, surround sound, bar and wine cellar...I can spend a lot of time there during football season.

My Normal Breakfast: Kashi protein cereal

Hobbies: Sports, hunting, fishing

My Best Personality Trait: Patience

Favorite TV Show: Currently I'm hooked on Yellowstone

What made you want to be an engineer? I was always orderly and enjoyed technical challenges....and I thought I would get to drive a train.

What do you like best about being an engineer? Working for an organization that holds itself up to high ethical standards.

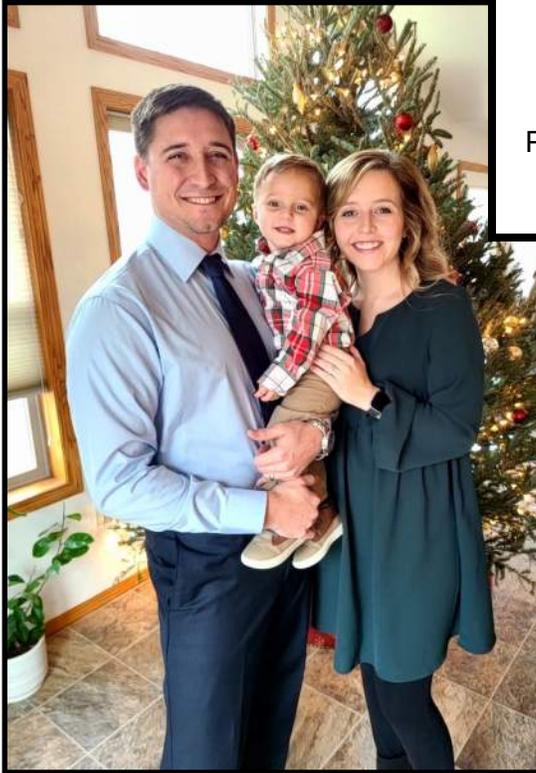
Describe a significant event in your career. Becoming a principal in our company.

Describe a significant event in your personal life. My recent relocation to Sioux Falls after 23 years in Omaha.

Describe an achievement from the past year you are proud of. Overcoming the challenges associated with moving during a pandemic.

What are you looking forward to in the next year? I'm looking forward meeting new people, reconnecting with past acquaintances, and growing our engineering presence in South Dakota.

Favorite Place to Visit and Why: Lake Tahoe. Great hiking, great weather, incredible scenery and year-round outdoor activities.



Alex Welbig Banner

Project Engineer, 6 years with Banner
alexw@bannerassociates.com

College and Major:
South Dakota State
Civil Engineering



I grew up on a farm just outside of Colton, SD with three siblings. I have two older brothers and an older sister. I went to Tri-Valley then South Dakota State University for Civil Engineering. I worked on the farm a lot with my dad growing up and then worked for a construction company that refurbished old barns. I was hired as an intern for Stockwell Engineering throughout college and then worked at Banner Associates once I graduated. I am married with a son named Miles and we are expecting our second in April 2022. I love working with my dad and father-in-law on their farms whenever I can and doing home projects. My wife and I are always going for walks and doing projects outside throughout the warmer months.

Family: 1 sister and 2 brothers. I am the youngest of the four.

Hometown: Colton, SD

Favorite Room in My House and Why: Living Room, where all our memories are made.

My Normal Breakfast: Banana muffins and coffee

Hobbies: Riding Motorcycle, playing softball/basketball, working around the house, watching

Twins/Vikings, boating

What do you collect? Jacket pins from Sturgis each year that I attend.

My Best Personality Trait: Organized

Pets: Dog at my parents' farm

Pet peeves: When people don't use their blinkers or when slow vehicles drive in the passing lane on the interstate.

Favorite beverage: Mountain Dew

Favorite TV Show: Yellowstone

Favorite Quote: Embrace what you have for tomorrow is unknown

I hate it when... I order something off Amazon, and it breaks after I use it for the first time.

What made you want to be an engineer? Growing up on a farm, there are so many pieces that go into making the operation work. When I did a job shadow for Civil Engineering in High School, I quickly felt that it was like creating a farm within a town/city. There are so many intricacies and details that happen under people's feet that no one even realizes; I always knew I wanted to be part of the process of making it happen.

What do you like best about being an engineer? I enjoy having an impact on all the towns I grew up around. Nothing beats having a brand-new street to drive down.

Describe a significant event in your career. Passing my PE was my most exciting accomplishment.

Describe a significant event in your personal life. I went on a long motorcycle trip with two buddies during college to the west coast. We went through Yellowstone, Glacier National Park, Seattle, San Francisco, and then back home.

What are you looking forward to in the next year? My 2nd child being born.

Favorite Place to Visit and Why: Missouri River. My wife grew up in Geddes, SD on a farm. When we go visit her family in the summers, we always go boating out on the river to water ski, tube, or just relax and have some drinks.

2021-2022 OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS

Officers

President	Gabe Laber, PE
President Elect	Josh Peterson, PE
Vice President	Devin Clay, PE
Secretary/Treasurer	Scott LaVoy, PE
Chapter Director(1st term)	Kent Ode, PE
Chapter Director(2nd term)	Kari Johnson PE
State Director	Riley Rinehart, PE
Past President	Ben Scholtz, PE

Committees

Nominating Committee	Lee Kaffar, BA
Mathcounts	Krista May, PE
Scholarship	Lance Mayer, PE
Events Coordinators	
E-Week	Erin Steever, PE
Winter Social	Kent Ode, PE
Golf Outing	Kent Ode, 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 SDDES 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

SDES February Monthly Meeting
Meeting available on Webex on
Tuesday, February 8th at Noon (CST)

Meeting number (access code):
 2464 774 4807
 Meeting password:
 ERt323BNuYv

Join from the meeting link:

[Click Here](#)

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

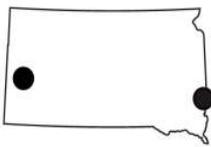
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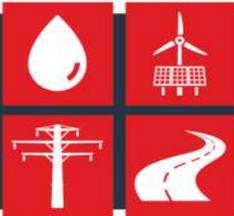


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