

ST. LOUIS ENGINEER

JUNE 2020
VOLUME XIV, ISSUE IX

Missouri Society of Professional Engineers (MSPE)

Sliding the Poplar Street Bridge

Abstract: The Poplar Street Bridge is a 50 year old five span (300'-500'-600'-500'-265') 2165' long structure which carries I-64 & I-55 over the Mississippi River in downtown St. Louis and connects Missouri and Illinois. The bridge has twin Eastbound and Westbound superstructures consisting of two variable depth steel box girders (25' max. depth) with an orthotropic steel deck on a shared substructure.



The Missouri Department of Transportation hired HDR to provide the following improvements to the Poplar Street Bridge: 1) Increase lane capacity of the EB Bridge from 4 to 5 lanes in conjunction with improving interchange ramp structures on the Missouri side, 2) provide a new and improved riding surface and 3) Rehabilitate the structure.

A unique aspect of the project was the sliding of the existing bridge. In lieu of a traditional widening, the eastbound superstructure was successfully slid 9' to the south onto widened piers on March 31, 2018 over the course of 2.5 hours and was widely reported as the 2nd longest bridge slide ever in the United States by length. The eastbound and westbound superstructures were then connected together using a concrete deck on a stringer-floor-beam type cross frame system which added redundancy and improved the performance of the structure.

About the Presenter: GREG KUNTZ, P.E., is Bridge Section Manager in HDR's St. Louis office. He is a graduate of the University of Missouri-Rolla and the University of Kansas. He has nearly 20 years of experience in the management, design and construction of highway bridge projects, primarily for the Missouri Department of Transportation. His projects include numerous major river crossings and complex rehabilitations.

Time, Date, Location

12:00pm to 1:00pm, Thursday, June 18th, 2020 via Zoom Meeting. One (1) PDH is available.

Registration:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88607318119>

Call in Number: 1-312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 886 0731 8119

No need to register. Use link above to access the meeting.

June Luncheon

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P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E

MSPE St. Louis Chapter



June brings an end to the fiscal year for the MSPE St. Louis Chapter. It also brings an end to my term as President of the Chapter. I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to all the members of the Executive Board, Directors and the Committee Chairs for the time and effort that they have volunteered to make our chapter successful. We have excellent individuals in all these positions, and their energy and excitement for promoting our profession and the organization is inspiring and humbling. I have no doubt that your incoming President Rebecca Losli will do a great job in this role. I hope to stay involved with MSPE and NSPE in other capacities and look forward to seeing the continued success of the MSPE St. Louis Chapter.

I have mentioned the importance of our profession and the Flint water crisis many times. In light of celebrating all that is right with the profession and people in it seems poignant to finish my conversation with someone who did the right thing in Flint, a Mr. Marc Edwards. I quote at length from a 2016 NY Times article:

“Near the railroad tracks on the outskirts of Flint, Mich., there is an old pump house, the walls of which have long served as a kind of communal billboard. The Block, people call it. People paint messages there - birthday wishes, memorials for the dead. In January, after Gov. Rick Snyder declared a state of emergency in response to Flint’s water crisis, a new message appeared, addressed implicitly to Snyder but also to the world: YOU WANT OUR TRUST??? WE WANT VA TECH!!! In the history of political graffiti, “We want Va. Tech” may sound like one of the least stirring demands ever spray-painted on a wall, but in the context of Flint, it was charged with the emotion and meaning of a rallying cry. By “Va. Tech,” the message’s author meant a Virginia Tech professor of civil and environmental engineering, Marc Edwards. ...”

So, as the year ends, thanks to all of you. You have made the past two years successful, and fun. To close I leave you with the words of Mr. Bernard Gordon, the father of high-speed, analog-to-digital conversion. “I derive satisfaction from doing something that is useful for other people.”

Stay Well,
Michael T. Buechter, PE, D.WRE, F.EWRI

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*Missouri Society of Professional Engineers - St. Louis Chapter
2020-2021 Calendar*

| Jun-20 | | | | | | |
|--------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |
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-  Chapter/Foundation Board Meeting
-  Program Date

Programs, 3rd Thursday of the month:

June: Greg Kuntz Poplar Street Bridge Relocation, Officer Installation (Buechter)



MSPE St. Louis Chapter Leadership Position Candidates

Please review the candidates for MSPE St. Louis Chapter board positions for 2020-2021. Candidate information for new additions to the board are below:

Secretary: **Eric Stauffer, P.E.** is an Electrical Engineer in the St. Louis office of Burns and McDonnell. He has worked in the Transmission and Distribution department since joining Burns and McDonnell in 2014. He earned his BS in Electrical Engineering at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and MS in Engineering Management from Missouri University of Science and Technology. Eric Stauffer joined MSPE in 2015 and has been coordinating the St. Louis Chapter MATHCOUNTS competition for the last 4 years.

Chapter Director (2020-2023): Adam Zuroweste, P.E. As a Senior Mechanical Engineer and Project Engineer with Burns & McDonnell, Adam has over 11 years of experience making his clients successful in all project phases: engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC). Through leadership of diverse teams, he has effectively designed, implemented, and constructed systems for a vast array of applications. Adam continues to enjoy his involvement with MSPE and looks forward to networking with his fellow engineers and community.

Chapter Director (2020-2023): **Erin Jearls, P.E.** has been a member of MSPE since 2008. She has made many strong contributions to MSPE and has successfully and diligently led the Engineers Week Science Center event since 2011. Erin has worked at HDR for over 13 years as a wastewater project engineer.

We have set up a Survey Monkey to approve the proposed Secretary, and Chapter Directors. Please vote on chapter board members at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/G2TWTVN>

PLEASE NOTE THAT VOTING CLOSSES AT 5:00 PM ON JUNE 2ND!

