2017 Marks MSPE 80th Anniversary

By Cherie L. Bishop
Editor, The Missouri Engineer

MSPE TURNS 80 ON FEBRUARY 16TH!

“It was a stormy, sleet-filled day when a group of hearty engineers met at 2 p.m. on January 9, 1937 in an open forum to discuss the proposed registration bill for architects and engineers to be introduced to local engineers and less than 10 outside speakers and visitors, including W.S. Conlon of Washington, D.C. from the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE), where he served as Executive Secretary.”

It was decided at the open forum, Mr. Conlon would assist in setting up and organizing the Missouri Society of Professional Engineers. Temporary leaders chosen were: Joe B. Butler, Rolla, President; M.E. Countryman, Jefferson City, Vice President; C.E. Barstley, Rolla, Secretary-Treasurer, and A.H. Baum, St. Louis, National Director. This newly formed organization was the foundation and starting point of today’s MSPE.

Looking back through the society’s historical files more details about MSPE’s beginnings are detailed with vivid descriptions ...

“Invitations for the event were sent to 1,700 engineers and architects throughout the state. Early replies and requests for a copy of the proposed bill were indicators there was great interest statewide.”

The first called meeting of the society took place February 16, 1937 where attendance by 20 members was recorded. In addition to the officers, these attendees became the society’s founding members, which included: Ernest W. Carlton, W. E. Davis, E.E. Decker, L.E. Edwards, A.A. Farnham, F.H. Frame, C.L. Gilbreath, Milan Johnson, I.H. Lovett, C.V. Mann, H.W. Meyer, B.H. Rucker, R.S. Rucker, Earl Snell and W. C. Stover. The purpose of this meeting was twofold: first to inspect copies of registration laws already enacted by other states and, secondly, to discuss and formulate desirable policies...

The official publication of the Missouri Society of Professional Engineers whose mission is to promote the ethical and competent practice of engineering

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President's Message:

It's Been A Very Busy "MSPE" Year So Far

By E. Matt Bedinghaus, P.E.
MSPE 2016-2017 President

Season's Greetings! It’s been a very busy MSPE “Year” so far.

An August meeting of the Executive Committee followed by Ozark Chapter’s Annual Shrimp Feed kicked off my year as MSPE’s President. September brought the NSPE President’s yearly visit to MSPE’s Western Chapter, a brainstorming session with the Annual Convention Planning Committee plus my President’s Workshop where the Visionworks Marketing Group directed an exercise to teach our state, chapter and practice division leadership a method to determine responsibilities for chapter committees, state committees, and the state Officers, Board of Directors or MSPE Staff.

October found me back in Jefferson City for one of my favorite MSPE events, the P.E. Ceremony for newly registered professional engineers that followed our second meeting of the Executive Committee.

It was back to the Capital City again in December to attend MSPE’s very successful 15th Annual Fall PDH Days event (See Page 5) and the Jefferson City Christmas Party and gift exchange. In my first six months, I’m proud to say I’ve had the pleasure of visiting every Chapter for at least one meeting and some more than once! I can report that all of MSPE’s Chapters are doing some great things for MSPE, the good of the profession, and for the future of Professional Engineering and Professional Engineers.

Throughout the remainder of my term, which seems to be flying by in a number of ways, I am looking forward to:

❖ MSPE’s Winter Meeting event on January 20 and 21, 2017 at the MSPE Educational Foundation Building in Jefferson City

❖ A successful membership year showing increases in renewals & recruitment of new members. Our Membership Committee, led by Jason Sommerer, P.E. and Membership Coordinator Stacey Meyer have been very active this year. (See Page 3)

❖ MSPE’s Government Relations Committee’s recommendations on proposed legislation that might affect MSPE Members

