PRESIDENT’S COLUMN
BY KURT PEPPEL—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.

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 Boarders 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
SDES DONATION HELPS BRING “JOURNEY TO SPACE” TO THE CINEDOME
BY ERIN STEEVER, PE

SDES 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

SDES is continuing our E-week community outreach 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).

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

Mark your calendars for this year’s SDES/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!

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**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

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

June 7th, 2018

Eastern Chapter of the South Dakota Engineering Society
Lance Mayer, P.E.
Scholarship Chair - SDES/EC
2609 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
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.

**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.”

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**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 CoCoRAHS 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.
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.

2015-2016 OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS

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

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<th>Committee</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nominating Committee</td>
<td>Lee Kaffar</td>
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<td>Mathcounts</td>
<td>Krista May, PE</td>
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<td>Scholarship</td>
<td>Lance Mayer, PE</td>
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<td>Events Coordinators</td>
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<td>eWeek</td>
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<td>Winter Social</td>
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<td>Golf Outing</td>
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<td>Awards</td>
<td>Wes Philips, PE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Audio/Visual IT</td>
<td>Chad Stensland, PE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter</td>
<td>Joshua Peterson, PE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership List</td>
<td>Myron Adam, PE</td>
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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 SDES 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,
PUBLIC WORKS
224 W NINTH STREET
PO BOX 7402
SIOUX FALLS, SD 57117-7402
605-367-8687
jpeterson@siouxfalls.org

For all State Society membership information and other business, contact:

Gail Boddicker,
Executive Director
SDES
Rapid City, SD 57709
605-394-6674
Gail.Boddicker@sdsmt.edu
To advertise in the Engineering Informer, please contact Joshua Peterson at: jpeterson@siouxfalls.org or 367-8616. The cost for a standard business card-size advertisement for one year is $75. Thank you to all of you who continue to generously support the Eastern Chapter of SDES.
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