

ASABE Quad City Section Newsletter

ASABE - The Society for Engineering in Agricultural, Food, and Biological Systems

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Fall 2017

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From the Chair – As Chair of the ASABE Quad City Section for the 2017-18 term, I would like to thank all of the Section members for the privilege of serving this organization. Let me introduce myself with some details about my background and how I got linked with ASABE over the years. From a young age, growing up on our family’s dairy farm in Québec, Canada, to today, working at John Deere, I always had the opportunity to do something I love, play in the dirt. As soon as I was old enough to reach the pedals on a tractor, I started participating in regional plowing matches where I learned intrinsic soil deformation and residue management with a moldboard plow. Little did I know that I would later work for the company that made history with the plow: John Deere.

I’ve been an ASABE member since my “glorious college days” back at McGill University where I learned English (thanks for Math and Physics classes which do not require more than English 101). I learned early on the benefits of being involved in ASABE as it provided opportunities for grad studies, later followed by finding a job, and now enabling relationships with business and academic partners. There is much to be gained from

ASABE and everyone can meet his/her own needs. You just need to get involve and see for yourself.

We had a significant event happen this summer with the dissolution of the Agricultural Machinery Conference (AMC). In existence since 1985, the Conference found initial success in meeting the needs of the agricultural machinery industry in the Midwest. But in recent years, attendance and interest have diminished significantly. The AMC Planning Committee members have tried to improve and revive the technical program without much success. In July, the three sections (ASABE Iowa, ASABE Quad City, and SAE Mississippi Valley) voted unanimously to discontinue the Conference. A small committee is currently working on the details for the dissolution and sharing of assets. We will provide an update on this as soon as the information becomes available.

This change led to the recent update of our Section Bylaws regarding revenues and Chair-Elect responsibilities. First, the AMC was our main source of revenue, with an average annual income of \$1,450 since 2008. We have looked at other sources of revenue and have already generated similar revenues leveraging the Deere Foundation’s financial support of volunteering by its employees. We also made an amendment to our Bylaws to allow requesting a voluntary dues donation from members at the time they pay their annual ASABE membership dues. FYI, 20 ASABE Sections are already doing this and requesting between \$10 to 25 per year. We suggested \$10 starting in 2018 and, with over 175 members in the Quad City Section, the resulting revenue could be substantial. On the expense side, last year we readjusted our Section meeting registration fee (\$30) to aim to break even on our meetings and reduced our awards expense by

eliminating the purchase of award plaques and membership longevity pins.

Our revenue from the Deere Foundation and the voluntary dues are projected to still allow us to support a \$ 1,000 scholarship each year. See the below article on the 2018 Scholarship for details on a major change to our scholarship program to attract local high school students.

Previously our representative to the AMC Planning Committee, our Chair-Elect, Jim Gessel, will now lead our Community Outreach Member Services area. Basically, the Executive Committee felt that it is important to focus our attention on STEM related activities, as these play a critical role in our community in encouraging local students to consider engineering as a career.

Please feel free to get in touch with me or any of our Executive Committee members with any input you might have on the Section's operation. I'm looking forward to another great year collaborating with the Section. – Carol Plouffe, 2017-18 Quad City Section Chair

Fall Meeting Review The Fall Meeting was held on October 24th at the Thunder Bay Grille in Davenport with 53 members and guests present. The meeting began with a technical session with two speakers.

The first speaker, Tom DePagter, Founder of [Fibeco](#) in Sheboygan Falls, Wisconsin, discussed his firm's 37 years of experience in [developing prototypes for a wide variety of industries](#) going from 2D drawings to 3D CAD models. Fibeco offers extensive prototype building facilities to enable their customers to share new concepts with the public, validate markets or customer needs, show new products at trade shows, or build proof of concept vehicles or parts as an insurance policy before committing to expensive tooling.