❖ More Chapter Activities

❖ Attending MSPE’s Spring 2017 PE Ceremony at the Capitol on Saturday, April 8, 2017. This special ceremony is being moved to Saturday in the hopes we will get better attendance. (I fondly recall flying to Jefferson City from St. Joseph, MO to attend my PE Ceremony in 1991. My wife, daughter and brother-in-law - an airplane mechanic - loaded into the Tailwinds Flying Club’s Cessna 172; it was a very cloudy morning and I ended up landing at Lexington, MO and calling the weather service to verify that it was in fact going to clear up for the remainder of the trip. My father met us at the Jefferson City Municipal Airport and drove us to the Capitol where we ended up walking in just as the ceremony was starting, but in plenty of time for me to walk up and get my PE Certificate. For many reasons, that was a wonderful day for me - it was also some great encouragement to get my Instrument Rating the following year!)

❖ MSPE’s 80th Annual Convention at Old Kinderhook, Camdenton, Mo. Planning Committee Chair Rachael Goeke, P.E, the planning committee members, and Cherie Bishop, MSPE’s Convention Coordinator, have been very busy scheduling networking activities, PDH sessions along with social and family events. Don’t forget to get your hotel room reserved soon! (See Page 6)

❖ Have a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

How I Became a P.E.

Why I Thought it would be awesome... and it is!!

Leading the “Engineers Creed” with the newly registered P.E.’s at the October 2016 P.E. Ceremony which is one of my very favorite MSPE events.

Telling my story at the Membership Committee meeting.

Attending Southwest Chapter’s 26th Annual Youth Benefit Dinner (left) and joining Southeast Chapter at their quarterly meeting (above) in Dexter.
Committee Establishes Goals For Membership Growth

Exciting opportunities to expand retention and recruitment efforts await MSPE in 2017 which are aimed at moving membership numbers upward.

MSPE’s Membership Committee, under the direction of Jason Sommerer, P.E. and Membership Coordinator, Stacey Meyer, gathered at MSPE’s office in August to deliberate ways to stop MSPE’s declining membership and create a plan that will lay the groundwork for reversing the downward trend. While not an easy task, chapter representatives throughout the state resolved to focus on solutions rather than dwell on the challenge. Like other passionate members who understand the value MSPE brings to all professional engineers in Missouri, the committee members found themselves perplexed at why more of their colleagues aren’t members. Rather than focusing on the problem, the group decided to recognize the challenges, but focus their efforts on opportunities that will provide the most impact.

To no one’s surprise, the solutions aren’t earth shattering! They are familiar tasks requiring effort from all levels of MSPE; such as the Membership Committee contacting fellow PE’s on the delinquent and dropped list each and every month, to every member being responsible for inviting potential members to a chapter meeting, and chapter leaders planning engaging activities that attract current and future members. The following goals were identified to provide short and long term success to increase MSPE membership.

- Each chapter to hold at least one recruiting and retention event during the year.
- Ozark Chapter hosts a BYOE – Bring Your Own Engineer – meeting. Any member who brings a non-member to this designated meeting receives a free meal for themselves and their guests. The same type of appeal is used by Jefferson City Chapter at their once-a-year Free Lunch - which has been serving everyone’s favorite - fried chicken - at one of the large engineering employers’ locations. Free lunches might not work for every chapter, but the idea of providing an opportunity for PE’s to network, eat, , and earn PDHs has broad appeal. Efforts are underway by Rolla and Northwest Chapters to host similar events to engage current members and entice future members.
- Increase P.E. Ceremony attendance by utilizing a new format.
- April 2017’s P.E. Ceremony will be hosted on Saturday, April 8 in an effort to attract newly licensed PE’s who may not be able to attend otherwise. To provide additional value, a PDH session is being added, along with an Order of the Engineer Ceremony.
- Start at least one new student chapter of MSPE.
- Student chapters are in place at Ozark (Missouri State University) and Western (University of Missouri – Kansas City) Chapters. Jefferson City (Lincoln University pre-engineering program), St. Louis (Washington University and the University of Missouri – St. Louis), and Rolla (Missouri University of Science & Technology) are investigating setting up student chapters. These chapters are seen as a vital link to gain new, young members that will be a pipeline to active, involved members in the future.
- Increase the number of companies providing MSPE membership for their employees through the Enterprise program.
- This program provides a consolidated dues bill for the employer making individual member renewal easier. New companies have been added this year along with new members working for existing enterprise program participants. Conversations are underway with additional employers to become Enterprise participants.

