



# SOUTHWEST CHAPTER

## Wisconsin Society of Professional Engineers

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SEPTEMBER 2007

Another year has started for the Southwest Chapter of WSPE. We hope that this is the year you will accept a role in the chapter and assist in its growth. Volunteers are needed for many slots as well as for assisting on the various committees. This is the twenty-fifth anniversary of Mathcounts. As a chapter, we should strive to make this the best Mathcounts year ever. But that cannot happen without your assistance.

A lot has happened over the course of the summer. A bridge collapsed in Minnesota and thought tragic, it was not the most serious bridge collapse. A Connecticut bridge collapsed 30 years ago in which 46 died, and there were several others around the country that did not get the headlines. The bigger question is, "why is this occurring?" That leads us to this month's presentations on September 27 in Room 3121 of the newly remodeled Mechanical Engineering building on campus. We had almost 16 inches of rain, setting an all-time monthly record for Dane County. It was not, however, the most rain over 30 consecutive days; we were about three inches short of that record.

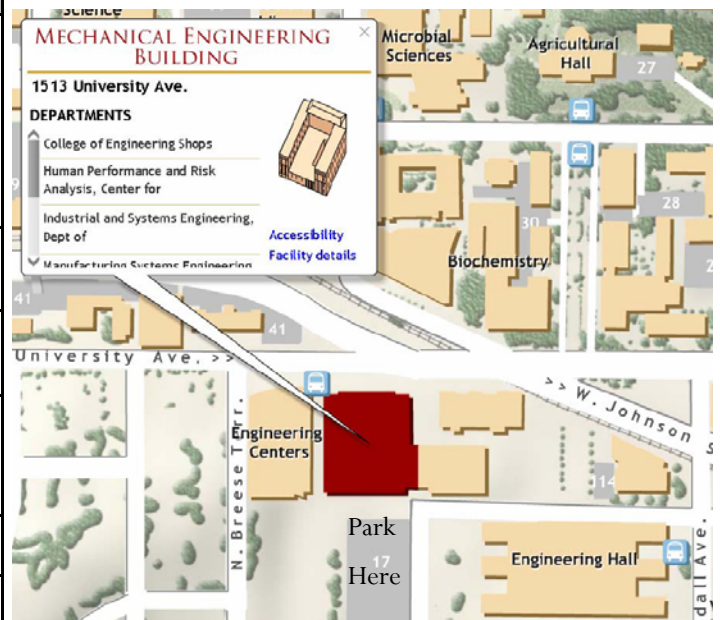
Speaking of records, let's use the rain as a guide to set a record ourselves with attendance at the meetings. We will be trying different formats to see what does or does not work. The first is an afternoon meeting with an open invitation to all to go to dinner afterwards. As you make your meeting reservations, let us know if you are interested in dinner, and we will arrange for it at an area restaurant. The meeting will include a tour of the newly remodeled Mechanical Engineering building. Help your board start the year out right with a large attendance and by volunteering to help either as an officer or on a committee, be it Mathcounts, education, scholarships, or legislation.

Norman Arendt, CHS-III, CFEI&I, PhD

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### September Chapter Meeting

Topic	Jeff Western from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) will update the group on the status of the WisDOT Emergency Operations Center. Finn Hubbard will present on infrastructure protection with concentration on structures and the demolition of structures. If time permits, we will have student presentations on the research that is being completed for homeland security.
When	September 27, 2007. Program starts at 1:30 PM. Presentations will start at 2 PM.
Where	UW Mechanical Engineering Building, Room 3121. Park in Lot 17 (in the parking ramp, see map) for a fee of \$3.50.
Dinner	When you RSVP, please indicate if you are interested in dinner. We will then make arrangements based on the number of people attending and will order off the menu.
Price	The program is free. Dinner prices will be determined.
RSVP	Please RSVP to Andy Graham at <a href="mailto:agra@vierbicher.com">agra@vierbicher.com</a> or (608) 826-0532. RSVP by 4 PM, September 21.





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**Address Service Requested**

## September 2007 Newsletter

### SOUTHWEST CHAPTER- WISCONSIN SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

<i>Chapter Meeting Schedule</i>		<i>Board Meeting Schedule</i>
September 27, 2007	WisDOT Emergency Operations Center	September 4, 2007
October 2007	UW-Platteville (Topic to be determined)	October 2, 2007
November 2007	Topic and date to be determined	November 6, 2007
December 2007	Topic and date to be determined	December 4, 2007
January 2008	Topic and date to be determined	January 8, 2008
February 2008	Engineer's Week, Joint with ASCE	February 5, 2008
March 2008	Topic and date to be determined	March 4, 2008
April 2008	Topic and date to be determined	April 1, 2008
May 2008	Topic and date to be determined	May 6, 2008
		<i>7 AM Tuesdays</i>
<i>All Meetings Thursday Unless Otherwise Noted</i>		
<i>Upcoming Events Schedule</i>		
February 2, 2008	Mathcounts Chapter Competition - Lowell Center, Madison	
March 1, 2008	Mathcounts State Competition - Lowell Center, Madison	
<b>April 17, 2008</b>	<b>2008 Discovery Conference and Governor's New Product Awards</b>	