The second speaker, Martin Kremmer, Integrated Solution Technology Strategy Manager at the John Deere Moline Technology Innovation Center, gave an interesting engineering review of the Lanz Bulldog tractor. Bulldog production started in 1921 with over 220,000 produced. John Deere purchased

the Heinrich Lanz company in 1956 with Bulldog production ceasing in 1960. The Bulldog used a unique one cylinder, low compression, low speed [hot bulb engine](#) that could burn a wide variety of fuels. A [blow torch](#) was used to preheat the hot bulb part of the engine before starting it with use of the removable steering wheel. To go in reverse, the engine's [direction of rotation was changed](#).

Danielle Mulholland, I-74 Project Manager for the Iowa Department of Transportation, was the meeting's after-dinner speaker providing an overview of several engineering aspects of the new \$ 1.2 billion [I-74 Mississippi River Bridge](#) whose construction started this summer. The bridge is a basket handle arch design with four lanes and two shoulders in each direction plus a multiuse walking/bicycling path with scenic overlooks.

AETC 2018 The Agricultural Equipment Technology Conference (AETC) will again feature technical sessions, continuing education seminars, technical committee meetings and plenty of opportunities for networking with colleagues in the machinery industry. The 2018 AE-50 awards will also be presented. See [AETC-2018](#) for more details.

Section Scholarships – For the past several years, the Quad City Section has offered two scholarships for students interested in pursuing an agricultural engineering related degree. Although the scholarships were open to local high school students, the great majority of the applicants and recipients have been college students from Midwest universities. Past recipients are listed at [Quad City Section Scholarship Recipients](#) .

Locally the Quad City Engineering and Science Council ([QCESC](#)) operates a [scholarship program](#) open only to local high school students. In 2017, the QCESC awarded 19 scholarships totaling \$112,500. The success of this program with local students led to the decision to offer a single \$ 1,000 Quad City Section scholarship for 2018 through the QCESC program. Applicants must be a Quad City area resident in the Illinois counties of Carroll, Henry, Knox, Lee, Mercer, Rock Island, or

Whiteside, or in the Iowa counties of Clinton, Scott, Muscatine, or Louisa.

If you know of a local high school senior interested in pursuing a degree in [agricultural and biological engineering](#) or [agricultural technology and systems management](#), pass on this information to them. The scholarship application is available at <http://qcesc.org/for-students/#Scholarships> and must be submitted by January 23, 2018. The Section's scholarship recipient will be recognized at the QCESC's National Engineers Week Banquet on February 22 and invited to our Quad City Section Awards Meeting on March 27th.

In the past, several Quad City Section members have participated in selecting the recipients of the Section scholarships. If you'd like to be involved in the selection this year through the QCESC, contact me at FreehillJustinC@JohnDeere.com Thanks! – Cody Freehill, Scholarship Chair

Section Awards – Nomination forms for the three Quad City Section awards (Young Member, Member and Outstanding Engineering Achievement) are available at <http://www.asabe.qcesc.org/awards-2/>. Please consider nominating one of your colleagues for one of these recognitions. These awards will be presented at the annual Awards Meeting on March 27th. Nominations are due by March 1, 2018. Past recipients are listed at [Quad City Section Award Recipients](#) . – Dave Smith, Awards Chair

Closing Notes

Quad City Section members voted 44 yea, 5 nay with 3 abstentions to the proposal that the Section withdraw from the Agricultural Machinery Conference.

The recent revisions to the Quad City Section Bylaws were approved by a vote of 43 yea's and two abstentions with no nay's. The revised [Bylaws](#) are available on the Section's web site.

Due to a job change, Michael Berggren, elected to the Nominating Committee in March, was not able to serve this coming year. The Executive

Committee approved Bailey Richardson to replace Michael.

There is an opening for a Section member to serve as the organizer for the tour for the coming year. The tour is usually held in April at a local business or other place of interest to the Section members. If you'd like to serve the Section in this capacity, contact Section Chair Carol Plouffe at PlouffeCarol@JohnDeere.com

Prior to the Fall Meeting, the Section had a balance of \$ 5,462 in its checking account and a certificate of deposit valued at \$ 2,380.