Additionally, the Membership Committee is working on implementing marketing techniques Visionworks, the consultant hired by MSPE in April 2016.

Attendees at MSPE’s August 2016 Membership Committee were (left to right, front row) Chair Jason Sommerer, P.E., Jeff Hoelvelmann, P.E., St. Louis Chapter; Matt Walker, P.E., Northeast Chapter; Jason Haynam, P.E., Central Chapter; (back row, left to right) MSPE Executive Director Bruce Wylie, MSPE President Matt Bed-
inghaus, P.E., Jacob Bradley, P.E., Southwest Chapter; Andy Mueller, P.E., Ozark Chapter, Kevin McMeel, P.E., Southeast Chapter; Zachary Troesser, E.I., Jefferson City Chapter and MSPE Membership Coordinator Stacey Meyer.

Membership Committee members created a list of incentives for joining MSPE at their August meeting (top) and then created posters sharing their own personal recruitment stories like Chair Jason Sommerer, P.E. (above).
What Will Big Political Changes Do? Only Time Will Tell

By Bruce A. Wylie
MSPE Executive Director

The year 2017 marks big political changes in Missouri:
* A new Republican governor will be inaugurated on January 9, 2017.
* All statewide officer-holders are new and also Republican.
* Plus the General Assembly, which opens on January 4, 2017, is packed with new faces.

What this will do for Missouri’s economic environment? Only time will tell.

With a new governor of a different party, expect a turnover of government agency leadership - except for the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) and Department of Conservation that have their own governing commissions. Also to be expected is a different direction in the management philosophy of state government responsibilities.

Pre-filing of bills by members of the 2017 Missouri General Assembly commenced on December 1. To date, almost 200 bills have been filed in the House and the Senate. MSPE will begin tracking, emailing and posting weekly updates starting in January.

We expect bills on economic development, including right-to-work legislation, more lenient tax legislation for corporations; maybe a few transportation funding bills and further tort reform legislation. Also investor-owned utilities will support legislation changing the ratemaking process to encourage investment in electrical infrastructure and making a more cyber secure electrical grid for Missouri. Next year will also be another challenging year to pass a balanced state budget.

It's important that MSPE members keep up on legislative issues and contact their designated legislators on a regular basis. You can and should become citizen lobbyists!

MSPE has reconstituted its statewide Governmental Affairs Committee this year; let me know if you want to be a part of this important decision-making committee.

Both the House (www.house.mo.gov) and the Senate (www.senate.mo.gov) have revamped websites making it easier than ever to track legislation of interest and view the legislative process in action. Be sure to let MSPE’s staff know if you see any legislation introduced that we should be tracking. As always, if you have questions, contact me at bwylie@mspe.org.

Legislative Outlook

Professional Engineers offer an unlimited resource of knowledge and proficiency in engineering, science and technology that can provide invaluable assistance to the legislative leaders of Missouri. MSPE’s members are encouraged to study the society’s primary legislative concerns outlined below, follow the weekly legislative reports to learn the society’s position on various bills impacting the engineering profession to become informed “citizen lobbyists” that are a valuable asset to your state legislators.

Broadly, MSPE’s legislative platform encompasses the following areas of interest:

Civil Justice Reform
MSPE supports civil justice reform (tort reform) and insurance industry regulations that improve fairness and predictability.

Engineering Education
MSPE strongly supports a comprehensive, long-range legislative plan to assure quality engineering and STEM education in Missouri.

Government Engineers
MSPE strongly supports legislative efforts to attract, retain and adequately compensate government-employed engineers.

Transportation Funding
The society encourages and supports efforts to enact a comprehensive total transportation funding program including all sources of revenue, such as gasoline taxes, license fees, permits, other user fees and innovative financing programs.

