

Wisconsin Section Southwest Branch (<http://ascewisw.org/>)



Tuesday, September 20, 2011



Social Night at the NEW Union South

Join the Southwest branch for our social on September 20th at Union South. This will be a great follow up to our tour last fall to experience the facility in its finished form, which opened in April 2011.

Head to the Union South website (<http://www.union.wisc.edu/visit-unionsouth.htm>) to see all the new features of this new \$94.8 million, 276,000 sq ft building that includes two underground levels, five stories above grade and a sixth floor mechanical penthouse. Other notable features include approximately 175 underground parking stalls, recreation center with 8-lane bowling alley and climbing wall, restaurant/pub/night club, food and retail spaces including a coffee & wine bar, art gallery, student organization offices, Wisconsin Union offices, meeting rooms, a 900-seat conference space, a 350-seat theater, and 60 hotel rooms. This building is on track to achieve LEED™ Gold certification.

Time: 5:30 - 6 pm: Meet at Sett (Basement Level)
6 - 7:30 pm: Bowling, Socializing, Eating
7:30 pm until ???: Post-bowling socializing

Food and Bowling Cost: Professionals/Students - \$5

Menu: Assorted Varieties of Pizza
Refreshments available from concessions

Social Location:
UW Union South
1308 W Dayton St
Madison, WI

Parking: Parking is available at Union South or at UW Lot 17 Ramp (1525 Engineering Drive) - West of Engineering Hall & North of Camp Randall Stadium.



Larger map available at: <http://map.wisc.edu/>

RSVP:

Look for an Evite in your inbox. Please RSVP by 5 pm on September 15th so we can know how much food to order. If you have any questions, contact Amanda Stone (astone@baird.com or 608-273-0592).

2011 ASCE Upcoming Meeting Schedule

Oct. 20, 2011	Joint meeting with UW-Madison, Tour of new UW Hockey facility, Engineers Without Borders and Scholarship Presentations
Nov. 2011	Joint meeting with UW-Platteville, Speaker TBD, Engineers Without Borders and Scholarship Presentations

Date TBD

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS!!!

You will receive this newsletter in the mail too. This is the ONLY paper newsletter you will receive from the Branch this year. Please confirm that your email is correct with ASCE National. Go to asce.org or call 800-548-2723 to update your email address. If you prefer to receive paper copies of the newsletters this year, please call Amanda Stone at (608) 273-0592.

WI Section American Society of Civil Engineers



C/O David Staab, P.E.
Southwest Wisconsin Branch - ASCE
CGC, Inc.
2921 Perry Street
Madison, WI 53713

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Madison, Wisconsin
Permit No. 2745

Mark your calendars for
the September ASCE
Southwest Branch Social:
5:30 pm Tuesday,
September 20.
Sign up NOW - RSVP date
is Sept. 15!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION BELOW – PLEASE READ

How many of you have seen these words above (or similar) on an obvious piece of junk mail in your mailbox? I personally can't tell you how many I get. And how many times are you compelled to open that, again, *obvious*, junk mail because of those words. Even though you know it can't be important, you just can't help but open it up – just in case. I'm embarrassed to say that every once in a while I do it – I open it up – I get tricked!

Don't worry. My intention here is not to trick you, though I did want to get your attention. Why? Because this *is* important – let me explain. What goes on in this Branch is what you (or your employer) pay for. The dues you pay every year to be a member of ASCE contribute, in part, to the Branch activities. With the economy the way it is these days, I think everyone should be aware of, and concerned about, how their money is being spent.

So where *does* your money go?

Well a good portion goes to ASCE National and the vast resources and services they provide. If you have no idea what National does, just check out their website (asce.org). From technical resources and publications, to professional development opportunities, to volunteer efforts, there is no denying ASCE National is putting your dues to work!

Another portion of your dues goes to the Wisconsin Section. They provide you with a connection to statewide issues in the civil engineering profession (e.g., the Report Card), they recognize excellence in Wisconsin civil engineering through various awards, and they graciously support the activities of the Branches, among other things.

And finally, some of your money comes to the Southwest Branch. So what do we do with it? As I see it, it is all about making connections. The Southwest Branch:

- Connects you to the latest happenings at the Branch, Section and National level through our monthly newsletter, website, and now Facebook;
- Connects you to the latest local civil engineering projects and issues through our monthly meetings and through periodic hosting of the WI Annual Meeting and Spring Technical Conference;
- Connects you (and your money) to the students through scholarships, yearly joint meetings, mentoring, social, and outreach events;
- Connects Younger Members and provides them with opportunities and activities for the “new” civil engineer;
- Connects you to opportunities to serve your community through volunteer and outreach activities;
- AND, perhaps most importantly, connects *you to each other* through all the activities, opportunities, and services mentioned above.

Every year the Branch volunteers (board and committee members) work to make these connections as meaningful and effective as possible. This year is no different – look for new things happening with our electronic resources (website, newsletter, social media), membership initiatives, and our Younger Member and social activities.

So what do you think? Are you getting what you pay for? If yes, great! If not, it's *your* money - *tell us* what *you* are looking for in ASCE – what can we provide, what can we do to make it worth it to *you*. We want to help you make those connections, because when times are tough, it is those connections that help pull us through.

Sincerely,

Theresa Possley Nelson, PE
ASCE WI Southwest Branch President

Please email me your thoughts, comments and suggestions (tmpnelson@gmail.com). And feel free to let me know if you feel you were tricked into reading this entire message, I will disagree, but sympathize.

THANK YOU!!! A big thanks to the 2010-2011 Southwest Branch Board, including Past-President Cassie Goodwin. Your dedication to ASCE and the civil engineering profession on the local level is noble and inspiring. Keep up the great work!

INTERESTED IN GETTING MORE INVOLVED?? The Southwest Board meets 3-4 times per year and organizes all Branch activities. If you have ideas, big or small, and/or want to be more involved (a little or a lot) with your Southwest Branch, please let us know (tmpnelson@gmail.com).