

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



Thursday, November 17, 2011
Joint Meeting with UW-Platteville Student Chapter
Project Presentation: Bee Branch Project (East Dubuque, IA), UW-Platteville Engineers Without Borders Presentation, and Student Scholarship Presentation

Bee Branch Project Presentation
Derin Muehring
City of Dubuque, IA Engineering Department

The City of Dubuque's Bee Branch Creek Restoration Project involves the phased construction of a 4,500-foot long open waterway from the 16th Street Detention Basin along the Mississippi River to Comiskey Park. This nearly \$47 million project will reduce the risk of storm water flood damage to 1,155 properties in one of Dubuque's oldest and most-challenged neighborhoods.

The project's final design includes the creation of a "linear park" along the open waterway with amenities including an amphitheater, bike/hike trails, benches, bridges, lighting, and landscaping. In addition to serving as a storm water management component, the Bee Branch Creek Restoration Project will create a community attraction for residents and visitors, improve the quality of life for neighborhood residents, serve as a catalyst for economic development, and positively impact property values. Completion of the project will also promote and enhance recreational opportunities on and near the Mississippi River. The project's linear park and amenities will create a mile-long corridor connecting the Mississippi River and the many riverfront attractions to Dubuque's North End neighborhood and Heritage Trail.

Time: 5:30-6:00 pm Social Hour (Cash Bar)
6:00 pm Dinner
7:00 pm Presentations & Scholarships

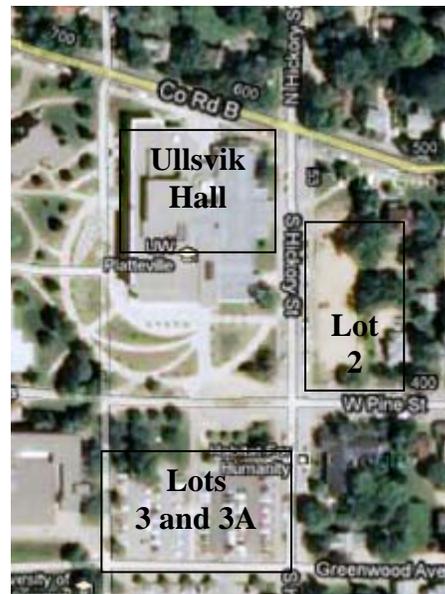
Meal Cost: Professionals - \$15
Students, Guests, Faculty - \$5
UW-P Students Graduating in December - \$2

Menu: Stuffed Pork Loin or Sliced Roast Beef, Tossed Salad, Mostaccoli, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Pumpkin Bars. Meal includes tea and water; cash bar also available.

Meeting Location:
Harry and Laura Nohr Gallery - ground floor in Ullsvik Hall
1 University Plaza
Platteville, WI
(West side of Hickory Street between Main and Pine Streets)

Directions: From Madison, take 151 to Platteville. Take HWY 80/81 exit into Platteville, and at the end of off-ramp take a right. Follow 80/81 into town. Turn left on East Pine Street and continue onto University Plaza.

Parking: Parking lot (Lot 2) across from Ullsvik Hall on east side of Hickory Street. Street parking also available, as well as in Lots 3, 3a, 4, 5 and 6.



Larger map available at:
http://www.uwplatt.edu/contact/Campus_Map.pdf

RSVP:
Please RSVP by 5:00 PM, Monday, November 7th to Amanda Stone at astone@baird.com. May also respond via Evite email invitation.



Mark your calendars for the November ASCE Southwest

Branch Meeting:

5:30 pm Thursday, November 17.

Sign up NOW - RSVP date is Nov. 7!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am incredibly excited about this month's meeting and speaker! As a water resources engineer, I am always eager to listen to someone talk about flooding and more importantly, show pictures! Water is a powerful fluid force that is a perpetual challenge (can you say "job security") for civil engineers. The city of Dubuque experienced record rainfall and subsequent flooding this past July, and it will be interesting to hear how they are moving forward.