Infrastructure Investment
MSPE contends long-range funding and planning for the state’s capital improvement needs are paramount to public safety. This includes waterlines, sewage treatment facilities, electrical and other energy delivery methods and educational facilities.

Environment
Professional engineers believe it is possible to maintain both a healthy environment and a healthy economy. MSPE advocates a well-coordinated approach to achieve environmental goals and meet the industrial needs of society by considering both the environmental consequences and economic feasibility.

Energy
MSPE advocates an aggressive approach to support, develop and implement long-range energy programs in Missouri, to include all energy options and conservation measures which are economically feasible.

Registration
MSPE strongly supports a strong law and stringent state regulation of the engineering profession for registration and licensing which was adopted to project the public health, safety and welfare.

Missouri General Assembly At-A-Glance

**Senate**
- Total Members: 34
- Majority: Currently a 26-8 Republican majority (GOP veto proof)
- Elections Cycle: 50% of the Senate is up for election every two years; odd numbered districts are up for election in 2018.
- Next Election: November 2018
- Term Limits: Two four year terms
- Presiding Officer: Lt. Governor

**House**
- Total Members: 163
- Majority: Republican majority 117-46 (GOP veto proof)
- Elections Cycle: The entire House is up for election every two years
- Next Election: November 2018
- Term Limits: Four two year terms
- Presiding Officer: Speaker of the House

**2017 Important Dates**

**January**
- 4th: General Assembly Convenes noon

**March 2017**
- 16th: Spring Break upon adjournment
- 27th: Session Reconvenes

**May 2017**
- 5th: Appropriation Bills Passed
- 12th: Session Ends at 6 p.m.
13th Annual Fall PDH Days Rated A Success

PDHs that capture participant interest (pictured above), a dose of networking between attendees Dewayne Mabry, P.E., Jim Diederich, P.E. and Marty Kehoe, P.E plus the dedication of the Fall PDH Task Force Michael Purol, P.E., Charles Powell, P.E., Kelsie Clark, P.E., J. Kensey Russell, P.E., Tia Griffin, P.E. and John Riediger, P.E. (left to right, above) was the perfect recipe for another successful MSPE Fall PDH Days event.

The I-70 Bridges Replacement speakers Tim Broyles, P.E. of Parsons, MoDOT’s Bruce Green, P.E. and Chip Jones, P.E. of Emery Sapp and Sons (at top, from left to right) covered everything from “the big scope down to the important details” giving Fall PDH attendees a total view of the aggressive and innovative project. Below, Kevin Skibiski, P.E., SE, PLS, chair of the Engineering Division of MoAPEP/PLA, talks about Ethics Violations and Punishments. He was cited by participants as “consistently an excellent speaker.”

Support The Educational Foundation

As you consider your annual giving, what better gift is there than investing in your profession.

Adding MSPE’s Educational Foundation as a charitable recipients is an investment in the future. Gifts to the Educational Foundation:

- Encourage students to choose engineering as a career
- Promote P.E. Licensure
- Improve the public image of engineers, and
- Support STEM initiatives

Contributions to the Educational Foundation are exempt from taxation under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code of 1986 and are deductible under Section 170 of the code. Your gift may be made as: monetary contributions, bestowing stocks or bonds, estate bequests, life insurance assignment or inclusion in your will.

Monetary donations can be selected to support the Educational Foundation Building through capital improvements or earmarked for the Endowment Fund – the backbone of the Educational Foundation – where your original donation is invested and only the interest, dividends and capital gains are expended to support foundation activities including the state MATHCOUNTS competition, and other STEM initiatives. To make a monetary donation, mail your check to MSPE’s headquarters office or include your gift as a voluntary contribution on your dues statement.

Donations to the Educational Foundation made by December 31, 2016 may be claimed on your 2016 income tax.

Thank you for your consideration.