The Fall Meeting after-dinner presentation on the new I-74 bridge recalled that at the Section Meeting on November 14, 1958 one of the tech session talks was on "The New Bettendorf Bridge" by R. C. Ready, Field Engineer for the Dravo Company. This new Bettendorf bridge was the second span of the current bridge added in 1959 to the original span built in 1935. See [Memorial Bridge history](#) for more details on the current bridge.

Upcoming Events - Check the Section's web site at <http://www.asabe.qcesc.org/> for the most recent information on the Section and the following events:

January 14-16, 2018

Quad City Farm Equipment Show, QCCA Expo Center, Rock Island. See <http://www.qccaexpoctr.com/farm-show-event.html>

January 16, 2018 (tentative)

Quad City Section Winter Meeting

January 23, 2018

Deadline for submitting applications for Section scholarship – see [Scholarship Application](#)

February 6, 2018 (tentative)

Quad City Section Continuing Education Seminar

February 12-14, 2018

[AETC](#) - Agricultural Equipment Technology Conference, Louisville, Kentucky

February 22, 2018

Annual National Engineers Week Banquet sponsored by the [QCESC](#) at the Putnam Museum, Davenport.

March 1, 2018

Deadline for nominations for the Quad City Section’s local awards – see [Award Nominations](#)

March 21-24, 2018

Gathering of the Green, Davenport. See <http://gatheringofthegreen.com/>

March 27, 2018 (tentative)

Quad City Section Awards Meeting

April 10, 2018 (tentative)

Quad City Section Spring Tour

June 2018

[ASABE 1/4 Scale Design Competition](#), Peoria, Illinois

July 29-August 1, 2018

ASABE [Annual International Meeting](#), Detroit, Michigan

ASABE Quad City Section Executive Committee 2017-2018

Elected Officers

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Tour:

Open Position

Young Professionals:

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Social Hour Sponsors

The following sponsors have committed to providing the beverages for the social hours at our meetings this year. Our thanks to Mike Jendro of Federal Mogul Deva for his work in organizing this much appreciated support activity.



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[Don Dye](#) is a leading manufacturer of pressed steel V-belt & flat idler drive pulleys for agriculture.



[Fibeco](#) provides electronic data and design support for high level 3D modeling, rapid prototyping, concept vehicles, functional models, prototypes, and test parts along with value added support services for the product development of parts for a wide range of industries.



[GGB](#) is dedicated to provide global customers with high performance self-lubricating and prelubricated plain bearings for thousands of applications in scores of industries.



[Kondex](#) is a product design and manufacturing partner producing custom-designed metal components for agricultural, lawn and turf and other OEM partners including MacDon culminating in a joint [2014 AE50 award](#).



[Myers Spring](#) produces extension and compression as well as single and double torsion springs of virtually any specification, for virtually any application. Myers Spring also produces rings and wire forms as well as custom assemblies, using their springs and parts and customer provided components.



[Schaeffler Group](#) USA/INA is a leading manufacturer of bearings worldwide with company sales of €11.1 billion in 2012. Schaeffler has 76,000 employees in 50 countries in 180 locations comprising a worldwide network of manufacturing locations, research and development facilities, sales companies, engineering offices and training centers.



[Sears Seating](#) is the leader in the design and manufacture of suspension and non-suspension seating systems for agricultural markets. Since 1855, we have built a reputation for highly innovative seating products that offer unparalleled comfort and durability.



[Superior Gearbox Company](#) has been manufacturing high quality gear drives for power transmission systems since 1975 including right angle, bevel, worm gear and spindle drives for various types of on and off-road applications.



[Vibratech TVD](#) is a leader in torsional viscous damper design and development for engines, partnering with OEM and aftermarket engineering teams to provide torsional vibration analysis, design integration, rapid prototyping and product validation.