Another reason I am excited about the meeting this month is because it is our joint meeting with UW-Platteville! You may be wondering why I like UW-Platteville so much, especially if you read last month's President's Message where I gushed about how much I love UW-Madison. Let me tell you. Many years ago (how many isn't important), I was a student at Oostburg High School in Mr. Sobieski's physics class. One of the class highlights was building a balsa wood bridge – I got to design it and spend several weeks gluing and shaping the pieces. This was my first hands-on experience with civil engineering, not counting the rivers I dug in the sandbox as a kid. You may think I'm getting a bit off topic here, but when my bridge was done, I got to travel to *UW-Platteville* and watch them load test my bridge during their Engineering Expo. What an incredible experience to design, build, and test something – start to finish! My bridge didn't win the competition, but it did do well enough to earn me a valuable prize – an orange Platteville t-shirt – which I still own today (and may wear to the meeting)!

The students in the UW-Platteville student chapter are an amazingly enthusiastic and well-managed group, and they still help organize and host the Engineering Expo every year! In addition they have strong concrete canoe and steel bridge teams, they host a huge golf outing fundraiser each fall, and they participate in various community service activities including Adopt-a-Highway and, new this year, electronics recycling. I also hear their chili cook-off fundraiser is quite competitive! For all this (and more) they were the recipients of an award from ASCE National that was presented at this past year's Workshop for Student Chapter Leaders in Fort Worth, TX. What an honor to be recognized for the important work they do for our profession at the student level.

The UW-Platteville students have done and continue to do a lot in support of the civil engineering profession; now it's our turn to do something for them. First, as mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, they are in need of a Practitioner Advisor – please seriously consider volunteering for this important role! Second, UW-Platteville will be hosting Regionals this coming April; they will need professionals to serve as judges and in other capacities – watch for a request for volunteers this spring. And lastly, they need us to show our support by attending the joint meeting on the 17th. Since most of the Southwest Branch's activities center around the Madison area, this is our big chance to get over to Platteville and meet and mingle with this year's students.

I leave you now with an engineer's attempt at poetry...

*I don't care if it's by dogsled,
or a carpool that is green;
just get yourself to Platteville
on November Seventeen!*

Theresa Possley Nelson, PE
ASCE WI Southwest Branch President 2011-2012

CALL FOR SPEAKERS

Are you working on an exciting project that you think might be of interest to other Southwest Branch members? Is there a topic you would like to see covered at one of our monthly Branch meetings? We are looking for new speakers and exciting projects for presentations or tours at our monthly Branch meetings. No prior meeting attendance is required. Speakers will be provided with a free meal and a speaker gift. This is a great opportunity to get more involved with the Branch and let other engineers in the region know about new and exciting projects that you're involved with. If you would be interested in presenting or have a suggestion for a topic/presenter, contact the arrangements chair, Amanda Stone (astone@baird.com) for more details.

UW-PLATTEVILLE NEEDS YOU!

The UW-Platteville ASCE student chapter is in need of a new practitioner advisor (aka student chapter liaison). This person would be an ASCE member outside the University. Their main roles would be to help provide continuity from year to year (as the students come and go), update the Branch Board on student chapter activities, and provide a connection between the students and the professionals in the Branch. Ideally, this person would be a Platteville alumnus and/or live or work near Platteville, but this is not a requirement. Anyone with an interest in working with students is encouraged to volunteer for this important position – please contact Theresa at pres@ascewisw.org.

YOUNGER MEMBER UPDATE

Thanks to those who helped out with our joint YM – UW-Madison Adopt-a-Highway cleanup in October. We had so many volunteers (mostly students) that cleanup was super quick and allowed us plenty of time to find some incredible items for our trash contest!

Look for info about our next event (Ugly Christmas Sweater Social) in next month's newsletter.