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Thank you for your consideration.
based upon responses received from secretaries of each member state society of NSPE - all of which had provided samples of their constitution, bylaws and operating procedures. It was at this meeting where founding member Ernest W. Carlton of Rolla, who became MSPE’s second president in 1938, insisted that the Missouri Society operate on the same privilege of optional national society membership provisions just like four or five of the state societies near Missouri - despite literature furnished by NSPE implying mandatory national membership for all state society members. By the time of MSPE’s first permanent organization meeting, on July 10, 1937, there were 250 state members of which approximately 60 were also enrolled as national members.

Another item of divergence between MSPE and the national society came up at the society’s June 29, 1937 meeting. NSPE’s ideal was that only registered engineers be eligible for membership in the state society. But MSPE’s founders had other ideas. So that it might be in a position to enroll all qualified engineers in Missouri, the following provision was presented and adopted (quoting from Article III, Section 3): “Upon adoption of adequate registration laws by the State of Missouri, an applicant must meet the requirements of said laws and such other requirements as may be deemed desirable by the Board of Directors of the Society.” While this provision set up membership requirements equal to the minimum of registration requirements, it did not require the applicant to be a registered engineer.

MSPE’s incorporation was completed on September 9, 1937 when the organizing papers were received from the Secretary of State. The occasion was captured in the September 1937 edition of the newsletter (now titled The Missouri Engineer) which stated, “This means we are finally and definitely an organized body. The incorporation papers also mean that the purposes of this Society are permanently recorded in the annals of the State. It should be our aim to see that the spirit embodied in the recorded purposes shall carry on to completion of the work set out to be done.”

The founding purpose of MSPE, much as it is today, was defined as “advancement of the profession of engineering in its several branches, the professional improvement of its members, the promotion of the professional welfare of its members, the encouragement of social relations among engineers of the State of Missouri, and the sponsoring of proper and adequate legislation for the protection of engineers and of the public against irresponsible and unethical practices.” Throughout 2017, as MSPE’s 80th anniversary is celebrated, remember MSPE’s commitment to the future of professional engineering is the same as it was that wintry night in 1937, “to promote and protect the ethical and competent practice of engineering while protecting public health, safety and welfare.”

MSPE ANNUAL CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

June 17, 2017
Come early to socialize and enjoy The Lodge at Old Kinderhook’s amenities

June 18, 2017
A.M. – Golf Scramble subsidized by Professional Engineers in Private Practice
P.M. – MSPE EXCLUSIVE COMMITTEE MEETING: on-site and off-site Social Events

EVENING – Backyard Games and BBQ – Meet your colleagues, socialize, and network!

June 19, 2017
A.M./P.M. - Business and Practice Division Meetings
EVENING - MSPE Annual Banquet and President’s Reception

June 20, 2017
A.M./P.M. - 8 Hours of PDH Programming, with 4 hours of dual track programming
EVENING – On-Site and Off-Site Dining and Social Events

June 21, 2017
4 Hours of PDH Programming, all dual track

PDH PROGRAMS
DUAL TRACK PROGRAMMING PLANNED TO APPEAL TO A COMPLETE CROSS SECTION OF OUR MEMBERSHIP!!!

KEYNOTE SPEAKER Gail Hinshaw – Engineering Ethics with an Entertaining Twist
THE STATE OF THE STATE Projects and Lessons Learned from Around the State
THE STATE OF EDUCATION Panel Discussion among Missouri’s six (6) ABET-Accredited Engineering Schools including Dr. Elizabeth Loboa, Ph.D., Dean of Engineering at WU
OTHER TOPICS Emergency Management; Issues Affecting the Utility Industry; Business Development; Leadership; and MORE!

FAMILY AND SPOUSE EVENTS
• Granny Nannies to provide on-site childcare during the MSPE Annual Banquet
• On-site Fashion Show and Spa Specials!
• Winery Trip
• HaHa Tonka State Park – guided tours, exploring, and hiking, and
• More activities still in the planning stages!

