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February 2014  
NEWSLETTER  
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## *Joint February Meeting with WSPE*

### *WINDOWS OF OPPORTUNITY -- SHALE PLAY IN NORTH AMERICA TRANSPORTATION, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND ECONOMIC ITEMS OF INTEREST*

**Thursday February 20, 2014  
5:30pm - 7pm**

**Fitzgerald's Restaurant**  
3112 Parmenter St.  
Middleton, WI 53562

[Register Here](#)

Tom Beekman, WisDOT NW Region Systems Planning Chief, will be speaking about shale play. The presentation will take a look at what is a 'shale play' and its impacts on US and worldwide energy supply. We will look at the extraction method of 'fracture' drilling and why that has created a huge expansion in fracture sand mining industry within the state of Wisconsin. We will do an overview of the fracture sand industry looking at:

- The extraction and processing efforts.
- The economics that drive the logistics and business model for WI fracture sand industry
- The current status and future trend line for industry within WI.

The presentation will then take a look at the extraction side of shale play looking at the economic, logistic, and transportation issues associated with extracted gas and crude oil products. This part of the presentation will look at:

- The economics that are driving the logistical model for shipping crude oil and gas products.
- The economics that are driving the creation of other industries such as gas fractionalization.

The presentation will then look at some of the more frequent or popular predictions that one may have heard from the shale play supply of oil and gas. Let's check the math...

- Energy independence
- 100 years of natural gas supply
- Return of cheap gasoline

Professional Engineers attending the event will receive .5 PDHs. Lunch will be a selection from a limited menu. The total cost of the event is \$20 per person and can be paid either via PayPal (when you register) or will be collected at the door.

If you have any questions about registration,  
please contact Francesca at 917-282-8866

We look forward to seeing you there!

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## *Congratulations to the 2013 ASCE Southwest Branch Scholarship Recipients!*

### **UW-Madison**

Barbara Thunder  
Jaime Yanez Rojas

### **UW-Platteville**

Alyssa Norsby  
Jim Costigan

The ASCE Southwest Branch would like to express our profound gratitude to the donors of the 2013 ASCE Southwest Branch Scholarships. Because of their generosity and charity, we were able to provide four \$750 scholarships (\$3,000 total) to deserving civil engineering students from UW-Platteville and UW-Madison.

The ASCE Southwest Branch thanks you very much for your contribution to the scholarship fund and we hope we can count on your continued support!

**Visionary** (\$500+): W.F. Baird & Associates Ltd; Mead & Hunt

**Sustainer** (\$250-\$499): Strand Associates, Inc.; Wisconsin Concrete Pipe Association

**Patron** (\$150-\$249): Leggette, Brashears & Graham, Inc.; SRI Design Inc.; CGC, Inc.; Wagner Komurka Geotechnical Group

**Sponsor** (\$0-\$149): River Valley Testing; Kenny's Canoe and Kayak Shop

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## *2014 ASCE Wisconsin Spring Technical Conference*

**Thursday March 6, 2014  
11:30am - 7:35pm**

**Country Springs Hotel**  
2810 Golf Rd.  
Pewaukee, WI 53072

[REGISTER HERE](#)

The Wisconsin Section Southeast Branch is happy to be hosting the 2014 ASCE Wisconsin Spring Technical Conference March 6th at Country Springs Hotel in Pewaukee, WI. This year's conference has another exciting line up for technical sessions. You can earn up to 5 PDHs for attending all day.

[Register](#) by February 27th to avoid a \$10 late fee. Registrations will not be accepted after March 4th.

Click [here](#) for the Conference Schedule and Speakers list .

All registration and mailings are being done electronically. If you have any issues with on-line registration, please contact Chad Shihata (cshihata@gmail.com).

Please forward this email or invite others as guests that may not be on the ASCE mailing list. We hope to see you in attendance.

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## *Habitat for Humanity Work Day*

**Saturday March 8, 2014**

**8:15am - 3:30pm**

**Build Site**

4614 Crescent Rd. Fitchburg, WI

Come volunteer for our Habitat for Humanity work day! This spring, we are partnering with Habitat Young Professionals and will be working on their build site. We're not sure which work task we'll be helping with just yet, but we always have a good time and it's a great chance to learn (or practice) some useful skills. All tools, safety equipment, and site supervision that our group needs will be provided.

Please [RSVP](#) by February 26th!

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## *Latest Region 3 News*

ASCE News Weekly has undergone an overhaul. Head on over to the website (<http://message.asce.org/Region3News>) to see the latest Region 3 news. If you have news to share of interest to the region, contact us!

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## *Younger Member Trivia Night!*

Come join us for Trivia Night Tuesday February 18th at 7:15pm at Babe's (5614 Schroeder Rd. Madison). We'll form a team and test our knowledge of random and possibly obscure subjects. Most likely we'll learn new useless facts along the way to wow our friends and family. Hopefully we'll place a little higher than last time =>

There are prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd places. (Gift Cards for \$50, \$25 & \$10)

Please [RSVP](#) to join in the fun.

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## *Steel Bridge Regional Competition Judges Needed!*

UW-Platteville will be hosting the regional steel bridge competition this year on March 28th-29th. They're in need of help from the professionals for judging! You can volunteer for one or both days. Contact Jake Gregerson ([gregersonj@uwplatt.edu](mailto:gregersonj@uwplatt.edu)) if

you'd like to get involved.

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## *President's Message*

With February comes Engineers Week from the 16<sup>th</sup> through the 22<sup>nd</sup> - an opportunity for us to celebrate making a difference in the world as engineers. The Southwest Branch will be celebrating with WSPE on the 20<sup>th</sup> with an evening banquet and what I'm sure will be a lively discussion about frac mining. This is also a great time to be thinking about how you can help as an engineer, be it through mentoring, attending a career fair at your local school, or volunteering through one of our outreach events. You can follow all the latest news and updates for Engineers Week on the website, which has many social media outlets with interesting things about engineering that you can share with others (<http://www.discovere.org/>).

As part of Engineers Week, February 20<sup>th</sup> is Girl Day - a day to encourage the young women in our lives to consider having a career in engineering. I am so proud to see the number of women in our field growing, but we have a long way to go. I found it quite exciting that, if you were watching closely enough during the Super Bowl, the new startup GoldieBlox won a commercial slot. If you didn't see all the chatter floating around social media this fall around GoldieBlox, it is a new toy crowdfunded on Kickstarter that is meant to get girls interested at a young age in problem solving with a connection to building. If you missed the commercial, you can still catch it on the web (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xPzQaEENGes>). Take some time this week to consider ways that you can encourage the young women in your life to consider a career in engineering.

We're keeping very busy here at the Southwest Branch this month, and I hope to see some of you at our upcoming events. The Wisconsin Section Spring Tech Conference is coming up in early March as well as our spring Habitat for Humanity volunteer day. The Younger Member Committee holds monthly activities including a Math Counts volunteer day back in early February and an upcoming trivia night on the 18<sup>th</sup>. As always, you can check our website (<http://ascewisw.org/>) for all the latest activities going on in the branch.

Finally, every spring we hold branch board elections. We are always looking for volunteers for various positions on the board, so if you would like to get involved with branch planning or know someone who might be interested, please contact me with any questions you might have ([astone@baird.com](mailto:astone@baird.com)). We're looking for people who are interested in positions from president-elect to directors or committee chairs interested in membership, public relations, social media, or younger member activities. It's a great way to get to know people in the branch better and gain some leadership and networking experience as well.

Amanda Stone, P.E.  
ASCE WI Southwest Branch President



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