Book your room early! Call The Lodge at Old Kinderhook at 573 317-3500. Make sure you tell them you’re with MSPE.
Interested in being a convention sponsor? Contact Cherie Bishop, MSPE Director of Operations, at 573 636-6949 or cbishop@mspe.org.
In Memoriam

MSPE is saddened to report the deaths of three of its members.


**Samuel H. Smith, P.E.** of the Southeast Chapter died November 17, 2016. He was a member of MSPE since September 6, 1968 and received Life Membership in January 2004. He founded S.H. Smith and Company in Poplar Bluff, where he worked for 38 years before selling the business to its employees in 2005.

**Kenneth L. Woods, P.E.** of Northeast Chapter died on September 11, 2016 shortly after retiring from MECO Engineering in Hannibal where worked for over 40 years; the last 14 as its President. He was a MSPE member since January 1981.

**A2V Partners, LLC**
Springfield, MO

**ABNA Engineering**
St. Louis, MO

**Allgeier, Martin & Associates**
Joplin, MO

**Allstate Consultants**
Columbia, MO

**Ameren**
St. Louis, MO

**Anderson Engineering**
Springfield, MO

**Black & Veatch**
Kansas City & St. Louis, MO

**Burns & McDonnell**
St. Louis, MO

**Cook, Flatt & Strobel**
Topeka, KS

**Gaskin Hill Norcross, Inc.**
Springfield, MO

**George Butler Associates**
Lenexa, KS

**Gibbens Drake Scott**
Raytown, MO

**GREDELL Engineering Resources**
Jefferson City, MO

**Holmes Murphy**
Overland Park, KS

**Hornor & Shifrin, Inc.**
St. Louis, MO

**Kuhlmann design Group**
St. Louis, MO

**Lockton Companies**
Kansas City, MO

**Palmerton & Parrish**
Springfield, MO

**Payne & Brockway, P.A.**
Olathe, KS

**Scurlock Industries**
Springfield, MO

**Shafer, Kline & Warren**
Overland Park, KS

**Strickland Engineering**
Jackson, MO

**The Piker-Kulesa Group and RBC Wealth Management**
Leawood, KS

**Walter P. Moore & Associates**
Kansas City, MO

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Contact The Missouri Engineer Editor Cherie Bishop at 573-636-6949 or cbishop @mspe.org
Welcome New and Rejoined Members

Please welcome the following members who joined or rejoined MSPE from August through November 2016.

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*Asterisk (*) Member Re-Joined
**Double Asterisk** New Enterprise member

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Anchor Sales And Service  
106 West 31st St  
Independence, Mo 64055

*Asterisk (*) Member Re-Joined
**Double Asterisk** New Enterprise member

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**Requests For Life and Retired Membership Due January 6**

Members that may be eligible for Life or retired membership status should review the criteria below and respond by Friday, January 6, 2017 for consideration at the 2017 Winter Board of Directors on Saturday, January 21, 2017.

**LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

Criteria for Life Membership (waiver of dues with the option of paying voluntary dues) are:

a) Has held a valid license or certificate of registration as a professional engineer.

b) Is age 65 or older and retired from full-time employment and/or the active practice of engineering.

c) Has been a member of MSPE for at least 30 years and paid dues continuously.

d) Application for life membership must be made by personal application to the Board of Directors through the state office and submitted to MSPE's Membership Coordinator Stacey Meyer’s attention via email to smeyer@mspe.org or the U.S. Postal Service to MSPE, 200 E. McCarty St., Suite 200, Jefferson City, MO.

**RETIRED STATUS**

Retired status (half-dues) criteria are:

a) Has held a valid license or certificate of registration.

b) Age 65 or older and retired from full-time employment and/or the active practice of engineering.

c) Paid dues to MSPE continuously for at least five years.

d) Application for retired status must be a personal written request to the Board of Directors and submitted to MSPE’s Membership Coordinator Stacey Meyer’s attention via email to smeyer@mspe.org or the U.S. Postal Service to MSPE, 200 E. McCarty St., Suite 200, Jefferson City, MO.